

# THE PHILATELIC CENTURY.

Vol. I.

APRIL, 1887.

No. 1

## OLD POSTAGE STAMPS.

BY T. E. WILLSON.

In 1857 a school teacher in Belgium, in order to give his pupils an object lesson in geography, offered a prize to the scholar who would first make a collection of one or more postage stamps from each stamp-issuing country of Europe. The collections were placed on exhibition, and the idea was eagerly seized upon by the public generally.



In 1859, J. W. Scott, of Brooklyn, began his famous collection, being in all probability the first of Americans, although at that time there were at least several hundred collectors in Europe. At the present time there are

probably not less than 600,000 collectors in the whole world, of whom 375,000 are in the United States, 200,000 in Europe, and 25,000 scattered throughout the rest of the world.

There are in the United States twenty-four firms, with capitals ranging from \$25,000 to \$500,000, engaged solely in selling stamps to collectors, which issue monthly catalogues of prices, and keep their customers informed of each new stamp issued by any government. England has eight firms, and on the continent of Europe there are over thirty firms of the same grade. In addition to these there are at least 1,000 dealers having from \$1,000 to \$5,000 invested in the business. So profitable is it that about \$1,000,000 has been invested by swindlers in the counterfeiting of cancelled stamps, one firm in Germany engaged solely in counterfeiting cancelled American stamps having a capital of \$300,000 and another in Boston having \$150,000 invested in counterfeiting foreign stamps.

The periodicals devoted exclusively to this pursuit number about 700, one collector in New York having made a collection last year of 537 published in the United States alone. As a rule these are small, published monthly, and contain only from eight to thirty-two pages; but there are a score or more of high grade, like the *American Journal of Philately*, the *Philatelic Journal of America*, the *Empire State Philatelist*,

the *Keystone Gazette*, and others of large circulation. In Europe these periodicals are fewer in number, but of the best kind. There is a National Philatelic Society in



the United States; each State has a State society, and there are over 300 minor organizations for the exchange of duplicates and protection against fraud.

There must be something pleasant and useful in this taste for collecting postage stamps, independent of any fashion, which has made it grow to such large proportions. It is not a mania. It has lasted for thirty years, has grown yearly, and will continue to grow. The child who begins a collection remains a collector so long as he lives, as he grows old his children join the ranks as they know something of the world, of geography, and of the different countries. To them it is the long sought and never before found royal road to learning. To the old it is an ever fresh revelation of humanity in its broadest and widest sense.

There are, or have been, 349 stamp-issuing countries, colonies and towns in the world. The first object of every collector is to get one specimen from each government. Some of these, like Naples, Rome and Sicily, are no longer in existence; some, like Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and certain German States, no longer issue them. These stamps are rare, and usually hard to get, but the collector learns all about them, and when he meets one he knows its value and why it is valuable. His next object



is to arrange his stamps, as he gets them, according to the year of issue. He must know the money of the country, the ruler, the coat-of-arms, population, the flag, and many other things concerning it, and this information he gets from his album and catalogue. A boy of 12 who begins collecting will in a year's time tell by a glance at a stamp the country, date of issue, the value (uncancelled) in American money,

the name of the ruler, when he was crowned, and whether it is common or rare. He has a better idea of the world, of the different countries, and of current history than many a man who has just been graduated from Harvard or Yale. He has acquired it unconsciously and without effort.



His Spanish stamps are an object lesson in the history of Spain, and though he may not know who became President after Lincoln, he knows when Isabella was kicked out; how long the head of Amadeus remained on the stamps; the year of the Republic, and of the Carlist insurrection; when Alphonso was crowned, when he died, and when the regency stamps were issued. As with Spain, so with other countries.

In a certain grammar school in New York the principal was bitterly opposed to the "stamp-foolishness," and crushed it out.

Fortune brought to him a sixth-grade teacher, wise in her generation, who was a collector. She started the boys to collecting; half-a-dozen had been collecting and these resumed the pursuit they had been frightened into dropping. When the half-yearly promotions were made, she was advanced one grade, retaining the pupils. From the beginning she had a struggle with the principal, and only by superior obstinacy and backbone continued her encouragement of the stamp collecting, which was done entirely out of school hours. One day, when the principal was in her room, another teacher came, asking, "How many British colonies are there in the West Indies?"



"About half-a-dozen," said the principal.

"I think there are more," said the teacher, quietly. Turning to her class she asked the question. Twelve hands were raised.

"Answer, Winters."

"Sixteen," replied Winters, rolling off the names in one breath, "Antiqua, Bahamas, Barbadoes, Bermuda, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, Santa Lucia, St. Vincent, Tobago, Trinidad, Turk's Islands and Virgin Islands."

"Thanks," said the inquirer, "that's one of your stamp boys, I know."



"Yes," said the teacher, "is there anything else you would like to know about them; their capitals, size, population?"

"No," said the other, with a smile and glance at the principal, "not now; but I know where to come for such information when I want it."

The principal said nothing, but that afternoon he had a long talk with the teacher, which was followed by a special examination of her twelve fifth-grade "stamp boys." "There are no boys in the first grade who can compete with them in geography, and no twelve teachers in any one school who can compete with them in general and useful information so far as they have gone," was his verdict.

There is now in that school a regular stamp exchange, presided over during the noon hour by one of the teachers; there are 200 collectors instead of twelve, and the principal's monthly present of an album is the most hotly-contested prize. Once a week each class has a rare stamp offered as a prize to the boy who can tell the most about it, and the result is that the school has obtained a high reputation in two years for turning out bright boys.



It is difficult to explain to a skeptic, who understands nothing of the method of collecting, how these results are obtained unconsciously and without effort by the young; but a boy will learn the Russian alphabet, the Turkish numerals and the money tables of foreign nations in preference to the revised rules of base-ball, and consider it greater "fun." The old order is passing away and a "new order cometh" in education as well as government. The much-ridiculed stamp mania is one of the humble methods used to give it form and expression. Teachers are beginning to see this, and in the public schools of New York there are over 100 who consider it the strongest helper they have.—*Sunshine*.

—The Jock and Wilder one-cent unperforated is the rarest match stamp.

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DEVOTED TO THE SCIENCE OF PHILATELY.

EDITED BY

FRANK M. DAVIS and J. F. STRASILIPKA.

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THE PHILATELIC CENTURY CO.,  
404 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis.

APRIL, 1887.

## SALUTATORY.

In following the time-honored custom of publishers when presenting a new publication to the public for their approval and support, in this, our initial number of THE PHILATELIC CENTURY, under the caption of Salutatory, we introduce ourselves to the philatelic fraternity—collectors, dealers and the press.

Philately is rapidly growing in Wisconsin and its votaries will soon be numbered by thousands instead of hundreds, and to represent the collectors of this state and further advance the science of philately are our principal reasons for the inauguration of this publication.

We are now making arrangements with some of the best-known philatelic writers to contribute regularly to our columns and in No. 3 we hope to be able to announce their names and other matters of interest. Till then we will let the paper speak for itself.

We are under obligations to Mr. Edwin H. Trafton, editor of *Sunshine*, published monthly by Messrs. E. C. Allen & Co., Augusta, Maine, for his kindness in allowing us to reproduce in THE PHILATELIC CENTURY, the article on "Old Postage Stamps," with accompanying illustrations, from the February number of *Sunshine*.

Mr. THOMAS E. WILLSON, the author of the article, is editor of the *New York Weekly World*, and although not a collector himself, is an ardent and staunch friend and supporter of philately, as his article plainly shows. Next month we will reproduce from the March *Sunshine*, a second paper on the same subject by Mr. WILLSON, illustrated by numerous illustrations of stamps, which will include the oldest, the oddest, the ugliest, the smallest, the rarest and dearest stamps in the world.

We learn through Mr. W. H. Verity, that the philatelists of Luther, Mich., have recently organized a society to be known as the Luther Philatelic Society. The following is a list of the officers: Wm. McCrimmoir, president; T. Eskelson, vice-president; J. Stoughton, treasurer; W. H. Verity, secretary.

## A NEW SERIES OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

The postoffice department officials are having prepared a series of new designs of embossed stamps for stamped envelopes, of one, two, four and five-cent denominations. The head of Franklin has been selected for the one-cent stamp, and the heads of Washington, Jackson and Grant for the two, four and five-cent denominations respectively. The general design of the new series is uniform. On the upper side and following the oval shape of the stamp is the legend, "United States Postage," instead of "U. S. Postage," on the stamps now in use. The new series will be ready about May 1. The border of the one-cent adhesive stamp has been slightly modified to conform with the design of the two-cent stamp.

## NEW POSTAL SERVICE IN CHINA.

It is stated that China will soon have a national postal service of her own, and will then become a member of the Universal Postal Union. At present all postal communication between the rest of the world and China, is through postal agencies which have been established at Shanghai and at other treaty ports by the United States, Great Britain, France and Japan. Recently the Chinese postal authorities addressed a communication to the representatives of all treaty powers, announcing the intention of China to establish a postal service and the desire of the government, as preliminary, to extend postal service at once to and between all treaty ports. If this were to be done, the treaty powers would be asked to withdraw their agencies. The Postmaster-general of the United States, after consideration, has acceded to the proposition, and the agency at Shanghai will be withdrawn as soon as the Chinese administration is prepared to supersede it. It is expected that the new service will come into operation at the various treaty ports as early this year as the Chinese government can make the necessary arrangements.

## THE POSTOFFICE IN INDIA.

The postoffice in India is regarded as so miraculous an agency by the more ignorant natives that in some out-of-the-way places the very letter boxes are worshipped. In one case a man posted his letter in the box and shouted out its destination to inform the presiding spirit whom he supposed to be inside. Another native humbly took off his shoes as he approached the box, went through various devotions before and after posting his letter, and finally put some copers before the box as a propitiatory offering, retiring in the same attitude of humility.—*Selected.*

—The person who answers this first and subscribes, will receive a 30-cent postoffice department stamp; 2d, a 15-cent stamp, and the 3d, a 12; all unused.

## THE AMERICAN POSTAL SERVICE.

The figures of the postoffice department show that the annual expenses of the postal service in the United States amount, in round numbers, to \$53,000,000. This vast sum is divided among the corporations that transport the mail, salaries, rent and other expenses. The estimated receipts for the present fiscal year are \$48,000,000, which shows that the present low rate of postage leaves a large deficiency in receipts over expenses. General Hazen, of the department, says that the receipts for 1887 will be not only the highest ever reached by this government, but by any foreign government as well. This, too, notwithstanding the fact that four reductions in postage have taken place within the past four years, the more important being the reduction in letter postage from three to two cents.

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**FREE! FREE!! FREE!!!**

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## The Curiosity World,

Devoted to Stamps, Coins, Indian Relics, Birds' Eggs, Autographs, Postmarks, Tags, etc. Twenty-five cents per year. JOHN M. HUBBARD, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

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STAMP IMPORTER

— AND —

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VOL. I.

MAY, 1887.

No. 2.

## OLD POSTAGE STAMPS.

BY T. E. WILLSON.



THE OLDEST, 1840.

"Philately," is from two Greek words, meaning "a love for untaxed things." How it came to be applied to the collection of postage stamps is something which no man knows, and the young collector need not waste his time in attempts to search it out. Let him make his collection as valuable as possible, learn all there is to be learned about each stamp he secures, and trust to fortune to some day secure a prize that will make it known the world over.

Two things are necessary in starting a stamp collection—a catalogue costing 25 cents and an album costing 75 cents. Any neat blank-book will do until the collection has attained some size, but the catalogue is a necessity. The stamps should never be pasted in, but should be gummed to a hinge. Take a piece of thin paper, one-quarter the size of an ordinary stamp, and fold it. Gum one side to the book and the other to the stamp, even with its top, so that the stamp may be laid back as on a hinge. This is often necessary in order to show water marks, and should be done invariably in order that stamps may be readily removed or changed from one book to another.

Used stamps are sometimes more valuable than unused, but as a rule the unused ones are to be preferred. It is not the number of stamps that makes a collection valuable or interesting, but the rarity of the stamps, the variety, the cleanliness and order of insertion. Begin with an unused set of the United States, such as you can buy at the postoffice. Not one collector in 1,000 has or even expects to get a set of the United States stamps that could have been bought from any postmaster in 1869 for their face value. A set of the 1869 issue costs \$10 and is very hard to get at that price. An unused stamp is as good as a coin. It will always be worth its face value and may be worth in a few



1ST AMERICAN, 1842.

years from ten to one hundred times what you paid for it. Putting money in unused stamps is like putting it in a savings bank.



THE RAREST.

Never buy an unused stamp except under exceptional circumstances. Let your album have a meaning to you. Underneath each stamp put the date when you received it and the initials of the person giving it. In a short time your collection is one of pleasant memories, and its value to you is independent of the market price of the stamps or their worth as curiosities.

The fear of not being able to get stamps need deter no one. There is no boy or girl who cannot secure a bundle of old letters from some relative or friend, and this may be enough to make a fine collection. It is one of the laws of human nature that we never find a thing until we are looking for it. When you have once started your collection you will soon meet others with experience, who will help you with duplicates and introduce you to strangers. No collector could possibly make a large collection by himself. Collections are made by trading, and there is a "Free Masonry" among stamp collectors that is unknown in any other association or pursuit.

There is the strictest honesty, fair dealing, and unlimited credit, which is seldom abused. Perfect strangers will send their "duplicates," trusting to your honor to return them when you have selected those you lack, and to make good with your own duplicates stamps they have not. In Grammar School 68, New York city, there is a boy of 13 who has a collection of over 4,000 different stamps, the sets of many countries being perfect, which have nearly all been obtained by trading. With some difficulty he secured 400 without trading. Then he learned that a friend in the West Indies was collecting. Naturally, he made a collection of the common American stamps and sent them to him. His



FIRST BRAZILLIAN, 1843.



THE SMALLEST.

friend sent him a large number of West Indian, and from this mine he has secured entirely by trading a very fine collection.

Trading is done by catalogue, value for value. Suppose you secure, from some old garret, a bundle of letters written between 1850 and 1863. After putting one of each kind in your album, you may have several 1-cent stamps of 1851, worth 10 cents each, or a brown 5-cent worth \$2.50, or a brown 5-cent of 1856 worth \$3.50. A 2-cent or 6-cent stamp of 1861 is worth 10 cents, and you may get a lot of these. An envelope stamp of these dates may only be worth 25 cents, but the chances are it will be worth from \$1 to \$10, and there is no difficulty in getting these prices in exchange.

You might have to advertise for a buyer, or sell at half price to a dealer, but thousands are ready to exchange stamps you have not. Let us suppose you have no Belgian stamps of 1849 to 1861, and another boy has duplicates. He will give you five of the six you need for two of your 1861 stamps, even if he has them, for the five Belgians are quoted at 20 cents, and American stamps are "legal tender" among stamp collectors. They are the rarest and hardest to get, represent the highest prices, and their value doubles every year. You have still one Belgian to get, valued at 2 cents, and that he will give for an 1868 2-cent stamp, or any stamp valued at 2 cents in the catalogue. But you will have hundreds of duplicates to choose from, and you can pick and choose, so long as you give value for value. No two boys ever met with a packet of duplicates that they did not find "traders," and increase their collections, even among American stamps. And there is no boy who cannot get some bundles of old letters from his relatives.



THE UGLIEST.

stowed away in old desks, old trunks, attics, without a thought of their value until some boy or girl collector comes along and recognizes their worth.



THE QUEEREST.

My boy, a young collector only 13 years old, found last September in a bundle of old letters thrown away, "a pearl of great price" in the shape of an express stamp, the oldest in the world, which nobody had ever heard of. He knew at a glance that it was very rare and valuable, but it was not until after correspondence with old collectors and publishers that the full value of the find became apparent. It is now the chief feature of his collection, which from being insignificant becomes one of the famous ones of the world.

It pays one to be a collector. I am not one, but I have taken an interest in the subject for many years and helped many to start collections. In nearly every case it has been a source of profit to him. The number of stamps considered worthless and treated as worthless, is incredible. Even a little knowledge of philately will often be of great service. A year ago last summer a girl of twelve, whose brother is a collector, was visiting a poor woman in New Jersey. The latter having been asked for a trunk by a neighbor, turned the contents, mainly of old letters, out on the garret floor, to be thrown away. The girl induced her to send some of the old envelopes to me. I referred them to a dealer, and for that which would have lighted the kitchen fire for a few mornings she received \$975. It was almost impossible to convince her of their value, even after she had received the money, and but for my little friend they would have gone into the stove. Not less than twenty such cases have come within my personal knowledge in the past three years.—*Sunshine.*



THE ODDEST.



KING CACABAU'S.

There are many stamps, almost priceless, that the possession of one of which will render any collection famous, and the youngest and smallest collector stands an equal chance with the oldest and largest in obtaining one. The reason is that the rare and priceless stamps are in this country,

—The Berlin Postoffice Museum contains 418 varieties of postal cards.  
—The National Philatelic Society of New York is the oldest local philatelic society in existence.



JUST THE SWEETEST.

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MAY, 1887.

THE proceeds of Casey's eighth auction sale amounted to about \$1,914.34. There were about 3,061 pieces sold and they were divided into 885 lots. On the first night of the sale 433 lots were sold, containing about 2,051 pieces; the proceeds amounted to about \$933.91. On the second night's sale the balance, 452 lots, was disposed of, containing 1,010 pieces; the proceeds amounted to about \$981.15.

On the evenings of the 9th and 10th of February, 1887, Mr. J. J. Casey held his eighth auction sale of an excellent collection of stamps and envelopes, the property of a Philadelphia collector, at the auction rooms of Thos. L. Bucken & Co., 817 and 819 Broadway, New York. A fine collection of stamps and an almost complete collection of entire U. S. envelopes were catalogued. There were about thirty persons present each evening, among whom were J. J. Casey, L. W. Durbin, E. B. Sterling, R. R. Bogert, Joseph Rechert, Henry Col-

lin, David Prosky, C. A. Burger and several others. The bidding was spirited at times and some good prices were realized. The following are a few of them: Revenue Stamps — \$200, 1st issue, \$7.50; \$200, 2d issue, \$10; \$50, 2d issue, \$5. Postage Stamps — Baton Rouge, 5 c., sold for \$63; Bolivia, 1871, 500 c., black, \$36.50; India, 2 c., green, perforated, unused, \$33; Trinidad, 1847, "Lady McLeod," local, \$25; Roumania (Moldavia), 1858, 54 paras, blue on green, \$24; France, 1849, 1 franc, Venetian red, \$9.50; Nashville, 5 c., brown, \$6; Buenos Ayres, 1858, 3 p., green, \$5.10. U. S. Locals — Blood's, man stepping over houses, type 3, \$5.30; Hartford Mail, black on yellow, four varieties, \$6 each; City Letter Express Mail, 1 c., red on white, \$5. Foreign Envelopes — Mauritius, 1863, 1 shilling, yellow, on thin blue paper, \$50; Finland, 1860, 10 k., carmine, \$25; Confederate States, official envelopes, inscription printed over 1853, 3 c., red on buff, \$15; similar inscription over 1853, 10 c., green on buff, \$15; Ceylon, 1858, 10 p., orange, \$9.05; 2 sh., blue, \$7.80; 6 p., violet-brown, \$5.80; 5 p., deep brown, \$5.05. U. S. Envelopes — 1853, 3 c., white, broad label, \$49; 1853, 3 c., white, octagon ends, \$47; 1857, 6 c., red on buff (official), \$42; 1857, 6 c., red on white (official), \$41; 1878, 2 c., white, No. 2, die D, \$15.25; 1857, 4 c. (1 c. and 3 c.), white, \$12; 1853, 3 c., white, broad label, note size, \$10.25; 1878, 1 c., orange (this is a very curious envelope; first it is double, the outer one having the stamp in proper place, and about half an inch below there is another perfect impression both in the correct color; the inner envelope has the impression without color), sold for \$10.25; 1870, 2 c., amber ruled, \$7; Horner's "Stamped Envelopes of the United States," 2d and revised edition, \$5.25.—*Youth's Ledger*.

THE red-brown 4d. stamp of Jamaica was issued in 1886.

THE United States first issued revenue stamps in 1837.

## PHILATELIC JOURNALISM.

Has the subject really ever received the consideration it is entitled to? Have you ever wondered what philately would amount to, had it no press to support it? How could the great American Philatelic Association ever have organized if it had not been for the philatelic journals taking up the cause and calling upon philatelists to unite? It is true, there are many papers in the field to-day that are more of a bore than a benefit to the honest collector, yet it must be remembered that each of these little sheets represents a small part of that great body of philatelists in the United States. But let us again turn to the benefits to be derived from stamp journals. There are about ten in the United States that are really *leading* magazines, wherein the reader can find good instructive matter pertaining to his hobby. Most of these have "exchange" departments, and let me say right here, that this is really one of the most important features, since it affords the collector an opportunity to advantageously dispose of his duplicate stamps, etc., without any charge for the insertion of the exchange notice, and also brings about correspondence between collectors. How could he effect an exchange were it not for the press? How would the collector's interest in his collection keep up, if he was never to see any one else's opinion in regard to his treasures, in the philatelic press? How could he purchase stamps were it not that he read the advertisements in the different stamp journals? And now, how would the dealer fare? No, philately would indeed be a "dead" hobby, if it did not have its press, as well as any of our contemporary sciences. Philatelists, support the magazines that are issued for the advancement of your hobby; do not be backward, but send in your subscriptions, and the papers will not suspend. When you do not send in your subscription you perhaps argue that, "one subscription less doesn't count." But you forget that if every collector argues the same way, the papers

will not get the support they need and will consequently fail. I say again, rally to their support and let us see our magazines flourish, and then, *yes then* can we boast of our beloved hobby.—*The Stamp Collector's Figaro.*

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## PHILATELIC ITEMS.

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

—The first stamp paper published in the United States was the *Stamp Collector's Mercury*, published in Boston in 1866.

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

—"C. R." on the 1870 issue Fiji Island stamps stands for "Cacabau Rex;" "V. R.," on the later issues, stands for "Victoria Regina."

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VOL. I.

JUNE, 1887.

No. 3.

## A WORD FOR REVENUES.

Revenue collections have been looked down upon in this country to such an extent, and their collection so discouraged, that it is almost impossible to find any collector who will acknowledge himself interested in any but United States and Canadian. That we often meet with revenues in postage collections is true, but they have as a general thing been placed there through ignorance of their true character; and when the collector finds out what they are he quickly removes them, fearing the sneer of some one. Why revenue stamps should be so despised and neglected I cannot understand. That they are interesting is not to be doubted, and that in many instances they are superior in design and workmanship to many postage stamps, is admitted; and yet collectors will say, "I do not see that I will derive any benefit from collecting revenues." Yet how many advanced collectors who claim to be well posted in regard to postage stamps, have revenues introduced in their collections, and treasured up as postage. Here are the Venezuela, Escula or *Inland Postage*, as mis-named, yet of the thousands in American collections, how very few were used postally. These stamps were never issued for postal service, although through the running short of the regular issue some have been used postally, and instead of being inland postage, they are inland revenue stamps, and are known in Venezuela as the School Tax stamps, as the money derived from their sale was intended to keep up the schools; these stamps are used on documents. The collector will notice many of these stamps are cancelled by pen, or by having holes punched through them, as well as bearing the name of various firms of Venezuela; while those which

have been used for postal purposes have the regular post-mark cancellation. With a little care the most inexperienced need make no mistake in regard to these stamps, as when they are cancelled otherwise than with the regular post-mark, they can be safely set down as revenue. But comes the question, When I collect these Escula stamps unused, are they not considered the same as postage? I would answer, no, as these stamps are not intended for postal use; they consequently lose all interest when viewed from the postage collector's standpoint, unless they are used postally. And as they are not intended for the latter purpose they are, when unused, only a common every day revenue stamp.

Of course this rule will not apply to all post-marked revenues. There are the 1886 set of Guatemala Provisionals—I mean the surcharged railroad stamps, said to be used postally and cancelled by the Guatemala post-mark. These stamps are one of the greatest *fukes* ever put out upon a long suffering public. These stamps I understand were gotten up for the purpose of speculation. A few were surcharged and used postally, but the larger part were cancelled and sold to dealers, and sold by them in many cases as genuine used specimens, through ignorance of their true character. The collector will notice these stamps are generally cancelled at each corner, carrying out the idea that one post-mark was placed upon every block of four stamps. So many of these stamps are in the hands of dealers that they seem to hesitate to say anything about their true character. That these stamps were used postally there can be no doubt; but that most of them on the market are frauds, is also certain. Another case is the Indian surcharges—the government used a number of revenue stamps surcharged postage, for postal pur-

poses. These stamps are very rare and bring good prices. Some unscrupulous parties obtained a number of used revenue stamps and surcharged them postage, and have put them upon the market as used postally. A collector should bear in mind that these stamps *were not* cancelled by pen and ink by the postoffice authorities; also that the individual stamp of a firm is not a post-mark. It is a notorious fact that advanced collectors are as easily swindled as the inexperienced, and for the opposite reasons—the young buy forgeries because they are *cheap*, and the older ones because they are *dear*. In many cases taking chances because they fear they will not have a chance again to get them. Now in each one of these swindles I have given, a knowledge of revenues would save a collector the mortification of knowing he had been taken in; but also the fact that if revenues were collected there would then be a sale for them, and the same inducement to ruin a stamp which brought a fair price would not exist.

A few years ago it was not uncommon to see U. S. revenues, said to be used postally, in collections, but since the U. S. document stamps have been collected so extensively, we seldom hear or see anything of that notion, for it is well known of the many which were said to be used for postal purposes *not one* on inspection would carry out the claim. And how many of the various foreign revenue stamps said to have been used postally are bogus, it is impossible to state; but if the same *pro ratio* holds good with them as the balance of provisionals, we fear the larger part are of no use to a postage stamp collector.

But comes the objection, There are so many postage stamps now that we cannot spend the time necessary to collect revenues. Very good; but also remember that there are many of these stamps you will never get, and it is of no avail to think or dream of them, but try and collect what you can get, and at the end of the year you will be far better satisfied with the result of your labors. The idea of waiting

and watching for some of the most priceless stamps reminds me of a friend who was gathering pieces of rock in the mountains; up and up he climbed, filling his big pouch with pieces chipped from here and there. Upon a detached ledge he observed a large stone; as he had to leap for it, he laid the specimens already gathered down, and jumped for the ledge. Upon reaching it we supposed he jumped into hot quarters, from his frantic gestures, but before we could reach him he had taken the stone, put it in his pouch and threw it across the chasm. After returning he found he could not take the large one together with all the balance, and was compelled to part with many smaller ones, which he did with a sigh, for the balance of the party refused to carry old stone around. After several miles of tramping over rough, uneven ground, he became tired and sick of his nugget, and with a kick sent it rolling far down the mountain side. With a sigh of regret for the many smaller ones which he could have carried with ease he journeyed on, but he always after contented himself with what he could carry without tiring himself out.

So it is with many of our collectors, who will sacrifice many stamps in order to obtain something great and rare, and find when they have possession that it is strangely out of place, and finally are glad to get rid of it at a sacrifice. Before albums were used we collected postage and revenue—the latter being as eagerly sought for as the former; but with the albums came the decline of the revenue. Here lately the movement for U. S. revenues has been so great that one album has been forced to make a place for them. A boom has also set in for Canadian bill stamps, and as blank books are being substituted by many collectors, I have no doubt that at no distant day we will see revenue stamps collected the same as postage.

The European collectors do not find it difficult to collect all kinds of postage and bill stamps, and I think before long we will do the same.

WANDERER.

# THE PHILATELIC CENTURY.

DEVOTED TO THE SCIENCE OF PHILATELY.

EDITED BY

FRANK M. DAVIS and J. F. STRASILIPKA.

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**THE PHILATELIC CENTURY CO.,**

404 N. Carroll St.,                      Madison, Wis.

JUNE, 1887.

WE call especial attention to the article on revenues in this issue of *THE PHILATELIC CENTURY*, by WANDERER, not because we fear it will not be read—for WANDERER's articles are always eagerly sought after by philatelic publishers, and as eagerly read by collectors—but because it is on a subject that is attracting wide attention at the hands of philatelists at the present time. WANDERER is one of the best-informed philatelists in the country on revenues and in "A Word for Revenues" he has treated the subject with a master hand.

In regard to his *expose* of the fraudulent character of the Guatemala Provisionals, he informs us in a personal letter that this is probably the *first* time their true character has ever been disclosed, and a strong pressure was brought to, bear upon him to say nothing about them.

This will in all probability be the last article from his pen on revenues for some time, but as we have secured him for a reg-

ular contributor, our readers will have excellent opportunities to read his entertaining articles on other philatelic topics.

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BELLE CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

### FOURTH REGULAR MEETING.

The president called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Messrs. Beebe, Schad, Beemer, Meachem, Hambright, Fixen, Writman, Blake and Baker.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The next business to come before the society was the resolution of the Quaker City Philatelic Society in regard to James Chalmers as the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. After a long debate the resolution was laid over until the next meeting.

Each member was then requested to write on a slip of paper the journal he wished to be the official organ of the society.

The following was the first vote:

Philatelic Century..... 4 votes  
Philatelic Journal of America..... 3 votes  
Western Philatelist..... 2 votes

*THE PHILATELIC CENTURY* and the *Philatelic Journal of America*, receiving the largest number of votes, were declared the two to be voted on, and the following is the result:

Philatelic Century..... 5 votes  
Philatelic Journal of America..... 4 votes

The president then declared *THE PHILATELIC CENTURY* as the "official organ" for the current year.

The Society thanks the following for kind donations: Publishers of *Youth's Ledger* and *Quaker City Philatelist* for copies of their papers; and especially Mr. A. W. Duning, San Fernando, Cal., for papers.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting Tuesday, May 24th.

MEETING OF MAY 24TH, 1887.

The fifth regular meeting of the Belle

City Philatelic Society was held at its rooms on Tuesday, May 24th, 1887.

Meeting called to order at 8 P. M., Vice-president Fixen in the chair.

Messrs. Meachem, Schad, Fixen, Baker, Beemer, Hambright and Writman were present.

Henry Fuller, Joseph Quarles and C. Bates were proposed for membership.

The resolution as to who invented the adhesive postage stamp was, after another long discussion, given to Mr. James Chalmers.

Messrs. Fixen and Schad were appointed essayists for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting June 7th, 1887. Wm. Schad, Sec. Racine, Wis.



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# THE PHILATELIC CENTURY.

VOL. I.

SEPTEMBER, 1887.

No. 4.

## PROCEEDINGS

— OF —

### THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

## AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT TREMONT HOUSE, CHICAGO, ILL.

[Reported for the *Philatelic Century* by W. C. Stone.]

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1887.

Convention called to order at 10:30 A. M., by President John K. Tiffany.

Messrs. S. B. Bradt, E. B. Sterling and C. H. Mekeel were appointed a committee on Credentials.

The full roll of membership was then called, and resulted in the announcement by the President that 184 members were present in person or represented by proxy.

Messrs. W. C. Stone, F. B. Stebbins and P. M. Wolsieffer were appointed a committee on Rules.

Messrs. W. V. Nicholson, H. B. Seagrave and Eugene Dill were appointed a committee on Finance.

A recess was then taken to allow the committees to perform their duties.

Meeting called to order at 1:15 P. M.

The committee on Credentials reported that there had been 165 proxies submitted to them, and that they had accepted 160. Another proxy was approved of upon testimony submitted by members present, making the number 161. The report was then accepted.

W. C. Stone, for the committee on Rules, submitted an amended order of

business and a list of standing committees. On motion of H. L. Calman, the committee on the Constitution was increased from three members to five, including the President *ex-officio*. The report was then accepted. The convention was then regularly opened by the roll-call, 182 members being represented.

On motion of H. L. Calman, the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

A communication from the D. S. C. L., relating to the official journal, was referred to the proper committee.

Messrs. Davison & Aue sent a communication, offering to send the *Youth's Ledger* for one year, beginning with the August number, to each member of the Association. On motion of W. C. Stone, the offer was accepted, and a vote of thanks given the publishers.

A letter was read from C. W. Sparr, regretting his inability to be present at the convention.

The proposition of Haddaway Bros., relative to the publication of certain Association matters, was declined with thanks.

Secretary S. B. Bradt then read his annual report, which showed that 260 per-

sons participated in the organization of the Association, of whom 157 qualified as charter members. The present number of members is 276, of whom 252 are voters. There have been 138 applications for membership, of whom 119 have qualified as members. There are now twenty-four applications on file. He advised the reduction of dues for those joining during the latter part of the year, and also that dues be payable quarterly. The dues of members under seventeen years he advised fixing at \$1 per year. The financial statement of the Secretary's office was as follows: Received from dues, \$607.55; sale of stationery, \$7.45; *American Philatelist*, \$22.50. Total receipts, \$637.50. General expenses, \$146.17; postage, \$79.15; remitted to Treasurer, \$396.02; cash on hand, \$15.81. The Finance committee reported that they had examined the Secretary's accounts and found them to be correct. The report was accepted.

F. B. Stebbins made a brief verbal report of the condition of the library, the Librarian, Mr. Kline, not having sent in a report.

The Exchange Superintendent sent in a revised code of regulations for the department which was referred to committee.

The Purchasing Agent, through Secretary Bradt, reported that fifty-six members had patronized his department, the receipts amounting to \$346.84, of which \$327.83 had been expended for stamps. The amount now on hand was \$10.99, the balance representing the expenses of the office.

The convention at 2:15 P. M. adjourned until evening, the President announcing the following standing committees:

*Library.*—G. S. Wilson, F. B. Stebbins, T. J. Mitchell.

*Exchange and Purchasing Departments.*—H. L. Calman, P. M. Wolsieffer, Eugene Dill.

*Official Journal.*—E. B. Sterling, W. V. Nicholson, W. C. Stone.

*Branch Societies.*—S. B. Bradford, C. R. Gadsden, C. J. Fuelscher.

*Constitutional Amendments.*—J. K. Tiffany, H. L. Calman, H. B. Seagrave, C. H. McKeel, F. B. Perry.

#### EVENING SESSION.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20, there being an attendance of twenty-nine. Additional proxies were approved, making the number 167.

A letter from Librarian Kline, transmitting the photographs donated to the library, was read and referred.

President Tiffany then read his address, which was received with loud applause. It was quite lengthy, and contained numerous recommendations as to much-needed reforms in the Association. It will appear in full in the official journal.

The trustees by E. B. Sterling, presented their report, and referred the case of Houston vs. Rothfuchs for selling counterfeits, to the convention. After hearing the correspondence on both sides, the Secretary was instructed to notify both parties that the charges were dropped.

The bond of the Secretary was approved.

H. L. Calman advised the appointment of a counterfeit detector in the exchange department. Referred.

Eugene Dill presented an invitation to hold the next convention at St. Louis. Action postponed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 P. M.

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1887.

The roll-call showed that 179 members were represented. The reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

P. M. Wolsieffer urged the Association to take some action concerning the recognition of James Chalmers as inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. Mr. Wolsieffer, C. H. Mekeel and W. C. Stone were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions.

Eugene Dill spoke in favor of the Association adopting a badge, and a committee composed of Eugene Dill, W. V. Nicholson and C. R. Gadsden, were appointed to consider the matter.

On motion of W. C. Stone, the convention proceeded to ballot for the next place

of meeting. Boston, St. Louis, Erie, Pa., Philadelphia, New York and Niagara Falls were placed in nomination, and the roll was then called, resulting as follows: Boston, 123; St. Louis, 53; Philadelphia, 10; New York, 1.

On motion of C. H. Mekeel, the selection of Boston was made unanimous.

Eugene Dill proposed that the convention be photographed, and Messrs. Dill, Nicholson and Wolsieffer were appointed to make arrangements for the same.

On motion of C. H. Mekeel, a sum not exceeding \$20 was appropriated for a stenographer.

The application of J. J. Casey for membership was brought before the meeting, but was finally ruled out of order.

W. C. Stone asked that some action be taken about petitioning the postoffice department that Messrs. Bogert & Rechert be allowed to use illustrations in their book on U. S. envelopes. The matter was laid on the table.

Treasurer Durbin's report showed that the receipts of his office had been \$526, and that he had paid out on warrants \$437.94, leaving \$88.06 on hand.

F. B. Stebbins, for the Library committee, recommended that \$25 be appropriated for binding, etc. Also that the Librarian be authorized to subscribe for such foreign periodicals as could not be obtained by exchange. Also that the Librarian be permitted to use the photographs in the Library for obtaining stamp photos for such members as desire to obtain them at reduced rates. The report was adopted, \$5 being fixed for the second item.

New rules for the exchange department were submitted by H. L. Calman, and unanimously adopted.

The convention at 1:50 P. M. then took a recess until 5:30 P. M., to allow the committees time to consult.

#### EVENING SESSION.

Meeting called to order at 5:55 P. M., 176 members being represented.

New rules for the purchasing department, providing for the appointment of assistants, were read by H. L. Calman, but action was postponed until later.

Mr. Calman then submitted the report of the Constitutional committee, which was unanimously adopted, as were also the rules of the purchasing department.

W. C. Stone, for the committee on the Official Journal, reported in favor of the Association publishing its own journal, and the report was unanimously adopted.

S. B. Bradford presented the report of the committee on Branch Societies, for which a vote of thanks was given.

Eugene Dill reported terms secured for the photographing of the convention. He also reported in favor of the adoption of the vignette of Philatelia on the cover of the present official journal as the badge of the society, the letters A. P. A. being added on the globe. Report accepted and manufacture of badges left to trustees.

The Finance committee announced that the Treasurer's accounts had been found correct.

On motion of C. H. Mekeel, it was voted that members who joined the Association between December 13, 1886, and March 13, 1887, be credited with 50 cents on the next year's dues; between March 13 and May 11, with \$1; between May 11 and June 1, with \$1.50, and between June 1 and date, with 50 cents.

On motion of Mr. Mekeel, it was voted to print the new constitution and by-laws, together with a full list of members, with their numbers and addresses.

On motion of H. L. Calman, the resignation of the *Western Philatelist* as official journal was accepted.

The convention then adjourned at 7:30 P. M.

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1887.

Meeting called to order at 12:25 P. M., 167 members being represented.

H. L. Calman reported additional changes in the constitution, which were adopted.

The subscription to the official journal from non-members was fixed at 50 cents per year, a motion to make it \$1 being lost by a vote of 149 to 32.

The following resolutions were then presented by P. M. Wolsieffer, and adopted, 180 to 1:

*Resolved*, That this association, upon proof submitted by living witnesses, does indorse the claims made by Mr. Patrick Chalmers, on behalf of his father, the late James Chalmers, as inventor of the adhesive stamp.

*Resolved*, That the congratulations of this Association be extended to Mr. Patrick Chalmers, for the success his untiring efforts have attained in establishing beyond doubt an important historical fact.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary be instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions to Mr. Patrick Chalmers, and to have the same published in the official journal.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER,  
C. H. MEKEEL,  
W. C. STONE,  
Committee.

The President was authorized to certify to the records, and the second Monday in August, 1888, was fixed upon as the date of the next convention.

After passing votes of thanks to the proprietors of the Tremont House, and to the Chicago Philatelic Society, the convention at 1 o'clock adjourned.

### VENTION NOTES.

By W. C. STONE.

— The membership of the N. P. A. can be classed in five divisions, as follows:

East of Ohio.....	131
Between the Mississippi and Ohio... ..	76
West of the Mississippi.....	47
Southern States.....	14
Canada and foreign.....	9
Total.....	277

By states the membership is distributed as follows: California, 4; Colorado, 7; Connecticut, 4; District of Columbia, 3; Dakota, 5; Delaware, 1; Georgia, 2; Illinois, 33; Indiana, 2; Iowa, 2; Kansas, 2; Kentucky, 1; Maine, 2; Massachusetts, 18; Maryland, 3; Michigan, 12; Minnesota, 6; Missouri, 18; Montana, 1; New

Hampshire, 6; New Jersey, 10; New York, 63; Ohio, 18; Oregon, 2; Pennsylvania, 21; Rhode Island, 4; Tennessee, 4; Texas, 5; Wisconsin, 5; West Virginia, 2; Wyoming, 1; Canada, 6; Foreign, 3. Total, 277.

— Everything went off quietly and everybody seemed satisfied. Several of the members confessed at the banquet that they came out with "blood in their eyes," but peace reigned. All seemed ready and willing to bury all personal differences for the good of the Association.

— President Tiffany's book was received during the convention, and while we have not had time to examine it carefully we are convinced that it is something no collector should be without.

— The daily papers gave considerable space to the convention, the *Inter-Ocean* having a column editorial, and the *Daily News* an illustrated article of the same length. One paper a few days before did allude to us as a convention of — fools, but they afterwards gave us a good notice.

— Twenty-four of the delegates had a large group photo taken, copies of which can be had of Secretary Bradt for \$1.50.

— Librarian Kline sent the photographs which members have donated to the Library, and they were much admired.

— H. L. Calman held forty-seven proxies, C. H. Mekeel thirty-five, W. C. Stone nineteen, and Secretary Bradt sixteen.

— The banquet was a big success. The menu was strictly philatelic and teemed with good things. Toasts abounded and were well responded to, especially by Mr. Wilson.

— Members will hardly know the constitution, it has been so much revised and improved. Many important changes were made, but as it will so soon be in the hands of every member it would be useless to name them here.

— One of the pleasant features of the convention was the exhibition by several of the members of their collections. Mr.



Sterling had the celebrated Carpenter proofs of the document stamps, which included five varieties of the \$5,000 stamp. He also showed his collection of the regular issues of document stamps, which was full of interest to revenue collectors. The collection was worth going miles to see.

— H. L. Calman, of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., had an album in which nearly every space was filled. Among the varieties was a 27-para Moldavia, 1854, worth \$60; a 13-cent Hawaii, worth \$250, and a full sheet (12) of the 2-penny Mulready envelope, which is worth about \$100.

— H. B. Seagrave had with him the collection of 218 U. S. die proofs, which he recently purchased for \$300.

— The following members were present: S. B. Bradt, C. R. Gadsden, L. J. Haskell, W. J. Clark, T. J. Mitchell, J. A. Pierce, F. B. Perry, W. S. Tower, E. W. Voute, G. S. Wilson, P. M. Wolsieffer, S. C. Stevens and H. B. Myers, of Chicago; S. B. Bradford and W. E. McKinlay, of Ottawa, Ill.; W. F. Bishop, of La Grange, Ill.; H. L. Calman, of New York; Eugene Dill, C. J. Fuelscher, C. H. Mekeel and J. K. Tiffany, of St. Louis; W. C. Kurzweg, of Watertown, Wis.; W. V. Nicholson, of Erie, Pa.; H. B. Seagrave, of Ionia, Mich.; W. C. Stone, of Springfield, Mass.; F. B. Stebbins, of Adrian, Mich.; E. B. Sterling, of Trenton, N. J.; C. E. Hutchison, of Newtonville, Mass.; R. J. Hatcher, of Lafayette, Ind.

## THE CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MEETING OF JUNE 2, 1887.

Regular meeting held Thursday evening, June 2, at the Tremont House, the President in the chair. The following members were present: Messrs. Bradt, Clark, Drury, Gadsden, Gilbert, Haskell, Holtfodt, Heuer, Mitchell, Pierce, Voute, Wilson and Wolsieffer. Various committee reports were received; likewise a number of communications, among the latter being a resolution of the Q. C. P. S., in relation to the invention of the adhesive stamp, which, on motion of Mr. Wolsieffer, was

laid on the table. The following resolution was read:

WHEREAS, Certain reports have been circulated concerning the President, Vice-president and Secretary, and also the official journal of this the Chicago Philatelic Society, which reports, if true, tend to show that said officers and official journal have so far usurped their positions as to attempt to manage the affairs of the Chicago Philatelic Society in such a manner as to promote their individual ends, regardless of the welfare of the Society; or which, if false, would indicate a spirit of malice in the person or persons having caused such reports to be circulated; therefore be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Chicago Philatelic Society, in regular session assembled, that the President, Vice-president, Secretary and official journal have in no way conducted themselves contrary to the wishes of the Society; but that in all respects they have fairly represented the same, and are entitled to the thanks of the Society for their untiring efforts in making it the successful organization it has become. But that the spirit which prompted the circulation of the unjust and unfounded reports before alluded to is much to be regretted, and that their originator, if found to be a member of this Society, shall be called upon to answer charges of malicious and unbecoming conduct; and be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be printed in the official journal of the Society, and that a copy thereof be forwarded to the philatelic press and societies.

On motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Clark, the ayes and noes having been called for, so that the vote of each member should be a matter of record, the resolutions were adopted by the unanimous vote of the Society. After transacting some further business, and holding the auction sale, the meeting adjourned. Next meeting June 16.

MEETING OF JUNE 16, 1887.

Meeting of June 16, held at the Tremont House, President Bradt in the chair. The following members were present: Messrs. Bradford, Bradt, Clark, Drury, Gadsden, Holtfodt, Pierce, Wilson and Wolsieffer. Dr. C. W. Evans was present as a visitor. This being the first time we had the pleasure of meeting our corresponding member, Mr. S. B. Bradford, he was tendered a cordial welcome. The resignation of Mr. Mitchell as Treasurer and member was read and referred to the Executive committee. The resignation of Mr. H. F. Heuer was read and accepted, with the regrets of the Society. Other communications were read, including one from Mr. Pat. Chalmers. On report of the Executive committee, the resignation of Mr. Mitchell was again taken up, and was accepted. Motion prevailed that the Librarian be instructed to place the Library in the office of Mr. Pierce, in order that it might be accessible to all members; also that current numbers of the various publication received by the Society be so placed without unnecessary delay. Adjourned at 10 P. M. Next meeting June 30.

C. R. GADSDEN, Secretary.

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Address all communications to

THE PHILATELIC CENTURY CO.,

404 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis.

SEPTEMBER, 1887.

Our subscribers will notice that we have skipped the July and August issues, but they will receive twelve numbers—what they paid for,—and we assure them that THE PHILATELIC CENTURY will be published promptly on the first of each month hereafter.

## SPECIAL PREMIUM OFFER, No. 1.

In order to increase our subscription list we have decided to make the following special premium offer: To the first ten persons subscribing to this paper for one year, during September, and mentioning "Special Premium Offer, No. 1," we will give a 30-cent unused postoffice department stamp; to the second ten persons subscribing during September, we will give a 15-cent unused postoffice department, and to the third ten, a 12-cent unused postoffice department. This offer will be good only during this month. The

unused postoffice department stamps are very difficult to obtain, and dealers consequently do not keep them in stock, therefore we hope that all who have not yet subscribed will avail themselves of this opportunity to secure a valuable stamp free.

We were told by a well-known gentleman of Madison (not a collector), who was in Chicago during the N. P. A. convention, and who was at the ball grounds when the delegates to the convention attended the game, that he never saw a finer and more intelligent-looking body of men than they, as they marched in and took their seats. If he had attended the convention it would only have corroborated the impression he received at the ball grounds.

## THE ADHESIVE STAMPS OF TRINIDAD.

Stamps were first used in Trinidad in 1847. The first was that used by the owner of the vessel Lady McLeod, which vessel was named after the wife of the Governor of the island. This stamp franked letters between San Fernando and Port of Spain, towns on the island.

The stamp is nicely executed; the chief objects are a vessel sailing to the right, with the monogram "L. McL." underneath. The only known specimen is on the original letter bearing the date of July 15, 1847. There is no stated value on the stamp; it is printed in blue, on white paper.

The first government issues were prepared by Perkins, Bacon & Co., of London, and were put in use April 4, 1851; they were similar to the early issues of Barbadoes, and the later issues of Mauritius. They were the following: The paper was changed to a bluish cast by the action of the gum. Vermillion, reddish purple, blue, olive, and greenish slate. The first supply forwarded from England was apparently small, as they ran out in

1852, and were replaced by stamps engraved by a Frenchman residing on the island. They were similar to the first issues, with crossed line groundwork, and four-pointed star in each corner, unperforated, printed from copper plates, 1852. Blue, blue on stout pale-blue paper, and blue on yellowish paper, indistinct impressions caused by the plate wearing away. Another lot was forwarded from Perkins, Bacon & Co., upon the arrival of which the blue stamps of native manufacture appear to have been dispensed with, in 1853; all of these are difficult to obtain. The stock from the mother country was exhausted in 1856, and lithographs of native manufacture the same as 1853 were used; they were blue in color, and were imperfect impressions. The next stamps used were lithographs of native manufacture from those of 1853, as follows: vermilion and grey. There is no stated value on these stamps, but we infer that the intention was to distinguish the different values by the color in which they were printed, but it appears that they were all used at the same value. The name and value were engraved on the 1859 series, except on the one penny. The series of 1859 were as follows, printed on white paper, unperforated: carmine, four pence; violet, six pence; green, one shilling; blue black. These stamps were also issued perforated, of the same values and colors. The following were printed on thick paper, perforated: carmine, four pence; violet, six pence; green, one shilling; slate.

De La Rue prepared stamps printed on paper with the water mark "c. c. & Crown;" they were of London manufacture, and were engraved similar to those of Perkins, Bacon & Co.; they were issued in 1865, as follows: carmine, four pence; violet, six pence; green, one shilling; dark purple (there are several varieties of these as regards color); they were perforated. The stamps of 1869 were unperforated; they were carmine, four pence;

violet, six pence; green, one shilling; purple. The next stamp had a portrait of Victoria engraved upon it, and was watermarked, "crown and c. c.;" they were perforated, and were of the value of five shillings. There were two varieties, deep rosy lake, and pale rosy lake.

A series was issued in 1879 of the same design as 1853, watermarked "crown and c. c.," perforated. Vermilion, carmine, four pence; grey, one shilling; yellow. The die of the 1d was printed in lilac in 1879, surcharged *half-penny* in black, perforated.

In 1882 a provisional one penny, surcharged on six pence with a pen, "1d" is written in, and the old value is ruled out; the surcharge is found in both black and red ink.

In the May of 1882, the 1d carmine was surcharged *one penny* in black, perforated, and watermarked "C. A. and crown;" also one-half of 1d carmine used as  $\frac{1}{2}$ d; this one was divided vertically; there was also one divided obliquely. In 1883 there was a four pence grey issued. On the first of the year, 1883, the following set, bearing the head of Victoria, and watermarked "C. A. and crown," was issued: one-half penny, green; one penny, carmine; two and a half-penny, blue; four pence, grey. 1884; six pence, olive; and one shilling, brown. The six penny is reported to have been used only for several days, when it was withdrawn. There is a set of unpaid stamps in use, but as yet I do not think their use is general, as very few are imported cancelled.

I have not given a description of all the varieties of color of the stamps of this colony, as there are a great many which have changed through age, and the action of the gum upon the coloring matter in the ink, so I do not think these can be classed as varieties, and consequently omit them.—*The Keystone State Philatelist.*

WE have a few copies of the American Philatelic Press Directory on hand, which we will sell for 25 cents a copy; also Coffin's Directory of Philatelic Frauds, 10 cts. THE PHILATELIC CENTURY CO., 404 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis.

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