

# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., MAY, 1886.

No. 1

## Mound Builders of Tennessee.

Various and many have been the theories advanced by scientific men in regard to the people who built the curious mounds and fortifications with which the country abounds; hence it is our intention to give no opinion respecting the people, but to confine ourselves to a brief description of their works in Tennessee.

Near the city of Nashville is found an extensive burying place of some pre-historic race, the graves are different from the Indians, being built up on the inside of stone and covered by a large slab, and the only way they can be found is by probing with an iron rod until you find the rock that covers the grave, another proof that they are not Indians, is the relics that have been found, for recent excavations have unearthed various implements both domestic and warlike, and pottery of such exquisite shape and quality as to assure even the most ignorant that hands far more skilled than those of the North American Indians were the makers.

Probably the most peculiar as well as the most interesting monument of a forgotten race in Tennessee is the old stone fort near Manchester, in Coffee County, it is very doubtful to whom belongs the credit of building this structure, and as it is doubtful, we take the liberty of speaking about it here, although it does not properly come under the head of "Mound Builders."

The two most generally received opinions in regard to the erection of this fort is:

First—That it was built by the same people who built the mounds: and

Second—That the honor belongs to De Soto and his men, and that it was built by them in their passage across the Continent. Of the two, the last is by far the most plausible, for undoubtedly De Soto had enemies to oppose him, and in order to withstand the numbers which they brought against him, fortifications of some kind

were essentially necessary, but still the origin of the fort is altogether uncertain, but of the builders, (whoever they may be,) we would say that they were far in advance of their time, and in the erection of the fort showed an understanding of the art of Engineering which rivaled even modern skill and experience.

The Fort stands on a very commanding point at the juncture of two swift running rivers, the bluff on either side being fully 100 feet high, making an attack from this quarter almost impossible, but the safety of the fort on these two sides is absolutely determined by the river which on either side rushes down a steep descent with such swiftness as to make its passage by any number of armed men impossible. Thus we see that nature had fortified the position on three sides and it only remained for man to defend the one unprotected side; this was effected by an immense wall composed of loose stone and covered with earth and surrounded by a deep ditch, which was probably filled with water. But besides this main wall there was smaller ones on the bluff, so if by any possible means an enemy should overcome all the natural obstacles they would still have this barrier to cross. The area enclosed by the walls measures a little over 100 acres, and is now covered with a thick growth of large forest trees which shows the immense time that must have elapsed since it was erected. The entrance to this enclosure was very simple but at the same time very ingeniously protected, it consisted of an opening in the wall about 18 or 20 feet wide with a kind of parapet or tower on each side, and on the outside were five earthen mounds arranged in nine pin fashion, so that you could easily pass among them but a person on the outside could not see through, nor could a column of men charge through without becoming disorganized and easily fall a prey to the defenders stationed on the gate-towers and tops of the mounds.

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It is a very singular fact that on the inside of the fort no stone arrow heads have been found while just across the stream, in an open field apparently where a battle was fought they are found in very large quantities,

In the same neighborhood a little over a mile from the fort is found two large mounds of the ordinary kind and shape that are found all over the country, and no one will hesitate in pronouncing them the work of the Mound Builders. Now the question is, were these mounds and the fort built by the same people, or was it a mere coincidence that they were placed so near to each other and were built by an entirely different Race.

Alas these are questions which we are unable to answer.

### Nashville Philatelic Society.

The third meeting of the society was called to order on the evening of April 20, at 8 o'clock. This being the regular meeting for the election of officers the ballot was taken with the following Result:

Pres. L. H. Gale, Vice Pres. B. F. Cheatham, Jr., Sec. J. M. Gray, Jr., Treas. D. W. Porter, Librarian, A. J. Porter, Jr.

The literary exercises were postponed until next meeting and the President appointed Mr. Cheatham as Essayist for that occasion.

The official organ was changed from "Collectors Companion" to "CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR."

The subject of Revising the Constitution was brought up and discussed, and on motion, the Pres. appointed a committee consisting of Messrs Cheatham and Gray to draw up a new set of By Laws. The Society then dissolved itself into a social meeting when the President relinquished the gavel; and some time was spent in pleasant conversation.

### REPORT OF MEETING, MAY 4

The meeting was called to order with a full attendance, after roll-call the minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. According to the order of business agreed upon the literary exercise was now in order and the President called upon Mr. Cheatham who read an essay, entitled, "Mound Builders in Tennessee," and although not on "Philately" it was much enjoyed by the members.

The society at a previous meeting had decided to have an Album, and as contributions were beginning to come in, and as our finances were prospering, Mr. Gale was appointed to select one.

The President appointed Mr. McHenry as Essayist for the next meeting, when on motion the house stood adjourned.

Address all communications to J. M. Gray, Jr., 113 S. Spruce street. Correspondence solicited.

We are glad to note the increased interest that is being taken in collecting in our city, for there has been established here lately a Philatelic Society, something which we have long needed, and which now promises to materially advance the cause of our hobby, by arousing the interest of those collectors who after the first enthusiasm had passed away, allowed their collections to be laid on the shelf and never removed, unless perhaps to show them to some friend, but now since they have joined the society and are thrown with those who have ceased to look upon stamps as a mere speculation, become what they never had been before, Philatelists.

It is to be hoped that this enthusiasm will not soon fall away, but will steadily increase until Nashville rivals any of her Northern sisters in the number and quality of her Philatelists.

The Nashville Post Office furnishes employment to 48 men, and sales of Stamps, Postal Cards and Envelopes, amount to almost \$300. per day. Just imagine what they must sell in New York? Whew!

In our next number we propose to open an Exchange and Correspondents column, and any one who has questions to ask or any thing to exchange, are respectfully invited to use us as a medium.

We will mail a large number of sample copies this month, and we hope those who are interested in such subjects as our paper treats of will favor us with their subscription or advertisements.

Address all business letters to

L. H. Gale, 157 Union St.,  
Nashville, Tenn.

For the Cumberland Collector.

## Match, Medicine and Playing Card Stamps.

BY MAFFITT.

On the Thirtieth day of June, 1864, by Act of Congress, a tax was put on packages of Matches, Playing Cards, and Patent Medicines, (which included Cordials, Bitters, Liver Pads, Medicated Oils, Jellies, Magnesiaes, Perfumeries Plasters, Pills, Troches, Syrups, and Salves,) that were offered for sale in the United States. These packages were to bear stamps to show that the tax has been paid, and without such a stamp, a fine of fifty dollars, was incurred for every omission of it.

The Match stamps are of the denominations of one, three, four, six, eight and twelve cents, and are printed in colors of Black, Blue, Brown, Green, Lake, Orange, Red, Violet and Vermillion.

The Denominations of the Medicine are, one, two, three, four, six, eight and twelve cents. Their colors are, Black, Bistre, Blue, Brown, Chocolate, Green, Lake, orange, Red, Mauve, Violet, Slate and Vermillion.

The Playing Card denominations are, two, four, five and ten cents.

The colors are, Brown, Black, Green, Blue and Orange.

There are about two hundred and ninety varieties of Match stamps, one hundred and ninety five varieties of Match wrappers, six hundred and sixty varieties of Medicine stamps, and twenty seven varieties of Playing card stamps, making a total of about one thousand one hundred and seventy two different kinds of revenue stamps, not including the document and proprietary stamps.

Although this article is not about document stamps, I don't suppose it will be out of place to say a few words about them. The rarest document stamps, the rarest of all revenues in fact, is the \$5000. one. It is the largest and highest value adhesive stamp ever issued by any government. It is very finely engraved, and is of three colors, Black, Brown and Green, and is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches, it is the property of Mr. E. B. Sterling, and is the only one I know of in existence. There are several other rare document stamps, one is the twenty dollar, orange Probate of Will,

valued at \$25. The second series of document issued in 1871, contains a very rare stamp, the five hundred dollar one printed in blue and red and valued at \$100.

There are many other document stamps valued at from five to twenty five dollars.

Among the rarities in Match stamps are. American Match Co's. three cents, green, valued at \$25. Alexander's Matches, one cent blue, also worth \$25. Bousefield and Poole's, three cents, brown, \$25. Jock and Wilder's one cent, red, old paper, valued at \$25.

Some of the rare Medicine stamps are, T. J. Husband's two cents, violet, unperforated and on old paper, valued at \$25. Jas. Swain's, six cents, orange, on old paper valued at \$50. Thos. E. Wilson, M. D., four cents, black, old paper valued at \$50. There are several worth \$25, and a great many valued at from \$2. to \$20.

Revenue stamps are not collected so much as Postage, but they are becoming more popular every day, new dealers and collectors are coming in and I don't think it will be many years before revenues will be a very strong rival of postage stamps.

On the first of July 1883, revenue stamps were abolished and are becoming scarcer and rarer every day, and in a few years I would not be surprised if some of the now commonest stamps would command very large prices.

### Father Ryan.

Our Southern poet sleeps—his fitful dream is ended—his work is finished—his victory won.

There is not a Southerner but has thrilled with emotion at the songs of Father Ryan, he touches the fondest, saddest, feelings of our hearts, he has chanted the requiem of our hopes—hallowed the memories of our dead. For him we mourn, his body lies in the South-land he loved so well, his memory is enshrined in the hearts of the Southern people.

Mr. Joseph Carels, one of Nashville's most able Philatelists is now in charge of the Art Exhibition here, and we were therefore unable as we had hoped, to obtain an article from his pen, but he has promised us one for next month, look out for a treat.

# The Cumberland Collector.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

Published by

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR PUB. CO..

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B. F. CHEATHAM, JR. Editor.

L. H. GALE, Business Manager.

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THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR makes its first bow to the public with much timidity, conscious of its many imperfections. To embark in a new enterprise require some courage, to sustain oneself creditably requires patience, perseverance and diligence, so we hope that our readers will kindly withhold criticism until we prove ourselves unworthy, and we promise on our part an honest effort to win their approbation.

The science of Philately is one in which our Southern youth are beginning to take much interest, it affords pleasure and employment to many and it seems to us it is well to have Southern Journals devoted to its interests, and the fact that Tennessee had not a single representative has made us bold and induced us to undertake what we might otherwise have declined.

To collect stamps may seem to a casual observer a small business; child's play, but each little stamp has its history, and insensibly the young collector is led to study the geography of the country from which it come, its history, its relations with other nations, its government, its postal and revenue laws, and many other points of interest; so the little piece of paper becomes the center of a wide circle of information. If our modest efforts can add to the number of young people who are seeking knowledge they will not be in vain, we will feel that our object has been accomplished.

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR will be devoted to the interest of stamps, coins, relics and other curiosities, and we hope from time to time to be able to give to our readers articles from the pen of well known collectors, which will add much to the general interest of our paper. We do not expect at once to take a front seat in journalism, and are content to begin at the foot of the ladder and hope gradually to climb.

We are conscious that the usual criterion of merit is success, and come before you trusting that you will bear with us until we have time to show whether we are worthy or not.

There has been quite a stir recently among the students of some of the State Universities with regard to the decision of the judges in the late inter-Collegiate State Oratorical contest.

We take it for granted that the claim of every one was equally considered and the decision of the judges impartially given. It shows a noble, generous character to bear defeat gracefully. While each in such a contest may be good, there must be one first, and we would say to the unsuccessful aspirants don't fret over it, try again, better luck next time.

The article by S. B. Bradt, in the last number of the *Philatelic Journal* of America, on a National Philatelic Organization, is the only one of the kind that we have seen that did not seem impracticable, certain it is that an organization of this kind would be of benefit to both dealers and collectors, and would tend in a great measure to remove the prejudice against collecting that has sprung up in the minds of the public, and we hope Mr. Bradt's plan will meet with the success it deserves.

We are much obliged to our cousin of "Olla Podrida" for his kind notice of us in our new character, and hope we will deserve his flattering commendations.

We will exchange with much pleasure "Buger,"

Send for sample copies of THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

## Exchange Column.

All subscribers are allowed to exchange under this head.

Five foreign stamps or five post marks for every stamp from any of the following countries.

Fiji Islands, Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, Costa Rica, New Foundland, Orange states, Persia, Sandwich Islands, U. S. 1869 (except 3c.) U. S. Navy, Interior, Treasury and Agriculture. Not less than five taken.

Address,

COLLECTOR, 113 S. Spruce St. Nashville, Tenn.

## SWINDLING "UNCLE SAM."

### Cancelled Stamps Cleaned and Used in Large Quantities.

The most troublesome offenders against government laws are the experts who use cancelled postage stamps, said a postoffice official the other day. "They have a system of washing out the cancellation marks that is so successful as to make detection almost impossible. In the offices of large cities like New York and Chicago, where so many letters are handled daily and where rapidity is the most desirable feature, it is impossible for the men who cancel stamps to examine each one carefully. Then, too, a great deal of the work is done by gas light, and this is a point which tends to aid the conspirator against the government's income."

"Any one who has seen a postoffice employe in the New York office grab a bundle of letters and cancel the stamps with lightning rapidity can readily see how impossible it is for him to detect bad stamps unless they are particularly bad. The men engaged in the business of using cancelled stamps are extremely clever. They have an acid in which they wash the stamps. The acid acts upon the cancellation marks, and not upon the colors of the stamp. In this way a stamp that has once been used is relieved almost entirely of its black ingmd. If any black remains after the wasarks process the operator

takes a sharp knife, which he has made for that purpose, and deftly scratches the stamp till the remaining black marks are mostly if not entirely removed. This can be done readily when the marks are on the bald head or on the face of the historic personage whose vignette adorns the stamp, as this portion is white; and upon a white space the stamp can be scratched until it is nearly through without detection.

"Another clever trick that is employed is the cutting of stamps. Often in the hurry of postoffice work the cancellation mark does not cover the stamp, but falls only on one corner, the rest going upon the envelope. The operator takes a stamp that has a black mark, say upon the left hand lower corner. He carefully cuts a square piece out of the corner, making it large enough to cut away all of the cancelled portion. He then secures a stamp on which the cancellation mark has fallen in some other corner. He carefully cuts the same sized square from the lower left hand corner of the stamp and joining it with the first stamp he has a whole stamp upon which there are no cancellation marks. These stamps are used upon packages which are tied with a string, and the string is ingeniously placed over the cut stamps.

"Take any package of a dozen letters and you will see how easy it is to find stamps for this business." As he spoke the official drew from his pocket a bundle of half a dozen letters. Upon the first letter the cancellation mark was only upon the lower right hand corner of the stamp. The second was cancelled completely and the third was marked only upon the upper left hand corner. So a combination could have been easily made with the stamps upon the first and third letters.

"Many of these operatives," continued the official, "grew expert in the work. They have clever tools and the right kind of mucilage, and some go even so far as to have coloring processes for touching up a Garfield black eye or a Washington soiled cheek. What do they do with the worked-over stamps? They do not sell them as many suppose, and that fact renders detection more difficult. When a man becomes successful in working over cancelled stamps he endeavors to get into some business which will require the sending and receipt

of many registered letters and packages. The most popular scheme is to go into the cheap jewelry and fancy trick business. The operator lays in a stock of the cheapest kind of jewelry and advertises it thoroughly through the country, especially in rural districts. A gold watch with chain and charm for \$4.50 is a bait that catches a great many green speculators, and as they are instructed to send remittances by registered letter, the operator receives a number of five and ten cent stamps. These stamps he operates on, and when he returns the jewelry he pays the postage in whole or in part with cancelled stamps. He makes 100 or 200 per cent on the jewelry and does a thriving business in illegal stamps at the same time.

"Ah, yes; there are a great many in the business, and their success is wonderful. All that we can do is to keep on the lookout and catch one of them when we can. We get an idea that a man is doing crooked work and then watch him. When we once get an idea it does not take us long to ascertain the truth. Whenever the person presents a package for registration we have it held for inspection, and if there are cancelled stamps upon it we are pretty sure to find them. Often the bad stamps are detected before they reach the cancellation clerks. When they are being taken from the receiving baskets they are sometimes detected. There is now awaiting the action of the grand jury a man who is held for doing a rushing business in canceled stamps from his store on Broadway. He followed the usual plan." - *N. Y. Sun.*

### Origin of the Postage Stamp.

The postage stamp was born in London on the 10th of January, 1840, and England employed it alone for ten years. France adopted it on the 1st of January, 1849, and Germany in 1850. According to M. Alphonse Equiros, it was a curious incident that gave rise to the idea of postage stamps. A traveller was crossing, about forty years ago, a district in the north of England. He arrived at the door of an inn where a postman had stopped to deliver a letter. A young girl came out to receive it; she turned it over and over in her hand, and asked the price of the postage. This was a large sum, and evidently the girl was poor for the postman demanded a shilling. She sighed

sadly, and said that the letter was from her brother, but that she had no money, and so returned it to the postman. The traveller was a man who rambled about the world for instruction and observation. Having a good heart, he offered to pay the postage of the letter, and, in spite of the resistance of the young girl, he paid the shilling. This resistance made him reflect. Scarcely had the postman turned his back than the young innkeeper's daughter confessed that it was a trick between her and her brother. Some signs marked on the envelope had told her all she wanted to know, but the letter itself contained no writing.

"We are both so poor," she added, "so we invented this mode of corresponding and prepaying our letters." The traveller, continuing his road, asked himself if a system giving place to such frauds was not a vicious one.

The sun had not set before Mr Rowland Hill (that was the name of the traveler) had planned to organize the postal service upon a new basis. He said that in England where family ties were strong, and where the members often live far apart where too, the spirit of commerce knows no limits, the correspondence was only limited by the cost of the post; and that by lowering this barrier a great service would be rendered to society without hurting the resources of the treasury. These views were agreed to by the English government, and on the 10th of January, 1840, not more than a penny was paid for letters which circulated all over the whole extent of the British Isles. This bold scheme soon surpassed the hopes of the legislators. Ten years later, in 1850, the number of letters increased from 1,500,000 to 7,236,962. Mr. Rowland Hill occupied in England the post of Secretary to the Postmaster General.

It appears that since the government in 1851 began to sell stamped envelopes, there has been a steady increase in the amount required each year, until now the government has for several years been selling more envelopes than all other producers combined. Last year 279,000,000 stamped envelopes, worth \$5,733,000, were sold. With every letting of the contract for furnishing these envelopes its size increases and the price of the envelopes is reduced.



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With our varied and increasing stock, we can at all times supply the wants of beginners or advanced collectors.

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### Conduces to Culture.

Philatelic writers, attempting to point out to school children the benefits of stamp collecting, seldom go beyond the fact that it is an aid in geography, teaching the money values of every country, its government, etc. All this is true, but we can feel attached to stamp collecting for other reasons. When a young gentleman informs us that he is an enthusiastic collector, it is an assurance to us that he possesses more than ordinary seriousness and intelligence, and through his hobby he becomes imbued with artistic ideas which, when developed in after years, mark him as a gentleman of culture.—*Curiosity Cabinet.*

The year before the introduction of cheap postage into England the average number of letters written by each person in a year was three. The next year it was seven; it is now thirty-six. In 1839 there were eight y two millions letters posted, of which about one in every thirteen was franked. In 1840 the circulation rose to one hundred and sixty nine million, although franking was abolished. At the present time it has reached the astonishing total of one thousand two hundred and eighty million.—*Toronto Philatelic Journal.*

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For several years I have had good success in selling this Packet for 15 cents. Now I have added a very choice lot of stamps and am selling them for 25 cents. The new packet is far superior to the old one, costing me about 75 per cent more, whereas my advance is only 10 cents or 66 $\frac{2}{3}$  per cent. So you see you are really getting better goods for the money.

The Buckeye Packet now contains 100 stamps from Barbados, Brazil, Cape of Good Hope, Chili, Denmark, Finland, Greece, India, Jamaica, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, and numerous others, only 25cts.

It is the custom with some dealers to put in one stamp from each country named, and fill in the rest with common continentals. With this packet it is different as more than one-half are taken from those above named countries, while the balance are taken from a very fine grade of continentals.

## **THE BOOMER PACKET**

is a good packet containing 40 varieties, taken from the following only.

. Austria's old issue, American Rapid Telegraph, Barbados, Brazil, Cape of Good Hope, Chili, Ecuador, Finland, Greece, India, Jamaica, Norway, Portugal and Spain. The price of this packet is also 25 cents.

### **20 Varieties of Unused Stamps**

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**CHAS. A. TOWNSEND,**

**135 Bluff Street, Akron, Ohio.**

Please mention this Paper.]



# THE Cumberland Collector.

Vol. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., JUNE, 1886.

No. 2

## Insect Collecting.

There is probably less interest taken in this branch of collecting than in almost any other; and why, it is hard to imagine. Certainly not because they are uninteresting or unsightly, for I think all will agree that a butterfly or dragon fly is about as pretty an object to look at as you can easily find; besides, when one begins the study of insects, nothing is more fascinating—their very numbers and the curious facts which their study reveals, almost compels you to continue your search until your list is completed; but it is by no means essential to have a large number of specimens to make a good showing, for in this, as in all other branches of collecting, neatness and taste in arrangement count for more than numbers, where the specimens are all mixed up together with no sort of arrangement, and where the only object seems to accumulate numbers. A splendid way to collect insects is to make a specialty of a certain kind and endeavor to obtain a complete list of the species to be found in your neighborhood, and in the mean time find out all you can about the habits, food, mode of living, whether they are useful or harmful to man, and in short everything about them. In this way you will soon gather a very nice collection and obtain more knowledge than you would have at first supposed was contained in the whole tribe of insects.

After you have completed one kind as near as it is possible, take up another, and so on. A collection of insects can be made with less expense than any other kind—especially when you live in the country, there is so many of one kind; for instance, there is twenty-five hundred varieties of flies catalogued in North America, while the whole number probably reaches ten thousand; but suppose you only collect local varieties, you will find right here at home several hundred varieties of flies, besides spiders and beetles without number.

I would call the attention of girls and

young ladies who spend their summers at the springs, to this class of collecting, for the best summer resort will sometimes get dull and tiresome before the long season is past, and it seems to me that no better exercise, and no greater pleasure could be had than by pursuing this very interesting and instructive pursuit. I hope to hear by the close of the summer that some of the young ladies who may see this have acted on my suggestion; if they do, I am sure they will enjoy it and thank me for proposing it.

## INCREASE IN VALUE OF U. S. STAMPS.

BY MAFFITT

The increase in value of United States stamps within the last three or four years has been very rapid. Some of the stamps have risen 25 and 50 per cent, and several have more than doubled in value.

In 1883 a complete set of used agriculture stamps could be had for \$2. They now cost \$4. In the same year you could buy a set of Treasury for fifty cents, they now cost twice that much. A complete set of Department of the Interior cost 30 cents in 1883. In 1886 they sell for 75 cents. A set of Post office stamps could be bought in 1883 for 40 cents. This set now costs one dollar. In the same year a set of unused Navy Dep't. cost \$3.50, now valued at \$4.50. A set of unused Justice stamps then cost \$3.50, they now cost \$5.50.

A gain of two dollars on ten stamps in three years. A set of War Dept's. in 1873 cost 75 cts., they now sell for 90 cents. The 1847 general issue 5 cts was catalogued at 5 cts. in 1883; they are now priced at 25 cts. The 10 cents, same issue, was catalogued at 50 cents, now sells for \$1.50. Most of the U. S. stamps have increased this much in value, and if they keep on at this rate, what will they be worth in the next four years? Only the collector with a good supply of pocket money can collect them to any extent.

For Cumberland Collector.

## HELIGOLAND AND ITS STAMPS.

BY C. H. MCH.

This little country, belonging to Great Britain, is an island only  $5\frac{1}{2}$  square miles in area, situated in the North Sea, about 49 miles N. W. of the mouths of the Elbe and Weser Rivers.

The inhabitants, of Frisian descent, are mostly occupied as pilots, or in haddock and lobster fisheries, which yield an annual revenue of £5000.

This island consists of a barren rock, about 200 feet in height, on which is situated a village and a light-house, and it is constantly decreasing on account of the encroachments of the sea, which have created sand banks all around it.

In the middle ages it was held in high veneration. As a post in time of war, it is of some importance.

Heligoland belonged to Denmark till 1807, when the British took possession of it, and at present it costs Great Britain 850 lbs. a year to keep this colony up.

Heligoland is the smallest stamp issuing country we have, but for the taste displayed in designing these stamps no country equals her, though not so elaborate as some, they are a plain, pretty lot of stamps.

The first set issued was in 1867, and consisted of four varieties, values  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1, 2, and 6 shillings, with head of Queen Victoria in oval.

In 1873 another set made its appearance on the same order as the 1867 issue; there were 3 distinct varieties in this set, values  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , and  $\frac{1}{2}$  shillings. 1875 brought out a set of 7 varieties, 6 adhesives and one envelope, values of adhesives 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, and 50 pfenning, envelope 10 pfenning; this set varied little from 1st issues.

With 1876 came two more stamps with coat-of-arms instead of head of Queen Victoria, value 3 and 20 pfenning.

The next was a set of newspaper wrappers, issued in 1878, not unlike those of 1876, values 3, 5 and 10 pfenning. Three more came out in 1870, two adhesives and one envelope, values of adhesives, 1 and 5 marks. The latter is the rarest of any of Heligoland's stamps; the envelope was a surcharge 20 pfenning on the 10 pfenning 1875 issue.

Send for sample copies of THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

## WHAT OF THE FUTURE.

Lt W. DURBIN

In reviewing the progress stamp collecting has made in the past thirty years, the thought naturally arises: what of the future?

It was about the year 1854 that the first collection of stamps became known. Probably there were persons even before that who had gathered together such specimens as they could find, but not before the time referred to had there been, so far as is known, any systematic effort made to get a collection of all the stamps existing throughout the world.

Collections at that early day no doubt gratified their owners as much as the elaborate ones formed now a-days do their happy possessors. But the meager assortment of olden times, and the haphazard manner in which they were arranged, would create a smile from even the smallest collector now.

Before 1860 persons had begun to deal in stamps, and efforts were made to catalogue all the varieties in a systematic manner. The difficulties in the way of the pioneer dealers and collectors can hardly be imagined by those of the present generation. A quarter of a century ago stamps which are now almost priceless were comparatively common and were exchanged for an ordinary German or French. The writer well remembers when the type set stamps of British Guiana, issue of 1862, were begging for buyers at fifty cents apiece; when the vermilion shilling of Newfoundland was thought dear at \$2.50, and when \$25.00 was considered a fabulous price for stamps which are now eagerly snapped up at three or four times that amount. Almost any one with an experience of three or four years only, can name stamps which have risen in price from one, two and five cents, to ten, twenty-five and fifty cents, and even into the dollars. If this has been the result in such a short time, what will the great majority of stamps, which are now obsolete, be worth fifty years hence? This seems a light question at first, but to those who have studied the subject through an experience of many years, it is one of exceeding interest. Man is a selfish animal and every generation has to take care of itself, so we need not to trouble ourselves about the difficulties the collector or the future will have, but it is interesting to think of

these things, and judging by the past, it is comforting for the collector of to day to realize how much easier it is for him to make up his collection than it will be for one who comes a half century hence, and to think what can be got now for so much money, will then command four or five times the amount. There is an end to the supply of stamps of all kinds, and many who are now living will see the green 3-cent stamp which we have just discarded, command a respectable price.—*The Stamp World*.

### CURIOUS COINS.

THE WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF GENERAL THRUSTON ON EXHIBITION—THE MONEY OF THE WORLD, BARBARIC AND CIVILIZED.

One of the most interesting features connected with the Art Exhibit is the rare collection of coins, antique medals and miniatures loaned to the Historical Society by Gen. G. P. Thruston during the exhibition. Gen. Thruston has been making the collection for years, and by unusual facilities has succeeded in collecting some extremely rare specimens. The coins embrace a period beginning with Philip of Macedon, and runs on down to the present day, including Greek, Roman, Jewish, Persian, Turkish, Indian, English, Japanese, Chinese and American specimens.

The coins are arranged chronologically and beginning with Graeco-Bactrian specimens, representing the Greek invasion of the Indian peninsular, and discovered in the sands of an Indian river, extend through later periods. There are some beautifully wrought coins of the time of Alexander the Great, of Pericles, etc., showing the height to which art had reached in those days. No subsequent civilization has been able to duplicate the pure and classic lines of Greek art, and this is well exemplified by a comparison of these old coins with those in modern use. The Roman coins are numerous. Ptolemy, the Caesars, Trajan, Domitian, and others being represented by five specimens. One of the most interesting coins, perhaps, in the whole collection is a Roman *As* of the time of Tiberius Caesar, and is the same type as that coin which gave rise to the saying of Jesus. "Render unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's."

There is, also, a Jewish shekel, and a small copper coin known as the "Widow's mite," being the same as that dropped by the widow into the contribution box. The English collection is almost complete, and beginning with a coin of the year 774, during the time of the so-called Saxon Heptarchy, proceeds on down to the Norman conquest, and through the reigns of later monarchs to the present day. These coins are especially interesting when it is considered that many of them bear the likeness of the then reigning monarch, and are faithful reflexes of the customs of those days. A specimen of the old square Swedish plate money is one of the rarities of the collection, together with many fine specimens of ancient and modern Chinese and Japanese coins, Persian, Turkish, etc. A string of Wampum is the earliest American money in the collection. A few dollars represent the Spanish colonial period, and all the latter periods of American history are fully represented—the pine tree shillings of New England, the rejected Washington coins, etc. A unique specimen is a small silver Confederate "token," made in Murfreesboro, Tenn., in 1861, and a Confederate seal is also to be found in the collection. The medals are numerous and beautiful and are of gold, silver, copper and bronze. The popes are well represented, as, also, many kings and princes. Henry IV. of Navarre, Duke of Parma, Charles V. of Spain, Philip II. of Spain, Frederick the Great. Some very fine ones of Napoleon's time, Louis XVIII., etc. There are many American and English medals as well. Jefferson, Jackson, Clay, Webster, Commodore Decatur and other prominent figures in American history are represented. There are several beautiful miniatures, plaques, intaglios etc., and the whole collection is wonderfully interesting.—*Nash. American*.

A lengthy sketch of the life of E. B. Sterling, the well known dealer in U. S. stamps, appeared in "The Trenton Times" a few days since. It was splendid, and complimented Mr. Sterling very much; but we are certain he is worthy of all the praise bestowed upon him, as he is undoubtedly better informed on the subject of U. S. stamps and envelopes than any dealer we have, for he makes this particular country a special study.

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It is a peculiar sensation when one is made aware that he has waked up the wrong passenger. This has been our luck. Having the interest of our readers much at heart and being desirous of giving them, as we thought a great treat, we wrote to a gentleman who wields a ready pen, and is we know much interested in some branches of collecting; (we remember our childish awe as we gazed at his collection of fossils and our great admiration of his collection of ferns and his to us wonderful knowledge of the varieties and habits of these interesting plants,) and asked him to favor us with a contribution. His reply was lengthy and very interesting, but on the subject of Philately, he says: "This stamp business has to my mind less of sense, or value, or benefit, or use, or anything else good, than any subject I know of."

Whew! wasn't that a damper? We felt like the little boy the calf ran over.

It would appear presumptuous in us to argue with one so much above us in age, experience and intellect, but we cannot refrain from saying a few words in defense of our adopted pursuit; but in doing so, we will only speak of it as a money making investment, and say nothing of the intense pleasure and recreation which we think all collectors derive from their stamps.

Probably the gentleman will be sur-

prised to learn that there are hundreds of young men and boys all over the country, clerks in stores, who make as much from their stamps at night as they do from their salaries, and they are only what you might call second class dealers, who only devote spare moments to their stamps, while the regular dealers have thousands of dollars invested, and their profits are in proportion to the amount invested. One gentleman whom we know, has a position in a Bank, and outside of business hours by selling stamps clears from seven to ten thousand dollars a year. This may not seem much to some people, but it is a very nice pile for pin money.

We thought all true sportsmen had great sympathy for the follies of others. However, Uncle Jack promises to let us hear from him on some other branch of collecting, and perhaps we may after awhile get him to feel some interest in stamps.

## THE MEXICAN ONYX.

We have recently received a very fine specimen of the above named stone, which is made doubly valuable by its history. It was found on the grave of Santa Anna, in the town of Gaudaloupe de Hidalgo, four miles from the City of Mexico, by a gentleman from this State, who sent it to an old Mexican Veteran here, from whom we had the pleasure of receiving it.

Probably some of our readers here never had an opportunity to see a specimen of this stone; we will therefore for their benefit give a short description of it.

The Onyx is one of the forms of the common Chalcedony and is generally marked by an alternation of white, black, and dark brown layers, but sometimes, as is the case with our specimen, the alternate layers are light colored, white and opaque. It is susceptible of an extraordinarily high polish, which, with the beautiful shading and mingling of colors, make it valuable for ornamental purposes. The onyx stone was held in high esteem by the ancients, who attributed to it wonderful properties, and imagined that it would cure many diseases if worn on the finger, which accounts for the fabulous price they sometimes paid for it.

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR appears on the 20th of each month, but exchanges and advertisements should be in by the 12th to insure insertion.

## Exchange Column.

All subscribers are allowed to exchange under this head. This column is for the use of subscribers only. The right to exclude any notice is reserved.

To exchange V nikels without word "cents," large coppers, eagle cents, '57 and '58, and fractional currency for best offers in rare stamps, bird's eggs, Indian relics, minerals and curiosities. Will give five varieties of post marks for every bird egg sent me. All letters answered

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Columbia, Tenn.

I have a \$1000 Tennessee Bond which I will exchange for best offers in rare Stamps. Address, L. H. GALE,  
157 Union St., Nashville, Tenn.

### Nashville Philatelic Society.

MEETING OF MAY 18.

The meeting was called to order at 8 P. M. by the President. The roll call showed several members to be absent. Mr. Gale handed the Society's album over to the Librarian, and the members were requested to bring contributions to the collection at the next meeting.

The literary exercise of the evening was an article, read by Mr. C. H. McHenry, on "Heligoland and Its Stamps." It was a good description of the country, with the stamps, date of issue, etc.

The name of Mr. E. C. Wells, of this city, was brought up for honorary membership, and was unanimously elected. No person was appointed as essayest for next meeting, and all members were requested to bring their collections. Several other matters were attended to, and the society then adjourned. After adjournment, trading and exchanging was indulged in for some time, and several stamps were auctioned off. J. M. GRAY, Jr., Sec.

### NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PHILATELISTS.

The subject of effecting a union of stamp collectors that shall embrace every collector throughout the land who may desire to become a member of such an organization is, at the present time, receiving considerable attention from collectors generally. With the idea of promoting this movement the Chicago Stamp Collectors' Union take this method of presenting a few of the reasons advanced, at its last meeting, in favor of a National Philatelic Society:

First.—"In union there is strength," and in the matter of stamp collecting it will be found that the old adage holds just as good as ever it did in another cause.

Second.—A national organization will give Philatelists a national recognition as a large and ever increasing class who recognize in the postage stamp an object worthy their attention and study; and such recognition will have a tendency to add recruits to our ranks, as well as to strengthen those already in.

Third.—It will bring forth much valuable information that is now withheld, by promoting a more friendly intercourse between collectors, and permitting a freer interchange of ideas and opinions.

Fourth.—It will be able to cope with and hold in check the dealers in counterfeit stamps, who are now the pests of collectors.

Fifth.—It will enable collectors, by combining, to purchase their stamps at a considerably lower rate than they now can, while at the same time it will greatly aid in the exchange of duplicates.

Sixth.—While England and the continental countries have well organized societies, the Philatelists of this great land are without any sort of national organization to guide and direct them. If for no other reason than that our fellow collectors across the water are so successfully organized and we dislike to be outdone in such matters, should we not at this time make an earnest effort to effect a National Philatelic Organization?

S. B. BRADT,	} Committee on	
O. S. HELLWIG,		National
R. R. SHUMAN,		Organization.

The C. S. C. U. will be glad to hear from any Philatelists who, after reading the above, feel sufficient interest in the

subject to aid in the establishment of such a union. It is to be hoped that all the advocates of stamp collection, whose attention may have been drawn toward this appeal, will send in the names to the committee, thereby giving it the assistance that fellowship implies, and helping it to ascertain the number of collectors there are who possess enough interest in Philately to assist in placing it, in this country, on as high a plane as it occupies abroad.

Address communications to the chairman of the committee, S. B. Bradt, at Grand Crossing, Ill.; or to O. S. Hellwig, 411 Ins. Bldg., Chicago.

[The above is a copy of the circular sent out by the Committee on a National organization, dated Chicago, April 19, '86, and we print it in the hope that some of our readers who may not have seen it will become interested. We ourselves heartily endorse the movement, and are willing to do all in our power to assist the committee and to make the organization a success — Ed.]

#### MEETING JUNE 15, 1886

The meeting was called to order at 8 p. m., with Pres. L. H. Gale in the chair.

Several of our members have left for the springs, so our numbers were not as large as ordinarily, but at roll call seven answered "here," and as that constituted a quorum, the regular business began.

Our honorable Secretary, Mr. J. M. Gray, being one of the number who had fled to the country it became essentially necessary to elect another, and Mr. Fred Martin was unanimously elected. Several letters concerning the Society, which were forwarded by Mr. Gray to Mr. Cheatham, were read; the most important of which was one from Mr. S. B. Bradt in regard to our union with the National Organization of Philatelists. The subject was fully discussed, after which it was decided that Mr. Cheatham should communicate with the gentleman and inform him that we would join the association with much pleasure, and would do all in our power to help him in his work.

Another was from "The Stamp Collector," asking us for monthly reports for publication; it was decided to comply with the request.

The Stamp which the Society ordered some weeks ago, were shown the Society and then turned over to the Librarian to

be arranged in our Album. After the discussion of various Philatelic subjects, the Society adjourned; after which the usual exchange of duplicates took place. It was an exceptional good meeting, and one which all members seemed thoroughly to enjoy. Address all communications to  
FRED MARTIN, Sec., S. Market St.  
Nashville, Tenn.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

All subscribers are cordially tendered the use of this column, and any question that may be asked we will endeavor to answer.

MR. EDITOR:—Please be kind enough to explain in your next number the use of the beautiful newspaper stamps. I never see them affixed to papers, and I cannot imagine what they are used for. I am a beginner and am desirous of learning.  
"THALIAN."

#### NOTES.

The Connecticut Historical Society is the happy possessor of one of Jumbo's tasks. It was presented by Mr. Barnum.

A petrified log has been found near Mecca Kan, it is ten feet long and fourteen inches thick.

There were twenty Philatelic papers started in the United States and Canada during the year 1885. Of these only two issued twelve numbers during the year.

The rarest match stamp is the Jock & Wilder one cent red imperforated.

There are only two papers in the United States that are entirely devoted to tin tag collecting.

The first Confederate Provisional stamp was issued at Madison, Fla., in Dec., '61.

There is now 51919 Postoffices in the States and Territories. Of these only 71 are first class, 382 second class, and 1795 third-class, which makes a total of 2248 Presidential offices, that is where the postmasters are appointed by the president. The remaining appointments in the 49671 fourth class offices falls to the lot of the Postmaster General. The number of money order offices is 6992.

Those who receive sample copies free this month are respectfully asked to subscribe. Subscription price 25 cts. per annum.



## ABOUT PIGEON POSTS.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

The first well-known and authenticated instance of the use of the carrier pigeon as a means of conveying letters by post was during the siege of Paris in 1870. No mention of the postal affairs of France would be complete without some notice of the pigeon service during the siege. The subject has been written about before, I candidly admit, but the financial side of the question does not seem to be unduly dwelt upon. It is somewhat startling to learn that during the siege of Paris each carrier bird in the postal service carried £11,520 in postage. The rate was in round numbers about four pence per word and there was a registration fee of about twelve cents in United States money.

The postage on letters during the siege sent by pigeon post averaged about one dollar each, so that on two hundred letters sent by this service the post amounted to over \$800. The letters were written in groups of two hundred on a screen, and were then photographed down as if for the microscope, on to one of the tiny pages carried by the pigeon. These pages were a sixteenth of each pellicle, so that each pellicle realized sixteen times £40 or £640, and as each pigeon carried eighteen pellicles, we get the total of each bird's mail as worth eighteen times £640 or £11,520, and it was well worth it, considering that a pigeon would sometimes bring in from Tours as many as 50,000 despatches and that the balloon with the birds had first to make its way out of Paris over the German lines. The men in charge of the balloons had however much to be thankful for, for notwithstanding Krupp's postal guns and various other devices, only seven balloons were captured by the Germans.

At the present time a pigeon post is at daily work in the Fiji Islands. The letters and communications from island to island being carried on by birds. The Fijian exports are chiefly fruits, and as the fruit would spoil if left too long in store, means were necessary to give early notice of when the picking would take place and the news of the arrival of various steamers is now sent out through the colony by pigeon post. Until recently the important telegrams in the English papers were sent by pigeons from Point de Galle to Colombo, seventy miles higher up the coast

of Ceylon. In different countries and at different times the carrier pigeon has been a letter carrier ever since the days of Anacron.—*Toronto Philatelic Journal.*

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VOL. I

NO. 3



The Cumberland Collector,  
Nashville, Tenn.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY





# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., JULY, 1886.

No. 3

## History of the Standard Silver Dollar.

The coinage of the standard silver dollar was first authorized by act of April 2, 1792. Its weight was to be 416 grains standard silver; fineness, 892.4; which was equivalent to 371 1/4 grains of fine silver, with 44 3/4 grains of pure copper alloy. This weight was changed by act of January 17, 1837, to 412 1/2 grains, and fineness changed to 900 thus preserving the same amount of pure silver as before. By act of February 12, 1873, the coinage was discontinued. The total number of silver dollars coined from 1792 to 1873 was 8,045,838. The act of 1873 provided for the coinage of the "trade dollar," of weight 420 grains, and an act passed in June, 1874, ordered that all silver coins should only be "legal tender at their nominal value for amounts not exceeding \$5." The effect of these acts was the "demonetization" of silver, of which so much has been said. February 28, 1878, the coinage of the standard dollar of 412 1/2 grains was revived by act of Congress, \$2,000,000 per month was ordered coined, and the coins were made legal tender for all debts, public and private. From February, 1878 to November 1, 1885, 213,257,594 of the standard dollars were coined under the above act—*Inter-Ocean*.

## Curious Postage Stamps

Among the issues of postage stamps by foreign countries there is none more curious within recent years than the new issue of Madagascar—three and one-fourth inches long by two and one-half inches wide—and none that will be more eagerly sought by collectors. There are eight in all, ranging in value from 1d to 2s. They are used by England, for letters mailed at the British Consulate in Antananarico, and gummed only in the corner. The letters are sent to Mauritius, where the Madagascar stamp is removed and kept for

a voucher and the Mauritius stamp substituted. The Peruvian Government announces its intention to redeem all outstanding surcharged stamps, and use only the new issue (1 purple, 2 green, 50 red, 1 sol br.), to which a 20 blue is to be added. Paraguay is having a 1 green and 2 vermillion, similar to 1884, printed in Buenos Ayres. The United States of Columbia have issued a hideous 10 yellow, with the head of President Nunez. A complete new issue is announced. Antioquia has issued a new set—1 green, 2 1/2 bl. on yel. and 5 blue—similar to last year's. Shanghai rejoices in a new issue, 40, 80 and 100 cash. Tobago has surcharged its 2 1/2 d blue with 1 1/2 d in black, and St. Kitts the 6d green with 4d black.—*Exchange*.

## RAYMOND'S LESSON.

THE WAY IN WHICH THE ACTOR LOST ALL INTEREST IN COIN COLLECTING.

John T Raymond, the Comedian, loves a joke even at his own expense, and this is one that he recently told to a star man in Providence: At one time Raymond was an enthusiastic coin collector. Passing a broker's window one day, he chanced to spy among a pile of silver coins a silver dollar of a certain date. Now that particular date was a rarity, and a coin of that stamp was valued at \$400. He strutted into the shop, and after a few idle questions, inquired carelessly if the coin was for sale.

"It is," said the proprietor.

"What do you want for it?" said Raymond.

"Four hundred," says the man, as pat as a whistle.

Away went Raymond, but he could find no rest. The coin must be his, but just then \$400 was worth \$400 to him. Next day he went back and offered \$100. Man wouldn't look at it. Next day he offered \$200. Man indifferent, but firm in his re-

fusual. So the next day he added \$50 to his previous offer, and said:

"If you will sell me the coin, now is your last chance, and my highest offer. What will you do?"

The man consulted his wife and agreed to the transfer. So home went the blythe coin collector, proud of his purchase and happy as a lord; sent his coin to the mint and received the following letter:

"Dear Sir—The coin you inclosed, if genuine, would be worth \$500, but as it is an altered one, it is worth no more than its face value."

John Raymond read no more, but he went out into the back yard and kicked himself. He has never added to his collections since.—*Nash. Union.*

For Cumberland Collector,

### COINS.

From the earliest ages mankind have been engaged in merchandising, bartering one commodity for another, various articles have been regarded as a standard of wealth. Just how early gold and silver were used as money history does not inform us. Nearly two thousand years B. C., Abraham returned from Egypt very rich in cattle, gold and silver, and in his purchase of the care of Machpelah he weighed out 400 sheckels of silver. The use of the precious metals even when in bars or wedges, when it had to be chipped off with a chisel and hammer and its weight computed at each transaction, was a great improvement upon simple barter, though still attended with many inconveniences. Coins are defined as pieces of metal, generally gold, silver or copper, bearing certain marks or devices to indicate their origin and value and designed to be used as money. The oldest specimen of coins now extant is supposed to be Grecian, but Herodotus tells us the first were from Asia.

We have accounts of coins as early as the 8th century B. C. and by the 400 century B. C. they were in general use, each civilized country having its own coinage, differing in size, weight and value. After many forms being tried, coins are now with few exceptions, flat, circular and thin, this circular form was arrived at by the ancients but was not successfully attained until the 7th century, the exceptions to the circular form are not numer-

ous, the square Rupees of the Mogul Empire, Parallelograms of Japan, the Octagonal Pieces of Assam, and the Fifty Dollar Octagon of California. The earliest coinage for America was made in 1612 for the Virginia colony at the Sommers Island, now the Bermudas. The coin was of brass, with the legend "Sommers Island" and a hog on one side, while on the reverse was a ship under sail, firing a gun. The earliest colonial coinage was the Pine-tree shilling of Mass., coined in 1652. In the reign of William and Mary, copper coins were struck in England for the New England and Carolina colonies, having on the obverse an elephant and on the reverse respectively, "God Preserve New England" 1694 and "God Preserve Carolina and the Lord Proprietors," 1694.

There were various other coins constantly changing in appearance and value until 1785 when Congress adopted a system of coinage presented by Thomas Jefferson, which has with slight changes been retained until the present day.

### CURIOUS RELICS.

BY MAFFITT.

While talking with an old gentleman recently upon the subject of curiosities, etc., he related the following.

Said he:—"About twenty-five years ago I was superintending the building of a levee in Arkansas. It was on the lower end of Long lake, below Helena and at the end of Crawley's Ridge, that extends down into Arkansas, from Missouri. We were digging earth out of the ridge, to put on the levee, and came across many skeletons of human beings and curious implements and pottery. These skeletons must have been buried there for ages, for the ground showed that trees, etc., had grown up, fallen down, and decayed over them. Trees five feet in diameter were growing there then.

The bones were in excellent condition, not being decayed in the least, the small bones in the fingers were even preserved. Judging from the bones these people must have been about seven feet tall and very strong. I could sometimes tell how they had met their death as there would be a hole in the skull or the bones would be injured, showing they had been killed.

Besides the skeletons were many curious pots and vessels. I remember one or two of them. One was in the shape of an elephant, the trunk, tusks and large ears were all plainly seen. This showed that these people had seen the elephant and knew what it was like.

Another was made in the shape of a white rabbit. The body was colored white and the legs red and it was very life like.

A turtle with a horse's head was also found, and a duck that seemed just ready to quack. There were numerous other things made in all manner of shapes and sizes. All of them were hollow, with an opening in the top showing they were used to hold something.

The workmanship, coloring, etc., was exceedingly fine.

Some of the things were sent to the Columbia Institute, at Columbia, Tenn., but most of them are lost or destroyed. Who the people were I have no idea. I do not think they were the Indians or the 'Mound Builders' either, as the vessels and implements found were different from any made by them."

### "The Lost Cause."

[We are enabled to publish the following poem, through the kindness of Mr. W. G. Whilden, Jr., who obtained the copy for us. It was found written upon the back of a Confederate bill, after the close of the war, but no one knows who its author is.]

"Representing nothing on God's earth now  
And naught in the waters below it,  
As the pledge of a nation that passed away,  
Keep it, dear friend, and show it.  
Show it to those who will lend an ear  
To the tale this trifle will tell,  
Of liberty borne of a patriot's dream,  
Of a storm-cradled nation that fell.

Too poor to possess the precious ores,  
And too much of a stranger to borrow;  
We issued to-day our "promise to pay,"  
And hoped to redeem on the morrow.  
The days rolled on, and weeks became years,  
But our coffers were empty still;  
Gold was so scarce that the treasury quaked  
If a dollar should drop in the till.

But the faith that was in us was strong indeed,  
Though our poverty well we discerned;  
And this little note represented the pay  
That our suffering veterans earned,  
They knew it had hardly a value in gold,  
But as gold our soldiers received it.  
It gazed in our eyes with a promise to pay,  
And every true soldier believed it.

But our boys thought little of price or pay,  
Or of bills that were over due;  
We knew that it bought our bread to-day  
'Twas the best our poor country could do.  
Keep it; it tells our history o'er,  
From the birth of the dream to its last:  
Modest, and borne of the angel hope,  
Like our hope of success, it passed.

(Granite State Philatelist.)

### The Nashville Stamps.

Nashville claims one of the rarest among the Confederate Provisionals, the 10 cent green, one specimen of which recently brought \$25 and was resold in Paris for twice that much.

At the breaking out of the war, W. D. McNish was Post Master and to him we are indebted for the Nashville Stamps, which consisted of three varieties, the 3 cent red, 5 cent carmine and 10 cent green, they were printed in strips of five, all type set which accounts for the slight difference that is sometimes noticeable in two specimens.

There is no doubt but that a number of these as well as other varieties could be brought to light if a determined effort was made, while it is foolish to suppose that every garret contains a fortune in the shape of rare locals, U. S.'s etc., as was the case of the "Old Hair Trunk," it is safe to say that almost every lot of old letters contain enough to amply repay the collector for the trouble taken in examining them.

In several of our leading Philatelic papers there has recently appeared articles in which the writer ridicules the beginner in Philatelic Journalism and exhorts the collecting public to support none but the best & oldest papers (of course their's is among the number). While the fact is too apparent to be denied that there is a great many papers that do not deserve support, we do not admire the spirit in which the articles referred to were written, give every body an equal chance, and believe none unworthy until they have proved themselves such.

This is only our third number and we no doubt would be placed among those papers that are not to be trusted, but we take this opportunity of saying to our readers that they need not have any fears about subscribing, as we have come to stay and stay we will.

# The Cumberland Collector.

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STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

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L. H. GALE, Business Manager.

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## Our National Organization.

The success of the National Organization is now almost assured, since so many able workers and writers have taken hold of it, the committee have issued a general letter (a copy of which is given below) in which they ask all prospective members to send in the names of such persons as they may prefer for officers. While there is several gentlemen who would no doubt make satisfactory chief officers it is our opinion that either L. W. Durbin or E. B. Sterling should be President, and we are glad to see that several of our prominent Journals have the same opinion.

—o—

The National Committee request all persons intending to join the National Society to carefully consider whom they prefer for temporary officers, and to send them as early as possible the names of such persons as each individual member or each society may prefer for the officers of President, vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. If members will respond promptly it will greatly aid the committee in preparing nominations and hasten the day when an election of temporary officers may be held.

These officers will be elected for the purpose of organizing the society and with full power to draw up a constitution

and rules of government, their term of office will be but temporary and they will be succeeded by permanent officers as soon as their work is accomplished.

Theo. F. Cuno, 148 Jefferson Avenue,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. B. Bradt, Grand Crossing, Ill.

W. G. Whilden, Jr., 93 Washington st.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

## Report of N. P. S.

The members assembled on the evening of June 29th and in the absence of the President were called to order by Vice-President Cheatham.

Roll call showed only six members present, all that are left in the city, the other more fortunate ones are still enjoying themselves in the country.

The president who had been detained joined us during the meeting and took the chair.

The Society has been contemplating for sometime past giving an entertainment to our Philatelic friends, and it was decided to have a debate upon some Philatelic subject, and to invite our friends.

Messrs Cheatham and Gray and Gale and Martin, were appointed as the debaters and were given the privilege of choosing the subject. The debate will take place at the second meeting in September in order to give our runaways an opportunity of being present.

The President appointed F. L. Martin as essayist for the next meeting, after which the society adjourned to examine and exchange stamps.

Our society is improving rapidly, every meeting seeming more enjoyable than the last. Correspondence is solicited from other societies. Address

FRED. L. MARTIN, Sec'y.,

S. Market st.

Owing to press of private business, Mr. Jno. Murkins will discontinue the publication of "The Southern Geologist and we have made arrangements to take his subscription list, and all subscribers to the "Southern Geologist" will receive the "Cumberland Collector" free until their present subscription expires.

Send for sample copies of THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.



## Exchange Column.

All subscribers are allowed to exchange under this head. This column is for the use of subscribers only. The right to exclude any notice is reserved.

Fifteen foreign stamps for every special delivery stamp. Not less than 3 taken.

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To exchange:—One neat picture card for every foreign stamp. 5 for any good variety, and 5 gilt ones for any rare one.

All letters answered. Address,  
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P. O. Box 57; Chattanooga, Tennessee.

### Our Exchanges.

We desire to exchange with all Philatelic and Curiosity papers.

The June number of "The Philatelic Journal of America" is to hand in its usual fine form, we are glad to note the great interest taken by it in the subject of a National organization, with such an advocate the good cause is bound to succeed.

The "Empire State Philatelist" is one of the best looking exchanges we have, the cover is very neat and the matter is correspondingly good.

"Plain Talk" and "Youth's Pilot" two of our leading amateur papers have space devoted to Philately.

The "Stamp and Coin Gazette" has just completed its second volume, and present appearances indicate that it will complete several more before it perishes.

"Le Collectionneur" is a new one, published in Montreal, it is half French and half English, we enjoyed it very much especially the "French" part.

The "Toronto Philatelic Journal" has not been received since April, we hope our name has not been stricken from their exchange list.

We have just received our first copy of "The Stamp," a live paper published at Denver, Col., we will be glad to exchange.

"The Philatelist" a quarterly journal, found its way to our desk it is a good one and we would like to see it oftener, at least once a month.

"The Illinois Philatelist" is the name of a new one from Rock Island, Ill. It makes a very good appearance but why was the 7th page left blank?

Besides the above we have received "The Tag World," "The Mohawk Standard," "Carson Philatelist," "Capitol City Philatelist" and "Old Curiosity Shop," for which we send thanks.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

Thalian.—The first Newspaper stamps were issued in 1865, these were large and only of three denominations, the ones now in use were issued in 1875 and range in value from 1 cent to 60 dollars, these stamps are never sold, but the papers to be mailed are weighed at the post-office and at the end of every quarter the Post Master sends a statement to Washington of the number of pounds of second class matter mailed at his office accompanied by a sufficient number of cancelled Newspaper stamps to pay one cent for every pound mailed.

MR. EDITOR: Can you or any one inform me of the meaning of the words "Aausser Kurs" printed across the face of the unused 1862, Switzerland stamps.

Jr.

### TO THE PUBLIC.

The Southern Geologist suspends publication with its 7th issue. The subscription list will be filled out by the Cumberland Collector, of this city. Thanking all for past favors,

I remain yours truly

J. H. Murkin, Jr.

Ed. Southern Geologist, Nashville, Tenn.

Subscribe for the Cumberland Collector only 25 cents per year.

## FAMOUS DIAMONDS.

The chief sources of diamonds before the discovery of the fields in Brazil were India and the East Indies. When the discovery in Brazil was made the government seized the land in which the discovery was made and worked it with slave labor.

The lucky finder of an eighteen carat stone was given his freedom, but as not one in 1000 stones is of this weight the hope of freedom was not very active in the slaves.

In 1867 the African fields were discovered. They extend over the Orange Free States and the Transvaal Republic, the richest portion being the Kimberly mines. In 1880 the mines were worked by 22,000 blacks and 1,700 whites, and 3,200,000 carats weight of stones were taken out.

It is claimed that diamonds have been found in the United States, and a 10 carat stone is said to have been found near Richmond, Va.

The Stewart, the largest of the South African stones and the fourth in the world, was found in 1873, it is of a yellow tinge and weighs 283 $\frac{3}{8}$  carats. The Great Nizance, the second in size in the world was a Golconda stone, weighing 340 carats and valued at £1,000,000. It is said to have once weighed 440 carats, but was never cut. It is said to have been destroyed in the Indian rebellion in 1857. The Star of the South, a Brazilian stone weighs 254 carats. It cost £2500 to cut, it and sold for £80,000. The Tuscan is the largest diamond in the Austrian crown jewels, but it is off color, badly cut, and of no extraordinary value.

The Matam, found in Borneo, in 1787, is still the property of the Sultan of Matam, it is doubtful whether it is a topaz or a diamond. It is uncut, and weighs 367 carats.

The Regent or Pitt, is the first of royal stones, it was found by a slave in India, who concealing it in a wound in his leg, escaped to the coast; a sea captain who bargained with him to carry him to freedom, seized the gem and threw him into the sea. He sold it for £1,000, and after wasting the money committed suicide. Thomas Pitt purchased the gem at length for £20,000. It took two years to cut it at a cost of \$4,835 and was reduced from 410 to 136 $\frac{3}{8}$  carats. Pitt disposed of it to the Duke of Orleans, then regent of France, for £135,000. In

1791 it was valued at £480,000, the following year it was stolen, with the other crown jewels of France, but was finally recovered, an anonymous letter informed the officers that the "Regent" would be found in a ditch, the location of which was explained, and it was accordingly found with other jewels whose description made it impossible for the thieves to dispose of.

It was once pledged to Holland for money for the war, afterwards embellished the sword hilt of Napoleon, and later the crown of his nephew, Napoleon III. It is now among the crown jewels of France, and still an object of contention, its sale was proposed by the republicans, being opposed by imperialists and monarchists.

The Great Mogul was the largest diamond of which we have any knowledge, it is now generally admitted to be identical with the Ko hi-noor. It was known of from 1650 to 1665, and then disappeared forever, it weighed 700 carats in the rough. The famous Ko-hi-noor is remarkable for its romantic story, for could it talk it would tell of murder committed for its sake, of dynasties changed, of tortures inflicted and wars waged on its account. It was probably part of the Great Mogul, Nadar the conqueror of India, in 1739, was told by a member of the Emperor's harem that the latter kept the great diamond in his turban. To secure it Nadar paid especial honor to the Emperor, and as a mark of distinction, exchanged turbans with him. When he first viewed his great Prize, he exclaimed "Ko-hi-noor" mountain of light.

J. J. ALTON.

The interest in Philately generally lets down during the heated term but this year seems to be an exception at least in this city, for the fever is as strong now when the thermometer stands at 90° as it was at Christmas.

Just as we go to press the first number of "The Stamp Collector" reaches us, it contains 30 pages of reading matter and is interesting throughout.

Philately has always needed a journal of this kind and we wish it success.

All collectors of stamps should join the National Organization.

## Oddities in Stamps.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

In U. C. P.

The smallest stamp ever issued was the one-half penny of Victoria, issue of 1874. In remarkable contrast is the largest the registered letter stamp of the United States of Columbia of 1866, which is five by two and one-half inches. The stamps of Russia are printed in water colors, the only ones in the world so printed. Wet them and the colors easily rub off. There are no Russian Colonial stamps. Russia possessed but one colony, Alaska and that she sold to the United States.

During the war between Chili and Peru in 1883, the Chilian forces took charge of the Post Office at Lima, and gained possession of all the Peruvian stamps which they surcharged with the arms of Chili. In addition to her postage stamps the old mother country, the only original Egypt, has over 200 varieties of official stamps. They are round and look like pill box labels, and are used for official business by town dignitaries. Russian locals are ugly and very rare., and some of them resemble tombstones. The native government of India issue some of the queerest stamps. Those of Cashmere, Alwur, Bhopal, Cabul and Rajpeepla are horrible nightmares in appearance. The odd and ugly stamps of the Roman States are reminders of the departed glory of the Paparchy, which was swallowed up by free Italy. They all have the Papal tiara and keys. Some of the early issues of the Nevis stamps are embellished with a figure of the Goddess of Health, "Hyglia," offering a glass of water from a mineral spring on the island to an invalid. The peculiar signature of the sultan is found on nearly every stamp issued by the Turkish government.

## HOW TO TELL FORGED STAMPS.

It is a great shame that stamps should be forged to deceive the young Philatelist, but it is done so much now, and such exact imitations are procured, that it deceives both the young and old; but, readers. I am glad to say it is being stopped now.

To find out a forged stamp, see below:—  
Take a magnifying glass and look at the

stamp which you think is a forgery and compare it with another and you will see (if it is a forgery) that the lines are much coarser and the gum at the back is laid on very thick (as a rule) and is more yellowish; you will also find a forged stamp perforated very badly, or not at all.—C. F. C. in the *Stamp Collector's Journal*.

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Your name in beautiful type on rubber stamp, with ink and pads 50cts. Pencil Stamp 75cts. 3 line business stamp with ink and pads 75 cts. All goods sent post paid Agents wanted, send 75cts. for agent's outfit and terms to agents **H. P. MAYNARD,** Manufacturer, Tullahoma, Tenn. Mention this paper.





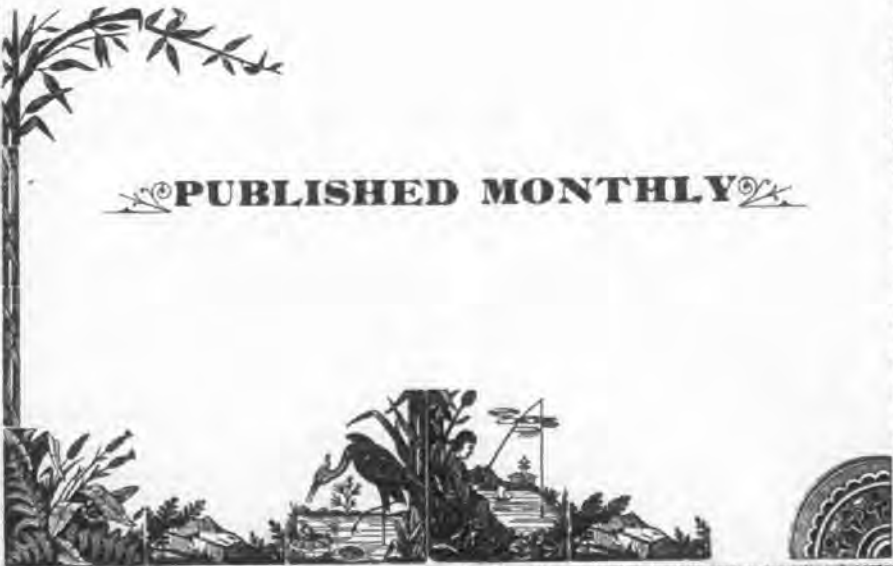
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No. 4



The Cumberland Collector,  
Nashville, Tenn.

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No. 1

Vol. 1





# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., AUGUST, 1886.

No. 4

## THE COLLECTING HOBBY.

CHAS. E. BARNES.

Every person should have a hobby. I do not mean by this that we should become a crank upon some one subject, think of nothing else, talk of nothing else and bore our friends to death by a constant discussion of the theme. We should have something to engross our attention, after business hours and outside of our regular avocation, which will give us pleasure and serve as recreation.

Among the most delightful of hobbies is the collecting of coins and stamps, archaeological and natural history specimens. What a fascination there is in collecting. What satisfaction and pleasure it gives a person to look over, examine, think and reflect upon his collection. No matter how exhausted and dispirited one may become from his days work, or how much he may be suffering from the trials and vexations of business, communion with his cabinet of specimens drives away the blues, creates a restful condition of mind and body and makes him a happy and contented man while he is living in his little world of relics and specimens. It is this relief from business cares and rest from a hard day's labor, experienced by those interested in hobbies, that makes the hobby a necessity. Hence I say, we all should have a hobby. The pleasure and recreation derived from it is recompense enough, but in addition practical knowledge is obtained from the study of the specimens, which constantly gives use to reflection and thought. As a means of education the collection of specimens is invaluable. It is a pastime that every boy should become interested in. While engaged in collecting his time will be so engrossed that he will have no desire to indulge in mischievous sports or vicious acts. It will keep him away from bad company and give him something for a

study; something to deliberate upon, and develop an intelligent boy. By all means encourage the young people to become collectors.

When the collecting hobby once becomes a fixed habit with a boy he will never relinquish his interest in it, and he will continue the collecting mania through life. It will become second nature to him.

When we meet a man who is a collector, and interested in *our* particular hobby, although perfect strangers, we immediately become friends, and talk and act as if we were old acquaintances. As collectors we become akin. There is no social distinction or caste. In fact, I never knew a low, vulgar and ignorant person to become a collector. Collecting requires intelligence.

The hour of ecstasy and rapture in a collector's life is when he discovers, purchases and becomes the sole possessor of something rare which he has long desired. When he knows that the coveted prize is now his own, great is his rejoicing. He examines it over and over again in the most critical manner, continually fondling it, and the pleasure that he experiences can only be appreciated by those who have themselves been in the same happy situation.—*Coll. Science Monthly.*

Ceylon worked the most successful and constant service of carrier pigeons ever known in connection with the press. Galle was then the seaport. The chief newspaper was published at Colombo, which is now the seaport. From 1850 to 1857, the Observer's pigeons regularly brought from Galle to Colombo, the budgets of news, at the ship arrivals; until the birds were superseded by the telegraph in 1857.

Either Mr. Durbin or Mr. Sterling is the man for President of the National Organization.

## Something about Amber.

BY FRANK H. CONVERSE.

Almost every one has seen this singular product of nature, yet how few know of its real origin! Most people are satisfied with the definition of the dictionary—"A fossil, indruated, vegetable juice, found in beds of lignite, in alluvial soil, and on the sea-coasts, especially the Prussian coasts of the Baltic"—while others are content with knowing that amber is "A resinous gum which hardens on exposure to the air."

To seek the origin of amber, we must, in imagination, go back into the past, thousands upon thousands of ages.

All over the highlands and marshy coast-line of Northern Europe were great forests of trees, among which a species of resinous pine, not unlike the *Pinus Balsama* of our day, were particularly abundant.

From the trunks and branches of these, a yellowish gum exuded in great quantities, clinging in masses and lumps to the rough bark. And all this before the creation of man.

Yet there was life in abundance here as elsewhere over the face of the earth, and the odorous half-liquid gum attracted to itself swarms of flies, spiders and grasshoppers, May-bugs and cockroaches—nay, even small lizards were also caught, and gradually became imbedded in the glutinous exudations.

And scientists are thus enabled to tell us, from the study of these insects, which are constantly being found entombed in the crude amber as in a transparent coffin, that they—or the greater part of them—are almost identical with the flies and bugs and smaller reptiles of to-day. Well, ages upon ages have passed away, during which these amber pines—if we may so call them—yielding to the ravages of time, perished and decayed where they fell, leaving the exuded gum, which had gradually hardened by exposure to the air, among the wood-dust and crumbling debris of the fallen forests.

On the higher lands, this debris became covered with the deposits of succeeding ages, until it was many feet beneath the constantly accumulating matter.

Meanwhile, the coast-line itself grad-

ually sank, and the sea sweeping in, covered the places where the forests of the lowlands had lived and died.

Thus it is that, after all the wonderful changes that our earth has undergone since those long past ages, the hardened gum, which we call amber, is found both under the earth and under the sea.

There are mines among some of the mountains of Prussia, where it is dug. Small pieces are sought for among the sea sand, where it is continually being washed up, particularly after a storm, whose violence has dislodged them from the bottom; and in other localities it is dredged for in boats, something after the manner of oyster dredging.

There is a false and true amber. The former, which is almost perfectly transparent, is known as "gum aneme," and comes in small quantities from a tree in North America, known to botanists as *Rhus Copalina*. It is far inferior in every respect to the true amber, being very brittle, and is largely used in mouthpieces for the cheapest kinds of pipes and cigar-holders.

The true amber is of a yellowish green color, very tough, and capable of being cut into many forms, particularly in the way of brooches and ornaments, though it is principally used in the manufacture of mouthpieces for the more expensive kinds of smoker's implements.

In the olden time, some of the Greek philosophers, who had noticed its electrical powers, when subject to friction, argued therefrom that it was possessed of a soul. A curious fact in connection with this same electrical property is that workmen in amber are generally affected with nervous twitchings and tremors, similar to those produced by a galvanic battery.

Amber is found in bits and lumps, varying in weight from a half ounce to twelve or thirteen pounds, though the last-named weight is of rare occurrence. A lump weighing twelve pounds, owned by a Dantzic merchant, is valued at \$3000.

The inferior pieces and scraps of 'waste' from the workshops are used in making a very desirable varnish, as also being pulverized, and burned as incense in certain churches great quantities being thus utilized at Mecca—*Exchange and Mort*.

Subscribe for the Cumberland Collector only 25 cents per year.

For Cumberland Collector.

### To Our Young Collectors,

We wish to impress on our young collectors somewhat of the great extent of the work they are in. Those who are collecting postage stamps are not engaged in idle amusement; if they but think of the various departments of the worlds work represented therein.

Drawing, Engraving and Printing are the three chief arts represented. But few of those who in their school days performed their tasks of drawing think of the possibilities that are before them. Drawing is the language of mechanism and of the inventor: of portraiture and landscape painting, it is the foundation stone, and without it the engraver and etcher is all at sea. This as a study of our common schools is of great importance—and we would—that all were more proficient in it. Engraving represents an art in which many have gained a name which shall last as long as our present civilization.

Many may think printing a very common art; but in that they are mistaken: and a visit to any first-class house in this line or to the Bureau of Printing in Washington, would be a means of instruction not soon forgotten.

A postage stamp may seem of itself a small thing, but it is an eloquent teacher of one phase of our civilization, one link in the chain of National brotherhood.

The exchange of postal accommodation among the nations of the earth is but a token of things yet to be. Again by the token of these small silent speakers we read a lesson of the uprising and development of nations born within our century. There is an opportunity for the study of Ethnology by means of our despised postage stamp—such as but few of the most learned possessed a hundred years ago—and this study I would urge upon the attention of our young collectors. The fact is the noblest study within our reach the study of man—and any special study is an aid in the general line.

There is much to be said of the study of ceremonies, but the difficulty of obtaining specimens of different times and people is so very great, as to cause many to think it beyond their reach, yet with the means and opportunities it will well repay those who take it up.

For those who have an interest in collections of nature, what shall we say—The field is so vast, and divided into so many departments.

Yet let no one be discouraged because of the vastness of the field, but rather rejoice that in no part of the world are we out of range of various departments, or of the opportunities to collect, that which to us is common, is none the less worthy of collecting, because to some these are rare and by exchange we may enrich others while being enriched ourselves.

Of the various fields of nature; Botany, Mineralogy, Conchology, Geology, Zoology Entomology and other branches, we have not time to write, but we advise all to read on these subjects, and to learn to use their eyes as they walk—ride or journey—so shall nature be to all an open book in which we will be well read.

E. C. W.

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### BIRDS.

The rice birds of South Carolina come twice a year. They come in the latter part of April, where they are known as bobolinks. Their plumage is white and black, and they sing merrily. They stay about twenty-five days and pull up the young rice, then they disappear at night.

They come back invariably on the night of the 21st of August, they stay 35 days and destroy the rice fields if not fought off. When they come the second time the plumage is a dark yellow, they do not sing but only chirp. Capt Hogyard says he has spent as high as \$3,450 to keep these birds out of his rice fields one year and still lost \$5000 worth of rice. The English sparrow was brought to this country in 1858.

This bird has already made its home in thirty one states. Its increase is at the rate of covering 130,000 square miles a year. The loss in England by this bird in the destruction of vegetables and flowering plants, by government reports, is \$3,850,000 a year.

---

The new stamped letter sheet has made it appearance, one having passed through the post office at this place. The design is very neat and is executed in green colors.

# The Cumberland Collector.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR  
To All Countries.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

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This is the first time that it has been necessary for us to make excuses for late appearance, and we are loth to do so now but circumstance over which we had no control made it impossible for us to appear sooner.

We recognize the fact that punctuality is a very important factor in all successful undertakings and we will whenever it is possible greet our friends promptly on the 20th of each month.

## Nashville Philatlic Society.

Our meetings since the first of July have been purely of a social nature as there is not enough members left in the city to constitute a quorem, without which no business could be transacted, but our informal meeting have been very much enjoyed by the unfortunate few whose lot it has been to sojourn in the heated city of Rocks, for what could be more pleasant than for a few friends, all interested in the same pursuit to meet after a week of hard work to compare notes and to discuss their favorite topic.

Some time since we received a communication from the N. P. O., requesting us to send in the names of the gentlemen who we wished for national officers, it has been impossible for us to comply sooner but we now take the liberty of so doing through the columns of the "C. C."

After consultation our choice for the three principal officers is L. W. Durbin, E. B. Sterling, and S. B. Bradt, in the order named, and we would suggest for minor officers R. R. Bogert, J. K. Tiffany J. M. Chute, W. F. Greany, and Joseph Rechert.

It was with pleasure that we heard of the birth of the Hartford Philatelic Society and we send greeting with best wishes for futute prosperity.

Nothing is more gratifying to the true Philatelist than the advancement of his science and nothing is so beneficial to Philately as the formation of *good* societies such as are springing up all over the country. Let the good work go on.

Address,

F. L. MARTIN Sect.

The Subject of a National Philatelic Organization has been so thoroughly and ably discussed by the "big bugs" of the Philatelic (brotherhood) that it would seem as if no plan which had not already been proposed could be thought of.

Calm deliberation and thought are always the forerunners of success but with all deliberation and no work you will find very little can be accomplished.

Without wishing to cast the slightest reflection upon the committee, we would modestly suggest that there has been enough planning and scheming for our organization, and that now it is time to *do* something, we must have a head, and the sooner the better, the old saying of "too many cooks spoil the broth" is very true, and it might be applied in the present case. While we are in favor of either Mr. Durbin or Mr Sterling for President, we are not prejudiced and would hail with gladness the election of any other honest and conscientious man.—Ed.]

For the Cumberland Collector.

Mr. Editor:

Perhaps I should have had more sympathy for collectors of "stamps" or traders in the trash, (see June No) for there was a money side to my collecting operation. But with me, above the profits was the charm of discovery of things new to human eyes. New, yet pre-historic—older than Adam. I collected natures stamps, impressions of leaves, with all their net work of delicate nerves hairs; flowers, fruits, seeds and nuts grown thousands or millions of years ago, then imbedded in the imperishable clays, destroyed thereby, yet preserved forever by the remaining colored "stamp" of no great use perhaps, except as a page of history from ancient vegetable life, but far more beautiful and instructive than your millions of "stamps."

I by no means ignore art specimens, however, because I fancy not stamps.

I do collect "Indian art, or his work, his flints, etc.," and I now have the only Indian "Corn Mill" or grinding rock I have ever seen, a hard sand stone, 20 in. x12x10, weighing about 40 lbs, and having some twenty differently formed "scoop outs," (at a loss for a better word) on its four faces. The largest "trough" is about 12 in. long, 7 in. wide, and 3 in. deep at middle, like half of a long gourd, cut lengthwise; canoe fashion. In this, no doubt the corn was mashed into meal, yet it is better shaped for forming and polishing the large instruments, "celts" battle axes, quoits, etc. The other depressions vary greatly in size and outline, suited for a great variety of stone "things," as well as for shaping and sharpening their well seasoned wooden weapons. "Oh! to what base uses we come" etc. This splendid relic of a hungry race now hold water for my thirsty chicks.

From this rock of age I spied an aged Fiddle and "collected" it, a relic of famed "Cremona" a fossil fiddle, a genuine "Gaspar," (1680,) on the back is the church of St. Dominic and vicinity, done in colored wood mosaics. and it has the bald head and bearded face of Leo. X, for scroll. This is worth collecting. One blast from its bugle-horn were worth ten thousand stamps.

I collect also facts in relation to *famous Violins*, to wit:

"The hot sun and splendid river, supplying the fine wood market, and the commercial prosperity enjoyed by Cremona, seems to have attracted and fixed there the manufacture of the best violins in the world. On the facade to the right of the church of St. Dominic, stood the house of the Amati. There worked Andrew, the founder of the school (1550) \* \* \* \* Here was born the great Nicholas Amati, (1596-1684) \* \* Andrew Guarnevius and the incomparable Stradivarius were students and worked under Nicholas. Afterwards, Stradivarius set up his shop, almost next door, and there for 50 years more he worked with uninterrupted assiduity. Next door to him the Guarnevi had their rooms, and in that little square were all the finest violins made in the short space of about one hundred and fifty years. \* \* \* The incomparable Antonius Stradivarius lived between 1644 and 1737. His latest violin bears date 1737, and mentions his age 92. \* \* \*

To a fine Joseph Guarnevius you have sometimes to lay siege, and then you are rewarded, but the Nicholas Amati is won almost before it is moved," \* \* \* \*

You—you Philatelists, wont appreciate this enthusiastic allusion to the tones of "Stradivarius," will you?

"The tone is so sweet and sensitive that it seems to leap forth before the bow touches the strings, and goes on like a bell long after the bow has left them. \* \* With Carlo Bergonzi, (1718-1755,) the Guadagnini (1710 1750,) the great school of Cremona comes to and end. \* \* \* The very varnish disappears \* \* \*

But I may weary your collectors of paper so I will end these extracts.

Respectfully.

"FOSSIL FERNS."

The petrified skeleton of a whale over 30 feet long has been discovered by an officer of the coast survey on a range of mountains in Monterey county, Cal., over 3300 feet above sea level.

The "Philatelic Herald" for this month published the complete story of "Only an Old Hair Trunk." Rather stale by this time. Is'nt it?

### About Stamp Collecting.

Judging from the numerous articles which have been written, concerning the advantages to be gained from stamp collecting, the subject would seem to be exhausted and that nothing remains to be said. If such were the case there are good reasons for keeping the arguments, so often advanced, before the philatelic fraternity, to encourage the older members and enlighten the latest accession to our ranks. The votaries of Philately are almost universally intelligent, well bred boys, for no others could have inclination for such a pursuit or diversion. They have, too, those qualities so necessary for success in any enterprise, energy and persistence.

Given collectors of these qualifications, it is easy to see to what extent the pursuit of their hobby will increase their knowledge of the location, extent, kind of government, history and general characteristics of the countries of the world, information which will be of the greatest value to them in after life. There is no risk in saying that collectors of the kind referred to far excel, in accurate knowledge of the world. all boys who have had only the advantages of even the best schools. The latter have as a rule only vague notions of many of the most remote and least known parts of the globe and of their form of government, political relations, etc., while the former must from the very nature of their favorite amusement, become familiar with all these things.

Is there no reason for inferring that the boys now engaged in collecting stamps, will in a few years be amongst our most energetic, intelligent and consequently most successful business men?—*Our American Youth.*

### APPROVAL SHEETS.

#### THEIR USE AND ABUSE.

BY GENIE.

The system of sending out stamps on approval is practised by nearly all dealers, and has grown within a few years to enormous proportions. The majority of collectors prefer buying their stamps from sheets instead of from price-lists, as in the sheet system they have the stamps before them and know what condition they are in

before buying. This system also affords a large number of collectors a chance to get their stamps for nothing, by acting as agent in their locality for some dealer. The commission allowed on sales can be taken in either cash or stamps, many collectors preferring the latter. There are many abuses connected with the sheet system, and of these I desire to speak particularly.

One of the commonest methods practised by dishonest collectors is "substituting." After receiving a sheet he takes off some of the stamps, substituting others of less value in their place. To any who practice this I would say *don't* do it, as the dealer in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred will detect it, and you thus forfeit your self-esteem, and in addition to the good opinion of the dealer, who, of all persons, detests the "substitute fiend" the most.

When you receive a sheet with unused stamps on *don't* send it back with the stamps "hammered down" and stuck all over; if you do, the dealer will have to waste much time in getting them off (often destroying a stamp), and then their value as unused stamps is gone, the gum being off the back. In many cases I have had to put a sheet in a vessel of water to soak, in order to get the stamps off, something that would not happen if collectors would only exercise care and judgement. *Stamps should never be "hammered down,"* and nothing so pains a true philatelist as to see a beautiful stamp *glued* to a page.

Collectors should never mark or write on sheets, as dealers expect to use them again, which they cannot do if they are covered with pencil marks. Always fold the sheets as they were originally folded and in returning use the printed envelope sent by nearly all dealers.

These few hints, I trust, will prove of benefit to the readers, and, if they will only be guided by the instructions given, much of the evil that now falls to the lot of a dealer will be abated.—*Youths Ledger.*

The "Ornithologist and Oologist," published by Mr. Frank Webster, is the best magazine of the sort we have received, it contains articles upon birds and their eggs which are interesting and profitable reading to all natural history students.

Send for sample copies of THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

## The Tarantula or Trap Door Spider

BY CYANIDE.

This is the largest of our American spiders. The male is large, strong, long legged and completely covered with coarse brown hair. The palpi are usually well developed and armed with poisonous fangs. Each of the anterior legs has a projection on the under side with which to hold off an enemy while the fangs are at work inserting the poison. He lives in a hole (in the ground) with a silken lining and open at the top, with the exception of a web during the day. A deserted mole or gopher hole seems to answer his purpose as well as anything. About sundown he removes his web and rests in the hole with the tarsi of the anterior legs just above the surface ready to rush out on some unsuspecting grasshopper or other prey. At this time he is easily taken. \* \* My usual method was to take a lath, cyanide bottle, and a stalk of timothy hay. As soon as I found a victim I would carefully approach him from the side on which he was resting reach the timothy head just beyond him and draw it quickly back. He would immediately dart after it and before he discovered his mistake I would cover the entrance to his house with my lath. He was then at my mercy and I had only to place him in my bottle to number him with the slain. In this way I have taken twenty-five nice specimens in less than an hour. A little water poured into the hole will usually drive him out, but that is not always convenient.

The female is much smaller, more slender and of a beautiful piceous black. She is rarely seen except when forced from her house, and will generally prefer drowning to forsaking her offspring. This house, in which she rears her young, is a wonderful piece of architecture. It is a cemented earthen tube, running down in the ground from five to ten inches, thence horizontally two to three inches and furnished at the surface or top with a perfect D-shaped lid, securely hinged on the flat side and perfectly water tight. The whole inside of the house is lined with a beautiful white silken web and in the lining of the lid, there are two holes, in which she inserts her fangs to hold it shut in case of danger. It requires a practised eye to discover these houses. I have seen twenty

men hunt a whole day (without finding one) over ground where I could average one an hour. The males are cannibals and very pugnacious. It was a common amusement amongst the men in some places, to pit two against each other and let them fight it out. One evening I counted eighty-three pairs lying dead on the platform at the railroad station in Merced, Cal., where they had fought to death. The largest specimen I ever took, I dug out of a gopher hole, and behind him he had the remains of hundreds of his species that he had eaten. I placed him in a case and put a female with her house in with him, making their condition as natural as possible under the circumstances. The first time she stepped out he pounced upon her and ate her with a seeming relish. I tried repeatedly to keep a pair together, but it was useless, as he killed and ate all that were put in, regardless of sex. I finally sent him to Woodward's Garden, then a popular resort in San Francisco.—*In O. & O.*

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Tullahoma, Tenn: Mention this paper.







VOL. I

NO. 5



The Cumberland Collector,  
Nashville, Tenn.

SEPTEMBER 1886.





# THE Cumberland Collector.

Vol. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., SEPTEMBER, 1886.

No. 5

For Cumberland Collector.

## A Glance at the Ancients.

Mr. Editor :

For sometime past a party of us have been contemplating a visit to one of the pre-historic burying grounds which surround our city, but until Saturday we were unable to realize our desire, and then on account of business we were only permitted to devote half a day to our trip, but we had decided to go, and go we must, so according to agreement, we met promptly at one o'clock, and a few minutes later an express wagon containing five searchers after antiquities, besides picks and shovels might have been seen moving down one of our principle streets in the direction of our Goal. The "Grave Yard," which was reached after a delightful drive of four miles through a beautiful stretch of country, interspersed with woodlands and meadows, and dotted here and there with farm houses, surrounded by fields of ripening corn and pastures filled with cattle, forming a perfect picture of quiet contentment and happiness.

On our arrival the proprietor of the place came out and very kindly gave us permission to dig as much as we pleased so long as we did not disturb the corps, and provided we would refill the graves, we dug both of which conditions we gladly agreed to and immediately began operation. The graves, originally covered about thirty acres, but so many have been dug that they are now comparatively scarce, and as we were all new at the business one of the gentlemen agreed to accompany us.

For the benefit of those who have never seen the "Stone Graves of Tennessee," I will attempt to describe them as seen by me.

It is supposed that these graves are those of the Mound Builders, and the peculiar Stone ones are confined principally to the Southern part of Kentucky, the whole of Tennessee and the Northern part

of Alabama and Mississippi. (Whether this is caused by the absence of the proper kind of stone in other localities I know not.)

The graves we opened were formed by thin stones placed on their edges somewhat in the shape of our coffins being slightly broader at the head, the bottom was either covered with thin stones or broken pieces of pottery, the whole was then covered by one and sometimes two layers of thin stone fitted closely together, the top stone is generally between ten and eighteen inches beneath the surface, and the way we found them was by sounding with rods until we struck the top rock. During the evening we found seven graves and one peculiarity that I noticed was that they were not arranged in any regular order but were laid around promiscuously, sometimes the heads of two pointing in opposite directions.

From the seven graves opened we took two perfect vessels of pottery besides two fine skulls one of which was almost perfect, the two bowls were shaped differently and were also of a different quality, one was made to represent a terrapin with head, legs and tail, while the other was more of a dish and was shaped after the manner of a fish. The distinctive characteristic of this pottery is the fragments of small shells with which it is filled, the modern Indian's vessels have nothing of this sort, and when you see a piece of pottery made of clay filled with beat up pieces of shell you may rest assured that it is pre-historic.

We arrived at home a little after six o'clock, all thoroughly satisfied with our trip and, although we were not all fortunate enough to secure a prize, yet we had seen enough to make us want to repeat our visit, and I would not be surprised if you heard again from us very soon.

"FLINTS."

Nashville, Tenn.

Cashmere stamps are printed from ivory blocks, hence their indistinctness, as ivory does not take ink readily.

### What Philately Needs.

In looking over my collection a short time ago I came across a set of stamps which had been given me soon after I began collecting, and my mind naturally reverted to the time when I started my embryo collection, and how I was stimulated to enlarge it and make it worthy of the name. I was then living in a small town in Massachusetts, and although it is now a city of 30,000 inhabitants, in those days each one knew all the others and a stranger was a marked personage. The fraternizing spirit was not confined to the grown up people but extended to the school children as well, and any boy who chose to exercise a marked influence had all his school fellows to practice on.

I had not been there long before I found almost all the boys carrying little blank books about with them in which were pasted their traders, or "swappers" as they are called in New England. Here and there I could see groups of boys, earnestly poring over one of these books, or perchance wrangling among themselves about a certain "swap," each inclined to think the other was getting the best of him. I was soon accosted by a bright looking boy somewhat older than the general run, with the question, "Do you collect stamps?" Upon being answered in the affirmative he immediately began to show me his swappers, and it was not long before we were fast friends, and in a very few days I knew almost all the boys, in the school, chiefly through the medium of stamp collecting.

I soon found that Jack Swan (for by that name I will call the boy just referred to) was an enthusiast when it came to stamps. He was always talking about them and indeed spent most of his spare time in swapping stamps and improving his collection. He had not been living there very long, but in that short time he had been able to stir up every one on the stamp question.

Before he came stamp collection was rarely thought of or mentioned by the boys. A few indeed, had collections, but they were kept in out of the way places and seldom saw the light, but Jack's presence changed all this, for he soon began canvassing among his fellows who readily appreciated its benefits and acted on his suggestions. It was through his influence that I began to take more than a passing interest in collecting—a fever

which had been in the habit of affecting me periodically but which soon took some other form.

Jack had seen all the boy's collections and he could tell them whether a stamp was genuine or not, and often have I seen him appealed to by a friend who would go away satisfied with his judgment. It was through him that I saw my first stamp paper, and that sheet of stamps found their way to our town, and it was through his influence that the majority of us collected at all. He was the sponsor of all stamp collectors, the reading advisers judge—in short the life of philately in that town. Without his inspiration the others became weak. Once he went away for two months, and during his absence stamp collecting languished and grew ill, but no sooner did he return than it resumed its accustomed vigor. New ideas he brought back with him; new points of interest; and new stamps which we had never seen before, and through his influence philately was invested with an interest which it has ever since maintained.

I have never met him since, but I have not the slightest doubt that, if living, he is still a devoted stamp collector, as he was one of those who, when they enlist heartily in any good work are not easily diverted from their purpose.

It is this kind of collector and advocates to whom philately must look for its main support; those who by their thoroughness and zeal have no room to doubt their faith in its practical utility.—W. ALLAN KLAPP in *Stamp and Coin Gazette*,

It has been discovered that the faded ink on old documents, papers, parchments, and etc., may be so restored as to render the writing perfectly legible. The process consists in moistening the paper with water, and then passing over the lines with a brush which has been wet with a solution of sulphide of ammonia. The writing will immediately appear quite dark in colors; and this color, in the case of parchment, will be preserved. On paper, however, the color gradually fades again, but may be restored at pleasure by the application of the sulphide. The explanation of the action of this substance is that the iron which enters into the composition of the ink is transformed by the action into the black sulphide.

For the Cumberland collector:

### Notes on Revenues.

BY MAFFITT.

Stamp collecting is generally divided into two classes namely, the collecting of postage-stamps and the collecting of revenue stamps. At present the first named is the most popular, and why? Are not revenues stamps? Most of them are finely engraved and in all colors. Among the revenues of the United States there are many rare and scarce varieties, and new kinds are continually turning up now and then that were never heard of before.

Certainly revenues should receive more attention from the collecting public, and I doubt not, but that in time they will.

The 1886 addition of Scott's International Postage stamp Album contained spaces for the U. S. Document stamps. I do not think this is a good plan. I believe in collecting revenues, but I also think they should be kept separate and distinct from postage stamps.

Some dealer or publisher should get up a good album for the revenue stamps of the United States only, and I doubt not, but that it would pay.

There are over one thousand and six hundred varieties of U. S. revenue stamps. They are in Document, Proprietary, Match, Medicine, Playing-card, Match-wrappers, Sur charges, Proofs, Unserved-pairs, and oddities. Any collector who has half this number may consider himself very fortunate.

The rarest Document stamp that is for sale is the \$20.00 Orange, Probate of will, first issue and unperforated. It is the property of Mr. E. B. Sterling and is priced in his catalogue at \$35.00.

There are many well known collectors in the United States who are especially interested in U. S. revenue stamps. Among the supporters of this branch of Philately, I call to mind the names of E. B. Sterling, R. S. Hatcher, L. A. Judkin's, Thomas S. Collier, George B. Mason, W. F. Greany, M. T. Savage, W. P. Young, and numerous others who I cannot think of at present.

Do you collect postage stamps? If so, I would advise you to take up her sister revenues equal to her in every way. If you do not collect postage-stamps, why

then start at once and also collect revenue, collect both branches of this interesting science (or art or hobby.) "Philately" and you will derive both pleasure and instruction from them. Keep these two branches of Philately separate from each other, study, them both carefully always and you will not regret it.

### Nashville Philately Society.

The member of the Nashville Philatelic Society assembled at its room on the evening of Sept. 14th. Roll-call showed several members to be absent, among them the President and Vice-President. So J. M. Gray, Jr., was elected President *pro tem*. The terms of the officers had expired, so the chief business of the evening was the election of new officers. The ballot was taken and showed the following result. President; B. F. Cheatham, Secretary, J. M. Gray, Jr., Treasurer; Fred L. Martin. After this several other matters were attended to, when the Society adjourned to meet Tuesday, Sept. 21st. at 8 p. m. Most of the members have now returned to the city and are interesting themselves again in Philately (which had been somewhat neglected during the summer,) and we expect to have very interesting and pleasant meetings during the coming winter. Correspondents should be directed to J. M. Gray, Jr., Secretary, 113 South Spruce Street.

Mr. Gregson second officer of the Atlantic steamship *Circasian*, is taking out patents in England, Canada, and the United States, for an unsinkable mail-bag, which he has just perfected. It is of India rubber, with canvas covering of similar material to that of a diver's suit, and the contents will, he says, be as dry after twelve months' floating on the water as they were when enclosed in the bag. Mr. Gregson wishes to see the idea adopted by the British and Canadian Governments, in lieu of the present canvas bags, whose uselessness as protectors on the sinking of a vessel, have been prominently demonstrated at the recent sinking of the *Oregon*. The bag, although full of mail matter, can be used as a life preserver, being inflated with air and very buoyant. Ocean passengers are also interested in the invention, since it can be used as a pillow, valise, and life-buoy combined.—*Howard Times*.

# The Cumberland Collector.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR  
To All Countries.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

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Since our last number there has been a slight change in our management, our efficient business manager, L. H. Gale, finding it impossible through the press of other business to devote enough time to the management of the paper resigned his position, and at a recent meeting of the Stock-holders, Mr. C. H. McHenry was elected as his successor. Mr. J. M. Gray, Jr. was also appointed Assistant Editor. With this addition to our force we hope to present *new attractions* to our readers.

No. 1 of the "*Canadian Philatelist*" has been received, it hails from Toronto and is a very creditable Journal. Mr. Lowe we wish you success.

We have received only one number (1) of the "*Stamp Collector*." What is the matter? Hope we have not been dropped from the Ex. List.

We have received a letter from Mr. E. B. Sterling in which he stated that he could not accept a position in N. P. O. as he was already pressed for time. His friends will regret very much to hear this as he would have made an excellent officer.

The rumor has been floating around that the "*Toronto Philatelic Journal*" has suspended. We sincerely trust that such is not the case, as the *Journal* was among our most welcome exchanges.

The "Pomeroy Philatelic Society" at Toledo, Ohio, is a lively one and means business, its members take a more sensible view of the object of a society than any we have yet seen, practicable in everything.

The election of officers for the N. P. O. taken place on the 14th of this month, but as we got to press on the 15th we will be unable to chronicle results

## NOTICE.

We will give a prize for the three best articles on stamps, coins, or curiosities that are sent us before the 10th of October.

1st. Prize \$1.00 in Rare Stamps.

2nd. " 50 " " "

3rd. " One years subscription to this paper.

Stamps valued by Dubin's catalogue The right to publish all articles sent is reserved.

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## Silver Coins.

The matter of mutilated coins—coins with hole-punched through them—has received the official attention of the treasury department, and the lawful value of such coins has been established as follows: Dollars, Seventy-five cents; Half dollar thirty-five cents; and dimes, five cents. Parties handling coins might be saved considerable annoyance and some clear cash by cutting this item out and pasting in their hats.

The United States issued its first stamp in 1847.

Subscribe for the Cumberland Collector.



**Lubeck.**

BY NEMO.

Lubeck is one of the three free cities of the German Empire. It is one of the Hanse towns, having existed since the eleventh century, and is an important commercial centre. Its first issue of stamps was Jan. 1, 1859, when five values appeared, viz: 1 sh. lilac, 1 sh. orange; 2 sh. brown; 2 1-2 sh. rose, and 4 sh. The design was colored arms (doubled-headed eagle) on dotted back ground; "Lubeck" above "Post marks" below, scroll at sides with values and numerals in corners. The set was unperforated, tastily designed and neatly executed. By an error, the value of the 2 shilling brown was printed "zwei ein halb" 2 1-2. The stamps was unwatermarked at first; but in 1862 the entire set appeared watermarked with small flowers. The error occurs in both sets. Used stamps of this issue are rare, but unused and reprints are common.

In 1863 a new series of five values appeared, designs as follows: white arms in oval. "Lubeck" above, value below; numerals in ovals at sides, roulette. The values were 1-2 sh. green; 1 sh. orange; 2 sh. rose; 2 1-2 sh. blue; 4 sh. brown. In April, 1864, a 1-4 sh. brown was issued; same design except it was unperforated and they are colored instead of white. On Jan. 1, 1865, at 1 1-2 sh. lilac was added to the series; design as the other value except arms are enclosed in an octagon and the corners printed in net work.

The first envelopes was issued in 1863, same design as adhesive. There were five values: 1 sh. green; 1 sh. orange; 2 sh. rose, 2 1-2 sh. blue; and 4 sh. brown. There were two sizes in use, printed on white paper in left corner. In 1865 they were issued with inscription in right corner.

Specimens of the 2 and 4 shillings are found with "shilling" spelled "shillinge."

In 1866 a 1 1-2 sh. envelope appeared, same design as the adhesive of that denomination, with several slight variations. The paper is of a various textures with stamp in right corner.—*E. & M.*

There are but few places in the South which offer more advantages for the economical production of pig-iron than the country contiguous to Nashville, Tenn.—*Monthly Journal.*

**EXCHANGES.**

A. J. Porter, Jr., 167 South Spruce Street, Nashville, Tenn.

A good book for the largest lot of stamps not in my collection. Please send list of stamps. Only the lot taken will be answered.

Will exchange one of Sterling's Millimetric Scales for measuring and three good books by popular authors for the best offer for U. S. Department stamps.

Address,

COLLECTOR Care this Office.

Ten foreign stamps for every stamp coin or curiosity paper published before 1884 sent me.

Address *Philatelist,*

Care CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR,  
Nashville, Tenn.

I have a great many stamp coin, and other papers which I desire to exchange for others.

Papers published before 1883, especially desired.

J. M. GRAY, JR.,

113 S. Spruce St., Nashville, Tenn.

The oldest bank note in existence is preserved in the Museum at St. Petersburg. Its date is 1399. B. C. It was issued by the Chinese Government. Bank notes were current in China 2697 B. C. The note is written and bears the name of the Imperial Bank, date and number of issue, signature of a Bandarin and contains a list of punishments inflicted for forgery of notes.

A coin found near Scituate, Mass., U. S. bears on the obverse the following inscription; "In commemoration of the extinction of Colonial slavery throughout the British dominions in the reign of William IV." The reverse has the figure of a slave with his shackles broken and the words, "This is the Lords doing, 1784.—*Exchange.*

A new mineral, called adamscobite, has been discovered in Missouri. It cuts steel with great rapidity, and yet retains its sharpness.

The stamps for Macoa which were issued last year, were prepared in 1871.

### Relics.

The relics which are most sought after and most highly prized are of three classes. People love to preserve material mementoes of their dead relatives and friends. The devotees of religion in all countries have for ages precious preserved mementoes of saints and holy men. And, thirdly, the desire to have some articles belonging to great personages to kings, warriors, statesmen, poets.

Aside, therefore, from the natural love of keeping mementoes of dear ones who are departed, piety and hero worship are the chief sentiments which give rise to the relic mania.

Europe, and even Asia, are full of mementoes of the holy personages. Perhaps one of the extreme forms of this sentiment is the reverence in which the Chinese preserve in their most sacred temples, what is called the "Shale," which is neither more or less than a diminutive object, which they declare to be a petrified drop of the perspiration of Buddha, the founder of their religion.

It is a familiar fact of history that when the English knights returned from the crusades, they carried back to England, not captured banners, shields and spears, but little pieces of wood, cloth, metal and bone which had each some association with the person or the times of Christ.

It is said that there are enough pieces of wood now shown in Europe as pieces of the "true cross," to build a chapel. In former times every European country had laws which severely punished the manufacture and sale of false relics.

As to the relics of the world's heroes, they are sought for everywhere with the keenest avidity. Tombstones and monuments of the famous are unmercifully hacked and mutilated, that a splinter of stone from them may be taken away and hoarded. Verona, has thus been almost demolished. When Carlyle and Longfellow died, their homes were fairly besieged by relic hunters, and their gardens as well as their houses, were ransacked in search of Keep-sakes of these departed men of genius. Hughenden, the residence of Lord Beauchamp, had to be closely guarded after his death, lest material damage should be done by the Earl's eager admirers who sought to collect relics of great value as mementoes.

Garibaldi used to say that such were the demands upon him for his souvenirs, he could scarcely call anything he had his own. The very chips of the oak trees which Gladstone is in the habit of felling in his forest at Hawarden, are greedily sought for and kept by relic-hunters.

The fashion of collecting autographs may be attributed to the same sentiment. This passion has at least has its uses, inasmuch as collecting the autographs of celebrated men often leads the young collector to read history, and become familiar with literature. In the same way the love of relics has done good in stimulating the curiosity of scholars, and keeping alive the memory of great historic events in the world's progress—*Youth's Companion*.

The weight of your \$20 gold piece should be 51.6 grains, but the law permits a variation of 1.2 grain from this; \$10 pieces weigh 25.8 grains. A grain of gold weighs 4 cents, nearly.

There are half dozen or more varieties of the 1793 copper cent known to collectors. These coins, if in good condition, are worth from three to \$15 dollars.

It has been estimated that the loss upon paper currency of our country, by wear and damage, is one and a half per cent. of the entire issue, equal to \$6,500,000.

The safest way to send coins or medals through the mails is to fasten them with gum between two pieces of card-board, and then enclose them in the envelope.

A gentleman at Bryon, Ohio, Q. H. Grasser, M. D., claims to have more than 17,000 coins, ancient and modern in his collection.

The Humbert \$10 piece, of 1852, was a pretty coin, and circulated largely in California. Moffat & Co., issued \$5 and \$10 pieces and gold ingots—1840 to 1852.

The highest price ever paid for a Russian stamp was \$300, this amount being paid for the old Saretoff Local, issue of 1869.

A stamped envelope for letters and packages were used in Paris by a private company as early as 1758.—*Ex.*

**Light Coins.**

The following notice has been posted on the bulletin board of the the sub-Treasury:

"On and after August 1, 1886, all gold coins below legal weight will, under instructions received from the Secretary of the Treasury, be stamped "light," as the same is represented at the sub-Treasury."

The necessity for this new rule, as explained at the sub-Treasury, is this: There is a law which fixes the coin "limit of tolerance"—the point to which coins may be worn or abraded and still be worth their face value—at one-half of 1 per cent. This means that when a gold \$1 in the course of its use losses one-half per cent. of its value in weight it ceases to be worth \$1 as a legal tender and is worth only its weight as gold merchandise. Until about four years ago it was a rule of the officers at the New York sub-Treasury to stamp all coins outside of the limit of tolerance with a letter "L," signifying that they were of light weight.

But depositors raised an outcry against the mutilation of national coins, and an order came from Washington directing the sub-Treasury to quit its stamping business. The result was that, though light weight coins were once rejected at the sub-Treasury, they still kept coming in a regular stream. The same abraded coin would be offered over and over again four or five times during one week. There was nothing to distinguish their light weight, and often they here detected only because the clerks of the sub-Treasury, with their delicate touch, the result of years of practice, could detect the lightness of weight, when to an ordinary business man the coin would have nothing in its appearance out of the ordinary. Often it happened that in one bag of gold coin the abrasion of the pieces will make a total of \$15 or more under the full weight value, though the loss to each coin is scarcely perceptible.—*New York Times.*

**RUBBER STAMPS.**

Your name in beautiful type on rubber stamp, with ink and pads 50cts. Pencil Stamp 75cts. 3 line business stamp with ink and pads 75cts. All goods sent post paid. Agents wanted, send 75cts. for agent's outfit and terms to agents. **H. P. MAYNARD**, Manufacturer, Tullahoma, Tenn: Mention this paper.

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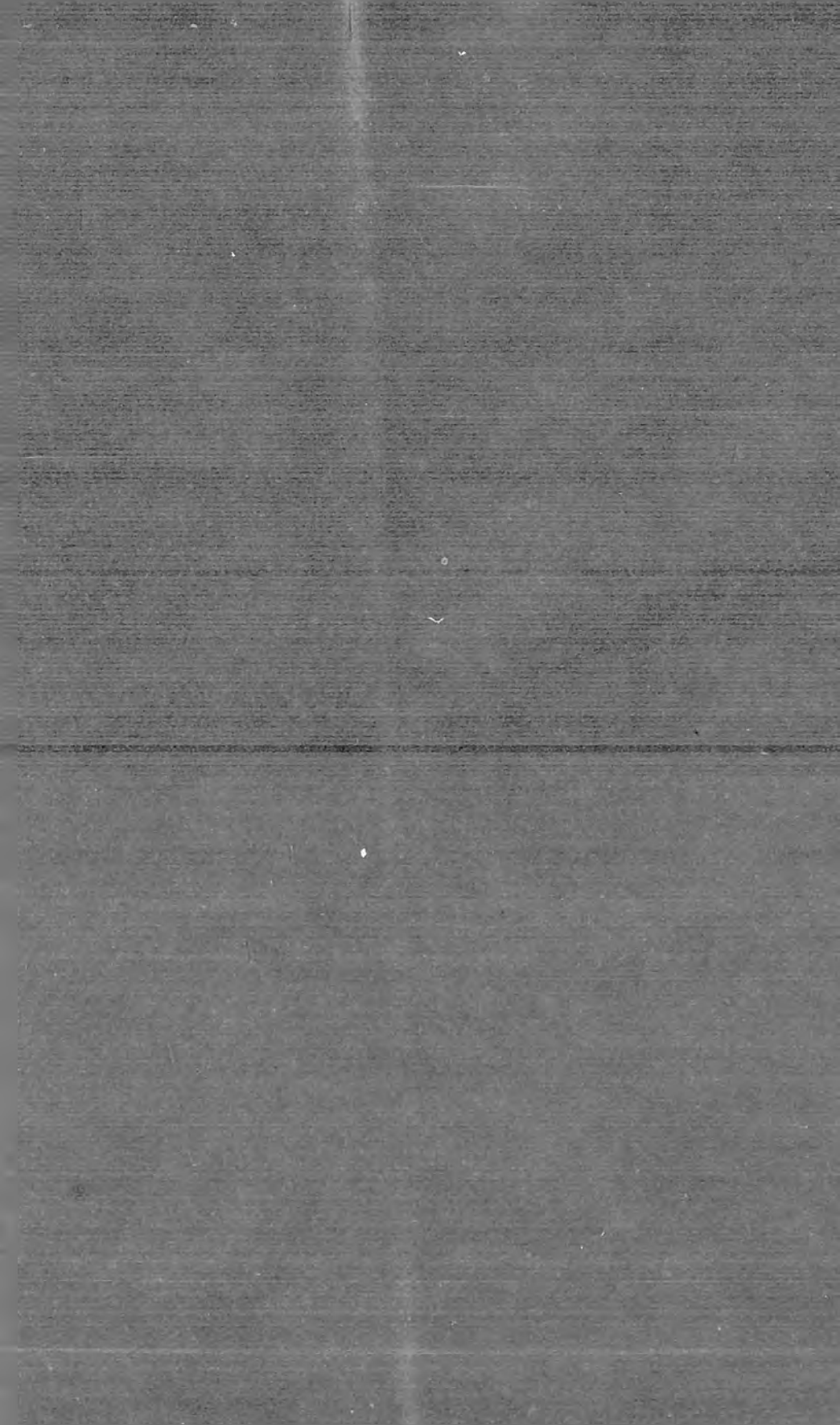
The first five persons taking an agency and ordering 50c worth of stamps will receive this paper one year free. Mention CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR and address as above.

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744 Broadway, New York City





**VOL. I**

**NO. 6**



*The Cumberland Collector*

**NASHVILLE, TENN.**

October, 1886.







# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., OCTOBER, 1886.

No. 6

For Cumberland Collector.

## Rare Writings.

Few people know the value of letters, diaries, autographs, etc., of noted persons. Anything that has been written by great people are eagerly sought after by that class of collectors known as "autograph fiends." The writings of noted senators, soldiers, presidents authors, actors, and others are all quite rare and bring large prices.

Looking over a catalogue of autograph letters recently, I noticed the good prices asked for such things. An autograph letter from Robert Fulton to James Madison in regard to his invention was priced at \$6.

A letter written by Layman Hall, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, was worth \$50.

A letter of David Hume, the historian, written in Paris in 1764, was catalogued at \$20.

A pocket diary and account book kept by Thomas Jefferson and bound in between the printed pages of an odd old Virginia almanac was worth \$50.

An autograph letter, signed, written by Abraham Lincoln in 1854 was valued at \$12.

A letter written by Edgar A. Poe in 1841, and also one page of Poe's MSS. containing an extract from *Alaratt*, written by him when a boy was priced at \$20.

A letter by Edward Rutledge, signer of the Declaration of Independence was valued at \$18. Also another signer, Jas. Smith, worth \$35.

A letter of President Zackary Taylor, declining to attend a school exhibition was worth \$12.

A letter written by George Washington when President, and also signed by Thomas Jefferson as Secretary of State was catalogued at \$7.50.

A letter by Oliver Walcott one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence could be had for \$15.

An autograph letter, signed, written by

Sir Walter Scott, poet and novelist, in 1813, was worth \$15.

Autographs letters signed by the following persons could be had at the prices named George Bancroft, \$4; James Bayard, U. S. Senator, 50c; Henry Clay, \$1.50; George William Curtis, 50c; Jefferson Davis, \$2.50; Charles Dickens \$5; Nathaniel Hawthorn, \$6; Henry Knox, \$4; George B. McClelland, \$3; T. DeWitt Talmage, 50c; John Tyler, \$2, Martin Van Buren, \$2.50, Thurlow Weed, 50c; John T. Whittier, \$1.50 Besides the letters, etc., there were the short notes and cards with simply the autograph which were worth according to the notoriety of the writers.

"GRAPHIC."

For Cumberland Collector:

Mr. Editor :

As my last article, "A Glance at the Ancients," found favor enough in your eyes to be given a place in the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR, I am encouraged to redeem my promise and say something more on the same subject

Taking it for granted that the explanation given before of the graves, manner of finding, etc., was sufficiently clear I will not attempt to better it, but will strive to give an accurate description of some of the articles obtained during my subsequent trips to the Old Graveyard.

One of the most unique forms that has been found is a bowl fashioned after the manner of a mole, the head, legs and tail of which are clearly represented, but are so arranged as not to interfere with the usefulness of the vessel. The dimensions are about 5 inches long by  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep and  $3\frac{1}{4}$  wide. The smallness of most of the perfect bowls, when compared with the very large pieces that are sometimes found in the bottom of the graves, has led some to suppose that the former were not put to any practical use but were either used for models or ornaments. Of this I do not know enough to express an opinion.

Next comes a beautiful though rather

common form—that of a duck. It is made of perfectly black material and is highly polished. It is 8 inches in diameter. Besides this one I have three other ducks, one similar to that just described, except that its head is turned inside the bowl. The other two are exactly alike and are like the first except that they are a great deal smaller, being only about 3 inches in diameter.

The pieces that have human heads are probably the most valuable, as they give us an idea of the kind of people the makers were, for they must have made the features resemble somewhat those that they were accustomed to see. I have two of this kind. One is a bowl with the head and feet projecting and is made of two differently-colored clay; the head and upper part of the bowl is black, while the lower part, including the feet, is of a yellowish color. The other is a human figure in the attitude of prayer. Its features and the outline of its body is perfect. It must have been used for a jug or bottle, as it is hollow and has a hole in the back of its head. It is made of very light-colored material, and the pulverized shell which is seen in all the pieces does not seem to be so abundant as in most of them.

It is a strange fact that nearly all of the Mound Builders' pottery is modeled after some animal. I have already described the mole, duck and human figures, and besides these I have several others, among which may be mentioned three terrapins, two fish and a turtle.

A full list of all the different pieces and a description of them would, I am afraid, be rather too long, and as I have described most of the best ones I will desist. Suffice it is to say that the balance of the thirty-two pieces which I have are made up principally of small bowls and vases, none of which of any particular interest.

#### FLINTS.

For Cumberland Collector:

### The Coins of Mexico.

The first coins of Mexico were issued in 1690, and consisted of flat, irregular pieces of silver, with the arms of Spain roughly stamped upon them. A peculiarity of these coins was that the figure one, in the date, was always omitted; 1690 being 690, etc.

In the early part of the present century Ferdinand VII issued, at Caracas, two

and four Real pieces; and in 1818 copper pieces, having on one side a lion, a shield, and ANO DE 1818. CARACAS, and on the other the monogram of himself.

During the revolution of 1810-21, silver dollars were issued by both the Royalist and Republican parties; and the coins of one party were often re struck by the other. The design of the Royalist dollar was a bust of Ferd. VII on the obverse and the Spanish arms on the reverse.

In 1813 dollar, half-dollar, and quarter-dollar pieces were struck by the Republican leader Morelos, having on the obverse a bow and an arrow within branches and below the word SUD, and on the reverse the value and date enclosed in a wreath.

Mexico became a republic in 1823, when a dollar of new design was issued. On the obverse was a liberty-cap and rays, and on the reverse a large eagle and snake. In 1824 the design was slightly changed; the eagle was made smaller and stood upright, and the reverse was also somewhat altered.

During the years 1864-7 Maximilian issued coins of the values of one, five, and ten cents, and one dollar or peso. The design of the dollar was a bust of Maximilian and MAXIMILIANO EMPERADOR on the obverse, and his arms and IMPERIO MEXICANO, 1 PESO, on the reverse. The other coins of this issue bore, instead of the arms of Maximilian, the Mexican eagle.

Upon the overthrow of the Empire, in 1867, a new design was issued. On the obverse was the Mexican eagle perched on a cactus, and holding a serpent, and on the reverse a sword, a scroll and a pair of scales, crossed; the whole being surmounted by a liberty-cap and rays. The design is similar to that on the present Mexican coins.

The letters and figures usually found on the Mexican coins below the liberty-cap, refer to the *value, place of coinage, date, mint master's initials, and the degree of fineness* of the metal of which they are composed.

Max. I. MILIAN.

#### NOTES.

The following minerals have been lately discovered: Coppeluite, pinnoite, avalite, unitaliete.

How many of our readers have ever heard of crystallography? It is the sci-

ence which classifies the different forms of crystals and their relations to each other.

Brazil was the first country in the world to adopt the cheap system of postage introduced by England.

It is said that a Mr. Scales was the first known stamp collector in England.

In the State of Florida there are two hundred and one varieties of woods.

A lot of bones have been found on the banks of the Choplank river, in Dorchester county, Md. They are supposed to be those of Indians.

Coins of China have no dates upon them. The characters represent the reigning emperor, and from these the dates are obtained.

Coins have been issued and used in electrum, gold, glass, brass, copper, iron, lead, leather, nickel, porcelain, platinum, silver, seal-skin, parchment and wood.

The countries of United States, of Columbia, Cape of Good Hope and Newfoundland are the only ones who have ever used triangular stamps.

All dies of coins at the U. S. Mint are destroyed once a year.

The copper coins of Greece and her colonies, in beauty of execution and design, have never been excelled even at the present day.

A cent of 1821 is rare.

The 1 franc vermilion stamp is very rare and scarce. The 12-pence black of Canada was in use only one year and is quite rare.

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Dealers desiring to increase their business during the coming season, especially in the South, could not do better than advertise with us.

Twenty nine postmasters earned less than a dollar each last year.

### Nashville Philatelic Society.

The Society met at its room on the evening of Sept 28th at 8 o'clock. President Cheatham being absent, Mr. D. W. Porter was elected President *pro tem*. There was no essayist for this meeting, and Mr. Fred Martin was appointed to read an essay at the next. Several new rules were made. Among them was that "Any member absent from the meetings three successive times without some very good excuse be dropped from the Society." The Society's collection has not been increasing as it should, and all members were requested to bring contributions at the next meeting. It was decided that there be an auction of stamps at the close of each meeting. Mr. D. W. Porter was elected auctioneer, and any members having stamps to sell can bring them to the meetings, where they will be sold to the highest bidder. The Society then adjourned. J. M. GRAY, JR., Sec.

### Meeting of Oct. 6, 1886.

This meeting should have taken place on the night of the 5th, but as it was not convenient to have it on that date the time was changed, and several members not receiving notice of it in time were absent. The members were called to order at 7:30 by President Cheatham, with only five members present. F. L. Martin, the essayist, being absent, no essay was read, but he was re-appointed as essayist for next meeting. Two members of the Society have resigned. Several other matters were attended to, when the Society adjourned. After adjournment, trading and exchanging were indulged in for some time.

Next meeting will take place Tuesday, Oct. 19th, at 7:30 p. m., and all members are especially requested to be present.

J. M. GRAY, JR., Sec.

Some idea of the extensive interest taken in the collection of coins and medals may be gathered from the fact that in the year 1880 there were thirty-seven sales of the coin collections in the city of New York alone. The total value of the sales was about \$50,000. When to this is added the sales by regular dealers the total value of the sales of coins and medals foot up \$100,000 a year.

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All the discussions about the National Philatelic Association is, we are happy to say over, the officers have been elected and is due to them to say that a better lot would have been hard to find, and with its three hundred members governed by such men as Tiffany, Bogert, Bradt, etc., we see no reason why it should not be a permanent organization, but to insure its success the individuals must respond promptly with their dues when called upon by the Treasurer, and not hang behind as if they were honoring the society by being a member, whereas, all the benefit is on their side.

We have just received the news from headquarters that the "*Stamp Collector*" has passed away, expired with its second appearance. We are extremely sorry that its life was so short, but its early death has been prophesied so often that we were in a measure prepared for it. The several attempts that have been made to publish a representative stamp paper, each one of which has failed, leaves but two inferences to be drawn e. i. either our Philate-

lists can't appreciate a good paper, or our *poor little eight page sheets* are worth more than some people care to acknowledge.

All our collectors here have been very much excited over an unusual find of Mound Builders pottery, and the interest was considerably increased by the appearance in one of our daily papers of a long article on the subject, with a number of illustrations, representing some of the most interesting articles found. There also appears in this number of C. C. an article on the subject, and any one desiring information would do well to address "Flints", care of this office.

## Postage Stamps as an Investment.

BY H. B. M.

Without doubt the question most frequently asked the Collector is: "What is the use of all these stamps?" Innumerable are the replies, but perhaps the most sensible one is, "they are an investment." That may be laughed at, but nevertheless it is true. Take the case of the writer at school seven years ago I started my collection first. I collected a few postage stamps, then I traded for revenues, then I finally let the revenues go, and since that time have only collected postage-stamps. Money that undoubtedly would have gone to the confectioner, went to the stamp dealer. I have now a collection of over 3,000 stamps which I would not sell for one cent less than \$500. But they have not cost me near that much. Some stamps in the past six or seven years have tripled and quadrupled in value, and could I now know what each stamp has cost me, I think I could fairly say that the interest on my investment has been fully eight per cent. Reckoning time spent pouring over my stamps, instead of wasting it, and information acquired in locating the different countries and the form of government. I consider it one of the most sensible things I ever did. I would encourage every school boy to start a collection of stamps, and I know in after years he will never regret it.—*Collectors Companion*.

For the Cumberland Collector:

### A REVERIE

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR,  
And pray what is that for?  
It's published by a lot of boys—  
Something to replace their toys.  
Of stamps 'tis meant to give the history—  
Ah! and show us the great mystery  
Of fancies when left to roam.  
Now, mine all stay at home,  
And to scatter some collections  
Since my earliest recollections  
Has occupied my mind.  
'Tis remarkable to find  
How dust collects on every thing  
In spite of brush and cloth I bring;  
Cobwebs collect in every room  
In spite of me and my long broom;  
Empty bottles and broken china  
Collect where'er there's—a diner;  
Then wornout shoes and broken chairs  
Collect and swell my load of cares.  
Fond memories now of other days  
Collect and turn my plaints to praise;  
For oh! the loved ones gone before  
Collect upon the other shore.  
The stamp they leave on heart and brain  
Is the hope that we shall meet again  
Letters of theirs with many tears,  
I've folded away these many years;  
I'll go and see what stamps they bear,  
I'll cut them out with tender care;  
(It won't disturb my buried sorrow)  
And send them to the boys to-morrow.

*Anti Collector.*

We cannot allow the above poem to appear without a word of thanks. It is not unusual to find beneath the frown of disapproval the kindly smile of sympathy, and we know that our dear "Anti" had in her heart a tender feeling for "*the boys*." Many thanks, "Anti" Is it asking too much to say please favor us again? Our collections are varied, too. Some relics we touch with "tender care," we have folded them away with aching heart, and in years to come, when interest in our *toys* shall have faded, they will still be dearest to us.—ED.

The collecting of old coins is a pursuit engaged in by the older and more wealthy class of people. The main object is to get a complete set of the United States coins of every issue. Such a collection is worth a very large sum, and there is hardly a collector who has the entire set. Among the coins most eagerly sought for are the dollars of 1804, quarters of 1827, cents of 1799 and 1804, and all coins used in the colonies before they were united.

### EXCHANGES.

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## Bogus Stamps

BY A. B. C.

Ever since stamp collecting has been a hobby, collectors have been victimized by shoals of bogus stamps; not count-foits, but those entirely fictitious things which are put on the market from time to time. We consider some of the great London dealers greatly to blame for cataloguing such rubbish as we find in their publications. We can remember when such vermin as the Army stamp, with its wealth of dragons, etc., the "Blockade Postage" with its plaid border; the Uiah, with its portrait of Brigham Young, the Dresden, Breslau, and Leitmeritz Express stamps, we eagerly sought after, but the prop has been knocked out from under them for a long time. In the early days of collecting, spaces were reserved for the Hamburg locals, and even at this date we find English and American dealers offering them for sale; and yet these same dealers know them to be entirely fictitious. The finely engraved "Republic of Cuba" stamps, whose parentage was in New York City, sold quite readily for a time, but it was entirely a fanciful affair and made to sell. The parties who made this affair were interested in the floating of sundry Confederate locals. The Guatemala ship-in-bay—the Paraguayan "steamship," stamp, were similar attempts to make a dishonest penny. They are very pretty, but not worth the ink used in their printing. The prince of philatelic swindle was the introduction of the 2, and 20 cent St. Louis stamp. These were made in New York, and for a time were believed in by some of the most eminent collectors of the day. The dated Bolivian stamps on blue paper we venture to say, never saw the state for which they were intended. The stamp dealer in New York who holds or did hold, the contract for the manufacture of the Bolivian, San Domingo, Hayti and Venezuelan stamps, has wrought so many worthless changes in the way of surcharges, etc., that collectors have been disgusted. Some months ago we received a communication from the U. S. Consul at San Domingo, regarding the surcharged stamps. He says: "*I enclose all the stamps at present in use in this Republic. The over-printed stamps that you request specimens of I am not able to procure. The of-*

*icials do not seem to know anything about them.*" We do not put much faith in official statements, but we hazard the opinion that these surcharged things were made to sell to the collecting public. The Bolivian 1, 2 and 4 reals, black, are purely bogus. The decimal currency has been used in that R public for many years, but still these abominations are catalogued as "Interior" stamps by a London dealer, and collectors are expected to believe it. The type-set Cundinamarca was introduced by a certain Dr. Michelson, Danish Consul at Bogota, who is also answerable for some varieties of the "no hay estampillas" stamps. The officials of the Bogota office pronounce these things bogus. The surcharged Columbian 2½c, on 10c, on 4c, on 5c, have long since been exploded, but still they are catalogued by dealers who ought to feel ashamed of themselves. The Magdalena 5c, pale green, and the Rio de Ora stamps are well known bogies, but they are catalogued by the same honest (?) dealers who quotes most of the above mentioned stamps. There are many other "curiosities" that we wish to speak of, and at some other time we will give our opinion concerning them.—*Empire State Philatelist.*

A man while walking on the bank of the Missinewa river, near Somerset, Ind., saw a human skull protruding from the earth where the water had washed the bank. He dug into the bank and found a skeleton wrapped in a coarse woolen cloth, and lying in a wooden trough. In the trough were silver ornaments, a necklace, bracelets, big bands hung with silver bells, and other trinkets. The skeleton was undoubtedly that of a Miami chief.

The most valuable modern coin is the Confederate silver dollar, which is held at \$1,200 to \$1,500. On it the legend reads: "Confederate States of America." There is a shield with bars and stars, surmounted by a liberty cap. The shield is enclosed in a wreath composed of interwoven cotton and cane stalks. A recent discovery have been made of a confederate half-dollar which has been sold for \$500 to \$600. Only four of these coins were struck.

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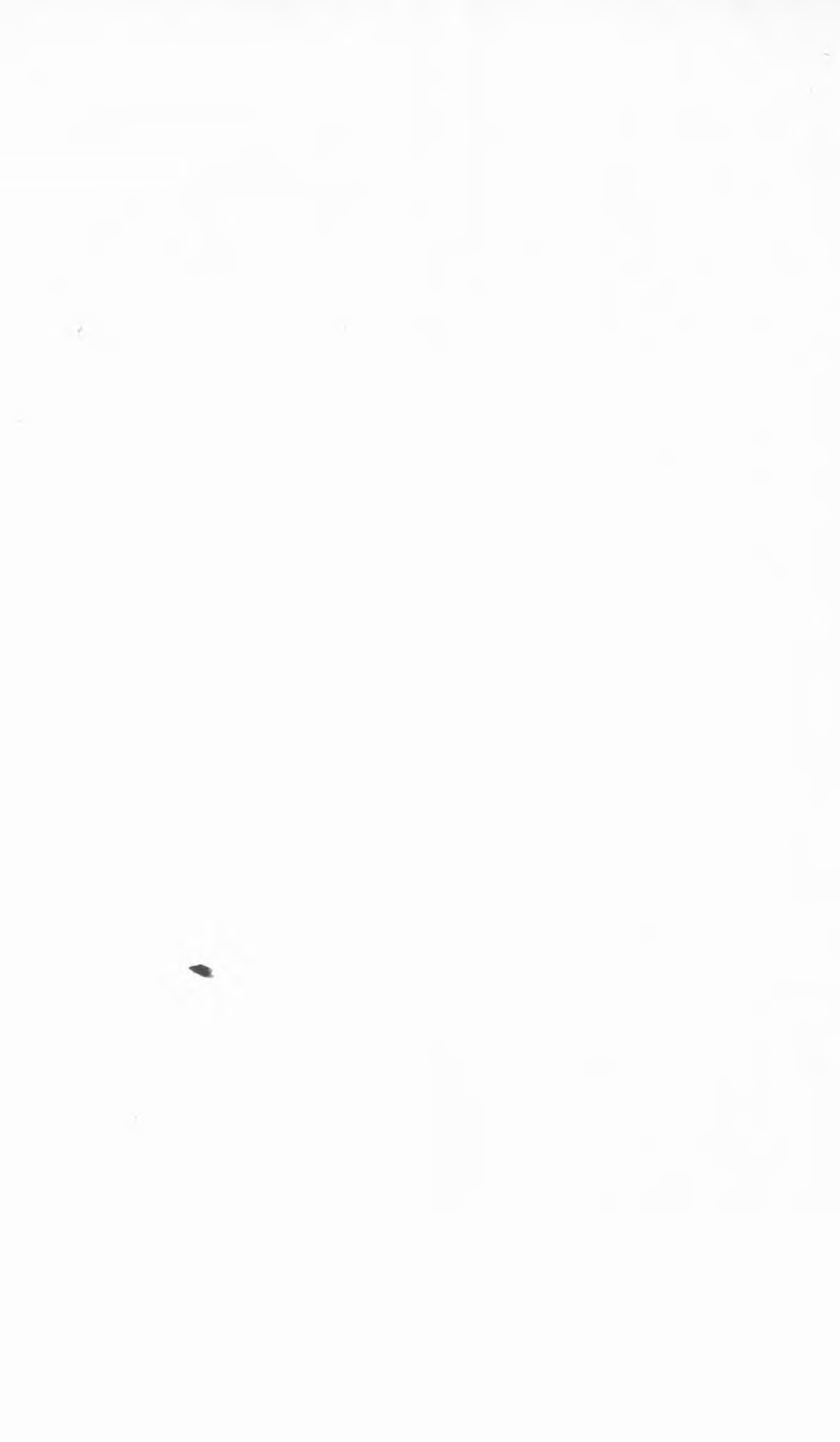
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**Vol. I.**

**No. 7.**



*The Cumberland Collector,*

**NASHVILLE, TENN.**

**November 1886.**





# Cumberland Collector.

VOL. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., NOVEMBER, 1886.

No. 7

## RELICS OF AN EXTINCT RACE.

### Well-Preserved Remains of the Aborigines of Newfoundland Discovered.

Relics of the vanished race of Red Indians, the aborigines of Newfoundland, were recently disinterred at Pilley's island, Notre Dame Bay, says a special from St. Johns, N. F. In a day or two they will be placed on exhibiton. The Bethuks, or Beoths, showed great respect to the bodies of their dead relatives and Friends. There were four modes of disposing of them, according to the rank and character of the person entombed. In the case of the most important or richest members of the tribe a hut was built some 10 feet by 8 or 9 and 4 feet high, in the center floored with squared poles and the roof covered with bark, and in every way secured against the weather and the intrusion of wild beasts. The bodies of the dead were wrapped in deer skins and laid on the floor of this hut. Usually various articles belonging to the dead were placed alongside the bodies, such as bows arrow heads, worn images and culinary utensils made of birch bark. The second mode of sepulture was as follows: The body was wrapped in birch bark and placed on a scaffold 4½ feet from the ground. The scaffold was formed of four posts about 7 feet long, fixed perpendicularly in the ground, to sustain a kind of crib 5½ feet in length by 4 in breadth with a floor made of small squared beams laid close together, on which the body and property rested. The third mode was to double up the body, wrap it in birch bark and inclose it in a kind of a box on the ground made of small square posts laid on each other horizontally and notched at the

corners to make them meet close. It was about 4 feet by 3½ feet deep, and well lined with birch bark to exclude the weather. The body was always laid on the right side. The fourth and most common mode of burial was to wrap the body in birch bark and cover it over with a heap of stones on the surface of the ground of some retired spot. Sometimes the body thus wrapped up was put a foot or two under the surface and the spot covered with stones.

Of the two skeletons now to be exhibited one is nearly perfect. Only the bones of the neck are wanting. It is the skeleton of a person some 9 or 10 years of age, doubled up and lying on the side. The body had been wrapped in birch bark and covered with stones, after the fourth of the methods described. When the bark wrappings are removed the form is seen perfectly, and the skull is in an excellent state of preservation. Of the other skeleton only the skull and two or three bones of the leg are forthcoming, the other bones having been destroyed by wild animals. Along with this skull and bones are found very interesting stone relics, arrows small canoes made of birch bark and small vessels of the same material.

Only these and a few more fragments remain of the Red Indians of Newfoundland, a once powerful race which numbered many thousands, and long before the arrival of the pale faces hunted deer, speared salmon, captured the cod and trapped the beaver and fox for countless generations. It was a fierce, warlike tribe, and refused to come to terms with the white race, by which it was treated with savage cruelty. It is singular that so few of the graves of these Indians have been discovered. There are a few of the relics in the St. John's museum—one skull and a number of stone implements. *Union.*

### A CLIFF OF GLASS IN YELLOWSTONE PARK.

Among the scientific papers that will appear in the appendix of one of the forthcoming reports of the Geological Survey is one by Prof. Joseph P. Iddings upon the obsidian cliff of Yellowstone Park. This cliff is an elevation half a mile long by from 150 to 200 feet high, the material of which, Prof. Iddings says, "is as good glass as any artificially manufactured." Its color and structure not only make it highly interesting to the visitor, but furnish to the scientific investigator phenomena of importance. The cliff presents a partial section of a surface flow of obsidian that poured down an ancient slope from the plateau lying east. It is impossible to determine what the original thickness of this flow may have been. The dense glass that now forms its lower portion is from 75 to 100 feet thick while the porous and pumiceous upper portion has suffered from ages of erosion and glacial action. A remarkable feature of the cliff is the development of prismatic columns, which form its southern extremity. These are of shining black obsidian, rising from the talus slope, and are from 50 to 60 feet in height, with diameters varying from 2 to 4 feet. The color of the material of this cliff is for the most part jet black, but much of it is mottled and streaked with bright brownish red and various shades of brown from dark to light yellowish, purplish and olive green. The brilliant luster of the rock and the strong contrasts of color with the black are very striking. In places, the glass in the process of cooling has been broken into small angular pieces, which have been again cemented by the later flow, producing many-colored and beautiful breccia. In some places, the material shows a fine satin luster, while in others a deep golden sheen is noticeable, which under the lens resolves itself into thin beams of red and yellow light. Through the black and red glass are scattered dull bluish-gray patches and bands, and round

gray and pink masses, the effect of which is still further to vary the appearance and beauty of the rock, and make it the most conspicuous and characteristic variety of volcanic lava known.—*Age of Steel.*

For Cumberland Collector

### THE STAMPS AND COINS OF ST. LUCIA.

One of the most northern of the southern group of the Windward Islands is a little isle containing a population of 35,000 which is known as Santa Lucia. It was first settled by the English in the fourth decade of the seventeenth century, since which period it has undergone many political change having repeatedly passed from the possession of the French to that of the English and vice versa.

While never having issued coins of its own, the issue of Spain has been counter-stamped by the English and passed current between 1803 1814.

The series may be thus briefly summarized

1. A Spanish Dollar of 1810 clipped square and the words S. Lucia in an oblong counterstamped on the obverse. This passed in the place of the French 6 Livres which the inhabitants has been using.

2. A Spanish half-dollar of Charles I with similar counterstamp, which passed in place of 2 Livres.

3. The half dollar of Ferdinand VII similarly stamped. In the issue of stamps St. Lucia has been most prolific having issued nearly a quarter of a hundred beside fiscal used for postage and other 'hybrides., The first issues consisted of a profile of the queen to the left in an oval with St. Lucia; postage below with no value indicated. This design was first employed in 1859, when the watermark was a star and the perforation was 14. The issue consisted of three stamps lake. deep blue, deep green issued respectfully as 1 d. 6 d. and 1 s. The watermark was changed in 1863 to a crown and c c, and the perfora

tion from 14 to 12½. The color of the two higher issues then being slate blue and emerald green.

In 1865 a new set were emitted with the same watermark as follows: 1 d. black 6 d. violet, 4 d. yellow, 6 d. mauve, 1 s. orange. In 1881 stamp of the same design and watermark surcharged with value was used, perf., 14. ½ d. black on green, 2½ d. black on red, 3 d. blue on carmine. In 1882 a one penny red on black and a revenue of similar design and value was used.

In 1883 the same design with watermark crown C. A. with surcharges in black. ½ d. green, 4 d. yellow, 3 d. blue, 1 s. orange. In this year a few unsurcharged stamps was used, presumably as a three penny stamp, 3 d. blue stamp.

There was also a variety of the 4 d. being perforated 11½ instead of 14. In 1883 another new issue was emitted profile of the queen to left in octagon, St. Lucia above, value below, watermark, crown and C. A. perforated 14, ½ d. green, 1 d. rose, 2½ d. blue. In 1885 two higher values were added, 4 d. bistre, 1 s. orange. In 1883-4 four fiscals were used postally, consisting of ½ d., 4 d. and two varieties of 1 s. This little island has also issued three postal cards, the first in 1881 a 1½ d. red brown on buff. To this in 1883 she added a 1 d. carmine on buff and a return card 1½ by 1½ same design as 1881.

E. R. A.

### EDITORIAL.

This is our seventh number, why don't some one congratulate us upon having lived longer than the six months usually prescribed as the limit of existence to *Second Class* journals? after this period they are generally elevated to the first class, such we hope will be the case with us, but at any rate we trust that it has been proved to our friends and to the public in general that we meant it when we asserted that "we have come to stay."

The *Stamp and Coin Gazette* for October although a little late shows up in its usual fine form. Mr. Lyman H. Lowe who has had charge of the numismatic department, has informed the publishers that on account of the increase in his own

business he will be obliged to sever his connection with the paper after the first of the year.

The *Stamp and Coin Gazette* will then be exclusively devoted to Philately, but whether a change of name is contemplated we are unable to say.

It was stated that on the 15th. of Sept. *The Dixie Stamp Collector*, published by Whilden & Brumly of Atlanta Ga., would appear, this was good news to us as our section sorely needs more Philatelic Advocates and we were ready to extend a hearty welcome to our Southern sister, but as the 15th. of Sept., Oct., and Nov. have successively come and gone and still no *Dixie Collector* we begin to grow uneasy and wonder if we ever will be granted the privilege of making her acquaintance but at the same time we know and fully appreciate the difficulties under which the Publishers are working and they have our sympathy and commiseration in their struggle with the city and P. O. officials and hope that in time they will triumphantly surmount every difficulty and present us with a paper whose merits will silence all complaints that have been made on account of its long delay.

We have received from the *Stamp World* a copy of the *Stamp Collectors Companion* it is a very neat little book and we are obliged to the Publishers for it. We also desire to thank Mr. E. F. Gambs for his new price list.

The Officers of the National Philatelic Association have caused the constitution to be printed it is in very neat pamphlet form and will be sent free to all members in good standing.

The November number of *The Youth's Ledger* comes to us with an extra page and otherwise improved, the *Ledger* is now beginning its second year and is a very creditable journal.

The local post office of Shanghai is entirely in the hands of and managed by the English residents there. It is in reality a private post, with a circulation limited to its own district, owing its origin to the wants of Europeans in that city. Its deliveries and duties seem to commence where those of other posts cease.

# The Cumberland Collector.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR  
To All Countries.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

Published by

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR PUB. CO.

210 S. Spruce St. Nashville, Tenn.

B. F. CHEATHAM. Editor.

J. M. GRAY, JR., Assistant Editor.

C. H. McHENRY, Business Manager.

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Entered as Second-class matter at Nashville P. O.

## NASHVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Society held its regular meeting Tuesday, Nov., 2, 1886. Roll call showed only one member absent. One member resigned. Fred Martin Essayist for this meeting was absent and as no one volunteered to take his place we had to fore go that pleasure.

Several other matters were attended to when the society adjourned. After adjournment trading and exchanging was carried on for some time.

J. M. GRAY JR.

113 S. SPRUCE ST.

SEC.

## SPIDERS.

A spider, as shown by an estimate by means of actually weighing it and then confining it in a cage, ate four times its weight for breakfast, nearly nine times its weight for dinner, thirteen times its weight for supper, finishing up with an ounce, and at eight o'clock at night when he was released, ran off in search of food. At this rate a man weighing one hundred and sixty pounds would require the whole of a fat steer for breakfast, the dose repeated with the addition of a half dozen

well fattened sheep for dinner and two bullocks, eight sheep and four hogs for supper, and then, as a lunch before going to his club banquet, he would indulge in four barrels of fresh fish.

## ITEMS FOR EGG COLLECTORS.

The eggs of all herons are light blue.

The mourning dove is very often called the caroline and turtle dove.

Humming birds build their nests with great nicety, of lichens, cotton, etc., and seldom lay more than two eggs.

All egg collectors should use Data blanks.

Ink spots may be removed from eggs by the application of a weak solution of lime.

Many collectors class eggs of the Alligator among their *bird eggs*.

A very good cabinet for eggs is a printers type cabinet, which may be bought from dealers in printers supplies at from five to twenty dollars.

The American Coot is about 15 inches long and from wing to wing when extended measures about 25 inches. Their nests are built of sticks and decayed vegetable matter, and placed near the water. They lay from seven to ten eggs, of an ash-gray color, with small black spots. The coot is often called the "Mad Hen."

To preserve eggs, first empty them of their contents with a drill and blow-pipe, then get a syringe with a very fine point and inject the egg with water until the water comes out clear and clean. Let the eggs dry for a day or two, and inject them with a solution of issinglass (strong) with a little sugar candy to prevent it from cracking blow out while warm and let the specimen dry thoroughly.

We notice:

That you have not subscribed. Please do so before you forget it.

That the first U. S. cent and half-cent was struck in 1793.

That frauds are scarcer this season than last.

That "Philo." is now associate editor of *The Stamp*.

That revenue stamps are becoming more popular.



That we have seen nothing as yet of *The Dixie Stamp Collector*.

That stamp collecting is on a "boom" especially in this city.

That there were 279,000,000 stamped envelopes sold by the government in 1885.

That an autograph letter signed, written by George Washington and in good condition is worth about \$50.

That Mr John M. Hubbard of Lake Villiage, N. H. has again entered the ranks of Philatelic 'publi-shers. His new paper is the *Curiosity World*.

That Denver Colo. has a new stamp journal namely, *The Collectors Review*.

The *The Golden State Scientist* is a new scientific journal published by E. M. Haight, Riverside, Cal

That it has been estimated that there are 700,000 persons in the world collecting stamps.

That *The Texas Stamp* and *Texas Philatelist* are two new papers hailing from the "Lone Star State." We wish them success.

That some stamp dealers use "approval books" of stamps instead of sheets, which is a much better method as the stamps are not then so apt to become soiled or torn.

That we desire a few more standing advertisements of reliable dealers. Those desiring to increase their trade during the coming season—especially in the South—cannot find a better medium. Write us for special rates.

## JOTTINGS.

BY JUNIOR.

One branch of collecting of which very little is known and which seems very foolish to most people is the hobby of collecting tobacco tags. But there are quite a number of persons who are interested in it and they intend to form a Society to be known as "The National Tag Society"

It will be on something of the same plan as the "American Philatelic Association," although not so extensive.

The "Scott Stamp and Coin Co. (Ld.\*)" of New York City are preparing an album for the United States, postage and local stamps and the revenues and State reve-

nues. Collectors will be glad to hear this as something of this kind has been needed for a long time. It will promote the collecting of revenue stamps and tend to increase their value.

We suppose the spaces for revenue will be omitted in the next edition of the International Album and think this to be a much better plan. The new album will no doubt meet with a large sale.

One of the best methods for advanced collectors to increase their collections is by "Auction Sales." Stamps may sometimes be obtained for a very low price at these sales and when they are managed by well known honest dealers collectors can be sure of what they are getting. Of course beginners in Philately can do better by buying packets and from approval sheets, but we would advise any advanced collector who has never bought any stamps by auction to do so.

The cataloguers and some dealers execute bids for any collectors who cannot attend sales in person, and generally charge only a commission of ten per cent.

The Philatelic Journals are nearly all short of articles. We notice that the Empire State Philatelist, Stamp and Coin Gazette, Capital City Philatelist, and several others, are offering prizes for articles.

Why do not more collectors write for the press is a question that puzzled Philatelic publishers in the past and still continues to do so. Nearly every collector is capable of writing something, even though there may be mistakes in Rhetoric and punctuation, this can easily be corrected by the editor.

Let every collector "try his hand" and it will not be long before all the papers will be filled with original matter. Of course some of it would not be worth reading but among them all there would certainly be many good articles.

The collecting hobby has certainly many branches, and there are many persons who collect each branch. There are collections of stamps, coins, autographs, Indian relics, confederate money, minerals, shells, bird's eggs, picture cards, sea curiosities, fossils, post marks, tin-tags, and there has lately come to light a collector of boot heels. Any one who wishes to commence collecting has quite an array of subject to select from.

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Choice approval sheets, at 25 per cent., sent to any one enclosing stamp and promising to return in ten days.

PACKET NO. 1, 110 varieties--Ceylon, Chili, Bosnia, War and Interior Dep't, unused Canada, Venezuela, Sweden official, India official, and Barbados. Only 20 cents.

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Literary, historical, and rare manuscripts, books and letters written by noted men or women for cash.

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I have a quantity of fine relics, among which are a number of perfect vessels of pottery taken from the Stone graves of Tennessee.

Write for description and prices, address

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All stamps sold by me are warranted genuine and satisfaction guaranteed.

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Send list of what you have.

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135 Union St. Nashville, Tenn.

Five foreign stamps or three revenues for every stamp coin or curiosity papers sent me. Not less than five taken.

J. M. Gray Jr.  
113 S. Spruce St. Nashville, Tenn.

Correspondence desired with persons living near battle fields for the purpose of exchanging relics, fossils for Indian relics.

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Stamps and Autographs for Stamps and fractional currency etc

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Rare Postage and Revenue Stamps, duplicate philatelic papers for U. S. Postage and Department Stamps not in my collection. Please send list. 10 var. Match and Medicine Stamps in good condition.

E. B. CORNWELL, Rubicon, Wis.

## COLLECTORS.

10 var unused stamps	20c.
10 " revenue "	05c.
5 " large U. S. cents	20c.
Pieces of Indian pottery	10c.
5 var Stamp papers	10c.
Paper in mourning for Grant	15c.
Ail sent postpaid for 70c.	

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—0—

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12 var. Confederate State money and bonds, 50c.; 12 var. metal rebellion cards, 50 + 12 species of fossils (named), 50c.; 12 var. of minerals (named), 50c.; 20 var. sea shells, sea beans and coral, 50c.; 12 species of birds' eggs (named), \$1; 12 foreign coins, 1800 and previous, \$1; 12 var. silver, Ger. silver and nickel coins, \$1; 25 var. foreign coins, many desirable, \$1; 12 var. old State bank bills, \$1; Magnetic iron ore (load stone), per oz., 25c; California gold halves, 60c, quarters, 30c.; Trilobites, 25cts to \$1 each. Fern fossils, 25 to 50cts.

12 assorted flint arrow points.....50c.  
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Arrow points (white quartz) " 15 to 25c.  
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Price current of all U. S. and Colonial gold, silver, copper, nickel and bronze coins, 10c.

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White coral from Asia, each 2.00 to 5.00. Beautiful polished Ammonites from Europe, from 2.50 up to 10.00 each, beautiful polished Agates from 2.00 to 5.00 each. Mammoth tooth, 7.00. Section of Mastodon vertebra, perfect, 10.00.

We have modern Indian relics, such as fine buckskin, squaw suits, gun-cases, medicine and tobacco bags, red pipes, bows and arrows, moccasins, etc. We have a great variety of old arms, flintlocks, swords, pistols, also rude Confederate pikes, swords, knives, etc.

**Send stamps for Price Lists of Indian Relics, Autographs, Minerals, Fossils, Coins, Confederate Money, Etc.**

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\$500.00 will be paid for a fine genuine 1804 U. S. Silver dollar; \$100.00 for a fine half dime of 1802. A list of rare coins and premiums paid on receipt of stamps.

Wanted.—Confederate Money, Bonds and Stamps, also Illustrated used Confederate Envelopes, with stamps on preferred.

Wanted.—Old State Bank Bills, Colonial and Continental Money, Old Almanacs, Etc.

Wanted—Mound and Indian Relics, such as Pipes, Tubes, Slate Ornaments, perfect Flint Spear Points, and all fine, perfect Stone Relics.

Wanted--Rare Fossils, especially fine Trilobites, Crinoid Heads, Mastodon Teeth, Etc.

Wanted—Autograph Letters of Presidents, Governors, Generals, and great men, especially those of Arnold, Andre, and Generals Stonewall Jackson, Lee and Albert Sidney Johnson,

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Wanted—Old Flint Lock Guns and Pistols, old Swords, and all curious old Arms, old time high Clocks with Sun and Moon changes, Bronzes, Idols, and all manner of curiosities and bric-a-brac of every description.

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744 Broadway, New York City.

**War Department Envelopes.**

Entire, Unused and Perfect PLIMPTON & MORGAN Dies' Star Water-mark, Threecents, red on white paper, sizes 1, 3 and 7; Six cents, red on white paper size 3 and 7, I will exchange any of the above named ENVELOPES for other entire Envelopes, or Scarce United States and Foreign Stamps. I offer for Sale comp etc sets of U. S. DEPARTMENT STAMPS. New Retail Price List of Entire War Department Envelopes and United States and Foreign Stamps furnished upon application. Wholesale List for Dealers only. United States and Foreign Stamps bought for Cash.

C. F. ROTHEUCH,  
356 1-2 PENN AVENUE,  
O. Box 221 Washington, D. C., U. S. A

**FOR SALE AT COST.**

**ALL UNUSED AND GENUINE**

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U. S. " 2c.....08c	Ecuador 1.....03c
U. S. " 4c.....13c	Egypt 5pa.....03c
Antique 1d.....02c	Eastern Roumania 5.....03c
Angola 5 Reis.....03c	pa .....03c
Azores 2 1/2 Reis.....02c	Fernando Po 1c.....04c
" 5 Reis.....03c	French Colon's 1c.....02c
Bahamas 1d.....05c	" " 2c.....02c
Bavaria Return Letter " " 4c.....03	" " 5c.....03c
6 var .....07c	" " 5c.....03c
Barbados 1d.....03c	Gold Coast 1d.....03c
Belgium 1c.....01c	Grenada 1d.....03c
Bergedorf 5 var.....07c	Gambia 1d.....03c
Bolivia 5c.....04c	Guatemala Envelope
Bermuda 1d.....03c	4 var.....28c
Bosnia 1k.....02c	Greece 11.....01c
Bulgaria 1c.....01c	" 11 unpaid.....02c
" 2c.....02c	" 21 ".....02c
" 3c.....03c	Heligoland Wrapper 3
Brazil 10 Reis.....02c	var.....07c
Brunswick 1g.....01c	Orders for less than 25
Cape Verd 5r.....03c	cents not filled.
China 1c.....04c	One each of above for
Costa Rica 1/2r.....02c	only \$1.50.
" 21.....04c	
Cuba 10c 69.....05c	
Cyprus 1d.....03c	<b>L. H. GALE,</b>
" 1d.....03c	135 Union Street,
	Nashville, Tenn

## FOR SALE.

—0—

**Remember the following goods are all in good condition and post-paid.**

12 var. Confederate State money and bonds, 50c.; 12 var. metal rebellion cards, 50c.; 12 species of fossils (named), 50c.; 12 var. of minerals (named), 50c.; 20 var. sea shells, sea beans and coral, 50c.; 12 species of birds' eggs (named), \$1; 12 foreign coins, 1800 and previous, \$1; 12 var. silver, Ger. silver and nickel coins, \$1; 25 var. foreign coins, many desirable, \$1; 12 var. old State bank bills, \$1; Magnetic iron ore (load stone), per oz., 25c.; California gold halves, 60c., quarters, 30c.; Trilobites, 25cts to \$1 each, Fern fossils, 25 to 50cts. 12 assorted flint arrow points ..... 50c. Ungrooved stone axes.....each 25 to 50c. Arrow points (white quartz) " 15 to 25c. " " (rotary, rare) " 25 to 50c. " " (serrated, rare) " 25 to 50c. " " (rot'y with serrated

edge, very rare), .....each 50 to \$1.00

Flint scrapers, drills or spearpoints, each 25c. to 1.00. Perforators, each 25 to 50c. Hematite celts (red iron ore), each 50c to 1.00.

MERCER'S NUMISMATIC DIRECTORY, giving the names of all coin and autograph collectors and other valuable information, 1.00.

MERCER'S COIN BOOK, over 1100 illustrations, printed in gold and silver, 1.00.

COFFIN HANDBILL; OR BLOODY DEEDS OF GEN. ANDREW JACKSON. Sample copy, 15c. Agents wanted.

Price current of all U. S. and Colonial gold, silver, copper, nickel and bronze coins, 10c.

### THE FOLLOWING BY EXPRESS:

Stone axes (grooved), each 50c, 75c., 1.00 to 2.00. Stone axes (large ungrooved), 50c. to 1.00. Stone pestles (corn crushers), 50c. to 1.00.

Beautiful minerals and crystals in great variety 25c., 50c., and 75c. to 1.00 each.

White coral from Asia, each 2.00 to 5.00. Beautiful polished Ammonites from Europe, from 2 50 up to 10.00 each, beautiful polished Agates from 2.00 to 5.00 each. Mammoth tooth, 7.00. Section of Mastodon vertebra, perfect, 10.00.

We have modern Indian relics, such as fine buckskin, squaw suits, gun-cases, medicine and tobacco bags, red pipes, bows and arrows, moccasins, etc. We have a great variety of old arms, flint-locks, swords, pistols, also rude Confederate pikes, swords, knives, etc.

**Send stamps for Price Lists of Indian Relics, Autographs, Minerals, Fossils, Coins, Confederate Money, Etc.**

## WANTED!

—0—

\$500.00 will be paid for a fine genuine 1804 U. S. Silver dollar; \$100.00 for a fine half dime of 1802. A list of rare coins and premiums paid on receipt of stamps.

Wanted.—Confederate Money, Bonds and Stamps, also Illustrated used Confederate Envelopes, with stamps on preferred.

Wanted.—Old State Bank Bills, Colonial and Continental Money, Old Almanacs, Etc.

Wanted—Mound and Indian Relics, such as Pipes, Tubes, Slate Ornaments, perfect Flint Spear Points, and all fine, perfect Stone Relics.

Wanted—Rare Fossils, especially fine Trilobites, Crinoid Heads, Mastodon Teeth, Etc.

Wanted—Autograph Letters of Presidents, Governors, Generals, and great men, especially those of Arnold, Andre, and Generals Stonewall Jackson, Lee and Albert Sidney Johnson,

Wanted—Old Masonic Silk and Satin Ribbon Badges, especially a few of California Commanderies, also, all Presidential Ribbons and Tickets.

Wanted—Old Flint Lock Guns and Pistols, old Swords, and all curious old Arms, old time high Clocks with Sun and Moon changes, Bronzes, Idols, and all manner of curiosities and bric-a-brac of every description.

**MERCER'S CURIOSITY BAZAR,**

**147 Central Ave.,  
CINCINNATI, O.**

miscellaneous  
Buildings



Vol. I.

No. 8.



THE  
CUMBERLAND  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
COLLECTOR.

December 1886.



*A Monthly Magazine devoted to  
Stamps, Coins, and Curiosities.*

Miscellaneous  
Building

Vol. I.

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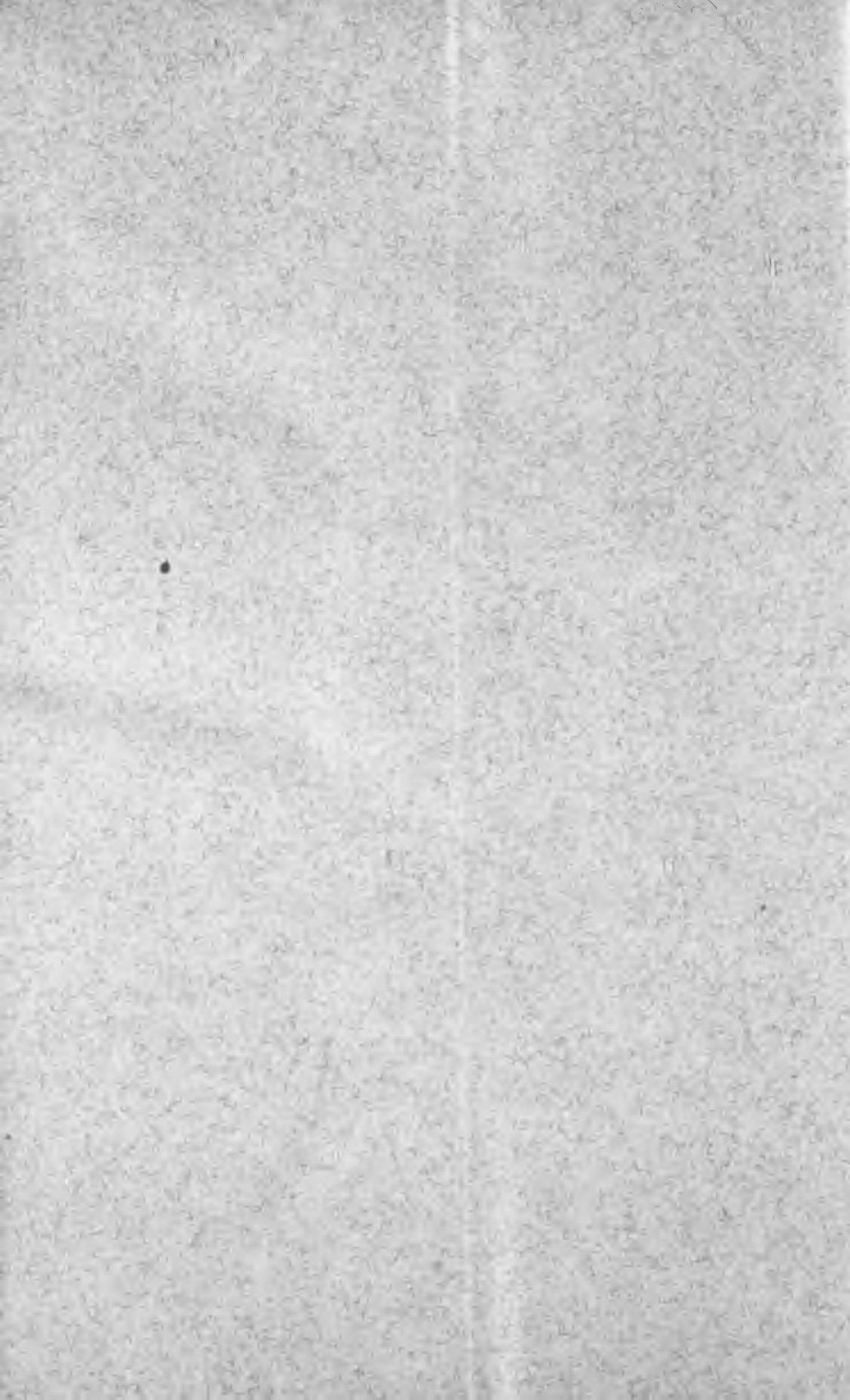


**THE**  
**CUMBERLAND**  
**NASHVILLE, TENN.**  
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# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. I.

NASHVILLE, TENN., DECEMBER, 1886.

No. 8

For Cumberland Collector.

## THE COINS OF CANADA.

ALTHOUGH the coins of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward's Island would properly be classed under the head of Canadian coins, I will not mention them here for fear of making my article too long, but will describe only those which have been issued for circulation throughout the entire Dominion.

The first Canadian coins were issued in 1670 by Louis XIV of France, and consisted of a copper two-denier and a silver five-sous piece. The two-denier piece bore on the obverse the letter "L" crowned, 1670, and "LVDOVICVS, XIII, D. GR. FRAN. ET NAV. REX.", and on the reverse "DOVBLE DEL' AMERIQUE, FRANCOISE, while the five-sous had, on the obverse, a laureated bust of Louis XIII and "LVD. XIII, D. C. FR. ET. NAV. REX.", and on the reverse the royal arms, crowned, and "GLO. RIAM, REGNI, TVI, DICENT, 1670."

In 1790 a British colony in Canada called Kentucky issued copper and silver coins, which, on account of the name of the colony which they bear, are often mistaken for United States coins.

One and two cent pieces were issued in 1822-23 by George IV. The description of the one-cent piece is as follows: On the obverse, bust of George IV, "GEOR. IV. D. G. BRI. REX.;" reverse, "100 DOLLAR COLONIAL 1822 AND 1823," inclosed in an oak wreath. The design of the two cent was the same as the one cent except that the inscription on the reverse read "50 DOLLAR COLONIAL" instead of "100" as on the one cent.

The first government coin was the half-penny, issued in 1832. Obverse: head of George IV, and "PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA;" reverse: Britannia seated, and "HALF-PENNY TOKEN, 1832.

Tokens were issued by private parties from 1830 to 1844, and upon the breaking out of the Canadian rebellion in 1837, the

country was flooded with them. The scarcest of these tokens is the PENNY, issued by the Bank of Montreal in 1838 and 1839.

In 1858 a regular colonial coinage, consisting of twenty, ten, and five cent silver, and one cent copper coins, was issued. The design on all the silver coins is the same. Obverse, head of Queen Victoria and "VICTORIA DEI GRATIA, REGINA." "CANADA" in the exergue. Reverse: value and date surmounted by a crown, the whole being inclosed in a wreath of maple. Fifty and twenty-five cent pieces of similar design have since been added to this issue. The design of the one cent is a head of Queen Victoria and "VICTORIA DEI GRATIA REGINA" on the obverse, "CANADA" in the exergue, and on the reverse, value, "ONE CENT" and date inclosed in a wavy wreath of maple leaves.

The five, ten and twenty-cent pieces were also issued with plain edges instead of milled, but these are now very scarce. Some of the silver coins also have the letter "H" under the knot of ribbon which ties the wreath. This refers to Sir Francis Hincks, French Minister of Canada.

It is stated on good authority that the Queen is having a new medallion portrait of herself prepared to be placed upon the English coinage in 1887. If this be true, we can safely look forward to a new issue of Canadian coins within the next year or two.

MAX. I. MILIAN.

THE "newspaper with the largest circulation in the world" is one published in Paris called *La Petit Journal*, the little journal, which has a daily circulation of 900,000, rising at times to 925,000. It is, as the name implies, a little paper, which could not live a month in an American city, but it suits the Parisians so well that they all read it, and it goes into all parts of France. Its annual income is said to be \$1,000,000. The feature of the paper is short serial stories.

For Cumberland Collector,

**THE FUTURE OF PHILATELY.**

IN reviewing the present and past of any great science, art or study, it is customary to speak of its future—its prospects. Of the present and past of Philately, it has been discussed in every light, but of the future little has been said. As to its being a science there can be no doubt. The simple definition given by many that, "Science is classified knowledge," surely applies to Philately. There is not one who will say it is not knowledge; and is it not classified? As to its being an art we know that for a collection to be at its best advantage, and to please the eye, the stamps must be arranged so that their colors will harmonize, and to be so pleasing to the sight that a non-collector could not but admire them. As to its being a pastime the collector knows how quickly the time flies while examining his collection. While after a day of activity the day's cares seem to be swept away by the fairy-like hand of Philately.

Then certainly this combination of science, art and pleasure cannot but reach a realm of advancement in the future that every right-thinking person will recognize in Philately one of the most delightful studies, and every collector will be united into one general brotherhood, and the desire of one Philatelist will be to aid another, and the desire of all to advance Philately.

LOCHLIN.

**THE POMEROY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A REGULAR meeting of the Pomeroy Society was held on Thursday evening, December 2nd.

The society purchased since the last meeting six of Scott's albums, which were distributed to the members ordering. The members now all have a uniform album.

Letters were read from several of the officers of the American Association and comments made thereon. It was decided to take advantage of the exchange department of the association as soon as fairly started.

The question of buying stamps from foreign governments was taken up, but after reading a letter from Purchasing Agent Cuno the matter was dropped until the society ascertain what he can do for them.

A fine lot of stamps from our French correspondent were opened and distributed and a return letter made up for him from the duplicates of the society.

At our last meeting the subject of holding social meetings at the homes of the various members was taken up. It was decided to hold a series of meetings during the winter of this character, each member to bring his collection and a lady if he desires. These meetings not to interfere with the regular meetings of the society. After a pleasant meeting the society adjourned.

E. D. KLINE, Secretary.

Toledo, O., Dec. 6. 1886.

For Cumberland Collector.

**AN EVENING WITH PROF. MORSE.**

MANY years ago it was my pleasant fortune to spend an evening at Mr. Tilden's house in Gramercy Park to meet Christine Nilsson. I saw that handsome young Swede and heard her sing, but it was not her picture that I hung most prominently on memory's walls, but that of a feeble old gentleman who made one of the brilliant company. I see now that slight, erect frame, the handsome face with delicate, expressive features, the patriarchal beard, and the slender white hands, beautiful as Joe Jefferson's. His friends, in this, would recognize Prof. Morse. Mr. James Gerard introduced me to him. I told him that I was a stranger in New York and felt it to be a great privilege to meet and talk with him. After that he kindly talked to me of himself.

Mr. Gerard, who was one of New York's brightest ornaments and the most agreeable and popular man I ever met, made some introductory remarks, telling me that he was with Prof. Morse years before when he was in Washington trying to get an appropriation from Congress that would enable him to bring the telegraph before the world. "And, bye-the-bye," continued Mr. Gerard, "the wittiest speech I ever heard was by an ignorant young Congressman on that occasion opposing the grant of money to my friend here. His headquarters were in a cellar in Washington, and all there was then of the telegraph was a coil of wire in one corner of the cellar and an old tub filled with water in the other. The young fellow's witty descrip-

tion of that tub and of the visionary bending over it brought down the house with roars of laughter."

After Prof. Morse had told me of more of his early troubles I said: "I think hereafter you will be ranked with the world's moral reformers as well as its practical benefactors, for if I needed a motive to restrain me from crime it would be the certainty of hearing your telegraph clicking after me when I should be flying to the uttermost parts of the earth." "Yes, madam," he replied, "I have just seen that fact verified. A man in California recently committed a crime, and to escape punishment sailed away to China. The news was telegraphed to New York, cabled from there to London, sent on from there to India, and from there up into the borders of China by telegraph and sent the rest of the way to Canton by the usual mail conveyance, so that when the criminal entered the port the officers were waiting to arrest him. I have been more fortunate," he added, "than most inventors, and have seen my invention succeed beyond my expectations, for I have lived to see the telegraph practically reach around the world." M. J. C.

#### STAMP COLLECTORS' "DON'T."

**DON'T** put counterfeits in your album. They are not stamps and are a disgrace to any collection.

**DON'T** subscribe to just one philatelic paper but to four or five.

**DON'T** write to a dealer for an approval sheet and then stick the stamps down or injure them in any way, and don't forget (?) to return sheet.

**DON'T** try try to be a dealer when you haven't enough stamps to start a good collection.

**DON'T** stick your stamps in your album with mucilage, but attach them with gum paper hinges.

**DON'T** expect to receive a free sample copy of all the stamp papers every month. If you wish them regularly subscribe.

**DON'T** collect stamps to simply have more than some one else, but *study your stamps*.

**DON'T** paste your stamps in an old copy-book, but put them in an album.

**DON'T** put your postage stamps, postals, revenues, etc., in one album all together.

**DON'T** put torn or soiled stamps in your collection unless *very* rare.

And "last but not least," don't ever drop your science—Philately.

#### COIN CULLINGS.

THE rarest dime is that of 1804.

The United States coined no cents in 1815.

The first U. S. cent was issued in 1793.

The first American copper cent was coined at New Haven, Conn., in 1667.

U. S. Trade Dollars first appeared in 1873.

A U. S. twenty-cent piece of 1877 is worth \$2.

A complete collection of the United States cents are worth from \$400 to \$500

There were more than 20,000,000 war cents or tokens in circulation when the government stopped the coinage of them.

It has been estimated that there are about fifty collectors of gold coins in the United States.

The rarest coin of the United States is the double eagle of 1849. The one in the United States Mint cabinet being the only one in existence.

Some coin collectors make a specialty of war medals and military decorations.

Collectors, never clean your coins. It adds nothing to their appearance or value.

Petrarch, an Italian poet, has the honor of having been the first collector of coins.

U. S. cents of 1799 are exceedingly rare. Not many are in existence, and it is a most unusual exception when one is found in fine condition.

For odd shapes in coins China and Japan have the lead. In those of the greatest weight Sweden excels. The smallest are those of Nuremburg and Nepal. That which represents the greatest value, in a coin struck from dies, belongs to the United States. France exceeds in experimental pieces.

THE largest steel rifle ever made in this country has just been finished at the Washington Navy Yard. It is of 8-inch bore, 30 feet long, and throws a ball weighing 250 pounds with 175 pounds of powder.

**THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.**

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR  
To All Countries.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

**CHEATHAM, GRAY & MARTIN, Publishers,**  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

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Half Column " " .....	1 50
Half Page " " .....	2 75
One Page " " .....	5 00

WHEN a cross appears opposite this notice your subscription has expired. Please renew.

TERMS.—Cash in advance. Special rates on standing advertisements.

Entered as Second-class matter at Nashville P. O.

GREETING to our brothers, greeting to Philatelists, one and all, and may they have a Merry X-mas and a Happy New Year.

IN answering advertisements you will confer a favor upon both us and the dealers by mentioning this paper.

ALL subscribers who do not receive their paper before the 24th of each month will please notify us, as the COLLECTOR is mailed on the 20th without fail.

THE *Stamp and Coin Gazette* will be known as the *Philatelic Gazette* after January 1, '87.

THE November number of *Plain Talk* appears to have been "painted red," but by whom we are unable to say unless it was the festive "Gator."

AUCTION sales of stamps are of frequent occurrence in New York. We have received two catalogues lately, one from Messrs. Bangs & Co. and the other from Thos. L. Bucken & Co. These sales are fast becoming popular, and their frequent occurrence is an indicator of the increased interest that is being taken in collecting.

THERE were 1,453,000 of the old design five-cent pieces coined in 1883, while more than \$3,000,000.00 worth of the new design ("V") without the word "cents" were issued.

MR. L. H. GALE, formerly connected with this paper, has decided to close out his entire stock of stamps, which contains many good ones, which he will sell cheap. See ad. in this number.

WE have received from Wm. H. Warner & Bro., of Philadelphia, a very pretty Christmas medal. It is made of white metal, bearing on the obverse the figure of Santa Claus bearing a Christmas tree, and on the reverse the inscription, A MERRY X-MAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. It is a very handsome medal and is well worth the price asked—\$5 per 100.

INCLUDING this month the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR will be under a new management and will be run by Messrs. Cheatham, Gray & Martin, publishers, they having bought out the other stockholders. So far in our career we have met with a very flattering reception as far as praises and good wishes go, but comparatively little support financially. We are not alone in our complaints. Several of our best journals have experienced the same thing. Why is this? Those who have tried ads. with us say that they have paid very well. We have had no complaints from our subscribers. What more can we do? Every one that has tried us appears satisfied. We therefore take the liberty of asking all those who are interested in collecting stamps, coins or curiosities to send 15 cents for a year's subscription and be satisfied that we are worthy of their support.

THE Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited, the old and reliable dealers of New York City, have sent us a copy each of their Postage Stamp Catalogue, Copper Coin Catalogue and Gold and Silver Catalogue. All of these catalogues are very fine, especially the postage, as it has hundreds of illustrations, which makes it easy for a beginner to arrange his stamps correctly in his album. This company deserve great credit for the manner in which these catalogues are gotten up.



**FOR TWO WEEKS ONLY.**

IN order to increase our subscription list we make the following offer: To any one sending 15 cents before the 10th of January we will send the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR one year. We hope all who receive sample copies will avail themselves of this offer. Remember it is good only until the 10th of January. '87.

**NASHVILLE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.****MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16TH.**

THIS meeting was called to order at 7:30 p. m. Minutes of last meeting were read and approved. An interesting article was read by Fred Martin, entitled "The Future of Philately." A letter was read from the secretary of the Pomeroy Philatelic Society in regard to some Newfoundland stamps which our members contemplate purchasing. Several other matters were attended to, when the society adjourned.

**MEETING OF NOVEMBER 30TH.**

The society was called to order by President Cheatham, with a full attendance of members and two visitors. Several members resigned. An essay was read by J. M. Gray, Jr. The subject of enlarging the society and getting all the collectors in the city to join was brought up and discussed, and action will be taken at the next meeting. B. F. Cheatham was appointed as essayist for next meeting. The society then adjourned.

J. M. GRAY, JR., Secretary.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, of Lake Village, N. H., is about to publish the "Stamp Collectors of the World," containing the addresses of over 1,000 stamp collectors, in all parts of the world. If you are an active collector send your address, and it will be inserted free of charge.

**EXCHANGES.**

INDIAN relics, fossils, fine specimens of petrified wood from California, coin and stamp papers, and other curiosities for good Indian relics, war relics, coins. Confederate money, etc. A \$500 Confederate bill wanted. Address T. B. STEWART, Island, Clinton county, Pa.

THIRTY-FIVE arrow-heads for 1 loon's egg; 40 for 1 goshawk; 50 for 1 great horned owl; 60 for 1 bridled tern's; 60 for 1 loon and 1 American barn owl. Address S. L. GRAHAM, JR., 54 Asylum St., Nashville, Tenn.

WANTED.—An old genuine flint lock gun and other old arms in exchange for relics, stamps, curiosities, etc. Write, giving full description, and state what is wanted. Address ANTIQUARIAN, care Cumberland Collector, Nashville, Tenn.

MINERALS, coins, Indian relics, shells and sea curiosities to exchange for the same. NAT. F. DORLCH, JR., care Brandon Printing Co., Nashville, Tenn.

FIVE hundred foreign stamps for the best offer of stamp, coin and curiosity papers. J. M. GRAY, JR., 113 So. Spruce St., Nashville, Tenn.

TEN varieties of foreign stamps for every department stamp not in my collection. Send list. All letters answered. A. J. PORTER, JR., 167 So. Spruce street, Nashville, Tenn.

THE first gold coined by the United States government were the Five and Ten dollar pieces of 1795. They are both valuable now, the former being worth about \$10, and the latter \$20.

## GRAY, FALL & CO.,

THE GREAT

## HARDWARE DEALERS

THE BEST GOODS

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—AND—

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SPECIAL OFFERS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

A PACKAGE CONTAINING 1000 MIXED FOREIGN STAMPS, (as imported), also 100 fine varieties FOREIGN STAMPS, enough gummed paper to mount 1000 stamps, and my new price list, all for the small sum of 25c (post-paid).

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**Liberty Enlightening the World.**

We have manufactured and now offer correct souvenir of LIBERTY, showing the Heligoland Island, the York Harbor in the rear. Medalion part of the celebrated This beautiful Souvenir on choice color all the details very fine having an Original for 1887, thus an ornamental souvenir. Will also look handsome for the center table.



tured and now offer correct souvenir of LIBERTY, showing the Heligoland Island, the York Harbor in the rear. Medalion part of the celebrated This beautiful Souvenir on choice color all the details very fine having an Original for 1887, thus an ornamental souvenir. Will also look handsome for the center table.



A beautiful and lasting present. Price, only 15 Cents, two for 25 cents. (To agents, \$1.00 per dozen) free by mail. Postage stamps taken.

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**WE WILL**

Send a rare stamp to every one who sends for an approval sheet within the next 30 days.

- 1000 well ass't., incl'g. French Colonies, etc. 25c
- 500 well ass't., incl'g. French Colonies, etc., 15c
- 100 all different 10c
- Set of un's'd Heligoland wrappers, 3 var.com 10c

C. E. SHERMAN, Lock Box 10, Hampton, Va.

**Stamps! Stamps! Stamps!**

I am now fully prepared to furnish the public with good stamps at low prices. Reliable parties by sending satisfactory reference can obtain one of my approval sheets. Agents wanted. 25 per cent commission. Address

B. F. CHEATHAM, Nashville, Tenn.

**THE CHINESE TOY!**

A SCIENTIFIC PUZZLE, composed of 6 pieces of wood so cut when put together as to form a solid block. The puzzle is to take it apart and put it together again as originally found. It affords a source of pleasure and instruction. Address Chinese Toy Co., Nashville, Tenn.

**UNUSED SETS.**

3	varieties Baden Land Post.....	05
5	" Bergedorf.....	10
3	" Constantinople.....	05
10	" German Empire.....	08
3	" Heligoland Wrapper.....	08
6	" Porto Rico, '82.....	10
9	" Sardinia.....	07

Postage 2 cents extra.

ALLEN CHASE, Bucksport, Me.

**VISITING CARDS.**—One dozen first class visiting cards with your name printed upon them sent post-paid for 25 cents (stamps or silver). Address W. B. Garrett, 505 So. Summer St., Nashville, Tenn.

1877 **C. J. FUELSCHER,** 1886

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Approval sheets of choice stamps sent to any reliable party. No commission on U. S. stamps, but will allow 33 1/3 per cent. on foreign stamps. Those collectors sending good references will receive my special attention. Address all communications to

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Circulars, Song Book and papers sent free. Mention this paper and address,

**WM. J. J. CULROSS, Man'gr Peerless Nov. Co, WORCESTER, MASS.**

**YOUR** choice for 6 cents and a 2-cent stamp for postage, 1 ancient Roman coin of Constan 337. 1 Japanese 1/2 sen. 4 var. foreign coins, Greece, Italy, Holland and China. 1 Egyptian 20 paras. 15 var. foreign stamps with each order. The lot and 50 mixed foreign stamps 20 cents. PENINSULA STAMP AND COIN company, Box 610, Saginaw, Mich.

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408 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Complete sets of all departments; set of 1874 Periodicals; U. S. Proofs and Envelopes, etc., in stock. Approval sheets on receipt of references. 1886-7 Catalogue, illustrated, being our 17th edition, post free, 25 cents. Consignments and collections wanted. References: twenty years' reputation in one city. **Special Offer:** 104-page Album (board covers, cloth back, 264 cuts), and 100 Stamps (no two alike), all for 40c. 50 scarce, 10c.

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—DEALERS IN—

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Fine approval sheets sent on application. Send at once: Low prices and large discounts.

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Antigua ½d...02c	Eastern Roumania 5
Angola 5 Reis...03c	pa .....03c
Azores 2½ Reis...02c	Fernando Po 1c...04c
" 5 Reis...03c	French Colon's 1c...02c
Bahamas 1d...05c	" " 2c...02c
Bavaria R turn Letter	" " 4c...03c
6 var .....07c	" " 5c...03c
Barbados ½d...03c	Gold Coast ½d...03c
Belgium 1c...01c	Grenada ½d...03c
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Bolivia 5c...04c	Guatemala Envelope
Bermuda ½d...03c	4 var.....28c
Bosnia 1k...02c	Greece 1l...01c
Bulgaria 1c...01c	" 1l unpaid ..02c
" 2c...02c	" 2l " .....02c
" 3c...03c	Heligoland Wrapper 3
Brazil 10 Reis...02c	var.....07c
Brunswick 1g...01c	Orders for less than 25
Cape Verd 5r...03c	cents not filled.
China 1c...04c	(One each of above for
Costa Rica ½r...02c	only \$1.50.
" 2r...04c	<b>L. H. GALE,</b>
Cuba 10c 69...05c	135 Union Street,
Cyprus ½d...03c	<b>Nashville, Tenn.</b>
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**Remember the following goods are all in good condition and post-paid.**

12 var. Confederate State money and bonds, 50c.; 12 var metal rebellion cards, 50c.; 12 species of fossils (named), 50c.; 12 var. of minerals (named), 50c.; 20 var sea shells, sea beans and coral, 50c.; 12 species of birds' eggs (named), \$1; 12 foreign coins, 1800 and previous, \$1; 12 var. silver, Ger. silver and nickel coins, \$1; 25 var. foreign coins, many desirable, \$1; 12 var. old State bank bills, \$1; Magnetic iron ore (load stone), per oz., 25c.; California gold halves, 60c., quarters, 30c.; Trilobites, 25cts to \$1 each, Fern fossils, 25 to 50cts.

12 assorted flint arrow points..... 50c.  
Ungrooved stone axes.....each 25 to 50c.  
Arrow points (white quartz), " 15 to 25c.  
" " (rotary, rare) " 25 to 50c.  
" " (errated, rare) " 25 to 50c.  
" " (rot'y with serrated edge, very rare),.....each 50 to 1.00.

Flint scrapers, drills or spearpoints, each 25c to 1.00. Perforators, each 25 to 50c.  
Hematite celts (red iron ore), each 50c to 1.00.

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Beautiful minerals and crystals in great variety, 25c, 50c, and 75c to 1.00 each.

White coral from Asia, each 2.00 to 5.00. Beautiful polished Ammonites from Europe, from 2.50 up to 10.00 each, beautiful polished Agates from 2.00 to 5.00 each. Mammoth tooth, 7.00. Section of Mastodon vertebra, perfect, 10.00.

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Wanted.—Old Masonic Silk and Satin Ribbon Badges, especially a few of California Commanderies, also all Presidential Ribbons and Tickets.

Wanted.—Old Flint Lock Guns and Pistols, old Swords, and all curious old Arms, old time high Clocks with Sun and Moon changes, Bronzes, Idols, and all manner of curiosities and bric-a-brac of every description.

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Bahamas 1d...05c	" " 2c...02c
Bavaria R turn Letter	" " 4c...03
6 var .....07c	" " 5c...03c
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Bergedorf 5 var...07c	Gambia 1/2d...03c
Bolivia 5c...04c	Guatemala Envelope
Bermuda 1/2d...03c	4 var .....28c
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**147 Central Ave.**

**CINCINNATI, O.**





Vol. I.

No. 9.



**THE**  
**CUMBERLAND**  
**NASHVILLE, TENN.**  
**COLLECTOR.**

January 1887.



*A Monthly Magazine devoted to  
Stamps, Coins, and Curiosities.*



# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. I.

NASHVILLE, TENN., JANUARY, 1887.

No. 9.

For Cumberland Collector:

## A PHILATELIC REVIEW OF THE YEAR 1886.

BY MAFFITT.

THE year 1886 has been a memorable one to Philately and Philatelists. Never before in one year has our science made such progress. Formerly Philately—or stamp collecting—was considered as a child's amusement, looked down upon with contempt by the majority of people, and collectors were derisively styled "Knights of the Spit-upon." But during the last few years, and the past year especially, stamp collecting has come to be looked upon in another light. The public and press generally have given more of their attention to it, and respectful attention at that. The leading journals and papers of the country have frequently given space to our science.

The greatest step that Philately has taken during the past year I have not yet mentioned, and that is the formation of the American Philatelic Association. This association is for the advancement of the cause and benefit of collectors throughout the United States and Canada. It is established upon a firm basis, the leading Philatelists of the country are at the head of it, and with already a membership of nearly two hundred, its success is assured.

Many persons have joined the ranks of Philatelists during '86, and the old collectors have become infused with new stamp life and taken much more interest in their science than for some time.

The stamp dealers report a good trade, and this held out all during last summer.

The year 1886 has witnessed fewer frauds than for several years past; in fact, the only large swindle of the year being the famous Horace C. Jones, of Minneapolis, Minn., who surpassed Warner, of '85, in dead beating. Perhaps the main cause for the scarcity of frauds is that they haven't a chance, the dealers being more cautious and sending no stamps on ap-

proval without a cash deposit from the applicant or first-class references. Very few counterfeits have been reported for some time, either.

The approval sheet system has come to be the principal method of sending stamps, it being very convenient for both the dealer and collector.

The literature of 1886 shows some improvement over that of 1885. Many directories, catalogues, books, magazines, etc., having been issued, and most of them being very creditable. The principal literary venture of the year was the publication of the *Stamp Collector*, of Chicago. It was the most complete magazine of the kind ever issued, but not receiving sufficient support it expired with its second issue, at a loss of nearly \$500 to the publisher.

I must not forget to speak of the Philatelic societies which have been formed all over the United States. The most of them are doing well and the collectors taking much interest in them.

During the past year Philately has lost several valuable supporters of the cause. Among them are Louis M. Hamlen, of Augusta, Me., and Frank K. Rising, of Lena, Ill., both well known as Philatelists and writers.

The large number of stamp journals and journals partly devoted to Philately that have been issued since last January is something surprising. Many of them are still alive and seemingly in good condition, but many more of them have gone "where the woodbine twineth." Among the papers that have been issued may be mentioned the following: Garden City Philatelist, The Stamp Philatelist, Philatelic News, Cumberland Collector, Curiosity World, Youths' Ledger, Quaker City Philatelist, Mohawk Standard, Texas Philatelist, Texas Stamp, Old Curiosity Shop, Collectors' Review, Stamp Collector, Buckeye State Philatelist, The Collector, Collectors' Aid, Philatelic Notes, Collectors' Monthly, Monthly Journal, Collectors' Science Monthly. Collectors'

Bi-Monthly Directory, Toronto Philatelic Journal, Chemung Review, New York Collector, Philatelic Magazine, Philatelic Tribune, and several others which I cannot think of at present.

Taking everything into consideration, our science was never before in such a flourishing condition. Trade is good, societies are growing, papers are "booming," and collectors are happy. *Esto perpetua.*

For Cumberland Collector:

#### THE BEAUTY OF OUR ALBUMS.

IN this, the Nineteenth century, when almost everything is judged by its looks, it is very necessary for Philatelists, in order to bring our science into popular favor, to endeavor to make their collections as attractive as possible and strive to bring out the beauties which we all know to exist in a well-kept, neatly-mounted collection of stamps. This is not absolutely necessary for a true Philatelist, as he does not go entirely on looks, but with a non-collector, who knows nothing and cares less about a rarity, it is quite different. Beauty is the sole attraction that stamps possess for him, and his opinion will depend on the presence or absence of this important factor.

The material is not wanting. Turn to your album, look at Guatemala, New Brunswick, New Foundland, Heligoland, and even our own departments. Surely these are pretty enough for the most fastidious. The individual stamps are all right, and it only remains for the collector to use care in selecting clean specimens, be judicious in the choice of his album, and above all, mount them properly—not according to the old style, but arrange neatly on hinges, always being sure that his fingers are clean. Then he will have a real ornament—something which will always look well, and which will call forth favorable comment wherever seen, whether it be at school, at the society, or in the drawing-room.

In discussing beauty the subject of collecting used or unused specimens naturally arises. This has long been a mooted question with Philatelists, and one which has never been satisfactorily answered. A collection of unused stamps certainly look very pretty, but I don't think you would agree to discard all those rare used ones

and cling alone to the new, and vice versa. So the only sensible solution is to do as most of us have always done—collect both, unused when you can get them, and when that is impossible take as lightly-cancelled specimens as you can find, or better still, if you can afford it, keep them separate, with an album devoted solely to each.

"CURIO."

For Cumberland Collector:

#### AN EAGLE'S NEST.

To the inhabitants of the inland States the eagle is comparatively little known, and it is for the benefit of such persons that this narrative is intended.

Our party consisted of four other boys and myself, five particular friends who had been spending the vacation in Florida, enjoying the rare hunting and fishing for which that fair land is justly famed. It was the latter part of the winter, and our party were soon to separate. We had in a manner become tired of the ordinary kind of sport, and in order to make the most of our limited time we began to cast our eyes around for something new. We were not long undetermined. Some one made a suggestion which we were not slow in adopting. We had been seeing eagles all winter, and once or twice we had tried to kill one, but so far we had been unsuccessful, and our plan now was to catch an eagle, a young one, if possible, and at least to examine a nest of these interesting birds.

It was no sooner proposed than we began our preparations. It was too late that day, so we were to start early in the morning. In the meantime everything we could think of was done, guns cleaned, shells loaded, axes sharpened, boat packed, (not forgetting a bushel of oranges), and everything made ready for an early start.

The next morning we were up at day-break, and such a day as it was. To begin with it was cold for Florida, the wind was blowing, and, to make matters worse, a drizzling rain set in which continued during the entire day. Of course the old folks objected to our going, but as usual on such occasions we had our way, and about six o'clock we stepped into our boat with our guns wrapped in rubber coats and our hearts beating happily under wet

jackets. The eagle nests, three in number, were on a small island ten miles up the St. John's, and to reach them we had a long pull against a head wind. Each of us seemed to realize this as we silently took our places, four at the oars and one at the rudder.

A description of the trip is not necessary. Suffice it is to say that we reached the island without once stopping, thoroughly wet and with a goodly part of our former enthusiasm departed. But this was partially restored when we came in sight of the island and saw the nests, looking like small hay stacks, in the top of the three tallest trees on the island.

As soon as we had landed we pushed our way through the dense bushes and vines that fringed the shore, made our way to the nearest nest, and, boy-like, began to cut, without thinking that the nest might be an old one. Our self-appointed task was no easy one, as you may well imagine. The tree was a tall slash pine, as tough as whit-leather, and at least five feet in diameter. However, the two axes were never idle. As fast as one would become tired another would take his place, for chopping even was far preferable to doing nothing in that penetrating rain. At last, thanks to our united efforts, the mighty giant toppled and fell, scattering limbs and trash in every direction. Rushing in, expecting to find a pair of young birds, you can judge of our chagrin when we saw that the nest had been deserted. Yet we were partially repaid by being able to examine the nest, a description of which might not be out of place. It was built near the top of the tree, in the crotch formed by two large branches. It was built of sticks, leaves, dirt, pine-needles, and everything that an old eagle could find. It was an immense thing—at least two cart-loads. The shape of the nest was well preserved, and the inside dimensions, as near as I could judge, were four feet across by one and one-half feet deep. The walls were very thick, and the whole nest would be between six and seven feet through. The inside was literally full of bones of every description, the remains of fish, ducks and squirrels being most prominent.

Nothing daunted by our last failure, we tried another, and with better success. During the day we cut five trees—two on main land—and for our trouble we had

two of the ugliest creatures imaginable. They were the size of large turkeys, without a single feather, but covered with a coarse kind of hair, and possessed of a mouth capable of taking in a whole beef-steak at a time. The old eagles were too sharp for us. They were continually flying around, but always keeping out of range.

We reached home in time for supper, soaked through, with tired bodies, blistered hands and empty stomachs, but very happy; for had we not attained our object? What more could boys wish?

A Boy.

#### NOTES FOR COLLECTORS.

THERE are about twenty-five stamp collectors in this city to our knowledge.

The number of adhesive stamps issued by the United States during the past year was 16,000,000, valued at about \$33,000,000.

There are three hundred and thirty-five varieties of birds known to breed in Kansas.

A Tennessee warbler was recently captured in Rhode Island. It was the first one ever seen in that State.

The following new collectors' journals have lately appeared: Western Philatelist, Buckeye State Philatelist, The Collector, Agassiz Companion, American Numismatist.

A gentleman of this city has a collection of autograph letters which ranks among the finest in the country.

It costs the United States government about seven cents per thousand to make its stamps.

There is a song entitled "Good-bye, Old Stamp." It was written in 1883, when the old three-cent green stamps went out of use.

Another hitherto unknown Confederate local has lately been brought to light. It is from Macon, Ga., with the value—five cents—printed in black on yellow paper.

The epidermis may be removed from sea-shells by boiling them in a strong solution of potash.

The rarest of all autograph letters is that of Moliere, the longest being but six lines.

# THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

SUBSCRIPTION, - - 25 CENTS PER YEAR  
To All Countries.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO  
STAMPS, COINS AND CURIOSITIES.

**CHEATHAM, GRAY & MARTIN, Publishers,**  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

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WHEN a cross appears opposite this notice your subscription has expired. Please renew.

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Entered as Second-class matter at Nashville P. O.

THE new year dawns upon us bright and clear. Our prospects were never brighter, and we join our brother Philatelists in rejoicing at the marked advancement that our science has made during the past year, and trust that during '87 we will achieve still greater victories.

MR. E. D. KLINE, the librarian of the American Association, is now ready for business, and he seems determined to make his part of the association a success. The formation of a public library is of great importance and should meet with the support of all collectors, and publishers, when it is possible, should send a complete file of their paper to Mr. Kline, at Toledo, Ohio.

A COPY of the "Stamp Dealers of the World," in pamphlet form, published by Mr. Jno. M. Hubbard, has been received. The list appears very complete. Price, ten cents.

THE "Carson Philatelist" has been stricken off the list and is now numbered with the dear departed. Such is life.

FORMERLY our date of issue was the 20th, but commencing with this number

we will appear on the 10th. All communications for publication should reach us by the 1st to insure insertion.

WE are very grateful to our patrons for the manner in which they have come forward with subscriptions during the last month, and trust we will in the future deserve their continued support.

THE public is anxiously awaiting the appearance of the "American Philatelist." Its advent promises a revolution in the stamp collectors' literature. We sincerely hope that it will be all that is expected and that it will receive the support which it deserves.

"THE Halifax Philatelist," a new recruit to our ranks, has appeared from Canada. It is a very respectable looking paper, its first number containing seven pages of reading matter and four pages of advertisements. Long life.

THE subject of who invented the adhesive postage stamp has been agitating some of our editors lately. Mr. Hill, who has for forty years been considered the father of cheap postage and of the stamp, is now meeting with opposition, and from the evidence brought forward it would seem that Mr. Chalmers was the originator. Having heard but one side of the question we cannot form an opinion, but since the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* has decided in favor of Mr. Chalmers, it has virtually settled the matter, at least until we get some better authority, which would be very hard to find.

A PARCEL post has lately been inaugurated between the Dominion of Canada and Great Britain at rates averaging between 30 to 50 cents per pound, limit of weight 3 pounds.

OF the wealth of the world \$730,000,000 are owned by four men, as follows: Mr. Mackay, \$275,000,000; Rothschild, \$200,000,000; Vanderbilt, \$175,000,000, and the Duke of Westminster, \$86,000,000. Their income per minute is \$25, \$20, \$18 and \$7 respectively.

## EXCHANGES.

**WANTED**—Complete files and odd numbers of stamp and coin papers. Send lists and prices. Good exchange given in stamps or coins of Canada. Wanted, also, U. S. Department, old issue and special delivery stamps. Three varieties coins from P. E. I. in good condition for every five special delivery stamps. Samples of papers and price-lists. **M. A. MACDONALD**, Eldon, P. E. I., Canada.

**CORRESPONDENCE** desired with persons having U. S. stamps, large cents, autographs and curiosities. **FRED. L. MARTIN**, 343 So. Second St., Nashville, Tenn.

**U. S. REVENUE**, document, medicine, match, proprietary, and playing card stamps to exchange for others of same or for U. S. and foreign postage stamps. Postals and stamped envelopes, coin and stamp papers to exchange. Send lists. **A. G. B.**, P. O. Box 67, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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**WANTED**, in nice clean clutches, eggs of purple martin, yellow and black-billed cuckoo, nests and eggs of humming-birds, Bob Whites, osprey and meadow lark. Rare eggs offered in exchange. **WALTER RAINE**, 262 Victoria St., Toronto, Canada.

**STAMPS**, coins, autographs, tin tags, revenues and postmarks in exchange for U. S. stamps. **JAMES H. HOUSTON**, 313 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D. C.

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## MEDALS!

Hartford Soldier's Monument, dedicated Sept. 17. White metal, 15c.; gold plated, 25c.; bronze, (heavy), 50c.; silver, \$2; gold, \$15.

Bartholdi's Statue of Liberty, ded. Oct. 28. W. m., 25c.; g. p., 40c.

I. O. O. F. Grand Conclave at Boston, Oct. sil., 50c.; g. p., 75c.

Masonic Tri-centennial Conclave at St. Louis. Oct. G. p., 15c.

New Orleans Cotton Centennial, 1884. W. m., 10c., 15c. and 25c.

Albany, N. Y., Bi-centennial, July. W. m., 25c.; br., 60c.; Official, w. m., 50c.; g. p., 75c.; br., \$2.

Prov., R. I., 250th anni., June. W. m., 25c.; g. p., 50c.

Springfield, Mass., 250th anni, May. W. m., 25c.; br., 60c.

Washington, D. C., Monument, ded 1885. W. m., 75c. Size, 45 m. m.

Daniel Webster Statue, Concord, N. H., ded June, 1886. W. m., 25c.; g. p., 40c.

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**B**IRDS' EGGS for sale (very cheap). Enclose 5 cents stamps for price list, post free. Every collector should see my prices before purchasing elsewhere. **W. RAINE**, 262 Victoria Street, Toronto, Canada.

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Bergedorf.....	5 var.....08
Constantinople.....	3 var.....04
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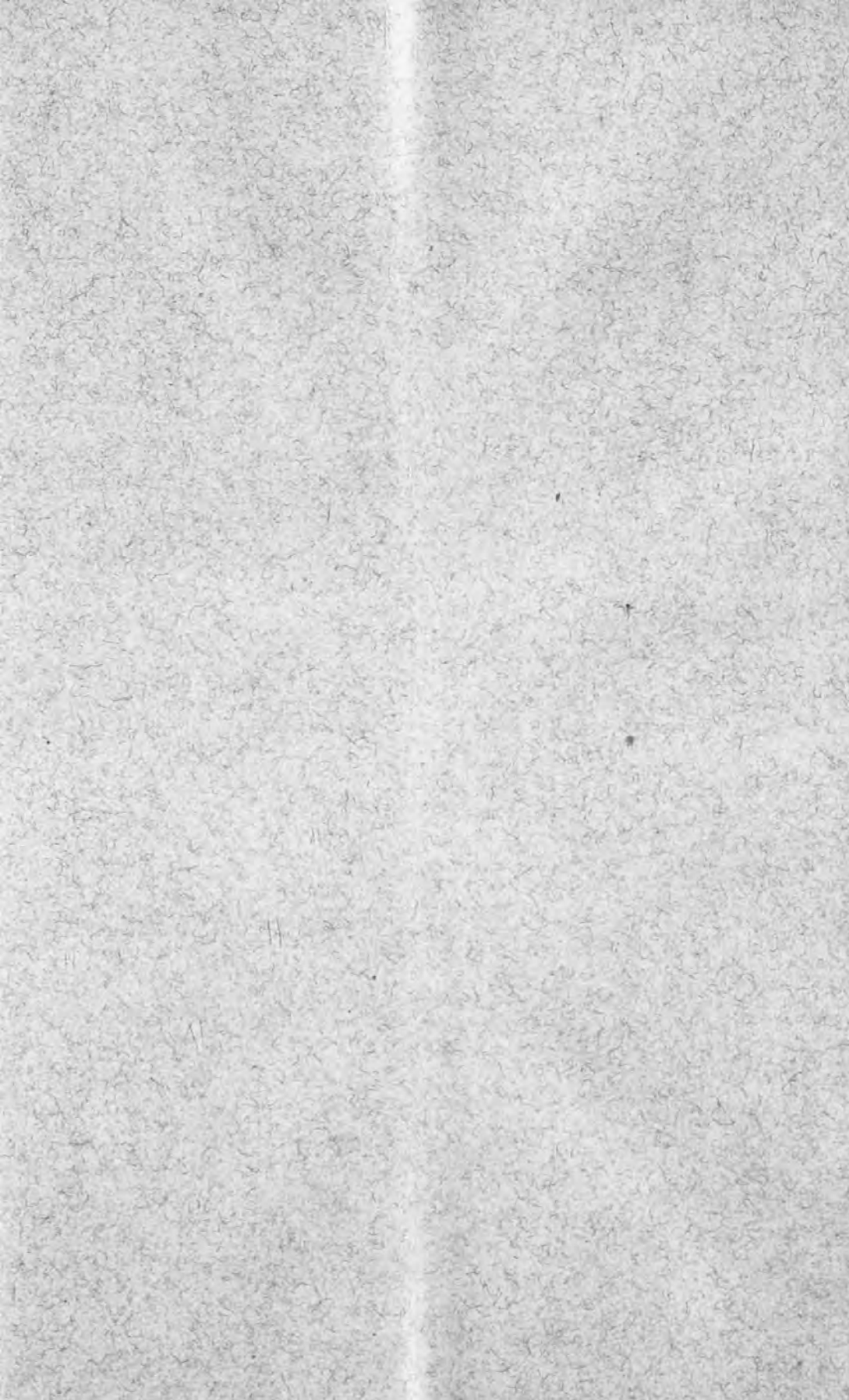
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Vol. I.

No. 10.



THE  
CUMBERLAND  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
COLLECTOR.

February, 1887.



*A Monthly Magazine devoted to  
Stamps, Coins, and Curiosities.*



# THE Cumberland Collector.

Vol. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., FEBRUARY, 1887.

No. 10.

## NASHVILLE'S COLLECTIONS.

NO. 1.—COLLECTION OF P. H. HILL, ESQ.

In the famous *Stamp Collector* there appeared a series of articles entitled 'Representative Chicago Collections,' in which the writer described several of the most prominent collections of that city, and I hope I shall not be accused of imitation when I attempt to do the same for Nashville. Our collectors are not as numerous as might be wished, nor are they as far advanced as some, yet I think the collection of Mr. P. H. Hill, which I shall attempt to describe, would compare favorably with any.

It was my good fortune a few days since to visit Mr. Hill at his residence in East Nashville, and spend a most delightful evening in examining his truly wonderful collection, which numbers, including adhesives, envelopes, match, medicine, and revenue, upwards of five thousand varieties, divided as follows: Over 4000 adhesives and cut envelopes, 200 whole envelopes, 600 match and medicine, and between two and three hundred revenues.

The adhesives and cut envelopes are kept in one of Scott & Co's handsome morocco-bound albums, and a sight of those neatly-mounted and well-filled pages is enough to elicit admiration from any one. Mr. Hill's object is to obtain unused specimens, although he never refuses a used one, but keeps it until it can be replaced by a new one. His unused now number 2,800

Commencing with the United States we find the early sets almost complete; the '69 issue complete with the exception of the 90 cents all unused. The departments are exceptionally fine, being all unused and complete in every respect with the single exception of the four large denominations of State.

The following countries are almost all entirely filled out, some of them possibly lacking one or two:

Baden, Bavaria, France, Greece, Guatemala, Bulgaria, Denmark, Egypt, Hungary, Italy, Japan, (extra fine), Luxem-

burg, Norway, Netherlands, Roman States, Sweden and others. His native India stamps are very fine also, the provinces of Bhopaul, Cashmere, Deccan, and Rampour being especially well represented.

Among the extreme rarities of the collection is a complete set of six of the first stamps ever used to prepay postage. They are the envelope stamps of Italy their values 15, 25 and 50 cents. The first were used from 1819 to 1820, and consisted of a horseman in an oval, printed in blue. The second set was used from 1822 to 1836, and were of the same style and denominations, but were embossed on white paper. Reprints of these stamps are comparatively numerous, but the set under consideration bear the original watermark, and are genuine beyond a doubt, but beyond their scarcity the fact of their being the first stamps ever issued make them particularly interesting.

Another gem is an unused specimen of the 10 centavos green of Bolivar. It is a very small, insignificant looking piece of paper, but both Scott and Durbin value a used specimen at \$15.

Mr. Hill began collecting about thirty years ago, but the present collection has been gathered principally during the past four or five years. His plan of arranging his duplicates is a good one, and is worthy of emulation. He arranges the stamps of each country on sheets and numbers them according to Scott's Catalogue, and in this way is able to tell in a moment if he has a duplicate of a certain stamp.

Mr. Hill is certainly a true philatelist, and he is to be congratulated upon his collection and upon the interest he takes in all matters pertaining to his favorite hobby.

IVANHOE.

## A VALUABLE COLLECTION.

For the Cumberland Collector.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Buffalo Library Association, recently held, Mr. James T. Gluck, one of the curators of the library, presented that institution with his valuable collec-

tion of autograph MSS., and letters, and other literary and historical relics, which is said to be the finest in America.

In his letter to the Board of Managers Mr. Gluck stated that the collection is the result of work done at leisure moments during the last two years, and that he had experienced much pleasure in the forming of his collection, as it has led to an extensive correspondence with some of the best men and women of the day.

The collection is pronounced by competent judges to be superior to the famous collection of George W. Childs, and its value is placed at about ten thousand dollars.

The manuscripts are bound in levant morocco, while the letters and shorter fragments are framed in oak, the whole collection being displayed in oak cases.

The most valuable specimen in the collection is said to be the original MSS. of Emerson's "Representative Men," which covers 790 quarto pages. It is left in the original binding, and is enclosed in a case of maroon plush, with plate-glass covers.

The collection of original letters and manuscripts of American statesmen is very large, and includes the following names: George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Daniel Webster, Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams, Aaron Burr, Martin Van Buren, Millard Filmore, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Paine, Horace Greely, Henry Clay, Fred Douglass, James G. Blaine, and Horatio Seymore.

The collection contains many valuable original manuscripts of celebrated authors, and among others there are writings of J. Fenimore Cooper, Ralph Waldo Emerson, James Russell Lowell, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Bayard Taylor, Wilkie Collins, Jean Ingelow, Owen Meredith, Charles Reade, John Lathrop Motley, Edgar Allan Poe, George Elliot, Alexander Pope, John Ruskins, Benjamin Lossing, and many others.

Besides the letters and manuscripts of American authors, poets, statesmen, etc., the collection also contains many writings of persons of note in foreign countries, and of these eighty-eight are from England. Prominent among these may be mentioned Charles Dickens, Sir Walter Scott, Wm. E. Gladstone, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Thomas Hord, Thomas Campbell, Robert Burns, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, John Dryden, Thomas Gray, John Keats,

Charles Lamb, Bulwer Lytton, Miss Mulock, and Thomas Moore.

The collection is as yet incomplete, many manuscripts having been promised by living writers which have not yet been received.

Taking all things into consideration, it is a fine collection, and one of which the managers of the library and the citizens of Buffalo may justly feel proud.

SCRIBE.

#### VALUE OF FOREIGN COINS.

The value of foreign coins as designated by the Director of the Mint for United States customs purposes for this year has been announced, according to a Washington despatch. The principal changes from the circular of last year are in the values of silver coins, the price of silver having declined from an average of \$1.08141 per ounce fine to \$1.00535, the latter being the average price of silver in London for the three months ending December 31, 1886, a decline of over 3 cents an ounce. The values of the following coins have been changed: Austria, florin, from 37.1 to 35.9; Boliva, boliviano, from 75.1 to 72.7; India, rupee, from 35.7 to 34.6, Japan, silver yen, from 81 to 78.4; Mexico, silver dollar, from 81.6 to 79; Peru, sol, from 71.1 to 72.7; Russia, ruble, from 60.1 to 58.2; Tripoli, mahbub, from 67.7 to 65.6; United States of Columbia, peso, from 75.1 to 72.7. The monetary unit of Ecuador was changed by the decree of March 22, 1884, from the "peso" to the "sucre," and the monetary unit of Egypt was changed by the decree of November 14, 1885, from the "piastre" to the "pound." The standard of Japan is given in the new circular as double instead of single silver, as heretofore, and the value of the silver yen and gold yen are given separately. Japan has nominally a gold standard, but practically silver is the money of account. The circulation contains, in addition to the value of the monetary unit, which has alone been estimated heretofore, the values of the standard coins in circulation in the various countries.—*Exchange.*

—The Tennessee Historical Society, of this city, has a magnificent collection of Indian relics, also coins, stamps, and other curiosities.



## POMEROY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The regular semi monthly meeting of the Pomeroy Philatelic Society was held on the evening of the sixth of January with a good attendance. The question of appointing a librarian for the Society was brought up, and the matter was referred to a committee of three, Messrs. Parker, Kruwm and Eberth, with instructions to report at the next meeting.

On motion of Mr C. B. Murphy the subject of the inventor of the adhesive stamp was brought up, and the resolution adopted by the Chicago and other societies were read, together with extracts from pamphlets furnished by Mr. P. Chalmers. The opinion of the Society being that Mr. James Chalmers was the inventor of the adhesive stamp, the following resolution was adopted by the Society.

*Resolved*, That it is the opinion of the members of the Pomeroy Society, of Toledo, Ohio, that Mr. James Chalmers was the inventor of the adhesive stamp.

The Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of the resolution to Mr. Patrick Chalmers.

Letters were read by the Secretary from different officers of the American Association showing the advantages to be derived from joining the Association.

The Pomeroy Society being a branch of the Exchange Department of the American Association, the Secretary was instructed to fill out what sheets he could and forward to Sup't. Hanes as soon as possible.

After devoting an hour or more to comparing collections the meeting adjourned.

E. D. KLINE, Sec

## ITEMS FOR COLLECTORS.

This magazine is the only one of the kind published in the South.

U. S. cents of 1809 are rarely found in good condition.

Revenue stamps are steadily gaining in popularity and value.

New Foundland issued its first local stamp in 1857.

The twenty cents pieces of 1877 and 1878 are very rare. Of the 1877 issue only 510 were coined, and during 1878 only 600.

The United States has coined half dollars from 1793 to up to the present time,

with the exception of the years 1797, 1798, 1799, 1800, and 1815.

U. S. dimes were issued in 1799, 1806, 1810, 1812, 1813, 1815, to 1819 inclusive, and 1826.

The Philatelic Annual will be published March 1st by E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Mich.

The following new collectors' journals are announced to appear soon: Stamp Record, Common Sense, Stamp Collector, and The Medalist.

Communications pertaining to any of our several branches are at all times solicited and those that are worthy will be published and the authors receive some remuneration according to the value of the article. All articles must be written in ink upon one side of the paper, and separate from other communications.

Postal card collections forms no unimportant part of science of Philately, although it is not as wide-spread as might be desired. There are two reasons why postal card collecting is not as popular as that of stamps. They are first, the difficulty in obtaining specimens, and second their arrangement. Very few cards come to the U. S., except those imported by dealers, and as there is not much profit in it very few dealers import them. There are several different methods of arranging the cards, but none of them are convenient, and so few collectors worry with them.

## THE NEW BRITISH STAMP.

The eleven new postage stamps just issued by the British postmaster general form a miniature picture gallery in themselves. The cent stamp is a bright yellow, two cents red brown, three cents purple and green, four cents green and crimson, five cents purple and blue, six cents a color described "presumably yellow," eight cents green, ten cents purple and blue, twelve cents pink, eighteen cents purple with blue fringe, twenty-four cents green and white. Every known law of æstheticism is ruthlessly broken by one or other of these combinations, and the only redeeming feature of the series is a still further act of barbarism. A figure is printed over the queen's head showing the number of pence each stamp is worth, and this destroys whatever pretense to beauty would otherwise exist. — *Daily Union*.

# THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

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## TO PHILATELISTS OF NASHVILLE.

Some of our most prominent collectors are desirous of forming a branch of the American Philatelic Association, and wish through these columns to invite the co-operation of all active collectors in the city.

The benefits to be derived from such an association are obvious to all. The rare facilities of exchanging duplicates would alone warrant a person in joining. Our city contains many collectors who are content to hide their light under a bushel and persist in staying in the background. To these we say come forward, identify yourselves with other collectors, join the society and contribute your mite towards the advancement of our science.

All who desire to accept the above invitation will please state as much on a postal card addressed to the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR, and they will then be informed of the time and place of meeting.

The International Philatelic Advertiser, published by Krebs Bros., of New York city, has made its appearance. From a typographical standpoint it is beautiful, but as its name implies it contains principally advertisements.

Mr. B. J. Webster, of Pontiac, Mich., is an enterprising and reliable dealer, his speciality being approval sheets.

We must congratulate the Stamp upon the beginning of its second year. It certainly has prospered so far, and the publishers have our best wishes for the future.

No. 2 of the western Philatelist is to hand. This journal has certainly made a good beginning, and has won many friends already. There is no reason why it should not be a grand success.

We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisements that appear in this number. Our object is to advertise none but reliable dealers, and if any of our patrons get bit they will please inform us of the fact.

The American Philatelist has appeared, and although not very prepossessing outwardly, it is very creditable, and also promises to grow. We trust that the old saying "large trees from little acorns grow" may be applicable in this case.

We have received from Mr. D. J. Hickey a copy of his Standard Collector's Directory. It is a very complete one, containing the different departments of Archeology, Entomology, Mineralogy, Ornithology, Oology, Mumismatics, and Philately.

## EXCHANGES.

U. S. revenue, documents, proprietary, match, medicine, and playing card stamps to exchange for others of same, or for U. S. and foreign postage stamps, and unused foreign stamped envelopes and postal cards. Stamps and coin papers to exchange. Send lists. A. G. B., P. O. Box 67, Brooklyn, N. Y.

I will exchange complete directions for making a hektograph or copying pad (prints 75 to 100 copies from one writing) for any U. S. stamp that catalogues at 10c. or any foreign stamp that catalogues at 15c. Collectors having U. S. stamps to exchange for foreign send list. A. MELVIN JONES, Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

A newspaper published in 1787, one in

1808, and several in mourning for Gen. Grant to exchange for stamps, coins and curiosities, or cash. Address J. M. GRAY, Jr., 113 S. Spruce St., Nashville, Tenn.

I have rare U. S. postage, revenue, tobacco, beer, match medicine, etc., tin tags, old books, etc., to exchange for U. S. and foreign rarities. Will give five volumes of the survey from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean, 1,000 pages each volume, for a collection of 1,000 or over U. S. and foreign stamps. HUGO KUENSER, 296 Tenth Ave., New York, N. Y.

**WANTED.**—All kinds of war relics, such as bullets, grape and canister, shot shells, cannon balls, swords, bayonets. Also wanted good Indian arrow-heads, pipes, etc., for which I will exchange good curiosities. Parties having above will do well to address, T. B. STEWART, Island, Clinton Co., Pa.

—Human remains, which apparently belonged to the age of the mammoth and rhinoceros, have been discovered in a Belgian cave. The discovery was made in a grotto of Biche aux Roches, near Spy, in the province of Ramur. The floor of the cave consists of a layer of brown clay, which contained a skull of comparatively recent age. Under this was a bone bed of calcareous tufa, containing remains of the elephant and a species of deer, and flint weapons, showing traces of use. Under this bed was a second layer of ossiferous earth, containing remains of rhinoceri and deer, and rich in flints, bone implements, ivory plates of the mammoth tusk carved with rude figures, and fragments of pottery, including the bottom of a vase of regular form and baked. Beneath this bed was another layer of brown clay, with numerous bony fragments. Here two human skeletons were found in a natural position, and probably entombed there. Along with the skeletons were found other objects, such as have been mentioned above.—*Translated.*

**FOREIGN STAMPS.**

3 different Venezuela, .08; 5 different Portugal, .10; 10 different, Spain, .10; 25 foreign, (good) .10; 1 Nova Scotia, N. Grenada, and Porto Rico, .10. Approval sheets to responsible parties on 25 per cent. commission. H. C. WARD, Box 129, Needham, Mass.

Thirty-five **RARE CURIOSITIES** such as Palestine Wonder Stone, Porcupine Quills, Minerals, Rare Foreign SHARKS TEETH, Stamps, Bird's Tin Tags, Old Coins, Wings, etc., many of which are very old and rare, no two alike, for only 25 cents. Send at once before all are gone. Satisfaction guaranteed. CURIOSITY CO., Box 309, Kennedy, N. Y.

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Centennial of Independence, 1876, size 1 in m. m., 38 bronze.....	\$1.00
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Cent. capture Andre, Tarrytown, N. Y., 1880, showing monument, also view of medals presented by Congress to captors. Rare. Size, 35, w. m.....	50
Semi-Cent. of T. O. O. of 1810-1880, Philadelphia, Pa., showing emblems and fine picture Thos. Wildes, founder. Very rare. Size 30. Bronze.....	1.50
Same in white metal.....	50
Cent. of Amer. Independence, Martha Washington memorial medal, size 28, white metal.....	50
Semi-Cent. of birth of Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn, N. Y. Size, 35. W. m.....	15

Many other Centennial and various commemorative medals in stock, too numerous to mention here. Collections on approval when deposits or substantial reference is given. Stamps, coins, Confederate money, etc., in any quantity taken in payment. Send 10 cents for a fine medal, a catalogue and copy of "The Madallist."

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" Return Letter.....	6 var.....06
" Unpaid, 1871.....	2 var.....04
Bergedorf.....	5 var.....08
Constantinople.....	3 var.....04
Corsica (5, 10 25, 50, 100 Mons).....	5 var.....75
Danube, S. N. Co.....	4 var.....12
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41 Angola, 5 rels	02	7 Iceland, 5c	03	21 Samoa, 1d	03
1 Azores, 2c envelope	01	27 " 3c	02	18 " 2d	04
24 " 2 1/2 R	02	2 sets Italy, 1855, 3 va	70	4 sets Salvador, 1867, 4 va	36
22 " 5 R	03	113 Italy, assorted	01	38 Sandwich Isle, 1c, 3 va	02
11 Bahamas, 1d red	04	2 sets Japan, first issue	41	15 Saxony, head	03
13 sets Bavaria, letter, 6 va	06	48 Japan, 1/2 s, brown	04	14 " arms, 5 va	06
4 " 1870, 7 va	10	40 " 5 k	02	6 sets Servia, 7 va	12
38 Barbadoes, 1/2d	03	47 " 2nd issue, brown	04	78 San Marino, 2c	01
27 Belgium, 1c	01	22 Lagos, 1d	01	34 Sierra Leone, 1/2d	02
16 sets Bergdorf, 5 va	07	31 Liberia, 1c	03	28 Siam, 1/2	02
94 Bolivia, 3c	04	12 " 2c	05	48 " 1	03
24 Bermuda, 1/2d	03	11 Lauban, 2c	05	49 " 2	05
12 Bosnia, 1 k	02	85 Luxemburg, 1c	01	51 Spain, 1 m	01
38 Bulgaria, 1c	01	80 " 2c	02	52 " 2 m	02
19 " 2c	01	49 Mauritus, 1/2d	02	7 sets Spain, official, 4 va	12
9 " 3c	03	48 " 2d	03	4 " 78, 9 va	1.00
41 Brazil, 10 r	02	18 Malta, 1/2d of yellow	03	49 Spain, 76, assorted	03
7 British Honduras	04	49 " 1/2d of green	02	25 St. Christopher, 1/2d	02
76 Brunswick, 1 g	01	48 " 1d red	04	19 St. Helena, 1/2d	02
6 Cape Verde, 5 r	03	12 Modena, 9c	03	31 " 1d	05
8 Cape Good Hope, 1/2d	03	3 sets Macoa, 7 va	65	21 St. Vincent, 1/2d	03
9 China	04	48 Monaco, 1c	01	70 St. Lucia, 1/2d	02
11 Costa Rica, 1/2r	02	48 " 2c	01	50 Suriname, 1d	01
7 " 2r	04	3 sets Monaco, 9 va	90	47 " 2c & 2 1/2c	02
9 Cuba old issue	06	31 Mozambique 10c	03	15 " 3c	04
31 Cyprus, 1/2d	03	22 " 20c	06	7 sets Switzerland, 10 va	09
37 Cyprus, 1d	03	32 Montserrat, 1/2d	03	19 Tobago, 1/2d	03
31 Dominica, 1/2d	03	30 " 1d	04	21 Trinidad, 1/2d	02
8 Dutch Indies	03	27 Natal, 1/2d	02	23 Turk's Isle, 1/2d	03
50 Ecuador, 1c	03	41 Holland, unpaid, 1c	01	22 " 1d	03
29 Egypt, 5 p	05	14 New Caledonia, Surch.	12	68 sets Constantinople, 3 va	05
18 E. Roumania, 5 p	03	43 Nevis, 1/2d	03	55 " 20 & 40 p	01
14 Fernando, Po	04	22 " 1d	04	14 Uruguay, 1c	03
93 French Colonies, 1c and 2c	02	15 New Fo nland, 1c	02	24 " 2c	04
23 " 4c and 5c	03	51 Nicaragua, 1c	03	6 sets La Guara & St Thos, 3 v	18
10 France, unpaid	02	54 " 2c	05	19 West Australia, 1/2d	03
33 Gold Coast, 1/2d	03	27 N. G. Confederation, 1/2c	02	30 Virgin Isles, 1/2d	03
63 Grenada, 1/2d	03	3 sets Parma, 6 va	40	25 " 1d	04
15 Gambia, 1/2d	03	44 Peru, 1 Surch	03	31 U. S. Post O. 3c and 6c	05
12 set German Empire, 10 va	09	47 " 2c	03	19 " envelopes	03
5 sets Gautemala, 1871, 3 va	17	48 " 10c	03	87 " Locals 8 va	03
6 " 1878, 4 va	18	26 " 1c	02	26 U. S. all different and complete, sets of U. S. executive, Justice, War, Treasury, Agriculture. Not specimens. 4000 used good stamps for	4.05
24 Greece, 1 l	01	69 Porto Rico, 1/2p	02		
128 " unpaid, 1 and 2 l	02	11 " 1p	01		
13 sets Hamburg, 7 va	09	29 Portuguese India, 1/2 r	02		
79 " Assorted	02	1 sets P. E. Islands, 10 va	35		
41 sets Honduras, 1865, 2 va	10	20 Russia, 2 k	02		
350 Helligoland, 10 kinds, ass't	01	45 " 1 k	02		

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Care Lewis & Gale.

Nashville, Tenn.

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Baden, 1862.....	6 var.....20
" Land Post.....	3 var.....05
Bavaria, 1870.....	6 var.....08
" Return Letter.....	6 var.....06
" Unpaid, 1871.....	2 var.....04
Bergedorf.....	5 var.....08
Constantinople.....	3 var.....04
Corsica (5, 10, 25, 50, 100 Mons).....	5 var.....75
Danube, S. N. Co.....	4 var.....12
Guatemala Env.....	4 var.....25
Hamburg.....	7 var.....10
Heligoland.....	21 var.....32
" Wrappers.....	3 var.....07

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744 Broadway, New York City.

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The following prices are for single set or stamp. All are unused and genuine. The list comprises all of my stock of unused stamps. To any one wishing to buy a quantity I will make better prices. This is a chance for dealers and collectors to get stamps cheap. Will sell all or part of list. Write me what you want and best price you will pay.

2 sets Alsace and Lorraine, 7 va	21	21 Honduras, 1c.....	03	5 sets Kamagua, 5 va.....	24
26 Antigua, 1/2d.....	02	23 Hayti, 1c.....	02	81 Roumania, 6 va.....	03
41 Angola, 5 reis.....	02	7 Iceland, 5c.....	03	21 Samoa, 1d.....	03
1 Azores, 2c envelope.....	04	27 " 3c.....	02	18 " 2d.....	04
24 " 2 1/2 R.....	02	2 sets Italy, 1855, 3 va.....	70	4 sets Salvador, 1867, 4 va.....	36
22 " 5 R.....	03	113 Italy, assorted.....	01	38 Sandwich Isle, 1c, 3 va.....	02
11 Bahamas, 1d red.....	04	2 sets Japan, fist issue.....	41	15 Saxony, heid.....	03
13 sets Bavaria, letter, 6 va.....	06	48 Japan, 1/2 s, brown.....	01	14 " arms, 5 va.....	06
4 " 1870, 7 va.....	10	40 " 5 R.....	02	6 sets Servia, 7 va.....	12
38 Barbadoes, 1/2d.....	03	47 " 2nd issue, brown.....	04	78 San Marino, 2c.....	01
27 Belgium, 1c.....	01	22 Lagos, 1d.....	03	34 Sierra Leone, 1/2d.....	02
16 sets Bergdorf, 6 va.....	07	31 Liberia, 1c.....	03	26 Siam, 1/2.....	02
91 Bolivia, 5c.....	04	42 " 2c.....	05	48 " 1.....	03
24 Bermuda, 1/2d.....	03	11 Lauban, 2c.....	05	49 " 2.....	05
12 Bosnia, 1 k.....	02	83 Luxemburg, 1c.....	01	51 Spain, 1 m.....	01
35 Bulgaria, 1c.....	01	80 " 2c.....	02	52 " 2 m.....	02
19 " 2c.....	01	49 Maurtius, 1/2d.....	02	7 sets Spain, offhd, 4 va.....	12
9 " 3c.....	03	48 " 2d.....	03	4 " " 76, 9 va.....	1.00
43 Brazil, 10 r.....	02	18 Malta, 1/2d of yellow.....	03	49 Spain, 76, assorted.....	03
7 British Honduras.....	04	49 " 1/2d of green.....	02	25 St. Christopher, 1/2d.....	02
79 Brunswick, 1 g.....	01	48 " 1d red.....	04	19 St. Helena, 1/2d.....	02
6 Cape Verde, 5 r.....	03	12 Modena, 9c.....	03	19 " Id.....	05
8 Cape Good Hope, 1/2d.....	03	3 sets Monaco, 7 va.....	05	21 St. Vincent, 1/2d.....	03
9 China.....	04	48 Monaco, 1c.....	01	70 St. Lucia, 1/2d.....	02
11 Costa Rica, 1/2r.....	02	48 " 2c.....	01	50 Suriname, 1d.....	01
7 " 2r.....	04	3 sets Monaco, 9 va.....	00	47 " 2c & 2 1/2c.....	02
9 Cuba old issue.....	06	33 Mozambique 10c.....	03	15 " 3c.....	04
31 Cyprus, 1/2d.....	03	22 " 20c.....	06	7 sets Switzerland, 10 va.....	09
37 Cyprus, 1d.....	13	32 Montserrat, 1/2d.....	03	19 Tobago, 1/2d.....	03
31 Dominica, 1/2d.....	03	30 " 1d.....	04	21 Trinidad, 1/2d.....	02
8 Dutch Indies.....	04	27 Natal, 1/2d.....	02	23 Turk's Isle, 1/2d.....	03
50 Ecuador, 1c.....	03	11 Holland, unpaid, 1c.....	01	22 " " Id.....	03
29 Egypt, 5 p.....	05	14 New Caledonia, Sureh.....	12	68 sets Constantinople, 3 va.....	05
18 E. Roumania, 5 p.....	03	43 Nevis, 1/2d.....	03	55 " 20 & 40 p.....	01
14 Fernando, Po.....	04	22 " Id.....	04	14 Uruguay, 1c.....	03
93 French Colonies, 1c and 2c.....	03	17 New Fo nland, 1c.....	02	24 " 2c.....	04
23 " 4c and 5c.....	03	54 " 2c.....	03	6 sets La Guara & St Thos, 3 v.....	18
10 France, unpaid.....	02	27 N. G. Confederation, 1/2 & 1/4.....	05	10 West Australia, 1/2d.....	03
33 Gold Coast, 1/2d.....	03	3 sets Parma, 6 va.....	40	36 Virgin Isles, 1/2d.....	03
63 Grenada, 1/2d.....	03	41 Peru, 1 Sureh.....	03	25 " Id.....	04
15 Gambia, 1/2d.....	03	47 " 2c.....	03	31 U. S. Post O. 3c and 6c.....	05
12 set German Empire, 10 va.....	09	48 " 1c.....	03	19 " envelopes.....	03
5 sets Guatemala, 1867, 3 va.....	17	26 " 1c.....	02	87 " Locals, 8 va.....	02
6 " 1878, 4 va.....	18	69 Porto Rico, 1/2p.....	02	26 U. S. all different and com- plete, sets of U. S. execu- tive, Justice, War, Treas- ury, Agriculture. Not spec- imens. 4000 used good stamps for.....	4.05
24 Greece, 1 l.....	01	11 " 1p.....	01		
128 " unpaid, 1 and 2 l.....	02	29 Portugese India, 1/2 r.....	02		
13 sets Hamburg, 7 va.....	09	1 sets P. E. Islands, 10 va.....	35		
79 " Assorted.....	02	20 Russia, 2 k.....	02		
41 sets Honduras, 1865, 2 va.....	10	45 " 1 k.....	02		
350 Heligoland, 10 k lnds, ass't.....	01				

L. H. GALE,

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Nashville, Tenn.



Vol. I.

No 11.



**THE**  
**CUMBERLAND**

**NASHVILLE, TENN.**

**COLLECTOR.**

**March, 1887.**



*A Monthly Magazine devoted to  
Stamps, Coins, and Curiosities.*



# THE Cumberland Collector.

VOL. I.

NASHVILLE, TENN., MARCH, 1887.

No. 11.

## MAIL SERVICE IN EARLY TIMES.

Six years before William Penn settled his colony in Pennsylvania, something like a public messenger service was established in the province of New York, of which New Jersey and Pennsylvania were appertaining territories, under the Duke of York's law. That act provided for the forwarding and dispatch of letters, in the service of the Governor by the constables of the various townships, who were to receive and forward letters or packets, with power to impress men and horses for the occasion. In the great law of 1683, enacted at Chester, justices of the peace, sheriffs, and constables were directed to pass letters to or from the Governor. These arrangements were for public convenience only. It is said that the first post office was set up by William Penn in July, 1683, and that Henry Waldy, of Tacony, Pa., was the first postmaster. The rates were only settled for carriage of letters between the Falls of Delaware (Trenton), Philadelphia, Chester, New Castle, and Maryland. They were, according to distance, from two-pence to nine-pence for the extreme distance.

The royal government in Great Britain was not slow to perceive the advantages which might result, pecuniarily and otherwise, by control of the the postoffice in America. In 1691 William and Mary granted to Thomas Neale and his assigns, for twenty-one years, the full right of conducting a postoffice in the North American Colonies. Neale construed this authority to be merely a permission to make what he could out of the office. He did not trouble himself by coming to America to establish routes and manage the details of the service. He appointed Andrew Hamilton, of New Jersey his deputy to manage postal affairs throughout the continent and the Islands adjacent thereto. Hamilton made application

to the Governor of Pennsylvania for encouragement in 1697, and an act was passed for the establishment of a General Letter Office within the town of Philadelphia. The rates were as follows: From Boston or Rhode Island to Philadelphia, 18 pence; from Philadelphia to Piscatawa, or towns to the eastward of Boston, 2 shillings; lesser rates for shorter distances, and to or from Maryland or Virginia, 18 pence.

Hamilton appointed as his deputy in Philadelphia Henry Flower. When Hamilton died, in 1709, the British government superseded the grant to Neale, and managed the postoffice under royal authority. Andrew Bradford, printer, who commenced the publication of the American Weekly Mercury in 1719, fully awake to the importance of his business as publisher, of having access to the earliest information and news from all parts of the world, managed to have himself appointed postmaster in the city as early as 1725. Another newspaper man, Benjamin Franklin, wrested the prize from him by appointment received in 1737. In 1753 Franklin was appointed Postmaster General for the northern colonies and William Hunter, of Virginia, for the southern colonies. Franklin appointed his son William postmaster of Philadelphia in 1753; his brother, Peter Franklin, in 1757; and Thomas Foxcroft, a relative of his wife, in 1767. When the troubles between America and England commenced, about 1775, William Goddard, printer of the Pennsylvania Chronical, on the ground that the royal authority was gone, attempted to set up an independent enterprise, which he called the "Constitutional Post." It did not succeed, however.

Benjamin Franklin, Postmaster General under the British crown up 1775, was elected Postmaster General by the Continental Congress, and immediately

appointed his son-in-law, Richard Bache, deputy at Philadelphia. Bache became, in 1776, Postmaster General in the place of Franklin, and Peter Baynter was local postmaster. In 1782, Ebenezer Hazard being Postmaster General, James Bryson was appointed here, and remained in office until 1789. After the organization of the Federal Government President Washington appointed Col. Robert Patton, an old Revolutionary officer, to the management of affairs in this city. Patton had the pleasure of holding the office at a time when the pressure of business was not as heavy as it is at present. He was in office for 25 years. The location of city postoffices in early times was usually (as at the present time in small villages) at the business place of the postmaster. Thus, in 1728 the postoffice was at Andrew Bradford's house in Second Street, and in 1737 at Franklin's house on Market St., etc.

Carrying the mail was a slow matter in old times. In 1717 Johnathan Dickinson wrote to a friend that "by the settled post news is carried from Virginia and Maryland to Boston in four weeks in the favorable seasons of the year, and between December and March in eight weeks." Ten years later mail was carried from Philadelphia to Annapolis (Md.) once in two weeks in summer and once a month in winter. The mail to New York was carried in 1729 once a week in the summer months, and once in two weeks in the winter. Ten years later the post-rider set out on the first of each month, and managed to get back, if he had good fortune, in twenty-four days. Franklin, in 1754, sent the mails to New York three times a week in summer and once a week in winter, and three or four years after it was mentioned as an extraordinary fact that a letter could be sent to Boston and an answer returned in three weeks. Wherever stages were established for carriage of passengers postriders were suspended. The "Flying Machine," in 1765, reduced the time to New York in summer to the short period of two days. Even after steamboats had become comparatively swift, and railroads thoroughly established progress was slow. In 1828 the United State Gazette announced that it had received the New York papers on the day they had been printed, in over nine hours. Some of our mail matter at present is so slow we do not receive it at all. F.

## OUR STATE REVENUES.

### FOR CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

I doubt if there are many collectors who have ever heard of this branch of philately, State Revenues. They represent the tax imposed upon the citizens by the State government in addition to the regular tax imposed by the United States government. Only a few States have ever issued revenue stamps. They are Alabama, California, Louisiana, Oregon and Nevada. All of these revenues are obsolete except those of the State of Alabama, and the Law stamps of Louisiana, which are still being used. Those of Alabama have arms in the center and are printed in vermilion, red and dark blue. Their values are \$1 and \$2.

The California stamps have figures of value in center with various surcharges. They range in denomination from 4 cents to \$56, and their colors are orange, yellow, brown, blue, dark blue, rose, carmine, violet, purple, pounce, lemon, green, dark green, lilac, claret brown, and light brown. Some of them are rouletted and others cut out with die in circular form.

Of the California Bill of Lading stamps there are four series. All are circular with value in center and imperforated. The denominations range from thirty cents to one dollar. There are 161 varieties of the California State tax stamps, in denominations of from 2 cents to \$56. They are all imperforated and are of numerous designs, to give each would make this article too lengthy. The State telegraph stamps have the date in oval and are perforated. This completes the list of California revenues.

The revenues of Louisiana consist of the Lottery stamps and Law stamps. The lottery stamps are printed in blue, green, light green and dark green, and the denominations range from 7½ to 12½ cents.

The Law stamps have the head of Governor Wiltz in center with pelican feeding her young at the base. The values range from 5 cents to \$5. They are all perforated.

The Nevada State revenue stamps all have figure of value in center. Some are perforated and some are rouletted, and the denominations are from 2c to \$20; are printed in colors of orange, carmine; green, dark green, pale green, blue dark blue, red vermilion, pounce brown, crimson, pur-

ple, crimson, carmine, brown, and puce.

The Oregon State tax stamps have upon them a spread eagle and the State coat of arms. These stamps are both perforated and imperforated, and the colors are puce, puce brown, blue, dark blue, crimson, green and red.

This completes the list of State revenues so far as is known, and they are a beautiful and interesting lot of stamps, worthy of a place in any collection.

R. E. VENUE.

### FOSSIL FERNS.

For the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

How little would we know of the different periods that have passed if it were not for the impressions of animal and vegetable life that we find imbedded in the rocks. By these we can tell the climate and conditions which existed when they were formed. They are the letters by which the history of the past can alone be written.

Fossils abound in the rocks of almost every period. Even traces of them have been found in the metamorphosed boulders of the early Paleozoic, and in each succeeding epoch they are found increasing in numbers and varieties. Of all the divisions into which geologists have divided the earth's crust, the carboniferous or coal period contains the most abundant evidence of vegetable life, the air being composed of carbon almost exclusively. Plants flourished, while on the other hand animals, not being able to breathe the heavy air, were extremely scarce, only a few amphibians having ever been found.

I shall endeavor to speak briefly of the Flora of this period, and will not attempt to go into details.

Every one knows something about a coal mine, and those who have had an opportunity to visit one must have noticed that the seam of coal proper is surrounded above and below by layers of slate and shale. Now it is in these beds (especially the bottom one) that the fossils are found, and in such quantities as to cause great surprise to one who is unacquainted with such things. The writer has on several occasions visited the mines in the Cumberland Mountains, of East Tennessee, and has had special facilities for collecting specimens. In the coal measures there are about 500 varieties of the vegetable

kingdom represented. Of these, fully 250 are ferns, of every imaginable form, from the ones with great coarse stems, spreading out several feet in length, to the little symmetrical beauty that requires a magnifier to bring out its delicate lines. These ferns are very numerous, but they are not the sole occupants of this vast depository. Here we find roots and trunks of trees; species of palms, and various tropical plants piled upon each other in reckless confusion. Often may you see on the same piece of slate, lying side by side, a section of a large *Sigilaria* over a foot in diameter, and the smallest fern, both perfect, the delicate leaves of the one and the rough, checkered bark of the other, both truthfully portrayed, and to all appearance as perfect as when growing, ages upon ages ago.

In forming a collection of these "stamps of nature" you will unconsciously become interested when you see the secrets of centuries unfold before you like the leaves of a book, and when you have completed your labors and have a cabinet containing a specimen of each variety you will have collection well worth the trouble taken in making it.

R. I. P. S.

The regular monthly meeting of the R. I. Philatelic Society was held at the residence of Mr. F. F. Olney, on Monday evening the 7th inst. President E. B. Hanes in the chair.

The question of Mr. Chalmer's claim regarding the invention of the postage stamp, was briefly discussed and made the special subject for the next meeting.

Two names were proposed for membership, which, under the by-laws were carried over to the next meeting.

After business the Society passed from labor to refreshment, which it is needless to say, was heartily enjoyed and appreciated by the fortunate ones present.

The remainder of the evening was passed in looking over Mr. Olney's fine collection, after which the Society adjourned to meet again the first Monday evening in April.

JOHN B. CALDER,  
Secretary.

258 Westminster Street, Providence, R. I.

Success usually rewards perseverance.

# THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR.

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We will give a five dollar gold piece to the person sending us before April 20th the best original article on Stamps, Coins, Curiosities, or any subject interesting to collectors.

Remember, this is open to all.

The following rules shall be observed:

1. All articles must be written in ink, and on only one side of the paper.
2. Each article must contain at least 900 words.
3. Every competitor must sign his or her full name.

The right to publish everything sent is reserved.

The prize will be awarded by three disinterested collectors, and their decision, with the best article, will be published in the May number.

Every competitor will receive one year's subscription to this paper, no matter if his article be good or bad. Everybody try. Address,

CHEATHAM, GRAY & MARTIN,  
Publishers, Nashville, Tenn.

## SHORT CRITICISMS.

That the collectors' magazines have greatly improved, and are still improving, is an indisputable fact, and one which is truly gratifying to philatelists and collectors generally.

The tendency now seems to be to combine the different branches of collecting. The Empire State Philatelist has just adopted this plan, and what used to be a model Philatelic paper appears much improved and bids fair to become even more popular than it was before adopting its broader platform.

Among the strict adherents to one branch the best are probably The Philatelic Journal of America, the Western Philatelist and the Stamp, each of which reflects great credit on the publishers.

Space does not permit a review of all our exchanges, but justice demands that the Youth's Ledger and Curiosity World should not be omitted, for without doubt they contain more readable matter and a greater variety of subjects than any similar publications we have.

The latest recruit is Common Sense, hailing from Mexico, N. Y. F. A. Thomas, publisher.

We have received from Mr. Patrick Chalmers the third edition of "Submission of the Sir Rowland Hill Committee." It is in pamphlet form, containing 85 pages, and the evidence brought forward in favor of Mr. James Chalmers is overwhelming.

Mr. Geo. E. Fownes will please accept thanks for the Hartford and McGlynn medals he so kindly sent. They are beauties both in execution and design.

Mr. L. W. Durbin, "the old reliable," has now been in the stamp business 18 years. He has just issued the 16th edition of his Standard Catalogue, a copy of which we have just received. It is an improvement over the last, inasmuch as it contains a list of abbreviations and phrases by means of which it is easy for a beginner to locate a stamp.

Every one is more or less gifted with literary talent, and to such persons we offer this month a slight inducement to exert themselves. There is an equal chance for all, and we would be pleased to have a large number of competitors. See offer.

Mr. P. H. Hill is at present absent



from the city, having gone North in the interest of his business, but he also expects to combine pleasure with business by visiting some of his old philatelic friends, and also hopes to add a few more rareities to his collection.

WITH next month's number the subscription of some of our subscribers will expire. We will then be one year old. Are we better than we were at the start? Are we worthy of your support? These are questions that you must answer.

We never professed to be a model, but since we began we have endeavored to please our patrons, and have never failed in a single instance to appear at the appointed time. We are not fond of, nor are we accustomed to, blow our own bugle, so will desist, and will judge our popularity by the support we receive during the coming year.

## EXCHANGES.

*Those of our subscribers who so desire may insert short notices of exchange under this head free. Non-subscribers will be charged at the rate of 1 cent a word.*

Autographs of celebrated persons to ex. for others not in my collection. Autograph letters preferred. Send list and receive mine in return. Correspondence desired with foreign collectors. ELLIS D. BOBB, Eldora, Hardin Co., Iowa.

I desire correspondence and exchange with a few quite well advanced collectors of minerals, with the object of mutual improvement. ALLAN C. KENNEDY, Blatchford, Custer Co., Montana.

Exchange desired with stamp collectors in all parts of the world. I have U. S. and foreign stamps, also U. S. revenues to ex. Address N. E. CARTER, box 314 Delavau, Wis.

WANTED.—Indian axes, spear and arrow heads, and other implements, old coins, Confederate money of issue of 1861, all kinds of war relics, and newspapers printed during the war, for which I will exchange Indian net sinkers, pottery, hammer stones, war relics, coins, and general curiosities. All communications

answered. T. B. STEWART, Island, Cinton Co., Pa.

Minerals, fossils, also sea curiosities to ex. for minerals. NAT F. DORTCH, Jr., Nashville, Tenn.

U. S. revenue, document, match, medicine, proprietary, playing-card, U. S. and foreign postage stamps to exchange for others of same not in my collection. Philatelic papers to ex. Send list. A. G. B., box 67 Brooklyn, N. Y.

Fifteen war tokens for the best offer of foreign postage stamps not in my collection. F. L. WHITE, Sego, Reno Co., Kansas.

I will exchange Packard's "First Lessons in Geology" for Nols. 1, 2 and 3, Vol. 1 Southern Geologist, and Nos. 1, 2 and 3 Vol. 1, Cumberland Collector. H. E. DEATS, Flemington, N. J.

Three var. Indian stamps, 5 Grecian, 20 Austrian, 6 Mexican, 9 Portugese, 10 France, 5 Holland and 9 Italian for any of the following: U. S. 1851, 10c; 1857, 5, 12 or 24; 1861, 30c; 1869, 10c and 20c or 15c; or any of following Departments. Agriculture, Justice, State.

A. KIRCHER, Nashville, Tenn.

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2 U. S. Department for every foreign stamp that is listed at 5 cents. L. H. GALE, 135 Union St., Nashville, Tenn.

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SEVERAL excellent articles are crowded out of this issue of the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR, but they are good enough to keep for next issue.

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Cent. of Washington's Headquarters Newburgh, 1783-1883, bronze.....	60
Cent. of hanging of Maj. Andre, at Tappan, N. Y., also showing old Dutch church where was hanged. Very rare Size 35, bronze.....	1.50
Cent. British sur. at Saratoga, N. Y., also showing, very rare, the handsome Saratoga Battle Monument, 35 bronze.....	1.50
Cent. David O'Connell's birth, 1775-1875, size 32, rare, brass.....	75
Cent. Expo. Nashville, Tenn., 1880, showing Expo. B'ld'gs, and reverse Equestrian Statue Andrew Jackson, size 40, w. m.....	50
Cent. capture Andre, Tarrytown, N. Y., 1880, showing monument, also view of medals presented by Congress to captors. Rare. Size, 35, w. m.....	50
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“ Unpaid, 1871.....	2 var.....04
Bergedorf.....	5 var.....08
Constantinople.....	3 var.....04
Corea (5, 10, 25, 50, 100 Mons) ...	5 var.....75
Danube, S. N. Co.....	4 var.....12
Guatemala Env.....	4 var.....25
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Vol. I.

No. 12.



THE  
CUMBERLAND  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
COLLECTOR.

April, 1887.



*A Monthly Magazine devoted to  
Stamps, Coins, and Curiosities.*





# THE Cumberland Collector.

Vol. 1.

NASHVILLE, TENN., APRIL, 1887.

No. 12.



JAMES CHALMERS, Esq.

Inventor of the Adhesive Postage Stamp.

## INVENTOR OF THE ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMP.

In this number of the COLLECTOR appears the likeness of Mr. James Chalmers, of Dundee, the now acknowledged inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. For years the honor of this invention has been held by another, and it is the untiring efforts of Mr. Patrick Chalmers that has at last lifted the veil and has given to his father the honor which tardy justice has so long withheld.

Mr. James Chalmers was born in the town of Arbroath, Scotland, on the 2d of February, 1782. He subsequently moved to Dundee, where he became engaged in business as a bookseller and printer, and it was in his own office, as early as 1834, that he made the first adhesive stamps for postage. They were printed in sheets and then gummed on the back. It is not necessary to compare the statements of the two factions, as that has been viewed from every point by our philatelic contemporaries. The Encyclopædia Britannica

and the Dictionary of National Biography have both decided in favor of Mr. Chalmers, and the weight of their decision has virtually ended the controversy.

The English people have considered Mr. Hill a public benefactor and have erected a monument to his memory. It is never too late to do good, and it would be nothing but just that they should "give honor to whom honor is due," acknowledge their error and publicly proclaim Mr. James Chalmers to be the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. We Americans are not expected to go so far, but philatelists of this country will never be found behind in honoring the man who has done so much for our hobby.

#### ARCHAEOLOGY.

It has been said that the most important study by man was of man; and humanly speaking, it is so. The divisions of this subject are almost infinite; those with whom we are associated, those who were our ancestors; those of foreign lands, civilized and barbarian; ancient and modern—but with none of these are we now specially concerned. Races and peoples have lived in various parts of the world, who, passing away, have left vast architectural ruins behind them, and in many cases inscribed with phonetic or hieroglyphic signs. Of this class Yucatan and the Valley of the Euphrates bear noted illustrations. But there are here in our own country extensive evidences of an extinct people, the study of which is most interesting.

Over an area extending from Pittsburg, Pa., to the Mississippi river, and from the Great Lakes nearly to the Gulf of Mexico those people lived, builded and are buried. Through the Ohio valley the early settlers discovered vast mounds—some in geometric figures, others in form of living creatures. They soon discovered human bones in and around these mounds, but of the builders of these mounds and the burials the Indians were ignorant. Here in our own Middle Tennessee the plow of an early settler turned up the stone off a grave. He asked the Indians who lived about him of these graves. They said they were not of their people. Prehistoric man in America and the Mound-builders are so in general thought to be identical. Now how can we study him?

His history, his origin, we know nothing of; he has left no intellectual memoranda. All we have is his bone, his grave, and some of the work of his hand in mounds, pottery and stone. Yet small as the data left we are able to know by study much of those who once lived on this soil, drank from the same springs as we, and fished and hunted in the same streams and over the same hills which we now see. In this article we only speak of this Middle Tennessee, and have no mounds to discuss. For two years past we have dug among these graves, have seen hundreds of them opened; have examined the skeletons, pottery, beads and stoneware. We have visited the Sacrificial Mound in Wilson county and dug in the house sites around it. Of all we have seen we have not space to write, but a few facts are well established in our mind.

The graves and skeletons show a people of good altitude and of strong muscular power. To an anatomist the bones speak of strength; the jaws are especially heavy, the teeth strong and in but few cases diseased. The skull is generally large, forehead broad and moderately high, although from a European standpoint, rather retreating. In some cases a flatness of the back of the skull is noticeable, but in some cases we are of the opinion it is due to the softening of the bone in its long contact with the moist earth. Of color of skin and texture of hair we are ignorant. That many lived three-score and ten seems very clear. We think by examination of the teeth they masticated their food well, so probably escaped dispepsia.

We have more certain information of their ceramic art. Their bowls, saucers, cups, jugs and images are made of common clay, most generally mixed with broken and powdered shell, although there are some few pieces which seem not to have any tempering material.

An examination of fragments, as well as whole vessels, shows four or five colors and at least three qualities. The finest ware is black, but is not homogeneous, the surface seeming to be finer than that below. The variety of designs is very interesting—among others most common are a round bottomed jar, the diameter and height about equal, the mouth is narrowed, the rim generally rounded outward, and

two ears are often attached; size from one gill to one and one half pint. Fragments of them show a capacity of at least half a bushel. Bowls in shapes of fish, ducks and frogs are not uncommon; some with human and grotesque heads are found; Saucer-shaped dishes are common. Fragments from the bottom of one grave showed a diameter of not less than eighteen inches and not more than three inches deep. Bowls eight inches in diameter by half as many in depth, blackened by fire are found. That these were sometimes used over or beside the fire, probably for cooking, is a fact, as they show. Some of the smaller specimens have perforations by which they could be suspended. Bowls in the shape of large shells are not uncommon. Pestels or grinders are found made of same material as the pottery.

In these graves we find shell spoons, nearly all of them being for the right hand. Some are notched or scalloped, and a few are highly ornamented. These spoons are generally found in a dish, and sometimes indications show that food was also put into the dish with the spoon. Stone celts are found occasionally in these graves. One we have is of dark-green, stem frosted with white. It is well finished for two-thirds of its length, measuring from the cutting edge. The dimensions are four and one-eighth inches long, two and one-eighth inches wide and very nearly an inch thick. We have a number of times found on the surface of the ground in this same locality broken celts.

Arrow points are sometimes found in the grave. A skull was once found with the point of a flint still adhering, around which was a boney deposit. We have a friend who took out a fine flint, lozenger-shaped, at least four inches long. We have a fine flint two and one-quarter inches long by five-eighths wide. So much for articles which were for utility.

Beads of shell, size of large grains of wheat, are sometimes found, occasionally in large numbers. One party took out beads enough to make a double string nearly three feet long. Another kind of bead made of ivory or claws of animals, is the size of a lead pencil and from one-eighth to one quarter of an inch long. These are much less frequent than the beads of shell. Again we find occasionally a circular disk of shell, from three to four inches across, engraved, sometimes

with geometric figures, others with birds, spiders, snakes, and in a rare case or two with human figures. It is occasionally found that these gorgets, as they are called, are engraved on both sides. They seem to be always perforated with two holes by which to be worn, most likely about the neck. In one case within our knowledge a copper ornament was found on the wrist, and its oxidization had entirely preserved the bones of the wrist. There are sometimes found idols or images in these graves. Some are grotesque, others are realistic. One we have is a hunchback squatting on the heels, hands resting on the knees. Another is of light colored clay, fine grain, and represents a woman kneeling and sitting on the feet. This figure is well moulded, the ears are pierced for ornaments and at the back of the neck is a loop into which a string could be put to hang it up. These figures are hollow, as are all with one exception, we have ever seen. This exception is the figure of a child, lying on its back, bound to a plank. Across the back and shoulders this female figure shows bands of dark paint.

The stone grave, which term is now largely used, is confined to comparatively a small part of the area over which the Mound-builders lived. The States of Kentucky and Tennessee, with a small part of the Southeast corner of Missouri and a section of Arkansas, contains the whole, but it is due elsewhere to the absence of the right kind of stone. The thin slabs of surface limestone are used. They in a rude way constitute a coffin, with cover of the same stone. The grave was only large enough to lay the coffin in. It is now filled with earth, and some have argued that it was filled at burial. Frost, rain, insects, rodents and vegetation are sufficient to do all as now found, and besides, in most cases, the skulls are full of earth.

Now, what do we know of our ancient and so long departed neighbors? We are sure they were a large, well-built people, and living on the vegetable products of such climate and land as ours. More than likely they mostly wore skins of animals for clothing, but we know they wove some fabrics. We have a fragment of pottery on which is an impress of a textile fabric much finer than the common coffee sack,

(Continued on Page 93.)

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With this number the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR completes Vol. I. We have lived one year, and in our own estimation, at least, we have done fairly well.

We have, after due deliberation, decided to cease the publication of our journal, and we wish to do so open and above board, with a good record and a clear conscience. We have never knowingly cheated any one. Our subscription list will be filled out by the *Stamp* of Denver, Col., which is a sufficient guarantee to our subscribers.

We want it distinctly understood that want of support and encouragement is not the cause of our withdrawal from the ranks of publishers, for such is not the case. We still have a balance to our credit, and our only reason for quitting is that should we continue, we should be compelled to shirk other and more important duties. We desire to thank our subscribers and advertisers for their support, and publishers for the kind support and encouragement which they have given us.

Hoping that the *Stamp* will receive the support hitherto accorded to us, we are

Very Truly,

CHEATHAM, GRAY & MARTIN,  
Publishers.

As we will not publish the CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR after this month, we will not give the prize as offered in last number, but will return all article to writers postpaid.

Mr. E. B. Hanes, superintendent of the Exchange Department, A. P. A., has resigned his position. This is very much to be regretted, as he was the right man in the right place.

The Nashville Philatelic Society has reorganized under very favorable auspices. They have seven members, with Mr. P. H. Hill, president, and B. F. Cheatham, secretary. The society contemplates becoming a branch of A. P. A.

THE CUMBERLAND COLLECTOR has joined the ranks of the dear departed. Yes, it is true. Wonder if it shall be missed? Is there any who shall pause to drop a tear over its grave? Alas! we know not, but we fear that they will be few and far between.

There has been considerable dissatisfaction manifested by some of the A. P. A. members in regard to the official journal. The Pomeroy Society of Toledo, Ohio, were the first to express their opinions. It is a good move, as the A. P. certainly does not reflect credit upon the association.

Mr. Patrick Chalmers, of England, has kindly sent us a picture of his father, together with several pamphlets in support of his claim. We desire to express our thanks for same and trust that the engraving on first page will meet his approbation.

## EXCHANGES.

*Those of our our subscribers who so desire may insert short notices of exchange under this head free. Non-subscribers will be charged at the rate of 1 cent a word.*

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Will exchange 100 var. foreign stamps for every three special delivery stamps. Also foreign stamps for U. S. Departments. Will also exchange foreign stamps for Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 Vol. 1 of this paper. Chas. Thatcher, Martinsburg, W. Va.

U. S. Postage and revenue stamps of all kinds, and entire envelopes for same not in my collection. Fine Wisconsin arrow head for every ten match and medicine stamps. Spear head for 50. E. B. Cornwell, Rubicon, Wis.

U. S. revenue, document, match, medicine, proprietary, playing card, and U. S. and foreign postage stamps to exchange for others. Philatelic papers to exchange for others or for stamps. B. G. A., P.O. box 67, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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Relics, minerals and sea curiosities to exchange for minerals. Nat. F. Dortch, Jr., Nashville, Tenn.

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The Berlin Postoffice museum contains 418 varieties of postal cards.

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The United States first issued revenue stamps in 1862.

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Ecuador used postage stamps for the first time in 1865.

Five cents nickels were first made in 1866.

In 1790 there were only 75 postoffices in the United States.

Liberia issued its first postage stamp in 1860.

There are only eighteen known specimens of the silver half dime 1802.

Magnesia was discovered in 1707; Silicon in 1823, and Iridium in 1804.

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The most valuable U. S. cents are those of 1799 and 1804, which will sell for \$300 each if in good condition.

Mr. John Tiffany estimates that up to date 473 different stamps papers have been published all over the world.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co., L'td., have recently discovered two new U. S. stamps, they are navy dept., 2c, emerald green, and 1875 issue, 2c vermilion imperforated.

The Autograph, Germantown Philatelist, Collector's Companion, Peninsula Philatelist, The Curio, and Useful Instructor, are the latest philatelic journals announced.

ARCHEOLOGY.—Continued from Page 91.

and such impressions are found all the way from Illinois to Alabama.

As workers in clay they were no mean artisans, although they seemed to know nothing of glazing. They surely manufactured dishes for eating and cooking. In stone they have left us proof of their diligence and skill. In stone, pottery and in beads they have left proof of some mechanical skill, both in cutting and drilling. In spoons, beads, pottery and gorgets they have shown the artistic and ornamental sides of their character. That they were loving parents is shown by the fact that a larger proportion of children's graves contain pottery, beads and trinkets than those of adults.

Of their houses we cannot be said to know much, but of the site of one village we have the testimony of our own eyes. It lies half surrounded by a creek or branch of good water; the other side is

protected by an embankment with a ditch on the outside. In two places there are openings for gates. In the center stands a sacrificial mound, eighteen feet high, thirty by forty feet on the ground. Around are the sites of the houses. They are mostly round, from fifteen to twenty five feet in diameter. They are raised some two feet above the level, and look like circus rings grown to grass, only they are not so hollow in the center. Digging across the outer side of these rings we find the soil black, worn greasy—just such soil as gathers around a kitchen door in the course of a generation or two. This soil is full of croken pottery, bits of charcoal, bone and chips of flints. In one place a large amount of ochre was found; many pieces showed the marks of the vessel in which it was held. We know some eminent authority hold the opinion that these were not house sites, but we must beg leave to differ. One reason why we are so sure of our belief is that this village site has never been broken by the hands of our present civilization. The natives of the forest still grow over house sites and on the sacrificial mound, and a close observation shows the location of each dwelling house.

We think they are fire worshippers and the sacrificial mounds were built up inch by inch to keep pace with the growing heap of ashes in the center. But in all we have writiel we are only using our own views as obtained in a limited time and area. We hope some worthy pen may soon tell us all they know.

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1,000 Letters written by soldiers in the war of the Rebellion, Union or Confederate, officers or privates. Write giving description and price.

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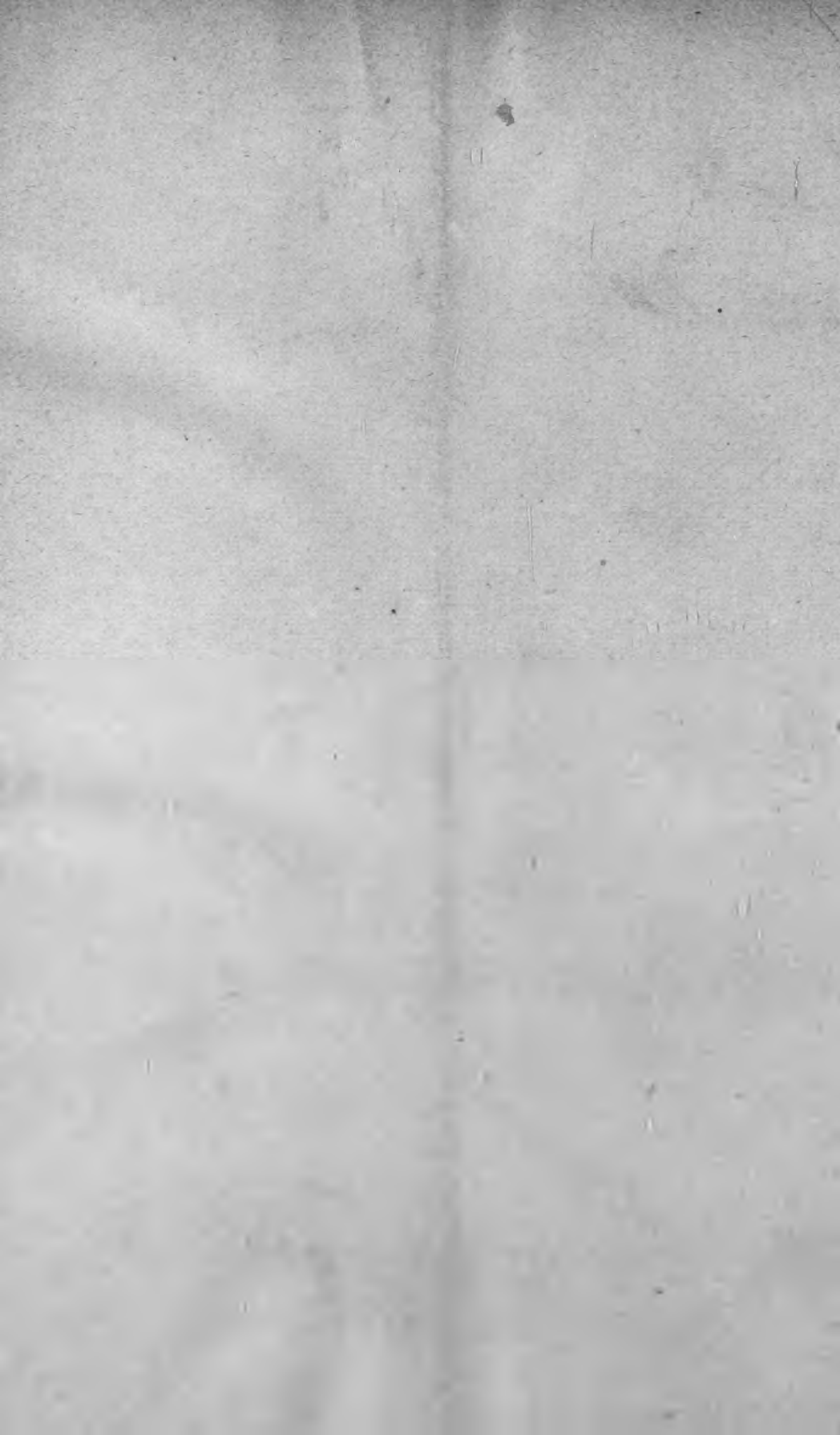
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