

The American Stamp Journal.

— DEVOTED TO PHILATELY. —

VOL. I. PORTSMOUTH, N. H., NOVEMBER, 1889. No. 1.

The Subject of Advertising.

By INITIATOR.

Whether to advertise or not is an old theme I know, but a few more words will not come amiss I think. For my part I consider advertising a necessary, and if a dealer does not advertise I do not consider him enterprising enough to deserve the patronage of collectors or anybody else.

A dealer can advertise in a good paper at very reasonable rates and if the paper has a good circulation, his advertisement is sure to catch the eye of some who happen to want his goods. If it does it will more than pay the cost of the notice. If it does not the dealer will be only a few cents out of pocket, and every dealer is supposed to be able to stand a little outlay, and it will help him into prominence, because the readers of the paper will see his name, and it is the best known dealer who gets the most patronage.

As a general rule four page papers are not good paying mediums. The rate may be low, but don't let that tempt you, as your effort in that direction will generally end in a useless outlay. Eight, twelve and sixteen page papers succeed as a rule, but there are many of this class that come out once and are never seen again. Beware of these and you are all right.

The advertiser should know what papers to advertise in so I will not inform him on that subject.

Philatelic Societies and their Use.

By THEODORE SIDDALL.

There have been a number of articles written, lately, giving advice as to the formation of philatelic societies. These societies, for the first few months while the novelty lasts, are of some benefit to their members; but after that time interest in them is loosened and their meetings drag along like a horse-car going up hill; and the members, finding nothing to interest them there, stay away, and then the society goes to the bow-wows.

There is not so very much to say about philately after all. There is a great deal of "blowing" done, arguing for and against, but very little new matter is brought up, and what is old is talked dry. Those who argue that philately is a science ought to bring out a fact or so occasionally. In the older sciences there is always something new going on, or news to talk about. Again, they argue that philately teaches history, geography, languages, etc., etc., but in the papers edited by the upholders of the "science" howl, we do not find that they put into practice their pet doctrines — no historical items, except perhaps that perennial chestnut about the inventor of postage stamps, or the first postal service.

I think the aim of philatelic societies and philatelic papers ought to be to instruct and interest those who now collect stamps, as well as to induce outsiders to take up the hobby. The meetings of societies could be made very interesting by discussions upon living topics, or contemporary history, without having too

much "stamp" in it—for all who ever tried will agree with me when I say it is decidedly a dry job to be forever licking stamps. Societies could in many ways be more attractive to outsiders, who, when they see the charm of collecting stamps would take it up and make good and useful members of the society, and at the same time still further spread stamp collecting—which last is, or should be, the object of all right minded philatelists.

This is not a merely theoretical article, but is written by one who knows something about the needs of philatelic societies. Some may object to this introduction of outside subjects as tending to draw off interest from stamp collecting, and also as being out of place in a stamp society—in answer to which I would say, that if they cannot make their meetings interesting with stamps alone, and want to keep their society alive, they will suffer a disappointment. As I said above, there is little to be said about stamps, and it has been nearly all said, and about the best way to do is for a number of collectors to get up a society having an aim, or joint object, of promoting stamp collecting, then make meetings interesting to outsiders, and they will most likely follow the example of the collectors who should be in the majority, and take up the collection of stamps.—*Canadian Philatelist.*

"Hang out your banners on your outward walls."

"Advertising is to business what Steam is to commerce."

"Advertise; for the life of business is printers' ink."

For doing a lucrative and honest business, there is not a more suitable or more practicable way than that of advertising; and why should those who wish to do business not hang their "banners" in the shape of an advertisement, for

"He that by his trade would rise
Must either burst or advertise."

It should be remembered that the circulation (the number of copies printed) is by

no means everything—it tells little as to the value of a newspaper as an advertising medium. The great desideratum with the advertiser is to obtain a medium which will reach that portion of the community which is likely to purchase his commodities. The character and condition of the subscribers and readers of a Journal are, in most cases, of more importance than the number of its circulation. Although we do not claim "the largest" circulation of any Philatelic paper published, we do claim a guaranteed circulation of one thousand copies per month, which are dispatched regularly to the most advanced collectors of the world. Dealers will readily see the advantage of continuing an advertisement in this Journal, because it reaches, direct, the class of people desired.

The Post Offices of Yokohama.

On the other side of the world the postal arrangements are quite different from what they are in this country. Take Yokohama, Japan, for instance, a few years ago there were four buildings in different parts of the city for the English, American, French and Japanese Post office each selling the stamps of the nation represented, and receiving and delivering their own mail.

Yokohama was one of the noisiest ports in the world, the frequent boom of a cannon indicated the arrival of a steamer, and if from San Francisco, the news quickly spread, and the residents or their messengers flocked to the American post office to get their mail, which was at once sorted out and delivered to those present, and if in the evening, the office immediately closed. The Japanese letter carriers however deliver letters both day and night, and it is no infrequent occurrence to be woken up in the night with the information that the postman has arrived with a letter. The Japan and American Postoffices have now united leaving only three distinct post offices.

Stamp Papers of New Hampshire.

By J. L. PENDER.

In 1870, A. F. Toojay advertised the *Monthly Catalogue and Tiser*, but it was not issued. The first to be published was the *Stamp Collectors' Monthly*, by F. H. Pinkham, Newmarket, two volumes, seventeen numbers. The *Philatelic Guide*, by E. B. Crapo, Concord, May, 1874 to July, 1874, one volume, three numbers. The *Monthly Announcements*, by New England Stamp Co., Concord, Feb., 1875 to June, 1875, one volume, three numbers. *Collectors' Own*, E. B. Crapo, Concord, Dec., 1875 to Jan., 1876, one volume, two numbers. *Granite State Philatelist*, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, Sept., 1882 to Oct. 1884, three volumes, twenty-six numbers. *Collector's Leisure Hour*, A. R. Smith, Greenland, Jan., 1886 to April, 1886, one volume, four numbers. *Stamp World*, John M. Hubbard, Lake Village, Sept., 1886 to date, forty-three numbers. Of these only the *Stamp World* is surviving.

Stamp dealers who send out sheets unsolicited, and who expect the same to be returned, should not neglect to enclose stamp for that purpose.

Postage Stamp Collecting.

By B. W.

If stamp collecting had been introduced by a schoolmaster as a "Royal road" to acquiring a knowledge of history, geography, national statistics, etc, he certainly would have been considered a clever person and would have received the thanks of many parents for his ingenuity, and the success which attended his labors.

When stamp collecting was a new thing,

it was thoroughly ridiculed by non-collectors. I will however in this short article endeavor to lay before the reader some of the reasons which render stamp collecting not only an amusing but an instructive pursuit. The first thing which it teaches is I think a knowledge of Geography; for instance, 9 collectors out of 10 will tell you where Tolima, Alwur, or Labuan are situated but I very much question if 1 out of 10 non-collectors could tell you.

Then I will take History; turning over the pages of an album, I come to Portugal. I see that the first stamps were issued in 1853 and bear the head of Donva Maria II., but in 1855 it has changed and in its stead is that of King Pedro I., then in 1862 that of King Louis I. and so on—Then again take the stamps of England and its Colonies; they all have the Queen's effigy, and a collector knows at a glance that, Heligoland, Hong Kong, St. Vincent, Canada, New Zealand etc. are British possessions for the simple reason that the stamps of these countries have the Queen's head on them—even to a non-collector it must be of interest to see how the various issues of some countries faithfully reproduce the various changes of Government, &c.

France and Spain are perhaps two of the most interesting. France shows us, on her stamps first, the republic of 1848, then, Napoleon III as president of that republic, then, as Emperor, then, after the French victories, his assumption of Cassan laurels, then, after the German war, another republic. Spain shows Queen Isabella, then a Republic, then the short reign of King Amadeus, then Alphonso, besides the stamps which show the Carlist troubles, etc.

Of course it is impossible in a short article like this to do more than glance here and there.

It may also be mentioned that stamp collecting teaches a knowledge of the coinage of each country, also of the various methods of printing, engraving, etc.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,
Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One inch,	- - - -	\$.40
Two inches,	- - - -	.75
One column,	- - - -	2.00
One page,	- - - -	4.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.
10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.
No half inch advertisements.

Subscriptions 15c. per year. Abroad, 25c.
Subscriptions must commence with current issue.
Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.
Advertisements and contributions solicited.

NOVEMBER, 1889.

SALUTATORY.

With this, we place before the stamp collecting public, the initial number of a paper devoted to their science. While we do not expect to publish the paper at a profit, we do expect it to pay the cost of printing it. We are aware that the fields of philatelic journalism are already full but perhaps we can find a corner to fill. We shall issue the paper six months if we don't receive a subscription, and while we will mind our own business at all times, we will not be trampled on by anyone.

We have a circulation of 1000 copies this issue and hope to increase this and the size of the paper soon.

* * *

We desire to call the attention of dealers to our low advertising rates. All copy for next issue must be in by Nov. 23.

* * *

We trust that we will receive the support of all collectors that this issue reaches. We send only one sample copy to each person and use a different list each time.

* * *

We shall be pleased to exchange with all philatelic papers or those devoted in part to collecting.

* * *

In case we go under we guarantee to refund all unearned money.

* * *

All subscribers are entitled to the use of of the exchange department free of charge. We desire to make this department a special feature of the paper.

* * *

Persons expecting answers to letters of inquiry should enclose a stamp or card for reply. We are always willing to furnish stationery and to give time to our patrons, but to ask us to furnish stamps is asking too much.

* * *

All books, catalogues and papers sent us will be reviewed and listed in this paper.

* * *

Greater interest in revenue stamps and postal cards is needed. Let us see that these two branches are kept abreast with the other division of Philately.

* * *

We shall be pleased to have all who receive this number to send us their subscription. Remember the more subscribers we get the larger and better we can make our paper.

* * *

We want every advertiser to give us at least a trial advertisement; we feel sure, with our large circulation and low rates, that we can give satisfaction.

REVIEWS.

With the October number the *Philatelic Beacon* raises its subscription rate to 25 cts. per year. Sensible move Bro. Hutchinson. The *Beacon* is certainly worth that much.

The September number of the *Eastern Philatelist* received. A very fine paper.

The September number of *Philately* is as usual a fine number. Collectors should subscribe to that class of papers.

The *Philatelic Tribune* is a very handsome paper in its small form, much more so than it used to be.

We have never seen a copy of the *New York Philatelist*, *Post Card*, *Essex County Philatelist*, *Philatelic Express* and *Philatelic Era*. Will you please exchange with us? Two copies.

Many good papers have expired in the last six months. The most notable being the *Halifax Philatelist*.

The *Hoosier Philatelist* is a fine paper hailing from Hanover Centre, Ind.

One Dime is small but it hangs on which cannot be said of some of its larger contemporaries.

The *Yankee Philatelist* is announced for November. From what we know of Goldsbury we are sure it will be a good one. W. W. Jewett will print it.

The last three numbers of the *Quaker City Philatelist* only contained 10 pages each.

We desire to call the special attention of philatelic literature collectors to Mr. Geo. H. Young's advertisement on another page. He has a large and fine collection of papers.

We want good agents to take advertisements and subscriptions for this paper, and to those who expect to work we will give liberal commissions. No others need apply.

To the fiftieth subscriber, if received before November 20, we will give \$1.00 as a premium.

On Hill vs. Chalmers.

Hill seems to be gaining ground. He has some of the most noted philatelists on his side, among them being Edw. B. Evans, John R. Hooper and E. R. Aldrich. The following papers are on his side: the *Quaker City Philatelist*, *American Journal of Philately*, *Stamp World* and the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL. I have read all of Hill's pamphlets and most of Chalmers, and am convinced that Rowland Hill was the real agitator of the adhesive postage stamp.

Mrs. O'Brien—"Sure, Mrs. Flaherty, an it's a foine thing to have a post-office in the lamp-post, I be thinkin'." Mrs. Flaherty—"Then it's wrong ye are, Mrs. O'Brien, for I foind it a bother entirely." "An' for why? I'm sure it's the natest thing in the world to be drappin' yer letters into the post." "Yis! But it's not so aisy gittin' 'em out. I've knocked on this box ivery blissed day since it was put up, thinkin' to hear from me ould mither, but niver a word comes out." "She may have directed her letter to the wrong lamp-post, Mrs. Flaherty." "The saints be praised! An' I niver would a thought o' the same. I'll write again, for I niver tould her the post was painted green, wid a corner chipped off of it. Thank ye, mum."—E.

Granite State Philatelic Ass'n.

Meetings held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month.

The members are as follows:

F. H. Gray,	<i>President.</i>
Geo. D. Anthony,	<i>Vice " "</i>
Chas. W. Green,	<i>Secretary.</i>
Geo. H. Young,	<i>Treasurer.</i>
J. L. Pender,	<i>Ex. Supt.</i>
E. P. Jarvis,	Frederick Bufford,
Calvin M. Butler,	W. S. Tartelon.

All communications for the society must be addressed to Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H.

Stamps as an Investment.

REGINALD.

The immense demand and consequent scarcity of all obsolete stamps, especially those of which but a few were issued, causes a continual rise in their value. Look at a paper or catalogue but two or three years old and compare the quotations with those of today,—nearly all the stamps have advanced in price. The rarer varieties are gradually getting out of our reach, and many are now unobtainable except by the breaking up of an old collection, and then they command exorbitant figures.

Within the past decade, the increase in value of United States stamps is unparalleled in history, the demand for them grew to enormous proportions; and still it continues year after year, as many collectors are making them a specialty. The stamps of our own country then, form the best examples of a safe investment. To see what could be made on some stamps, take a glance over some of the old issues. One stamp each of the 1869 issue, could be bought at post offices 19 years ago for \$1.93. The set is now catalogued at over \$13. At even half this figure they would yield about 23 per cent annual profit. But this example is merely nominal. There are

certain stamps which—had some of the older collectors foreseen their value, would not now prove a Golconda to any ordinary mortal. A 5c. of 1856, (then obtainable at face value of course) is now worth \$3.50, equal to 218 per cent annual profit. One dollar's worth of them 32 years ago would equal \$70 worth in 1888. It is needless to go further, or figure on rarer stamps, some of which are worth 1500 or 2000 times their face value.

Durbin's catalogue of 1884 quotes for instance, the 12c. of 1851 at 25c., the 5c. of '61 for 5c., the 24c. of '70 for 10c., the '65 set of newspaper stamps for 70c. besides many others which are worth at least three times that money now. Almost without exception the entire list of U. S. stamps, and a host of foreign as well, show the same natural rise in price. There is no possible reason for lower rates,—on the contrary they will continue to advance until the last collector is swept off the face of the earth—and there is no prospect of this!

Stamp investments, when made with due consideration, are as safe and sure as any known to the financial or commercial world, and would prove a rich field for the speculator. We are often brought to face lost opportunities and the good fortune lost with them, and wish that the time might be lived over again; but by the lesson of the past let us improve the present.

Philatelists should watch the prevailing state of the stamp market, then govern themselves accordingly—that is if they wish to invest their spare change where it will yield best results. There are numerous ways of advantageously disposing of every stamp you can get possession of.

It will be well to remember that, since philately is universal, all stamps have a value, are good property, and the markets always active and as sure as the pursuit of collecting them increases do they become equally rare and valuable.

H. S. C.

Common Sense contains but little original matter, and is of little interest to a lover of good philatelic literature.

Exchange Column.

Free to subscribers only.

Cloth bound books for birds eggs, also birds eggs for the same or mounted birds. Send your list and receive mine by return mail. C. W. Green, 65 Hanover St., Portsmouth N. H.

Philatelic papers to exchange. J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

Dealers' Directory.

A two or three line advertisement under this head \$1.00 per year.

BAMFORTH, H. F., 27 Central St., Springfield Mass. Stamps on approval at 33 1/3 per cent com.

GREMME, HENRY, 109 2nd St., N. Y., Price-list free.

GREEN, C. W., 65 Hanover St., Portsmouth, N. H. Birds eggs wanted.

LEE, HARRY S., 30 Maple St., Springfield, Mass. Stamps on approval at 30 per cent com.

MOXLEY, C. A., Rosemond, Ill. Job printer.

PENDER, J. L., Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic publisher.

YOUNG, GEO. H., 18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic papers for sale or exchange.

SPECIAL.

To all persons sending a good reference for my approval sheets at 30 per cent com. I will give four var. Guatemala free. Agents wanted everywhere. Send at once.

50 var. rare, many unused, 9c.
 15 var. South & Central America, 17c.
 10 var. unused, 15c.
 All three for 35c.

Harry S. Lee,

30 Maple St., Springfield, Mass.

Cloth Bound Books.

Relics, etc., to exchange for birds eggs and skins or mounted birds in good condition.

C. W. GREEN,

65 Hanover St., PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

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DEALER IN

PHILATELIC LITERATURE

Of All Kinds.

Subscriptions taken to all the Current Philatelic Papers.

Box 954, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Fifty stamps for every Philatelic Paper sent.

THE AM. STAMP JOURNAL,

15c. PER YEAR.

Published by

AMERICAN PUBLISHING CO.,

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.
 Box 954,

I make a specialty of printing philatelic papers and can give very low prices and good work. If you are now publishing, or are intending to publish, a philatelic paper write me for my prices.

W. W. JEWETT,
 502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

BIRDS EGGS AND SKINS

Wanted for Cash or Exchange. Send List.

C. W. GREEN,

65 HANOVER STREET,

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Did You Know

That you could now get Job Printing almost free of charge? Read the following prices and see for yourself. 100 Note Heads, Envelopes or Business Cards, 35c, or all for \$1.00. 1000 3x5in. Circulars, 50c. 1000 6x9in. Circulars, \$1.60. 200 4-page Papers, each page 6x9in., \$2.00. 200 4-page Papers, each page 4½x6in., \$1.00. All post-paid. A copy of our paper free to all. Send for an estimate on any Job Printing you may need. Best Work and Lowest Prices our motto.

C. A. MOXLEY, Rosemond, Ill.

IT IS A FACT

That the MISCELLANY is the most extensively read magazine of its class in Great Britain. It is published for 1 sh. per year, and is contributed to by the best writers on

Stamps, Coins, Amateurdon, Etc.

Send 25 cents and receive it for one year. You may also send a 20-word advertisement along with your subscription, and it will appear in 3 numbers free of cost. This offer only holds good for one month. Address

HERDMAN'S MISCELLANY,
Berwick-on-Tweed, England.

"GET ONTO THE DUDE."

We should have said, snap up this adv. at once as it is N. G. after 30 days. *Special Offer:* We will insert a page (6x9) adv. in the "Yankee Philatelist" and send the paper one year for only \$1.00, cash to be sent on receipt of marked copy of paper containing advertisement. Good circulation. Sample copy free. THE YANKEE PHILATELIST, Box 4, Barre, Vt.

A COLLECTION

Of Philatelic papers, comprising many numbers of Philatelic Journal of America, American Philatelist, American Journal of Philately, Philatelic Gazette, and many others equally as rare. Write for particulars to GEO. H. YOUNG, 18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

Price List of over 200 different sets and packets sent free. 25 DIFFERENT FOREIGN STAMPS to every one sending good reference for my fine approval sheets of postage stamps. 33½ per cent. commission allowed.

HENRY GREMEL,
A. P. A. 129. 109 2d St., New York.

Philatelic Papers.

Alabama Philatelist, 2 Nos., complete,	10c.
American Stamp, 1 No., complete,	5c.
10 different papers,	10c.
10 " " " better quality,	25c.

J. L. PENDER,
Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

CHEAP ADVERTISING.

1 Cent a word, no charge for your name and address. A 2-word ad. for one year (24 issues) will cost you only 25 cts. Large circulation. Paper free while ad. runs. Address, THE SOUTHERN PRESS, Box 82, Smithfield, Va. Editors insert this and above 3 times for like favor.

BOYS A 2½x4 inch PRINTING PRESS Given Away FREE, with 2 fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See Corona News-Letter. **ENTERPRISE STAMP CO.,**
Three Rivers, Mass.

Editors inserting this and above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars or less than one dollar.

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STAMPS ON APPROVAL,

At 33½ per cent. Commission. Agents wanted. Reference required. To the person selling the most stamps from my sheets before Dec. 15, 1889, I will give an Imperial Stamp Album and 100 varieties of stamps. A rare U. S. stamp given to agents selling \$1 worth at a time. Price-list of packets free. **H. F. BAMFORTH** 27 Central St. Springfield, Mass



The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., DECEMBER, 1889.

No. 2.

Counterfeits.

BY FICTITIOUS.

A great feature that might fill the pages of our stamp journals at intervals is the counterfeit, but whether it is that the editor or his staff are so poorly posted with regard to it I cannot say, but the fact remains unaltered that it is not followed up as it should be. During the past few weeks three different specimens have passed into my hands, and for the benefit of the collector I mention them.

From Rhode Island I received a consignment of stamps, among which were three 1865 5-cent Confederate States, all counterfeits. The engraving of the stamp is somewhat heavier than the genuine specimen, and the wrinkles on "Old Jeff's" forehead are less abundant, also the gum is evenly and better laid than that of the original.

The second counterfeit is that of the British Guinea 1865 6-cent blue, very accurately engraved, and equally deceptive in the paper, the only flaw being that the manufacturer had forgotten to perforate them. I received three of these specimens from Boston.

The third specimen was designed to represent the 1853 issue of the 4-penny Cape of Good Hope, and only for the slight mauve tint, blended with the blue, an advanced collector might easily be misled.

The largest collection of coins in the world is in Vienna. They are placed in the public cabinet of antiquities, and number over 125,000.

STAMP LITERATURE.

Its Standing in New England.

BY J. L. PENDER.

Although New England may not have produced so much literature as some other parts of the country it makes up for the quantity in the quality. The only thing (for you cannot call it anything else) that I have ever seen that New England could justly be ashamed of was the Collectors' World, published by William B. Hale, that "old reliable" of Williamsville, Mass. It was almost the worst paper typographically that I ever saw, the only one that could beat it being the Exchangers' Monthly, of Shelbyville, Ky.

We can look back with pride on the publications of the past, and also on those of the present time. The most notable of the old publications being S. Allan Taylor's paper, the Stamp Collectors' Record, Triquet's Monthly Circular, Granite State Philatelist, Stamp Collectors' Monthly, Capital City Philatelist, Philatelic Herald and Stamp World.

And now let us look at the books that we have produced, McLean's Stamp Collectors' Guide, the best book ever published in the U. S. on stamps, and also containing the best directory of collectors ever published; Jewett and Lyons' Philatelic Dictionary and Guide, that neat and very valuable work just issued from Portland, Me., and then J. M. Hubbard's Philatelic Publications, some half dozen or more, all well printed and valuable.

I think I can safely say that if you take the publications of New England as a

whole and place them with the products of any other six states that they would overbalance them in point of merit.

We may point with honest pride at our nine journals now current, and say that they cannot be beaten in any part of the world. They are the Stamp World, Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Beacon, Rhode Island Philatelist, Stamp Advertiser, Philatelic Express, Philatelic Era, Yankee Philatelist and American Stamp Journal.

A Few Facts on the Postage Stamp.

BY EVELLETT P. JARVIS.

The system of prepaying postage on letters, papers, parcels, etc. by affixing an adhesive label, which was sold to the public, was first advocated by Hill or Chalmers (I am in favor of Hill) in 1837, and was adopted by the British Post Office in 1840. The first adhesive stamp issued by Great Britain consisted of a profile of the queen, with the word "Postage" above, and the value below. At the present time Great Britain has only 33 different stamps in use while the U. S. has had 127 stamps in use at one time.

Brazil was the second country to adopt this new system. Its stamps at first were those of Great Britain; but after a time were succeeded by the portrait of the emperor.

Stamps were first issued by the U. S. in 1849, that is postage stamps issued by the government, as there were several provincial issues before that time.

Many countries have since adopted the system, using for the design either the portrait of the ruler or the national coat of arms.

Postage stamp collecting, or Philately as it is now called, began when not more than half a dozen countries had adopted the plan.

THE POSTAL CONFERENCE.

Inspectors Discuss Means for Detecting Dishonesty.

The postoffice inspectors of the United States, who in conference at the postoffice department met for the purpose of discussing better means of detecting fraud and dishonesty in the mail service, and of sending money and valuable articles through the mails. Much of their time has been occupied by considering the question of adopting an improved form of registered package. Some time ago the postoffice department advertised for samples of improved packages, and about 100 different kinds were submitted. What was wanted was a form of envelope that could be made at small cost, and yet could not be opened without being destroyed. The department officials rejected all but one of the samples as not combining these requirements. The reserved sample was submitted to the inspectors, who showed that it could be opened, rifled and resealed as readily as the old form. It is probable that no change will be made at present, or that a form of package that has met with much success in England will be adopted.

Notes.

A delightful little chatelaine adjunct is a diminutive mail pouch in oxidized silver for stamps.

Joseph H. Boesnan, a postoffice clerk, in station B, New York City, was held in \$3,500 bail for robbing the mails.

There is an old colored shoemaker in Hartford, who has for twenty-five years devoted himself to collecting rare copper coins and studying their history. His collection comprises a nearly complete set of pennies from 1893 to 1857. His British coppers are especially interesting, some of them dating as far back as 1700.—*S. Pres.*

A Postal Railroad.

The "new idea" of to-day is followed by the newer idea of the morrow, and so fast do new discoveries or novel adaptations follow one another that the mind bewilders itself in attempting to keep track of them. One of the newest of the new ideas is a postal railroad, and the proposal is that electricity be made to do the work now done by steam, and that at a rate of 300 miles an hour, so that, if we suppose it in operation in the United States, you could write a letter from Detroit to your friend in Chicago and be tolerably sure of its reaching him within an hour or so. The fact is that we are as yet only on the threshold of what service this wonderful agent, electricity, is capable of rendering to mankind. Another ten years is likely to see many things revolutionized. Returning to this postal railroad idea, however in the meantime, we find that an experimental line has been erected near Baltimore. It carries two cars for the transportation of mail matter and parcels. No attendance is necessary. Electricity does the whole business. The affair is set going at the end of the line, and the burden is well on its way through space to the other end before you say Jack Robinson. The cars run on two rails and there is a third rail above them along which the current travels. The cars are of sheet iron, some twenty feet or so in length, and two feet wide. If the experiment succeeds, it is a mere matter of a short time of course when we shall have these postal railroads everywhere.—*Detroit Bookkeeper.*

Exchange Column.

FREE TO SUBSCRIBERS ONLY.

We will give 100 gummed hinges, cut the required size, for either of the following: a 1-cent stamp, a U. S. stamp worth 10 cents, a foreign worth 15 cents, or three unused foreign postal cards. W. P. & F. H. A., Box 6, LaFayette, R. I.

Philatelic World, 15 numbers, Manhattan Journal, complete file, 4 numbers, American Philatelist, Vol. 3, complete except Nos. 7 and 8, also Vol. 2 Nos. 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9, Philatelic Journal of America, Vol. 5, complete to date, and many others all in first class condition to exchange. C. W. Green, 65 Hanover St., Portsmouth, N. H.

I will mail a 20c. Seaside Library for each 100 U. S. envelope stamps, cut square, or two 20c. Nos. for 200. J. A. Wilson, 314 North 8th St., Phila., Pa.

Philatelic papers to exchange for cloth bound books in good condition. Send list of books and receive list of papers. Geo. H. Young, 18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

Five rare foreign stamps for every subscription to a philatelic paper sent me. A Golden Library in good condition for every five philatelic papers. Everett P. Jarvis, 80 Prospect St., Waltham, Mass.

Publishers and dealers will confer a favor by sending price lists, and sample copies to J. F. Grealy, 121 Johnson St., Newark, N. J.

I want a small printing press, 4x6, and can give good exchange for it. Also type in large quantities. J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

We wish to inform the public that the

Old Curiosity Shop.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY,
NUMISMATICS AND NATURAL HISTORY

Has changed hands and will commence the ninth volume January, 1890.

- **SUBSCRIBE NOW** -

As the price will probably be advanced soon.

Subscription 25 cts. per year.

:: SAMPLE : COPY : FREE. ::

Address

COLLECTOR PUB. CO.,

2219 Scott St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

J. L. PENDEK, - EDITOR.

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One inch,	- - - - -	\$.40
Two inches,	- - - - -	.75
One column,	- - - - -	2.00
One page,	- - - - -	4.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.

No half inch advertisements.

Subscriptions 15c. per year. Abroad, 25c.

Subscriptions must commence with current issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

DECEMBER, 1889.

Well, here we are for the second time, during our one short month of existence we have seen some of the trials and tribulations of the editor's life. We have received quite a number of subscriptions, and many words of phrase, but let us say right here that we value one subscription or advertisement more than one hundred words of praise. We circulate 1000 copies of this issue, and besides our subscription list, we have a list of about 5000 collectors who will receive sample copies of this and succeeding issues, so you need not count on getting a sample every month.

We want good agents to take advertisements and subscriptions for this paper, and to those who expect to work we will give liberal commissions. No others need apply.

* * *

Mr. F. L. George, of this city, handed us a ½c. Argentine Republic, new issue. It is a great improvement on the last issue.

* * *

For the next two weeks we will give special rates on page advertisements. Dealers write us.

* * *

We do not think that anyone who looks over our advertising columns, can say that we are not supported by the best class of dealers, who know a good thing when they see it and are quick to take advantage of low rates in a good paper.

* * *

With our fourth number we shall probably enlarge to twelve pages and will increase our subscription rates to 25 cents and advertising rates in proportion.

* * *

In our January number we will have a large article by a prominent New York dealer, a sketch of one of the prominent, many other good things.

* * *

We want good articles, for which we are ready to pay cash.

* * *

PREMIUMS.

Beginning Dec. 5th we shall issue a series of premiums to new subscribers. The fifth and tenth will each get a Richmond's Philatelic Directory; the fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-fifth, 100 var. of stamps; the thirtieth and thirty-fifth, 5 var. of unused stamps, rare; the fortieth and forty-fifth, 10 var. of philatelic papers; and the fiftieth, a Philatelist's album. Address American Publishing Company, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

REVIEWS.

We have received the *Post Card* of Roselle, N. J. It is a neat and valuable little paper.

The *Eureka Philatelist* at hand for November. A neat paper.

South Carolina comes again to the front in the shape of the *Southern Philatelist*. A goodly magazine of 8 pages and cover.

The *Philatelic Express* is a neatly printed paper hailing from Portland, Me.

From Mr. C. W. Stutesman, Bunker Hill, Ind., we have received his hand-book of stamps, coins and Indian relics. A valuable work, price 10 cents.

Jewett & Lyons' "Dictionary and Guide" received. It is the best work of the kind ever issued.

In the November number of the *Quaker City Philatelist* there is a dastardly fling at ex-Secretary Bradford. Is it not enough to be asked to resign, without being kicked when he is down. By-the-way, since Henderson took hold of it it seems to have deteriorated.

From Mr. Eugene Brown we have the October number of the *Moral and Scientific Companion*. It is good.

The *Philatelic Gazette*, as usual, is a very fine paper.

We have received the following papers. Publishers please accept thanks. *Quaker City Philatelist*, Vol. 4 No. 47, *Post Card*, Vol. 1 Nos. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, *Monthly Circular*, Vol. 2 No. 1, *Stamp Advertiser*, Vol. 1 No. 8, *Philatelic Express*, Vol. 1 No. 6, *Southern Philatelist*, Vol. 1 No. 2, *Eureka*

Philatelist, Vol. 4 No. 3, *Boys and Girls*, Vol. 3 No. 1, *Common Sense*, Vol. 2 No. 12, *Curio Informant*, Vol. 1 No. 3, *Philatelic Gazette*, Vol. 6 No. 63, *Plain Talk*, Vol. 7 No. 53, *Scientific Companion*, Vol. 1 No. 9, *Santa Claus*, Vol. 1 No. 6.

When publishers copy our articles, we expect due credit. Certain parties are asked to take this hint.

We have received the first number of the *Golden Weekly*, a publication devoted to youth. It contains the first installment of a story on stamp collecting, and gives as premiums packets of stamps.

In addition to the above, just as we go to press, the following papers: *Eastern Philatelist*, Vol. 4 No. 3, *Rhode Island Philatelist*, Vol. 1 No. 11, *Philatelic Beacon*, Vol. 2 No. 3, *Philatelic Era*, Vol. 1 No. 3, and *Southern Press*, Vol. 1 No. 11.

Mr. S. C. Scott, of Calmar, Iowa, informs us that a stock company has been formed at that place for the purpose of publishing a first-class philatelic magazine of thirty-two pages and cover. It will doubtless be a fine magazine.

Millard F. Walton seems to be the most prominent candidate for the position of Secretary of the A. P. A.

Many new papers are announced for the next three months, and the indications point to its being a most busy season.

The *Philatelic Beacon* is the only paper published for stamp collectors that is issued before the first of the month.

The new trans-continental postal system recently established, lessens the time from Boston to San Francisco, to ten hours, and now mail from San Francisco reached Boston the same time that New York's mail reaches that place.

There are many sly hits in the papers now at Postmaster General Wanamaker and much comment on the design of the new set of stamps. One has it "Go to Wanamakers', the cheapest place in town" in place of the familar old portrait.

The *Stamp Collectors' Figaro* has been consolidated with the *Hoosier Philatelist*. This combination will make one of the finest papers in the country.

The *Philatelic Journal of America* and *Philatelic Gazette* have each started an Exchange column. This is a move in the right direction.

We will be very glad to fill the unexpired subscription lists of papers that contemplate suspending.

Another supporter of Hill in the Hill vs. Chalmers war is *Ye Boodle Philatelite*, a fine little paper of New York City.

We will be glad to have all philatelists, whether prominents or not, express their sentiments on any questions of interest through our columns. Would be especially pleased to hear from all on the Hill and Chalmers' controversy.

Next month we will begin to sell by auction our large and valuable collection of philatelic papers, among which are many rare and valuable numbers, issued from 1884 to date.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Importer and Dealer in

U. S. & FOREIGN

POSTAGE & REVENUE
STAMPS

Publisher of the

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Hanover Centre, Ind., U. S. A.

FREE! FREE!

My new price list (illustrated) cheapest ever published.

AGENTS WANTED!

33 $\frac{1}{2}$ & 40 per cent. Commission from my approval sheets, made up of good stamps, also stamps for beginners containing stamps to sell at 1, 2 and 3 cents each at same commission. Reference required.

ALBUMS

At Prices Below Publishers'

Scott's International, 9th edition, postp'd, \$1.35
Willard's, bound in cloth and boards, .22

All albums and publications in stock.

Special Quotations on Rare Stamps

1000 Ass't Foreign, inc. Japan, Mexico,	
Chili, Peru, Porto Rico, etc.	18c.
20 var. So. and Central America.	15c.
U. S. Officially Sealed, unused, 1879,	8c.
“ “ “ “ 1888,	4c.

U. S. and Foreign Envelopes, entire, at lowest prices.

WANTED : TO : BUY : FOR : CASH

Collection of Good Stamps, also U. S. Postage and Departments. Common or Rare.

A Few Stamp Cuts at 30 Cts. Each.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,
HANOVER CENTRE, IND.

If you expect to

Get Something for Nothing

A request will place in your hands a copy of Bishop's

MONTHLY CIRCULAR,

and catalogues of packets, sets, albums, etc.

Send for Them.

The forcible arguments in the way of prices will convince you that it is to your interest to send your orders to

W. F. BISHOP,

La Grange, Ill.

Foreign correspondence and consignments solicited for cash or exchange. Collections and stamps bought for spot cash.

ESTABLISHED 1882.

CLOTH BOUND BOOKS . . . AND BIRDS' SKINS * WANTED *

Will exchange philatelic papers for same.

F. H. GRAY,

2 Market St., Portsmouth, N. H.

CHRISTMAS AND NEWYEARS.

DON'T FAIL to send twenty cents to BOYS AND GIRLS, Springfield, Ohio, for the Grand Christmas and New Years numbers of that beautiful, illustrated home magazine. Each number contains tales of adventure, scientific and historical articles, puzzles, fun, games, and other interesting matter. A year's subscription would make a splendid Christmas present for a young friend. Regular price, one dollar. New subscribers, until December 20th, only FIFTY CENTS. This will include Christmas and New Years numbers. Do not delay: send immediately.

FOR SALE! A Collection of about 300 varieties of stamps in an International Stamp Album, worth \$5, price \$2. 1000 varieties of stamps \$10.50. J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

* FINE * JOB * PRINTING *

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

I make a specialty of printing philatelic papers and can give very low prices and good work. If you are now publishing, or are intending to publish, a philatelic paper write me for my prices.

W. W. JEWETT,
502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

Correspondence Solicited

for the exchange of philatelic papers. Send list and receive mine in return. To those who mention this advertisement and send me a philatelic paper I will give 50 foreign stamps.

GEO. H. YOUNG,

18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

Established 1887.

: : : : THE : : : :

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Illustrated Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

Subscription, 35 cents per year.

Dealers should send for advertising rates.

LARGE AND SELECT CIRCULATION.

SAMPLE : COPY : FREE.

THE FIGARO,

HANOVER CENTRE, IND., U. S. A.

Fire and Murder

are startling exclamations, but they have nothing to do with the great bargains I am now offering.

100 Philatelic papers, diff. .75

100 better quality, 1.50

SINGLE NUMBERS

to complete files. If you want any papers write me as I have the largest stock in New England.

Stamps

sent on approval at 25 per cent. discount.

100 Mixed stamps,	5c.
400 Var.	\$1.25
1000 Var.	10.50

Collections of stamps and philatelic literature bought for cash. Write me.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954,

PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

BIRDS EGGS AND SKINS.

Skins of Warbles, Vireos, Flycatchers, Finches, Swallows, Woodpeckers and Sparrows. I want large numbers of the above in sets with data, and can offer fine exchange. Send 1st and receive mine.

C. W. GREEN,
65 HANOVER ST., - - PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

WANTED!

To exchange Mignette photos. with all stamp collectors. Correspondence desired.

F. H. GRAY,

Box 992, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

Did You Know

That you could now get Job Printing almost free of charge? Read the following prices and see for yourself. 100 Note Heads, Envelopes or Business Cards, 35c, or all for \$1.00. 1000 3x5in. Circulars. 50c. 1000 6x9in. Circulars, \$1.60. 200 4-page Papers, each page 6x9in., \$2.00. 200 4-page Papers, each page 4½x6in., \$1.00. All post-paid. A copy of our paper free to all. Send for an estimate on any Job Printing you may need. Best Work and Low-Prices our motto.

C. A. MOXLEY, Rosemond, Ill.

Words of Our Hero U. S. Grant.

I present this elaborate work to each person purchasing \$1.00 worth of stamps from my sheets at 33½ off. (Mention this paper sure.)

W. H. BRATT,

306 West 12th St., NEW YORK CITY.

PACKET NO. 7.

100 Fine Stamps (75 var.) catalogued at over \$1.60, post-paid, only 50c. Every fifth purchaser gets a stamp valued at 25c. Price list of packets free. For the next 30 days I will give 50 good stamps to all persons sending a reference for my approval sheets of fine stamps at 33½ per cent. commission. H. F. Bamforth, 27 Central St., Springfield, Mass.

THE PHILATELIC LIBRARY

No. 1 is out, 64 pages and cover, containing a Philatelic Dictionary, List of Devices, Watermarks, Notes, &c. Price, 10 Cents. No. 2, same size, being a Handbook on Counterfeits, out in Jan. 1890. Price, with name and address inserted, if ordered now, 10c. Jewett & Lyons, 502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

Philatelic Papers.

Alabama Philatelist, 2 Nos., complete,	10c.
American Stamp, 1 No., complete,	5c.
10 different papers,	10c.
10 " " better quality,	25c.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, - PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

CHEAP ADVERTISING.

1 Cent a word, no charge for your name and address. A 2-word ad. for one year (24 issues) will cost you only 25 cts. Large circulation. Paper free while ad. runs. Address, THE SOUTHERN PRESS, Box 82, Smithfield, Va.

Editors insert this and the above 3 times for like favor.

BOYS A 2½x4 inch PRINTING PRESS Given Away FREE, with 2 fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See Corona News-Letter. **ENTERPRISE STAMP CO.,**

Three Rivers, Mass.

Editors inserting this and above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars or less than one dollar.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine.

A leading illustrated 32 page (7x10) magazine with cover. Contributors, Messrs Partello, Casey, Heath, Bratt, Craig, Roberts, Cooledge, Gregory, Davison and Mitchell. Portraits of noted Philatelists, chronicle, current stamp news, reviews, notes, comments, editorials and exchange department, monthly. Subscription 50cts. Circulation 2000. Advs. inch 75cts. Sample copy free.

MAGAZINE PUBLISHING CO.,

12 So. Main St., Calmar, Iowa.

The American Stamp Journal

DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

J. L. PENDER, - Editor.

Published on the 1st of each month.

SAMPLE COPY FREE.

AM. PUB. CO., Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

Editors inserting the above 1 mo. can have same space

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., JANUARY, 1890.

No. 3.

Calculations and Investigations

(Not altogether Theory.)

BY FICTITIOUS.

It would be no little matter to acquire an accurate estimation as to the amount of stamp collectors in the United States.

Several attempts have been made at such but without result worthy of notice. An idea that exists is, that if we may be allowed to consider the dispositions and pursuits of the inhabitants of one city, equal with that of another, we can draw just a taint outline of what a general summary would amount to; for instance: If we interview say 70 independent people on the stamp collecting subject, we may meet with just one, who is a live wide-awake philatelist, and probably three who collect stamps, but if asked to compare the value of two specimens, be thoroughly lost; they have never seen a philatelic paper, in fact are ignorant of the word "Philatelic" and its meaning. We are therefore (by the figures given) to understand that the United States, with a population of 65,000,000 has within its borders, one in seventy (= 928,571) philatelists, and three in seventy (= 2,785,715) persons who collect stamps, but remain in ignorance of philatelic literature, and furthermore, have not the ability to classify a foreign specimen. The former figures given, appear to dwell within the range of the estimated numbers, hence the latter is not considered. And for why?

I became acquainted with one of these "stamp collectors" a short time back, in quite an unexpected manner, and during

the course of a conversation we were holding, he produced a common continental and inquired of its value. I told him, but he held on to it just the same, with a view, I concluded for other valuations.

I am informed that this stamp was offered to a New York dealer who wrote the "not to be duped collector" that if he could furnish him with a nice, clean lot of of lightly cancelled specimens, he (the dealer) would purchase them for cash at the rate of a half cent per pound.

The dealer must have thought this young man a rich specimen of Philatelia's sons, but undaunted by the offer made him, he remains a little wiser man.

Again we cross the path of another in the shape of the "no flies on me" collector, who has been pasting the stamps he has received from his German cousins, in an old composition book, that a year or so ago, received as much of the teacher's blue pencil, as my words may meet with in the course of their travels before our philatelic critics.

But to resume. He notices whilst perusing the daily press on his way to the office that Postmaster Wanamaker is about to change the stamps, and that we are to have a new issue. Here is his chance. The old ones will become rare, and if he can but get a thousand together before the "new uns" show up, just fancy what they will bring him. It seems to me a question whether his great-grand-children would be able to raise \$3.00 on them, should he collect the coveted number.

Time flies, and he discovers that his has been really labor lost, and that not until the hairs of his great-grand-children become gray, will the labor of his early years

of stamp enthusiasm, reap the price of an inscription placed above the green grown plot, that holds his once fiery philatelic brain.

TO BE CONTINUED.

A Philatelic Scrap Book.

BY J. L. PENDER.

Every philatelist in the course of his travels, or in looking over the papers, some small items of interest, relating to his hobby, that he has never seen before in philatelic journals, or elsewhere. It is very easy for him to cut this out and paste it in a blank book, and in this way, he becomes possessed of a stock of information, that may be useful to him, in the future. For instance, the *Youth's Companion*, sometime ago, gave a very good description and cut of the new issue of Spanish stamps, and I have not seen a cut of the stamps in any philatelic paper since. This is therefore a valuable scrap. I have a small scrap-book myself. It is a small leather covered book 8x5, and contains many notes of interest to philatelists.

Notes.

No philatelic corner, echos, ramblings, or whispers, will appear in this paper, for a short time at least.

The blue numbers appearing on the backs of the 1875 issue of Spain, were used to denote the position of the stamps in the sheets, the stamps being numbered consecutively.

The first hand book on philately was issued in 1863, and the first postage stamp album appeared in 1869.

The First Stamps of the Virgin Islands.

BY VERT.

This group of islands is south of the Bahamas, and form a portion of the West Indies, their area being something less than sixty square miles.

Their first stamps, were issued in 1867, consisting of two varieties, one penny, and sixpence, described as follows.

One penny, green, "Virgin Islands" across the top in an arch, and "one penny" in a straight line across the bottom. Between the name and value, is the figure of a virgin, emblematic of the islands, in an oval.

Six pence, rose, "Virgin Islands" straight across the top, six pence straight across the bottom, and between, the figure of a virgin on a dark background. These stamps presented a rough appearance although perforated.

The first supply was soon exhausted and a new supply was ordered with new values. The perforation of this set was finer, and the stamps were printed better than at first. They were, one penny, green, same as last, but, with a finer perforation. Four pence, red on light red, a little larger than last, and having "Virgin Island" above value below, and between, in light red, a figure of virgin on dark red background. Six pence, rose, same as last six pence, but with finer perforation. One shilling, red and black, size of four pence, and with the also, one shilling, red and black, same as last, enclosed in a colored border. None of above set were watermarked.

Premium names for No. 2 were, the 5th, A. J. Croman, Quakertown, Pa.; the 10th, H. F. Paterson, Pensacola, Fla.; the 15th, DeWitt Ashburton, Elmira, N. Y.

Postal Card Collecting.

INITIATOR.

Postal card collecting is rapidly coming to the notice of the stamp collecting world. Many persons interested in philately, collect both stamps and postal cards.

They are in fact cousins to stamps and will, no doubt, in the near future be invariably connected with their collection. But it is necessary to know when and where postal cards originated.

They were first issued in 1870 some time after the introduction of the penny postage scheme by Sir Rowland Hill, by Great Britain, and the first ones were of the half penny denomination and were circulated entirely within the kingdom. In the first year of their existence seventy-five million were used.

The United States adopted them some time later and there have been five distinct issues. Nations gradually adopted them, seeing their usefulness and now, every nation of any importance whatever has them.

Exchange Column.

One foreign postal card for every three stamp papers sent me. Not less than three accepted. P. F. O'Keefe, Steubenville, Ohio.

Philatelic and story papers to exchange for printing matter. F. H. Gray, Box 992, Portsmouth, N. H.

U. S. stamps of all kinds for same, send list, also five entire 3c. blue war department envelope for every 100 3 or 4c. stamps, current issue. R. M. McFarland, Box 182, Henderson, Ky.

Fine set of cents, large copper cents, ½ cents, and continental notes, for stamp, coin, and curiosity papers. A. J. Croman, Box 92, Quakertown, Penn.

10 varieties first class bird's eggs for 20c., postpaid and securely packed. C. W. Green, Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H.

Philatelic papers exchanged for the same or for U. S. stamps. 300 cigarette pictures for best offer in U. S. stamps or stamp papers. John F. Gartlein, Box 264, Connorsville, Ind.

Philatelic papers in good condition for common U. S. stamps by the 100. H. G. Pender, Box 952, Portsmouth, N. H.

Cloth and paper bound books, and 370 U. S. 3c. green stamps to exchange for revenues and envelopes. E. Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Our Chronic Kicker.

Do not love a man who always kicks, no matter what you do,

Who kicks with most prodigious ease the whole long season through,

Who kicks if anything goes wrong, and kicks it all goes right,

Who kicks because he likes to kick, and kicks with all his might?

We know some awful kickers on this wicked mundane sphere,

Who came on earth by accident and kick because they're here;

They make themselves uncomfortable and other people sick,

They drive their friends to suicide and still they always kick.

We know a man who kicks and kicks the blessed livelong day,

When there's naught else to kick about he kicks at the A. P. A.

At times when things are going right and other men would smile,

He kicks on general principles and kicketh all the while.

We wish to inform the public that the

Old Curiosity Shop,

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY,
NUMISMATICS AND NATURAL HISTORY

Has changed hands and will commence the ninth volume January, 1890.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

As the price will probably be advanced soon.

Subscription 25 cts. per year.

∴ SAMPLE : COPY : FREE. ∴

Address

COLLECTOR PUB. CO.,

2219 Scott St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One inch, - - - - -	\$.40
Two inches, - - - - -	.75
One column, - - - - -	2.00
One page, - - - - -	4.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.

No half inch advertisements.

Subscriptions 15c. per year. Abroad, 25c.

Subscriptions must commence with current issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

JANUARY, 1890.

During the year 1890, we shall endeavor to present our readers with the best of philatelic matter, and no pains will be spared to bring this about. We are in hopes of securing a well known philatelist, as a regular contributor, commencing with No. 4, and it is imminent, that on account of the encroachment of our advertising space, upon the reading matter in this number, that we will have to enlarge with that number.

We notice that Geo. Henderson, is no longer at the helm of the *Q. C. P.*, and we sincerely hope it will do better under the new board.

* * *

We call the attention of parties desirous of a good bargain, to W. H. Bratt's ad in another column.

* * *

Why are all the stamp papers shaking Chalmers?

* * *

Common Sense for October, is fine, in fact, every issue is.—*Universal Collector*. Rats!

* * *

We have received a complete file of the *Curiosity Collector*. Thanks, Bro. Bartlett,

* * *

We present a fine premium list on another page.

* * *

We can recommend H. F. Bamforth as completely trustworthy, having had many dealings with him.

* * *

No new papers have been announced from New England, for the New Year. Something unusual.

* * *

Berlin has a system of large postal wagons, containing arrangements for sorting, stamping, and bundling, in which this work is done by postal clerks, while the wagons roll from station to station, throughout the city. About 2 hours is thus saved, in the city's mail.

* * *

It is a difficult matter for us to see wherein J. H. Lyons' "Stamp Portraits," will benefit the philatelic public, as the article is only a question of a little study.

REVIEWS.

Universal Collector for November is received, and presents a neat appearance, although many clipped articles.

The *New York Philatelist* doubles up the November and December number, and presents a fair amount of reading matter.

No. 1, of the *Stamp Advertiser*, received in December, but dated November. Brace up Mr. Parks.

No. 9 of the *Oologist's Exchange* with supplement, comes to our notice. Glad to put you on our exchange list.

The closing number of Vol. 5, of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, has as its most prominent figure, a finely illustrated chronicle.

The November *Figaro*, is a little late, but promises a fine number before Christmas.

The makeup of No. 3, of the *Southern Philatelist*, shows considerable enterprise.

No. 5 of the *Nebraska Philatelist* although sporting a new cover, has very interior contents.

No. 12, Vol. 4, of *Quaker City Philatelist* shows a decided improvement.

No. 12 of *Curiosity Collector* has its usual supply of amateur journalism.

Plain Talk as usual has its splendid philatelic column.

No. 3 of the *Essex County Philatelist* is out on time.

The *American Philatelist* for December, has a fine list of contents.

One Dime for November has its customary fill of nonsense.

Chalmers latest—"How James Chalmers saved the Penny Postage Scheme" contains 75 pages of "conclusive proof etc.?"

The January *Beacon* is chuck full of advertisements.

The *Western Philatelist* is without doubt the successor of the old *Stamp*.

In place of the *Plainfield Collector*, we will have the *New Jersey Collector*.

Mr. Henry Gremmel, presents to the philatelic public, his first auction sale catalogue.

The December number of *Philatelic Express* has the first part of "Stamp Portraits."

No. 1 *Yankee Philatelist* is received and contains altogether too much reading matter.

We have received "Watson's Catalogue of European Postal Cards," and pronounce it a valuable work. It classifies and describes all of the European Post Cards, and is indispensable to the collector.

50 per cent. Below Scott.

Net sheets of stamps marked at 50 per cent. below Scott, sent on approval to responsible parties.

Agents sheets of stamps marked at Scott, sent to wide-awake agents at 33 1/2 per cent. commission.

Reference required in all cases except A. P. A. & C. P. A. members.

LEADER PACKET NO. 7.

Is all the rage just now. It contains 100 choice stamps from all parts of the globe (75 Var.) catalogued at over \$1.60, post-paid only 50 cents.

Every purchaser of this packet will receive as a premium a stamp valued at 25 cents.

Price-list of packets free.

H. F. BAMFORTH.

27 Central St., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

The New Jersey Collector.

Devoted to philately and cigarette card collecting. W. H. Rice, editor and publisher. Will appear on January 15th 1890. Sample Copy Free. Circulation 800 Sub. 15c a year. THE NEW JERSEY COLLECTOR, 187 Park Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

This paper takes the place of the Plainfield Collector.

PREMIUM LIST.

To the first subscriber in January we will give a copy of President Tiffany's address to 2nd convention of the American Philatelic Association, To the fourth, a copy of the "Stamp Collector's Companion," 1883; to the tenth a cloth bound copy of the "Cyclopedia of Philately"; to the fifteenth a copy of "Richmond's Philatelic Press Directory" 1887; to the twenty-fifth a first edition "Mekeel's Catalogue," Address,

American Publishing Company,

Box 954.

Portsmouth, N. H.

* DON'T FRET *

BUT TURN ME OVER AT ONCE.

close stamp for reply.
the Advertisers send for estimates. En-
ing medium extant. Sample 2c, none
Fine collectors' paper, and best advertis-
Mt. Avn, Iowa.
UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

Established 1887.

: : : : THE : : : :

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Illustrated Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

Subscription, - - - 35 cents per year

Dealers should send for advertising rates.

LARGE AND SELECT CIRCULATION.

SAMPLE : COPY : FREE.

THE FIGARO.

HANOVER CENTRE, IND., U. S. A.

COLLECTORS

— OF —

Philatelic Literature.

TAKE NOTICE

of the following bargains, I am offering for 30 days only.

Five diff philatelic papers, very rare	\$.35
Ten " with covers,	.25
Ten " without covers,	.06
Five " with covers,	.10
Five " without covers,	.03

Philatelic papers bought, sold, and exchanged.

GEO. H. YOUNG.

18 Richards Ave., PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

* FINE * JOB * PRINTING *

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

I make a specialty of printing philatelic papers and can give very low prices and good work. If you are now publishing, or are intending to publish, a philatelic paper write me for my prices. W. W. JEWETT,

502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

I have a lot of bound novels, Golden Hours, Young Men of America, New York Weekly, Golden Days, and many of the standard magazines, that I will sell at 25 cents per dozen to get rid of them. They are all good as new.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, - PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

CHEAP OFFERS.

10 Var. of birds eggs,	\$.20
15 " " " "30
2 diff. sets " "15
3 " " " "25
6 " " " "60
10 " " " "	1.10
15 " " " "	2.00

All first class eggs. Sent securely packed and post paid.

C. W. GREEN,

Box 424, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

"Words of Our Hero

U. S. GRANT."

This magnificent book, printed on heavy laid paper, handsomely bound, in an illuminated cover and containing a photo-engraving of our great General, is presented to every purchaser of the "Excelsior Package of Postage Stamps." This package contains upwards of 100 choice and desirable stamps, catalogued at over \$4.00, contains no duplicates and should be in the hands of every collector. I merely ask a ONE DOLLAR BILL for the entire lot. THE PRICE OF THE BOOK. No true American should be without it. Write now.

W. H. BRATT,

306 West 12th St., NEW YORK CITY.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Importer and Dealer in

U. S. & FOREIGN

POSTAGE & REVENUE STAMPS

Publisher of the

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Hanover Centre, Ind., U. S. A.

FREE! FREE!

My new price list (illustrated) cheapest ever published.

AGENTS WANTED!

33 1/2 & 40 per cent. Commission

from my approval sheets, made up of good stamps, also stamps for beginners containing stamps to sell at 1, 2 and 3 cents each at same commission. Reference required.

ALBUMS

At Prices Below Publishers'

Scott's International, 9th edition, postp'd, \$1.35

Willard's, bound in cloth and boards, .22

All albums and publications in stock.

Special Quotations on Rare Stamps

1000 Ass't Foreign, inc. Japan, Mexico,

Chili, Peru, Porto Rico, etc. - 18c.

20 var. So. and Central America. - 15c.

U. S. Officially Sealed, unused, 1879, - 8c.

" " " " 1888, 4c.

U. S. and Foreign Envelopes, entire, at

lowest prices.

WANTED : TO : BUY : FOR : CASH

Collection of Good Stamps, also U. S. Postage and Departments. Common or Rare.

A Few Stamp Cuts at 30 Cts. Each.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

HANOVER CENTRE, IND.

WATSON'S

Post Card & Letter Card

CATALOGUE.

Part I., now ready, contains

CARDS OF EUROPE

TO OCTOBER, 1889.

Price One Dollar.

The Most Complete List ever issued.

Address

GEORGE H. WATSON,
(Box 85) Roselle,
Union County, N. J.

We will print for philatelists, collectors, etc. 200 copies of a 4 page paper, each page 5½x7 inches and send postpaid for \$1.75, reserving 1 inch space for our ads. Send for an estimate on any job.

C. A. MOXLEY.

ROSEMOND, CHRISTIAN CO., ILLINOIS.

AUCTION SALE.

- Lot
- 1 Am. Phil., Vol. II, Nos. 3, 5, 7, 8, 9.
 - 2 " " " III, " 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12.
 - 3 " " " IV, " 1, 2.
 - 4 P. J. of A. " III, " 33, IV, 44, 46.
 - 5 " " " V, complete, 12 Nos.
 - 6 Young Oologist, Vol. I " " "
 - 7 " " " 5 different Nos.
 - 8 Philately, " I, Nos. 1, 2, 4.
 - 9 Manhattan Journal, Vol. I, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.
 - 10 A. J. of P. Vol. I, Nos. 2, 6, Vol. II, No. 3.
 - 11 Ph. World, " V, " 5, 9, " VI, Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7, Vol. VII, Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12
 - 12 Curiosity Coll. Vol. I, complete 12 Nos.

All bids must be in by Jan. 20, 1890. The highest bid takes each lot. Make bid by the lot. No lot broken. Address,

American Publishing Company,
Box 954, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

F. H. GRAY,

2 Market St., Portsmouth, N. H.

Golden Days, Golden Hours, Leisure Hour Library, etc., 20 cents per dozen, Correspondence solicited.

Philatelic Papers.

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|--|------|
| Alabama Philatelist, 2 Nos., complete, | 10c. |
| American Stamp, 1 No., complete, | 5c. |
| 10 different papers, | 10c. |
| 10 " " better quality, | 25c. |

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, - PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

CHEAP ADVERTISING.

1 Cent a word, no charge for your name and address. A 2-word ad. for one year (24 issues) will cost you only 25 cts. Large circulation. Paper free while ad. runs. Address,

THE SOUTHERN PRESS, Box 82, Smithfield, Va.

Editors insert this and the above 3 times for like favor.

BOYS A 2½x4 inch PRINTING PRESS Given Away FREE, with 2 fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See Corona News-Letter. **ENTERPRISE STAMP CO.,**

Three Rivers, Mass.

Editors inserting this and above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars or less than one dollar.

MCGINTY.

is now the by-word, and so I have put up a "McGinty" packet. It consists of 60 varieties of picked stamps which would retail at over \$1.00 price 40 cents, postpaid,

33½ per cent. Commission

will be allowed agents selling from my unexcelled sheets of stamps. Reference required.

Philatelic Literature

AT LOWEST PRICES.

100 diff. Philatelic papers, 75

100 better quality, 1.50

Send to me for my prices on complete files or single numbers,

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I. PORTSMOUTH, N. H., FEBRUARY, 1890. No. 4.

Calculations and Investigations

(Not altogether Theory.)

BY FICTITIOUS.

PART II.

You will call to mind that in last issue we pointed out two specimens of the blindfolded stamp collector, and although the movements of these persons may vary somewhat, when we strike a line throughout the States, the terminus would find us in an approximate course.

But to the third.

We place before us, an individual who (though seldom) shows up as a victim of his ignorance, insomuch that he has recently "fired" the mass of correspondence that has accumulated in his trunk, during the past 40 years, and now he learns that, that little insignificant bit of paper bearing the engraving of two black bruins, was actually worth more money than would purchase two real live ones and thereby, set him up in "biz" with a juvenile menagerie.

These points go to show the wretched state of philately outside of its own circles, and the necessity of a reformation in the present state of affairs, if philately is to become a "universal" hobby, or science (term it to suit.)

But we must not suppose that within our circles we are perfect: by no means, for circumstances go to prove that the very persons we look to for information and instruction, are false to us, or on the other hand, are very poorly informed.

Therefore let us give Mr. Ph. Heinsberger of New York City, the benefit of the latter, when we view his article in Vol. II, No. 10, of the *Philatelic News*. For the benefit of the numerous subscribers of the AMERICAN

STAMP JOURNAL in the United States, and foreign countries, I will dwell on this particular article briefly, and point out to you what "Fictitious" knows to be wrong, and furthermore, what he knows to be right.

Heinsberger commences by saying that year by year, the mail communications between the United States and European countries has improved, and in our present time, we have reached the highest point of rapid trans-atlantic postal service, but an exception to this improved system is England, who consigns her mail to "favored" vessels of the Cunard and White Star Lines, ignoring the North German Lloyd steamers which call at Southampton, from thence direct to New York, arriving in the neighborhood of 2 or 3 days earlier than the "favored" lines do.

At the time of writing, I have before me a letter mailed on the P. M. of August 7th 1889 from Berkenhead, Cheshire, England, and the said letter forwarded by the "favored" White Star Line reached my hands in New York, at noon on the 15th of said month, which shows barely $7\frac{1}{2}$ days lapse of time when including the five hours (or thereabouts) gain on time between England and New York.

Had I preserved the envelopes of more recent correspondence. I feel sure that I could beat these figures with ease, but such is unnecessary when I quote that although I am in frequent correspondence with parties both in Germany, and France, their letters (up to date) have never reached inside of 9 days (actual time).

I fail to see how England can better herself by transferring her mails to foreign hands, and even if the figures given, were on the reverse, *why she should do so.*

Is it at all likely that if the United States had two such lines of steamers as the Cunard and White Star, sailing between New York

and England, that they would ignore them for the sake of a foreign line who might perchance deliver the mails a trifle earlier? If so America would show very little "protection" to her people and her commercial dependences.

Again, Heinsberger says that all mail from Great Britain for the United States, gets collected in the "Grand" Post Office, London. For instance, were I to mail a letter in Liverpool, for New York (or in fact, any place in the United States it would be transmitted to Chester, then to Holyhead, from whence to Dublin, across the Irish Sea and finally to Queenstown, at which place it is met by the steamer.

Such is the case with other cities, London sends her mail in the same manner.

Secondly, *There is no such place as the Grand Post Office in London.*

The principle post office in London is the "General," and is situated on the site of St. Martin's C Grand, a monastery that "tolled the curfew" and dates back as far as the Norman invasion.

The building of this post office was commenced in December, 1869 and completed early in 1874. The site alone cost the British government £300,000 or about \$1,500,000. The building is rectangular, having a frontage of 286 feet to St. Martin's C Grand and Bath Street, and 144 feet to Newgate and Angel Streets. It is 84 feet in height from the sidewalk, stands on a granite base and the fronts throughout are executed in the hardest Portland stone.

These are facts that I can argue with "Tentonic's stalwart son" any time I am called upon to do so.

He furthermore goes on to say that vessels are altogether dependent upon the weather (something new?) and terminates with some pointers to "John Bull" that will be argued in the House of Commons shortly, just as sure as James Chalmers invented the adhesive postage stamp.

Let us sing the long metre doxology on such literature and beg Heinsberger to make use of a little "personal knowledge" in the production of future articles and not allow his imagination string to stretch beyond a retrievable length. THE END.

New England's Philately.

In American philatelic matters as well as in general literature and culture the stamp collector need not be told that New England takes the lead. The record is unmistakable, but of late it has dawned upon New England that philately and literature are not so closely allied as they might have been supposed to be about a decade and a half ago, but as a rule to which there are few if any exceptions. The New England writers have been producers of original matter and not like the Anglo-Semitic New Yorkers or the loud-mouthed and empty headed productions of the breezy prairie of the west compilers and condensers of things they have read which revamped and made over, have been tortured into shape and fired off so to speak at philatelists, as valuable treatises on philately, with the author's name of course, proudly prefacing their sounding but empty "articles." The earliest writers on philatelic subjects in this country, were New Englanders. James M. Chute, whose title as the earliest American writer on stamps, is undisputed, was such even before the existence of the term philately. Mr. Chute was brought up in Salem, though now of Boston. John Kerr Tiffany, President of the A. P. A., and better known for his valuable compilations and works, is a native of Worcester, Mass., although for some years a resident of St. Louis. Dr. Geo. F. Heath of Monroe, Mich. a man of original conceptions and ideas, as well as of profound, and clear headed perspicuity, is from Poultney, Vt. W. C. Stone, editor of the useful portion of the *American Philatelist*, is from Springfield, Mass. Mr. Jewett of Fitchburg, (Topaz) Mr. Dawson of Providence, Hutchison of Newton, and, though he has long abandoned philately, Mr. Kelsey of Meriden, are all entitled to honorable mention. So also is Fred H. King, the compiler of the first original handbook of stamps, ever published in this country, the previous one,

that by the Philadelphia coin dealer, Kline, being merely a pirated reprint of the work of Mr. Mount Brown, of London. Mr. King has been in his grave at Ipswich for near a quarter of a century, but his little handbook, though long out of print, is preserved in the Boston Public Library.

The "Stamp Collector's Record," the earliest philatelic paper in the U. S. (they were called stamp papers, then,) though published in Albany, was, after a few months, removed to Boston, by its publisher, S. A. Taylor, while the "American Stamp Mercury," the first to take on the magazine form, was published also in Boston, by F. Trifet.

Of philatelic papers, Massachusetts being the larger state, necessarily furnished the most. The "Stamp Collector's Record," the "Stamp Collector's Monitor," "Stamp Collector's Review," "New England Journal of Philately," "Timbrophilist," "Stamp Collector's Magazine," "U. S. Philatelist," "Philatelic Squeal," "Stamp Circular," and "Philatelic Nonpareil," all of Boston. The "New England Philatelist," "Philatelic News," "Yankee Philatelist," "Fitchburg Philatelist," and "Eastern Philatelist," all of Fitchburg. The "Witch City Philatelist," and "Witch City Collector," of Salem. The "Stamp Exchange," "Postage Stamp Reporter," and "Spindle Philatelist," of Lowell. The "Boy's Stamp Gazette," and "Stamp Reporter and Collector," of Worcester. The "Chair City Stamp Collector" of West Gardner. The "Philatelic Beacon" of Newton. The "Philatelic News" of Springfield. The "Philatelic Science" of Georgetown. The "American Philatelic Magazine" of Pittsfield. The "Collector's Monthly" of Lynn. The "Bay State Collector" of Leominster.

New Hampshire has produced the "Philatelic Guide," and "Collector's Own" both of Concord. The "Granite State Philatelist," and "Stamp World" both of Lake Village. The "Stamp Collector's Monthly" of Newmarket. The "Collector's Leisure Hour" of Greenland, and the

"American Stamp Journal" of Portsmouth.

Vermont furnishes the "Vermont Philatelist" of St. Albans; the "Collector's Companion" of Northfield; the "Postage Stamp Reporter" of Montpelier, and the "Yankee Philatelist" of Barre.

Connecticut has given us the "Coin and Stamp Journal," "Postage Stamp Reporter," and "Stamp Collector's Guide," all of Meriden; the "American Stamp Collector's Guide," "Stamp Journal," and "Stamp Buyer," all of Middletown; the "Philatelic Press" of West Winsted, and the "Park City Collector" of Bridgeport.

Maine gives us the "Philatelic Herald," of Portland, and Freeport, and the "Philatelic Express" of Portland, as well as a partial price list styled the "Maine Philatelist," issued in Portland, and the "Capital City Philatelist" of Augusta.

Rhode Island, the smallest of the New England States, has only issued 2 papers, the "Collector's Guide," and the "Rhode Island Philatelist," both of Newport.

A comparison, will show those interested in philately, that New England, in philatelic, as well as in every other science, of culture, takes the lead, at all times, and under all circumstances.

Happy New England!

Among the Dealers.

Now as Spring approaches and old Winter's back is beginning to break, you will notice, if you notice a stamp paper at all, the multiplicity of new dealers, who are advertising. By far, the majority are young whiffle souls, whose ambition, is to be classed among the ranks of dealers, and who, gloating over their gains to be, think of nothing but the bright side.

Several, you will see, are advertising some packet at amazingly cheap prices, others offer to send you approval sheets at 25, or 33½ per cent. commission. Both of these do not advertise, except in inch space, "they can't afford it" and if they don't get any answers, they, in their ex

alted opinion of themselves as judges, of the "I've tried the paper myself" class, immediately mark the paper as no good as an advertising medium. By that I do not mean to say that *all* inch space advertisers are youngsters, for there are many, well known, who take space in this way, but I am referring to the younger, and correspondingly less used to the buffets of this world.

Then look some more. You see that *all* the old standbys are still advertising, for "advertising is the life of trade" with them as of yore.

A great many amateurs, especially is this the case with smaller papers like *One Dime*, write articles or notes, styled "Stray Shots from a Loaded Ink Bottle," "Notes by the Wayside," "Musings," and so on indefinitely, in exchange for advertising space, and I think that after the lapse of 2 months even, they are ashamed of their first attempts, but every thing must have a beginning, and in the end you will be forgiven or rather, forgotten.

But if you start in business, pay for your advertising, then you will feel that you have acted squarely with all parties, and I know that you will think you receive more answers, when you do this.

Frauds.

The greatest drawback to the approval sheet trade is the petty approval sheet fraud. A little thing which every publication can do, is to devote a portion of their space to listing these characters. We gladly notice some publications have already taken this step, and below we give the foundation of one.

Will H. Jones, Fremont, Nebraska,
A. Scaramanga, 6 Rue Bonward, Geneva, Switzerland.

The former, defrauded only to a small extent, but the latter has swindled a well-known and reliable dealer of this city, out of stamps to the value of \$27.00.

What New Scheme is This?

Mrs. O. A. Weeks is assisting Luella Scales in saving and collecting cancelled stamps, to help an old lady in Grafton to the Old Ladies' Home in Concord. If each of the readers of the Democrat will spend a little time in cutting cancelled postage stamps from old letters and enclose them in an envelope, address to O. A. Weeks, Andover, N. H., she will consider the contribution very acceptable.—*Concord Democrat*.

Officers of the Home for the Aged know nothing of the case, and say they have no arrangement with any party whereby admission could be secured or helped in such a way as the above paragraph would indicate.

The above appeared in the *Portsmouth Daily Evening Times*, Jan. 22.

While this may be some charitable proceeding, yet people should take some caution in anything of the kind. Many people worked zealously for the collection of an enormous number of canceled postage stamps, the fruit of their labors being in one case for a poor orphan, in others an invalid, a home for decrepid females and so on. These items have all been circulated extensively through the leading newspapers, and such a thing is probable although we doubt its existence in New Hampshire.

An Austrian Stamp Exhibit.

The Philatelisten Club, of Vienna, are preparing to commemorate their 10th anniversary, and the 40th of the introduction of stamps into Austria, with a grand international postage stamp exhibit. The plans for the affair are in the hands of a committee of three, and the Austrian Industrial Museum has been secured as an exhibition hall.

Wanted.

An English correspondent, to this paper, residing in the West Indies. Terms reasonable.

Yes. Great Minds Differ.

Any article in regard to philately that is a question of study, must necessarily benefit the philatelic public. Editor.

The above, was appended to our criticism in No. 3 on the article appearing in the *Philatelic Express*, entitled "Stamp Portraits."

We beg to say that we differ in some respect to the above statements. We admit that any article of *considerable* research, will benefit philately, but the article in question, is, in our consideration, not of the above class. The majority of articles requiring little study, are of little, or no good to the science.

Surcharges.

Because so many colonies use surcharges upon the least provocation, they have become so numerous, and complicated, as to bid defiance to the young collector, and in many cases, the older heads.

We notice from the *P. J. of A.*, that New Caledonia, a French Colony, the last time it ran short of stamps, instead of using the veteran surcharge, used a common hand stamp, and franked the letters in this way.

Now one colony has taken the lead, let others follow. Let the surcharge notice be abolished, or at least abated for a while.

We will have to condense the "Review" column in the next number, owing to the number of new exchanges.

Nicaragua.

The new 1890 postal and telegraph stamps have appeared. The design shows a shield divided by a horizontal bar, on which is inscribed the word Nicaragua. In the upper half of the shield, a locomotive with a train of cars is depicted and in the lower half a telegraph instrument. The date, 1890, appears on the upper margin of the frame. The full detail of the colors and values is not yet to be had but will be given in our next.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Importer and Dealer in

U. S. & FOREIGN

POSTAGE & REVENUE STAMPS

Publisher of the

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Hanover Centre, Ind., U. S. A.

FREE! FREE!

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AGENTS WANTED!

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1000 Ass't Foreign, inc. Japan, Mexico,

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U. S. Officially Sealed, unused, 1879, 8c.

" " " " 1888, 4c.

U. S. and Foreign Envelopes, entire, at lowest prices.

WANTED : TO : BUY : FOR : CASH

Collection of Good Stamps, also U. S. Postage and Departments. Common or Rare.

A Few Stamp Cuts at 30 Cts. Each.

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,
HANOVER CENTRE, IND.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One line, - - - - -	\$.10
One inch, - - - - -	.50
Two inches, - - - - -	.85
One column, - - - - -	2.50
One page, - - - - -	5.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.

Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions 15c. per year. Abroad, 25c.

Subscriptions must commence with current issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

FEBRUARY, 1890.

This number is issued in twelve-page form to satisfy advertisers, giving our subscribers the usual amount of reading matter. This enlargement is only temporary and next month will see us back in eight pages as heretofore.

Thanking every one who has so kindly supported us in subscribing and advertising to this magazine, and with a solicitation for the continuance of the same. We remain,

Yours truly,

THE PUBLISHERS.

An error which can not be corrected has occurred with us, that is in omitting page marks in prior numbers.

* * *

A short time ago we noticed in this publication that few papers had started or were announced for the new year. We were mistaken and are firmly convinced of our mistake by the receipt of numerous new publications.

* * *

We wonder who will bid highest for the good-will and right to publish the *Philatelic Gazette*. While in Chicago it has been well edited and we hope it will fall into good hands.

* * *

Now is the time to subscribe, as before two more numbers have appeared our subscription price will rise.

* * *

Just as the writer of "New England's Philately" says, "probably the enumeration of the stamp publications by states may be tiresome" yet we will overlook that part for the rest is surely most interesting.

* * *

As the advancing of our advertising rates was entirely unannounced we will receive ads for No. 5 at the old prices—40c. per inch, 2 inches for 75c., etc., until Feb. 15. Send them on.

* * *

Anyone having a list of frauds, who can testify as to their fraudulent practices, can insert the same in our columns, free.

* * *

The sample copy fiend is rapidly filling a drawer, laid aside for the reception of postals. They all bear the stereotype "Please send me a sample copy of your paper, and oblige." Of course it is impossible to keep one person from getting more than one copy, who is not a subscriber, but as far as possible, a different list is sent each time.

All the new papers that have started in New England, of late, give promise of staying. Every state is represented, some in as many as half a dozen cases, except Connecticut, and every thing points to a prosperous season.

* * *

Notice our advertising columns, and when answering an ad, say where you saw the advertisement.

* * *

Our subscription list is slowly growing, and in a little while, we wish to number it above the 100 mark. Send on your sub. then, now.

REVIEWS.

The *Eureka Philatelist* from San Francisco, dons a neat cover with its New Year's number.

W. H. Goodrich celebrated the *Eastern Philatelist's* 2nd birth day, in issuing a model number.

One of the newsiest papers, is the *Rhode Island Philatelist*. No. 12 has a very prosperous air.

No. 12 Vol. II, of the *Philatelic News*, is one of the neatest appearing papers in the United States, and is a credit to the publishers.

England has sent us a worthy representative in the *Stamp Advertiser and Auction Record*. The first number has a large quota of American advertisements.

We think that Edw. A. Durgin's *Philatelic Nonpareil* has surely come to stay. No. 2 strengthens the belief.

Another successful looking paper, is the *Essex County Philatelist*. We want to see you every month.

The paper for the juniors is the *Tribune and Advertiser*.

If originality is what the public want, F. S. Goldbury's paper, the *Yankee Philatelist*, fills the bill. Success to you, unbounding.

With No. 5, the *Philatelic Era* takes a brace, and jumps to the front, full to the brim with good matter.

Although the official head of the *Philatelic Journal of America* is abroad, it does not impair its unexcelled contents with Jan.

New Jersey's latest production is the *New Jersey Collector*. No. 1 is dated Jan.

Ye Boodle Philatelist is an odd publication. No. 3 is no exception.

The *Philatelic World* has found us out at last. Come now and come often.

The supporters of the *Nebraska Philatelist* are not very numerous, if you can judge by looks.

The greatest philatelic curiosity yet, is the *American Collector*. It eclipses *One Dime*, the *Philatelic Midget*, and the *Tiny Philatelist*. No. 1 is out for January.

Febuary's *Beacon*, although working on an antiquated fossil, manages to appear interesting.

Few magazines can give their readers such first class matter as does the *Figaro* for December.

A new series of the *Alabama Philatelist* has been started. It is now the official organ of the P. S. of A.

The *Old Curiosity Shop* has sent us a calender, and we extend our thanks. Now we want the paper.

Keissling & Co. managed to fill their No. 7 of *New York Philatelist*, up to the brim. Indeed there was a little slopover,

J. M. Hubbard is behind the times with his *Stamp World*.

Mr. George Watson, the authority on post cards, has sent us a paper bound volume one, of his paper, the *Post Card*. He besides sent us four *Post Cards* dated the 2nd, 6th, 11th, and 13th respectively, and more to come for the month remaining.

Whitcomb has an assured success in his paper. No. 2 of Vol. II is an extra fine number.

The *Q. C. P.* comes on deck as fresh as ever for January.

The *Oologist's Exchange*, of N. Y. is one of our most regular visitors and, although devoted to another science, is always welcome.

A recent arrival, is W. F. Bishop's *Monthly Journal*. Vol. II, No. 3, is dated January.

Eight page form is the next move in the improvement of the *Philatelic Express*. No. 9, will undoubtedly be something fine.

It is impossible to kill *One Dime*, and it's such a harmless little thing you don't seem to want too. It has as contributors now, W. C. White, of Topsham, Me., and Ph. Heinsberger.

The January number of the *Q. C. P.* contains an article expounding the use a postage stamp savings card would be to the public. If these were introduced, they would be utilized extensively by business firms, and would prove indispensable, after a short term of use. Let us have them.

Postage Stamps.

We make a business of buying and selling U. S. and foreign postage stamps. Possessing first-class facilities and foreign connections we are enabled to sell stamps at fair prices. We go wherever stamps can be had to the best advantage and take them in such lots as will enable us to sell them at *low* prices—no odds what the common prices are.

A Point.

Our Catalogue and Monthly Journal will convince you as to the reason why we do so large a business. We send them free to any address on request. Correspondence solicited for the purchase of stamps in any quantity.

W. F. BISHOP,

La Grange, Ill.

GRAY'S Invisible Ink.

A LETTER WRITTEN WITH THIS INK
CANNOT BE READ UNTIL THE
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Prices: 2 Oz. Bottles 25c. 1 Oz.
Bottles 15c. 1/2 Oz. Bottles 10c.

Discount on dozen lots. To get the best effect of the ink use quill pen,—furnished for 5c. extra. Just the thing for your private correspondence.

TESTIMONIALS:

BANGOR, MAINE, Dec. 7th, 1889.

SIR:—

Received this morning the 1-2 dozen bottles all O. K. Am more than pleased. I will order more soon.

Yours truly,

JOHN E. PEDRICK.

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

I received the bottle of ink all right. It is worth twice its price.

Respectfully,

JOHN C. CERRY.

Address all orders to the Manufacturer,

F. H. GRAY,

Box 992,

Portsmouth, N. H.

Exchange Column.

Free to subscribers only.

I will trade Revenue Stamps and books for a bicycle lantern, bell, or cyclometer. E. Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Iowa.

I will exchange stamps, postmarks, philatelic papers, books, agent's and story papers, dumb bells, and many other valuable and aseful articles, for a printing press. J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

We wish to exchange advertising space with every philatelic paper, from 1 inch to 1 page. Universal Collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

C. W. GREEN,

Dealer in

AMERICAN

POSTAGE STAMPS.

APPROVAL SHEETS.

Send for one of the new "1890 series" of American Approval Sheets, commission of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. allowed on all sales.

One agent wanted in every place.

Send reference.

Send for approval sheets, envelopes, agents' reports, etc., to

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BOX 424,

PORTSMOUTH, - N. H.

C. W. GREEN

Dealer in

American Postage Stamps

Stamps for Collections.

Send for a sheet of stamps stating countries desired and scale of prices.

These are marked at lowest possible prices and no commission is allowed, prices being net cash.

State whether you want the stamps as above.

C. W. GREEN,

Box 424, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

—(THE)—

American Stamp Journal

C. W. GREEN, Editor,

J. L. PENDER, Bus. M'gr.

Subscription Price 15c. per year.

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Two inches, - - - - -	.85
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The best and liveliest journal in New England, contributed to by some of the most noted philatelic writers in the United States.

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American Publishing Company,

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"Words of Our Hero

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This magnificent book, printed on heavy laid paper, handsomely bound, in an illuminated cover and containing a photo-engraving of our great General, is presented to every purchaser of the "Excelsior Package of Postage Stamps." This package contains upwards of 100 choice and desirable stamps, catalogued at over \$4.00, contains no duplicates and should be in the hands of every collector. I merely ask a ONE DOLLAR BILL for the entire lot. THE PRICE OF THE BOOK. No true American should be without it. Write now.

W. H. BRATT,

306 West 12th St., NEW YORK CITY.

50 per cent. Below Scott.

I am now closing out my stock of Foreign Stamps at 50 per cent. commission from Scott's prices.

Send immediately for a selection, enclosing reference or deposit.

100 var. Foreign Stamps, catalogued at over \$1.00, postpaid, only 12 cents.

LEADER PACKET, No. 7.

Just what you want. It contains 100 choice stamps (75 var.) from all parts of the globe, catalogued at over \$1.60, postpaid, only 50c. A stamp valued at 25c. free with each packet.

Circular free.

H. F. Bamforth,

27 Central St., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

LOOK HERE.

350 varieties foreign stamps,	\$1.00
200 " " "	.60
100 " " "	.30
50 " " "	.15

All these packets guaranteed to catalogue five to ten times price asked. CHAS. E. SHAW, Clinton, Mass. A. P. A. 834, C. P. A. 156.

Agents wanted, to sell stamps on approval at 33 1/3 per cent. discount. Fine sheets. Reference required except A. P. A. & C. P. A. members.

H. C. MOODY,

Maplewood, Malden, Massachusetts.

WE ARE SELLING OUT

and offer to collectors until disposed of:

Packet 90—100 stamps, U. S. and foreign. This packet is made up from our best stock and contains stamps just as imported including many rare and desirable stamps. Worth over five times the price charged. Price 25c. postpaid.

Packet 39—100 varieties, and is full value. Former price 15c. reduced to 10c. postpaid

1 new International album, \$1.00
New " " with collection of over 1000 varieties \$10.00

Price list, for stamp.

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First class American postage stamps on new 1890 series of approval sheets.

DIRECT IMPORTATIONS.

Send reference and get one.

Address as above.

Agents wanted.

ESTABLISHED 1886.

J. L. PENDER,

Dealer in and Importer of

U. S. & FOREIGN STAMPS,

BOX 954, PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

A Fine Line of Approval Sheets are Now Ready for Agents.

33 1-3 per cent. Commission

To Active Agents in Every Town, College and School in the United States and Canada.

Foreign Correspondents Wanted.

I want a good correspondent in every country where I am not now represented. Liberal terms allowed.

If you are in want of Philatelic Goods of any sort, write me before buying elsewhere.

When writing for sheets state what quality is desired.

J. L. PENDER.

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

YOUNG'S**Philatelic Handbook**

Will appear April 1st, 1890. All collectors remitting 15c, silver, before March 10 for copy of book, will have name and address inserted. Advertising rates, 1 inch, 60 cents; 2 inches, \$1; larger rates on application. Price of book 15 cents. It will have as contributors the best informed and oldest Philatelists in the U.S.

Address all communications to the publisher

GEO. H. YOUNG,

18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

Established 1887.

: : : : THE : : : :

STAMP COLLECTORS' FIGARO

Illustrated Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

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LARGE AND SELECT CIRCULATION.

SAMPLE : COPY : FREE.

THE FIGARO.

HANOVER CENTRE, IND., U. S. A.

DIED OF LA GRIPPE.

McGINTY, but the Yankee Philatelist is not dead, and it will be sent you one year for only 15c. Advertisers, try us: 1 inch, one month, 25c., 3 months, 60c., or one page, 3 months, only \$3.00. Give us a trial. Sample copy free. The Yankee Philatelist, Box 4, Barre, Vt.

W. H. RICE.

Dealer in U. S. & Foreign Stamps

To all who send for my approval sheets, at 50 per cent. com. I will give 4 var. Cey on stamps FREE. State what kind you want. Approval sheets of Cigarette Cards at 25 per cent. com.

W. H. RICE,

187 Park Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

Attention! Read This!

Do you need printed stationery? I think you do, we will send, post-paid, Job Printing at the following prices: 100 Envelopes, name and address, 40c; 100 Extra Note Heads, 40c; 100 nice Business Cards, 40c; 100 Statements, 40c; 100 Bill Heads, 40c; Circulars, 1,000, 2x3, 75c; 3x5, 90c; 4x6, \$1.10; 5x8, \$1.60; 6x9, \$2.00. Send for estimates on any job you may need. Terms, cash with order. John S. Smith, Printer, Bethlehem, Ind.

Established 1888.

The Fitchburg Philatelist

Published Monthly in the Interests of Stamp Collecting.

Advertising rates are low.

Excellent reading matter.

Subscription, 15c. a year.

A sample copy will be sent you if you mention this paper.

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A. N. SPENCER,

19 LOMBARDY,

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U. S. and Foreign Postage, Post Cards, Entire Envelope, Revenues, and Philatelic Supplies of Every Description.

Frankford Stamp Co., Stamp Imp., Frankford, Phila., Pa.

DEAR SIR:—

In February we issue THE UNIVERSAL PHILATELIC ADVERTISER. This Journal will be published for the firm's advertisements, but outside advertisements to a limited space, will be accented at 50 CENTS an inch, 85 CENTS for 2 inches, \$2.50 a column, and \$4.50 a page (3 times for \$12.00.)

It will have an extensive circulation throughout the world, especially in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. It will be advertised in all the philatelic papers and will prove a good advertising medium for you.

1200 of each of the first three numbers will be sent to the 3500 names in Mekeel's address book. If you wish space, let us hear from you at once. Subscription 10 Cents a year.

Yours Respectfully,
A. P. A. 715. ALFRED B. QUIGLEY, Manager.

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

Vol. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., MARCH, 1890.

No. 5.

Counterfeits.

BY LE TAILLEUR.

Counterfeit stamps are not a thing of yesterday, or of last week, or last year, nor yet of the year before. On the contrary, it would appear that the manufacture, sale, and presumptively the collection of them is matter co-existent with the collection of the genuine. As far back as 1863 a pamphlet explaining the difference between the counterfeit and the genuine was published in England, the authors being Messrs. Thornton A. Lewis and Edward Pember-ton, the latter being the celebrated writer who may be styled the Shakespeare of Philately, for it is certain that his like has never been seen either before or since, either as an expert or an author. Probably the rarest and best executed counterfeit of which there is any knowledge, is the steel engraved, 5c. New York Post Office, 1845. This stamp, which was known as far back as 1864, being mentioned in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for February of that year, is probably the most perfect thing of the kind ever executed when it is further taken into consideration that the original is a steel engraving of the first order. Who engraved it, and who originated it, and who sold it, are mysteries which will probably never be solved as the stamps themselves are exceedingly rare things and only a few specimens are known to exist.

Another rare stamp is a counterfeit St. Louis P. O. one of which, an enterprising New York dealer vainly tried to put off on the philatelic wife of the manager of a well-known Express Company. The Brat-

tleboro stamp has also been counterfeited with great accuracy. As is well known, each stamp on the sheet of the Brattleboros differs from its neighbor, and herein lay the counterfeiters great safety. Two of these spurious ones were in the exhibit of the American Philatelic Association at Boston in 1888. Another very rare counterfeit is the Mauritius, one shilling, envelope, a specimen of which once found its way to this country from England. The 8½-cent Nova Scotia has also been counterfeited with great accuracy, the first edition of them being *with intent* printed in a dull green quite unlike the bright emerald green of the originals. The philatelic journals described this variation of color as a means of detecting the spurious issue, but the counterfeiters, wise in their own way waited a while and then printed a new batch in a color the exact shade of the original. These are floating around now, and are usually warranted genuine and are well calculated to deceive. Another fine imitated set is the Brazilian envelopes. These are probably better engraved than the originals, at least the die being newer and not so much used, gives them a cleaner cameo look.

The set of United States periodicals of 1875 have also been executed on stone by the artotype process, the lower values, 2, 4, 6, being almost perfect. The word facsimile in very small letters is printed on these, but that did not prevent the U. S. officers in St. Louis from prohibiting their sale, and we believe seizing the stamps which a stamp operator in that city had induced a German bookseller to exhibit for sale in his window at "half of Mr. — prices."

These latter, and most of the others, are made in Germany, where engraving is

cheap. Many Philatelists in Germany, not being blessed with the purse of a Rothschild, or a Jay Gould, purchase the imitations of the rare stamps feeling that it is hopeless to wait for the day when the \$500 stamps shall come down to the 10 or 15c. level. This fact, which the collectors themselves by no means take any pains to advertise, is the reason why so many of these things are made, and why a market is found for them if well executed, and at a reasonable price.

Moens, the great Belgium dealer, sells the double Geneva, Naptes cross, Tuscany 3 lira, and others at 20 cents each, which may probably be regarded as high but which is the price printed in his catalogue. The photographic counterfeit of the New Caledonia, a stamp, the very existence of which is a question, is sold in this country at 5 cents each, which conclusively shows that the methods and modes of view of the counterfeit subject, are very different in America, from what they are among the effete despotisms of Europe.

Exchange Column.

Free to subscribers.

Fine philatelic papers to exchange for stamps from sheets. J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

A Blaine and Logan metal badge for five good philatelic papers. P. F. O'Keefe, Steubenville, Ohio.

I have some 5 and 10 cent novels, a sample book of blank cards for printers use, gold, beveled edge, 80 in number, 6 business cards, scrap pictures and a coon's tail to exchange for stamps or philatelic papers. Walter J. Bushey, 57 South St., Biddeford, Me.

A few bird's skins and several eggs, singly or in sets to exchange for printing. C. W. Green, Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H.

I will give coins, tractional currency, books, or revenue stamps for entire stamped envelopes, used or unused, except the current 1's and 2's. Erastus Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown Iowa.

I want P. J. of A. Nos. 51 to 60, and will give same class of papers in exchange for them. Send list and receive mine. John F. Gartlein, Box 264, Connersville, Ind.

Truth Crushed to Earth Will Rise Again.

The editor of the *Philatelic Express* feels very much hurt, evidently, at the fact that we criticized his article on "Stamp Portraits," and in the last issue of his paper devotes an even column of space to us.

We thought he was old enough to know that "it is the business of a reviewer to point out blemishes." If space was taken to answer all the criticisms, just and unjust, hurled at us, our readers would have nothing but answers to read. But we acknowledge ourselves to be human.

Lyons retaliates by condemning two articles in the February issue of this paper. The first one "Calculations and Investigations," was written by a person who has had experience and has visited most of the places mentioned, therefore he knew whereof he spoke. The writer of "Calculations and Investigations" has more knowledge, regarding these things, in his pedal extremities than has the writer of "Stamp Portraits" at the opposite end of his body. A person who is so conceited that he can see no fault in his own works, and kicks if others do, is not the sort of a person we like.

As to the second article, the man who wrote it, was a collector and student of stamps before J. H. Lyons came into existence. He did not go by Tiffany's or any other guide, but relied on his own memory.

From appearances, the editor of the *Express*, is the sole contributor. Let us review No. 9 which contains the criticism.

"Stamp Portraits," by J. H. Lyons,

"Retrospect," - by J. H. Lyons,

"Driftwood," - by the editor,

"Editorials," - by the editor,

"A Notice" concerning the paper,

and "A Notice," - by the editor,

besides advertisements.

Ah! now we see what propagated the comment, it was to fill up, something for a change. Whenever you get stuck again

for something, write to us and we will allow you the use of our new contributor, Mr. P. McGinty Limburger.

Thus we might continue indefinitely for the edification of our readers, but we will end by reminding Mr. Lyons to practice what he preaches, and he will perhaps get along better in this hard cold world.

About Postal Cards.

By FICTITIOUS.

The demand for postal cards among collectors is rapidly increasing and this fact is very gratifying. In our opinion postal cards are by no means a less important branch of philately, than the collecting of entire envelopes, and at the present time they certainly are much cheaper and get-at-able.

But the price will not always remain so, by no means, for it is plain to see that from the manner cards are being taken up, ere long the rise in price will be equal to the advance many U. S. adhesives have made.

When a postal card collection is nicely arranged, *i. e.* gotten up with a little skill, we could not view a more exquisite picture.

An European daily paper of a recent date says "That a postal card collection sold under the hammer a few days ago realized the enormous figure of £1000 0 0." This is what occasionally meets our eyes, and may be only one case out of fifty that transpire unnoticed.

They are equally as interesting to study as either postage stamps or stamped envelopes, for instance; we have variety of size when apparently the same card, variety of paper, watermarks, errors, surcharges, etc. The issues of France are particularly attractive if for nothing else but the mistakes found thereon, such as words misspelled, the type set up in a reversed form, imperfect dates, figures and dates left out, and a score of other blunders that would have us imagine the printer had gotten his type all "pi."

From a point of beauty we have many

countries to select from; the latest issue of Great Britain is an exceedingly pretty card and still may be far from the favorite amongst collectors in general. Brazil has also furnished us with a few real artistic cards, but for an "out of the common" example turn to Mexico. We have some very complicated issues from this country but all are attractive and of a very original nature.

Spain has lately added more cards to her list of about 40 varieties, the last issue bears an engraving of the "Baby King."

Much more may be said of cards, but time and space at present will not allow; we can however content ourselves with the fact that in the near future we will see them placed more conspicuously before philatelists, and the philatelic magazine of the day, will give it more show and space than is "now" allotted to it.

Advertisers, Please Notice.

The small advertisement I have had in your paper has paid me better than 3 times that space in any 6 papers I have used.

C. A. MOXLEY.

A Correction.

In part two of "Calculations and Investigations," the names of two places were printed incorrectly, the first should read *Birkenhead*, and not *Berkenhead*; and the second should be *St. Martins le grand*, not *St. Martins C grand*. FICTITIOUS.

Agents.

The following parties are authorized agents for this paper.

R. M. McFarland, Henderson, Ky.

John M. Holt, 3 Bainbridge St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Stanley Day, New Market, N. J.

Special Advertising Agent.

Another One for N. H.

F. H. Pinkham, of Newmarket, N. H., has bought the *Eastern Philatelist*, of its former publisher, W. H. Goodrich, and will continue it. The *Eastern* was one of the finest in New England, and will probably grow, with Mr. Pinkham.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,
Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be
addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One line, - - - - -	\$.10
One inch, - - - - -	.50
Two inches, - - - - -	.85
One column, - - - - -	2.50
One page, - - - - -	5.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertise-
ments.

Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions 25c. per year. Abroad, 35c.
Subscriptions must commence with cur-
rent issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publi-
cations. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

MARCH, 1890.

EDITORIAL.

Those parties who forwarded matter for this number and do not find the same in this number, will have to excuse us for the time being, but we hope to publish it all in No. 6. Owing to our limited space something, of necessity had to be left out. A permanent enlargement will be made soon which will do away with any inconvenience of this sort.

A number of subscriptions have been forwarded us during February and we expect fully as many during March, and as a premium, will give to all so doing, six varieties unused Porto Rico.

* * *

We have no club rates, and will make no arrangements regarding them. Thus no benefit will be derived from a delay.

* * *

Once a Week, a New York paper, in the issue of February 11, prints a portrait of Sir Rowland Hill, and a facsimile of the Mulready Envelope, with a short sketch of the establishment of penny postage.

* * *

Attention is called to the rise in subscrip-
tion price.

* * *

In our last number, the address of the E. L. Pemberton's advertisement should read *Ansonia* not *Asonia*, Ct.

* * *

We hope to give our readers in our next number a production from the pen of P. McGinty Limburger, of the firm of Limburger & Co.

* * *

Mr. W. H. Bratt, whose advertisement may be seen in another column, has issued a condensed catalogue of his stock. It will be sent to the readers of the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL.

* * *

WARNING. The Enterprise Stamp Co., of Three Rivers, Mass., are frauds. Papers inserting their ads, take heed. The young gentleman receiving its mail will shortly be in trouble.

* * *

The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. have contracted to furnish the stamps offered as premiums to the readers of *Golden Hours*.

* * *

Hereafter advertisements from responsible parties will be receivable, payable upon receipt of marked copy containing advertisement.

REVIEWS.

When the *Stamp Advertiser* gets out, it is a fine paper. It combines Nos. 10 and 11, with the last issue.

Vermont supports a good paper in the *Yankee Philatelist*. The January number is first class in all respects.

With its 4th issue, the *Boodle Philatelist* commences to publish a serial entitled "A Band of Philatelic Boodlers."

Mr. Parrish, of Newport, commenced the year in grand style with his paper, the *Rhode Island Philatelist*.

No one need say that the South cannot support a philatelic paper, after looking over No. 5 of the *Southern Philatelist*.

The *Central Philatelist* has appeared from Belvidere, Ill. The AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL wishes it success.

Although of but four pages the *Essex County Philatelist* is a good news hustler.

The old *Philatelic Monthly* for January reached us late in that month.

J. D. Bartlett, has much improved his paper, the *Curiosity Collector*, with the new year.

Messrs. Scott and Bogert have favored us with their latest Auction Sale Catalogues.

A late arrival, the *C. P. S. Bulletin*, is dated January, and has the same general appearance as the defunct *Philo's Monthly*.

Alvah Davison's article on stamp dealing, now running in the *Philatelic News*, contains a great deal of sound and solid sense.

A cover fits the *Philatelic Nonpariel* to perfection, and the reading matter is excellent.

Six numbers a month beats any known record in philatelic circles we believe, but that's what Watson has gone and done with his *Post Card*.

Mekeel's on his "swing around the circle" and look out for news in March *Philatelic Journal of America*.

New England cannot boast of a more handsome paper than the *Eastern Philatelist*. Anyone reading the "Telegraph Stamps of the World," commenced in January, will find it interesting.

No. 3 of the *Universal Collector* is enlarged to eight page form.

The *Philatelic World* gives in its concise way many monthly happenings.

The same mail brought us the *Philatelic Era* with an obituary, unsolicited, we should judge, announcing the death of the *New York Philatelist*, and the *New York Philatelist* for February, as lively as usual, and full of promises for next month.

In February, the *Stamp News* has an excellent description of an English auction sale.

R. C. H. Brock supplies a much felt want, with his article on the Sydney Views in the *American Philatelist* for Feb.

WHOLESALE.

100 Guatamala, 1886, 1 and 5c,	\$1.06
100 Transvaal, 1887, 2d, olive brown,	2.56
100 Sweden, unpaid, 10 varieties,	1.31
100 Sweden, official, 11 varieties,	1.31
1000 Sweden, 1872,	.81
100 Newfoundland, 1-2c, red,	.81
100 " 1c, violet,	1.21
100 " 2c, green,	1.81
100 " 3c, blue,	.71
100 " 5c, blue,	1.81
100 " 1c, green,	1.31
100 " 2c, orange,	1.31
100 " 3c, brown,	.91

Auction of U. S. 1867, used, 3c, grill all over back:
Highest offer accepted. Send yours to

JOHN M. HOLT,

3 Bainbridge St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Reference, R. R. Bogert & Co., Room 37, Tribune
Building, New York City.

STANTON'S BARGAINS.

12 var, Asiatic stamps, 8c; 7 var, Jamaica, 4c;
10 var, Canadian, 5c; South Australia, '68,
10sh, carmine, 6c; Nova Scotia, 1c, black, 6c;
Nova Scotia, 2c, mauve, 7c; entire Japanese
postal card, 5c; Canada Bill, \$1, blue, 10c;
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Will appear April 1st, 1890. All collectors remitting 15c, silver, before March 10 for copy of book, will have name and address inserted. Advertising rates, 1 inch, 60 cents; 2 inches, \$1; larger rates on application. Price of book 15 cents. It will have as contributors the best informed and oldest Philatelists in the U.S.

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G. B. Hastings, { *Editors.* Stony Point,
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The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As heretofore, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me

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27 CENTRAL ST.,

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The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., APRIL, 1890.

No. 6.

The Great American Stamp Swindle.

A. R. ROEBUCK.

It was in the summer of 1874, late in May or June of that year, that a collector whom I knew brought into my office in New York a copy of a well known juvenile Weekly, which has reputedly a large circulation, and pointing to a large advertisement, asked me what I thought of it.

The advertisement in question, set forth that the Great American Stamp Co., of Dunkirk, New York, had a large number of sets for sale at very low prices, if genuine, and very high if counterfeit, and had advertised in the paper in question to the amount of \$30.00. At the prices quoted by the advertisement genuine stamps might have been sold, but the profits would have been the merest trifles. One particular set, "Liberia, set of three, 6c, 12c, and 24c, unused," were quoted at 50 cents and this item decided us, with the opinion of a third person, a gentleman still a collector, that the advertisement was a fraud of some sort.

A letter was forthwith despatched by each of us to Dunkirk with stamps for reply but no acknowledgement of any kind was received and gradually the matter was forgotten.

In September of the same year business matters took me to Buffalo, and one day as I was at leisure, the G. A. S. Co., of Dunkirk came into my mind. I was in the immediate vicinity of the Lake Shore R. R. Station at the time and stepping into the Depot, I inquired distance, fare, etc. to Dunkirk. It was some 40 miles and a train would start in five minutes. I was

seated in the cars in less than three minutes.

I will not weary the readers of this journal by relating the delight, pleasure, experience, etc. of riding in the steam cars along the sunny banks of Lake Erie. Not that would be intruding on the special domain of Mr. Alvah Davison and Mr. Wm. H. Aue, whose tropical experiences on railroad trains have been related with a copiousness of detail which makes me feel my own littleness so much that my pen refuses the lurid task. At any rate I got to Dunkirk in due time and hunting up one solitary collector whose address I had, I proceeded to do a little amateur detective business.

This collector was about 15 years of age and he wasn't an A. P. A., nor a D. S. A., nor a 4-11-44 D. B., but merely a youth of ordinary intelligence. After presenting him with a few stamps, I proceeded to ascertain the lay of the Great American Stamp Company.

Did he buy his stamps here, or in Buffalo, or in New York, or where? In New York chiefly. Never buy any in Dunkirk? Why no, there was no dealer here that he ever heard of.

Then another idea struck me. Did the clerk in the post office ever sell any stamps? No, he never did that he knew of. But he was a collector? O, no, he knew all the other collectors in town and the post office clerk knew nothing of stamps whatever, as far as he knew of. This was all the practical information I could get from the boy, and handing him a few more specimens, I bade him good bye, omitting my name of course, merely saying I was from Buffalo.

Then I struck a bee line for the post office and purchasing a stamp, inquired in

the blandest way of the clerk, if he could tell me where the Great American Stamp Co. was located, as my little nephew had made me promise to buy him some stamps for his collection when I was in Dunkirk, and I had looked in the Dunkirk Directory without finding any trace of the company. As a reply, the clerk called the Postmaster, who informed me that the Company was a humbug of some sort, it had never been there at Dunkirk, and the only information of its location he could give me was that he had instructions to forward all letters addressed to the Company to a place called Cherry Tree, Ill., but that later that order had been amended by the person who wrote in the name of the Co. and the later re-direction was a certain street and number in San Francisco, which was all the Postmaster knew about the Great American Stamp Co. I took a memorandum of that street and number and have it to this day, and I happened to note in a directory of stamp dealers published about a twelve-month afterward, that a dealer resided in San Francisco, *next door* to the address on the memorandum of the Dunkirk Postmaster.

The "Co." received a very large number of letters, many registered, and as far as I can learn, not a stamp was ever received from the swindlers who personated this greatest swindle ever inflicted on the stamp collecting fraternity.

Exchanges.

Stamps wanted. All kinds of used and unused. U. S. stamps wanted for cash or exchange. G. B. Hastings, Stony Point, New York.

Postal cards, Confederate Bills, Colonial and Continental notes, Fractional currency, Rebellion tokens, etc., wanted in exchange for stamps and philatelic papers. Send lists to Geo. M. Nicol, 376 Gloucester St., Ottawa, Can.

A pair of opera glasses for books. James C. Jay, Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Coins, Stamps, and books for postal cards. Erastus Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Ia

Clinton Heensburger Talks about Philatelic Overcoats.

Seeing that a noble philatelic writer of New York, bearing the same name as myself, has written a philatelic article on *philatelic handkerchiefs*, I venture to intrude myself on your distinguished columns to speak of the newest invention, and that is *philatelic overcoats*.

Now, American collectors, listen! The philatelic overcoats were invented by Heinsberger & Son, (of Berlin) and are for the use of philatelists of all lands, ages and colors. The philatelic overcoats are made of yellow cloth, and bear on the back the royal German Imperial Eagle, being the German coat of arms, on each of the skirts, which are broad and lithographed in *rutaglio*, the portraits of His Imperial Majesty, Kaiser Wilhelm, Emperor of Germany.

The collars of these philatelic overcoats are made to stand up, and are surrounded by a device of telegraph wires, signifying rapid transit and philately, on each corner of the collar is depicted a royal German post horn, also a mail cart of the ancient pattern, used in the time of the great Frederick I, Emperor of Germany, who died of want of breath, about 300 years before Columbus discovered the great philatelic United States.

The buttons of these philatelic overcoats bear as a device a locomotive engine, as they are called in your country; but properly a "Dampschiff," which is the correct German name.

These philatelic overcoats are intended to promote philately, so that collectors on meeting each other shall know by the overcoat that the wearer is a member of the brotherhood, and shall act accordingly.

These overcoats are largely worn in Germany by philatelists of all degrees. The Berlin Philatelisten Bummerlied Society wear them exclusively, and several other societies are about to adopt them.

The Sing-Sing-on-the-Hudson, is the only philatelic society in the U. S. using

them, but after May 1, 1890, the Blackwell Island philatelic society will use them.

These overcoats are made with large pockets to hold limburger cheese and pretzels, and are for sale, wholesale and retail, by J. Iscariot Heinsberger & Son, dealers in philatelic supplies of all kinds, fly-paper, glue, rat traps, Holland Herrings, pins, needles, collar buttons, mackerel, pickled tripe, Bolognas, fish hooks, cod liver oil, St. Jacob's Oil, dandelion greens, brass monkeys, Kindling Wood, etc., etc. Corns extracted, wholesale and retail, at lowest market prices.

Now at the beginning of the new year, I, having been appointed agent for the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL, wish to call the attention of all philatelists to the low rates of advertising and subscription to this journal, and thanking all for past favors, I am, McGinty Heensburger, 143 Triten-Graben, Berlin.

Over the Water.

Our English cousins, particularly the publishers of the *Stamp News*, of London, and the *Stamp Advertiser*, of Birmingham, while reticent on the subject of counterfeiting, seem to be singularly exercised in mind over the antics of some persons in London whom they describe as a *gang*, and who, if we are to believe the papers in question, are a selection of persons altogether unfit to live, and totally unprepared to die.

These men of sin, have, it appears, been making forged surcharges and selling them cheap, and that is an offence which we all know is "rank and smells to Heaven."

These papers are remarkably well informed, apparently, as regards the affairs of this gang, how its members go to the continent to sell their evil wares, and that one of them is Mr. B, who manages the business of some other initial letter.

We desire to point out to the *Stamp News* and the *Stamp Advertiser* in the most delicate manner possible, that this

sort of description is manifestly unfair and unjust, and is liable to be misunderstood to the injury of some innocent person or persons.

This gang of unchanged Englishmen do not seem to care much for concealment, one of them, having with the recklessness of one of Buffalo Bill's Red-skin Cohort offered to make forged surcharges in the presence of that august and dignified assembly, the London Philatelic Association, at least, the *Stamp News* says so, and we take it, it tells the truth.

Why? then, are the names of these red-handed miscreants concealed and only hinted at by initials. It looks queer the more we look at it.

Why! in this country they would have been exposed long ago, and had they offered to do any surcharging in any of the great philatelic strongholds, such as New York, Chicago, Joliet, or even Moyamensing, these scoundrels would be shot at sight, and yet in good old England they dare not print their names, still they will talk about our American Justice.

Bah! the fact is, though Messrs. Buhl and Phillips won't admit it, there is an exemplary libel law in England, and a man who prints in a paper a fact which he cannot prove in court, is likely to go to jail.

A striking illustration of this was given in England a month or two ago, when the publisher of a paper having failed in court to prove certain allegations he printed regarding one Euston, a rather poor specimen of Britain's degenerate aristocracy, is now and will be for the next year holding daily interviews with the *Royal British Treadmill*.

And that is what ails the British stamp journalist. He fears the jail and the treadmill, and we also God's creatures, shall we blame them?

Exchanges.

1000 square cut gummed hinges for a perfect U. S. stamp worth 10 cents, and a 1-cent stamp for postage. W. P. & F. M. Arnold, Box 6, Lafayette, R. I.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

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To whom all communications should be
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C. W. GREEN, *Editor.*

J. L. PENDER, *Bus. Manager.*

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Advertisements and contributions solicited.

APRIL, 1890.

EDITORIAL.

When No. 1 of this paper appeared it was with the promise that at least, five more should follow. They have, and in the six months past we have furnished the best matter obtainable under the circumstances. In the future our matter will be of a higher class in all ways, and subscribers will receive their just dues.

The *Southern Philatelist* hits the mark in their little talk about Foreign Revenues.

Have your name inserted in our directory.

Aye, How True It Is.

"Where ignorance is bliss 'tis folly to be wise." This latter quotation was fired at us last month by the editor of our esteemed contemporary the *Philatelic Express* in his last issue because the writer of "New England Philately" omitted to chronicle in his article the *Philatelic Era*, of Portland. The writer of "New England Philately," we take pains to repeat, has been familiar with stamps since before the birth of the somewhat peculiar and hypercritical individual, who tries to edit the *Express*, and we desire the latter to note our statement. And now inasmuch as "Ignorance is Bliss," we beg to draw the attention of the Stamp Portrait editor to his list of portraits for March, on the second page of his paper, and ask how he came to make such a brilliant exhibition of his stony ignorance of Philatelics as to state that the portrait on the Mexican stamp of 1879 is that of DIAZ, when any well posted philatelist who did not derive his work from ——'s Catalogue, such an unreliable work, would have known it was not DIAZ at all, but BENITO JUAREZ.

Yes, Lyons, where ignorance of portraits is bliss 'tis folly to be wise, indeed, and a few words more.

We see we have worked a change on you, yes, a great change. We see a new contributor graces the columns of the *Express*, and he is not McGinty Heinsberger, at least he does not write under that name, but as the writing is similar we think it is him writing under a new name. If this is so, his name will be erased from our roll of contributors, as we only desire him to contribute to one paper.

As to one assertion you made, we say the A. S. J. is a better paper than the *Express*, and as it is a fact, if you don't like it you can lump it. Never-the-less it is true. Next!

A splendid way to advertise is through a dealers' directory. The AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL has started one, the cheapest yet. Send in your name with card for insertion.

Subscribe — Advertise — Keep Posted.

The Stamps of Great Britain.

BY FICTITIOUS.

Fifty years have now elapsed since the "penny postage" system was adopted in Great Britain, and during that period upwards of eighty varieties have been introduced to the public of that kingdom. The following remarks, etc., upon these stamps may not prove unwelcome, especially to those who collect the issues of this country.

It is generally believed that the first adhesive postage stamp ever issued can be purchased at the nominal price of three cents, but such is not the case. Many of our standard catalogues seem to ignore the fact that there were two issues of the one penny, black, in the year 1840, but such is the case, and upon very good authority I have learned that there exists several varieties in these two issues, viz: in watermark and paper. I present them as follows:

No. 1. 1840, one penny, black.

"V R" in upper corners on white paper. No watermark.

No. 2. 1840, one penny, black.

"V R" in upper corners, on stiffer paper of a grayish tint.

No. 3. 1840, one penny, black.

"Ornaments" in upper corners on white paper. No watermark.

No. 4. 1840, one penny, black.

"Ornaments" in upper corners on blue paper watermarked with a small crown.

No. 5. 1840, one penny, black.

"Ornaments" in upper corners on white paper watermarked as per No. 4.

Of these five examples only two really differ as far as the engraving is concerned, and that in the "V R" and "Ornaments" which appear in the upper corners of the stamp. From a point of rarity Nos. 1 and 2, are in great advance of the remaining three, and at the same time No. 3 is in advance of four and five. I use the word "advance respecting No. 3, but by this I mean it is "less common." A bundle of old letters that had been stored away in a

business house at Bedford, England, a half century (or thereabouts) ago, upon being examined was found to contain only one of the first and second specimen, and upwards of twenty of the fifth.

I have the third and fourth specimen in my collection, and have numbered these issues accordingly.

Passing further on, the varieties become almost innumerable, especially in the case of the 1854, 1 penny red, which shows up on paper "thick and thin," "white and blue," with and without watermark, and perforated in styles to suit all tastes.

The collector often ponders in his mind "why should this stamp be rated so low, when the 5 cent, 1856, U. S. issue, (two years later) is catalogued at as many dollars as the "British" is in cents; let me tell you. The "Britisher" lived 10 years, whilst "Uncle Sam" died at "one."

Apart from the issues already named, we might go on to mention the 1862 9 penny bistre, which issue is also found in "Hilac" tint. This issue is one of the many English stamps that no one need fear to buy (so long that he is assured of its genuineness) for an advance in price may be booked to it before long.

Travelling further down the sale, we have the 1878 £1 issue which is extremely in demand in its native land and has actually sold there, at a higher figure than the American valuation.

No mention need be made upon the 2 shilling, issue of 1880, for I am sure all of us are well informed about this particular specimen.

A terrible state of affairs when 140 are dropped from the A. P. A. in one month. At this rate we wont have any society in six months.

Everyone should have their name inserted in our directory.

A disinteresting "review" column omitted this month.

Supplementary to Vol. 1, No. 5, 6

OF THE

AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL.

With this number we start a Stamp Dealers' Directory and that all might avail themselves of this opportunity to advertise, the charge is the lowest possible—35 cents for 12 insertions of name, address and two-line card. Terms, cash on receipt of first marked copy. All matter must be in by the 20th inst., to insure insertion in our May number. Paper free during term of insertion.

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200 " " "	.60
100 " " "	.30
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All these packets guaranteed to catalogue five to ten times price asked. CHAS E. SHAW, Clinton, Mass. A. P. A., 834, C. P. A. 156.

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Maplewood, Malden, Massachusetts.

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Dealer in U. S. & Foreign Stamps

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W. H. RICE,

187 Park Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

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Address all communications to the publisher

GEO. H. YOUNG,

18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

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12 var, Asiatic stamps, 8c; 7 var, Jamaica, 4c; 10 var, Canadian, 5c; South Australia, '68, 10sh, carmine, 6c; Nova Scotia, 1c, black, 6c; Nova Scotia, 2c. mauve, 7c; entire Japanese postal card, 5c; Canada Bill, \$1, blue, 10c; Sweden, oval official, blue, 15c. Orders under 25 cents must contain 2 cents extra. 25 var. of stamps and our circulars, 2c. Canadian Revenue Catalogue, cloth, 30c. Large American Philatelic Directory, 18c. Sample of Philatelic Tribune free. F. J. STANTON, Smyrna, New York.

BACK NUMBERS can be had of the publishers of this magazine, at the following prices.

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" 2, - - - 8c.	" 4, - - - 5c.
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 Contains a Pen, Pencil and
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GREEN C. W.—Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H. American Postage Stamps. 17

JACKSON W. B.—605 Bennington St., East Boston, Mass. Fine stamps on approval—Prices low—Com. 30 per cent—Agents wanted. 17

PENDER J. L.—Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic Literature for sale. 17

Subscriber stamp affixed each month.		will find rare in this space
--	--	---------------------------------

List of Frauds.

Sent by J. C. Jay, Mount Pleasant, Iowa:

- L. R. Miner, 100 Race Street, Holyoke, Mass.
- H. Colterd, Newark, New Hampshire.
- A. J. Stall, Concord, New Hampshire.
- W. S. Smith, York, Pa.
- James J. Tracy, 8 Washington St. Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
- Mrs W. Y. McKeand, Crete, Neb.
- Jno. M. Douglas, Jr., Middleton, Conn.
- Alfred Bettman, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Sent by H. F. Bamforth, 27 Central St, Springfield, Mass.

- V. J. Grillet, Worrall Hall, Peekskill, New York.
- Jos. B. Tivuan, 40 2nd Street, East Cambridge, Mass.
- Allen Harvey, Mount Winans, Baltimore County, Md.
- J. E. Debnam, Stanhope, North Carolina.

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(A. P. A. 863.)

27 Central St., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

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 A. J. of P., etc., - - \$1.00
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- 500 Nos. Mixed, - - 3.00

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The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As here before, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me

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Subscriber		will find rare
stamp affixed		in this space
each month.		

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Box C, Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

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I have some complete sets of above, 7 var. complete, unused, catalogued at \$3.18, warranted genuine, only 69c. Also Honduras, 1890, 2 varieties, unused, only 8 cents. Order at once of JOHN M. HOLT, 3 Bainbridge St., Brooklyn, New York.

100 Var. Stamps and Album free to the first and every 5th person answering this ad provided they send 75 cents for 1 year's subscription to Yankee Philatelist, a large 8 to 12 page monthly devoted wholly to philately. Ad rates: 1 inch 30 cents, 1 page \$2. The Riverside Stamp Co. write, "We have rec'd over 100 replies from our ad in Y. P." Give us a trial ad.

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The American Stamp Journal is the best paper in the U. S. for dealers to advertise in. *Try us.*

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., MAY, 1890.

No. 7.

The Tale of the Surcharge.

BY A. R. ROEBUCK.

And now the distinguished literary authorities who try to control the current of philatelic acquisition have passed the word to each other to decry the surcharged stamp, the dear little surcharged stamp, which has done so much good service, in lining the pockets of these same distinguished publisher-dealers.

Why! It was but yesterday that the surcharged stamp was the one thing of all to take note of and now "its name is Dennis."

Now I wish to ask the men who are proceeding to cry out against it and in a mild and desultory way are condemning it, to tell philatelists why it is not good now as ever it was, *i. e.* if it ever was good, which I don't believe. It is bad why did they sell it in their dual capacities of publisher-dealer, or dealer-publisher, as you like it.

Let them tell philatelists that if they like. They knew quite as much then about the source and origin of the surcharge then as now and it does not appear but what the same people, who are now inciting opinion against them are busily engaged in selling them when they can, all the same. At any rate none of them have expunged the surcharge stamps from their price lists and collectors who read an article by a distinguished philatelist denouncing surcharged stamps and then when they find the same surcharged stamp sold by the same distinguished philatelist in his private and unromantic character as stamp dealer, the whole business "looks queer and in vulgar parlance 'to thin'".

A clear two thirds of the surcharged stamps found in the market are things got up by the postmasters for the purpose of increasing their revenue, and not to supply any legitimate postal necessity. Now who put this mischief into the postmasters' heads? The noble philatelic dealers did. It is to them that postmasters owe the knowledge of how to humbug confiding humanity and thereby to put money in their pockets.

The postmasters in the British West Indies are like the rest of the white population, people of low moral status and after having been shown how to make one stamp worth the price of two and how to make "rare" surcharges, they took to the surcharging business like ducks to the water. It was easy and it was profitable.

It was the same to the noble philatelist and for a time all went merry as a marriage bell. But the postmaster having once learned of the surcharging industry proceeded to work it for all it was worth, and now it would appear that he is working it a trifle more than it is worth, which is where he is wrong, not in the principle for hasn't any, but in policy.

He did not know the ropes well enough, nor understand the mighty motives and hair splitting theories that beleagure the soul of the gentle stamp collector and now his friends the philatelic dealers have gone back on him and will no more, so they say, of his type-made monstrosities.

This is mendacious in the extreme, the surcharged stamps are either all good and worthy of collection, or else they are all bad and unworthy of notice. This is the plain English of it and when it comes to advising collectors to take no more of them, but retain what you already have purchas-

ed from the parties who are now denouncing them we are only listening to the advice of a knave who insults our common intelligence.

Grand Exposition of Postage and Revenue Stamps at Vienna, Austria

This exposition which is regarded with much interest by all stamp collectors opened in April and will close in May.

Through the kindness of its proprietor Mr. Gustave Koch we have seen this splendid collection, which represents a value of over 50,000 francs, will outdo all late attempts. The collection is composed of about 18000 different specimens and contains stamps valued at 200, 500 and 1000 francs each. Egypt is represented by a complete collection of 380 varieties.

Furthermore it contains the complete sets of Germany, Afghamstan, Mauritius, Ceylon, Chili, Cashmere and Cochīn China as well as several rare stamps which rest in the collection of few.

Then comes all the municipal stamps and those of private posts of Germany, United States and of Italy, thus are all rare stamps shown.—*Le Bosphore Egyptien*, March 24-25, 1890.

Coins.

A most enjoyable lecture was delivered at the Court Street Church in this city, a few evenings since by the well known philatelist and numismatist, Chas. A. Hazlett of this city. The lecture was illustrated by numerous stereoptican views. A large crowd was in attendance and many favorable comments were passed over the discourse. The lecture was under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A.

The English Libel Case.

Mr. Edmund Stanley Gibbons is a stamp dealer in London doing business under the style of Stanley Gibbons and Co., he is with one exception, Mr. Smith of Brighton, the oldest established dealer in England and is well known to all American philatelists and an A. P. A. member. Mr. Bluett, is another dealer in London not at all well known on this side of the water and of comparatively recently established. He is, probably, for we have no knowledge of his affairs not so wealthy or well to do as Mr. Gibbons but he is entitled to fair treatment all the same. Both Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Bluett are loyal subjects of Her Majesty Victoria, last of the Guelphs, Empress of India, Queen of the Sea, Mother of Tummy Wales, Grandmother of Little Batten, etc., etc., etc. Mr. Gibbons deals in Hamburg locals, at 37c. a set. Mr. Bluett probably does the same, for London is a wicked city. May God forgive them both. Mr. Gibbons keeps a newspaper the *Philatelic Record*, which he gets printed every month for the purpose of protecting himself and promoting his business, which is quite right. Mr. Bluett cannot afford the luxury of a household organ and so does not publish a paper.

Some time since Mr. Gibbons published in his paper a statement that Mr. Bluett was addicted to dishonest practices. Roguery being the word used, inasmuch as he, Bluett, had sold to a collector named MacKenzie, a Cape of Good Hope stamp overprinted with the spurious word British Bechuanaland and had charged him 2 shillings sterling for it. Gibbons' own price for it was higher than that. Mr. MacKenzie went to Bluett and complained of the imposition, Mr. Bluett offered to give the money back, but not so with MacKenzie. That individual, like all his class, had been philatelized and had acquired in its rankest form that hankering for something other people didn't have that makes stamp stickers fools and which may yet bring him to Colney Hatch Asylum, or perchance the

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gallows. No, Inac refused the two Bob, for don't-you-know, he had a rarity, don't-you-know, and then through the agency of a kindred spirit, one Westoby, he told the story of his woes and got Gibbons to print that Bluett was a rogue. Thereupon Bluett waxed wroth, he felt he had been wronged, for had he not offered to return the cash to the misguided MacKenzie, only that demented troglodyte had refused it.

And forthwith Bluett sought a solicitor, which is the English name for a lawyer, and he sued Gibbons for damages and after a level headed jury of twelve Englishmen, who knew nothing, and cared less, for philately or philatelics, had considered the case they thought that Gibbons had damaged Bluett about the amount of 250 pounds English money, or about 1250 dollars, which the court ordered should be paid to Mr. Bluett. Mr. Gibbons also has to pay the costs of court, amounting as stated to nearly as much more. The moral of this affair is that it is not best, even if you are a great philatelist, to crush out those who are not as great as yourself, nor is it wise to depend on the British Jurer as a person having a proper appreciation of the intricacies of orthodox philately. Meantime, Mr. Bluett, who lived in an alley, got there all the same.

Among the American commentators on this matter, the editor of the *American Philatelist* takes occasion to comfort Mr. Gibbon by stating that in this country libel laws are not nearly so strictly enforced. Is it even so? Will the editor of the *Am. Ph.* kindly tell us why it is then that in his own city one Smith, not long ago, was sentenced to 6 months imprisonment for libeling Anthony Comstock; and also why one Count Cavarcolo, an Italian, who had married an American wife was recently committed to Moyamensey prison for libeling her; also, why Mr. Godkin of the *Evening Post* of N. Y. was held in \$500 for libel within a week. There are libel laws here that are enforced, the A. P. A. editor notwithstanding.

A State League.

The time has come when the collectors of New Hampshire, as in other states, desire a representative union and as it would be of great benefit and the expenses would be small the American Stamp Journal proposes to give it as much aid as possible.

The secretaryship, pro. tem., has been placed in the capable hands of Mr. Quinby of Lake Village this state, and he desires every N. H. collector to interest themselves to the extent of sending in their vote for officers. This paper concurs with *Hubbards Magazine* in its choice of a ticket.

As leagues are in working order in several states already it is evident that a N. H. League will success. Send in your vote to H. C. Quinby, Lake Village. this state.

The A. S. J.'s Ticket for the State League.

President, - - - F. H. PINKHAM.
 Vice Pres., - - - J. L. PENDER.
 Secretary, - - - H. C. QUINBY.
 Treasurer, - - - WILLIS D. KING.

Literary Board,

C. W. GREEN, of *American Stamp Journal*
 F. H. PINKHAM, of *Eastern Philatelist*
 H. C. QUINBY, of *Stamp Collector's Journal*

John M. Hubbard declines to hold any office in the new concern.

That Handbook.

We are exceedingly sorry to chronicle that on account of inability and lack of patronage the Handbook scheme of G. H. Young of this city has proven a failure, from start to finish.

The few paid advertisers have had their manuscript and money returned, the contributors their articles, and the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL will fill all exchange advertisements in this number.

The Rise and Fall of the Surcharged Stamp.

By FICTITIOUS.

Probably we could not write upon a subject at the present time, that would be more interesting than that of the surcharged stamps.

In reviewing this specimen we must, in our criticisms, combine its origin, its use, its advantages and disadvantages and then be permitted to draw the line.

The origin appears to be pure but somewhat flimsy; for instance, some of the earliest surcharges were made by Spain and Portugal to their dependences, Cuba and the Azores respectively, the surcharged stamp being that of the general issue of the first named countries with the necessary overprint indicating their authority for service abroad.

Again "home stamps" will be found surcharged as in the case of Great Britain "*Inland Revenue Official*." A stamp that is used in the Municipal offices throughout that country for the purpose it indicates (such as on letters enclosing tax bills, etc.).

Again in India we have stamps surcharged "*On Her Majesty's Service*." A stamp used exclusively by officers, etc., of the Army and Navy on letters bearing official business.

Then again several European countries (England, France, Germany, Austria for instance) have offices in the "Levant" and stamps used at this place are distinguished by a surcharge showing a revised face value.

The foregoing examples are but a few of the uses the surcharged stamp performs and its "real origin" appears from the facts gleaned: "*A point of economy on the part of the various countries in question*" for rather than bear the expense of new plates for the above mentioned purposes, the surcharge was effected.

T'was many years after the postage

stamp was adopted that the surcharge made its debut, but slowly, yea almost unnoticeable it rose in our midst, seeking refuge between the leaves of our albums, and the quicker we were to gather it in, the faster its *namesakes would follow, apace with the times, until amid showers of surcharges, banded philatelists have had to yell in the voice of the thundering Jupiter, *Halt!*

Well said, my friends! The surcharge has become monotonous, it is a thing of the past. No longer is it an ornament and a pride of our collections, but, "An Emblem of grief."

Why? Do not ask the question!

How many of you have purchased the surcharged issue of Spain (1868), the higher denominations of Great Britain I. R. O., South and Central American issues, only to discover the fraudulent work of the keen eyed rascally counterfeiter, who by the way is often marked as the "*All stamps guaranteed genuine*" dealer himself?

How many surcharges of the present day are like unto business cards, "made-to-order"?

How much corruption in our philatelic ranks, has the surcharge brought about?

Why should we stoop to purchase such vile trash, *Peruvian garbage, etc.*, that is being hurled at us, and by our purchases, gild the pockets of their fathers?

Surely our crusade against the surcharge is a good one, and a step in the right direction.

*The writer has before him several issues of French colonies, fraudulently surcharged. It may also be mentioned that others of the French Colonies assigned to French Guiana are falsely represented to the public.

Watch the "Directory" grow.

Read the Rollstone Stamp Co.'s adv't.

The majority of the comments on our new stamps are unfavorable.

Watch for McGinty Heinsberger in our next number. He cabled us that owing to a fever he would be unable to contribute for this number.

We are the People.

FOR PRES. Willard C. Van Derlip
 " V. P. S. B. Bradt
 " SEC'Y M. F. Walton
 " TREAS. Chas. Gregory
 " INT. SEC'Y Jos. Rechert

The above is a list of our candidates which we will support at the coming A. P. A. election.

Every candidate is reliable and we feel safe in saying that the ticket is a model one. All have had experience enough to guide the Association in the right direction and are too well known to comment further upon.

However, we desire to speak a few words as to the nomination for Secretary. Mr. Walton has been but a short time in the chair but has fully demonstrated his ability to fill the position, and undoubtedly when the result of the election is known, we will find Walton among the chosen few.

Take Heed and Be Wise.

Don't do your advertising by means of a circular mailing agency, which agrees to mail 100 circulars for 10 cents, when you can get 1000 copies of your advertisement mailed for 50 cents in the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL, thus saving 50 cents and the cost of printing your circulars. The AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL goes to a select list.

Exchanges.

Free to Subscribers Only.

U. S. document and match stamps for others. 800 philatelic papers for stamps. R. M. McFarland, Box 132, Henderson, Ky.

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10 different philatelic papers for every V nickel or 1877 copper cent sent me. P. F. O'Keefe, Steubenville, Ohio.

Sixth Series of Popular Ten-Cent Packets,

Postage Extra.

- Each packet contains 15 all rare different postage stamps, in fine condition.*
- No. 101.—Bulgaria, Surinam, Phillipine Islands, Mauritius, Java, etc.
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 No. 103.—Guatemala, China, Constantinople, Mexico, Heligoland, etc.
 No. 104.—Peru, British Borneo, Azores, old Spain, Bosnia, etc.
 No. 105.—Siam, Brunswick, Hong Kong, Hawaii, Chili, etc.
 No. 106.—Newfoundland, Cuba 3d issue, Transvaal, Turkey, Bermuda, etc.
 No. 107.—Orange Free States, Ceylon, Congo, Egypt, Prussia, etc.
 No. 108.—Tunis, Argentine, Cyprus, Finland 1st issue, Ecuador, etc.
 No. 109.—Costa Rica, Curacao, Hamburg, Hayti, Monaco, etc.
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Every stamp in the Series is equally as good as those named.

Unquestionably "THE BEST" ten-cent packets sold. Satisfaction guaranteed in every case, and a trial order solicited. The entire series, 150 all different, \$1.00.

W. F. BISHOP, - LaGrange, Ill.
 Circulars free on request.

STAMPS sent on approval at 33½ per cent. commission. Reference required, except in case of A. P. A. and C. P. A. members. State what quality stamps are desired.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

* WANTED *

Agents to sell stamps from my approval sheets at 25 per cent. discount.

Packet A, contains nearly 400 varieties of stamps, price \$1.00. A "V" nickel without cents in each packet.

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No. 1—THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S DICTIONARY AND GUIDE, consisting of 64 pages of interesting matter, 10c.

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W. W. JEWETT,

502 Congress St., PORTLAND, ME.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,
Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be
addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One line, - - - - -	\$.10
One inch, - - - - -	.50
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One column, - - - - -	2.50
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TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertise-
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Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions 25c. per year. Abroad, 35c.

Subscriptions must commence with cur-
rent issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publi-
cations. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

MAY, 1890.

EDITORIAL.

The best yet, was the general exclamation excited by our last number. Here's some more of it.

Edw. R. Hasbrouck's advertisement in our last issue was full of mistakes. This month we present it in correct form and invite the attention of all.

We would enjoy very much seeing copies of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* and *Universal Philatelic Advertiser*.

We notice from the *Rhode Island Philatelist* that societies are being formed in Kansas City and Taunton, Mass.; from another source we glean that Springfield, Mass. and Plainfield, N. J. will also have societies.

Le Timbre come to us regularly from Amsterdam.

The A. P. A. Secretary has sent us a copy of the Constitution and list of members.

When reference is made to the baby we know it appertains to his Spanish Royals.

The immaculate *Beacon* has dropped us from its list of exchanges because we wanted two copies.

Up to this date, with one excusable exception, we have never failed to put in our appearance on the first of each month and in four cases have appeared before the first.

The Surcharge articles in this number are very interesting and present two different phrases.

In No. 2 of the *Philatelist* is a good reference list of philatelic publications, and one that every stamp collecting member of the fraternity should cut out and keep. From it we see N. H. has brought forth six philatelic papers.

The eminent Mr. Giwell of London dubs Philadelphia "the philatelic capital of America." Well said, Mr. Giwell, you are a gentlemen of most precise judgement.—*Philatelic Monthly*.

Where's the "hub of the universe," Empire City, etc.?

The description of the new stamps has about gone the rounds now. Let up no it.

Another bad way of taking up space is by printing the face of a prominent philatelist that has already appeared four or five times.

QUILLINGS.

There is one gentlemen in New York who has done more (on paper and self-credited) to elevate Uncle Sam's postal arrangements than any other human being. Every month he has compounded dozens of articles on the "the postal arrangements of Jewdom," "the postal facilities of Patagonia," "the new system in Sausageland," etc., and published them but Wanmaker wont heed his advice the one day of the week, Monday, that he devotes to postal affairs is to busy for such trivial matters, and visiting his sick sunday school scholars and perusing his Sunday school quarterly allow him no time in the other six week days. Thus is the light of genius darkened, thus is the flame of knowledge hid under a bushel. If the gentlemen went to Africa as a missionary, perhaps his personal letters might reach Saint on a day other than Monday. Better try it, and good riddance.

Bro. Massoth pulls the string and Voute opens his mouth and blows out more vile trash, which he thinks the public looks and laughs at more than any four (John R. Hooper excepted) could do in twice the time.

The only thing really accomplished by the present administration is the issuance of a new set of postage stamps and those far from perfect.

Good luck the Aquidneck Philatelic Club long may it live.

A few weeks ago two letters were mailed to the same address from the same place at the same time. One had the common 2c. stamp, the other an additional special delivery, the former was delivered at 2 p. m. the next day, the latter at 5 p. m.

Verily, the world do revolve and things are not what they seem.

Utica, N. Y., has sprung a — upon us in a 3-5, eight-page nondescript, poorly printed, terribly edited, it is a fit rival for the detunct *Midget* of Jamie Jay. Presumably the Philadelphic *Philatelic News* will suspend because of this dangerous competitor.

It is rumored that *One Dime* has been sold to an English syndicate.

The *Eastern Philatelist* from Newmarket runs in upon us with creditable contents.

The only paper in the South is a worthy rival of any paper in the North, as far as contents go.

Goldsbury did make a good move when he fired his printer pardner. If you want to get good work you must pay for it.

The editors of the *Nebraska Philatelist* are turnishing their readers with good contents.

Canada, it is rumored will have another stamp paper soon, at present it is represented by but one. It is very queer that the Canucks can't support a paper, but they are financially embarassed, that is the Canadian philatelists and we can't expect a paper until some Treasurer of a stamp publishing company skips up that way.

The *Philatelist* is handsomely printed and reflects great credit on its publishers.

"Telegraph Stamps" is instructive, it is now running in the *American Philatelist*.

'e Boodle Philatelist's funny man gets in his work this month.

The *Western Philatelist* publishers take the best of two alternatives appearing in 4-page form, but a ghost of their former robust self.

PHILATELIC ❖

❖ LITERATURE

Dirt Cheap!

100 varieties of good Philatelic papers in fine condition,

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Every third purchaser will receive a Stamp Album free.

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Portsmouth, N. H.

WE HAVE

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Portsmouth, N. H.

Dealers, Attention!

Read our Directory and see if you do not think it is the Cheapest Advertising medium through which to reach good buyers.

For 35c. your card will reach 2200 collectors each month.

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— Dealer in —

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For Agents. A large variety of stamps on sheets at 33 1/3 per cent. commission. Reference required.

3 cents for 100 assorted U. S. and Foreign Stamps. Address
J. T. Handford, Lincoln Park, N. J.

The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As heretofore, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me.

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Send 2c. stamp for copy of "The Universal Collector" a fine 8-page, 6x9, collectors' paper of indisputable high character and 12 numbers guaranteed. Don't forget at the same time to send the names and addresses of your friends and if their name are not on our sample copy list they will receive a free copy. We keep a list of all copies sent out as samples.

Universal Collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

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Amer. Collector, New Chester, Adams Co., Pa.

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These Packets are guaranteed to be the best value ever offered for the money.

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Packet 4 contains 50 better varieties, including Cape of Good Hope, Cyprus, Prussia, Roumania, Egypt, Victoria, South Australia, etc. Price 12c., post free.

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Packet 7 contains 25 var. from North and South America, including Mexico, Chili, United States, Canada, Brazil, Luxemburg, etc. Price 12c., post free.

Packet 8 contains 25 var., including Sweden (official), Western Australia, Sweden Losen, Straits Settlements.

Packet 9 contains 15 scarce stamps, including Bavaria, Ceylon, Natal, Turkey, Saxony, Japan, etc. Price 11c., post free.

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Dealers!

If You would Save Money You
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DON'T READ THIS.

You cannot do without printing, now why not let me do your work? I will do it quickly, cheaply and well.

You must of course use circulars, price lists, letter heads, envelopes, sheets, agents' reports, etc.

Having been a collector, dealer and publisher for a number of years I can do philatelic printing und rstandingly, which every printer cannot.

When in need of anything write me, stating *just* what you want and enclose stamp for reply, and I will cheerfully quote prices for the work delivered to you, invariably *for less* than your local printer would ask.

If you desire to do a little profitable advertising try the columns of the *Philatelic Express*, of which I am advertising manager. A trial will bring a renewal.

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502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

The Nebraska Philatelist

Is the best Philatelic paper published in the West.

Send for Sample Copy.

WILL F. WEBER,
Pawnee City, Nebr.

THE

Essex County Philatelist.

A monthly for stamp collectors. Subscription price 15c. per year. Advertising rates made known on application. Sample paper free. Interesting and valuable information every month. Reliable advertisements. And everything in philatelic line noted. Subscribe at once. WM. M. STUART,

Box 274, Lawrence, Mass.

To whom all letters should be addressed.

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A 1 inch ad and a years subscription to the New Jersey Collector for only 50c, and to every one sending above amount we will give

Free! Free!! Free!!!

An elegant fountain pen with two pens and filler, all complete, for this month only.

Large circulation. Sub. 10cts, per year. Advertisements 35c, per inch. Sample copy free if you mention this paper. If you don't you wont get a copy free. See?

The New Jersey Collector,
Box 302, - - - Plainfield, N. J.

The Empire State Exchange

Is the paper for all collectors, it has a department for each of the branches of natural sciences, bric-a-brac, philately and Exchanges. Sub. 25c. per year. Sample copy Free.

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100 Var. Stamps and Album FREE to every 5th person sending 15c for the Yankee Philatelist, a large 8-page philatelic paper, one year. Names of winners will appear in the paper each month. Advertising rates 1 in. 30c; 1 col. \$1.50; 1 page \$2.00. Circulation 1000. Sample free. The Yankee Phil.,

Box 4, Barre, Vt.

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12 var, Asiatic stamps, 8c; 7 var, Jamaica, 4c; 10 var, Canadian, 5c; South Australia, '68, 10sh, carmine, 6c; Nova Scotia, 1c, black, 6c; Nova Scotia, 2c. mauve, 7c; entire Japanese postal card, 5c; Canada Bill, \$1, blue, 10c; Sweden, oval official, blue, 15c. Orders under 25 cents must contain 2 cents extra. 25 var. of stamps and our circulars, 2c. Canadian Revenue Catalogue, cloth, 30c. Large American Philatelic Directory, 18c. Sample of Philatelic Tribune free. F. J. STANTON, Smyrna, New York.

BACK NUMBERS can be had of the publishers of this magazine, at the following prices.

No. 1,	6c	No. 3,	3c
" 2,	8c	" 4,	5c
" 5,	5c	" 6,	5c
" 7,	5c		

Given Away Free!

In order to introduce my packets I will send Packet No. 1 containing 50 varieties of South American stamps including Paraguay, Bolivia, Ecuador, Buenos Ayres, Peru, Columbia, Falkland Isles, British Guiana, etc., free of charge, on receipt of 25c. to pay expenses. Send for price lists.

J. T. McFARLAND,

84 Warren St., Boston, Mass.

Stamp Dealer's Directory.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line Advertisement in this column, 35 cents per year, in advance.

ARNOLD W. P. & F. M.—LaFayette, R. I. 10,000 50c. postpaid. 1000 square cut, gummed hinges, 7c 18

BARDEN ADELBERT M.—N. Attleboro, Mass. Best stamp hinges in the market to cts. per 1000. Samples 2c. 18

BRATT W. H.—306 W. 12th Street, New York City. Postage stamps for collections. 17

GRAY F. H.—2 Market St. Portsmouth, N. H. Gray's Invisible Ink, 10c per bottle. 17

GREEN C. W.—Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H. American Postage Stamps. 17

JACKSON W. B.—605 Bennington St., East Boston, Mass. Fine stamps on approval—Prices low—Com. 30 per cent—Agents wanted. 17

JEWETT W. W.—Room 10 Franklin Block, 502 Congress St., Portland, Maine. Fine Mercantile and Philatelic Printing. Try me. 18

McFARLAND R. M.—Box 182, Henderson, Ky. U. S. doc., match and medicine stamps on approval at 40 per cent. discount. Reference required. 18

PENDER J. L.—Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic Literature for sale. 17

VAN DEUSEN C.—Westfield, Massachusetts. 3000 varieties at 33 1-3 per cent. discount. 18

WARD GEO.—106 W. 125th St., N. Y. Will send 75c. worth of stamps at Scott's catalogue on receipt of 25 cents. 18

WARD GEO. B.—L. B. 170, Grand Rapids, Mich. Manf. of the Exch. Hinge, best in the World. Sample 1000 12c. Am. stamps at 30 p.c. 18

\$860 A MONTH cannot be made by Many AGENTS but we can show you how to make fair pay with little labour. No peddling. We mean business do you? Samples free. Send 2 stamps for postage and packing.

A. BLACK, Jefferson, Ills.

Subscribers

rare stamp

this space

will find a

affixed in

each month.

I have just issued my list No. 9, containing a complete catalogue of the adhesive stamps of Great Britain. PRICES LAUGHTERED. Many great bargains in sets and packages. Free on application.

W. H. BRATT,

306 West 12th St., NEW YORK CITY.

THE CENTRAL PHILATELIST

A 6 to 8 page and cover monthly, containing the latest stamp news, always on time, price 10 cents a year; advertising rates 35 cents per inch, circulation 1000 copies.

Address Box 200, Belvidere, Ill.

Western Philatelist, 12 pages and cover monthly, 25 cents per year, *sample free*, if you mention this paper. Kickers Kolumn, correspondence, exchange department, and other features. Circulation 2000 to 3000 per month; adv 50c. an inch. Address Philatelic Publishing Co., Box 616, St., Joseph, Mo.

The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As heretofore, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me.

THIS NOVELTY with 25c
YOUR NAME ON, Postal, 1,
Contains a Pen, Pencil and
Rubber Stamp, all
in one.
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HIGHLY NICKEL PLATED
STAMP TO PEN
A SLIGHT PRESSURE OF
THUMB CAUSES
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If you are in need of printing send for my estimates. My specialty is Philatelic work, such as Papers, Price Lists, Circulars, Letter Heads, Envelopes, Etc. This paper is a fair sample of my work.

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—And Dealer in—

U. S. & Foreign Stamps

287 Grand St., NEWBURGH, N. Y.

50 good var., only	10c
100 " " "	12c
200 " " "	50c
1000 extra mixed, only	30c

Honduras, Issue of 1878.

Complete set of 7, unused, guaranteed genuine, price only 75c, postpaid.

:: Fine : Approval : Sheets ::

of choice stamps, sent on receipt of reference or deposit. No reference required of members A. P. A. or of other philatelic societies. 25 to 40 per cent. commissions allowed.

Some bargains in 1, 2, 3 and 5c stamps, try a sheet, and be convinced.

Collections bought for cash.

COLLECTORS

I am sending out approval books of good stamps at 33 1/3 per cent. commission to members of the A. P. A., C. P. A. or C. P. S. or collectors furnishing good reference.

DEALERS

I have quite a number of unused (1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 24, 36 and 48c) Periodical stamps that I will exchange for good stamps from your sheets. I can supply the 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12c. at wholesale at fifty per cent. below Scott's catalogue price for cash.

WHOLESALE DEALERS

Will be pleased to receive wholesale selections of stamps and price lists from you.

CARL WAGNER,

318 West Market St.,

POTTSVILLE,

PA.

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

VOL. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., JUNE, 1890.

No. 8.

Conglomerate.

Now is the time when the stamp enthusiast drops his pet hobby and hies him to green fields to layout his diamond or tennis court, utterly forgetting in his delusive pastime that the few festive stamp papers need some one to lean on, and many are the green mounds in the philatelic potter's field as brisk October dawns and few are the headstones which mark their last resting places.

The pale emaciated skeletons of last year's strongest rank and file play at hide and seek behind the few stones and throw unfeeling and unsightly remarks at each others' persons. Then they grapple and fall. Here is a once 16-page and cover magazine, trying to wrestle a 4-pager which it finds unable to down.

But the few hardy perennials have a little hope for there is the robust countryman who between sucking the purse-strings of his gullible summer visitor, will linger long enough in his onerous duties of stabbing the mosquitoes with a 3-tine pitchfork, who, much against his will, saturate their fiendish desire by tapping arteries here and there on the foreheads of noble senators and deputy sheriffs, glutting themselves with the elixir of life and then fall prostrate upon the ground where they meet unlooked for death at his hands, thus driving complexion fearful maidens to cover or else cause them to saunter out with their heads encased in gold-fish globes, to protect them from the ravages of Virginia's natives and by these means spoil the summer trade. But I digress, when I see all these grassy graves, I think which of the papers now living will ford the

seemingly unfordable stream of liquid fire and mount October's shores. Which? I know, I am positive, that *One Dime* will be there, that paper, the pride of America's Philatelic Journalism, is fast becoming gray whiskered, but being stout of body and guided by the strong arms of Charles and Eddie Peugh, will reach the mark, while some of our foremost papers, those least thought of will be caught in the strong undercurrent and sunk to rise no more.

Thus it is ever, real merit perishes, and its more humble apology gets there.

But Abraham Lincoln began life as a rail-splitter and Bro. Peugh may become President by simply chewing spaces and quads. Who can say? Now my gentle peruser don't think I am trying to institute a gross attack upon Mr. Peugh. I simply wish to eulogize and immortalize him. James C. Jay's *Midget's* last resting place methinks I see in the north-west corner, diagonal to that of the *Halifax Philatelist*, and in place of the costly shaft which lauds the glory of the former, I see a red brick covered with unpretentious Richwoods. But have I not said enough, I hear some one say rats, I know I have. I stop lest I,—Have mercy on me! Don't hit me! I go in peace.

Some people are inquiring on what grounds Mr. Phillips is trying to make good to Messrs. Gibbons and Wilson, by soliciting subscriptions, the amount recently lost by those gentlemen in the late libel case. If the sympathy now expressed for them was brought into use before the trial, the result might have been less severe.

QUILLINGS.

The *Southern Philatelist* is being pushed to the front rank by the Southern Publishing Co.

We have a new paper, the *U. S. Corresponding Philatelist*, and prophecy an untimely death for it.

The triumph of modern times is our directory.

C. H. Whitcomb; can't you utilize that blank page in the *Fitchburg Philatelist*? It would improve your looks 20 per cent.

Two interesting articles which were promised us for this number failed to show up. Thence our short delay in waiting.

Try an advertisement in our July number. Wake up the trade.

A new *U. S. Philatelist* now comes from Plainfield, N. J., which place is exceedingly prolific of papers that die at the age of one month.

We hear nothing of the western society except through its champion, the *Western Philatelist*.

State leagues are in style.

We notice that Bro. Whitcomb of Fitchburg now nominates his paper for official organ of the M. P. A. We hope he'll get it as his paper is excellent.

The *Dominion Philatelist* gives more paper for the money than any other magazine in the profession, we think, but the matter on the paper is hard and uninteresting.

Although Sir Rowland Hill invented the adhesive postage stamp, yet he never lived in an age when you could get your

name and a two or three line card in a directory one year for 35 cents. Did he?

A casual observer can see by looking over our official organ that M. F. Walton has done more for increasing the membership of the A. P. A. than has any one before him.

Bear this in mind when you vote.

A conspicuously disagreeable feature of our new giddy red stamps is the amount of London red on their backs. This is caused, we suppose, by placing the sheets one upon another before they are thoroughly dried.

You never saw this happen with the Parisian Greens.

Senator has become quite a writer.

To be up with the times you must have your name in our directory.

In a few months we will introduce an innovation in our columns. Very odd and entirely original.

The tide of stamp collecting is moving eastward fast from all the great stamp centers. Denver is almost entirely out of it, and matters are so divided in Chicago that nothing can be hoped for from there.

Why is it Chicagoans can't create and then support a decent philatelic paper?

Since we have no reliable directory, McLean's being so old, most of the publishers are making out private lists for their own special use.

A new one would bring a large sale.

The teachings of the Apostle Hooper will soon appear in book form, complete in seven large quartos.

Mr. S. C. Scott informs us that one-half of No. 1 of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* is already printed. We're waiting.

The National League of Philatelists.

The following is the list of officers nominated by the N. L. P.

For President, - - - J. L. PENDER
 " Vice Pres. - - - F. S. GOLDSBURY
 " Secretary, - - - E. D. SMITH
 " Treasurer, - - - C. H. WHITCOMB
 " Ex. Supt. - - - J. D. BARTLETT

Board of Trustees,

WM. STUART, - - - Lawrence, Mass.
 WM. SWAN, - - - " "
 CHAS. W. PEARL, - - - " "

For Official Organ,

THE FITCHBURG PHILATELIST.

The dues of this society will be 50c per annum. The charter membership closes on June 30th, at 6 p. m., and all votes for officers must be in at that date. An admission fee of 10c must be sent to the Secretary with your vote. Address,

E. D. SMITH,

Sec. Pro. Tem. Danville N. Y.

ENTERPRISE

deserves success and when utilized with patience always achieves its end. A little while since, W. H. Bratt, of New York, started in the stamp business and by careful attention to his duty and square dealing, has become a dealer of the first rank. He has shown how level-headed he is by constantly advertising in the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL.

Still another dealer who is working himself before the public gaze is Edw. R. Hasbrouck, he saw our paper was a good advertiser and straightly enlarged his advertisement. Mr. Hasbrouck's trade is assuming enormous proportions, but he can handle all that comes, and in the right way. This is the right material for dealers.

Our Valuable Associate Writes.

I.

Charles Corwynne was a nobyl knyght,
 And presydente he would be;
 But Tyffane and Van Derlyppe
 Attayned to that degree.

II.

And nowe they stryppe them for the fraie,
 And gyrded their armor onne,
 For eache one ys onne vycorie bente,
 Before the fraie ys done.

III.

Charles Corwynne wythe a prynting presse
 Wyll ballotts off ytt rolle,
 And sende to alle the A. P. A.s,
 Yn seekyng for hys goale.

IV.

Butte Tyffanee's a better chance,
 Becaus he holds the stande.
 Some folkse styll thynk he'll get the jobbe,
 But Van Derlyppe's the manne.

FINIS.

June 1, 1890.

Sculpin Point, Me.

BACK NUMBERS can be had of the publishers of this magazine, at the following prices,

No. 1, - - - 6c	No. 3, - - - 3c
" 2, - - - 8c	" 4, - - - 5c
" 5, - - - 5c	" 6, - - - 5c
" 7, - - - 5c	" 8, - - - 5c

Subscribers
 rare stamp
 this space

will find a
 affixed in
 each month.

WE STILL

Are advertising the Cheapest Directory and still we

LEAD

All competitors in the way of advertising. Furthermore we intend to keep on leading

THEM.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,
Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be
addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One line, - - - - -	\$.10
One inch, - - - - -	.50
Two inches, - - - - -	.85
One column, - - - - -	2.50
One page, - - - - -	5.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.

Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions 25c. per year. Abroad, 35c.

Subscriptions must commence with current issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

JUNE, 1890.

EDITORIAL.

This is the dawn of the dull season. Make it a busy season by advertising.

The *Club Correspondent* of Stony Point, N. Y., will combine its May and June numbers.

Who was that well dressed gentleman wearing eye-glasses and burdened with a valise, who came to this city on the 6th or 7th of last month, and was so willing to invest his surplus in cash?

New England has two excellent papers in the *Rhode Island Philatelist* and *Eastern Philatelist*, which over-reach all others in this section and are correspondingly equal in contents to any in America. We should appreciate them and we do.

Woful! Woful! is the state of reading matter in our official journal. Do something and do it quick.

Goldsbury holds up his corner of New England in great shape. His mayflower number was extra large.

A few papers have perhaps righteously criticised our numbers because of the sarcasm expressed therein. We use our sarcasm in the right direction at least, and as for the contributions by McG. Heensberger, if the public want something more stable, why, bless them, they can have it.

Has Bro. Massoth discharged his valuable assistant? We do not see anything written by Emile W. Voute in last number.

The *American Philatelist* wants to know where those new designs in post cards are. We'll tell you, gentlemen. The plates are being engraved in Sou Chou, China, at the same place where the plates for our new set of stamps came from. Be patient and get something fine.

We are in receipt of No. 2 of the best stamp paper in the world, and ratify the decision of its promulgators.

For May, the publishers of the *Philatelist* announce that they will distribute personally 1000 copies of their paper to New York school children. There's energy.

Still in It.

For Pres.	-	WILLARD C. VAN DERLIP
" V. P.	-	S. B. BRADT
" Sec'y,	-	M. F. WALTON
" Treas.	-	CHAS. GREGORY
" Int. Sec'y,	-	JOS. RECHERT

Since our last appearance a quantity of new tickets have appeared in as many papers, but none of them suit us as well as the above.

The offices of Treasurer and International Secretary seem to be granted prior to the election to Messrs. Gregory and Rechert, as only one or two papers present nominations to the contrary. Several papers present as a plea in favor of John K. Tiffany, that having held the office so trustily he should be kept in place. We don't believe it. There is a certain honor in being President of the A. P. A., and one man shouldn't monopolize it. Mr. Tiffany has had a big slice of the cake and now let some one else, fully as capable, take it. Mr. Willard C. Van Derlip of Boston, Mass., for instance.

Then the office of Secretary, the most important of all, Mr. Walton has held but for a short time. He is just getting things to run in his own ideal ways, during his short term of office notice our increase in membership, then give better reasons why you should vote for another.

Will F. Webber has retired from the *Nebraska Philatelist*, after piloting it into deep water. The latest number is *sans pareil*.

Keep your weather eye on our Directory.

F. J. Stanton should be commended on the resurrected interest displayed in his paper.

J. & F. Straus, the mammoth wholesalers, have sold their entire stock to the Mound City Stamp Co. of St Louis, Mo.

The Official Result.

President,	-	-	F. H. PINKHAM
Vice Pres.	-	-	J. L. PENDER
Secretary,	-	-	H. C. QUINBY
Treasurer,	-	-	WILLIS D. KING

Literary Board,

F. H. PINKHAM, of Eastern Philatelist
C. W. GREEN, of Amer'n Stamp Journal.

On Saturday, May 10, the polls for election of State League officers, closed with the above result.

The total number of votes cast were 23.
For Pres. F. H. Pinkham received 22 votes
" V. P. J. L. Pender " 18 "
" Sec'y H. C. Quinby " 22 "
" Treas. W. D. King " 9 "

his nearest competitor having 4 votes.

For members of the Literary Board,
F. H. Pinkham received 22 votes
C. W. Green " 22 "

and no choice being made of a third member, the two elected will serve alone.

To start an exchange department, a notice will be found elsewhere pertaining to it.

Full particulars will be given in our next.

Always to the Fore.

When No. 1 of the AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL came out, one might observe an inch advertisement of H. F. Bamforth, which was continued with No. 2. But when our third number appeared a half-column advertisement by the same person had supplanted the inch, the half-column was continued to our seventh number, when Mr. Bamforth retired from business. This is conclusive testimony of our advantages as an advertiser.

With our No. 7, a subscription was received from this same gentleman. This is conclusive testimony of the par excellence of our contents.

"He that hath ears to hear let him hear."

Stamp Dealer's Directory.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line Advertisement in this column, 35 cents per year, in advance.

ARNOLD W. P. & F. M.—LaFayette, R. I. 1000 square cut, gummed hinges, 7c 18
10,000 soc. postpaid.

BARDEN ADELBERT M.—N. Attleboro, Mass. Best stamp hinges in the market 10 cts. per 1000. Samples 2c. 18

BRATT W. H.—306 W. 12th Street, New York City. Postage stamps for collections. 17

CARPENTER & CO., 867 E. 137th St., New York.—Stamps on approval marked by Scott, and 35 per ct. allowed. Agents wanted. Send reference. 19

GRAY F. H.—2 Market St., Portsmouth, N. H. Gray's Invisible Ink, 10c per bottle. 17

GREEN C. W.—Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H. American Postage Stamps. 17

JACKSON W. B.—605 Bennington St., East Boston, Mass. Fine stamps on approval—Prices low—Com. 30 per cent—Agents wanted. 17

JEWETT W. W.—Room 10 Franklin Block, 502 Congress St., Portland, Maine. Fine Mercantile and Philatelic Printing. Try me. 18

McFARLAND R. M.—Box 182, Henderson, Ky. U. S. doc., match and medicine stamps on approval at 40 per cent. discount. Reference required. 18

PENDER H. G., 3 Merrimac St., Portsmouth, N. H.—Collector of U. S. and Foreign Stamps. 19

PENDER J. L.—Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic Literature for sale. 17

VAN DEUSEN C.—Westfield, Massachusetts. 3000 varieties at 33 1-3 per cent. discount. 18

WARD GEO.—106 W. 125th St., N. Y. Will send 75c. worth of stamps at Scott's catalogue on receipt of 25 cents. 18

WARD GEO. B.—L. B. 170, Grand Rapids, Mich. Manf. of the Exch. Hinge, best in the World. Sample 1000 12c. Am. stamps at 30 p.c. 18

Notice !

The firm of Rockwell and Hastings, known as The Correspondent Publishing Co. has dissolved this day by mutual consent. The Publishing Business will be carried on by G. B. Hastings who is the only member of the firm. He will not be responsible for any debts hereafter incurred by Mr. Rockwell or any one else but himself. April 1st, 1890.

SEE HERE!

Send me 8 cents to pay cost of postage and packing, and I will send you a pint of good Jet Black Ink. Address,

G. B. HASTINGS,

Stony Point, New York.

THE CENTRAL PHILATELIST

A 6 to 8 page and cover monthly, containing the latest stamp news, always on time, price 10 cents a year; advertising rates 35 cents per inch, circulation 1000 copies.

Address, Box 200, Belvidere, Ill.

The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As heretofore, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me.

A complete set of genuine unused War Department stamps will be sold this month by shares at 10 cents per share. The lucky share-holder's address will be published in this Journal next month. Address: A. B. MERRILL, P. O. Box 638, Everett, Mass. A. P. A. 664.

THIS NOVELTY with 25c
FOUR NAME ON, Postpaid,
 Contains a Pen, Pencil and
 Rubber Stamp, all
 in one.
25c



Prints 1, 2 or 3 lines a thousand times without re-inking, ink free with each one.
 AGENTS' TERMS FREE with first order. **50¢ Bought AT 0-1-2.**
NEW AGENTS make BIG MONEY! Circulars Free; send for them. **Everybody needs one to mark Lines, Cards, Books, etc.** Address

Size of a common Pencil when closed for pocket. **CATALOGUE (over 200 pages) 21 cts. postpaid.** Quickest Shipments.

Thalman M'g Co., 17 East Balto. St., Baltimore, Md.

FINE * JOB * PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

If you are in need of printing send for my estimates. My specialty is Philatelic work, such as Papers, Price Lists, Circulars, Letter Heads, Envelopes, Etc. This paper is a fair sample of my work.

W. W. JEWETT,

Room 10, 502 Congress St., PORTLAND, ME.

THE

Empire State Stamp Journal,

One of the most interesting Philatelic Journals published. 12 numbers guaranteed, for 25 cents. Advertising rates, 40 cents per inch. Each number contains a Bargain Page, in which desirable Stamps are offered at prices far below Catalogue rates, also Auction Sale, and many other features not found in most papers.

Specimen will be mailed free on application.
LINCOLN KAPPEYE,

TRUMANSBURG, NEW YORK.

Publishers inserting this paragraph and the above 3 times will receive the same space in E. S. S. J.

Wanted, all persons to join my club. Admittance fee ten cents, dues ten cents per month. Address, R.M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Ventura Co., Cal.

Stamps sent on approval at 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. commission. Reference required, except in case of A. P. A. and C. P. A. members. State what quality stamps are desired.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954, - - - Portsmouth, N. H.

READ THIS!

During the past month we have received more than 60 cash subscribers.

We hope to add as many more during the present one.

Remember we give

A RARE STAMP

free each month to every subscriber, besides the best 25c paper published.

AMERICAN PUB. CO.,

Box 954, - - - Portsmouth, N. H.

B. B. B.

THE ABOVE LETTERS DENOTE

BRATT'S BIC BARCAINS.

Everybody knows that my latest package is the

PARAMOUNT

And this is what it contains:

4 var. stamps, (catalogued)	-	.60
10 " " "	-	.50
36 " " "	-	1.08

Value, - - 2.18

But offered at 52 cents post-paid. Every stamp is guaranteed strictly genuine and the lot go at the rate of 76 per cent. below catalogue. Don't wait until my stock is exhausted, but send now to

WM. H. BRATT,

306 W. 12th street, New York.

Beginners send for my condensed list No. 9.

THE RECORD.

Official organ of *Universal Philatelic Association* of U. S. and Canada. Published semi-monthly for interest of collectors. Subscription rates, 65c per year, 25 numbers. Special offer to new subscribers, 55c. per year until Sept. 1, 1890. The Record contains from 8 to 14 pages each issue. Exchange Department free to subscribers. An unused Foreign stamp with each issue. CIRCULATION FROM 800 TO 1500 EACH ISSUE. Good advertising medium. Advertising rates, 75c an inch, 2 inch \$1.40; discount on standing advertisements. Three cents per copy, no samples free. All philatelic papers desirous of exchanging, let us know. Wanted, interesting reading matter for Record, pertaining to collecting. We want agents to take subscriptions and advertisements for the 'Record.' Any one desirous of joining the U. P. A. can address T. F. Darling, Topeka, Kan., or Guy Stewart, Lake View, Mich. Enclose stamp for reply.

GUY STEWART, Publisher,

Lake View, Mich.

Editors copying this and the above can have same space in The Record.

Established, - - - 1885.

EDWARD R. HASBROUCK,
IMPORTER

—And Dealer in—

U. S. & Foreign Stamps

287 Grand St., NEWBURGH, N. Y.

A FEW BARGAINS.

10 Canada Env., only	15c
7 var. Belgium Postal Packet, (catalogued at 58c)	20c
10 " Mexico, (catalogued at 25c) only	10c
100 U. S., (obsolete, good mixture) only	10c
1000 " " " " " "	50c
12 var. Egypt, (a bargain)	30c
1 Confederate, upon original envelope,	10c
1 U. S. 90c, purple only,	50c
10 Portugal, ass't, '56-'88, good values only,	20c
1 Confederate 2c green, unused, (worth \$2.50) only	1.25

Any of above sent postpaid upon receipt of price.

I Give Away Gummed Hinges

to those buying my stamps!

These hinges are the *best made*, the gum used being *pure* and free from *flavoring matter*.

APPROVAL SHEETS

of choice stamps sent upon receipt of an A 1 reference.
All stamps priced by Scott's latest catalogue: none many lower, from which is allowed a

Commission of 33 1-3 per cent.

All stamps upon my Sheets are perfect specimens, no torn or heavily cancelled stamps being used. Choice selections priced at 1, 2, 3, & 5c. Higher priced stamps for advanced collectors.

TO ALL SENDING

for my APPROVAL SHEETS, I give FREE, 25 Fine Stamps, including a Confederate. These are *not common* stamps, but such as will grace *any collection*.

Order early, as those doing so will get the *cream*.

Agents Premium List sent with each order.

New Price List Out Soon.

GREAT SCOTT!!!

Packet No. 2 contains 50 varieties of British Colonial stamps, including Transvaal, St. Vincent, Shanghai, triangular Cape of Good Hope, Newfoundland, Sarawak, Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Christopher, Labuan, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, St. Helena, &c.

Price 25 cents.

Packet No. 7 contains 25 varieties of Nevis, Lagos, Port. Indis, Hayti, Paraguay, St. Thomas, Br. Columbia, Antioquia, St. Helena, St. Christopher, Angola, St. Vincent, Victoria, Persia, Siam, &c.

Price 25 cents.

Packet No. 8 contains 25 varieties of Mozambique, Nevis, St. Helena, Guatemala, Gibraltair, Siam, Angola, Labuan, Gold Coast, Grenada, Sirmoor, St. Thomas, P. E. Island, Br. Columbia, St. Lucia, Corea, Br. Guiana, Peru, Gambia, &c.

Price 25 cents.

Packet No. 9 contains 25 varieties of Virgin Islands, Hayti, Br. Guiana, Labuan, Helsingfors, Angola, Gibraltair, St. Vincent, Jhind, Bolivia, Grenada, Mozambique, St. Thomas, P. E. Island, Antigua, St. Christopher, Lagos, &c.

Price 25 cents.

250 varieties	-	-	25c
400 "	-	-	40c
500 "	-	-	50c

Send for lists. Postage Free.

J. F. MCFARLAND,

84 Warrenton Street, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLECTORS

I am sending out approval books of good stamps at 33 1/3 per cent. commission to members of the A. P. A., C. P. A. or C. P. S. or collectors furnishing good reference.

DEALERS

I have quite a number of unused (1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 24, 36 and 48c) Periodical stamps, that I will exchange for good stamps from your sheets. I can supply the 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12c at wholesale at fifty per cent. below Scott's catalogue price for cash.

WHOLESALE DEALERS

Will be pleased to receive wholesale selections of stamps and price lists from you.

CARL WAGNER,

318 West Market St.,

POTTSVILLE, PA.

The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

Entered in the Portsmouth Post Office as second class matter.

Vol. I.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., JULY, 1890.

No. 9.

Swindle Talk.

WHAT A CREDIBLE DEALER THINKS AND BELIEVES.

It's queer to me, said a dealer, why so many of my trade are caught napping by bogus references, and induced to send sheets to unprincipled youths, who are exceedingly loth to return them. I suppose one good reason is that dealers are not careful enough in looking after the reliability of their references, and no one can blame us, for if each and every reference was looked up, I am afraid that postage expenses would hardly be in ratio with the income.

I should advise an adept in the business to give up all thoughts of a sheet business and lay my gold in a business embodying pure cash principles, either packet or single variety.

As the packet dealer is more generally patronized, that is a good way to begin.

Once in a while you see an advertisement claiming that the business is carried on simply for fun. Don't believe it. The fellow is pretty hard up for fun who resorts to the stamp business for gaining his point. There may be a certain little enjoyment in the management but not enough to subsist on.

Lately Canada has been the seat of numerous swindles, reflected our speaker, have you noticed them? I think all the large ones have been perpetrated by one person, on a systematical scale, fore-planned and carried out to the letter. The United States is a grand country to work such a fake in and we may get it, hot and heavy, soon, so look out for the crash when it comes.

Swindling has ever been and ever will be part of mankind, but nothing like an immense stamp swindle has been enacted for some few years. The public demand excitement and will they or will they not be gratified?

Blank Albums.

In recent years much has been said and done by advocates of a blank album, and the most beneficial result of this has been the "Staten Island Philatelic Society's Blank Album." Almost every stamp collector has seen at least a sample page of this book, if not a book complete, and loud have been its praises. Yet numbers continue to carry out original ideas of their own. Two weeks ago I saw a very fine arrangement indulged in by a revenue collector, which, although perhaps requiring more skill, will repay its owner for the time taken. The arrangement was as follows.

Several sheets of very thick cardboard of fine quality cut by the printer, 9x12 inches, and best if with glazed surface. Different colors can be used, but a pink tint is preferable in many cases, although easily soiled. Maroon, or dark red I found however to be most popular. Spaces must be ruled to accommodate different shaped stamps, and here is where the rub comes, especially in revenues, match and medicine stamps, which are of very odd shapes and much skill is required to make the designs perfect. When all the sheets desired are thus ruled, a good substantial cover will be made by a book-binder for you at a price not exceeding \$1.00, by

covering 2 pieces of heavy cardboard with calf or any kind of binding desired, leaving a loose back. This satisfies me better than any album, printed or original, I have ever seen, and hope others may gain the same benefit.

QUILLINGS.

Bro. Pinkham of the *Eastern Philatelist* very generously offers a year's subscription to his journal to all joining the new state league before October 1st., 1890. Not to be out of style we will make the same offer of our journal, which, although not so large, yet we know will prove acceptable. Now Quimby jump in line.

Very amusing epithets are being applied to the persons of sundry editors.

Shake ye off the flies, Oh *Philatelic Beacon!*

Send in your fifty cents to the Secretary for a year's dues to the N. H. S. C. L.

Aldrich's "Philatelic Almanac" is out.

A convention photograph at the New York meeting will be quite proper.

We have the *Eastern, Southern* and *Western Philatelists*, and the *Northern* is announced to appear shortly.

Brower has at last reached a conclusion. The *Orange City Philatelist* will not be hatched. The egg was rotten.

There exists a *Tennessee Philatelist* at Laurel Gap, that state. G. J. McLain, formerly of Persia, is editor and publisher.

"A Wise Philatelist" in the last *Curiosity Collector* is very good. Bartlett is doing nicely.

The *Universal Collector* grows less interesting to philatelists with every number.

Read Hasbrouck's advertisement this month. He's after the trade.

The "Hand-book" scheme of Mr. G. H. Young of Portsmouth, N. H. has fallen through from lack of support. The *Yankee Philatelist* will publish all exchanges.—*Nebraska Stamp News*. (May)

This paper filled all advertising contracts two months ago, as is well known. Where are your eyes, Biggar?

Our directory has boomed immensely. Watch it!

The June number of our official organ is received, and if no better matter can be furnished hereafter, it will be best for the association and its members to suspend its publication. When a paper run by three societies in unison can promote a better specimen of journalism that the largest association in the new world, things have reached a pass, and needless expense is being borne by us. Is it lack of brains or what?

Read the advertisement of the state league and join. Non residents of the State can enjoy all its privileges and benefits except voting.

The *American Collector* is very tenacious of life, and seems to have filled its

May's *Yankee Philatelist* has its usual splendid quota of advertisements.

Where is that Lake View paper which would appear semi-weekly. We want to see it.

How insignificant the *Q. C. P.* has got to be. Can this last much longer?

The *Post Card* is as bright and often as ever.

Commune Bonum.

THE
New Hampshire
Stamp Collector's
LEAGUE.

F. H. Pinkham, Pres.
 J. L. Pender, Vice Pres.
 Harry C. Quimby, Sec. & Treas.
 F. H. Pinkham and C. W. Green,
 Executive Board.

ORGANIZED - MAY, 1890.

MEMBERS WANTED.

Send to the Secretary for particulars
 of membership.

A LIBRARY

will be needed and all contributions
 should be sent to Wellington L.
 Woodworth, Lake Village, N. H.

The Exchange Department

is essential, and members wishing to
 make entries should correspond with
 the manager, C. W. Green, Box
 Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H.

Every New Hampshire Collector
 should join. Keep your state on a
 level with the others, JOIN.

Dues 15 cts. per year.

NOW IS THE TIME

American Stamp Journal and East-
 ern Philatelist free to those joining
 before October.

A PUBLIC BENEFIT.**A Little Find.**

A few weeks ago, a pupil in our public schools in this city was accosted by another pupil, who asked him if he wanted to buy some stamps, at the same time producing an old blank book. The boy to whom the proposition was made, being something of a connoisseur, after looking over the book, asked the price, which was given \$5 for all of them you want. \$4.50 was agreed on, and the next day the money being paid, the buyer despoiled the book of over six hundred varieties of the 1058 it contained, and among them were complete sets of all departments, in excellent condition, except the higher values State, which were missing, and the Executives which were marked "Specimens" and all the old issues, U. S. and a large quantity of revenues, not to speak of the foreigners. All in all, the investor got a good bargain and one that was worth many times the price.

Exchangers, Notice.

Those parties who will wish to make entries for the Exchange Department of our new league, may consult with the Manager for particulars. Address everything relative thereto to C. W. Green, Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H.

SPECIAL

rates are customary throughout the warm season, and we have made

RATES

as follows: 1-inch ad 3 mos. 80c., 2-inch ad 3 mos. \$1.50.

FOR-

merly we made no reduction and as this is for a short time only it should be seized by

YOU.

— THE —

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

One line, - - - - -	\$.10
One inch, - - - - -	.50
Two inches, - - - - -	.85
One column, - - - - -	2.50
One page, - - - - -	5.00

TERMS—Cash in advance.

10 per cent. discount on standing advertisements.

Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions 25c. per year. Abroad, 35c.

Subscriptions must commence with current issue.

Exchange desired with all philatelic publications. Two copies please.

Advertisements and contributions solicited.

JULY, 1890.

EDITORIAL.

The *Fitchburg Philatelist* got there with both feet, so to speak. The *Essex County Philatelist* wasn't in it.

We see a new paper in the *Keystone Stamp Advertiser*, "Devoted to Dealers' Advertisements," and a very good small paper it is.

One reads very little news in the *Philatelic Monthly*.

God save our Anti-Surcharge Trust!

Subscribe now! Don't be afraid of our ascending during the present warm weather, for we wont do it.

It looks as if J. Walter Scott was the most prominent philatelist, as the *Philatelist's* vote indicates it thus.

We find it very hard to get a decent contributor just at this time.

Don't get excited these warm days. Just take things easy. The A. S. J. will keep you posted on everything going on.

We miss *Ye Boodle's* handsome illustrations in its April number.

Apparently the allied societies have to delve deeply into their respective treasures to get out these first few numbers of the *Metropolitan*. Mumber 3 is fairly teeming with news and knowledge.

After a lapse of several months, the *Philatelic Express* have again put us on their exchange list.

The *Stamp Collector's Journal* has greatly improved its typographical appearance.

The *London Stamp News* has greatly increased its popularity in America by introducing illustrations into its pages.

For 1891 Convention of the A. P. A. vote for Niagara Falls. That is the proper place.

Why can't a large and prosperous country like this afford to reduce the registration rate to 5 cents, when a dependency like Canada has done it right along?

Sometimes it is queer to read the odd mistakes made by printers mixing words. Almost every paper has them though.

Our next number will no doubt be a small one.

WHY?

Because we wont crib enough articles to fill up 2 extra pages, and 6 pages will be as much as we can take care of.

NOW

is the time to subscribe to get subscriptions low, and if any one is going to spend but a short vacation he should keep on advertising.

It is the

Life of Trade.

Advertise and Subscribe

And you'll get your money's worth every time in the

American Stamp Journal.

Our Protege.

Exponents of our new league must not expect anything in the way of advancement during the summer months, for as everyone knows, warm weather acts as a damper to a greater or less degree upon everything.

Therefore, be patient and disburse your pent-up enthusiasm only at the proper time, which will arrive in a few months, when it will be much more effective.

Our officers are elected, we need not say they are capable, and everything is favorable for a grand opening. As is the custom in such affairs, an exchange department will be inaugurated and those wishing to make entries can apply for particulars to the Manager, whose notice we give elsewhere.

Do your part and nothing more will be asked of you.

A GREAT OFFER.

Subscription COUPON.	* Y L U U *	<h3>15 CENTS.</h3> <p>Remit this check with 10c silver for 1 years subscription to the</p> <p>Am. Stamp Journal, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.</p>
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Clip the above slip from this paper and mail it to us with 10 cents, silver, for a year's subscription to the *American Stamp Journal*. We have decided to print the above certificate in our July and August numbers, that we may still further increase our subscription list.

The first ten answers received enclosing each of July and August coupons, will receive a packet of 10 foreign stamps, unused and catalogued at over 50c. All remittances, however, must be made to us, and not through our agents. We expect to add several hundred names to our already large subscription list, and if you desire to subscribe now is the time. Subscriptions can begin with July or August numbers.

Stamp Dealer's Directory.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line Advertisement in this column, 35 cents per year, in advance.

ARNOLD W. P. & F. M.—LaFayette, R. I. 1000 square cut, gummed hinges, 7c 10,000 50c. postpaid. 18

BARDEN ADELBERT M.—N. Attleboro, Mass. Best stamp hinges in the market 10 cts. per 1000. Samples 2c. 18

"BOODLE" PHILATELISTE.—Published monthly, 628 Hudson Street, N. Y. 20

BRATT W. H.—306 W. 12th Street, New York City. Postage stamps for collections. 17

CARPENTER & CO., 867 E. 137th St., New York.—Stamps on approval marked by Scott, and 35 per ct. allowed. Agents wanted. Send reference. 19

CURIOSITY COLLECTOR.—J. D. Bartlett, publisher, South Amboy, N. J. Subscription 25c. Advs. 35c. per inch. 20

GRAY F. H.—2 Market St., Portsmouth, N. H. Gray's Invisible Ink, 10c per bottle. 17

GREEN C. W.—Box 424, Portsmouth, N. H. American Postage Stamps. 17

HUBBARD JOHN M., Lake Village, N. H.—Collections and bargains wanted for cash. Stamp Dealers of the World 12c.; Stamp Collectors of the World 12c.; Stamps, How to Buy and Sell 12c.; Black List 12c.; Philatelic Frauds 12c.; Hints on Insect Collecting 12c.; Premium Coin List 12c. 20

JACKSON W. B.—605 Bennington St., East Boston, Mass. *Fine stamps on approval—Prices low—Com. 30 per cent—Agents wanted. 17

JEWETT W. W.—Room 10 Franklin Block, 502 Congress St., Portland, Maine. Fine Mercantile and Philatelic Printing. Try me. 18

LYNN W. D., Box 196, Caulfield, Ohio.—A fine line of stamps at Scott's prices. Com. 50 per cent. Particulars for stamp. 20

McFARLAND R. M.—Box 182, Henderson, Ky. U. S. doc., match and medicine stamps on approval at 40 per cent. discount. Reference required. 18

PENDER H. G., 3 Merrimac St., Portsmouth, N. H.—Collector of U. S. and Foreign Stamps. 19

PENDER J. L.—Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Philatelic Literature for sale. 17

VAN DEUSEN C.—Westfield, Massachusetts. 3000 varieties at 33 1-3 per cent. discount. 18

WARD GEO.—106 W. 125th St., N. Y. Will send 75c. worth of stamps at Scott's catalogue on receipt of 25 cents. 18

WARD GEO. B.—L. B. 170, Grand Rapids, Mich. Manf. of the Exch. Hinge, best in the World. Sample 1000 12c. Am. stamps at 30 p.c. 18

SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER.

Good until Sept. 1st.

During July and August we will receive subscriptions to the American Stamp Journal at 10c. silver. Send at once.

AM. PUB. CO.,

Box 954 - Portsmouth, N. H.

* FINE * JOB * PRINTING *

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

If you are in need of printing send for my estimates. My specialty is Philatelic work, such as Papers, Price Lists, Circulars, Letter Heads, Envelopes, Etc. This paper is a fair sample of my work.

W. W. JEWETT,

Room 10, 502 Congress St., PORTLAND, ME.

HOLD HARD!

The greatest bargain of the season is now before you. It cannot be duplicated by any literature dealer in the world.

250 var. philatelic papers	\$1.00
500 " " "	1.75
1000 " " "	3.00

These lots comprise papers such as P. J. of A., A. J. of P., Western Phil. and such good papers, all in fine condition.

J. L. PENDER,

Box 954 - Portsmouth, N. H.

50 PER CENT. COMMISSION.

During the summer months I will give to all persons sending reference for my splendid approval sheets, a var. unused Swiss Telegraph stamps and allow 50 per cent. commission on all sales. This offer holds good only through the months of July, August and September. Send for a sheet at once.

HARRY S. LEE,
30 Maple St., Springfield, Mass.



**500 SAMPLES, BOOKS, CIRCU-
LARS, LETTERS and PAPERS
WE GUARANTEE FREE
YOU TO RECEIVE FREE!**
from firms all over the world if you
send 20 cents to have your name in
American Directory. Copy sent you
with name inserted. Always address
American Directory Co., Kennedy N. Y.

VENICE HALL, Va., Dec 27, 1898.
Gentle—I have already received more than 1,000 per-
cents of mail, many NEWSPAPERS, etc., for which I
had often paid 20 cts. each before. I advise every body
to have their name inserted at once. I know from expe-
rience your directory has made all others. R. T. JAMES.

THE

Empire State Stamp Journal,

(One of the most interesting Philatelic Journals published. 12 numbers guaranteed, for 25 cents. Advertising rates, 40 cents per inch. Each number contains a Bargain Page, in which desirable Stamps are offered at prices far below Catalogue rates, also Auction Sale, and many other features not found in most papers.)

Specimen will be mailed free on application.
LINCOLN KAPPELVEY,

TRUMANSBURG, NEW YORK.

Publishers inserting this paragraph and the above 3 times will receive the same space in E. S. S. J.

U. S. REVENUES and
MATCH AND MEDICINE.
STAMPS

WANTED. On approval or in exchange.
All communications promptly answered.

A. P. A. C. W. GREEN, 842.
PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

The Fore-runner of a Series of Portraits of Prominent Philatelists appears in the June *Philatelist*. These portraits are the finest ever seen in a philatelic journal. Accurate and lifelike and very expensive as well.

Mr. J. Walter Scott can be seen, as he really is, in the June *Philatelist*. An excellent portrait, suitable for framing, an interesting sketch of his life, make this number very desirable.

Price 25 cents per copy.

Or subscribe, only 35 cents, and get *The Philatelist* for an entire year. A grand premium free to all who subscribe.

THE PHILATELIST,

P. O. Box 3497 New York City.

The publishers of the *Philatelic Era* desire to announce that with the February issue that journal is permanently enlarged to sixteen columns. As heretofore, no effort will be spared to make the *Era* rank among the first, both with regard to contents and appearance. A postal card will secure a sample copy, 15 cents a year's subscription, and 50 cents a one inch advertisement. Address all communications to Pickard & Eustis, 46 Cushman St., Portland, Me.

THIS NOVELTY with 25c
YOUR FINGER ON, Postpaid,
Contains a Pen, Pencil and
Rubber Stamp, all
in one.
£36

HIGHLY NICKEL PLATED
STAYS TO FLAT

A SLIGHT PRESSURE OF THUMB CAUSES
NO ALIEN STAMP

Prints 1, 2 or 3 lines a thousand times without re-inking. Ink free with each one.
AGENTS' TERMS FREE with first order. **25c** Begin A C O U T E.
NEW AGENTS make BIG MONEY! Circulars Free; send for them.
Everybody needs one to mark Labels, Cards, Books, etc. Address
Thalman Mfg Co., 17 East Balto. St., Baltimore, Md.

THE CENTRAL PHILATELIST

A 6 to 8 page and cover monthly, containing the latest stamp news, always on time, price 10 cents a year; advertising rates 35 cents per inch, circulation 1000 copies.

Address, Box 200, Belvidere, Ill.

Subscribers
rare stamp
this space

will find a
affixed in
each month.

IN a few months those collectors who did not avail themselves of the offer presented in this and our next number will wish they had.

WE expect a great rush of subscribers and if you wish to get the premiums you should send now.

AMERICAN PUB. HOUSE,

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

60 PER CENT. BELOW SCOTT!

Sheets of stamps sent to Collectors, marked at net prices from 20 to 60 per cent below Scott's prices. Sheets of stamps sent to Agents, prices marked by Scott—many lower—35 per cent. commission allowed.

BARGAINS.

*Wadwan ½ pice (15)	8c.	*U. S. Local Allen's red on yellow (5)	3c.
Italy unpaid '70; 1, 2, 5, 30 & 50c.; '71	71	Mexico '86; 1, 2 5 & 10c.; '88 10c. (11)	5c.
10c. (12)	5c.	50 varieties	4c.
Italy unpaid 10 l. (20)	10c.	100 "	

500 varieties catalogue value over \$10.00, \$2.25.

The numbers in brackets are Scott's prices. *Unused. All stamps guaranteed genuine 2c. for postage should accompany all orders under 25 cts. Cash in advance. Mention this paper when writing.

WALTER S. BROWN,

NORTH BRIDGETON,

MAINE

COLLECTORS

I am sending out approval books of good stamps at 33⅓ per cent. commission to members of the A. P. A., C. P. A. or C. P. S. or collectors furnishing good reference.

DEALERS

I have quite a number of unused (1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 24, 36 and 48c) Periodical stamps, that I will exchange for good stamps from your sheets. I can supply the 1, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10c at wholesale at fifty per cent. below Scott's catalogue price for cash.

WHOLESALE DEALERS

Will be pleased to receive wholesale selections of stamps and price lists from you.

CARL WAGNER,

318 West Market St.,

POTTSVILLE,

PA.

DO YOU WANT

100 good stamps for 25c.
200 " " " 48c.
500 " " " \$1.25

OR DO YOU WANT

1888 U. S. 90c. purple for 37c.
*2c. green Confederate States for \$1.75.
*Complete set Persia official for 30c.
Ecuador, 20c. slate, 50c. green and 80c. gray for 50c.
Nicaragua 1890, set, 1, 2, 5 and 10 for 25c.
*Salvador 1c. green, black bar for 10c.
*Salvador 1c. on 3c. brown for 15c.
Siam 1890, 1 on 2 red and green for 20c.
☑ Postpaid at prices named. ☑


A. P. A. W. H. BRATT, 22

306 West 12th St., New York.



VOL. 1.

NO. 10.



THE

AMERICAN STAMP JOURNAL.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL



Devoted to STAMP COLLECTING.

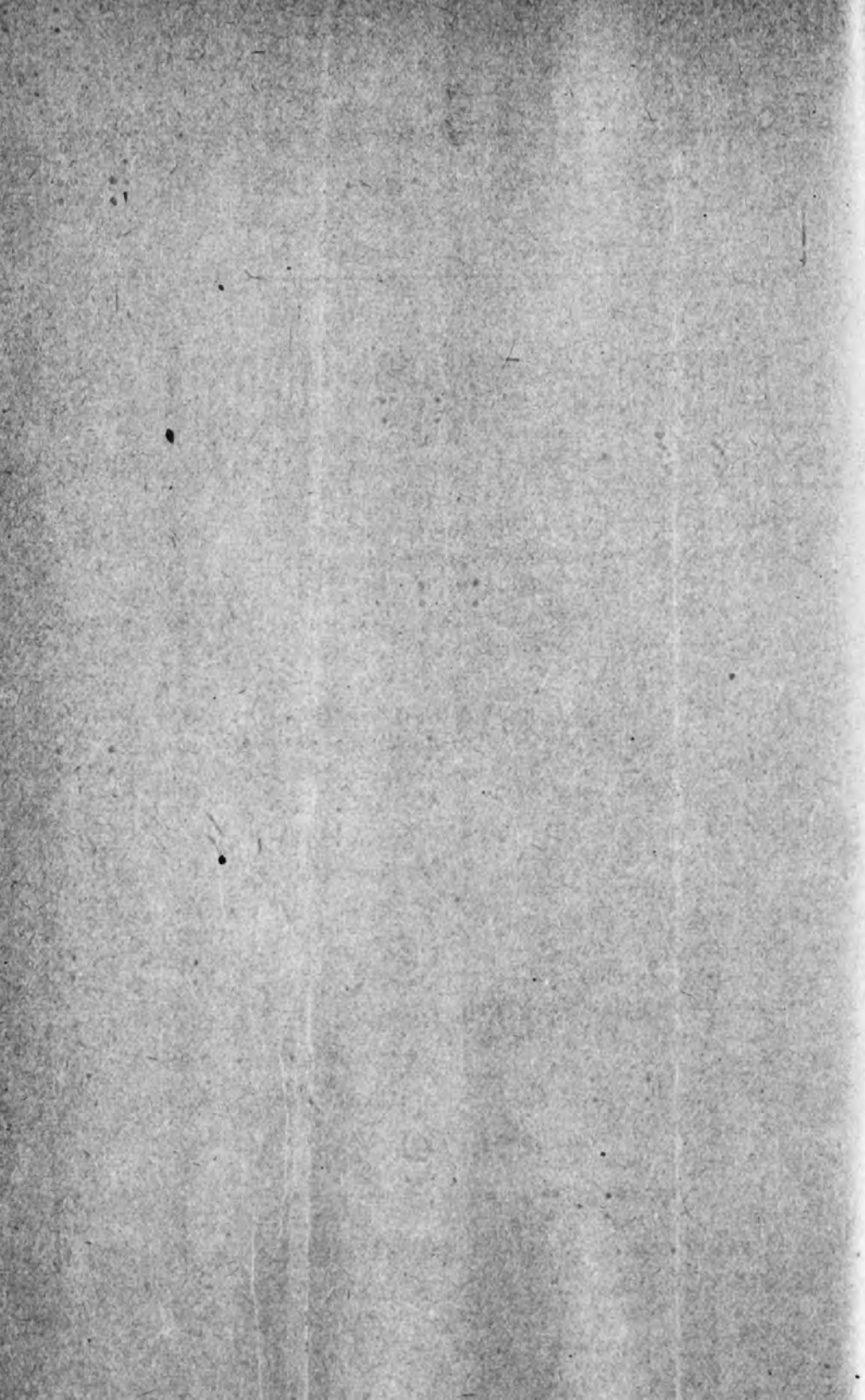
MARCH.

SUBSCRIPTION 25 cts. a Year.

PUBLISHED BY

WARREN H. RICE,
BOX 302. PLAINFIELD, N. J.





The American Stamp Journal.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO PHILATELY.

VOL. I.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., MARCH, 1891.

No. 10.

A BIG MAN.

Some time ago Willie H. Eck, publisher of a little, good-for-nothing advertising sheet, inserted an exchange advertisement of mine for three months. At the time I was not publishing a paper, but in this number I inserted his advertisement and this is the letter I received, he evidently did not like the letter I wrote him.

This is his reply :

W. H. Rice,

Plainfield, N. J.

Dear Sir—Your able effort of Feb. 25th containing copy of your Stamp Journal (?) with the ad. of W. J. Eck, appearing as the only one as bearing any similarity to mine ; and being the only copy of your sheet that has yet reached our table. Now, by reference to the March edition of your Journal, you will find that the error is with you. I not being responsible, nor in any way connected with inserted ad. Now if you are not a blank fool, you will see and acknowledge your mistake and fill your contract. For your slangey burlesque will not intimidate nor prevent us from doing as we have informed you. Via., placing you in our fraud list which will appear in

our next issue, unless you come to terms. From the style of address we would infer that you considered us as yet in knee breeches. Now listen, Windy, while we spring a leak. We only weigh 225 pounds averdupois, all brain and nerve. We do not say this boastingly nor yet as a menace to your peace of mind, but only to show you that you have tackled a big subject. And now as an expression of our appreciation of *your* size, by your sending measurement of yourself (as we have none small enough in stock) we will make and send free of charge to your address one rubber diving suit, to be used in exploring garbage barrels and sewers for filth to throw at your defrauded advertisers. I remain,

Wm. H. Eck,

Pub. of *The Midget*.

(You can all form you own conclusions.)

THE STAMP DEALER.

BY WILLIAM B. HALE.

Many, I may say nearly everyone reading this has little real knowledge of the ins and outs of the trade as a stamp dealer knows and sees.

This article will therefore be welcomed as an article on dealers by a dealer, and more especially one who is a wholesaler and retailer both.

Now in the retail trade we find a beginner buys packets until he has 300 to 400 varieties almost wholly. He gets a cheap album about 25 to 50 cents, and a cheap mixture of 500 stamps. These he trades with his fellows. Other cheap packets follow. Duplicates are easily traded and an industrious lad will find himself with 300 varieties at the end of a month. Then if he has a little cash he goes into approval sheets. These are marked each stamp at a price, 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 cents each, and so on. These are all high grade stamps and are not to be had, excepting in higher priced packets.

If a collector is wise, he will get some good, reliable dealer and stick to him, thus his trade will amount to something, while if he buys a little here and a little there it amounts to nothing comparatively, and a dealer would feel no inducement to especially accommodate or give special prices.

Also, be honest. If you are ever so clever, remember the dealer has seen such people before equally clever, and will detect you every time. What seems to you a new dodge has been tried by some one before and the dealer knows. Open dishonesty is uneffective. You only get your name passed around to all the dealers and you will find no dealer of repute will sell to you

without cash in advance. Sometimes a dealer gets specially wrathful and turns the delinquent over to the law, for such a case is a case against the Government and only concerns the dealer indirectly. He doesn't pay the lawyer, it is the state. This is always disastrous to the defendant.

Again collectors find that they can get excellent bargains trading with the dealer taking of their own duplicates and trading for others the really rare stamps for which he can get good prices and the best possible exchange from the magnificent stock of the dealer. Also, when the fever is dying out in your neighborhood, buy up collections and sell to the dealer.

The dealer and his agent work together in this, and he (the collector) thus makes a fair profit.

In the wholesale trade they have mixtures and lists of single stamps. In mixtures you buy two ways, to value at so much each on sheets, and stamps where the limit is not fixed, but goes above and below.

Single stamps you only get one kind, but in quantity 100 or so of a kind. Small dealers buy mixtures and large dealers buy in quantity of specified specimens.

Importing is run on two plans where you pay cash (silver and gold certificate bills used) and in wholesale exchange. Small business in importation doesn't pay. By that we may make a limit of \$200.00 a month for instance.

REPRINTS.

—
 BY WOLVERINE.
 —

Reprints, as every philatelist knows, are impressions taken from the plates used in printing stamps which have become obsolete. Instead of destroying the plates of the old issues when new ones appear, government officials who have charge of the matter often sell them to unscrupulous dealers, who strike off the required number of reprints and scatter them broadcast among the younger philatelists.

It matters little to the dealer, whether these reprints are printed on the same kinds of paper and in the same colors, or not as long as they meet with a ready sale.

Of course, only the rare varieties are reprinted, as most collectors can afford the lower priced varieties.

Sometimes reprints are sold as originals, and when the work of printing them is well executed, it is so difficult to distinguish them from the genuine that old and advanced collectors are often among the purchasers.

Some philatelists favor collecting reprints, when the originals are very expensive, in order to have their collections nearer completion.

No coin collector would for a moment think of giving a copy of the dollar of 1804 a place in his album because he could not afford to pay a thousand dollars for a

genuine one if one was offered for sale. The philatelist has no more reason to admit reprints to his album than the coin collector has to admit counterfeits to his cabinet.

Young collectors are among the best patrons of the dealer in reprints, preferring to invest their money in imitations of valuable stamps, than into good stamps of lower value.

The only difference existing between the reprint and the forgery is that the former is printed from a plate that was once used by a government, while the plate used in printing the latter was made for a dishonest dealer. The uses to which they are put are about the same.

The best way of avoiding these swindlers is to buy only of dealers who are known to be honest, and in all cases avoid the purchase of what seem to be rare stamps at a mere fraction of their market value.

Some of the most widely circulated reprints are those of Egypt, 1866, Hamburg, 1858, Hanover, 1864 half-groschen black, Heligoland issue of 1867, Italy issue of 1854, Roumania issue of 1862, South African Republic, 1866 and 1869 issues, and others too numerous to mention.

In most of the above mentioned there is some method of detection, such as a difference in color, worn or battered appearance of the die, etc.

There is of course, no objection to the collection of reprints of rare stamps for study, but to give them a place in a good collection is absurd.

—THE—

American Stamp Journal

PUBLISHED BY THE

American Publishing Company,

Box 302,

Plainfield, N. J.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

W. H. RICE,

PUBLISHER.

ADVERTISEMENTS:

	1 Mo.	3 Mos.	6 Mos.	12 Mos.
½ Inch,	.30	.85	1.60	2.75
1 "	.50	1.25	2.25	4 25
2 "	.85	2.45	4.75	8.00
½ Column,	1.25	3.50	6.50	12.00
1 "	2.50	6.50	10.00	17.00
1 Page,	5.00	12.00	19.50	35.00

Terms cash in advance or A1 reference.

Remittance by postal note preferred.

Subscriptions

25c per year.

Abroad 35c.

We will exchange two copies or none.

Good philatelic articles wanted.

EDITORIAL.

Eureka! Here we are after a *rest* of six months, in which time the paper has moved from the good old New Hampshire state to the Queen City of New Jersey, and has changed from the hands of Messrs. Green & Pender to W. H. Rice who will keep it up to the former high position that it has hitherto held in philatelic journalism. Hoping that all those who have given this paper their support and the defunct *Plain-*

field, National, and New Jersey Collectors, also the *U. S. Philatelist* will continue to do so to

THE AMERICAN PUB. CO.

Mound City Stamp Co. How about that Custer collection?

W. S. Kinzer, of Wooster, Ohio, at one time expelled from a prominent philatelic society and accused upon good grounds of exchanging stamps on the A. P. A. sheets, has lately announced the publication of the *Philatelic Journal of Ohio*. Kinzer wrote a letter sometime ago to the C. P. S. (which was read before a meeting of that body) wherein he begged to be taken back into the Society, acknowledging his perfidy and complaining that he had already done penance enough in consequence.

However, the letter failed to make any impression on the members present and in view of the fact that he has shamefully maligned worthy gentlemen connected with our societies (among whom might be mentioned E. B. Sterling), in former issues of his miserable little "snide" sheet and accused parties of selling counterfeit stamps upon no foundation whatever and in one case presumably because he really owes the party some \$23.00 which has been standing some two or three years, we repeat that in view of these facts it would appear that his being "barred out" forever from any respectable

society is decidedly proper, more particularly when it is discovered that in addition to all this he has been cheating and swindling parties right and left since then, the names of several of his victims being now before us, the sums involved being in some cases \$20.00 and over.

We are going to make this paper a shield of protection to honest collectors and philatelists and a scourge for evil-doers and begin this month by requesting our readers to furnish us from time to time with any *facts* of this kind that may come to their knowledge.

Remember! Our exchange column is *free* to all.

Those who have any kind of stamps to exchange, glance at R. M. Spencer's notice.

Advertisers will do well to make their contracts at once as our rates will shortly be advanced 25 per cent. and our circulation greatly increased.

Not long ago one of the largest(?) philatelic papers confidently stated that we had better "be confiscated by the health authorities." Don't be too previous, Master Frankie Sheldon. "Small boys should be seen and not heard."

Anyone wishing bargains should consult F. G. A. Rice's ad.

Heinsburger's fairy tales are appearing in a number of the philatelic papers.

If this notice is marked it is to signify that you have sent for approval sheets and 3 varieties of Constantinople stamps and have neglected to enclose a 2-cent stamp. When stamp is sent sheets will be sent to you at once.

W. H. RICE.

REVIEWS.

If the first and second numbers of the *Stamp Collector* are samples of what Messrs. Massoth & Wolseiffer are going to give us, we may look to Chicago for one of our best papers.

The *Quaker City Philatelist* shows a great improvement since Walton has taken it in hand.

Eastern Philatelist—My, how you do grow!

More reading matter and less space devoted to the Standard Stamp Co.'s advertisements would greatly improve the *Standard Philatelist*.

Although the "Stamp Advertiser" has not issued a number since last August, we are expecting to see a copy at any time.

The official organ of the Massachusetts Philatelic Society is in a bad case of rot. The Society would do well to select one of the larger and better edited papers as their mouth piece. Anyone picking up the *Fitchburg Philatelist* and not knowing what the M. P. S. was, would suppose the Society was composed of a lot of mere "kids." Take our advice and change your official organ.

The "Philatelic Reporter" is a neat, spicy paper from Wis., edited by Messrs. Smith & Colby.

The "Western Philatelist" must have exhausted itself on "That Great September Number." Have not received a copy since that great event.

Come, come, Mr. Holden, when are you going to get out another number of the "Yankee Philatelist?"

The "Essex County Philatelist" has grown quite large of late. The contents are very fine but the printing is ——— (Well, we can't express it.)

Bro. Pinkham, you are mistaken when you say "that the *American Stamp Journal* has given up the ghost and has been refused 2nd class rates."

Where is number two of the "Buckeye Philatelist," Bro. Summers?

We are glad to see the "American Philatelist" again.

"Independent Philatelist"—Contained a very good article on "That Atlantic City Local."

THE NEW ONES.

"New Hampshire Philatelist"—Fair. Will live two months.

"Cream City Philatelist"—Good. Will live a short life. (We're sorry but it's so.)

"Stamp Critic"—Very good. Has come to stay.

"Philatelic Fraud Reporter"—Just what everyone wants.

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

Free to all who receive a copy of this paper. Non-subscribers send 2c stamp for copy of paper with exchange notice inserted. Limit 30 words.

W. H. Rice, Box 302, Plainfield, N. J., will give 100 fine cigarette cards for every 10 U. S. 30 and 50c Due Stamp sent me.



ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS PAID.

To any who acting as my agent or buying for his own collection. Write sending reference and find out about it. I will answer you. I guarantee to send fine rare stamps at very low prices with discount.

William B. Hale, Williamsville, Mass.

5000 different to-day. Tomorrow some will be gone; send early.

The American Stamp Journal,

Is now being issued at

PLAINFIELD, N. J.

In an enlarged and improved form.

Subscription 25 cts. per year.

Advertising rates 50 cts. per inch.

SPECIAL! For the next ten days only in order to secure new names we will give a years subscription to every one sending 10 cents and the names of 10 stamp collectors not found in any directory or exchange column.

100 all different cigarette cards for every 90c U. S. stamp sent me, or 50 for every 30c U. S. stamp, 25 good cards for every 10 assorted Due Stamps sent me. W. H. Rice, Box 302, Plainfield, N. J.

Five stories by Cooper for the best offer of U. S. stamps. S. G. Currie, 4 Westervelt Ave., Plainfield, N. J.

Geo. P. Smith, Plainfield, N. J., will exchange stamps for cigarette cards. Send list.

W. H. Rice, Box 302, Plainfield, N. J., will give 2 novels for 1 30c stamp present issue; 3 novels for 90c orange, or 6 novels for 60c purple, 1888.

+ FREE +

Complete Set of Constantinople, unused and genuine, to all who send for my approval sheets at 50 per cent. commission. No notice taken of requests for sheets without 2 cent stamp and reference. (if)

W. H. RICE, Box 302, Plainfield N. J.

GO TO !
THE QUEEN CITY STAMP CO.,

56 Duer St., - Plainfield, N. J.

And get for this month only at 11 cents each the following sets.

- *Constantinople, 3 varieties.
- *Cuba, 6 varieties "very fine."
- *Daunbe, S. N. Co., 4 varieties.
- *Suez Canal, 2 varieties.
- Denmark, 16 varieties, "fine"
- *Switzerland, 9 varieties.
- Finland, 20 varieties.
- *Alsace & Lorraine, 7 varieties.
- Sweden Official, 11 varieties.

(* unused) Our large price list free.

Positively the greatest bargains ever offered.

Popular, Useful and Valuable Books only 3 cents each. The marvel of the 19th Century. List of over 200 sent on application.

LINCOLN RAPPEYE, if
Trumansburg, N. Y.

WE MEAN BUSINESS!

In order to reduce our stock we offer you the following bargains. Send before they are gone!

- War Department 3c red on blue, entire envelope, \$.66
- P. O. Department adhesive, 2c unused.....13
- 1872 3c green, grilled.....04
- 5 varieties philatelic papers.....10
- 10 agents and amateur papers.....05
- Address in Collectors' Directory.....05
- 25 varieties foreign.....04
- 100 assorted foreign.....08
- All of above postpaid, only.....35
- Packet of fine used and unused.....10

Postage extra on orders under 20 cts.

A philatelic paper, a magazine, and gummed hinges free with every order if you mention this paper. Don't fail to send at once. You will come again. Agents send for our fine APPROVAL SHEETS at 33 1/2 per cent. commission.

W. A. DUNCAN, ANN ARBOR, MICH.

W. A. CROZIER,

WHOLESALE DEALER IN FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS

No. 4 Washington Square, Lynn, Mass.

25 used and unused stamps, 10 cents, including Constantinople, Bosnia, Servia, Hussey's Express, Samoa, Nicaragua, Bermuda, Natal, Turkey, Costa Rica, Bulgaria, Monaco, etc. Postage extra. 3 packets 25c.

TRADE PACKETS.

These packets are intended only for those who desire to retail the stamps for themselves. Every stamp is genuine, and we guarantee them to bring more than double the money we charge for them.

Packet A 500 for \$1.00; Packet B 750, \$1.50; Packet C 1000, \$2.00. Selections of stamps at wholesale prices. Agents wanted. 33 1/3% discount.



Agents wanted everywhere in U. S. and Canada at 33 1/3 per cent. to sell the best and cheapest stamps in America. Reference required. Send for our bargain lists. Cheapest stamp firm in U. S. (tf)

Alta Stamp Company,

Box 2614, Denver, Colo.

The Fitchburg Philatelist,

Official organ of the Mass. Philatelic Association. Adv. rates 30c per inch. Subscription rates 15c a year. C. H. Whitcomb, 2 Highland Ave., Fitchburg, Mass.

The new firm of

SPARKS & GREEN

have a full line of foreign and U. S. stamps for advanced collectors and beginners:

1000 from all parts of the world, \$9.00

1100 mixed only 25c.

33 1/3 per cent. allowed to agents.

Send two-cent stamp for price-list, etc., to

SPARKS & GREEN,

78 Snyder St., (tf) Orange, N. Y.

WANTED

I will give good exchange from my sheets for any U. S. Revenues, Canadian or Mexican stamps. Good stamps wanted in exchange. Write for terms stating what you have. R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal. (tf)

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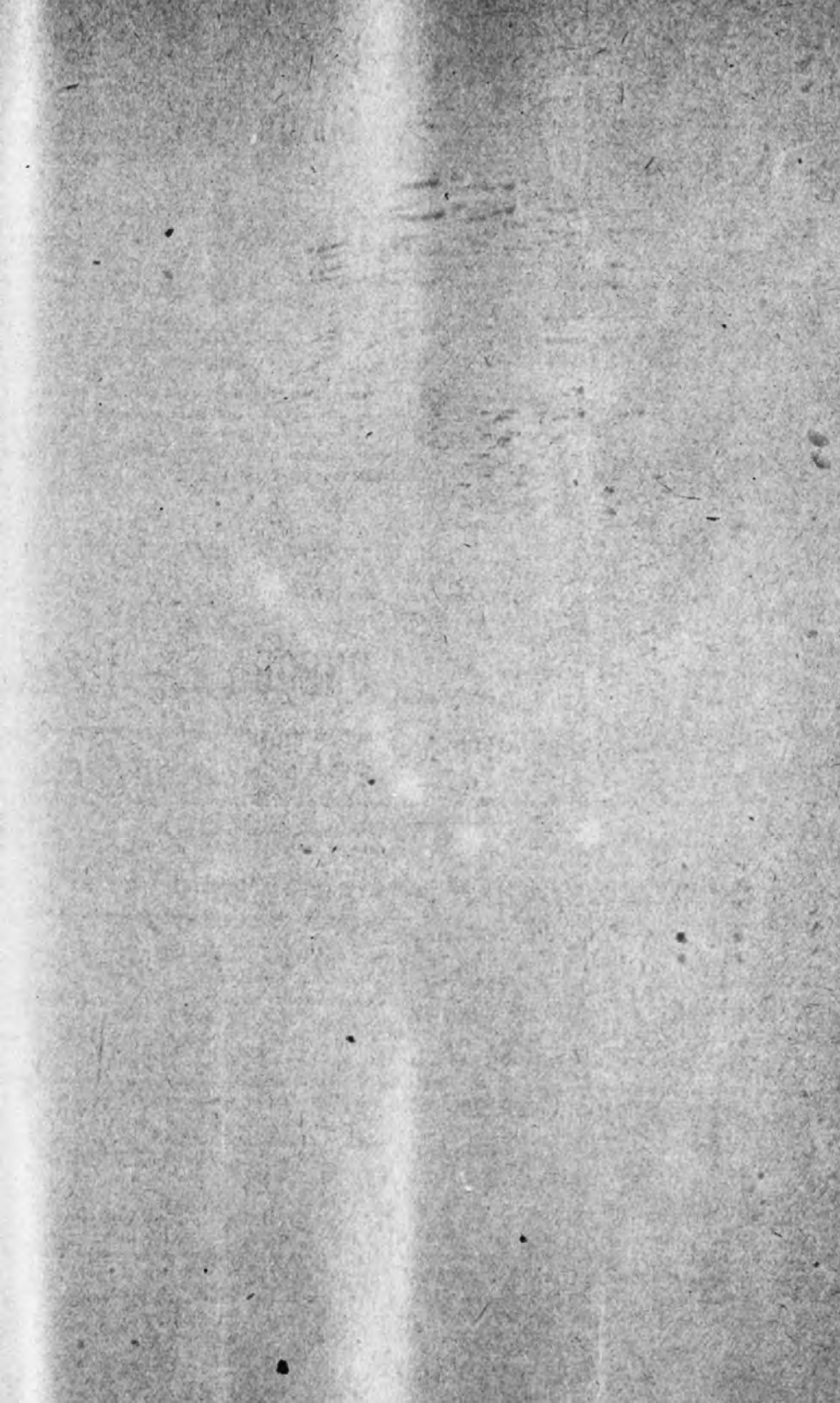
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