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The California Collector

A Quarterly Journal in the Interest of Collectors.

Vol. 1.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., OCTOBER, 1886.

No. 1.

Philately Two Hundred Years From Now.

WE live in the nineteenth century, and we belong to it, every surrounding, every pleasure is a member of it, and will always be associated with it; it is but natural that we should accept things as they are, without looking too thoroughly into the far future. But why should we not for once overstep the boundary of the present, and live a few minutes with our great-great-grand-children in the twenty-one hundredth century, looking into the progress of our great common pleasure, Philately.

Let us imagine ourselves carefully examining an album of that date, criticising the latest Greenland stamp, comparing the engraving of this beautiful specimen from Patagonia, with that of Ireland, let us, I say, put aside all the common sense thoughts of where we are, and undo the chains which bind down our imagination; only giving ourselves a brief respite, while the tiresome facts are gone over.

It is now only forty-five years since the first postage stamp was issued in England, and yet we find ourselves in a labyrinth of stamps, coming from here and there, each month the complication grows larger and stronger, and the beginner looks forward in absolutely dismay, to the 7,000 stamps behind him and the 25,000 before him. "Will it do," he says, "to buy old issues and let the new ones go? Why yes, the older are constantly getting farther and farther beyond my reach. I will ignore the 'new comers' and confine myself to those issued before 1860, or at least to those which are moderately old." A few years pass, he sees the "new comers" triple their former value, and again comes the question, "why did I not buy those when they were common?" Thus it goes on, a never ending stream of stamps, closing up as fast as the forward ranks are conquered. Confining ourselves to figures in the rough, we find that in the year 1884, there were in all about 700 stamps, postals, envelopes and wrappers issued; let us not take this as an average,

but be safe and make the common number 500; we have before us these two hundred years, making the number 100,000 without our present sum, adding this, our total shows 107,000 stamps, all different, exclusive of thousands of varieties which are bound to come, owing to mistakes in engraving, etc. etc.; this immense number makes a complete collection impossible, and to hold the majority, would take a lifetime, for example: it takes the average man about one year to collect one thousand stamps, unless he is attended with unusual advantages for obtaining them in the shape of a large bank account, or numerous friends abroad, on this scale, to collect the half, viz: 50,000 stamps, would take 50 years; 25 years, should 2,000 a year be collected, and 10 should 5,000 annually fall to his lot. Of course collections could be handed down from one generation to another, but in this great lapse of time, the number lost would be immense, these heirlooms playing but a small part. To hold a really good collection, one should have at least one-fourth of the total number, and thus, when the Philatelist's collection reaches the enormous number of 25,000 varieties, he could lay claim to having a good collection. With these plain facts, very roughly drawn, but sufficient to illustrate my point, we will end the respite.

The owner of the album of the year 2085, being obliging and proud of his collection, points out to us the different varieties, commencing with United States. Showing us a peculiar stamp, value 3c., color blue, 1869 issue, he relates his experience in obtaining it. In an old collection of letters belonging to his great-great-grandfather, he found an envelope with this identical specimen placed in one corner; upon inquiry, he finds it to be a great rarity, only seen in one album out of a hundred; saying, "I have been offered \$10 for it, but refused;" passing on, he points out a 3c. War Dep't, explaining, that it was a kind of local, which he could not find the origin of; he supposed it must have been used in transmitting letters from the field of battle, in the times gone by.

(To be continued.)

NOTES

- Subscribe !
- And still they come. (Papers.)
- Send in your exchanges for No. 2.
- The "Clyde Press" is the smallest we have as yet received.
- The "Tag" collectors are trying to organize a National Society. What next !
- No. 2 will be enlarged and have a circulation of 1,000 copies. Advertisers remember this !

— We have received for the first time a sample copy of the "Capital City Philatelist." We hope to see you often.

— The "American Numismatist" has made its first appearance and is a nice paper devoted exclusively to coins. We wish it success.

— We want some Good Agents for this paper. Send a stamp for our liberal terms to agents. See our offer for new subscribers.

— In our next number we will have in addition to a Department on Stamps, Coins, Curios, Tags, etc., one to be called "The Rogue's Register" devoted exclusively to frauds. All advertisers will have the use of this department.

— Whilden & Brumby, of Atlanta, announce the publication of a stamp magazine shortly. Sample copy fend take notice !

— Stamps from Turkey will soon be in great demand (Thanksgiving).

Ring the bell ! chesnuts.

— Send for a set of our Periodical Facsimiles to beautify your albums \$1.75 post-paid. No collection is complete without them.

"The Curiosity World" is the name of a new paper hailing from Lake Village, N. H. and published by J. M. Hubbard. It is the best curiosity paper on our table.

EXCHANGES.

Under this head will be inserted, free of cost to subscribers, notices of exchange for Stamps, Coins, Minerals, Relics, etc. All notices should reach us by the last of the quarter to insure insertion in the next number. The right to exclude any notice is reserved.

1750 Rare Chinese and Japanese Coins consisting of many varieties, for Rare Stamps and Coins.

Also,

A large lot of Chinese Curiosities and Wells, Fargo & Co's Franked Envelopes for Rare Stamps.

Correspondence solicited.

CHAS. E. RANKIN,
1201 Clay Street, San Francisco, Cal.

SPECIAL OFFER ! !

In order to increase our Subscription List we will give as a Premium to all who subscribe before December 1st one rare Chinese Coin 1,200 years old. This alone is worth the subscription price. Send now before you forget it as we have only a few of the coins left.

TO ADVERTISERS !

No. 2 will be enlarged to double the size of this issue and will have a guaranteed circulation of 1,000 copies sent to live collectors only. As this is the only paper of the kind on the Pacific Coast, its value as an advertising medium can be readily seen.

SPECIAL NOTICE ! !

We received by mail, about Sept. 2d, a small box containing three spools of silk thread, a box of gummed labels and a small watch charm, but up to the day of going to press we have received no letter or anything saying where they came from. If this should meet the eye of the sender, we will be greatly obliged if he informs us as to what he wishes done with them. If not claimed before Nov. 1 they will be at our disposal.

THE CALIFORNIA COLLECTOR.

The California Collector

QUARTERLY.

C. E. RANKIN, Publisher,

1201 CLAY ST SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Subscription Price, 25c. per year.

Advertisements to appear in No. 2 must be in by December 15, 1896.

ADVERTISING RATES.

One-half Inch, - \$.30	One-half Column, - \$1.75
One Inch, - - .50	One Column, - 3.25
One Inch, 3 times - 1.25	One Page, - 6.00

TERMS STRICTLY CASH IN ADVANCE. REMIT BY POSTAL NOTE.

Guaranteed Circulation, - - 1,000 Copies

Entered at San Francisco as Second Class Matter.

Vol. I OCTOBER, 1896. No. I

▶ SALUTATORY ◀

We take pleasure presenting No. 1, Vol. I, of THE CALIFORNIA COLLECTOR to the Collecting Public, feeling confident that it will meet with all the success it deserves.

— : o : —

We would like to exchange with all amateur papers published throughout the United States. Editors send us two copies of your publication and we will return the compliment with ours.

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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 CALIFORNIA COLLECTOR will not suspend after issuing two or three numbers.

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We desire to call the attention of Collectors to our Patent Stamp Photos, they are the same size as an ordinary postage stamp and are used to mount cards, autograph albums, etc. Adv. to be seen on last page.

▶ ADVERTISEMENTS ◀

When answering advertisements found in this paper do us the favor of saying, "Saw ad. in the California Collector."

California Philatelic Co.,

Importers of

STAMPS, COINS & CURIOSITIES

1201 CLAY STREET,

San Francisco, Cal.

COLLECTORS' & DEALERS' SUPPLIES A SPECIALTY

SAMPLE LIST.

CURIOS.

Chinese Chop Sticks, per set of 2.....	10c
" Horn Nuts, (Small Horns) 10 for.....	25c
" Newspapers (Great Curiosity) each.....	17c
" Lottery Tickets (a Novelty).....	5c
" Opium Holder, (used to smoke Opium) each.....	35c
" Paper Napkins (Pretty Designs) 12 for.....	23c
" New Years Cards (Amusing) each.....	5c
" Coin Swords (200 Coin on a string) each.....	\$1 85

Dealers send a stamp for our Wholesale Curio List.

COINS.

Chinese Coins (200 Years Old) each.....	5c
Japanese Tempos (Oval Coin Rare) each.....	9c
Chinese Coin (1 Mill) smallest coin, each.....	10c
Mexican Dollars (very old) each.....	\$1 18
Nickels, V (without the word cents) each.....	11
Gold Quarters (can be had here only), very nice, each	30
Gold Halves " " " each.....	60

We can allow Dealers a liberal discount on California Gold Charms.

STAMPS.

Wells, Fargo & Co's Franked 2c. Envel's used each..	3c
" " " 4c. " " " "	6c
" " " 2c. " unused " "	8c
" " " 4c. " " " "	12c
Northern Pacific Exp'ss " 2c. " used " "	5c
" " " 2c. " unused " "	10c

These are only our prices on W. F. & Co's Envelopes, but we have in stock Stamps from all parts of the world and call the attention of Collectors to our "APPROVAL SHEET DEPARTMENT" for supplying their wants.

REMEMBER ! !

WE ALWAYS WANT GOOD AGENTS !

LIBERAL COMMISSION PAID !

SEND STAMP FOR TERMS.

ADVERTISEMENTS

When answering advertisements found in this paper, please do us the favor by mentioning "Saw advertisement in 'The California Collector.'"

COINS, STAMPS, CURRENCY & C.
24-page catalogue, 10 cts. Egg list, 2 cts.
W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal.

Fine stock of U. S. Revenues on hand. Correspondence solicited with collectors of this class of stamps.

Rubber Stamps

BEST MADE! LOWEST PRICES!

Name stamp, or 1-line, only.....15 cents
Name and address, or 2-line, only.....25 cents
Three-line stamp.....32 cents
Four-line stamp.....40 cents
Ink, pad and box, extra.....8 cents
Nickel-plated self-inking pencil or pocket stamp, 1 to 3 lines, with ink, only.....40 cents
Nickel-plated "Tom Thumb" self-inker, 1 to 4 lines, only.....65 cents
Illustrated Specimen Book and Agents' terms for 8c. Circulars free. Agents wanted at 75 and 80 per cent. commission. Special reduced prices to publishers offering my stamps as premiums. Several fine printing presses and outfits for sale at a bargain.

T. S. SPARROW, Verona, N. Y.

N. B.—\$1.40 worth of Rubber Pad Stamps at catalogue rates to publishers inserting above and this.

STAMPS, COINS.

CURIOS, RELICS, etc. at wholesale prices. New Price List and one Old Coin, 12 cents. Agents wanted.

Chinese and Japanese Coins.

Curiosities a Specialty.

Collectors and Dealers Included.

We make a Specialty of Collectors' Wants Satisfaction Guaranteed!

C. E. RANKIN, 1201 Clay St.,

San Francisco, Cal.

FOREIGN STAMPS.

I have a large stock on hand which I will sell at bottom prices. Will send a nice approval sheet to any collector sending 2 stamps for postage and promising to return the same within ten days.

I. W. RISON, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Stamp papers copy once in 1 in. space with this notice and send copy for prompt pay.

Free! Free!! Free!!

SAMPLE COPY OF

"THE CURIOSITY WORLD"

Devoted to Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics, Birds' Eggs, Autographs, Postmarks, Tags, Etc. 25 cents per year. **John M. Hubbard, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.**

CHAS. E. RANKIN,

FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTER,

1201 CLAY ST., S. F., CAL.

—O—

My facilities for supplying the Philatelic world with South and Central American, Sandwich Islands, Hongkong & Japanese Stamps cannot be excelled, being situated in direct communication with those places.

Orders solicited for rare stamps and sets.

Consignments and large collections sold on commission.

Gold Halves and Quarters a specialty. Enclose a stamp in all letters of inquiry.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS, many varieties for a 4c. stamp. Agents wanted to sell Approval Sheets. Collections bought.

A. E. ASHFIELD,

Box 233, RYE, N. Y.

Philatelic papers, insert this advertisement and notice for two months and send bill.

To Publishers, Dealers and Agents,

I have just received 5,000 more letters, from which I am prepared to copy ADDRESSES at the following low rates, 500 for 75c; 1,000, \$1.00; 2,500, \$2.40; 5,000, \$4.30 I can supply you with ENVELOPES and WRAPPERS, addressed from the above list: 1,000 for \$2.50, 2,500, \$5.50, 5,000, \$10.00. AGENTS and all others who wish to receive hundreds of catalogues, sample copies of papers, circulars from novelty dealers, card, book and other houses, send 15c. and have your address placed on our AGENTS' NAME LIST, Address, G. F. ROBB, Gilman, Iowa. Publishers inserting this and the above and sending copy will receive 2,500 names just out.

EARTHQUAKES COME!!!

so does 100 of Genellis Patent Stamp Photos, same size as a stamp. Come for \$1.50 post-paid.

Greatest thing out!

Sample for stamp.

Agents wanted.

C. E. RANKIN, 1201 CLAY ST.,

San Francisco, Cal.

Collections of Stamps Purchased.

APPROVAL SHEETS!

33 1/3 % Commission.

Of Rare and Cheap stamps at latest Catalogue prices sent to any address upon receipt of good references.

Lists of Coins, Minerals, Birds' Eggs, China and Japanese Curios, Shells, Etc., free.

RETIRING FROM BUSINESS. Liberal discount from all lists, 100 varieties of Stamps, 25 cts. 10 varieties of coin, 25 cts. Address,

CULLEN K. STURTEVANT,

19 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Cal.