

J. ALLAN MASON & CO.,

DEALERS IN



ALL KINDS OF

FOREIGN POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS,
STAMP ALBUMS, ETC., ETC.,

344, FULTON STREET,

BROOKLYN, L. I.

Circular No. 1.

December, 1874.

J. ALLAN MASON & Co. desire to inform collectors and others interested in the collection and preservation of Postage, Revenue and other Stamps, that they have a large assortment constantly on hand of the various kinds in demand, which they offer for sale at low prices.

In dealing with our customers we shall endeavor to treat every one with fairness and impartiality, being as scrupulous in filling a small order as a large one; and although we do not expect to be able to perform the impossible feat of pleasing all, we feel reasonably confident that our endeavors in this direction will leave room for as little disappointment as possible.

Advanced collectors will do well to send us lists of their wants, as we shall make a specialty of all varieties of Stamps and Envelopes, to the end of promoting the study of Philately as a Science. As an indication of what we propose doing for the *young collector*, we are preparing a series of packets which will be extended as rapidly as they can be arranged. In preparing these packets, to which we call your special attention, particular care is given to the selection of specimens, all torn and soiled Stamps being rigorously excluded; and also to the variety, no duplicates being found in the whole series. The descriptions and the prices of these packets will be found in another part of this Circular.

For the guidance of those ordering Stamps, Albums and other matter, by mail, we have prepared the following suggestions:

1. Write your wishes plainly, and in as few words as possible; sign your name and post-office address in full, and enclose three cent stamp for return postage in all cases requiring an answer.
2. All orders must be accompanied by the money to receive attention, and should be sufficiently large to cover two or three times the amount sent. By this means you will be almost certain to have your orders filled without delay or further correspondence. This course is necessary, as in almost any order, however small, there is a possibility that some one or more of the Stamps named might not be on hand at the moment, and could not be immediately procured. In filling orders for Stamps, our rule is to commence with those first on the list, selecting them in the order in which they are named, as far as possible.

3. In remitting currency, use as few pieces as possible, and for fractions of less than ten cents, send unused current stamps. For all amounts of three dollars and upwards, either register the letter or send a Post-Office Order, (the latter being preferable,) the cost of which may be deducted from the amount to be forwarded. Finally, in corresponding with us, use every precaution suggested by common sense to prevent mistakes or misunderstandings, and you will save yourselves and us much annoyance and unnecessary trouble.

TERMS.

For all orders of Five Dollars or less, NET CASH. All orders over Five Dollars will be entitled to a discount, which will be in proportion to the amount of the order and will be represented by an equivalent in Stamps.

ESSAYS ON PHILATELIC SUBJECTS.

By PANATELY.

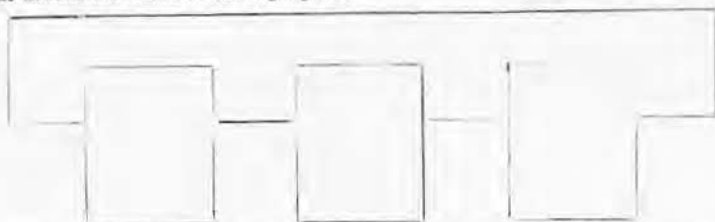
1. THE PROPER MOUNTING OF STAMPS.

So much has already been written on this theme, both in the magazines and papers devoted to Philately at home and abroad, that it would seem superfluous to call attention to it again. And yet there seems to be a wonderful lack of harmony among collectors in this oft-written theme, which may be accounted for on the idea that so many young collectors spring up who are required to go over the whole ground in order to attain anything like success; and again, that many advanced collectors aim to gather numerous specimens without paying attention to the proper manner of presenting them for convenient study. Collecting is not what it was ten or fifteen years ago. Before it was a conglomerate gathering of colors and values. Now it is a systematic arrangement of dates and issues, the study of the causes of changes, and the various other details which appear only on the proper study of the subject, and the systematic arrangement and classification of the Stamps. To all, therefore, whether young or old, experienced or inexperienced, a correct principle of arrangement is the one thing necessary. Therefore it is that we open these ESSAYS by a short study on the proper mounting of Stamps, directing our remarks particularly to beginners, and to them who are yet in doubt as to what plan to follow.

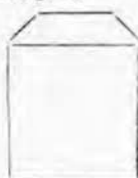
The main idea through all this system of arrangement was the devising of a plan which would secure the Stamps firmly in the book, and at the same time permit them to be examined for the purpose of determining the watermark, color and texture of the paper, and other particulars necessary to their proper classification—a most important consideration, it must be borne in mind, as these oft-called flimsy details are the very ones which raise collecting from a mere amusement.

We shall not consider the question of the Album at the present moment, but proceed directly to the preparation of the Stamps for mounting in Albums or on blank page. The principle now adopted by the best amateurs is that known as HINGING. Several methods of using this principle have been advocated, but we believe that there is one method superior to all others, from the fact that it is free from all objections. First, then, as to the paper used for the hinges; there is a kind of fine foreign letter paper, strong, thin and almost transparent, called by stationers "onion-skin," which serves the best. These sheets should be washed on one side only with a weak solution of pure gum Arabic, just thick enough to flow easily, and to not crack when dried. The sheets should then be dried and cut into strips of about one half inch in width. The Stamps having been freed from all adhering paper, should be placed side by side

the strip, one edge of which has previously been moistened to the depth of one-eighth inch, as illustrated in the following figure:



Next, detach each Stamp by means of a pair of scissors, and trim the edges of the adhering strip, when it will look like fig. 2.



Fold the strip backward upon itself, and by the application of a little moisture, it is ready to be placed in the book.

From the above details it will be seen that the hinging of Stamps is no great mechanical effort, requiring merely a little patience and care in handling the Stamps and strips. Its great advantage lies in the fact that a Stamp once mounted can be easily removed from the page without injury to hinge, Stamp or page of the Album, by moistening the hinge, the paper being so thin that a slight touch of water, applied with a camel's hair brush, will serve the purpose.

SETS OF STAMPS.

(Those marked * are Uncanceled.)

* 1. AUSTRIAN Mercuries,	set of 4	\$.40
* 2. " Italy (embossed arms),	" 5 . . . .	.20
* 3. " Telegraph,	" 5 . . . .	.40
* 4. BADEN, 1st issue,	" 4	
* 5. " 2d "	" 4	
* 6. " 3d " (lined ground),	"	
* 7. " 5th " (large figures),	" 3 . . . .	.25
* 8. " "land post,"	" 3 . . . .	.35
* 9. BELGIUM, newspaper stamps,	" 3 . . . .	.10
* 10. BERGEDORF,	" 5 . . . .	.25
* 11. BERMUDA,	" 5	1.75
* 12. BRAZIL, (head),	" 7 . . . .	.27
* 13. " (4, 10, 20, 100, 200),	" 5 . . . .	.40
* 14. BRUNSWICK, small arms,	" 4 . . . .	.8
* 15. CANADA, current series,	" 5 . . . .	.25
* 16. CEYLON, 2, 4, 8, current series,	" 3 . . . .	.40
* 17. DANISH WEST INDIES,	" 4 . . . .	.75
* 18. DENMARK, 1866-'68,	" 5 . . . .	.15
* 19. " 1871,	" 6 . . . .	.25
* 20. " officials,	" 3 . . . .	.10
* 21. " revenues,	" 4 . . . .	.75
* 22. EGYPT, 1st issue, unperforated,	" 7	2.00
* 23. GREECE,	" 7 . . . .	.12
* 24. HAMBURG, adhesives,	" 10 . . . .	.50
* 25. " envelopes,	" 7 . . . .	.85
* 26. ITALY, embossed,	" 7 . . . .	.50
* 27. " newspaper stamps,	" 5 . . . .	.20
* 28. " Segna Tassa,	" 8	2.10
* 29. " "	" 8 . . . .	.85
* 30. LUBECK, 1st issue,	" 5 . . . .	.35

SETS OF STAMPS—CONTINUED.

*31.	MAURITIUS,	set of 4	\$3.00
*32.	MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN,	" 3	.30
*33.	" " envelopes,	" 3	.40
*34.	MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ,	" 6	.40
*35.	MEXICO, eagles,	" 5	2.00
*36.	" head of Maximilian,	" 4	2.00
*37.	MODENA, eagle,	" 7	.75
*38.	"	" 5	.75
*39.	MOLDO-WALLACHIA	" 3	1.20
*40.	NAPLES, embossed head,	" 8	.75
*41.	OLDENBURG, last issue,	" 5	.20
42.	PARAGUAY,	" 3	2.00
*43.	PRUSSIA, 1st series,	" 5	.70
*44.	" eagle, (oval,)	" 6	.35
*45.	" " (rect.),	" 5	.35
*46.	ROME, 1st issue,	" 6	.20
*47.	" last series, unperforated,	" 7	.35
48.	ROUMANIA,	" 7	.35
*49.	SAXONY, embossed,	" 5	.75
*50.	SCHLESWIG,	" 6	.35
*51.	SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN,	" 5	.35
*52.	SERVIA, 1st series,	" 2	.15
*53.	" head to right,	" 3	.35
54.	SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC,	" 5	2.00
*55.	SWISS, current series,	" 13	2.00
*56.	" envelopes,	" 4	.50
*57.	THURN and TAXIS, (north and south,)	" 14	1.00
58.	TURKEY, small perforation,	" 8	.60
59.	" large "	" 5	.50
60.	" black surcharge (local),	" 4	.35
61.	" blue " "	" 3	.35
62.	" newspaper stamps,	" 5	.40
*63.	" local, perf. and unperf.,	" 4	.55
64.	VAN DIEMEN'S LAND, 1858,	" 5	.35

THE O. K. STAMP PACKETS.—FIRST SERIES.

This series, at present consisting of twelve packets, is so arranged that the purchaser of the entire series will obtain a very fair collection of Stamps, no two of which are alike. Special care has been given to the selection of the specimens, so that no imperfect Stamp will be found in the whole series. The list shall be extended from time to time with the same attention to details. We call special attention of beginners to these packets; by purchasing them you will receive your Stamps at one-half the prices you would be compelled to pay by purchasing in the usual manner from catalogue. The Packets have been arranged as follows:

No. 1.	13 used Stamps of	ROUMANIA, INDIA, SWEDEN, etc.,	\$.70
" 2.	38 " "	MEXICO, RUSSIA, AUSTRIA, etc., . . . . .	.15
" 3.	35 " "	HOLLAND, SWITZERLAND, WURTEMBERG, etc., . . . . .	.20
" 4.	12 " "	HONG-KONG, PORTUGAL, NAPLES, etc., . . . . .	.25
" 5.	21 " "	ECUADOR, NEW BRUNSWICK, DENMARK, etc., . . . . .	.30
" 6.	13 " "	the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENTS—Agriculture, Navy, Interior, etc., . . . . .	.20
" 7.	6 Uncanceled Stamps of	CONFEDERATE STATES, ROMAN, SPANISH, etc., . . . . .	.25
" 8.	12 Canceled U. S. REVENUES, from 2c. to \$1.00, . . . . .		.10
" 9.	11 U. S. REVENUES, 2d series, from 2c. to \$1.00, . . . . .		.15
" 10.	15 " " " from 1c. to \$1.00, . . . . .		.20
" 11.	8 Canceled Stamps of	TURKEY, TASMANIA, OLD HANOVER, etc., . . . . .	.40
" 12.	33 Canceled Stamps of	VAN DIEMEN'S LAND, DUTCH INDIES, JAMAICA, DANISH WEST INDIES, HUNGARY, etc., . . . . .	.50

Packet A. Containing 217 Stamps, duplicating all the others from 1 to 12 inclusive, and especially recommended for its cheapness, being 10 per cent. less than by the single package, 2.50

Every Stamp sold in these packets is warranted genuine. No two Stamps are alike.

J. ALLAN MASON & CO.,

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FOREIGN POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS,

STAMP ALBUMS, ETC., ETC.,

344 FULTON STREET,

BROOKLYN, L. I.

Circular No. 2.

June, 1875.

THE very favorable manner in which our first Circular was received, and the satisfactory measure of success which has followed its distribution among the Philatelic fraternity, has encouraged us to follow it up with another just double the size, which will be distributed, as was the other, gratuitously. It is our intention to issue these Circulars in the future at intervals, and to embody in each some information of value to collectors. In the first number we gave an "Essay on the Proper Mounting of Stamps," and with this (our second) we present our patrons with the most complete and exhaustive description of the New Series of Newspaper Stamps that has yet been attempted, and the accuracy of which cannot be questioned, the article having been penned with a full set of these most beautiful of all stamps before the writer. We also add a few new packets to our list, and at the same time extend our price list of used and unused stamps.

We here take occasion to repeat our determination to conduct our business fairly, and to treat all our customers with due courtesy and consideration, guaranteeing all stamps sold by us to be as represented.

We also desire to again call the attention of *advanced* collectors to the fact that we intend taking especial pains to search out and classify all such *varieties* in stamps and envelopes as may be of sufficient importance, and which will be noted in our price lists as occasion may demand.

In order that our correspondence may be carried on as promptly and as factually as possible, we extract from our former Circular the following suggestions:

1. Write your wishes plainly, and in as few words as possible; sign your name and Post Office address in full, and inclose three cent stamp for return postage in cases requiring an answer.

2. All orders must be accompanied by the money, to receive attention should be sufficiently large to cover two or three times the amount sent. By this means you will be almost certain to have your orders filled without delay or further correspondence. This course is necessary, as in almost any order, however small, there is a possibility that some one or more of the stamps named might not be on hand at the moment, and could not be immediately procured. In filling orders, our rule is to commence with those first on the list, selecting them in the order in which they are named, as far as possible.

3. In remitting currency, use as few pieces as possible, and for fractions of less than ten cents send unused current stamps. For all amounts of three dollars and upward, either register the letter or send a Post Office order (the latter being preferable), the cost of which may be deducted from the amount to be forwarded. Finally, in corresponding with us use every precaution suggested by common sense to prevent mistakes or misunderstanding, and you will save yourselves and us much annoyance and unnecessary trouble.

We have recently been handed a copy of the Constitution of the "National Philatelic Society," which many of our friends are perhaps aware has been recently started in New York City. It owes its existence mainly to the exertions of Joseph J. Casey, whose personal energies were strenuously devoted to the task of its organization, and whose efforts were finally rewarded with the full measure of success betokened by the appearance of this little pamphlet. We commend the Society to all interested in Philatelic studies, and trust it will soon take rank with others of a kindred character. We understand that it is the intention to publish reference lists of all the United States stamps, and also of many others, as they come under review, and that their Executive Committee have proposed a number of subjects of interest for discussion at future meetings. Philatelists everywhere are requested to co-operate, by correspondence or otherwise. The Secretary, Mr. R. Bogert, No. 219 Livingston street, Brooklyn, may be addressed for information. A brief outline of the origin and scope of the Society will be found in another part of this paper.

REDUCTION IN FOREIGN POSTAGE.

According to a Circular just issued by the U. S. Post Office Department, uniform rates of postage will, on and after July 1, 1875, be collected in the United States on all correspondence within the limits of the following countries, comprising the International Postal Union, as established by the Treaty of Bern, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Denmark (including Iceland and the Far Islands), Egypt, Spain (including the Balearic Isles, the Canary Islands, the Spanish Possessions on the Northern Coast of Africa, and the postal establishments of Spain on the Western Coast of Morocco), Great Britain (including the Island of Malta), Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal (including the Islands of Madeira and the Azores), Roumania, Russia (including the Grand Duchy of Finland), Servia, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey; and on and after January 1, 1876, the same arrangement will be extended to France.

The new rate will be: For prepaid letters, five cents for fifteen grammes (half ounce); for unpaid letters received, ten cents per fifteen grammes (half ounce).

For postal cards, two cents each; for newspapers not over four ounces weight, two cents each.

For books or other printed matter, pamphlets and other miscellaneous matter of this class, two cents for each two ounces or fraction of two ounces.

The registration fee on all correspondence will be eight cents, and no fee will be charged on return receipts for registered articles in cases where such receipts are requested.

Many other matters of detail are set forth in the Circular, which we omit from lack of space. Below will be found a description of the new stamp made necessary by the change in rate:

THE NEW 5c. STAMP.

The U. S. Post Office Department is preparing a new stamp of the value of FIVE CENTS, for international postage between the countries which have ratified the treaty just concluded at Berne. The stamp is of the same size as the others of the current issue. The oval, or medallion, is somewhat larger than in the others, and bears a full face portrait of Gen'l Zachary Taylor. Around the top of the oval is U. S. POSTAGE, and at the bottom, in a curved band, FIVE 5 CENTS. The oval and legends rest on a plain shield, very like the current 10 cent stamp. The whole is very plain and very pretty. The color has not yet been definitely decided upon, but will perhaps be vermilion.

THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

Whatever of credit attaches to the founding of this Society must be conceded to Mr. Joseph J. Casey, of New York city, who, more than a year ago, by means of liberal advertisements in Philatelic publications, and by personal conferences with some of the leading collectors in New York city and elsewhere, was, at length, enabled to enlist a sufficient number of enthusiastic collectors to insure the success of this laudable enterprise; preliminary meetings were held to discuss the proposed Society and its objects, and finally, on the 17th of October, 1874, THE "NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY" OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK was fully organized, a constitution adopted and officers elected.

By the courtesy of the American Geographical Society of New York, their rooms in the Cooper Institute were placed at the disposal of the newly-formed Society, whose meetings are there held on the evenings of the third Wednesday in each month.

The scope and objects of the Society are sufficiently set forth in the Second Article of the Constitution as follows:

"To encourage the collection and preservation of the Postage and Revenue Stamps of all Nations, as well as those issued by private individuals, Corporations or States; and the obtaining and dissemination of knowledge in relation thereto."

This seems to be very comprehensive, and opens wide the door to the devotees of each and every branch of Philatelic study. To quote again from the Constitution in reference to membership:

"Every applicant for membership shall be at least twenty-one years of age, and of good moral standing; his application to be submitted in writing by a member of the Society, giving the name, age, residence and occupation of the applicant, which shall be referred to the Executive Committee, who shall report thereon to the Society at its next regular meeting. No applicant shall be elected to membership without having first received a two-thirds vote in his favor of all the members present at the meeting at which he may be balloted for, and shall immediately thereafter subscribe to the Constitution. The initiation fee of the Society shall be Five Dollars, and shall accompany each application; and in case said application be rejected, the said fee shall be returned. The annual dues shall be Six Dollars, payable monthly in advance."

In such a limited article it would be impossible to give full details of the workings of the Society; it may, however, suffice to state that discussion has been held on the stamps of New South Wales, and of those on the United States. Of the former several noticeable collections were shown, that of Mr. Coster being the most complete in this department, and containing all the known types of the Sydney view, as also of the later issues, and including many choice varieties. Of the latter the collection exhibited by Mr. Casey is especially rich in die, and plate proofs of the "61," "69" and "70" issues, proofs of all the Department Stamps, and also of the entire series of the New Periodical Stamps, besides a great variety in the regular issues.

Other collections of superior excellence in both these departments were exhibited, among which might be noticed many rarities, such as the rare Carr Brattleboro, nearly all varieties of the St. Louis, very rare envelopes, etc., etc. in all, the evenings set apart for these exhibitions are thoroughly instructive, as well as particularly enjoyable; that this is so, we may state the fact that among collections present were to be found every conceivable type and shade of the stamps of New South Wales and of the United States; but pages of comment would be insufficient to do full justice to all, and our limited space warns us to forbear.

Aside from the enjoyment of these seances, the Society promises a large benefit to collectors by the preparation of reference lists, by which the most devoted student of the French school, as well as the collectors of the simple normal issue, will be afforded easy means of perfectly classifying their respective collections.

Of the future prospects of the Society we can say nothing, except that firmly established, and that so far as our observation goes, neither members nor officers will leave anything undone which will tend to make the Society Cosmopolitan as well as "National;" and judging from the spirit manifested by the members, we feel sure it will eventually become a power in the Philatelic world, and earn itself a title to recognition among kindred associations abroad as well as at home.

The officers for the current year are:

President, JESSE K. FURLONG.

Vice-President, CHAS. H. COSTAR.

Secretary and Treasurer, R. R. BOGERT.

ESSAYS ON PHILATELIC SUBJECTS.

By PANATELY.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMPS OF THE UNITED STATES.

Owing to the fact that many collectors will never, in all probability, be able to see the full set of newspaper stamps, much less obtain them, either in a canceled or uncanceled condition, partly owing to the strictness of the law and partly to the high price of many of them, a thorough description of the stamps and their uses will not go amiss.

On the 1st January, 1875, the new law regulating postage on newspapers went into effect. Previous to this law the newspaper publishers required no stamps; they paid so much postage quarterly, which was indicated on the wrappers of the papers. Now, however, the case is different. The papers for subscribers beyond the limits of the county in which the papers are published are made up in bulk in the publication office, carried to the Post Office, and there weighed. The postage is then reckoned on the whole package, the proper amount is handed to the Post Office clerk, who immediately gives the publisher a receipt, in the stamp of which are affixed the stamps representing the postage, the rates being so arranged that no more than five stamps can be used for any ordinary amount, and the stamps are then canceled by punching a large hole through them. The stamps and their receipts are kept in the P. O. Department as vouchers for the postage paid. It will thus be seen that the stamps are not affixed to the papers or to the packages and in no case pass through the mails.

These stamps are twenty-five in number; were prepared by the Continental Bank Note Co. of this city, and are among the most beautiful specimens ever issued by any government. No idea of their beauty can be obtained by examining the low values which will readily find their way into collections. But if one could see the full set, in their delicate colors, the diversity of designs and their peculiar appropriateness, one would then have just cause to be proud of them.

We will now examine these stamps in the order of their values: 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 8c., 9c., 10c., 12c., 24c., 36c., 48c., 60c., 72c., 84c., 96c., \$1.92, \$3, \$6, \$9, \$12, \$24, \$36, \$48, \$60.

2c. to 10c., inclusive.—Emblematic figure of America looking to right. This is an Indian in full robes. The left hand rests on a shield and holds a wreath; the right hand rests on a staff. The head of this figure, which may be male or female for aught there is to indicate it exactly, is adorned with an elaborate head-dress, consisting of a coronet of stars surmounted by an eagle's head and plumes. The vignette stands in an arched frame, with a background of sky and clouds. On either side of this frame are slabs containing the inscriptions "NEWS-PAPERS," "PERIODICALS," and the value. In the upper corners are large figures of value, the lower corners being ornamented with shields. The color of all the values from 2c. to 10c. is *black*.

12c. to 96c. inclusive.—Vignette of Astraea, or Justice, in niche carved at top. The figure faces, holding in her right hand the balance, and resting with her left on a shield bearing the U. S. coat of arms. The figure is full-robed, mailed and girdled as to the upper part, and helmeted. Surmounting the helmet is an eagle with outstretched wings. Figures of value on shields in upper corners; value in sunken letters below, richly ornamented. Inscriptions in shaded capitals on lined ground. Color, *pink*.

\$1.92.—Vignette of Ceres, Goddess of Agriculture, in niche. She holds in her left hand an ear of corn; her right, holding a wreath, rests against the knee. The figure faces to front, and is clad in full, flowing robes. Value in figures in upper corners; in letters in solid tablet below. Inscriptions in italic capitals on obelisk on either side, resting on lower slab containing U. S. POSTAGE in white shaded capitals. Color, *deep rich brown*.

\$3.—Goddess of Victory in full robes, girdled with sword to left. Toga thrown over right shoulder. The right hand is stretched forward, holding a wreath, the left resting on shield. Figures of value in upper corners. Value below in letters on either side of large figure 3. Inscriptions in solid labels on either side. U. S. POSTAGE above. Color, *vermilion*.

\$6.—Clio, Goddess of Poetry, in full robes. Figures of value in upper corners surrounded by carved ornaments. Inscription and value in white shaded letters, on lined ground. Color, *light blue*.

\$9.—Minerva. The left hand is placed across her breast, holding a portion of her toga, the right grasping a spear. Figures of value in upper corners; inscriptions to left and right, in shaded italics. Value in letters below in scrolls; beneath is a large 9 in carved ornaments. Color, *orange*.

\$12.—Vesta. The left hand lifts her drapery; the right holds a burning lamp. Figures of value in upper corners in tablets. Value in letters in beaded frame beneath. Inscription in solid italic letters. This is a very beautiful stamp, and the color a rich *green*.

\$24.—Goddess of Peace, a half naked figure leaning against a broken column. She holds in left an olive branch, while the right grasps three arrows. The value in words beneath on solid tablet. Inscriptions in white shaded letters, and figures of value in ornamented curve, between which and the inscriptions is a large six-pointed star. Color, *purple gray*.

\$36.—The Patroness of Commerce, in full garments. She holds in her left hand the Caduceus—the winged rod of Mercury; in her right a miniature ship. Figures of value above; in ornamented capitals below. Inscriptions also in ornamented capitals. Color, *light claret*.

\$48.—Hebe, partly draped. The right hand holds a cup which she is offering to the eagle, around whose neck is thrown her left arm. She stands in a very easy position, with her legs crossed. Figures of value in shield in upper corners; value in letters below in carved ornaments. The letters U. S. in circles between value and inscriptions, which are in carved labels. Color, *chocolate*.

\$60.—Vignette of Minnehaha, the Indian maiden of Longfellow's poem of the same name, in rectangular frame. She is robed from her waist downward. Her right arm is extended, while the left hangs by her side. The background is a

landscape; trees and vines in the right, and wigwams to left in the distance. Value in figures in shields in upper corners; in white letters on solid tablets below. Inscriptions in white in solid labels on either side. This is the most beautiful stamp of the series, the color being a rich purple.

From the above meagre description of these stamps some idea may be had of their beauty. All the vignettes, with the exception of those in the lowest value and that of Minnehaha, are taken from pictures of classic times, and are standing in niches. The finish and execution of the stamps are beautiful, and give promise that in some things at least our Post Office Department is sometimes willing to break loose from the restraint of that false economy which hampered it while the new envelopes were preparing. It is to be hoped that the beginning, so favorably made, and for which Mr. Barker, the Third Assist. P. M. General, is greatly to be thanked, will not stop here, but will find its climax in our Centennial, when we hope to look on postage stamps of the United States, the finest in the world.

SETS OF STAMPS.

(Those marked * are Uncanceled.)

	Set of 4	\$
* 1. AUSTRIAN Mercuries.....	4	1.00
* 2. " Italy (embossed arms).....	5	1.00
* 3. " Telegraph.....	5	1.00
* 4. BADEN, 1st issue.....	4	1.00
* 5. " 2d ".....	4	1.00
* 6. " 3d " (lined ground).....	6	1.00
* 7. " 5th " (large figures).....	3	1.00
* 8. " "land post".....	3	1.00
* 9. BELGIUM, newspaper stamps.....	3	1.00
* 10. BERGEDORF.....	5	1.00
* 11. BERMUDA.....	5	1.00
* 12. " 1d surcharged on 1 shilling, green.....		
* 13. " 1d " " 2d, blue.....		
* 14. " 3d " " 1 shilling, green.....		
15. " 1d " " " ".....		
16. BRAZIL (head).....	7	1.00
* 17. " " (10, 20, 100, 200).....	4	1.00
18. BRUNSWICK, small arms.....	4	1.00
* 19. CANADA, current series.....	5	1.00
* 20. CEYLON, 2, 4, 8, current series.....	3	1.00
* 21. DANISH WEST INDIES.....	4	1.00
22. DENMARK, 1866-'68.....	5	1.00
23. " 1871.....	5	1.00
24. " officials.....	3	1.00
25. " revenues.....	4	1.00
* 26. EGYPT, 1st issue, unperforated.....	7	2.00
27. GREECE.....	7	1.00
* 28. HAMBURG, adhesives.....	10	1.00
* 29. " envelopes.....	7	1.00
* 30. ITALY, embossed.....	7	1.00
* 31. " newspaper stamps.....	5	1.00
* 32. " Segna Tassa.....	8	2.00
33. " " ".....	8	1.00
* 34. LUBECK, 1st issue.....	5	1.00
* 35. MAURITIUS.....	4	3.00
* 36. MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.....	3	1.00
* 37. " " envelopes.....	3	1.00
* 38. MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ.....	6	1.00
* 39. MEXICO, eagles.....	5	1.00

LIST OF STAMPS—CONTINUED.

10. MEXICO, head of Maximilian.....	" 4....	1.00
11. MODENA, eagle.....	" 7....	.75
12. ".....	" 5....	.55
13. MOLDO-WALLACHIA.....	" 3....	1.25
14. NAPLES, embossed head.....	" 8....	.75
15. OLDENBURG, last issue.....	" 5....	.25
16. PARAGUAY.....	" 3....	2.00
17. RUSSIAN STEAM NAVIGATION Co.....	" 4....	.40
18. PRUSSIA, 1st series.....	" 5....	.70
19. " eagle (oval).....	" 6....	.35
20. " (rect.).....	" 5....	.35
21. ROME, 1st issue.....	" 6....	.20
22. " last series, unperforated.....	" 7....	.35
23. ROUMANIA.....	" 7....	.35
24. PORTUGAL, 1871.....	" 9....	.45
25. SAXONY, embossed.....	" 5....	.8
26. SCHLESWIG.....	" 6....	.25
27. SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.....	" 5....	.30
28. SERBIA, 1st series.....	" 2....	.16
29. " head to right.....	" 3....	.30
30. SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.....	" 5....	2.00
31. SWISS, current series.....	" 13....	2.00
32. " envelopes.....	" 4....	.50
33. THURN and TEXAS (north and south).....	" 14....	1.00
34. TURKEY, small perforation.....	" 8....	.60
35. " large ".....	" 5....	.50
36. " black surcharge (local).....	" 4....	.35
37. " blue ".....	" 3....	.35
38. " newspaper stamps.....	" 5....	.40
39. " local, perf. and unperf. (5p., 20p., 40p.).....	" 5....	.60
40. VAN DIEMAN'S LAND, 1858.....	" 5....	.35

NOTE.—In ordering from our price lists, please state the No. of the Circular to avoid errors, as the numbers refer to different sets.

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This series is so arranged that the purchaser of the entire series will obtain a very fine collection of Stamps, no two of which are alike. Special care has been given to the selection of the specimens, so that no imperfect Stamp will be found in the whole series. The list shall be extended from time to time with the same attention to details. We call special attention of beginners to these packets; by purchasing them you will receive your Stamps at one-half the prices you would be compelled to pay by purchasing in the usual manner from catalogue. The packets have been arranged as follows:

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" 3. 35 " " HOLLAND, SWITZERLAND, WURTEMBERG, etc.....	.20
" 4. 12 " " HONG-KONG, PORTUGAL, NAPLES, etc.....	.25
" 5. 21 " " ECUADOR, NEW BRUNSWICK, DENMARK, etc.....	.30
" 6. 13 " " the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT—Agriculture, Navy, Interior, etc.....	.20
7. 6 Uncanceled Stamps of CONFEDERATE STATES, ROMAN, SPANISH, etc..	.25
8. 12 Canceled U. S. REVENUES, from 2c. to \$1.00.....	.10
9. 11 U. S. REVENUES, 2d series, from 2c. to \$1.00.....	.15
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11. 8 Canceled Stamps of TURKEY, TASMANIA, OLD HANOVER, etc.....	.40
12. 33 Canceled Stamps of VAN DIEMAN'S LAND, DUTCH INDIES, JAMAICA, DANISH WEST INDIES. HUNGARY, etc.....	.50

THE O. K. PACKETS—CONTINUED.

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" 14.	12	"	QUEENSLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL.....	3
" 15.	13	"	NEW GRENADA, VICTORIA, BRITISH GUIANA, etc.	3
" 16.	19	"	STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, BAHAMAS, DUTCH INDIES, etc.....	4
" 17.	22	"	GUATEMALA, JAMAICA, ECUADOR, etc.....	4
" 18.	15	"	SAINT CHRISTOPHER, BERMUDA, TASMANIA, etc.	4
" 19.	9	"	U. S. DEPARTMENTS—Justice, P. O., etc.....	5
" 20.	9	"	U. S. DEPARTMENTS—Navy, Agriculture, etc..	5
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