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APRIL, 1893.

NO 1.

**THE
ILLINOIS
PHILATELIST.**

A MONTHLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

PUBLISHED BY
ALBERT G. SMITH,
PALATINE, ILL.

THE ILLINOIS PHILATELIST.

PUBLISHED ON THE 1ST. OF EVERY MONTH.

A. G. SMITH

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

United States, Canada Mexico, per year..... 25cts.

All other Countries in the Postal Union,..... 40cts.

ADVERTISING RATES.

	ONE MONTH.	THREE MONTHS.	SIX MONTHS.	ONE YEAR.
One half inch	\$.60	\$ 1.65	\$ 3.00	\$ 5.
One inch	1.00	2.85	5.50	9.
Two inches	1.85	5.00	9.00	16.
One half column	3.50	9.00	17.50	32.
One half page	6.50	17.50	32.50	60.
One page	12.00	30.00	55.00	100.

TERMS,- strictly cash in advance, to parties unknown to us. Ads. running 6 months or over payable in advance.

Advertisements changeable quarterly.

Ads. limited to 50 words to the inch.

All ads. must reach us by the 15th. of the month preceding the one in which it is to be inserted.

An X opposite this place denotes your subscription has expired and renewal of same should be made at once.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Until further notice we will allow the following discounts on advertising rates.

10 PER CT. on 2 inches or less **15 PER CT.** on all others.



➤➤ CONTENTS. ➤➤

A reminiscence	Page 3
Auction Sales,	.. 3
Illinois Notes	.. 4
Notes and Comments	5
Editorials	.. 6 & 7
A Review	.. 8
Chicago Notes	.. 9
Five Cents a Pound	10
Business Directory, Ex. Column & Little Ads.	11
Advertisements	13 & 14

A REMINISCENCE

While looking over a philatelic paper the other day, I came across an article describing a recent find in postage stamps, which reminded me of the find a brother collector and myself made several years ago. We were in an old warehouse looking over some old papers, we had found a few revenue stamps and I had just given up in disgust when an exclamation from my companion attracted my attention. I turned around and found him counting some bills. He had found them in an old certificate. We counted them and found there was Two (\$200.) Hundred Dollars. They were all greenbacks of the first issue and had probably lain there for years. We looked in every paper in the box but did not find anything else. We did not find any rare stamps but we never would have found the money if it had not been for the stamps as they were what attracted our attention.

SEARCHER.

AUCTION SALES.

BY R. H. L.

In this age of philately every dealer seems to be rushing into the auction sale business. I have often wondered why it was that stamps are sold in this way as good stamps are sometimes bid off at, from 20 to 50 per cent. lower than catalogue rates whereas, if they were sold separately or from sheets they could realize almost, if not full catalogue rates. Are the catalogue rates too high or why is it that they are sold in this manner? In cases where a Company makes a regular business of selling in this manner they generally charge a commission of 20 per cent. and it generally pays them well. If a person would, instead of placing his collection in the hands of the auctioneers, sell it off by sets or by means of approval sheets he could save this commission which the auctioneers get. Most of the collections which are sold at auction are those from persons who do not have the time to sell them themselves and so place them in the hand of the auctioneer and saves himself all bother with same. Hence we see why stamps are sold at auction.

A STATE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

The State of Illinois is considered second in the ranks of Philately and we certainly ought to have a good, big Stamp Society. We have a list of philatelists from which, a splendid set of Officers could be selected. We could have one of the largest, if not the largest, State society in the Country. We would be pleased to hear from all philatelists, in the State who would join and help organize an Illinois Philatelic Association. Let us hear from old and young. Any suggestions that may be made will be carefully noted. Address all communications pertaining to same, to the Editor of this Paper.

ILLINOIS NOTES.

Both the American Philatelic Association and the Sons of Philatelia hold their annual meetings in or near Chicago about the middle of August. The meetings will probably be the largest ever held as a great many will make arrangements to visit the Exposition at this time.

We want news from all parts of the State and would like each collector in the State to act as correspondent for this page. Send in personals or any news which you think others would like to know. Don't be afraid of sending in too much, only make the items *short*.

Elgin has a full fledged Philatelic society with the Rev. Dr. Wm P. Everett as President and Mr. F. S. Lombard as Secretary. They are all U. S. *specialists* and meet at the call of the Pres. or Sec.

Mr. S. C. Stevens the pleasant Chicago dealer has two interesting collections of counterfeit stamps which he has framed and hung up for inspection:- among them are several U. S. stamps.

J. W. Miller Schmitt the Springfield dealer has purchased the stock of the Capitol Stamp Co, of the same place.

Mr. H. W. Aldrich of the Illinois Stamp Co; of Richmond, made us a visit recently. Come again H. W.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The *Long Island Philatelist* will devote its columns wholly to S. of P. matter hereafter. Evidently Bro. Ashcroft would like to have his paper become Official Organ at the next election. There will probably be others in the race, but R. W. will probably stand as good a show as any one.

And still another stamp firm in Chicago. This time it is the American Stamp Company, incorporated for \$10,000. Mr. W. F. Bishop of La Grange is manager, so we understand.

Unused U. S. stamps, in large quantities, are sold at a small discount by firms in the large cities who receive a great many more than they can use. Isn't this against our Postal Laws?

The Review of Reviews in our Journals is being over done. It is an easy matter to *write up* a page or two on a single paper, and the editors are about the only ones who read them then.

Seebeckism has done more harm to the cause of Philately than any other one thing we know of - it has driven many out of collecting and hundreds to specialism.

President Cleveland says, "No more Post Offices in stores" Mr. Cleveland has been observant during his many duck hunting expeditions into the country.

Our Foreign friends can choose between buying an unused set of Columbian stamps or coming over and seeing the Columbian Exposition.

Another consolidation, - Cleve Scott's paper, *The Nebraska Stamp* with the *Detroit Philatelist*. Bro. Crittenden has made a *good haul*.

We received a copy of R. M. Miller's *Weekly* and we pronounce it *good*. R. M. is to be congratulated on having such a fine paper.

There are over 10 different shades of the present 2 ct red, they range anywhere from a brownish red to a light carmine.

Roy F. Greene has an *excellent* poem in the *March Stamp*, which all our dealers should read.

Have you noticed that the beauty of a stamp depends upon the price of same?

A certain Chicago dealer is offering real estate for good U. S. Stamps.

EDITORIALS.

With this number of our paper we introduce ourselves to the Philatelic World. We start out with a circulation of over 3000 copies each issue, which we hope to increase to, at least 5000. Most of our articles will be short and newsy. The paper is not published in the interests of any one dealer,- our advertising pages are open to all dealers and we hope to hear from a great many this month. We would be pleased to receive short articles in the line of philately from any of our readers..

25 cents after April, 10th. Subscribe Now.

In looking over a collection of stamps, which were glued into a small memorandum book, the other day, we saw a *PENNY POST PAID* worth \$5.00, in with a lot of common foreigners and *round cut* envelopes; it looked odd in such a place. The owner was not aware of its *va ue*. On inquiry we learned that it was found on one of his Grandmother's old letters. We have often wished we had 9 or 10 grandmothers.

Commence with this number and get a complete file.

Mr. H. A. Fowler, of Toronto, Canada, sends us an announcement of a paper which he intends publishing, called "The Canadian Journal of Philately". He makes some big promises. The subscription price is only \$3.00 a year. We have had promises from H. A. before and we have learned something thereby.

10 & 15 per cent. discount on advertising rates. Try us.

An exchange says that, A. L. Doherty & Co; the Chicago stamp firm contemplate holding a grand festival on the roof Garden of the Masonic Temple, the highest office building in the world, some time during the World's Fair festivities.

A school boy came in the other day and wanted to know if we had a stamp from Scotland. He knows now, that Scotland is under Great Britain and consequently uses the stamps of the British Empire.

We are going to try and make this paper just as interesting to a ten year old philatelist as it will be to the older readers,- the boys of to-day are the philatelists of the future.

With the circulation that we have; our Exchange Column would be crowded if it was free, so we decided to charge one cent each word.

Please send us a list of collectors of your acquaintance, when you send in your subscription.

➤ ANNOUNCEMENT! ➤

We shall, in the near future, give our readers an article from the pen of, DR. S. FILLMORE BENNETT, author of the, world wide known "SWEET BY - AND - BY". The DR. is a well known writer, his articles being sought after by the leading magazines and journals: and it was only through the Editor being personally acquainted with him that he kindly consented to write the article. His Subject will be, "PHILATELY AS AN EDUCATOR". A later announcement will be made, one month before article will appear in our paper. We will charge 10 cents each for paper containing this article, 5cts more will bring you this No. and 11 others, if received by April 10th. We also have a promise of an article from an old POST MASTER who handled mail in a country store during the '60s. Announcement later.

Business Directory only \$1.50 a year.

Look out for a drought this summer, rivers of water are being used on the Columbian Stamps.

Here's another;

Now, bring me a ladder and chair, my lad,
And a whitewash brush that's damp,
Give me plenty of room, for I'm going to use
The new Columbian stamp.

Washington News.

All papers depend a great deal upon the amount of advertisements they obtain, and a dealer doesn't advertise in a paper that shows no returns. If our readers will mention *The Illinois Philatelist* when answering advertisements in same, it would be a great help to us.

Your name isn't on the sample copy list for next month.

We send out 5,000 copies of this number of our paper and we hope to receive a great many subscriptions before our next issue. We print the paper on our own press and guarantee 12 numbers.

We are not dealers, consequently our advertising pages will not be filled up with our own advertisements and our advertisers will get the full benefit therefrom.

We are only 26 miles out from Chicago, on the North Western road. Come out and see us when you visit the World's Fair.

GUY W. of, "The only one on Earth". writes us to put him on our Exchange list :- certainly. We wish to be protected.

A REVIEW.

In sorting out mail the other day we came across a (?) edited by T. G. Kitchin called the "New Jersey Philatelist." When we had torn off the wrapper and scraped off the paste;- we proceeded to look over the contents thereof:- The first glance was too much, we gave one snort and roared, until the office cat jumped out of the window,- the stove pipe came down and not until we fell over backwards, did we recover our usual gravity and find that the foreman and "devil" had fled, 6 chases of job work pied, and soot a foot thick covering the floor. We then proceeded to investigate further. On the first page we found a Philatelic society report-, the next contained a political announcement, and on page 3 under the heading "KICKS" we found plenty of matter on that subject and the *Nebraska Stamp* and *Washington Phil.* got a talking too,- Is this the reason that Cleve concluded to dissolve? These 3 pages show that Bro. Kitchin is a genuine crank'- there are only 11 mistakes in spelling etc. on the last mentioned page and his "kicks" are more numerous than his editorials. Page 5 makes the statement that the paper is published by a Company consisting of a President, Vice President, and Secretary. "Too many cooks spoil the broth",- probably this is what ails the N. J. Page 6 informs the public that the paper will hereafter be published as a weekly,- if it is any weaker than it is now we are afraid it will *die*. Success to you, however Bro. Kitchin.

CORRESPONDENCE COLUMN.

With the next number of this paper we will start a Correspondent Column which will be open to all, for questions, discussions, or any correspondence relating to philately which will be inserted and answered by either the Editor or left for someone else to answer.

Lady to druggist- "A stamp please"

Druggist- "With or without" "What?" "Whiskers."

The new orange colored Special Delivery stamp is a beauty and looks well with the others in the album.

Lincoln's head on the present 4c. brown is the first one facing to the right since 1869.

The advertisements in this paper are all *fresh*, look them over.

CHICAGO NOTES.

BY CHICAGO

In Kohl & Middleton's South Side Dime Museum I noticed a frame 8 x 15 feet square and in the center, pictures of three noted German Emperors. The entire picture, frame and background was made of the 1,000 variety postage stamps. black and blue pencils were used in bringing out the outlines and features. The color of the Military dress etc: being brought out by the different colors of the stamps.

In speaking of the prices that fine collections are bringing at auction now a days, with Mr. Ross he told me that he had had an offer of \$1,500 for his collection and that he was seriously thinking of accepting it and when I asked him what he intended doing with the money he answered, that he thought he would travel around the United States and buy up U. S. stamps for his Wholesale business.

The Western Stamp & Coin Co; since its change of management and name are making a good thing out of it,- more customers of the younger class will be found at the company's offices than before. The "Stamp News" has been discontinued but the Auction Sales will be continued as before, one being promised in the middle of April,

Branch One of the W. P. U. decided at their last meeting on the following ticket for National Officers, which will be put in the field. For President, H. T. Partello; Vice Pres; W. H. Newmarket; Ex. Mang': W. G. Jerrins Jr. Librarian, D. T. Higginson; Official Board, B. C. Kerion, Geo. R. Tuttle, S. C. Stevens, Wm. C. Skinner, H. M. Norton.

In the cosy office No 1130 of the Masonic Temple will be found the stamp firm of A. L. Doherty & Co; who, by the way, are selling good U. S. at 20 Per cent. off catalogue. Mrs. Doherty tends to the rushing stamp business while Mr. Doherty discounts coins with banks on the outside through the day.

The W. P. U. Library will be placed in the Society's room at 136 Wabash Ave.- a number of volumes are now being bound and when finished and placed in the bookcase with the rest of the papers, the W. P. U. will have a library that few societies can boast of.

The printing and publishing office of the *Chicago Philatelist* at 967-969 W. Lake st. was burned out several days ago, with an entire loss of type and presses being valued at \$1,700: the editor informs me there will be no delay in the issuing of the paper.

The *Metropolitan Philatelist* will be the official organ of the W. P. U. for the coming year.

FIVE CENTS A POUND.

BY SWAT.

I recently received a circular which I was requested to sign and send to the congressman from my district. It was a petition for a rate of one cent an ounce for postage, and an advance of four cents a pound on newspapers and magazines; thus making the P. O. Department self sustaining. If it had requested one cent postage only, I would have signed, and sent it to my congressman but five cents a pound on magazines.- Whew!

Where would the *Illinois, Southern, Era, American, Canadian, Eastern, Collector, Stamp, Tribune, Electric, Fraud Reporter, Tribune, Golden Star, Detroit, Quaker City, R. M's Weekly, etc; etc.* be;- The *Collector* would collect and pass in its checks, the little *Golden Star* would refuse to shine, The *Electric* would need a new battery. the *Quaker City* would quake no more, the *Tribune* would tr[1] but fail, and all the rest of our worthy papers would pass on to the silent majority and what, then would become of our glorious cause,- Philately? What?, I repeat. How would we know where to send for our stamps and get the largest discount?- How would the vast army of frauds and substituters know where to ply their trade,- "Where"?, I say. If in our album we should have a full set of the stamps of the Fiji islands, with the exception of the 18th century \$ 5.00 grass green,- How will he know where to get it?, and the echoes from the north, south, east, and west are repeating, "Where" Must we resort to the gilt edged catalogue and price list which costs the dealer *thousands* of dollars and is sent free to all upon request, or shall we still pay 2 cts. on our letters and retain our magazines? Let each one decide for himself, and if we decide against the magazines, let the price on same be raised to six cents and we can pay off the war debt. I have finished

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

TERMS - One cent a word payable in advance.
Less than 15 cts. not taken. Advertisements not taken

A "Worlds Type Writer" in good condition cost \$12, to ex. for good U. S. stamps A. G. SMITH. Palatine, Ills.

1000 cigarette pictures for any one of the following stamps: 1893-90c. 1869-90c. Justice Dept.-90c. A Lakeside tennis racket for any one of the following; -N.Y.-5c.black, 1851-5c. 1869-24c., 1870-10c., Executive-6 & 10c. Justice-30c., State-\$2.00. H.W. ALDRICH, Richmond Illinois.

LITTLE ADS.

Advertisements under this head, 15 words for 25cts.
½c each additional word - payable in advance.

A second edition of Mekeels Address book containing names of over 7000 collectors for 90c or will ex for good U. S. stamps, A. G. Smith Palatine, Ill.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line advertisement in this Column, \$ 1.50 for 12 insertions. Payable in advance

STEVENS. S. C. & Co; 69 Dearborn St Chicago, Ill. Dealers in old coins and postage stamps.

WOLSIEFFER P. M., 75 State St. Chicago, Ill. consult Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for my specialties.



STAMP DEPARTMENT.

U. S. at 20 per cent. discount. Send Cash for what you want, if stamps are not in stock we will return cash at once!

COIN DEPARTMENT.

Collections of old Coins bought and sold. Let us know if you have anything to sell. Send 10 cents stamps for Coin Catalogue showing prices we pay on over 700 dates.

ARCHIE L. DOHERTY & CO;
1130 Masonic Temple Chicago, Ill.

NO .59

OF E. T. PARKER'S PRICE LIST

IS OUT.

It prices thousands of stamps, including very rare foreign, United States envelopes cut and entire, revenues, document, match and medicine and proofs. It is the list of the kind ever issued. A nominal charge of 10c is made for a copy, which sum can be deducted from the first order amounting to \$ 1.00

E. T. PARKER,
BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA.

WANTED.

Consignments of stamps for our
AUCTION SALES.

Charges, - 15 per cent. on amount realized. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Best of references.

ILLINOIS STAMP CO;

RICHMOND, ILL.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL

is my speciality, at

33 1/2 PER CENT. COMMISSION.

Reference required - A trial solicited - Cash paid for stamps.

RAMSAY PEUGNET,

FORDHAM, NEW YORK CITY.

Send for free sample copy of the STAMP the great philatelic journal.

MORE
BARGAINS
IN THESE COLUMNS
Next Month.

FOR THIS MONTH ONLY.

Extraordinary Bargains in NEWSPAPER STAMPS

2c	8 cents
3c	65 cents
4c	10 cents
6c	12 cents
8c	30 cents
10c	15 cents
24c	45 cents
36c	60 cents

All used. Cash with order.

Remit by postal note.

H. W. ALDRICH, S. of P. 235 RICHMOND, ILL.

I WAS INJURED!

more than anyone else by the long delay in the appearance of the "ONLY ONE ON EARTH"

PHILATELIC FRAUD REPORTER.

now issued regularly again. 15 cts. per year.

SAMPLE COPY FREE. Circulation 1000. Advertising rates, 25c per inch.

GUY W. GREEN, IOWA CITY, IA.

SEND for Mekeel's Retail Price List.
for Mekeel's Wholesale Price List!

Send for copy of MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS, sample copy of PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF AMERICA, sample copy of AMERICAN PHILATELIST, and be sure that you buy one of their latest albums, which are known as Mekeel's Postage Stamp Album of the World, that includes spaces for all new issues of 1892 and the Columbian and French Colonies of 1893.

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB. CO.
1107-11 LOCUST ST; ST LOUIS, MO.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC MAGAZINE.

A LEADING PHILATELIC MONTHLY.

Subscriptions 25 cents per year. Sample copy free. Advertising rates on application.

An excellent advertising medium.

SANDERS & BROWN, PUBLISHERS,
Box 860, Omaha, Neb.

HAVE YOU SEEN IT?

THE PHILATELIST
OF DENVER, COLO.

SAMPLE FREE ON APPLICATION.

I WILL BUY AND SELL

ALL KINDS OF USED
COLUMBIAN POSTAGE STAMPS
 STAMPED ENVELOPES
 CONFEDERATE BILLS.
 FRACTIONAL CURRENCY.
 SOUVENIR HALF DOLLARS.
 RARE COINS. OLD U. S. AND FOR-
 EIGN POSTAGE & REVENUE STAMPS
FOR COLLECTIONS.

Buying Price List of Coins, 10 cts. Illustrated Cat-
 alogue of Gold and Silver Coins, 50 cts of Copper
 Coins and Tokens, 50 cts. Price List of Stamps and
 Pictures, FREE. Complete Illustrated Stamp Cat-
 alogue 50 cts. COLLECTIONS WANTED FOR
 CASH.

If you are coming to the World's
 Exposition make your headquarters
 at my office and have your mail ad-
 dressed to my care, and they will be
 properly taken care of, free of charge
 until you call for them. I am cen-
 trally located, within half a block of
 the Post Office and within short dis-
 tance of principal hotels and restau-
 rants.

J. A. PIERCE
 191 CLARK ST, CHICAGO, ILL.

EXTRA!

We want 500 good agents for our
 approval sheets. To get them we
 will give to every person applying
TWO UNUSED STAMPS FREE.

Reference required S. of P. send no.
J. W. MILLER SCHMITT,
 1112 E. Monroe st. Springfield Ill.

S. B. BRADT,
 BROOKLINE PARK, ILL.

APPROVAL SHEETS OF CHOICE
 STAMPS AT 33 1-3 PER CT. DISCOUNT

SEND FOR OUR AUCTION CATA-
LOGUE. SALES EACH MO.
ILLINOIS STAMP COMPANY
 RICHMOND, ILL.

Mention this paper when an-
 swering advertisements.

U.S. STAMPS.

A FEW SPECIAL BARGAINS TO SHOW
 MY GOODS

Used	per 10	100
1875 2c vermilion	\$.05	\$.35
.. 5c blue [Taylor]	.15	1.40
1882 5c brown	.06	.55
.. 10c ..	.06	.50
1883 4c green	.12	1.10
1888 4c carmine	.25	2.00
.. 5c blue [Garfield]	.08	.75
1890 4c brown	.05	.25
.. 5c chocolate	.05	.20
.. 6c red brown	.25	2.25
.. 15c blue	.35	3.00
1893 1&2c		.20
.. 3c	.15	1.35
.. 4c	.10	.90
.. 5c	.10	.80
.. 6c	.40	3.50
.. 10c	.10	.60
1888 Special Delivery	.25	2.25
U. S. reve's mixed 1&2c	.10	.75
.. .. 3 4&5c	.10	.75
.. .. 1c to \$ 2.50	.25	2.50

ENVELOPES

1853 3c white & buff	.25	2.25
1864 3c10	.90
1874 3c white & amber	.05	.40
1884 1c different paper	.15	1.25
.. 2c10	.50
1887 1c05	.30
.. 2c05	.20
War 1873		
unused entire 3c cream	.80	7.25
1875 same	.80	7.25
.. unused ent. 3c amb'r	1.50	10.00
.. .. 3c blue	1.00	8.00
.. .. 3c fawn	.80	7.25
.. .. 1c m'nilla	.30	2.50
7 varieties mixed equal	.75	7.00
U. S. mixed extra fine	25c per 100	

\$ 1.00 per 1000.
 Other U. S stamps equally as cheap.
 Parties desiring to buy, should by all
 means send for my

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST.

I am always willing to buy U. S. 10
 lots of 10 or more from 1c to \$ 5.00
 and pay the best market price. For
 terms address

B. S. ROSS
 35 OR 509 WEILAND ST; CHICAGO ILL.

VOL. 1

MAY, 1893.

NO 2.

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Vol. 1

PALATINE, ILL. MAY, 1893.

No. 2

THURN AND TAXIS.

To many collectors the signification "THURN & TAXIS" which inscription appears on the old German stamps is by no means clear. One may search through gazetteers and geographies without obtaining any answer to the inquiry so often asked; "what is meant by the words THURN & TAXIS".

The story of the mystery is easily told. Thurn & Taxis is not the name of a place, but of a family whose ancestors were first heard of in Italy as *della Torres*, - Lords of Valsassiva.

Eight of the family were in succession lords of Milan. The last of the eight, one Guido the Rich, perished in a feud with the Viscanti, and one of his sons, Hamorel I, settled in the territory of Bergamo and took from the mountain, Tasso the name of *del Tasso*, and afterwards *de Tassis*. His great grandson inherited the possessions of his predecessors, united his titles, and was known as Roger I, of Thurn & Taxis.

This personage was knighted by Emperor Frederick III in the year 1450, and in the latter part of the century, founded the fame of his House by the establishment of a post in the Tyrol.

This proved to be the initial step toward the foundation of a service which ceased at the time of the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866.

During the year a large portion of the German States, served by the Thurn & Taxis post office, became incorporated with Prussia, and on January, 17th, 1866 this princely monopoly ceased to exist.

-T. R. FERRIS.

PHILATELIC PEN PUSHINGS.

BY S. THOMPSON.

The Columbian stamps, of all values, are being eagerly hustled for by everyone and I, who am also hus'ling, have adopted the following plan; Every Columbian I get I drop in the slot, which I made in the end of a large cigar box, and next December I will unfasten the cover and count 'em up. I put in good specimens only.

"Collectors, in writing letters, should never use two, one cent Columbians for postage, as they will make the letter overweight." "Use a 2 ct Columbian, or an 1890." Such is the "cheap wit" of the day in regard to our new stamps, and while funny at first, it is getting to be an old story.

Three to one that there will be a 13c Columbian. "Whew!"

I remember once how I tried to drop philately. I laid my album on a neighboring shelf and nearly forgot about it for a few weeks, when in came a metropolitan stamp journal, which soon had me "up to the ears" in stamps again. You can't drop it. It don't work.

Does any one know what a "snob" is. To my mind, he is a philatelic writer who advertises his ability. Some weeks ago I noticed an advertisement in a prominent journal, of a "Philatelic Scribe", who went so far as to set prices, stereotyped prices, on articles, notes, poems etc. To one who is a writer to some extent, but not openly so, a thing like this gives him a veritable "wrinkle". Reader, if you want to dispose of a meritorious philatelic article, send it direct to a paper and don't advertise it.

I wonder how many stamp collectors there are, who keep strict account of their stamp affairs. Besides being an interesting thing to do, this practice may well be added to the many good results springing from philately. To a person who has a small stamp dealing trade, outside of his regular collecting, the keeping of accounts affords a good example of preliminary book-keeping, especially when there is a balance on the "right side". But which *is* the right side?

MORE ABOUT AUCTIONS.

Mr. R. H. L's articles in the initial number of the "Illinois Philatelist" leads me to say a few words regarding auctions. It is true that some stamps may be purchased cheap at an auction sale but there are some which always bring very high prices. The principal reason for this is, that the price realized from the sale of a stamp is affected by the condition the stamp is in. Rare departments and high value postage in perfect condition will always command high prices if sold at auction. Lately I have noticed that certain stamps have brought from ten to twenty per cent above catalogue rates when sold in this way.

A collector desiring to close out his collection at good prices should, as Mr. L. says, sell them from approval sheets. But there is some risks in doing this. The owner must advertise, look out for frauds etc. He would save trouble by sending the perfect specimen of rare stamps to an auction dealer, and would probably get more for them than otherwise.

Stamp auction sales are a benefit to philately. If an uninitiated person should happen to get hold of an auction catalogue such as are issued every month by the metropolitan dealers, he would be apt to think more of philately than he did before, he would see that philately is a broader affair than he thought for.

—S. THOMPSON.

AT THE FAIR.

This summer, at the great Columbian Exposition, the philatelists are to "cut quite a dash", if you will allow the expression.

Two great gatherings are to be held in Chicago and this will be the best chance ever offered for philatelists, who have long dealt with, but have never seen, each other, to meet. It will mark an epoch in the history of Philately. Thousands who view the stamps at the Fair will go away and afterwards start a collection. The press will not sneer at the collectors this year, - Oh no! For once, at least collectors will look down on the press. Look down? Yes!, from the *twenty-two* stories of the Masonic Temple.

"VAN AYRNE"

EDITORIALS.

We have received many compliments on our first number and we hope to be more interesting each month. As we had but a very short time to get out this number we thought it best to leave out one leaf and so come out on time, although it compells us to crowd out some good articles. Hereafter we will consist of, at least twelve *full* pages.

Next month's paper will contain the article written by an old P. M., and the article by the author of Sweet By - and - By, will be published in the July issue and remember that this number will cost you ten cents if you are not a subscriber, as no sample copies of paper containing this article will be sent out.

There is probably nothing that will raise the cause of philately in the estimation of the people as the Stamp exhibit at the World's Fair, and as the expense for same is large, contributions of one dollar or over are solicited by the committee who have charge of the exhibition. All contributions may be sent to Mr. George H. Watson, 36 Broad st., New York city, who will send a receipt for same.

The postal reply cards are used in all kinds of ways. If one side were printed in a different color from the other, they could easily be distinguished from one another, and the disuse of them would be prevented.

Bro. Small, who conducts the Review department of the *Era*, is catching it from all sides. Naturally an editor's paper is something he is, or ought to be proud of, and when his paper is criticised he generally talks back. One man's opinion is not every other's.

We have received the following papers: Collector, Postal Card, Stamp, Ottawa Philatelist, Collector's Review, Eastern, City Stamp, Argosy and a copy of Merrill's Fraud list. We desire to exchange with all philatelic publications, two please.

We see by the last *Collector* that Mr. H. E. Deats has made application for membership to the S. of P. About fifty applications are made each month and a membership of 1000 is expected by July, 15th.

As will be noticed, we have made our Exchange Column free to subscribers. . . . Subscribe and send in your exchanges.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

As we have a few copies of No. 1 left new subscriptions may commence with that number if desired.

In looking over the "Postal Card" we find there is more to postal card collecting than we imagined.

Editor Hoyt announces his Philatelic Annual and Address Book and says it will be out on advertised time, about May 1st.

A great time is expected at the next S. of P. convocation, tickets are already being circulated. We expect to go and enjoy the fun.

Mr. Spooner has secured two assistant associate editors to assist him in making his paper interesting. We will expect something extra hereafter.

The new paper, the "Collector's Review" received and it is good for a beginning. The other two announced papers from Denver have not put in an appearance.

We expect to place this paper in the hands of agents in the cities of Chicago and New York who will take subscriptions and solicit advertisements. We desire *good* agents in all the large cities.

We have received the April number of Kissinger's Postal Card and we find it contains more *news* than some of our magazines. The back side contains a S. of P. ticket with Kissinger at the head.

Referring to our article in our last month's paper, R. M. says the "Collector" would not cease to exist, even though postage were advanced to 5c per pound and no chance for the bill to pass anyway.

By request we publish the following:- Mekeel Chapter is a society among the young collectors in Danville. It will be under obligations to all sending price lists or philatelic publications to the secretary to be distributed among the members or for the society library. Address all communications to the Secretary, L. M. Tobin 134 Vermillion st., Danville, Ill.

In order to obtain a large list of collectors, we make the following offer;- to all sending us the names and addresses of collectors with whom they are acquainted, and who's names do not appear in any address book, or who are not members of the S. of P., we will send this paper one year for 20c. Offer good for this month only.

WORLD'S FAIR CITY NOTES.

BY CHICAGO.

Subscribe.

Mr. J. A. Pierce of 191 So. Clark st. will, in a few days, issue another edition of his Picture and Stamp catalogue, which will be much larger and supersede all others, It will be sent to his friends and costumers free of charge. Mr. Pierce will extend his business to another office where he will handle stamps only and between the two offices and his liberal offer to philatelists coming to town, to make his office their headquarters, we do not doubt but that he will come in for a full share of the World's Fair trade.

You have often heard of a Sailor's or Brakeman's Home, but of a Philatelist Home, never; the Windy City has one however, situated in the pleasant neighborhood of 2117 Indiana Ave. This World's Fair Hotel, as it is one of those 6 months class, will be a hotel for philatelists only, where one may rest his weary bones after taking in the Postal Exhibit at the World's Fair and, as stated on the circulars sent out, "Birds of a feather flock together", there will undoubtedly be numerous flocks of this class of birds in the vicinity of 21st st. and Indiana Ave., for the coming six months.

Mr. Willard, a Branch One member, is now in Portland, Oregon; only a few weeks ago in Kentucky. Where next!

Mr. Voute is, at present, in town still interested in some theatrical company.

The first foreign dealer on hand is Mr. F. Wendt who is located at 147 Clark st., part of the store being occupied by an employment bureau. Although his prices are slightly higher, he has an excellent stock; the most conspicuous being those of Germany, this being his hobby and native country.

The ballots of the Western Philatelic Union have been mailed. They are printed on the new reply postal cards, and the only change from my list of last month is that of an additional trustee; Mr. J. N. Huff of California. Mr. A. P. Hosmer has accepted the office of Secretary and Treasurer for another term and Mr. T. R. Ferris will fill the new office of Assistant Secretary.

ILLINOIS NOTES.

We have received quite a number of letters from different collectors throughout the state, favoring the formation of a "state society" and it looks as though we are to have a large membership to begin with. If everything proves favorable, the organization will probably occur in Chicago, about the middle of June. We want to hear from *every* collector in the state who will join such a society, providing the dues do not exceed 25c a year. Send us a postal, giving your views in regard to organizing a society and we will send you this paper free, until the society is organized. Among others who favor the society are, Mr. J. A. Pierce, who says;- "I think society would be a good thing if two *pushing* collectors were at the head of it".

Mr. S. M. Hamilton is highly in favor of such an organization, and says we could get, at least three hundred members. As the head of the society will probably be selected from the Chicago collectors, we would like to hear from more of them.

Mr. C. E. Severn, of Chicago, secured the \$50. gold prize, for writing the best review of Mekeel's new album. Mr. Severn is one of the best, if not the best, of Illinois many philatelic writers.

Mr. O. W. Briggs, editor of the "Lee County Times" of Paw Paw, is selling out his collection, which is quite extensive. We hope friend Briggs does not intend to drop philately.

DANVILLE NOTES.

The young collectors of this city have a society named Mekeel Chapter.

Two of our prominent collectors are Wm. F. E. Gurley and Dr. B. I. Poland. The former is City Engineer and has a splendid collection of U. S. stamps. He recently secured a Livingston, Alabama, Confederate States stamp, for which he paid One hundred dollars. He values it at \$1,000., and has refused \$600. for it.

The last named, is an oculist, and has a large practice. He has a large, general collection.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line advertisement in this Column, \$ 1.50 for 12 insertions. Payable in advance.

STEVENS. S. C. & Co; 69 Dearborn St Chicago, Ill. Dealers in old coins and postage stamps.

THOMPSON, S; 11 New Housenan Bl'k, Grand Rapids Mich, Mgr. Philatelic Exchange. Write for particulars

WOLSIEFFER P. M., 75 State St. Chicago, Ill. consult Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News for my specialties.

LITTLE ADS.

Advertisements under this head, 15 words for 25cts. 1/2c each additional word - payable in advance.

A second edition of Mekeels Address book containing names of over 7000 collectors for 90c or will exchange for good U. S. stamps, A. G. Smith Palatine, Ill.

Collectors having 1000, or less varieties of foreign stamps in their collections will find many bargains in our *net priced* approval sheets. Good references or cash deposit required with order. **NASON & SONS, ALGONQUIN, ILL.**

A 28 Inch, solid tire, ball bearing, "Express" Safety in fine condition for \$25.00 cash or \$40.00 in good U. S. Stamps. Cost \$55. Can be changed to a cushion tire. **A. G. SMITH, PALATINE, ILL.**

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Discontinued

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