

Minnesota Philatelist

A Quarterly Journal in the Interest of Stamp Collectors.

VOL. I.

ST. PAUL, MINN., JANUARY, 1886.

NO. 1

WRITTEN FOR THE MINNESOTA PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

A Criticism on the Latest Issues of the United States.

IF an impartial observer turned over the pages of a stamp album in which all countries were represented, having been told to select the three countries which he considered used the most beautiful stamps, viewed in an artistic sense, he would be obliged to pass over our country.

This is a hard thing to believe, and it goes against the grain of any patriotic subject of Uncle Sam to have to come to that conclusion, but, as Philatelists, we must treat it impartially; we must not think that, because they are issued by our beloved United States, they are much more beautiful than those of our foreign contemporaries, for it is not so; and I am sure, after careful study, all will agree with me.

Perhaps the most peculiar part of it is, that instead of improving, our stamps have degenerated. Look at the 1869 and '70 issues—how much better are they than that of 1870. This set, I will admit, has some beautiful stamps; the 90c, the 24 and 30c and the old 5c blue head of Taylor, are all first-rate stamps, and could

be favorably compared with the English specimens.

But to offset these, there are the 3c green, the 6c, 7c, 10c, and 15c. There is nothing radically wrong with these latter, but well engraved as they are, the *tout ensemble* is jarring on the eye; there is something in the coloring that shuts out the possibility of their ever being called beautiful.

But the designers of these stamps are not satisfied; they issue a Garfield stamp in respect to our dead President, and instead of producing a beautiful stamp, to do honor to the country, as well as to James A. Garfield, they bring out a specimen which, when picked to pieces, shows no flaws, but when combined, jars on the artistic eye.

Let us take a parallel case; in some hand-writing that presents a poor and slovenly appearance, the formation is perfect on close examination, each letter properly formed and well executed, while when taken as a whole, it would be condemned as poor.

Let us take the new 2c; this was expected to be beautiful, the description gave promise of a really handsome stamp; and instead, the color was heavy, there was no delicacy of

J. L. MELOY & CO.

live Wholesale and Retail Groceries.

ARRIVED.

Another lot 1000 pounds American hams, making 2600 pounds thus far as a trial, and our friends are satisfied. The lovers of good ham come and see us at Meloy's.

Arrived. Third lot of 50 packages of new mackerel, among them pails of fine mess mackerel, equal to the size they have already grown, and very fine goods. Mackerel are advancing very rapidly, owing to the fishing trouble occasioning a short catch, having frightened our fishermen off. We will try to keep close to the market. At Meloy's.

WILL ARRIVE.

Have purchased, to arrive in proper season, the largest assortment of lamps ever brought to the valley, consisting of hall lamps, library, parlor, dining-room and kitchen lamps, latest design and improvement, consisting of ball weight to the new extension, that is easily controlled at any position. Can be as easily brought down to read on the floor as at the table, and during the day can be pushed up out of the way more conveniently than the old system. Persons who intend buying this fall, and not in too much hurry might be well suited by waiting. Will have all the latest improved burners and chimneys. Should be glad to see our friends at any time at Meloy's.

GOOD COFFEE.

It is a scientific fact that pure Java coffee contains valuable medicinal properties. That may be said of anything pure. To the class of people desiring a good coffee we wish to call attention to our Java as well as Mocha and Java mixed and put into two pound cans immediately upon its being roasted and sealed, so as to retain the aroma that naturally escapes from roasted coffee while hot. Our fine coffees are imported and roasted by Chase and Sanborn, of Boston, who have grown gray in the coffee business. We have roasted coffees, good at 12½, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 28, 30 to 33 cents. Our friends are invited to give us a trial in our turn, for which we shall be thankful. At Meloy's.

Yours Most Truly,

J. L. MELOY.



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Let us take the new 2c; this was expected to be beautiful, the description gave promise of a really handsome stamp; and instead, the color was heavy, there was no delicacy of

design. Only compare one of the English Colonial specimens such as Cyprus; I said compare—there can be no comparison. Why? you ask, and I ask it, too. The engraving is probably no better than that done by the American Bank Note Co., but give the stamp to an artist, let him be only an artist, one who would never think of showing partiality, and nine chances out of ten, he will award the supremacy to the English stamp. Our 4c stamp is better, much better, in fact, and I will not attempt to criticize it.

Our latest envelopes started out very badly; the first two cents were miserably engraved, the second a little better; the last, being brown instead of red, are really good looking. The 5c and 4c are both good.

To return to the adhesives. There is no excuse for making the 2c ugly; Washington was a handsome man, and in portraying him correctly, no ugly portrait could be made. How much better it would have been to have had a front face of Washington like the 90c in 1851-60 and 1861 issues. That is the secret of the Taylor stamp, 5c, 1875, of which I spoke before. The portrait of Jefferson on the 10c brown, 1870 issue, is a perfect farce, and a disgrace to its designers. A Philatelist once remarked to me in speaking of it: "Jefferson's own mother would not know him, should she see it."

Now comes the last straw that breaks the camel's back. I am the camel, and the breaking of my back

is the calling forth of this article. The straw is the latest postal card. In my mind, ugly is no word for it; there is but one good point, the quality of the card, which is superior to its predecessor. How much better it would be to have only plain printing "United States Postal Card," like the English, and our universal card. No ribbons or fancies. The head of Jefferson, encircled in a wreath, is miserably engraved, blotches on the face, with uneven background. I hardly think this card can last long—it must be superseded. It has often seemed queer to me that in such a case as a selection of a design, it should be left to any other than a well-known artist, who could design something worthy of the beautiful work in engraving done by the American Bank Note Co.

There is one great redeeming exception to our government's mistakes in the regular issues; this is the Department Stamps. They really are worthy of note, and should be awarded all the praise philatelists can give them. They are not only beautiful, but bid fair to be the most sought after of all stamps, as even without their sterling merit in beauty, their rareness would be sufficient attraction. With both, the United States may well lay claim to having produced the most desirable stamps in the world. WM. ALLAN KLAPP.

WANTED—At this office, old Philatelic journals and magazines. Highest cash prices paid for same.

Origin of Postage Stamps.

The idea of an adhesive stamp affixed to a letter, as indicative of the payment of postage, is much older than has been generally supposed. It is known that the first suggestion of such an arrangement in modern times came from Rowland Hill, the father of the cheap postal system in England about the year 1839 or 1840. It was several years, however, before his suggestion was carried into effect. History, however, tells us that the ancient German cities of Thurn and Taxis had such a system, which for some inexplicable reason, fell into disuse, or failed to become general among nations. The modern postage stamp was first used in England about the year 1842 or 1843. In 1835 E. A. Mitchel, then postmaster of New Haven, taking advantage of the English idea, made use of a stamp of his own, which he continued to use until 1837, when the Government of the United States issued the first American postage stamps. They were in two denominations. The five cent was of a light brown color, bearing the head of Franklin, and ten cents, according to distance. In 1851 a series of six denominations was issued. The one-cent stamp was blue, bearing the an elliptical band, upon which were the words, "U. S. P. O. Despatch Pre-paid, one cent." Within the band was an eagle, with wings out-spread. The two-cent stamp was also blue, bearing the head of Franklin; the three-cent vermilion, with head of Washington; the five-

cent chocolate, with head of Jefferson; the ten-cent green, with head of Washington, and thirteen stars in semi-circle above; the twelve-cent was black, also with head of Washington. The twenty-four, thirty and ninety-cent stamps were subsequently added to the series. The first of these bore the face of Washington; the second was orange, with the head of Franklin; and the last was dark blue, also with the head of Washington. There was also in this series a square carriers' stamp, blue in color, and bearing the head of Franklin.

Mecklenburg.

THE Philatelists of St. Paul, Minn. held the initial meeting of the Sr. PAUL PHILATELIC SOCIETY Nov. 30th, and elected the following officers: Fred Stahl, pres.; D. Thompson, vice pres.; Frank Reid, sec.; Thompson Warner, treas. and librarian. "The Collectors Companion" was made the official organ, Durbin's catalogue the standard; have also adopted the color chart of the Nat. Philatelic Soc. for reference; the constitution of the C. S. C. U. was received, several alterations made, and adopted. Collectors wishing to join address Secretary, 206 E. 7th street, St. Paul, Minn.

ST. P. P. S.

At the meeting of the St. P. P. S., Dec. 16, an application for membership was presented; referred to executive com. Carried, that the day of meeting be changed from the 1st and 3d Wednesdays to 1st and 3d Mondays in each month; this was done to secure a larger attendance. Mr. F. Stahl exhibited some very interesting specimens of stamps and cards.

F. REID, *Secretary.*

The Minnesota Philatelist

QUARTERLY.

F. STAHL & CO., Publishers.

77 W. Seventh st., St. Paul, Minn., U.S.A.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 25c PER YEAR.

Advertisements to appear in No. 2 must be in by March 15th.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1/4 inch	\$0 35	1/2 column	\$2 00
1 "	60	1 "	4 00
2 "	1 15	1 page	7 25

Guaranteed Circulation, 5,000.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING CO., 7 CORNERS, SAINT PAUL.

Entered at St. Paul Post Office as Second-Class Matter.

Vol. 1. JANUARY, 1886. No. 1.

SALUTATORY.

We take pleasure in presenting No. 1, Vol. 1, of the MINNESOTA PHILATELIST to the Collecting Public, feeling confident that it will meet with all the success it deserves.

We are well aware of the great number of papers published throughout the Union, and do not begin the publication of this Journal, expecting to receive 10,000 subscribers as soon as the first number is issued. It takes time, money and patience to get a paper on a paying basis, and we enter the ranks, knowing just what to expect; consequently the MINNESOTA PHILATELIST will not suspend after issuing two or three numbers.

We have decided to have an Exchange Department, to begin with No. 2, as we think our readers will find that exchanging with each other is a very profitable way of increasing their collections.

We trust all will give us the support we need.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Don't forget to send in your exchange notices for No. 2.

Readers, we wish you all a Happy New Year, (too late for Christmas.)

No. 2 will have a cover, and a circulation of from 5000 to 8000, sent only to active collectors,

The stamp collectors of St. Paul organized a society on Nov. 30th. See secretary's report in this number.

Mr. W. E. Cowles, business manager of the "Collector's Companion," has been in St. Paul for a few days, and paid us a visit.

The "Empire State Philatelist" and "Our American Youth" have both new covers, an improvement on each. The "Collector's Companion" has completed Vol. 1.

Will M. Clemens will re-issue his "Old Curiosity Shop," at Jamestown, N. Y., beginning Jan. 1886.

The "Agassiz Journal" is the best Curiosity paper on our table, and we heartily recommend it to all; published by W. E. Skinner & Co., Lynn, Mass.

Readers, write us an article for No. 2; we offer the following for the three best original articles: prize No. 1, for the best, \$2.50 gold; prize No. 2, for the second best, \$1.00 gold; prize No. 3, for the third best, 50c and 25c, gold. Articles must consist

of at least 500 words; articles not accepted will be returned.

We have received price-lists, sample packets of stamps, cards etc., from several U. S. and foreign dealers, but owing to our small amount of space we were obliged to omit their names; we shall, however, remember them in our next number.

NEW ISSUES.

ADHESIVES, ENVELOPES AND CARDS THAT HAVE APPEARED LATELY, AND ARE ABOUT TO APPEAR.

BRAZIL.—We note the 300 reis green and orange has been announced as rouletted.

CEYLON.—There are two varieties of the surcharged Registration envelope, viz: "15 cents" and "Fifteen cents."

CONGO.—This country will enter the Postal Union next January, so collectors can look forward to a new series of stamps.

FINLAND.—The 10 penni is now carmine instead of brown. We suppose the 25 penni will be changed to brown.

FRANCE.—We got things rather mixed last month. We should have said that the 25c, 75c and 1 franc had been surcharged 1, 3 and 4 piastres for use in Turkey.

HONG KONG.—The following values of "duty stamps" have been used for postage: 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 25c, color violet.

JAPAN.—The colors of the 1 and 2 sen cards have been changed to carmine, says the "Philatelic Monthly."

MONACO.—The set so far as issued is as follows:

1 cent, olive.	40 cents, slate.
2 " lilac.	75 " black.
10 " brown.	1 franc, "
	5 francs, carmine.

NICARAGUA.—A 2c reply card has just been issued.

REUNION ISLES.—The 2c and 25c French Colonies have been surcharged 5c and 20c for use in these islands.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.—Three more surcharges:

5 cent	on 40 cents	red.
10 "	" "	"
15 "	" "	"

STS. SETTLEMENTS.—The 3c has been announced as appearing with the surcharge "3 cents" in black.

TRANSVAAL.—The one shilling green has been surcharged "Half Penny," same as the three pence mentioned in our last issue.

—Stamp World.

Rubber S Best Made Stamps Lowest Prices

Name stamp and fixtures complete, only 25c. (regular price \$1.00.) Name and address complete, only 37c. (regular price \$1.40.) Nickel plated self inking pencil stamp, 1 to 3 lines, with ink, only 40c. Illustrated Specimen Book and confidential terms to agents, only 5c. Circulars free. Above reductions for a short time only, to introduce my stamps and obtain agents.

Special Reduced Prices to publishers offering my stamps as premiums.

5/8" A fine 4 x 6 Printing Press and outfit for sale cheap.

T. S. SPARROW,
VERONA, N. Y.

U. S. PERIODICAL STAMPS.

UNUSED.
1-cent, 5c; 2-cent, 6c; 4-cent, 9c; 8-cent, 16c; 10-cent, 20c. Send stamp for wholesale prices. List of U. S. stamps on application.

JOSEPH HOLMES, Jr.,
Long Island City, N. Y.

I wish to exchange with collectors of all countries. Deliver especially old and new German stamps. Send all exchange stamps to
J. REIMERS,
Neue Strasse 8, Harburg, Germany.

MATCH and Medicine stamps for sale or exchange; can use any quantity; correspondence solicited. W. F. GREANNY,
827 Brannan st., San Francisco, Cal.

THE MOST IMPORTANT ADDRESS FOR EXCHANGE.
W. WAGENTREIBER, ROTTERDAM, HOLLAND.
PRICE-LIST GRATIS AND POST-FREE.

1 BORNIA, 3 LUXEMBERG, 2 BRAZIL, 10c. RARE STAMPS. C. B. BELL, BRANDON, MANITOBA.

SAMPLE PRICE LIST.

3 different Chinese coins, 15c; 3 old, rare foreign coins, 10c; 25 rare stamps, Confederate, etc., 10c; Indian pottery specimens, 10c; bleeding tooth shells, 10c; sea beans, 10c; 25 var. shells, 15c.

WILL. M. CLEMENS,

140 Allen st., Jamestown, N. Y.

STAMP DEALERS

supplied with desirable wholesale selections of stamps. Reference required.

WM. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan st., San Francisco, Cal.

The best known organ for advertisements is the "General Anzeiger für Philatelie," circulated in almost all parts of the world. This newspaper appears monthly and 7,000 copies are sent out. One line, 5c; one page, \$10. Subscription 15c per annum. Specimen copy gratis and postfree.

CHR. TANERLAND, Hemer, (Westfalen), Germany.

BAD Lands Fossils, Minerals, Indian Trinkets, etc. Price-lists.

L. W. STILLWELL, Deadwood, D. T.

100 var. foreign stamps, 10c; 110 var. postage stamps, including Portugal, Spain, U. S. Treasury, Cape of Good Hope, Victoria, British Guiana, New Zealand, Jamaica, Egypt & Turkey, only 10c; send for our list of sets, packets, albums, etc.; agents wanted at 25 per cent. commission to sell our choice approval sheets; deposit or reference required; address enclosing return postage. *The Philatelic Emporium*, 335 W. 4th st. Williamsport, Pa. U. S. A.

Exchange in Postage Stamps

TAUSCHVERKEHR IN BRIEFMARKEN.

J. B. MEYER,

CONSTITUTION 2, CALLAO,

PERU, S. A.

EXCHANGE OFFERED of Belgian Postage Stamps of 1849 and 1850; also of a later date. Postal Cards and Stamped Envelopes. 1863, adhesive, One Centime, green, unused.

T. LISSMANS-DELAGACHE,

Belgium. AUDENARDE.

WANTED!

An agent in every town and city to sell Stamps from approval sheets. Commission, 33 1/3 per cent.

STAR STAMP CO.

GREENVILLE, OHIO.

Wm. v. d. Wettern, Jr.

WHOLESALE DEALER IN

POSTAGE & STAMPS

176 SARATOGA STREET,

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

Price List free on application to Dealers only.

New List will be issued February 1st.

The New York Collector.

A sample copy of the above paper, an approval sheet of rare stamps, and price-list, sent on receipt of stamp.

A set of 10 Venezuela stamps, 10c; a set of 5 Cape of Good Hope, 10c. E. A. HERNANDEZ, 251 Grand av., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOREIGN STAMPS.

I have a large stock on hand which I will sell at bottom prices. Will send a nice approval sheet to any one sending me two stamps for postage and promise to return same in ten days.

I. W. RISDON,
Cambridgeport, Mass.

Our Progressive Youth.

The best paper ever published for the youth of America. Stamp, Coin, Natural History and other departments. Liberal discount to clubs and commission to agents. Sample copy free. Address,

HARRY K. ZUST,
339 West 23d street, New York.

COLLECTORS can increase their collection at little or no cost by becoming my agents; apply at once; reference required; liberal discounts. WM. F. GREANY,
827 Brannan st., San Francisco, Cal.

AGUSTIN BUEN-ABAD,

Mexican Postage Stamps

FOR COLLECTIONS,

NO EXCHANGE.

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MEXICO.

COINS, Stamps, Curiosities. 24-page catalogue, 10c; egg lists, 2c.

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150 Well Mixed Foreign Stamps, 4c

5 Foreign Coins, 10c.

3 Confederate Notes, 10c.

Broken Bank Bills, 10c.

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At lowest prices for genuine stamps; send reference; price catalogue of 1,500 stamps free; 10 sheets of gummed paper for mounting stamps, 25c; 20 blank approval sheets, ruled in squares, 10c; stamps bought, sold and exchanged; foreign correspondence solicited.

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SHEETS of Rare Stamps sent on approval to responsible persons; I give U. S. periodical stamps as premiums to every person selling 25c worth of stamps and upward from my sheets, besides regular commission; try me. (Enclose postage.)

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Send for a sheet of stamps on approval, at 25 per cent. commission, and promise to return in ten days; reference required; 100 mixed foreign stamps, 5c; introductory stamp album, 16c; Excelsior album, 28c.

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✦ The Carson Philatelist ✦

A monthly paper for stamp collectors; 25c a year; sample copy FREE. Advertising rates, 50c per inch. Published by

CARSON STAMP CO.,
P. O. Box 512, St. Louis, Mo.

ESTABLISHED 16 YEARS.

L. W. DURBIN,

Foreign Stamp Importer

5th and Library Streets,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The finest assortment of Genuine postage stamps in the country at reasonable prices.

PACKETS 10 stamps for 5 cents; 60 for 25 cents; 120 for 50 cents; 370 for \$2.50; all different. Other packets, 25 cents to \$25.00.

ALBUMS

NEW CATALOGUE just published, the latest, best and most complete out. Price 25 cents; in cloth, 50 cents; Postal Card Catalogue, 25 cents.

Everything required by stamp collectors always in stock.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Orders filled the day of receipt.

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Originals, used and unused, in sets or single, 40 varieties of War Envelopes, No. 1 to No. 8 size.

Unused—Agriculture, 4 var., 80c; Executive, 2 var., \$1; Interior, 5 var., 30c; Navy, 5 var., 75c; State, 6 var., \$1; War, 5 var., 30c.

Used—Agriculture, 3 var., 25c; Interior, 6 var., 20c; Justice, 5 var., 75c; Navy, 7 var., 70c; State, 5 var., 60c; War, 7 var., 10c; Blue Env., 1c; Fawn, 5c; Cream, 10c; 2 Amber, 25c.

Orders under 50c to contain 2c stamp extra. Wholesale and retail dealer in Department Stamps.

J. H. HOUSTON,
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8 varieties, 1868-9, complete.....	20c
7 varieties, 1870-5, complete.....	5c
3 var. (8c unused), Registered, com..	30c
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6 Baden, including 30 kr.....	25c
3 Baden Land Post.....	6c
7 Bavaria, 1876.....	12c
2 Bavaria Unpaid, 1 and 3 kr.....	8c
6 Bavaria Return Letter.....	8c
5 Bergedorf.....	8c
3 Constantinople.....	6c
4 Danube Steam Navigation Co.....	15c
10 German Empire.....	8c
3 Guatemala, first issue.....	25c
4 Guatemala Envelopes, cut square.....	35c
7 Hamburg Envelopes, cut square.....	15c
2 Honduras, first issue.....	25c
2 Paraguay, 5 and 10 rls.....	15c
4 Persia Official.....	35c
12 Prince Edward's Island.....	35c
6 Porto Rico, 1882.....	8c
7 Roman States, 1897.....	12c
4 Salvador, first issue.....	10c
10 Switzerland Ausser Kurs.....	12c

CHEAP PACKETS.

10 U. S. all different, adhesives.....	\$0.8
10 U. S. all different, envelopes.....	5
100 U. S. old mixed.....	15
1000 U. S. old mixed.....	1.25
125 all different foreign stamps.....	10
1000 well mixed foreign stamps.....	20

CHEAP COINS.

5 U.S. half cents, 20c; 5 U.S. large cents, 10c; 10 diff. foreign coins, 25c; new nickels, 15c each, two for 25c; premium coin book, 13c; complete coin price list, 2c.

GUMMED PERFORATED PAPER.

All stamp collectors should use gummed paper in mounting their stamps in their albums. Price per sheet, 8c; 4 sheets, 25c. Dealers supplied at reduced rates.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP ALBUMS

Latest edition; No. 1, regular price, \$1.50, our price, \$1.30; No. 2, regular price, \$2.50, our price, \$2.10; No. 3, regular price, \$5, our price, \$4.50.

Complete list of foreign and U.S. packets and sets of stamps, 2c.

U. S. Periodical and Department stamps cheaper than elsewhere; list, 2c.

AGENTS WANTED

to sell stamps from approval sheets at 40 per cent. commission; don't fail to send for a sheet.

To any collector buying 50c worth from the above list I will present with a polished red Sea-bean Charm, with any initial engraved on it. Will sell them at 25c each.

Mention this paper. Address as above.



THE

Minnesota Philatelist

A Quarterly Journal in the Interest of Stamp Collectors.

VOL. I.

ST. PAUL, MINN., APRIL, 1886.

No. 2.

Written for MINNESOTA PHILATELIST.

CURRENT COMMENTS.

BY TOPAZ.

HOW many new stamp papers there are, one starting up every day almost! And moreover, how many of them will soon fall into a state of "innocuous desuetude"! This phrase is certainly familiar to every philatelist who takes any interest in politics, and what collector does not, especially if it has been his "consuetudinary privilege" to behold the magnificent torchlight processions in times past?

Philatelic publications are becoming too numerous just now. There is not the slightest need for so many, as dealers cannot support them all by advertisements, and many are useless to collectors, as they contain none but copied articles; or worse yet, the worn-out combination of geography and price catalogue, entitled "France and its Stamps," or something similar. There is only one use for journals of this class, which I will mention. They are carefully preserved by people who wish to possess a complete philatelic library.

Many difficulties lie in the way of the stamp bibliomaniac. One needs to be as Argus, with his hundred eyes, to ferret out all the obscure little sheets, printed by their proprietors oftentimes, and the hundred arms of Briareus would be necessary to gather them all in. As most philatelists are destitute of these wonderful equip-

ments, they probably would not care if these third rate papers all died off, and it certainly would be a good thing for the established journals, whose custom they tend to undermine. These latter, however, do not intend to be undermined, if they can help it, and all the prominent monthlies, save a disgruntled couple, have banded together in a Philatelic Press Association, with headquarters at Chicago. This praiseworthy organization is already accomplishing much good, and has more plans in mind.

By the way, while talking about the philatelic press, doesn't one often notice very peculiar differences of opinion on certain unimportant subjects? Here is an example. No. 1 of this paper contained a criticism on U. S. stamps, from which we reprint the following extract concerning the familiar 5 cent stamp with the portrait of Taylor (the President, of course, not the other Taylor):

The 90c, the 24 and 30c and the old 5c blue, head of Taylor, are all first-rate stamps, and could be favorably compared with the English specimens. * * There is no excuse for making the 2c ugly. Washington was a handsome man, and in portraying him correctly, no ugly portrait could be made. How much better it would have been to have had a front face of Washington. That is the secret of the Taylor stamp, of which I spoke before.

That is one writer's opinion, and now let us see what the *Philatelic Magazine* said recently:

The question naturally arose as to whose face should go on the new five-cent stamp.

* * He suggested the face of Gen. Taylor. Accordingly the miserable caricature of a front view of that old warrior was prepared and put in use for a short time.

Query: is the stamp a beautiful work of art or a miserable caricature?

Have any of you noticed that dealers in counterfeit stamps are thicker now than they were a year ago? Such is the fact. I know of seven in the State of Massachusetts. They say that there is more money made in the sale of the bogus than the genuine. This is because there is such a host of stamp dealers in the country that there is not enough custom to go around. As for the vendors of counterfeits, they are so few in comparison, that there is scarcely any competition among them, and they can all undersell the dealers in the genuine, so as to make a neat little sum. In the latest dealers' directory there are something over three hundred dealers put down for the U. S. alone, so that each one does not have much of a chance to make money. There are, I should judge, about a dozen or so who sell nothing but imitations, so they have quite a field for work. I wait for the time when some means shall be found to stop the sale of all imitations of postage stamps, government or local, current or obsolete. However, I fear this happy period is far distant, unless some philanthropic philatelist, with unbounded wealth, should spend some of it in prosecuting the offenders for getting money under false pretenses. Then there would be fun, and lots of it.

Certain small dealers like to take in beginners by advertising their stamps under some unusual title calculated to mislead the young collector into thinking that some new country has issued stamps. For instance, I have seen offered for sale

"Hyderabad stamps, very rare," but these were only the ordinary issues of Deccan, of which Hyderabad is the chief city. Only recently one of my young friends was fooled by a notice of two varieties from St. Kitts for 6 cents. St. Kitts not being found in the catalogue, he supposed the stamps advertised must be a new issue, and therefore sent for them. When he received them he immediately discovered that they hailed from St. Christopher and were correctly chronicled in the catalogue. My friend was unaware that St. Kitts is the shortened form of the name in colloquial use on the island. In this connection, I would like to ask the *Collector's Companion* proof-reader where under the sun "Sextbia" and "Walla Moldaviai" are located. Perhaps it is a typographical secret.

The idea of illustrating the new issues is again taking hold of philatelic publishers, as may be seen. With the single exception of the *New England Philatelist*, no American paper has illustrated the new issues for about three years, and it will be quite pleasant to see their columns once more adorned with cuts. It has been claimed that the law will interfere and prevent this as counterfeiting, but this objection is easily disposed of. If the law can not touch Skinner and Lewis for selling *fac simile* stamps, printed in colors, it is hardly probable that an honest publisher can be arrested for printing representations of them in black. Besides, do not our best standard catalogues contain hundreds of illustrations, without offense to the law? Certainly. Then let all papers illustrate that can afford it.

WANTED—at this office, old Philatelic journals and magazines. Highest cash prices paid for same.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

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I am a collector of stamps, post cards and envelopes. Exchange with foreign collectors desired.

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I want to exchange bundles of old stamp papers for others, and will give stamps or cash for back numbers needed to complete files. Correspondence solicited with parties who have odd stamp papers to exchange. I specially want Nos. 1 and 2 of the *Hermes*, and Nos. 4 and 6 *Chair City Collector*.

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I will exchange coins for others not in my collection.

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COLLECTORS desiring their names inserted in our State Directories will please send them, with those of any friends they know who collect.

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Entered at St. Paul Post Office as Second-Class Matter.

VOL. 1, APRIL, 1886. NO. 2.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A little behind this time—the delay was unavoidable.

We do not come out with a cover on account of being rushed with other transactions, but we will come to time with No. 3, and a beauty it will be.

Snowed under—"Essex Philatelic Union." The flowers that bloom in the Spring, tra la, etc.—Q. C. P.—Ditto with the "St. P. P. S."

We are in receipt of Mr. Wettern's wholesale list; it is needless for us to state that the prices are very moderate; no dealer should be without it.

By the kindness of Mr. H. T. Hawks, we have received the "Stamp Collectors' Directory," containing the names and addresses of collectors, dealers and philatelic papers. Accept our thanks, Mr. H.

Hello there! you publishers of monthlies. If you don't think our paper worth exchanging with, and

don't send your papers regularly, we propose that you sew a button on yours.

Our esteemed friend Cowles writes us he has bought Mr. Raymond's share of the *Collector's Companion*. Our best wishes are with you, Mr. C. but how about No. 2? We haven't seen it yet.

It is with pleasure we note the remarkable improvement of the *Capitol City Philatelist*, under the able management of W. K. Jewett, better known as "Topaz." He knows how to run a paper, you bet!

Messrs. F. A. Reid & Co., 206 E. 7th st. of this city are doing a very good business. Collectors in St. Paul and vicinity will find it to their interest to call on them and examine their stock, which is the largest in the Northwest, and their prices are very moderate.

We received a surprise last February in the shape of a fine special issue of the *New England Philatelist*, from Fitchburg, Mass. This paper, which was the leading stamp journal of the Eastern States, suspended publication on the death of its publisher, Dr. Chas. P. Henry, and was sold to the *Philatelic Tribune*. However, we are happy to see that Messrs. Emory and Jewett have gotten out one more number, which finishes the volume. The special issue contains a portrait of Mr. Jewett (Topaz), the well-known writer, and one of Mr. Emory, the original publisher of the

N. E. P. A biographical sketch and portrait of Mr. Mekeel, editor of the P. J. of A., is also included, and a very fine engraving of E. A. Holton, the Boston stamp dealer. On the whole, this number is a very creditable publication, and is interesting throughout. Among other revelations in it, we notice an account of that fictitious organization styled the "Essex Philatelic Union."

Just before going to press, the news comes to us of the death of Mrs. Rose Garfield Clemens, at Jacksonville, Fla., April 7th. Mrs. Clemens was the wife of Will. M. Clemens, journalist and author, of Jamestown, N. Y., and was herself a well known writer for magazines and periodicals.

Large Variety Western and Eastern Arrow and Spear Points, only perfect forms, sent for sale and received for purchase on approval. Sioux Indian Buckskin Dolls, dressed to represent Indians (very salable, not enough to supply the demand) \$1 to \$2 each. L. W. STILWELL,
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105 var., 11c; 55 var., 6c; 125 mixed, 6c.
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3 different Chinese coins, 15c; 3 old, rare foreign coins, 10c; 25 rare stamps, Confederate, etc. 10c; Indian pottery specimens, 10c; bleeding tooth shells, 10c; sea beans, 10c; 25 var. shells, 15c.

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Australia South, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 8, 9p. 1, 2sh.....	40
West, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6p., 1sh.	50
Bahamas, 1, 4, 6p., 1sh.....	40
Barbadoes, 1/2, 1, 3, 4, 6p 1, 5sh.	1 50
1882, 1/2, 1, 2 1/2, 4p.....	20
Bavaria, 1870, 1, 3, 6, 7, 12, 18k	40
Belgium, 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50c., 1, 5fr.....	1 00
Brazil, 1850, 10, 20, 30, 60, 90, 180, 300, 600r.....	75
1850, 10, 30, 280, 430r....	75
1878, 10, 20, 50, 80, 100, 200, 260, 300, 700, 1000r.	1 00
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Egypt, 1867, 5, 10, 20p, 1, 2, 5p	75
1872, 5, 10, 20p, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 5p	50
1879, 5, 10, 20p, 1, 2, 5p. .	25
Great Britain, Mulready, 1p black, 2p blue.....	6 50
Guadeloupe Unpaid, 25c, 40c..	10 00
5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 35, 50c....	1 00
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French Colonies.....	8	20
German Telegraph.....	10	12
Italy.....	11	5
Italy, official, surcharged.....	8	12
Newfoundland, 3 rare, incl. triang.		50
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Roumania.....	8	10
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Servia.....	8	12
United States of Columbia.....	6	10
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Approval sheets sent on reference or cash deposit; with orders for 25c and over, I will send the book, "How to Deal in Foreign Stamps." Orders under 25c must contain stamp for reply. Price list free. Address,

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| " 2 " 100 " . . . | | 10 |
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|--|----|
| Bosnia complete, used & unused | 50 |
| Canada Registered, complete " | 40 |
| Guatemala, 1875, " " | 40 |
| " 1878, " " | 40 |
| Honduras, 1865, " " | 30 |
| Persia official, " " | 40 |
| Salvador, 1867, " " | 60 |
| 2 Guatemala Envelopes, 1 & 2rbs unused and entire | 25 |
| 1 Sandwich Islands Envelope, 1c green, unused and entire . . | 10 |
| Gummed Paper, per sheet. . . . | 06 |
| 6 sheets for | 25 |
| Durbin's Catalogue, 15th edition | 25 |

This paper sent free one year to our agents. Remit by Postal Note or unused U. S. or Canadian stamps. As to our responsibility, we refer you by permission to the publishers of this journal.

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I offer for sale for a short time the following Philatelic literature for cash. All papers are in perfect condition, and just as represented:

The first volume, the complete file of the

New England Philatelist,

comprising 90 pages of instructive matter, crowded with illustrations, for only

32 CENTS.

This magazine was one of the best ever published in America, and ought to be preserved by every stamp collector who wishes to possess a store of reliable information in regard to his science. The

Yankee Philatelist,

of which two numbers were issued, was a bright paper, and I offer copies of the two numbers for 6 cents, post free, or the *Yankee Philatelist* and Vol. I of the *New England Philatelist* both for 35 cents.

«The Advertiser»

was a Philatelic paper published at Philadelphia about a year ago, and issued three numbers, containing as much matter as six ordinary ones. I have purchased the entire lot of copies, and offer the file of the paper for only 10 cents, or the *Advertiser* and the *Yankee Philatelist* for 12 cents, or all three papers named for 42 cents. A copy of the Constitution of the Fitchburg Philatelic Society, 5 cents, or the Constitution and the three papers for 45 cents.

I wish to exchange philatelic papers with collectors.

W. K. JEWETT,
408 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

The Illinois Philatelist.

VOL. I.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL. MARCH, 1886.

No. 1.

ESSAY ON MATCH STAMPS.

FROM "THE HERMES."

Since the act abolishing the tax on proprietary articles, which went into effect on July 1st, 1883, the match stamps have been greatly sought after, not only on account of their beauty, but because they serve as a memento of the late war, being the representative of a tax imposed by the government as a war measure.

These stamps (that is according to my opinion) are of far more interest to the collector of oddities than any other branch of Philately.

They are found printed on four different kinds of paper; Old, Silk, Pink and Water-mark, and some varieties are printed on all four kinds of paper from the die.

There also some varieties in the edge of stamps, as in the Alligator Match Co., James E. Chark, P. Fichle & Co., and P. T. Ives & Co., these are found both perforated and rouletted, the rouletted ones being by far the rarer stamps.

The entire number of Match Stamps is 283 varieties of adhesive and 195 varieties of Match Wrappers.

The Match Stamps of all the revenues are the hardest to obtain, and some of them are almost unobtainable, for so great has been the

demand that the 1c. red, G. W. Davis, which sold for ten cents two years ago, now brings two dollars each.

The Match Stamps vary in price from 1c. to 25 dollars each. The handsomest stamp in the collection is the 12c. blue stamp of the San Francisco Percussion Match Co. Although it is not one of the most expensive, still it well compensates any collector for the trouble of examination.

Another class of interesting stamps is the Match Wrappers. They are printed on buff and white tissue paper, and vary in price from 5 cents to 10 dollars each. They were used for enveloping the block matches manufactured by Byam, Caalton & Co., T. R. Powell and The Portland Match Co.

These stamps include in their ranks some of the finest specimens of the art of engraving, both from wooden block and steel die, and they even go so far as to make use of poetry by way of an advertisement, for on the left hand side of some of the Byam, Caalton & Co's Wrappers are the following lines:

"For quickness and sureness
the public will find,

These matches will leave all
others behind.

Without further remarks we
invite you to try 'em,

Remember all good ones are signed by E. Byam."

A. F. HENKELS.

In 1882, a poor rag picker found an old piece of paper with a queer stamp on it. He showed it to some persons who knew the value of the old Continental stamps, of which this was one, and the result was that he sold it for \$500 in New York.

M. CASE.

THE CLEANING OF COINS.

BY DR. ROBERT MORRIS.

We have been requested to explain the manner of cleaning ancient coins. It is not a subject to be handled carelessly. Many a fine coin has had its moral character absolutely ruined by the insane desire to make it look "good as new". The noble relic of a Vespasian has been soused in nitric acid until his noble nose has sunk under it. Marcus Aurelius has been laid on a red-hot poker, until even his philosophy gave way. And, worst of all, the modest Etruscilla has been sand-papered—yes, sand-papered—until every mark of modesty fled from her face.

Bear in mind, dear gentle friend, that an antique specimen is not intended to look as "good as new;" on the contrary the older it looks the better. The only object you can have in manipulating it is to make the type, portrait and lettering legible. Anything beyond that is to the damage of your prop-

erty.

But how to rub that without injuring the coin,—ay, there's the rub.

We begin with a quotation from an English writer who has had experience. "While the rust on silver and gold coins may and should be removed, that on brass and copper, if not crusty, is preservative and ornamental, and should be severely let alone. But if it is deemed essential to remove it, the safest way is to boil in water for twenty-four hours, with three parts tartar and one part alum; then clean with bran. Many fine coins of copper are ruined by unskillful attempts to brighten them."

To this another adds, that "gold coins may be safely cleaned of any prejudicial rust by acid. Spirits of nitre eats anything but gold, and answers well for this. The green, blue or red rust on silver can be removed by steeping for a day or two in vinegar."

Old silver coins may be cleansed by ammonia, and by different cyanide of potassium. This will remove all dirt and incrustation.

A writer in "Notes and Queries" says; "it is very difficult to clean off the black sulphide of silver coins. They may be boiled in strong caustic potash or soda. Red spots can be removed by sulphuric acid, but even silver is soluble in that. Cold concentrated hydrochloric acid answers, but it spots the silver.

To clean copper coins, take dilute sulphuric acid, 1 to 10 of water, the water at ninety degrees Fahrenheit; then wash them well

in hot water and dry them with a warm cloth. Warm water, soap and a soft brush will clean silver coins sufficiently. That is our method.

An English writer says: "you can bring out an obliterated inscription from a silver coin by laying it on a red-hot iron. The words will plainly appear in green color, and fade as the metal cools.

OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN.

In this department we shall insert questions and answers pertaining to Philately. The questions will be inserted in one number and the answers in the next. This column will be for our readers' interest and not our own. We shall insert the questions and our readers may send answers which we will publish. We hope that this will be one of our leading topics.

H. L. D. S. Would some one of the readers of the ILL. PHIL. tell us what the Philatelic societies do, and give us a few good rules. We are going to start one but must first know something about it.

P. R. Where can I buy good, genuine triangular Cape of Good Hope stamps?

J. T. What is the postage to New South Wales, Australia, England, Central America and Roumania?

mitting their subscription by postal note, at our expense.

Premiums to New Subscribers.

We will send the ILL. PHIL. one year for 30 cents and any one of the following premiums.

- 100 Foreign Stamps (all different).
- 150 Mixed Stamps.
- 1 Sheet Gummed Paper.
- 1 U. S. $\frac{1}{2}$ cent.
- 1 Set 5 Mexico.
- 1 Set 6 Brazil.
- 7 U. S. Department.
- 3 Tasmania.

This offer holds good only until our next issue.

SPECIAL OFFER.

To the person sending us the largest list of subscribers before May 1st. we shall give a collection of 1000 different stamps and an Imperial Stamp Album in 2 vols. Lot valued at \$30.00.

This is a very liberal offer.

With these inducements, can we fail to obtain a long list of subscribers? The above offer applies only to subscribers.

Moral—Subscribe now and get a premium.

Every publisher receiving a copy of this issue is requested to put us on his exchange list.

On another page of this paper will be found an advertisement of Chas. O. Henbest, Marshall, Ill., whom we think will please all. Give him a trial.

Subscribers will oblige us by re-

The Illinois Philatelist.

~ PUBLISHED MONTHLY. ~

Subscription price 25 cents per year in advance, to any part of the U. S. or Canada. To foreign Countries 40 cents per year.

Advertising rates: 5 cents per line; 35 cents per inch; \$1.00 per half column; \$1.75 per column; \$3.00 per page.

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Address everything to

The Illinois Philatelist.

Box 836,

Rock Island, Ill.

SALUTATORY.

In placing the ILLINOIS PHILATELIST before the philatelic public, we doubt our ability to excel those journals which have been in the ranks for a long time, but hope to meet with approval and support.

We would be pleased to receive original sketches from the pens of our readers and philatelic writers.

Thanking you for your efforts in our behalf, we remain

The Editor.

EDITORIAL.

—We shall have several articles next month, written by T. S. Ebneh.

—We have received a price-list from Henry Collin & Co., of New York, and were surprised at the very cheap prices that packets, single stamps, etc. were marked. Collectors should give them a trial, they deserve it.

—We want agents in every town for the I. P. and will allow 20% commission on the first 15 subscribers. After that 25%. We will

also allow 20% on all advertisements sent us.

—We are pleased to note the rapid improvement in our contemporary, "The Philatelic Tribune." The print though poor is good considering it is done by the editor and publisher.

Read this magazine through carefully and if you don't think it worth twenty five cents a year, don't subscribe.

The Chinese stamps with the beautiful dragon are really nothing but locals, as the Chinese empire has no postal treaties, and the stamps are issued by a company and used in a few sea-ports only.

N. C. PHILATELIST.

Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co., and M. D. Batchelder have retired from the stamp business.

A few days since we had the pleasure of visiting the job rooms of R. & H. Kellogg, of Davenport, Iowa, and were shown through their office, and here viewed a large amount of type, ranging from the smallest to the largest. Their facilities for supplying the public are unsurpassed, as they have recently refitted their office, and now (we are not afraid to say it either) have one of the most complete amateur job offices in the West.

We would here say that if you are ever in want of anything in the printing line call on them or address as above.

Amateur Department.

Conducted by

Chas. O. Henbest,

Mendota, Ill.

Exchanges, please send a copy to the above address.

The Youth's Ledger is an excellent paper.

Politics have no claim on amateur literature, yet the Rochesterian contains a lengthy editorial on the New York conventions.

Western Amateur Press seems to be published merely to show the editor's quarrelsome and braggart nature.

Progress was awarded the prize for the best journal in New York. In our opinion the Reflector should have the honor.

The Spear is a fine journal.

Emery's Sentinel is a model of amateur journalism.

The New Moon of San Francisco is publishing an interesting description of that city.

Youth's Visitor is very poorly printed. Ditto, the World.

Johnson has resumed the publication of the Clipper.

Will Miss Arlington please favor us with a copy of the Violet?

Maine has an A. P. A. It was organized on November 22nd. and is to secure the next meeting of the N. E. A. P. A. at Portland, next July.

Where are the Thunderbolt, Bumble Bee and Times?

A Mosquito came sailing into our sanctum the other day. It was not a Jersey, but hailed from California.

Lone Star Amateur has changed its name. It now appears as the Youth's Herald.

The Mendota papers, though small, appear more regularly than most of the papers of to-day.

We coincide with the Kansas Zephyr in its opinion of the Observer.

The Monthly Gazette contains some interesting amateur notes.

The Pacific Coast exhibits unusual activity. Quartz is the latest. It is a fine production.

Brie-a-Brac styles itself the "representative amateur journal of Canada," and we think it deserves the title.

The Davenport Alert is an excellent paper. We hope to receive it regularly, Messrs. Kellogg.

The Literarian is Illinois' best amateur journal.

Why can you not give the 'Dom some space in the the Monthly News, Freeman?

We would like to see a copy of Moxley's Youth, also, Warner's Orient.

Golden Gem contains too many advertisements.

What is the A. P. E. A. doing? Has President Cook fossilized? We have have heard nothing from him for two months

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

At Stratford-on-Avon, in the year 1564, was born one of the greatest dramatists that the world ever produced. This person was William Shakespeare. The father of this remarkable man was not able to give him a collegiate education and he only had an academic education.

When eighteen years of age he married Anne Hathaway, a lady eight years his senior and who was slightly connected with the gentry. When Shakespeare was twenty two he had a wife and three children depending on him for maintenance. The great question before him then was how he could best provide for them. He was a poet and, having seen some play actors at Stratford, he determined to go to London and join himself to the players. He would not take his family into the crowded city and among the rough wits of the play-house, but left them in the country among friends.

At first Shakespeare had a very hard time of it. He loved his wife and children and was working for them and would not take part in the midnight carousals of his fellow actors. He would do any honest job for money and when he obtained it he knew how to keep it, which was something no other actor or writer of that time knew, except possibly Lord Bacon.

Shakespeare slowly but steadily rose in his dramatic career. His last play, and in some respects his best, is seldom put upon the stage,

owing to the difficulty in obtaining suitable scenery. This remarkable play reminds one very forcibly of the author's life.

In Prospero, placed on an island and dependent on himself for his daughters' support, we see Shakespeare dependent on himself for support of his family. When Prospero destroys his books and magician's paraphernalia and returns to his old home and friends at Milan, we may again see Shakespeare, laying aside his pen and stage habiliments and going back to the bosom of his family at Stratford.

During his dramatic life, Shakespeare amassed a considerable fortune and his last days were spent in attending to his estate.

In the last few years, there has been an attempt by some writers to prove that Lord Bacon wrote the plays ascribed to Shakespeare. To my mind this is a very improbable story. From what we know of the character of Bacon, we may safely say that he did not write them.

Lord Bacon would do anything for money, and we know that Shakespeare made a fortune, and it seems strange that Bacon would write all these plays and let Shakespeare take the profit.

Bacon always tooked out for number one. Shakespeare's plays are very difficult to produce, because the principal character is introduced in the first scene and continues throughout the entire play, so that when the climax is reached and all the energy is required to do

the part justice. Any one but a very strong actor is utterly exhausted. Again a star actor must be well supported by his company in order to be successful and as the minor parts in nearly all of Shakespeare's plays have so little to do, no first class actor will take them and inferior actors have to be chosen, detracting very much from a successful production of the play. These plays will always be read but I think that in time they will be taken from the stage.

Shakespeare died at the age of fifty two, on the 23rd. of April. There is a tradition that this was his birthday.

W. M. PURCE.

C. O. Henbest is NOT at Mendota, but MARSHALL III. We hope Mr. Henbest will excuse the mistake.

Our printers had to run this issue out in three days and consequently there are a few typographical errors.

Adhesive Stamps of Austria.

In 1850, when Francis Joseph I was king of Austria, this country issued her first postage stamps. These had a two headed, or crowned eagle (with arms in the centre) on shield and branches at sides, the value at bottom and color on white and the following values: 1 kreutzer, orange; 1 kreutzer, yellow; 2 kreutzer, black; 3 kreutzer, red; 6 kreutzer, brown; 9 kreutzer, blue.

The next issue which was in 1858,

had a laureated head of the Emperor (Francis Joseph I) in variously designed borders, embossed in white on color with the following stamps; 2 kreutzer, orange; 2 kreutzer, yellow; 3 kreutzer, green; 3 kreutzer, red; 10 kreutzer, brown; 15 kreutzer, blue. In 1861 another stamp was issued which had a laureated head of the Emperor to right in oval frame, inscribed with value, and embossed in white on color. This issue had five values: 2 kreutzer, yellow; 3 kreutzer, green; 5 kreutzer, red; 10 kreutzer, brown; 15 kreutzer, blue. In 1863, they issued a stamp which had a two headed, crowned eagle (with arms in centre) in oval frame, inscribed with value, embossed in white on color.

These were the stamps—large perforations—2 kreutzer, yellow, 5 kreutzer, rose, 10 kreutzer, blue, 15 kreutzer, brown, and the same values and colors with small perforations. They next issued a new stamp in 1867, which had laureated head of Emperor to right in dotted circle, ornamental spandrels in each corner, value at bottom, color on white, with the following values: 2 kr. yellow, 3 kr. green, 5 kr. rose, 10 kr. blue, 15 kr. brown, and 25 kr. lilac. This same year they issued a 50 kr. flesh colored, with laureated head of Emperor in dotted circle, crown above and encircled by scrolls enclosing figures of value in upper corners and underneath, color on white. I have described only the adhesive stamps here. Besides these Austria has a large number of newspaper stamps, also, envelope stamps and issues stamps for the Danube Steam Packet Company.

H. H. C.

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H. H. C.

—The Collector's Companion.—

A first class philatelic journal. Original articles by the best writers. Instructive and newsy.

AGENTS WANTED!

Send five cents for a sample copy, or 50 cents for a year's subscription.

Advertising rates 60 cents per inch. We guarantee a monthly issue of 3000.

Address, **W. E. COWLES, Business Mgr.**
Mention this paper. Box 419, Chicago, Ill.

The Arizona Pride of Philately,

A bright, sparkling stamp paper, written in a lively, interesting style. Only 28 cents a year. Ads. per inch, 53 cents; one col. \$3.53; one page \$6.10. Always send postal note at our expense.

Eugene A. Brown, Tucson, Ari.

«American Poultry Yards,» ROCK ISLAND, ILL.



Can supply you with the best Egg Food and Fumigo in the market and at the lowest rates. Prices sent for stamp. A larger advertisement will appear here next month.

APPROVAL SHEETS

Sent to responsible parties at 60 per cent discount. sent for price list.

Louie Cleveland,
Box 836, Rock Island, Ill.

«The Collector's Monthly,» A 16 PAGE PAPER.

Devoted to the interests of Collectors. Each number contains one full-page illustration.

Subscription Price, 50 cents per year. Specimen copies free.

Advertising rates, \$1.00 an inch.

J. M. Faunce, 2820 Gaul St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

☞Mention this paper.☞

The Stamp Collector's Journal.

Coin Collector's News and Antiquarian Gazette.

A large monthly, devoted to Philately, Numismatics and Bric-a-Brac.

Subscription, 36c. per annum. post free. Advertisements, whole column, \$2.00; half column \$1.36; ¼ column, 72c; 1 inch 36c. Specimen copy free. Address everything to C. H. Nunn, Pub.,

Bury Saint Edmunds, England.

BOYS and GIRLS

Who want to buy, sell or exchange, send 2 cents for sample copy of

The American Exchange & Mart,

The only paper devoted to bar-bains in curiosities, Useful, Scientific and Sporting articles, &c.

17 Congress St., Boston, Mass.

SHEETS ON APPROVAL!

Collectors send for one and promise to return in 7 days. 100 mixed stamps 4c; 500 14c; 1000 22c.

•Chas. O. Henbest, Marshall, Ill.

100 XX White Envelopes,

Your name, business and address neatly printed on corner, sent post-paid for 40c. Alert Printing Co.

Davenport, Iowa.

R. R. KELLOGG. Established 1881. H. KELLOGG.

ALERT PRINTING CO.

«FINE JOB PRINTERS.»

Printing of Amateur Newspapers a Specialty.
This Paper is a specimen of our Work.

DAVENPORT, IOWA.

THE ILLINOIS PHILATELIST.

VOL. I.

ROCK ISLAND, ILL., JULY, 1886.

No. 2.

THE W. A. P. A. CONVENTION.

The W. A. P. A. convention held at Davenport on the 8th. of July, can not be called a success, although a great deal of genuine work was done. Amending the Constitution occupied the Morning and Afternoon sessions. The election of officers took place at 7:30 P. M. A great deal of excitement was manifested in this election, as the result would manifest whether the Wapa was to live or die. W. E. Mellinger, of Chicago, was the only nominee for the presidency. The informal ballot stood

Total number of votes	10
Necessary for choice	6
Mellinger	6
Carter	4

Carter stated that he was not a candidate. The first formal ballot stood

Total number of votes	8
Necessary for choice	5
Mellinger	4
Barker	4

Mellinger then arose and said that, if Barker would promise to accept, if elected, he would decline in his favor. Some of Mellinger's supporters were rather dismayed at this turn. Barker then arose and, in a short speech, declined in favor of Mellinger. Second formal ballot stood

Total number of votes	10
Necessary for choice	6
Mellinger	7
Scattering	3

For the Second Vice Presidency, A. L. McClinton was the first nominee, but was ruled out on account of non-membership. Otherwise, he would easily have carried the election. J. A. Ephraim was nominated but was also ruled out. D. L. Hollub was elected unanimously.

A. R. Parrish and W. S. Dunlop were nominated for the treasurer-ship. The latter was elected on the third ballot.

Officers elected were

1st. Vice,	Mrs. Z. A. Swift. †
2nd. Vice,	D. L. Hollub.
Rec. Sec.,	R. R. Kellogg. †
Cor. Sec.,	W. J. Roe. †
Treas.,	W. S. Dunlop.
Off. Editor,	H. M. Carter. †
Next meeting Place,	Chicago.

During a sort of an informal caucus, held Thursday morning at about 8.30, there was considerable discussion regarding the next meeting place. None of the boys were very much in favor of Cincinnati, and one of the Davenporters proposed Chicago; the idea was taken up at once, and, as a result, Chicago was elected almost unanimously.

† denotes that there was no opposition.

Read, Wonder, Act!

BELOW is a copy of the circular which is being distributed throughout the country regarding a National Philatelic Society. Please give it your careful attention and act promptly.

New York, }
Chicago, } June 25, '86
Atlanta, }

To the Philatelists of the United States:

The project of forming a National Philatelic Society has now been the leading subject with philatelists, philatelic societies and the philatelic press for a sufficient length of time, and has received enough emphatic and hearty endorsement from leading philatelists, to warrant an effort being made at organization. In order to bring about this result without a delay, a National Committee, consisting of the persons whose names are affixed to this circular, has been formed, to undertake the first efforts in this direction, and to take the steps necessary for organizing at as early a day as may be expedient.

The objects we are striving for through the medium of a National Society are the promotion and advancement of stamp collecting in all its branches; the dissemination of philatelic knowledge; facilitating the exchange of duplicates (through a bureau of exchanges) and obtaining new issues at cost price.

There is no reason why philatelists in this country should not have

as successful a society, with a complete international correspondence, as any of those now flourishing in other lands; on the contrary, there is every reason to look forward to a grand organization that shall eclipse them all. It is only a question of time and united effort, and if you will seize upon the present favorable opportunity, and work together, this year will yet witness the organization of a society that any philatelist will be proud to be a member of.

We desire the aid of every philatelist in the land, and would strongly urge the formation of local societies in every community where six philatelists can be brought together. Let every society communicate with the member of this committee who is most convenient to it; and let every individual philatelist, who is not connected with any society, do the same. In this way we will soon ascertain how many and who, are willing to unite with us. We trust that all philatelists to whom this appeal is sent, will forward their names to us for enrollment, without delay.

Thos. F. Cuno,
148 Jefferson Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

S. B. Bradt,
Grand Crossing, Ill.

W. G. Whiden,
95 Washington St., Atlanta Ga.

There is abundant material in both Rock Island and Davenport, upon which to work for a society.

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Box 836,

Rock Island, Ill.

Printed by Kellogg Bros., 505 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa. Send stamp for estimates.

Will the publisher of Plain Talk favor us with a copy of his paper?

The Stamp and Coin Gazette is one of the best papers that we have seen for a good while.

Horace C. Jones has swindled a stamp company of this city out of \$12.75. It is said that he is editor of the paper over which the philatelic press made so much comment, the Minnesota Philatelist. Is it so?

We received several amateur papers without name or address printed on them. What fools these mortals be!

The Philatelic Tribune is a bright and newsy paper, devoted to philatelists, from Smyrna, N. Y. Send for a copy.

The Collector's Science Monthly is one of the best papers that we

have seen. We have only received the first number, and whether it has demised or not, we can't say. Can some one inform us?

Messrs. Kellogg Bros. & Brady, of Davenport, Ia., intend to issue an amateur directory at an early date. It will be of an entirely new design and is calculated to save editors a great amount of labor. 12 copies for \$30. Address as above.

The Monthly Journal, published by Boshier Bros., of Carlisle, Pa., is a good paper.

SPECIAL OFFER! We will send this paper and The Davenport Alert, for one year for \$.45; regular rates are \$.60. Or, we will send this paper alone for \$.20, providing that you subscribe before August 30.

We have received a lot of catalogues of medals from Wm. H. Warner & Bros. Any one wishing one, send to this office, with 1c stamp.

Our friends across the creek are making strenuous efforts to gain their state convention. They deserve it. Davenport contains some of the hardest workers which Iowa 'dom possesses.

For next president of the Dplc., E. B. Brady,

—Get an Alpha Directory from Kellogg Bros.

Amateur Department.

Edited by Chas. O. Henbest. Exchanges will please send a copy to his address, Marshall, Ill.

Forest City Spark comes to hand as heretofore and is always a readable paper.

We would be glad to receive a copy of the Violet. Ditto, Youth.

Boy's Weekly devotes but little space to the 'dom of late. What is the cause?

The Litcrarian is becoming one of our best journals.

Jerome C. Bull's Quartz is a fine journal, indeed. We think that is the best paper published on the coast.

We miss the regular visits of the Bumble Bee. Has it gone up the flume?

A. E. Barker has returned once more to the 'dom. He has accepted a position on Junior Press.

Spear is neatly printed and is full of good articles.

Kansrn is a new one hailing from Wellington, Kansas.

Wisconsin Boys is a neat little paper,

Gazette, of Chariton, Iowa, a philatelic paper, devotes a page to the 'dom.

Clipper, for April, speaks of the New Moon as though there was but one journal bearing that name.

The Sylvan Muse is greatly improved.

The Exchange, of Adrian, Mich. has suspended.

Bric-a-Brac is the representative paper of Canada. Long may it ilve.

Our Goat is a small sheet hailing from Macomb, Ill.

Where are the Mendota papers? The bundle has not arrived for the last five or six months. The Clipper, Thunderbolt and Telegram were heretofore exceedingly regular.

We suppose ere this reaches our readers that the N. A. P. A. will have held its meeting at San Francisco and elected a new set of officers. Who will head the list? Convention numbers are now in order.

Norm, for July, come out for J. H. I. Munroe for president of the Napa. It is one of our brightest and newsiest exchanges.

Peace now reigns over the old Empire State, the Esapa and Nyapa having been superseded by the Knickerborker apa.

The Sentinel is as newsy as ever. W. W. Carpenter has severed his connection therewith and in August will issue a new journal, Highland Breezes. Something fine is anticipated.

Stamps Exchanged.

Important to Collectors!! Send me a list of your duplicates and I will reciprocate. Exchange value for value according to standard catalogues or reliable dealers' lists. U. S. stamps wanted, revenues especially. Write to me and you will not regret having done so. Address
Chas. O. Henbest, : : Marshall, Ill.