

*Official Organ of the Nebraska Stamp Collector's League.*



# THE STAMP ECHO.



A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO  
STAMP COLLECTING.



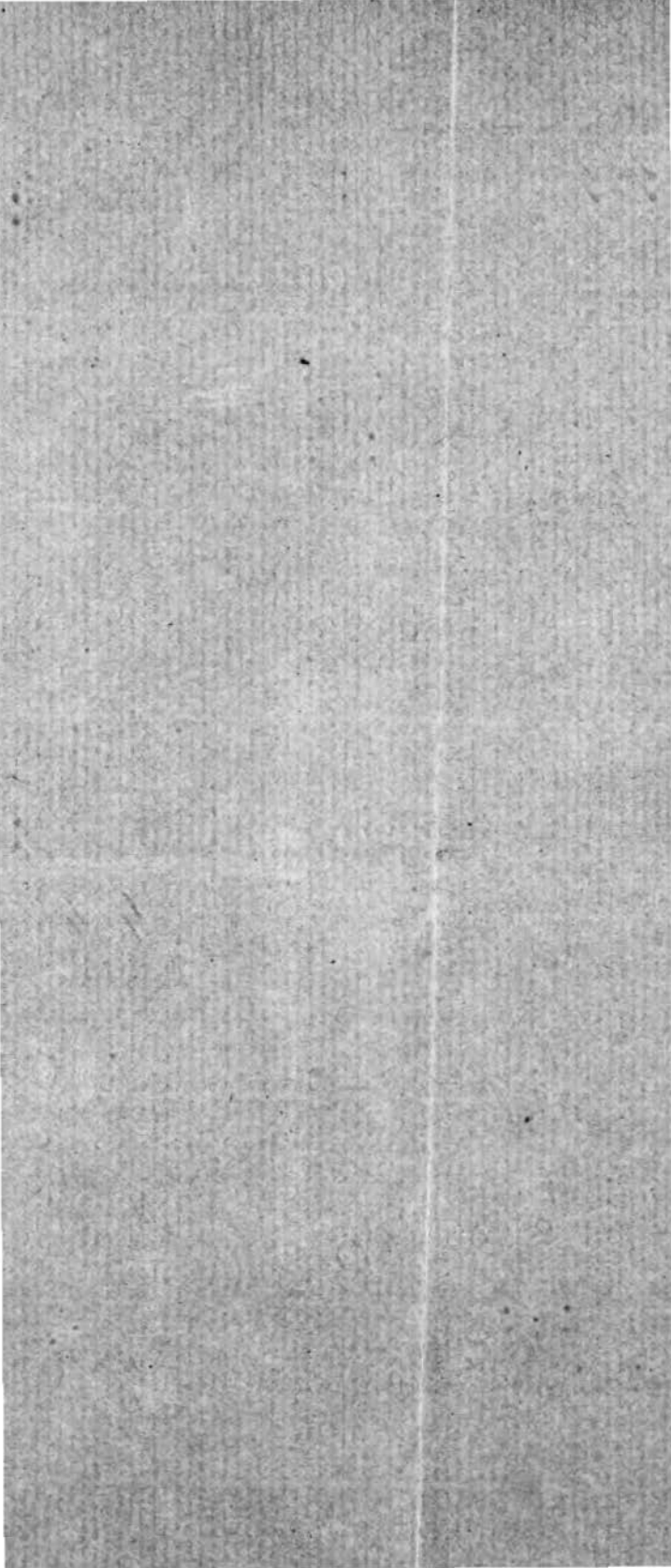
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## APRIL, 1892.

CLEVE SCOTT, EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

CENTRAL CITY, NEBRASKA, U. S. A.



# The Stamp Echo.

CENTRAL CITY, NEBR., APRIL, 1892.

NO. 1.

The Stamp Echo.

*A Nice Looking Col-  
lection.*

F. GREENE.

Philatelists are careful  
in their collecting. One  
of the subjects is that of get-  
ting cancelled stamps.  
Avoiding the torn and muti-  
lated stamps, keep them  
out of your album. The  
biggest error, though, is  
the use of stamps in your al-  
bum on paper or pieces of  
envelopes. A stamp to be  
in an album should be clean,  
undamaged, and devoid of paper  
fragments calculated to make  
a blot and untrim on the  
album. It is often necessary to put  
in albums that are heavy-  
weight or possibly mutilated,  
if opportunity offers, it may  
be a more suitable one  
than the one in hand. It is not all in hav-  
ing stamps from which you can  
make a nice album  
and a nice album  
boundings, but if upon  
your album, heavily cancelled,  
"up" stamps greet your  
eyes will be lost in the  
uncleanliness. While,  
and, some tyro's album  
are you. It is a cheap

album, and, as you open it, you see  
nothing but continentals, more com-  
mon colonials, etc. Yet they are  
worthy of notice, for not a dingy one  
can be seen, all smoothly hinged, can-  
cellation marks scarcely discernable,  
all whole and possessed of their origi-  
nal color, nothing dimmed or faded.  
The album, too, shows signs of care-  
ful usage. While it shows that it has  
often been called into requisition and  
been much handled, it is without  
finger-marks, bent corners and soiled  
leaves. So, I say that it is not the  
rarity of the stamps that beautifies  
your collection or particularly enhan-  
ces its value. As a beginner, learn to  
select your stamp rather than paste  
it in because it occupies a space, and  
if you should be obliged to place torn  
stamps in your album, fill their places  
with perfect ones as soon as opportu-  
nity offers. No matter how small the  
tear may be, you can observe the dif-  
ference it makes in its price by look-  
ing at the results of some of our auc-  
tion sales. So be thorough. Collect  
only the best and see the change  
which will result in your album.

*Original (?)*

The world is our hunting ground,  
Postage stamps our game,  
If my sets are not complete,  
The catalogue is to blame.

—Vacaroo.

## AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

It is now nearly half a century since the first postage stamp was issued in this country. In 1840, England began using stamps; in 1845, the issue of postage stamps was authorized by Congress, and in 1847 the first stamps were issued.

Before that time the postage was paid in cash, sometimes by the sender and sometimes by the receiver of the letter, and the schedule of rates varied with the distances.

The charge for transmitting a letter thirty miles was six cents, and the tariff increased in gradual ratio until a maximum charge of twenty-five cents for 300 miles or more was reached. This method was in vogue for two years after the issue of stamps was authorized by Congress.

The first stamps issued were of the denominations of five and ten cents. The five-cent stamp had a picture of Ben Franklin and the ten-cent the head of Washington as the principle figure in the design.

Those heads have continued to adorn the postage stamps of our country from that day to this. The stamps first issued were a little larger than those now in use.

In 1851 the carrier system was introduced in all large cities, and stamps of a peculiar design, costing one cent each and known as carriers' stamps, were issued for the purpose of providing prepaid delivery.

In that year the letter postage was reduced to three cents, and the old brick-dust red three-cent stamp came in. At the same time the issue was enlarged to eight stamps, the largest

denomination being ninety

The portrait of Jefferson introduced on the five-cent stamp, other seven bore heads of

ton and Franklin in different

These stamps were the last similar ever issued by the department. They remained in use for ten years.

The new three-cent stamp issued in 1861, was of a light red color, and remained in use until 1869, when it was a decided innovation in the signs of the entire issue.

The stamps were square instead of rectangular, and many of them were printed in two colors, the central design in one tone and the border in another.

The principal figure in the design was in almost every instance a representation of some mode of transportation of the mails instead of the head of a departed statesman.

The three-cent stamp issued in 1861, was in blue, and the principal figure in the design was a locomotive. This design of stamps lasted about ten years.

The people clamored for a change in them that in 1870 a return was made to the old designs, which were, however, in different colors.

The three-cent stamp issued in 1870, was made green, with the head of Washington in the centre of the design. That stamp is of such a nature that its design is familiar to every one.

The green three-cent stamp was adopted in 1870, and continued longer than any of its predecessors. It was used until October, 1879, and it might have continued in vogue much longer had not the rate of letter postage been reduced the rate of letter postage.

(Concluded on fifth page)

ritten for the Stamp Echo.

*Sales as Seen by a Non-Resident.*

BY "VACAROO."

Auction sales have been discussed in the columns of the Philatelic press, and I will not go into detail as to their usefulness. I simply want to describe what befell me and a bid I made for a certain stamp in one of several auction sales.

The catalogue was received in due time and I sent in my bid, which was 5 per cent. higher than the catalogue price, as I wanted to be sure and get the stamp as the catalogue chronicled it as a beautifully cancelled specimen.

Now I don't know how these auction sales are carried on, but I know that your bid is called off at once and if the highest you get is yours seems probable enough, but, as the stamp dealers say in their catalogues that auction sales play a large part to play in the sale of stamps. Now how do you suppose that some dealer has a good specimen of a certain rare stamp, and makes a few dollars on them, by making one catalogued in Messrs. Smith's auction sale. Don't you suppose he will get in as large a bid as you, and sell his stamps? Is there anything else? How do you suppose that decoy bidding is going on? Can you tell? You cannot see the sale; and suppose you bid of \$14 on a certain stamp, the next lowest bid below

yours was \$6, but the stamp will likely be knocked down to you for \$14, whereas, if you had been there, you could have saved half that amount. This is an outrage on the Philatelic public, and should be stopped at once. There are certain words in the English language which are the same, but of widely different meaning, as my stamp and bid will testify. I sent in the cash and received my stamp on time. As was catalogued, it was a "beautifully cancelled" specimen, so much so that I could not tell whether it was a stamp or simply a piece of perforated paper that had been smeared with a handful of black ink. However, it adorns a single piece of white paper in my album, on the back of which is its complete history and how it was obtained.

It will pay you to advertise in the STAMP ECHO. Try it!

We will conduct an Exchange Column next month for the benefit of collectors and dealers who wish to exchange duplicates, etc. This will be free to subscribers only. Others,  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. per word. Send in exchanges as soon as possible.

**COLLECTORS!**

Every collector in Nebraska is most cordially invited to join. Join what? The NEBRASKA STAMP COLLECTOR'S LEAGUE. Our initiation fee is only 5 cents. Yearly dues, 25 cents, and the official organ one year FREE. Send your 5 cents at once to

CLEVE SCOTT,  
Central City, Nebr. Secretary.

## The Stamp Echo.

This Journal is devoted entirely to Philately.

### ADVERTISING RATES.

One insertion :

$\frac{1}{2}$ inch,	\$ .10	$\frac{1}{2}$ column,	\$ .75
1 inch,	.20	1 column,	1.50
2 inches,	.40	1 page,	2.50
15 per cent. discount on 3 to 6 mo's. contract.			

Subscription Price, 25 cents per year.

Address all communications to  
**CLEVE SCOTT, EDITOR & PUB.**  
Central City, Nebraska.

### GREETING.

To my brother Philatelists and Stamp Collectors :

We are glad to greet you all. This time we come before you under the title of **THE STAMP ECHO**. As the name signifies, you can tell at once that it has something to do with our hobby. In placing this paper before you, we don't mean to greet you with old clippings, fairy tales, chestnuts, and other worthless trash as some Philatelic papers, but we will have only the very best and most original and interesting Philatelic matter obtainable. As a favor to yourselves, we would be pleased to have you compare our paper with others of the same nature, and then decide. By doing this you must subscribe. Only 25 cents for a whole year. The editor having had experience in editing several papers and Philatelic departments, can assure you only the best of literature in the Philatelic world. Our contributors cannot be rivalled. In closing our

little salutatory, we would like to address a few words to advertisers: Try our paper as an advertising medium. Our rates (see above) are indeed low, and come into account with the circulation. Ye collectors and dealers, advertise and prosper! Success and prosperity will be yours! Address all communications to

CLEVE SCOTT,  
Central City, Nebr.

### EDITOR'S CHAIR.

The *Missouri Philatelist*. This paper is indeed a darling of 14 pages and cover. Be pleased to exchange, Bro.

When you get a Philatelic paper that can hold a candle to *The Missouri Philatelist*, just say 'I don't want it.' It contains 24 pages and cover. Ask, Bro. Luhn, how can you get it at that rate. This paper costs only 25 cents a year.

The *Collector*, edited by my friend R. M. Miller, is a standard Philatelic paper: but what takes the place of the S. of P. department. Its popularity is surely coming to the fore. It has nearly 200 members, and is enrolling from 30 members every month. The initiation fee is only 5 cents, and the dues, 25 cents. Address R. M. Miller at New Chester, Pa., and send application blank.

### NOTICE.

One of the features of the *Stamp Echo* hereafter will be a portrait of a prominent member each month. Our next subject will be the brilliant Lewis Brodstone. Join the



continued from second page.

## AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

Under the new law a two-cent stamp was issued. It remained in use until 1887, when its color was changed to green, against which the public seems to have taken strong dislike.

Among the rarest American stamps are some which were not issued by the government. When Congress, in 1845, authorized the use of stamps it neglected to make such provision as warranted the postal authorities in their estimation in the issue of stamps.

During the period of two years leading to the issue of government stamps, the principal cities of the United States issued what were known as postmasters' stamps. They were intended for convenience of business men who desired to mail letters after the closing of the office, the post office did not remain in operation all night in the primitive state of postal service.

These stamps were issued by postmasters at New York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, St. Louis, Washington, Alexandria and a great many other places.

Some of these stamps were merely pieces of paper bearing the signatures of the postmasters. Collectors value a Baltimore stamp which is of this character at \$200. A stamp which was issued by the postmaster of New York is worth on an original-used stamp \$100 and more. A postage stamp issued by the Milbury postmaster which was of elaborate design and bore the head of George Washington, brings easily \$300 to

Written for the Stamp Echo.

## A MODEL PHILATELIST.

To a non-collector all attempts to describe a model stamp collector would most likely be considered absurd. In convincing a non-collector that stamp collecting is not boys' play, one has to battle against what may be called ignorance.

A great many people have the idea that a stamp collector is a person who amasses stamps, any kind or quality, for the sake of getting a large quantity of stamps together.

Quite often in newspapers you will see the accounts of "million stamp fakes" about people endeavoring to accumulate a million stamps. Such people, indeed, have queer hobbies.

The great mistake the public press makes in describing these fakes, is that they size those people up as stamp collectors, thus making no distinction between the model stamp collector and the hobbyist.

The writer has seen in a prominent Chicago daily the statement that a "cheeky" stamp collector had robbed mail boxes to get the stamps from the letters which were yet uncanceled.

This person was a collector for revenue only, and it looks strange that the public press will ignore the science of stamp collecting in such a manner. Ignorance lies at the

### 1000 STAMPS FOR 25 CENTS!

The above is not an optical delusion.

I offer for 1892 one thousand genuine stamps for twenty-five cents.

This packet contains:

U. S. A. D. T. 20c moss green, Collect, unused. Great Britain, Official, I. R., slate. Mexico, 1864, 1 real black, unused. Besides 977 others. The above three stamps alone are catalogued at 50 cents. To the 1st, 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 70th, 80th, 90th purchaser of this packet I will give free a Challenge Postage Stamp Album, bound in board, spaces for 3000 stamps. To the 5th, 25th, 55th, and 75th purchasers I will give an unused set of Porte de Mar and 1000 hinges. To the 100th purchaser I will give a Mexican stamp valued at \$10. This is a perfectly bona-fide offer. I refer persons for references to any dealer in the U. S. Try and see if you can't be one of the lucky ones. Wholesale and retail selections of cheap and desirable stamps sent out on approval to all applicants furnishing A No. 1 references.

ADDRESS  
P. O. Box 1766. **WALTER THORNE,**  
New York City, N. Y., U. S. A.

MEMBER C. P. S., I. P. S., S. O. F. P., C. P. A.,  
N. H. P. S., U. S. P. S., W. P. S.

#### *Our Fremont Packet No. 5*

contains 30 varieties from all parts of the world, for only 5 cents. EDWARD C. BIGGAR, Fremont, Nebraska.

AGENTS can increase their collection at little or no cost by selling stamps from my approval sheets. Liberal commission. 48 page coin, stamp, and curio catalogue for stamp. W. F. GREANY, 827 Braunan St., San Francisco, California.

### BETTER STILL!

PACKET A. 200 Mixed stamps. This is the best packet put up for the money, containing many stamps catalogued at 30c each, and even 10c. It is a treat for the advanced collector as well as a beginner. Price, 25c.

Still Better. PACKET B. 100 varieties of rare foreign stamps, the greatest value for the money ever offered. Price, 10c.

Still better. By adding 50c to either of above offers, we will send an elegant stamp album containing spaces for over 3000 stamps with illustrations of every issue. Strongly bound, and printed on the best of paper, the best album published for the money, price, separate, 52c.

Make remittance by postal note or currency when possible. Stamp and amateur papers having a circulation of 500 per issue may insert this advertisement above in 2½ inches space, 3 mos. send bill for prompt cash.

*The Narragansett Stamp Co.*  
P. O. Box 5, W. Kingstown, R. I.

*Only One on Earth!* PHILATELICAL FRAUD REPORTER. A stamp collector's monthly magazine. Have you ever seen one? If not, now is your chance, as a sample will be sent free to you only ask for it. 15 cents per copy. Without doubt the best advertising medium in the world. Don't miss it. Send now! GUY W. GREEN, Strasburg, Nebraska.

FREE! FREE! 5 cents worth of stamps free to new agents sending for fine sheets at 33½ per cent. commission. FRANK M. TESSIER, Strasburg, Nebraska.

L. BRODSTONE, box 116, Strasburg, Nebr., U. S. A. Approval sheets at 75 per cent. com. Stamps, postcards, and env. to X for ones in my collection. Exchange desired all over the world. Cash or X for U. S. stamps. Dept especially wished.



## FIGS AND THISTLES.

E. P. NEWCOMER.

Iowa Philatelic Association is organized. It already numbers two members.

The first U. S. postal card was issued May 12, 1873. There are now 2,000 of them used every day.

They have enlarged the postal card, and since the thing was done, we find two post scrips written now, where once you saw but one.

—*Washington Star.*

The Italian government, as far as represented by the Italian Postmaster-general, does not know that the late civil war is ended. At least, the officials of the U. S. Post Office Department are of that opinion, based only on a letter addressed to Mr. Hamaker by the Italian director of the ports. Inclosed in the letter was a \$50 Confederate note, which the Italian cabinet officer desired Mr. Hamaker to cash and send the money to him by means of a money order. The note has been returned in a polite letter, in which Mr. Hamaker explains that the note in question was issued by the government of the states in their insurrection of the states against the U. S., and that it had no value.

The Post office authorities are not permitted to divulge a matter of privacy. An address on any class of mail matter concerns only the sender and the recipient. It is put there merely to assist the postal service and cannot be considered its

property. Section 507 of the postal laws forbids a postmaster and all others in the mail service to furnish information concerning mail matter, received or delivered, except to their authorized agents or postoffice inspectors. A disregard of this regulation renders the offender liable to removal. Postmaster may, however, when the same can be done without interfering with the regular business of the postoffice, furnish to officers of law, to aid them in discovering fugitives from justice, information concerning the postmarks and addresses of letters, but must not delay or refuse their delivery to the persons addressed. It is hinted, however, that in some offices this law is not strictly obeyed

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### AMONG OUR EXCHANGES.

Every Philatelic paper in the world is invited to exchange two copies of their publications with us. Send one and all.

While looking over our papers, we came across a dandy, it was no other than the *Eastern Philatelist* which is the largest and best paper of its kind we have ever seen. We congratulate you Bro. Pinkham.

Our Philatelic friend, Walter Thorne, has gone in with another personage, and are now printing a good Philatelic magazine, *The Penn. Philatelist*. We took particular notice of one article, "A Few Pages From a Collector's Diary," which was indeed good. Call on us some more, Bro. Thorne.

# EDW. C. BIGGAR,

FREMONT, NEBRASKA.

COLLECTOR of U. S. STAMPS

wants the following for which he will pay CASH.

APPROVAL SHEETS SOLICITED.

## UNPERFORATED.

1847 10c black	1856 5c brown
1851 12c black	

## PERFORATED.

1857 1c blue, with part of label cut off	1857 5c brown
1860 24c lilac	1857 5c red-brown
1860 30c orange	1857 5c brown, no projections
1862 5c chocolate	1860 90c blue
1868 5c brown	1866 3c scarlet
1868 12c black	1868 10c green
1868 24c lilac	1868 15c black
1868 90c blue	1868 30c orange
1869 90c black and carmine	1868 with grill 11x14 mm
1870 6c pink	1870 1c blue
1870 12c dk purpl	1870 10c brown
1870 24c purple	1870 15c orange
1870 90c carmine	1870 30c black

## .... OFFICIAL STAMPS ....

### AGRICULTURE.

1c, 2c, 6c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 24c, 30c.

### EXECUTIVE.

1c, 2c, 3c, 6c, 10c.

### JUSTICE.

1c, 2c, 6c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 24c, 30c, 90c.

### NAVY.

1c, 6c, 7c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 30c, 90c.

### POST OFFICE SEAL STAMPS.

Officially Sealed, (Post Obutum).

### STATE.

1c, 2c 6c, 7c, 10c 12c, 15c, 24c, 30c,  
90c, 2d, 5d, 10d, 20d.

EDW. C. BIGGAR,

FREMONT,

NEBRASKA.

# BARGAINS.

B Guina 2c wrap.....  
Mauritus 4c blue.....  
Gambia 4d.....  
Samoa 1887 1d, green.....  
-----2d, orange.....  
-----6d, brown.....  
Tt. Vincent. 1d.....  
Tasmania, 58 4c blue.....  
-----60 6c gray.....

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an appetite for chestnuts? Th  
gratify it somewhere else. Ther  
an abundant crop, well harvested  
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legitimate bargain tree while  
chestnuts fell in other baskets.  
the next 30 days we will sell you  
following articles very cheap:  
An Elgin typewriter for only 45 cent  
a good photograph camera with co  
plete outfit, only \$1, a new print  
press with 4 fonts type, etc., \$3.  
ery third person answering this  
will rec. 100 env. printed to order  
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