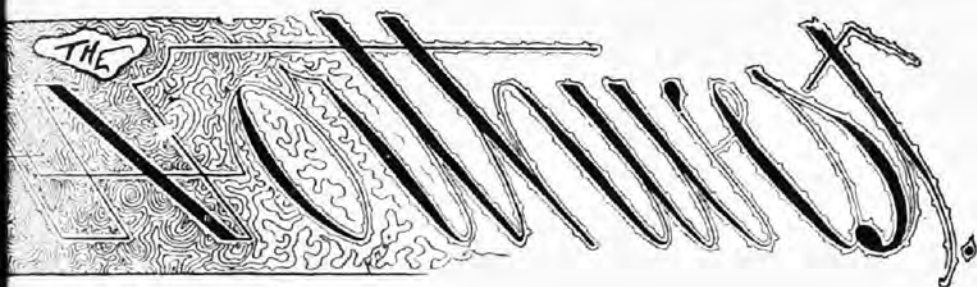


NEW SERIES

JULY, 1893.

NO. 1.



A
MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS

F. S. GEORGE, EDITOR.

702 26TH AVENUE, N. E.,

Minneapolis,

Minnesota.

The Northwest, Monthly.

Subscription: 25 cents per Year, 6 Months 15 cents, 5 cents per copy.

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The Stamp, R. P. Spooner, Vol. I, No. 2. The Collector, R. M. Miller, Vol. I complete, Vol. II, Nos 1, 2, 3, 5 and 9. The Penn. Philatelist Vol. I, Nos 1, 4, 5 and 6. Vol. II Nos 1, 2 and 4. The Postoffice, Gremmel, Vol. I, Nos. 1, 2, 7, and 9. Vol. II, Nos. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The Canadian Philatelist, Staebler, Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2, Vol. II Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 10. Southern Philatelist, Vol. III, Nos. 1, 3, 9 and 11, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, 5 and 6. Filatelic Facts & Fallacies, Vol. I, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 9. Eastern Philatelist, Swaubeck, Vol. I, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, Vol. II, Nos. 1, 3 and 4, Vol. III, Nos. 3 and 6. and many others.

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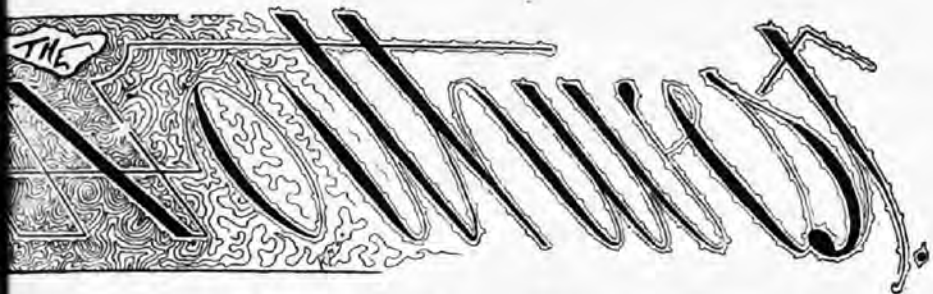
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If you read this, others
will read yours.




SERIES.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., JULY, 1893.

No. 1.

S. of P. Election.

BY FELIX OLDROY.



THE affairs in the largest philatelia society in America have lately taken a very interesting appearance. Never in the history of philately has such an active campaign been undertaken. It smacks of the regular political upheavals which every four years distract public to such an extent as to almost de-business. Of course the S. of P. is on a much smaller scale, but it is less heated. One reason is applied only one. Last year a youth of years was defeated for the presidency of fraud, Judas Iscariotism, and few thick and fast. At last year's on a constitution was adopted and election appeared limiting the eligibil-ndidates for the more important President, Treasurer and Exchange he justice of such a provision can-not been questioned. But its onality has and that by the self-e boy who was last year defeated chief magistracy. He is now nine-with the advance of an extra year, ined any more sense. He still minor in the eyes of the con-

stitution and the law of our land, and is therefore ineligible to the office he seeks. For this reason, if for no other, we trust the NORTHWEST will support the candidacy of Dr. R. J. Russell, a man of mature years, who does not transform a society meeting into a dog fight. S. of P. men who vote the Russell ticket may rest assured that the society under his charge will be safe and prosperous in the future.

The subject of the East vs. West is cropping out in the S. of P. as formerly it did in the A. P. A. Let us hope however that it will not emaciate our society as it did the latter.

Make an X after the name of Herbert Crane Beardsley when you make out your vote. H. C. will make an excellent Exchange Supt. and ought to have it on account of the geographical position of his residence if for nothing else.

Corwinism and Readingism don't go in this section of the country. We are not G. A. R. men, mugwumps or Tammanyites, but we do resent any usurpation of constitutional rights and privileges. The northwest was the first section to kick on the former in the A. P. A. and will not be behind in the S. of P.

All members should be very careful to whom they send their proxies. If you are not going to Chicago, think twice before sending your proxy. There is liable to be a very gross mis-use made of many of them. See to it that yours is in good hands.

Philately Against Speculation.



I RECENTLY read an article in one of the stamp journals in which the author advocates specialism very strongly. He bases his argument upon the fact that the general collector acquires many stamps that are quite common, while the specialist after a short time adds to his collection

only rare or valuable stamps, which will command a good price, so that when he SELLS his collection, he who makes a specialty of some single country will realize a far better price than the collector who has a lot of common stamps, which perhaps he cannot sell at all. This is all very well if we reduce philately simply to a matter of dollars and cents and buy stamps with just one idea, and that is to lay them away until a rise in value takes place and to ignore entirely that love of collecting and acquiring which is at the bottom of every collector's heart. Of course every collector had rather have a rare stamp than a common one, leaving out the money value, for it is human nature for us to sigh for the rare and unattainable. But I am sure a true lover of stamps does not buy them with an eye to their increase in value. When I look over my albums, how many stamps I see which I remember to have given me such pleasure when I first found them. How many that even sell by the thousand, they are so common, that I watched for with the greatest interest when I heard of a new issue, and how pleased I was to take this or that one from an old letter as the first specimen I had seen. Each stamp that I had obtained in this way represents so much pleas-

ure. I honestly believe that there is more pleasure in a general collection, part of which is thus acquired, than the mere speculator in stamps never feels. To a true philatelist there is much pleasure in merely handling his stamps. A friend of mine, who was ill a long time, passed many happy hours transferring his little bits of paper from one album to another, and thus drove dull care away, although almost helpless and nearly hopeless of being able to walk again in the bright sunshine. Often I have watched how he would examine his stamps and, from a lot of duplicates, select the best specimen, and how critically he would examine them, and, from a packet that cost but a trifle, arrange different shades and colors. Specialism may prove the best speculation, but there is no doubt in my mind, that the general collection affords the most pleasure.

The last is the principal reason. I am not a philatelist: not for knowledge; not for amusement; of the many apologies sometimes offered for philately; but for pure, unadulterated pleasure, of which I have extracted more from the square inch than from any other pastime or pursuit, call it what you may, in which I have ever engaged.

GEO. N. CAMPBELL.

CLIPPINGS.

THE collection of postage stamps has been brought into existence a professional stamp repairer, who, for a small fee, dexterously repairs mutilated stamps. His specialty is restoring the margin to envelope stamps that have been cut to shape, and have thus lost much of their philatelic value.

A LARGE proportion of the 1,200 to 1,500 letters a day received by president Cleveland are marked "private and personal," and are found to be from total strangers who want some private advantage entirely personal to themselves or their friends. These epistles are always referred to the departments.

Postal Curiosities.

MARION MARKS.



ALMOST every stamp collector has a few curiosities and oddities in his collection. I can boast of only a few, two of which strange to say are from stamp collectors. The first one was an ordinary letter which was mailed from Boston, and in the usual corner was a cut square 2c. envelope stamps securely pasted to the envelope. Although this is a common occurrence, I kept it first because it cost me 4c. to get it, and second because it came from the cultured city and collector who ought to have known better. The other, although a common error, not of so frequent occurrence. It is a postal card with a clean sheet of white paper pasted over the entire back upon which the letter was written. It came with a 1c. due on it and was from a Nebraska collector.

A few days ago I saw among other curiosities in a collection an envelope with a 1890 2c. stamp and in the center of the stamp the head of Franklin cut from a 1c. of the same issue. The red and blue made a very pretty stamp and went through the post office in that shape. There was also a green cut diagonally which found no trouble in passing as the required 2c. postage.

These and many more which I will save until some other time have come to my notice. Curiosities in the shape of addresses are also very common, but not so frequent as in the early history of the post office. The post office employees have

from long practice become expert in deciphering poor chirography and misspelled words. It took the clerks in the Philadelphia office a long time to translate this address:

John Shmeat,
Shermummerbauer Roth.
began Wester
And Jamphen St.

It was translated as follows:—

John Smith
Germantown Road
Between Master & Thompson

This was all Greek to the clerks.

Ns Duniel
lesunt Yost
nrpfflen philadelphia
Pa in Ceuse ob
obed
Eas make

This was easier.

Gasnot Hill
Hoss Spittall, for
Mrs. C. Gellengham.

No other direction.

In care of mister John Dick
filladelfy
King's Sessions, merical

Some of the addresses were quite poetical and contained many amusing lines. We quote the following which actually passed through the post office:

To Nathaniel L. Latting this letter I write,
With the hope that the contents his mind
may delight.

If it don't make him good, it can't do him
evil,

For it comes from a friend, and not from
the devil.

In Mount Vernon village, New York
State,

He works for his daddy, both early and late.

To Miss J. E. Peck this letter is sent,
 To be read by herself it only is meant.
 In "Sandy Hook," Conn., she leads a gay
 life,
 Where Yankees make nutmegs and hams
 with a knife.

Over the plain and over the level,
 Carry this letter like the Devil;
 Let it not stop for flood or fire,
 Until it reaches Bill Crawl, Esquire.

To Mrs. Jane Gleason send this away:
 Please send it off without delay
 To Ripleyville P. O., if it goes aright;
 She will surely get it on Thursday night,
 In Huron county, Ohio State:
 There she lives, or did of late.
 Send it in haste, it will give her joy.
 For she wants to hear from her soldier boy.

Here is one evidently from a son of the
 Emerald Isle:

To John Berry, if living,
 but if not, to his wife, or some of the child-
 ren if living, and if not to some respectable
 neighbor.

THE WIDOWED MOTHER.

BY JAMES REES, CLERK IN THE PHILADELPHIA POST-
 OFFICE IN 1866.

It was a cold, dreary morning in
 the month of December, a heavy
 snow lay upon the ground, and the
 wind whistled around the northeast
 corner of the post-office; the streets
 were nearly deserted; none ventured
 out but those whose business render-
 ed it absolutely necessary. I sat at
 the window watching the flakes of
 snow as they peeled from the roofs
 of the opposite houses and scattered
 their whitened particles on the pave-
 ment beneath.

The Southern mail had arrived
 and all the business letters were
 delivered; a drowsy feeling crept
 over me and I was just falling into
 the Lethean lake of forgetfulness,
 that dreamy portion of our life, with-
 out which this paradise, this glorious
 world, with its riches and its charms
 would be as a howling desert.

"Sleep, sweet restorer, balmy sleep."

But I am digressing. I was awaken-
 ed from my slumber by a slight
 touch upon the elbow and a tremu-
 lous voice uttering the words, "Sir
 sir!"

"Madam!" cried I, starting up.

"I am sorry to disturb you, sir, but
 I wish to know if there are any let-
 ters from my son?"

Honest creature: she looked the
 picture of distress; the widow's
 hope as well as kin, her age appear-
 edly about fifty, her dress neat but in-
 dicating poverty,—the hand of Time
 had furrowed her cheek and left his
 impress there.

"From your son, madam?"

"Yes, sir, my only son, a good
 brave boy, and my only dependence,
 he lives in New Orleans, and sends
 me my little allowance every month.
 Is there any, sir?"

"What is your name?"

"Williams, sir,—Mary Williams."

"Here are two letters, ma'am, for
 Mary Williams."

That is me, sir; and that is his
 handwriting, dear, good boy! I
 never will forget his aged mother."

"Fifty cents, ma'am."

"Fifty cents, sir! my William
 ways pays for the letters."

"In this instance he has failed
 do so."

"What shall I do?"

"I think you said, ma'am, that

your son sends you a monthly allowance. So probably one of those letters contains it."

The letter was opened, and, as I anticipated, a ten dollar bill was enclosed.

After the departure of the old lady began to weave an imaginary tale from the simple incident attending her appearance. Her son was in New Orleans: it was true, the season was healthy,—the winter there being a point of salubrity the very antipodes of the summer,—still, an undefined presentiment of something great in embryo glided across my brain. I noted down the facts that had already occurred, and in the meanwhile gathered materials for other tales.

Two months passed away, and a letter remained in the post-office for Mrs. Mary Williams. In taking it I accidentally noticed the careless manner in which it was folded. The following scraps of sentences were distinct and legible:—

Business very dull—but two dollars a day—sickness—doctor's bill—I never go to the gambling-house—what made you think so?—send money next week."

It was evident from this that William had got into bad company, and although he denied frequenting the gambling-houses, those sinks of iniquity, those common sewers for draining from the weak and dissipated their hard earnings, yet I felt assured that he was lost, and his mother left in her old days poor and destitute, relying upon the cold charity of the world for the common means of subsistence. Her brave and noble daughter, as she had fondly called him, was now drawn into the vortex of

vice, from whose baneful and impetuous influence the tears, the cries, the agonizing grief of her who doated upon him, to whose existence her whole soul seemed linked, could not rescue him. The spark of filial affection was extinguished, and the love of pleasures, the gratification of passions, dissipation, and debauchery, had usurped its place. The winter was now passed away with its wrath: storms and tempests with their hail, rain, and snow were rushing down the tide of time, and spring was seen smiling in the dim perspective. It was, I think, in the early part of March, when Mrs. Williams stood at the window. I forgot to mention she had previously sent for and received the letter to which I have above alluded. Sickness and sorrow had done their work. Her eyes were sunken, her cheeks more furrowed, and poverty still more strikingly displayed in her person. To her question, "Are there any letters for me?" that powerful monosyllable "No!" was another shock to the poor mother. She stood a while in silence, the tears rolling down her cheeks, she struggled a while to restrain her feelings, then fast flowed the sorrowing waters from a heart surcharged with grief. She turned to depart, but faltered, and at length overcome, she sat down upon the steps of the post-office and wept aloud.

There is something unnatural in the weeping of the aged. Youth is the seed-time of the harvest, and hath its sunshine and clouds. But age is the garnered fruit, the sere and the yellow leaf of all that was beautiful. When age weeps, 'tis for youth, not for itself. I gazed on the heart-broken woman before me, and

thought of her many nights and days of anguish. I thought of all her bright visions of hope and joy which shone through her son and lighted the path of her future. They were all vanished, and here she lay in utter darkness and desolation.

I spoke to her, she looked up. I told her if she would leave her address I would send a letter, as soon as it came, to her home.

"Home!" she exclaimed; "I have none! Yes, yes, I have!" Reader, it was the poor-house!

Week after week elapsed, no letter came for the aged widow. One day I accidentally took up a New Orleans paper. Curiosity prompted me to read it more carefully than usual: the paper fell from my hand; my worst apprehensions for Mary Williams were realized.

* * * * *

I stood at the bedside of the widow,—she lay on one of straw, beside which stood a table containing sundry bottles of medicine, and near her a Bible, upon which were a pair of common steel spectacles, black and rusty with age. She instantly recognized me.

"Ah! you have brought me a letter from my dear boy. I knew he would not, could not, desert his poor mother. How is he? where is he?"

* * * * *

Reader, here I close my sketch, the remembrance of which haunts me still, and the last sigh, the last pang of the heart-broken widow will be as the monitor to prompt me to deeds of charity, with a heart alive to the cries of the suffering, and a feeling of joy at their alleviation which I could not previously have

experienced.

(From Foot-prints of a Letter Carrier.)

The S. of P. Election.

BY 747.

As stated in another article in this issue of NORTHWEST the coming S. of P. convention promises to be one long to be remembered in Philatelic circles. Perhaps one of the main reasons is on account of the presidential candidates. One a mere youth and the other of more mature years. Mr. Kissinger although but 19 years old is perhaps capable of managing the affairs of the association. He is intelligent and has practical knowledge of Philately. He being boomed for the office with a vengeance it is easy to note that Mr. Kissinger is himself responsible for a greater part of the boom. Although little is said by the large majority of the members, the general opinion is that Mr. K. will not receive very heavy support, principally on account of his ineligibility to the office.

The chief objection to Mr. Russell seems to be that he is too old to take charge of the affairs of the association. That is putting the matter plain, but it is true, ridiculous as it appears.

This is an organization of the SONS of Philately, some say, and should be run by the sons. I belong to the Sons of Veterans but on account of that word "sons" we do not select the youngest members as office holders. Men of mature years with sound judgement and cool heads are selected.

The S. of P. is a rapidly growing organization, it is getting unyielding. It will need in the next year the supervision of a man of good judgement to keep it from splitting. The reins of good government must guide it, and I believe Mr. Russell is better qualified for the position than his opponent.

EDITORIAL.

It is said that Postmaster General Wanamaker was very desirous of having the government lease the telegraph lines, so that people could buy a fifteen, twenty or twenty-five cent telegraph stamp, deposit the message in a mail box and have it go by wire. The average cost of transmitting a message is twenty-two cents. As there is practically a monopoly of the business in one company, they can charge whatever they please, and the "dear people" have to pay it.

* * *

There is no reason why our Government should not also buy the wires. If it can carry letters cheaper and more advantageously than private parties, why not telegrams also. Then there is no need to pay a good round sum every year to the Western Union when the government could purchase the lines outright at but a small advance over two or three years rent. In 1880 the telegraph company had a capital stock of \$358,000. It is to be made \$100,000 shortly. This alone must increase the rates. It is to be hoped that Mr. Cleveland's Postmaster-General will follow out the projected plans of Mr. Wanamaker.

* * *

Congress apportioned the munificent sum of \$52,000 for the branch post-office to be located in the World's Fair grounds. The amount asked for was \$250,000 but the watch-dog of the Treasury, Holman, succeeded in having the House trim down the amount to just about one-fifth. It remains to be seen whether this is really a piece of economy or not.

* * *

Nothing has been done as yet with the duty to take off the duty on stamps. This matter was agitated about a year ago, and it was hoped to hear of its passage before this, but it was compelled to take its place in line

with other bills, so that the present congress has not had it brought forth yet. With an incoming Democratic administration we may look for it to pass soon.

WANTED—The first 12 numbers of *The Review of Reviews*. We will give 100 used Columbian envelopes for each clean copy of the above mailed to us.

* * *

THE NORTHWEST has secured the entire subscription list, advertising contracts and good will of the *Philatelic Fortnightly*, recently published in this city. Although our paper is published in an entirely different form, we trust it will be none the less welcome.

* * *

SOMETHING like a year ago we sent an exchange "ad" to the *Philatelic Fraud Reporter*. About six months afterwards three copies were mailed us, and upon investigation, we found Mr. Green had, through some mistake, inserted the name of F. S. Osborne instead of F. S. George. This was while we were at Fargo, N. D. Before we noticed the mistake we had refused quite a number of papers that came to our box. Possibly some letters may have been returned also. We make this statement so that no more mail may be sent to that address.

* * *

WHILE at Fargo a few days after the fire, the tall and dignified young lady who acts as sorting clerk, handed the writer a package bearing Mr. Osborne's name, which proved to be a copy of the *Canadian Journal of Philately*, by Fowler. Although the subscription price is rather high, compared with other stamp journals, we think it well worth the price, providing the colored plates illustrating U. S. stamps are issued with each number. It is a journal that every collector will want.

* * *

PLEASE see that our address is changed on your books to No. 702 26th ave, N. E.

It does seem as though there are enough societies now, without every youngster starting a new one with himself as secretary. It is almost impossible to pick up a philatelic paper now-a-days without seeing the announcement of a new one just organizing. There are three good societies in running order in the U. S., the S. of P., the W. P. U. and the A. P. A., and collectors should quietly drop all others.

* * *

The approval sheet business is largely overdone. It is perfectly right and proper that one should see what he is buying, but when sheets of a like nature with those which recently came before our gaze, we think it is time to call a halt. Collectors don't care very much about seeing seebecks. If they want them, they can order them, but to have nothing but such trash on sheets is more than human nature cares to stand.

* * *

The above paragraph leads us to another thought. Have you ever been so fortunate, or rather unfortunate, as to have sheets of pure rot sent you, entirely unsolicited on your part? If you have, you can sympathize with the writer in this respect. If you are a specialist and collect only North South and Central American stamps, and have common Austria, Germany, Swiss telegraphs and the like sent without the asking, it makes one's blood boil and elevates him to fighting pitch in short order.

* * *

To ascertain the fact that specialism is the topic of the day, one need only glance over the advertisements in our papers. Never before has there been such an array of new albums, and the late ones are all arranged for specialty collections. Nor is this order of things at all remarkable. Consider the almost innumerable variety of new issues within the past five years and the only wonder is that this departure has not come sooner. Fight against it as they may, the opposition must now concede that they are waging a losing contest.

Several small stamp collections were destroyed in the \$3,000,000 fire at Fargo on June 7th.

The collection and stock of A. L. Brubaker, S. of P. No. 566, was among the above. He had a large number of Columbian stamps which went with the rest.

W. C. Whitall, one of our most enthusiastic collectors, is spending the summer at Lake Minnetonka.

A few days ago the writer while en route for Fargo, stopped off at Benson, Minn., and enjoyed a short chat with E. R. Aldrich. Mr. Aldrich has a fine stamp collection and no mistake. It is more especially noted for its U. S. Departments, Canada Revenues and Confederate States stamps; but what was the most interesting, to me at least, were the large number of essays or trial stamps. Proofs of the postage due stamps were in various colors and present a much better appearance than the faded red brown color finally adopted. Mr. A's collection was pretty well scattered through several books, but he is now at work arranging them in a large new book.

With this issue the NORTHWEST ceases to be an Amateur publication. It will be devoted entirely to philately and the interests of stamp collectors.

A few files of volumes 1 and 2 are left which will be sent to any who desire them. They do not in any manner relate to philately.

The Northwest has come to stay. We intend to make it a first class stamp magazine in every respect. Among the contributed matter will be articles from all well known philatelists. The subscription price is low and within the reach of all. We invite your subscriptions.

The Northwest is published in the northwest and will reach a great many new collectors. We guarantee a circulation of 1,000 per month and have placed the advertising rates within the reach of all. Give the NORTHWEST a trial "ad."

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FREE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

WANTED: Columbian stamps in any quantities; also Columbian envelopes. Highest prices paid. G. W. ACHARD, 242 Boston Block, Minneapolis, Minn.

WANTED: Manuscript in exchange for advertising or stamps, address Editor this page.

FOR SALE: Columbian envelopes cut and entire. Send bid by the 100. Editor Northwest.

Collectors who have not as yet seen the price-list of the Standard Stamp Co. should send for a copy at once. It consists of 100 pages, fully illustrated, with a handsome cover. A copy will be sent free upon application by addressing H. Flachskamm, 925 LaSalle street, St. Louis, Mo.

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100 fine varieties only 12c. 30 varieties of U. S. and Mexican Revenues 20c—a bargain. Approval sheets 50 per cent discount. 1, 2 and 3c sheets a specialty. 16-page illustrated price-list free.

GEORGE KAUFMAN,

Jefferson Barracks, Mo

50

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AGENTS WANTED.

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Standard Stamp Co.,

H. FLACHSLAMM, MANAGER.

923-925 La Salle St. St. Louis, Mo.

NO SUCH STAMPS.

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N. E. CARTER, Vice Pres.

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125 Nicollet Ave. Minneapolis Minn.

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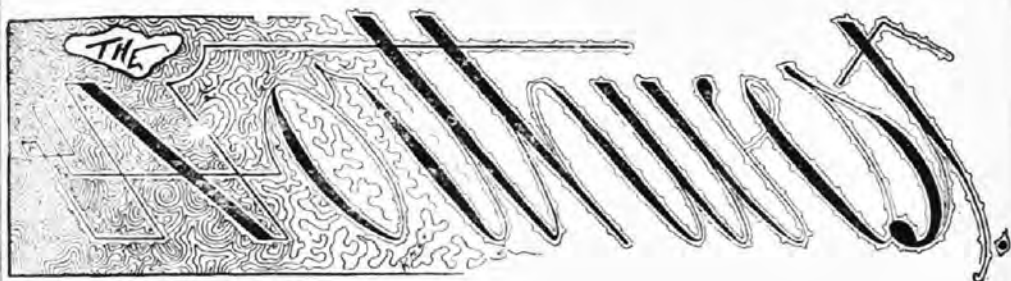
Consignments of stamps solicited. Send us your want list.



NEW SERIES

AUGUST, 1893.

NO. 2.



A

MONTHLY JOURNAL

FOR

STAMP COLLECTORS.

F. S. GEORGE, EDITOR.

702 26TH AVENUE, N. E.,

Minneapolis,

-

Minnesota.

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POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE

of the Western Hemisphere, finely illustrated, giving prices for all known varieties of perforations and watermarks. Small pocket size, price 25c. (Mk 1.)

PRICES PAID FOR STAMPS.

This book gives all the prices what we pay for stamps from the very commonest up to the greatest rarities, and if you have any duplicates for sale send for a copy. It only costs 10c. (40 pf.)

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sent free to all who ask it.

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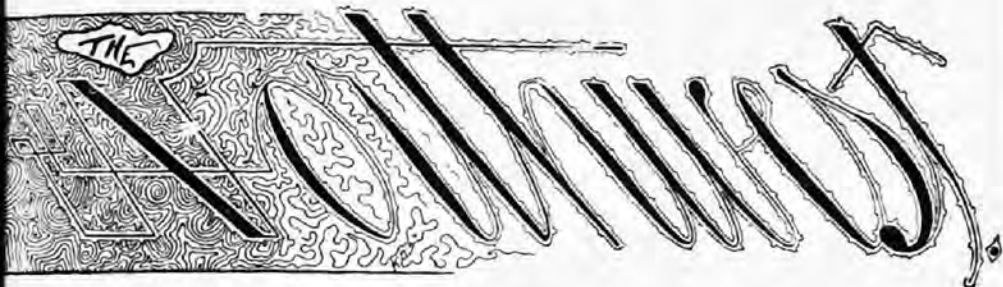
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Clifford's Consistency.

BY TRUTHFUL JAMES.



THE METHODS pursued by one of the candidates for election at the coming S. of P. convention are, to say the least, tiresome. When a candidate resorts to roorbacks and cheap-john dodgers, decrying his opponent in almost libellous lan-

guage, it seems time for someone to call a halt. Beaten at every strategic point in the battle thus far waged, Clifford W. Kissinger assumes to tell the trustees that they cannot prove that he is under twenty-one years of age. Let us glance for a moment at the proof in the possession of the executive board of our large and rapidly growing society. In the first place, Mr. Kissinger went in an application for membership a year ago last January or February. On that application Mr. K. subscribed his age, residence and name. Now will it not be easy to ascertain his age from this application? If more proof is wanted, glance at page 50 of the Columbian number of the Pennsylvania Philatelist, Kissinger's own paper and mouthpiece. You will notice that he is reported to have come into this mundane sphere on February 6th 1874, and consequently nineteen years and six

months old. Appearing as it does in his own paper, what more proof is needed? Now, just to satisfy any other morbidly curious member, you are asked to look on the first page of the Collector for May. Do you notice R. W. Ashcroft's biography of "Cliffy"? He is his chief henchman, and whatever he says is with the Reading youth's approval. Mr. A. says Kissinger was born in 1874.

In the June number of the Collector, Kissinger has a paid advertisement of about eight inches, stating ten reasons why he should be elected president, and one of those reasons is that he is a good parliamentarian. Does it stand to reason that one who makes such a break as the above can be a good parliamentarian? Well, hardly. If Kissinger were eligible and could be elected, the society would be monkeying with buzz-saws from first to last. But, fellow collector, don't think for a minute that Clifford von Weadelschmidt Kissinger will be elected. He is ineligible and that settles it. If you vote for him, you will simply be throwing away your vote. It can never be constitutionally counted. While Truthful James admits that the constitution needs revision in certain sections, still it stands as the rule for our action at present and we must abide by it. The trustees are going to do their duty and any attempt at bluffing will be promptly called. Kissinger's platform, as stated in the June

number of his "Penny," begins with "Down with Bossism" but he fails to show himself as others see him. His dictatorial methods are becoming disgusting, and it behooves every S. of P. man to lay the boy out high and dry when he marks his ballot.

The Uncertainty of Buying at Auction.

BY C. R. B.

AUCTION sales have been received with such favor during the past two years that now they have come to be regarded as one of the most important factors by which collectors can supply themselves with the different stamps necessary to fill out incomplete sets or issues.

During my late visit to New York, one of the first questions asked me when I entered the office of a prominent stamp firm was "Would you like to receive catalogues of auction sales held by us every month?" I, of course, answered in the affirmative as I knew that, to be in the swim, I must do so, and hoped thereby to add to my small collection.

When I returned home, the first thing I received was one of these catalogues and I sent in my bid on a dozen lots, supposing I was to obtain some great bargain. Judge of my surprise when, in a few days, I was handed a package containing five of twelve lots. "But Oh! what a difference in the morning." The catalogue had listed them as in "fair condition," but every stamp was *fairly* detestable. I immediately returned

them with my compliments. It does seem as though firms with a reputation to sustain would certainly use a little more care and foresight in listing stamps. Collectors in the cities do not have the time to examine all specimens on which they bid, while those out of town do not have an opportunity of so doing, and if only to protect the latter, the cataloguers should be more careful. None of them can claim for a minute that our Anglo-Saxon tongue does not contain sufficient words to describe the condition of each specimen, and the hiding of their true character under such words as "good," "fair" and the like is an imposition, and seems only to be done to obtain a higher price. Auction cataloguers should be wise and not kill the goose that lays the golden egg, for the time will soon come when collectors will demand a sight of that for which they are paying out the 57c. dollar. Therefore I, for one, would like to see this evil remedied.

Mere Mention.

BY CHIC.

N. E. Carter is sojourning in the White Winged City by the big lake, and in Delavan, Wis., where rumor says a certain bit of femininity is the attraction.

Our old-time friend, Bickley, now in New York City, wrote me lately. He says that it keeps him poor buying what he wants on the Nassau street "Bourse." What surprised me most was the fact, that Bickley has taken unto himself a former Minneapolis girl. Congratulations, old man.

My old friend, Dilg, has sent me a fir

cular descriptive of his "Philatelists' Home" in Chicago. Phil will do all that the circular says and more too for all who stop with him.

We can sympathize with Brother Beardsley. A pair of wings brought us also a copy of a would-be paper, the New Jersey Philatelist. Of all the poor excuses for a journal, this is the poorest. My copy will be sent to my old college museum, where it will be labelled, "a specimen of antiquity from the dark ages."

The Gathering of the Clans this month in Chicago will be unprecedented. We expect about fifteen from this section of the country to be present at both the A. P. A. and S. of P. conventions. If you don't know us, come out and get acquainted.

Our S. of P. Ticket.

THE following is the ticket to be supported by the NORTHWEST. Is it yours, fellow member? If not it should be.

President,	Dr. R. J. Russell,
Vice President,	C. D. Reimers,
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and E. T. Randall.	

BALTIMORE IN 1894.

Philatelic Drugs.

BY FELIX OLDBOY.

During the sixteen years of my collecting life, I have noticed that at times it seemed as though every dealer advertised the same line of stamps. The wholesale catalogues and price lists were filled with stamps and sets of almost the same article, until another "staple" was unearthed to take the place of a former nauseating line.

From 1878 to 1883 the little spool labels, dignified by the title of "Hamburg Locals," seemed to have the call, ably assisted, however by the equally repulsive Alsace and Lorraine reprints. Collectors bit like suckers until some one of the fish crowd, a trifle more bold and independent than his compatriots, repudiated these travesties upon government issues. It seems strange that collectors should for five years allow such a hydra-headed monster to envelop them in his embrace. But, inasmuch as one of the largest firms in the U. S. were back of the deal, collectors fell over themselves to get a taste of the swindle.

Next came the reprints with which the country was flooded for a few years. Here also there was no exception to P. T. Barnum's maxim "the American public delight in being humbugged." Dealers were load-down with the hideous caricatures, and the sucker again emerged from his hiding place to get another nibble at the string. Some one said "why collect these things," and along came the reprint war. It is needless to say anything regarding the outcome. Everyone knows what a stir it created and how the sucker began to boycott his old-

THE NORTHWEST.

time friend, Mr. Skinem, dealer in stamps.

Next came our Mexican cancelled to order and Mexican Revenue frauds. Dr. Pharmacy Phil. prescribed them for one of his sick patients and immediately all collect-ordom became seriously afflicted with a like disease. The mails to St. Louis suddenly became so much heavier than formerly that Uncle Sam debated for quite a while as to the advisability of running special trains to Mekeelville. The country again became flooded until now it is next to impossible to sell any of these anomalies.

And now we come to Dr. Nostrum's seebecks. What an awful lot of these things are floating around loose, ready for our amiable friend to grab at again. And, oh! how we sigh for a Moses to lead us out this Central American wilderness. The only remedy to my notion is to specialize and leave these odious pieces of porous plaster out of our collections. Drugs are all right in medical places, but deliver us evermore from philatelic drugs.

LINES.

[Written upon hearing of the burning of Alson Brubaker's album in the Fargo fire of July 7th 1893.]

BY ROY FARRELL GREENE.

Oh were it my album in ashes,
By the fierce tongues of flame swallowed
up,
My heart would be burdened with anguish,
And I'd drain to the dregs Sorrow's cup,
My only ideal, My loved one,
Of all Earthly treasures the best,
Were it there in the furnace of fire
Grief's Mantle upon me would rest.

That album I've cherished in sickness
Through the Seasons of heat and of cold,
With its Myriad treasures so precious
Between the bright covers it holds,
I'd feel that the flames hopes had blackened
And Earth held no pleasure for me
Were that album with pages completed,
Now mingling with fiery debris.

There are clustered about it sweet memories
Of Father and Mother and Friends,
Who with presents have sets oft times com-
pleted

Until to rare beauty it trends,
This set brings memories of Christmas
And the money which this stamp did buy,
Was the pennies I'd hoarded for crackers
One long ago Fourth of July.

And this brings me memories of school
days,

When with feeling of wonder and delight,
I gave for the Persians and Chinese
A top and a book and a kite,
And these recall to me a sweet heart,
(I boyishly claimed her as mine,
When she sent me these old Costa Rica's;
A cherished and loved Valentine.

Brubaker, My sympathy to you,
These words may seem idle, in jest,
But I feel that you've suffered full keenly,
The loss of all treasures the best,
I crave not the riches of misers,
I ask not for fame or for pelf,
Joy's cup I have drained to the bottom
My album is safe on the shelf.

EDITORIAL.

According to the trustees report in the July Collector the only candidate for president is Dr. R. J. Russell. Our S. of P. attorney and the constitution both say Mr. Kissinger is not eligible.

The Washington Philatelist for July comes out in a summer dress of yellow. Although it only contains 8 pages and cover, the entire 8 pages contain reading matter. The last page contains a condensed copy taken from the N. Y. Herald of Liberia "Seebeckized," \$5,000 worth of Liberia stamps were sold to a N. Y. dealer. They will probably be for sale cheap soon.

Collectors who have not as yet seen the new price-list of the Standard Stamp Co. should send for a copy at once. It consists of 16 pages, fully illustrated, with a handsome cover. A copy will be sent free upon application by addressing H. Flachskamm, 25 LaSalle street, St. Louis, Mo.

About 10 of the Minneapolis boys expect to attend the two conventions at Chicago. They will stop at The Philatelists Home, 117 Indiana Ave, with the genial land-lord Dilg.

* * *

The animus which some editors display in their attacks upon the S. of P. is certainly wonderful. The S. of P. never laid a claim to being a rival of the A. P. A. At least such has not been the state of affairs for some time. We do claim the title, and it has been fairly earned, of being the largest philatelic society on the American continent. Another claim, which has been demonstrated by the past year's ex-

perience, is that the S. of P. has a far better exchange department. We also have inaugurated new departments which the much boasted A. P. A. has been glad to incorporate into its own society. But what strikes us as the most senseless and peculiar is that one who is a member of both societies should stoop so low as to attempt sarcastic remarks about either.

* * *

Among the incongruities which occasionally occur, perhaps none seems as queer to a close follower of philatelic affairs as that one young man who was branded as a fraud about four years ago should today be an officer in high standing in one of our largest international societies. This simply illustrates the foolishness of some dealers. The moment they have a falling out with some customer, they rush into print and brand the customer as a fraud. Many of those thus branded are better pay than the erratic dealer.

* * *

The above leads to another remark. How frequently we see claims and accounts offered for sale. Everyone who reads the statement immediately sets these persons down as frauds. Then, at spasmodic intervals, some philatelist, who believes that by so doing he is rendering our pursuit an incalculable benefit to collectordom, publishes a fraud list. As these lists are, to a large extent, made up of the above sort of frauds, they are unreliable. Suppose a merchant sues a customer on a bill of goods, should the customer be designated as a fraud? It seems as though the same rule should apply

in philatelic business circles. We do not wish anyone to misconstrue our meaning. We believe that there are many frauds in our ranks today, but we do not believe in this indiscriminate method of stigmatizing collectors as frauds because a little difference arises.

* * *

We notice that Bro. Jewett is not in favor of a Philatelic Press Association, because he can see no benefit to be derived therefrom. He also states that no amicable settlement could be made as to the methods of publishing or editing. In the first place we are in favor of such an organization for reason that it would tend to elevate the standard of our publications and might be the means of doing away with many of the things which make the life of the editor and publisher "one continuous round of *dis*pleasure." If the editors of our better-class journals could get together at the yearly conventions of the A. P. A. and S. of P., they could formulate some rules which might have a good effect on some of the advertising sharks. (We notice Bro. Jewett has a half a page of them in his June number.) Likewise a graduated scale for subscriptions might be agreed upon, the rates, which at present are far too low, be raised and thus permit of better literature. Other points might be talked upon, and by such a meeting we fail to see any harm to be the outcome. If a press association is a success in the professional field, why should it not be so in the philatelic arena.

Publisher's Notice.

ATENTION S. of P. Members, we want to say a word about the NORTHWEST. We want to tell you what it is going to be. First of all we intend to make it strictly a stamp collectors magazine, full of interesting articles relating to Philately, and stories from collectors and others connected with the various postoffice departments. Postal clerks, letter carriers, and postmasters will from time to time contribute to its pages. We want every member of the Sons of Philatelia to subscribe and in order to give them a special opportunity we have decided to make to them a great reduction in price of subscription good only until Sept. 15th next.

Nearly every member has received No. 1 and 2. It is needless to say we cannot afford to send it free always. You will NOT receive the Sept. issue unless you take advantage of this offer. To S. of P. members who will send us their number and ten (10) cents we will send the NORTHWEST postage paid one year. In addition to this we will mail prepaid to every fifteenth (15) subscriber ten (10) stamp papers free of charge. We want subscribers, we want money, hence we make this special offer for a limited time.

We intend to give other Philatelic societies a special rate soon, but this is positively the **only** chance for S. of P. members to secure the Northwest for less than the regular subscription price. One and two cent stamps taken.

Just here we want to say a word about our Sept. issue. It is going to be a "hot"

THE NORTHWEST.

number. Roy Green has something to say in it about the humorous side of Philately, Marion Marks will tell you about what it is to be a postal clerk on the railway mail service, although we are at a loss to know how she found out.

Truthful James has something to say that will start a philatelic earthquake all through the land and whose vibrations will be felt from the mighty Mississippi to the roaring and surging Atlantic.

These are some of the articles that will be seen only in the Sept. issue. We think you will miss it if you miss it. The Northwest has come to stay, you will want it, then send in your dime to-day.

The First Recorded Riding-Post.

The first recorded riding-post was established in Persia, by Cyrus, 559 B. C. Cyrus was the son of Cambyses, King of Persia, and Mandane, daughter of Astyages, King of the Medes. The history of Cyrus is a lesson worthy to be read by all who can appreciate in one man all those elements which combine to make a great one. He was educated according to the Persian institutions, of which Xenophon gives such glowing accounts. Among the numerous inventions he made and carried into operation, that of the posts and couriers, to facilitate the transportation of letters, was probably the most im-

portant. He caused post-houses to be built and messengers to be appointed in every province. There were one hundred and twenty provinces. Having calculated how far a good horse with a brisk rider could go in a day, without being spoiled, he had stables built in proportion, at equal distances from each other, and had them furnished with horses and grooms to take care of them. He likewise appointed a "postmaster," to receive the packets from the couriers as they arrived, and give them to others, and to take the horses and furnish fresh ones. Thus, the post went continually, night and day, with extraordinary speed. Herodotus speaks of the same kind of couriers in the reign of Xerxes. He speaks of eleven postal stages, a day's journey from one another, between Susa and the Ægean Sea.

These couriers were called in the Persian language by a name signifying, as near as we can comprehend it, "service by compulsion." The superintendency of the posts became a considerable employment. Darius, the last of the Persian kings, had it before he came to the crown. Xenophon notices the fact that this establishment subsisted still in his time,

which perfectly agrees with what is related in the book of Esther concerning the edict published by Ahasuerus in favor of the Jews, which edict was carried through that vast empire with a rapidity that would have been impossible without these posts erected by Cyrus.

Persia in some respects has not kept pace with the progress of other nations, or carried out those plans of government and schemes which Cyrus originated in his early reign. Traces of a race far more energetic than the present inhabitants of Persia are found in various parts of the kingdom. The ruins of many ancient cities scattered over the land are imposing and grand, especially those of Persepolis. Next to the pyramids of Egypt and the colossal ruins of Thebes, they have attracted the attention of travellers, and, like them, still remain an enigma,—their

history, dates and objects being involved in the gloom of antiquity. These evidences prove the existence of a state of refinement in art in the sixth century, scarcely equalled, certainly not excelled, since, and fully sustain the data given to the wonderful discovery,—the establishing the postal system and the first introduction of the riding post.

In the highest eras of their civilization, neither the Greeks nor the Romans had a public letter post, though the conveyance of letters is as much a matter of necessity and convenience as the conveyance of persons and merchandise.

There were stationers and mounted messengers, called "tabellarii," who went in charge of the public despatches; but they were strictly forbidden to convey letters for private persons.



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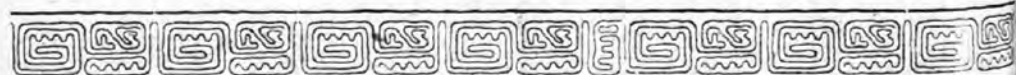
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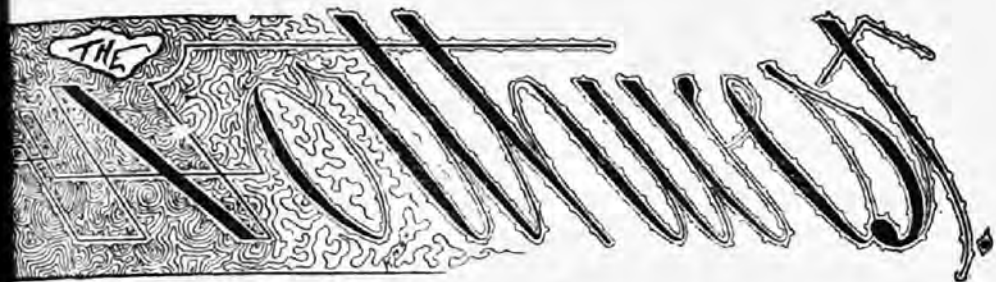
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SNOWED UNDER.

RUSSELL CHOSEN PRESIDENT BY A VOTE
OF NEARLY 5 TO 1.

FOR OF A BOLT BY THE KISSINGER FAC-
TION TO FORM A NEW SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE SONS OF PHILATELIA.

It was at 10:30, Friday morning, Aug. 18,
at Secretary Miller, in the absence of both
President and Vice President, called the
second annual convention of the Sons of the
Philatelia to order. Fifty members re-
sponded to the roll call. Our own Norton E.
Carter was chosen temporary chairman after
a little sparring. The following committees
were then announced on credentials, Messrs
Lambert, Fox, Lang, on rules, Messrs Rich-
ards, Aldrich, R. F. Greene; on finance,
Messrs. Steffan, Whitall, Thomas; in the ab-
sence of Messrs. Spooner and Graving, Sec-
retary Miller and Treasurer Messer were
appointed to assist Mr. Peugnet, the only
member of the board of trustees present in
casting the ballots. The session adjourned
at 11:30 a. m., until 2:00 p. m.

SECOND SESSION.

It was nearly 2:30 before the members
could become quiet enough for Chairman
Carter to call the session to order. The
lunch had a visible effect on a certain

number of them and but little was done
aside from the appointment of the following
committees: Library, Messrs. Hall, Fowler,
Brodstone; Exchange, Ashcroft, Barnes,
Nicklas; By-laws, Messrs. J. D. Rice, Wolf,
Helland. There being no committees ready
to report the session adjourned to convene
again at 9 a. m. Saturday.

THE SECOND DAY.

The K. P. hall at the corner of Cottage
Grove Avenue and 35th Street was well fill-
ed, when, at 10:30 in the absence of Mr.
Carter, Mr. Roy F. Greene was installed as
temporary chairman. The report of the
committee on credentials was read and ac-
cepted. Mr. Frank Brown, the assistant
secretary read President Bartlett's ad-
dress, and Secretary Miller was directed to
telegraph Mr. Bartlett, expressing regrets
that he was unable to attend in person. The
report of the committee on rules as well
as those of the secretary, librarian, and
attorney were tabled until the report of the
committee on permanent organization was
acted upon. This committee consisting of
Messrs. Fowler, Miller and Peugnet reported
in favor of Mr. Kelsey Hall for Permanent
Chairman, but as Mr. Hall was not present,
the convention substituted Mr. Frank
Brown, of Omaha, but not without a consid-
erable amount of mouth-sparing. The report
of the committee on rules was then taken
from the table and accepted. The reports of
the various officers were referred to the finan-

ce committee. An adjournment was then taken (12:30) until 1:30, which of course meant about an hour later.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:35 Chairman Brown rapped on the table for order and asked whether the finance Committee was ready to report. An affirmative answer came and the report was promptly accepted. Now came the much-looked-for report of the Board of Trustees on the election. We give the returns as per their report President, Dr. Russell, 303; C. W. Kissenger, 72; Vice President, C. D. Riemers, 308; D. E. Hazen, 46; R. H. Rockwood, 97; Secretary, R. M. Miller, 378; Treasurer, P. L. Messer, 333, L. W. Mott, 29; Int. Secretary, F. S. Fox, 190; A. L. Brubaker, 151; F. H. Barker, 20; Librarian, R. F. Greene, 385; Exch. Superintendent, W. H. Emmert, 367; H. C. Beardsley, 7; Auction Manager, R. L. Heustis, 185; Carl Young, 109; H. D. Frueauff, 75; Count Det., C. W. Grevning, 341; Attorney, G. W. Achard, 370; Purch. Agent, C. H. Mead, 353; Geo. Kaufmann, 14; Trustees, H. H. Zoobel, 278; W. G. Sylvester, 277, E. T. Randall, 278, R. Ashcroft, 10, B. Ogden, 87; A. Schiff, 69, M. J. Corcoran, 10.

This report was accepted and the following gentlemen were declared elected, to their respective offices: Dr. Russell, C. D. Riemers, R. M. Miller; P. L. Messer, F. S. Fox, R. F. Greene, W. H. Emmert, R. L. Heustis, C. W. Grevning, G. W. Achard, C. H. Mead, H. H. Zobel, W. G. Sylvester, and E. T. Randall.

The convention then went into a committee of the whole, the chairman of which appointed the new board of trustees to revise the constitution and call for a mail vote for the adoption of the same. The convention then took up the subject of the place of the next meeting with the following result: Boston 1, New York 192, Niagara Falls 215. The convention will therefore be held at

Niagara Falls, during August, 1894. A motion was made by Mr. Aldrich nominating Minneapolis, for 1895 and also to lay it on the table so that it will come up as unfinished business in 1894. This was carried and the convention adjourned sine die.

NOTES FROM MY SCRATCH BOOK

Owing to to the death of his father, Mr. W. H. Emmert could not attend.

Minneapolis led out-of-town members at the convention in the point of members present as well as enthusiasm.

Mr. Carter was taken sick Friday night just after finishing writing a long epistle to "Some Italians" and left Saturday morning for Delavan.

Everybody was loud in their praise of the manner in which Mr. Brown conducted himself while permanent chairman. Mr. Brown would make good timber for 1894.

J. K. Tiffany, E. Doebelin and C. E. Babcock were among the visitors present. Many were surprised at the appearance of Mr. Tiffany, as they had supposed him to be large in stature while in reality he was not much over five feet tall.

The supporters of Dr. Russell used Leiland's as their headquarters, while Mr. Dilg's was the rendezvous of Mr. Kissinger's followers. One of the cleverest things that the Kissinger crowd did and which actually proved of benefit to their opponent, was to get up and leave immediately after the report of the trustees.

I shall always remember with pleasure the meeting of Messrs. R. M. Miller, Nicklas Lang, Messer, Swanbeck and R. Pennington. They will always find the latch-string out should they happen to wander in any section of the country.

W. C. W.

THE RUMOR ON THE BOLT.

After the supporters of Mr. Kissinger found themselves beaten, with a few exceptions, they withdrew from the hall and it is currently reported that they formed a new society to be known as the "Philatelic Sons of America.

'Tis said that a full set of officers were elected and also that Mr. Kissinger and his followers will hand in their resignations to the S. of P. at an early date. We hope that such is not the case, for we really thought that Messrs. Kissinger, Fox and Ashcroft were loyal to the S. of P. At least, such was our opinion from correspondence with them. We trust to soon see a denial of the report.

CONVENTION AFTERMATH.

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

'Tis reported:

That Henry Ades Fowler saw the monks at Lincoln Park Sunday.

That Richards of N. Y., had long, bulky, legal documents in his possession, but didn't use them.

That Whitall got a hair cut, shampoo and shave at the very low price of a dollar and a quarter.

That someone would like to know what time Benj. P. Thomas returned from his Blue Island trip.

That the Swift county (Benson) Sheriff thought Aldrich was never coming back and had serious intentions of sending a "tracer" after him.

That Barnes of Minneapolis sent a large package of bolting cloth to Chicago immediately upon his return and that embroidered neckties will soon grace Billy's collar.

That Tyren attended eight dances in seven days and still longed for more. Likewise that Charlie wanted to know whether Kissinger was swelled at him.

That Lang and Bob Miller must have had

some attraction near Niagara. They were quite anxious to return that way, and also were pleased that they could exchange smiles with them next year.

A. P. A. CONVENTION.

ERA.

Seldom has as harmonious a gathering of stampites ever been held as the eighth annual convention of the A. P. A., held at Chicago on the 15th and 16th. Over fifty members were in attendance during the various sessions. A notable feature of the convention was the absence of the various New York members, whether apathy caused by the securing of the World's Fair by the Garden City was the cause or not seems to be, as yet, a question. The convention was practically controlled by the proxies held by Messrs. C. H. and G. D. Mekeel and H. E. Deats. In justice to these gentlemen, it must be said that no obnoxious legislation was forced upon the society and the absentees can congratulate themselves on having their proxies so safely placed. The only real struggle was caused by the report of the bylaws committee recommending the consolidation of the purchasing, sales and exchange departments. The adoption of such a measure meant the placing of the department in the hands of a dealer and with past experience, this to many seemed inadvisable, as it is a well known fact that to most members the department never afforded any benefits except during the superintendency of Mr. Clotz, the only collector ever at the head of the department. However the convention decided that a dealer was desired at the head of this important department and those who have refused to join the A. P. A. until a collector is put in charge of the exchange department, must wait another year at least.

That the American Philatelist, as a monthly, at least would soon be a thing of

the past was a foregone conclusion prior to the convention. The members, however, concluded to continue it as an annual, giving the convention proceedings, membership list, etc., in a manner which will somewhat resemble the year book of the I. P. V. of Dresden. For official organ three bids were made, besides one from Mr. H. F. Ketcheson which the committee did not report to the convention. The Metropolitan Philatelist, through some arrangement made by A. B. Rogers offered free space and free subscription to members. Henry A. Fowler offered his New Canadian Journal of Philately at \$2.00 per member, a year, and C. H. Mekeel offered to publish the reports in the P. J. of A. and print the same in circular shape and furnish the secretary sufficient copies free. The latter proposition was accepted. The literary board will in the future consist of but three members. Owing to the abolition of the A. P. the dues in the future will be but \$1.00 accompanying the "request" and will be applied as payment on the stock subscription. Upon motion of C. H. Mekeel an appropriation was made paying for the stock of the present foreign members, the same to be held in trust by the society. In the future foreign members must become stock holders. The bonds of the new purchasing and exchange agent was placed at \$20,000. Hereafter directors can hold no proxies at conventions. The directors for the ensuing year, with official positions are: J. K. Tiffany, President; H. E. Deats, Vice President; Alva Davison, Secretary; N. W. Chandlers, Treasurer; E. Doebelin, Int. Secretary. The next meet will be held at Niagara Falls during the second week in August next year, and if Doebelin's advice is followed. "All will come with wives and sisters, and if they haven't any, bring some other fellows."

SUBSCRIBE! 25 cts. by postal note.

EDITORIAL BOTCHES.

BY TRUTHFUL JAMES.

Probably nothing has brought so much discredit upon Philately, as her literature. The above sentence seems like a very sweeping one, but it is nevertheless true. We might look at some of the "thumb-nail" sheets which from time to time are issued, by irresponsible boys who must have a medium through which to air their idle vaporings, but this subject has been the theme of so many articles that is threadbare and would require considerable ingenuity to make this particular article assume a new phase.

Truthful James is after larger game. Instead of shooting at a six-weeks old partridge, it is his intention to bring down a full-grown turkey. That is if the gun carries correctly. To begin with, does it not appear extremely distasteful to receive a large, well-established magazine or even a weekly, for that matter, filled with complimentary notices to the "we are the people" editor, who is also the President of "absolutely the largest" stamp firm on Earth? Time was when the publications were not so abundant with these egotistical puffs, but with an increase of business and prosperity the bump of self-admiration has grown in a geometrical progression. Nor has this self-praise been confined to the advertising columns, or even the Publisher's notices, but we find it cropping out in editorials and expect soon to see a very able article on "Why I am the President of the leading stamp firm and why it is the leading firm." Such a course as pursued at present does nothing else than place Philately in a ridiculous light before those who are not within her bonds.

Another instance of an editorial botch occurs in a very prominent stamp journal, which was formerly presided over by one of the best editors Philately has ever pro-

duced. Whether the old editor and the publisher who now wields the editorial pen and paste brush, had a "tiff" or whether they "agreed to disagree" has not yet been fathomed by our thick-headed recess called by the high-sounding title of brain, but certainly since the retirement of our old-time boxing partner, the editor, this "3500 per month, guaranteed circulation, not more than five copies to the same collector" magazine's editorial columns have been filled with the most murderous attacks upon the Queen's English that has been our privilege to read in many moons. It was our intention when we first read an editorial in a recent number to call upon a policeman and complain about this assault with criminal intent, but upon a second reading, we bethought of how hard it would be for us to jump right in as heavy editorial writer on the Yangstekiang Cobletter or the Ooroomiah Morning's Milk without getting the grammatical expression slightly twisted. What would you say if Gath used an expression like the following: "Today the American People is not any stronger than it has been two years ago" or this "but if the department will be run by a collector?" Come, brother editors, it is time to call a halt. Old Truthful James has not the slightest inclination to object to an occasional "break" but there must not be more than one to a page of leaded long primer.

And, now, if the above article seems to fit your foot, don't wince and say that it hurts your pet corn. Be a man and reform by immediately consulting a chiropedist for your corn and a new pen for your magazine.

I want all kinds of U. S. British North America stamps in exchange for good foreign. Approval sheets at 50 per cent commission, lowest price! New 72 pp. catalogue FREE! H. Flachskamm, 925 La Salle street, St. Louis, Mo.

EDITORIAL.

We notice by postal that Luke Bates has discontinued the publication of the Western Journal of Philately and has removed to New York state.



We notice among the list of applications in the Pennsylvania Philatelist the editors name. Mr. George says he cannot account for this as he has not made application to the P. S. of A. for membership.



We failed to notice a single application in the August number of the Collector with Clifford W. Kissinger's name attached as reference. Can it be that Mr. Kissinger ran out of collectors or that he couldn't use any of them at the Chicago convention? The latter reason strikes us as the more plausible.



Mr. Doseher of California calls our attention to the watermark on a Columbian envelope which he sent us. The envelope is size C, first quality, 2 cent denomination. The watermark on the collar around Columbus' neck is straight, while on all the other sizes which we examined, the collar had a notch or angle in it



The conventions being over, what will next attract the attention of collectors? For the past five months we have heard nothing but "election," "unconstitutional," "ineligible," and the like, until the day seemed very queer, if we did not receive at least one letter containing these words. But now that the elections are over, we can again dare to look at our albums with a sigh of relief.



The proof reader on a Philatelic Journal must be a curious specimen of humanity. To one who has been accustomed to but few mistakes, the errors which some of these gen-

tllemen make appear very ludicrous. Our attention was called recently to a catalogue in which the rare Scinde Dawk was offered for sale. It was noticed in three places: in one the word Scinde was spelled "Scuide"; in another, "Sainde"; in the third, "Sciude", while the correct spelling did not occur once. It certainly seems as though some one should have noticed at least one of these mistakes before the catalogue was printed.



The above paragraph leads to this. Why do publishers of philatelic journals and magazines take so little pains with the appearance of their organs? After all of the the experience in the way of poorly printed papers, in correct spelling, and like, it seems as though they would learn a lesson and occasionally try their hand at proof reading. But no, they rely on some one inexperienced in philatelic phrases and words to do this for them, when a half hour's leisure would present their papers in a much better form and might add not a few to their subscription lists. A word to the wise, etc.



If you will bear with us a little longer we will make another S. of P. suggestion. While it is true that the society has progressed nicely with dues at twenty-five cents, we believe that with an increasing membership there will also come an increased expense, and that sooner or later the present amount of dues will be inadequate to cover the year's expenses. Therefore, we believe that the dues should be raised to thirty-five, or possibly fifty cents and if there be any surplus let it be used to better our official organ. We think an expression of the various members upon this subject should be had, and, to that end, will gladly offer our columns for such a discussion. Fellow member, let us hear from you.

Silver is elegant. Send yours on.

THE N. W. P. A.

On October 3rd a meeting will be held in Minneapolis to organize a new society to be known as the Northwestern Philatelic Association. All collectors residing in the states of Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas will be eligible to membership and are requested to send in their names as charter members. The initiation fee will be 10c, annual dues 25 cents, which please send to the secretary protem, when you apply for admission. The society will in no sense be a rival of any state national society, but will be sectional in its nature. The following gentlemen are expected to be present and if you cannot attend in person, send your proxy to one of them: E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn; Geo. B. Tuthill, Sioux Fall, South Dakota; L. G. Lambert, St. Paul, and the following from Minneapolis: W. H. Barnes, W. C. Whitall, F. S. George, N. E. Carter, C. D. Tyren, C. R. Brackett and the undersigned. Please notify me whether you will attend. GEO. W. ACHARD, Secy. p.t.

242 Boston Block. Minneapolis, Minn.

PUBLISHERS NOTICE.

Last month we made a special price to all S. of P. members of a year's subscription at 10 cents per year. Many took advantage of this reduction, but we think that, at this low rate, nearly all should have complied. Now we will accept 10 cents for one year's subscription from any S. of P. member who sends us that amount, together with his membership number, before November 15th. After that date, you will be obliged to put up a quarter if you want to see this paper regularly. Unused U. S. 1 and 2 cent stamps taken. SEND NOW before you forget.

We presume someone will be saying that the third number of the NORTHWEST "comes hard" because we are so late with the Sep-

tember issue; but we assure you such is not the case. The editor has been during the entire month in charge of an exhibit in the Exposition here working 14 hours a day. This will explain the delay and his apparent neglect to other philatelic matters. The October number will come out immediately.

◆ ◆ ◆

Have you a place for any of these stamps in your album? They are bargains, remit to the editor. Saxony 1850, 3p red, \$12.00; New Brunswick, 1851, 6p yellow, \$3.25; Cape of Good Hope, 1864, 1s Emerald green, \$2.50; Mauritius, 1862, 1s, buff, \$2.00; Columbian Republic, 1861, 5c, yellow, \$1.75. All are cancelled and in fine condition.

◆ ◆ ◆

Owing to want of space we were obliged to omit the article on The Humorous Side of Philately, by R. F. Greene. It will appear at some other time.

◆ ◆ ◆

Collectors who have not as yet seen the new price-list of the Standard Stamp Co., should send for a copy at once. It consists of 16 pages fully illustrated, with a handsome cover. A copy will be sent free upon application by addressing H. Flachskamm, 925 La Salle Street, St. Louis, Mo.

◆ ◆ ◆

To the large number of S. of P. members who took advantage of our special subscription offer last month we have to say that all subscriptions date from the July issue and expire July 1894. We have not acknowledged receipt of the subscription, but if you receive this issue it shows that your letter has been received. We shall have other special inducements to offer soon.

◆ ◆ ◆

We will give a years subscription to the Northwest and 25 cents cash for No. 13 Review of Reviews. It will pay you to make inquiries at old book stores. If you find a copy write.

A COMMUNICATION.

ED. NORTHWEST: I wish to take this means to congratulate the TRUE members of the SONS OF PHILATELIA on their new official board of officers, also to thank them for their votes. I also wish to thank the person or persons who placed my name on the ticket—it having been placed there without my knowledge or consent. The first news I received of it being there was when I returned home from Chicago and found a letter from my old Minneapolis friend Mr. Achard, in which he said, "Minneapolis will go strong for you." During my vacation I had not seen or heard any Philatelic news, so did not know what was going on in the stamp world. Had I known it in time I MIGHT have made a strong fight. I do not wish to throw bouquets at myself, but I think it is doing well when one is so little known to the members as the writer is, to receive 151 votes, when 190 are all that was cast for Mr. Fox who is an old time stamp collector.

Since the Fargo fire of June 7th I have done nothing in the way of selling stamps, nor do I think I shall again as Fargo has at time of writing THREE good stamp firms. I am not discouraged at the loss of my collection for I shall commence at once on a much finer one.

Perhaps this would not be a bad time to thank the editors who have so kindly exchanged with our paper, INK DROPS during the past year, and in return allow me to say that I hope they will continue to do so. Although it is not devoted to your particular hobby I am sure you will find many things in its columns of interest.

ALSON BRUBAKER, S. of P. 566.

We shall have some accounts for sale soon which will be given a free advertisement. Better pay up if you owe us anything.

THE POSTAL CLERK.

BY MAHION MARKS.

The general public know but little about the duties of a Postal Clerk. They see him at the car door as the train approaches a station, he throws the mail pouch out on the platform, and farther than this they do not know or have not taken the trouble to ascertain. A short description of the duties of this busy man may be of interest to the readers of the NORTHWEST. The Railway Mail Service is one of the most important branches of the postoffice department and is probably one about which the least is known.

The Railway Mail Service is divided into several "divisions" under the general supervision of Jas. E. White, who has been promoted to that position after years of faithful service on the road. As all the different divisions are governed by the same general rules it will be necessary to describe but one. Each division is designated by a number and this State forms a part of the tenth division. Each division is in charge of a division superintendent, who appoints at each railroad center a chief clerk. The postal clerks are divided into five classes, the first being called a probationer whose salary is \$800 per year. Should his work prove satisfactory at the end of the first six months, he is promoted to class two and receives an additional sum of \$100 per year. Classes three, four and five are reached only by promotion and the salaries are \$1000, \$1150 and \$1300 respectively.

Railway Postoffices vary in size from a full 60 foot car to 6x6 foot space at one end of a car, such as are used on small branch roads where the stations are few in number.

On all long routes where large quantities of mail is handled the full railway postoffices are used. The Chicago and Minneapolis R. P. O. as it is called, are full length cars and are filled with boxes or pigeon-

holes just deep enough for a letter. On this run which is the fast mail between this city and the east are boxes for all the large cities in the U. S., for cities along this line, for all states and for all the different lines with which they connect.

For the papers there are rows of iron frames upon which the ordinary tie sack is hooked. Each sack is labeled and the papers thrown into them from one position. So expert do the postal clerks become at this they seldom make a mistake, although the car often contains over a hundred tie sacks. When the sack is filled or the mail all sorted, it is taken out, labeled and stamped with the mail clerk's name and postmarking stamp. The boxes are labeled in the same way, when they are filled the package is tied up and thrown into a leather sack.

Clerks on the road have to be helped out in their work by the various postoffices that dispatch mail by their line. Letters are made up into No. 1 and No. 2 packages and letters going to the next towns are always put in No. 1 package, which explains how letters for the next town can be sorted before it is reached.

Clerks on the fast mail referred to above are on the road six days and have six days off. One of the necessary qualifications of a mail clerk is a good memory. A mail clerk in the tenth division must know in an instant the location of, and the shortest route to, 25391 different postoffices in the northwest, representing 13 states. As the railway connections are constantly changing this necessitates a great deal of study. In addition to this, is the work of deciphering the poorly written addresses, which in many instances are almost illegible. All things considered the position as railway mail clerk is not an enviable one.

The editor's specialty is U. S. card-board proofs. Have you any? Write.

Exchange Column.

display, one cent a word. No ad taken for less than 20 cents, cash with copy, 9 words to a line.

Send me five stamp papers, and I will give you the same. Want price lists and sample list of papers. Will give 3 cents war on cream for five stamp papers. H. W. Kieffer, Toledo, Iowa.

2000 albums. I have two fine used copies on order paper to exchange for the best offers in cash stamps. J. A. Suedeker, 26 Brewster St., New Haven, Conn.

Foreign collectors address a reply or other card to and receive same from the U. S. Exchange desired by foreign collectors. A. W. Lantz, Pekin, Ill. S of P.

Offers Internat'l 10th ed. album for best offers of opp. Columbians wanted in any quantity, all let-ter-worth. G. B. Klebes, 324 S. Main, Waterbury, Ct.

Philatelic magazines to exchange for good U. S. type or curios. Send list of what you want and you have to exchange. Geo. M. Frame, 38 Lincoln St., Haverhill, Mass.

Chinese book of 120 pages with over 100 native illustrations printed in red and black for 75¢ worth of foreign stamps. H. W. Doscher, Petaluma, Cal.

WANTED—Manuscript in exchange for advertising, address Editor of this paper.

And Columbus Whiskers?

Well, we don't care if he had or not wish to say that there's no "Whiskers" on INK DROPS for it contains nothing but pure realing matter and printed on the finest paper. The September No. contains 20 p. illustrated in half-tone and comic cartoons. This paper is now in its fifth year and has no ads so by subscribing you get your money's worth. One copy, 10¢ or 25¢ per year.

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A price list will be sent for the asking.

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No. 4.

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8 different Foreign coins only 25 cents post paid.

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CENTURY STAMP AND COIN CO.,

E. F. VAN GORDEK, Manager,

Box 9, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Henry Gremmel's

Philatelic Publications

should be in the hands of every Stamp Collector and Dealer.

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One of the leading American philatelic monthly journals, 32 to 50 pages of very interesting reading every issue. Published on the 15th of each month. Subscription 25c. (Mk 1) to all countries per year. Advertising rates \$1.00 (Mk 4) per inch. SAMPLE COPY FREE.

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of the Western Hemisphere, finely illustrated, giving prices for all known varieties of perforations and watermarks. Small pocket size, price 25 cents (Mk 1.)

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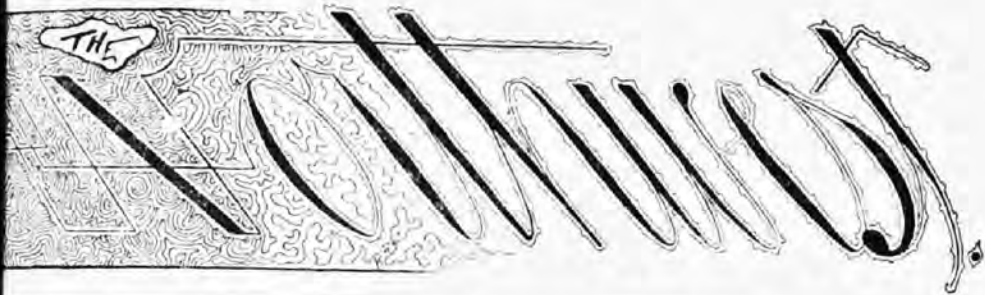
I PURCHASE FOR CASH

all kinds of postage stamps of North, Central America, in any quantity, especially rarities and old issues of the United States for which I am willing to pay high prices. If you have any U. S. Columbian 1866, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00, send them with your own price, on approval. Cash is sent by return mail for all stamps kept by me.

HENRY GREMMEL,

85 NASSAU STREET,

NEW YORK.



A STAMP THEFT.

English Post Office official, one day
Of the present year of grace,
Did nothing whatever but draw his pay,
An enormous one, for the place;
And silently watching his only clerk,
Who, with fingers skillful and quick,
Went rapidly on with his sorting work,
For the bundle of mail was thick.
The Potentate's eye was not slow to spy.
To his seemingly great delight,
After which bore a couple or more
Of American stamps, so bright,
"I" cried he, with a giggle of glee,
When no one else was near,
And after these, so if you please,
I'll take them off right here."
The soon the corner made quite damp,
And in a minute or two
Came a bright Columbian stamp,
And into his pocket it flew.
The potentate chuckled and grinned, until
Another one swelled the pile;
And from the letter he soaked off still
A third one, after a while.
The letter, it went where it had been sent,
But the stamps, they stayed behind;
And none the worse was the postmaster's
purse,
Or the postmaster's frame of mind.
The stamps were missed and the postman
quizzed,
But the postman never knew, [tramps;"
"guessed the stamps were stole by
And every one else did, too.

GEORGE SKYMORE.

THE HUMOROUS SIDE OF PHILATELY.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

Who is there among those who has been connected with Philately for even a brief while that has not been shown one ludicrous side of our hobby? Surely no one has been so dumb as not to see the sunny side of a collecting life.

Others have written logical, yet deeply interesting articles on what they have found in Philately to entertain, enlighten and instruct, yet I believe no one has been bold enough to claim that they have been following collecting for the mere fun that it brings. Therefore I establish a precedent and acknowledge that this is to me one of the drawing cards.

I never could be funny myself, but I ever had that taste, that pronounced liking for the wit and humor of others.

During my brief connection with Philately how oft have I smiled at the witticisms of Guy Green and laughed at Gus Lahn's sarcasms, and gone into paroxysms of laughter while reading "Dixey's" drolleries.

And here is a funny side to Philately if one be but inclined to look upon it.

Who has not laughed at that brief editorial "We have come to stay" or that other humorous sentence "twelve numbers are guaranteed"?

Another source of amusement to me is the pages of reviews in comparatively new publications who condescend to criticize other journals that had reached maturity ere these critics were launched upon the journalistic sea. And so we might go on for hours, rehearsing these "rib-ticklers," but every Philatelist is familiar with them and why rebash the subjects.

Only recently have Philatelic journals been blessed with a truly humorous paper and there is no doubt but that it would have become extremely popular had it not met such an early death. There is an opening for some bright journalist in this line, a truly humorous Philatelic journal if they but go about it properly and with sufficient courage and capital to endure the fierce tempests of the tempestuous journalistic sea; let them ride the waves for a brief while and soon the skies will brighten, or seas calm and a successful voyage be their reward. Too many are disheartened and dismayed by the first rude wind.

There is a class who seem to think that we should discard poetry, fiction and humor in our Philatelic contributions and only write of the stamps themselves, but I do not agree with them.

It has seemed to me that we owe it to the present diversity of topics; instructive as well as entertaining, in our Philatelic press, for the wonderful growth of our Philatelic followers.

Numismatics, oology, ornithology, geology, archaeology, all these are too dry for a person possessed of a lively temperament. And thus Philately has forged ahead of them all and added more members in the last year than the others have in a decade.

There are ministers in our churches who put on a long face, look solemn and think that mirthfulness is a sin against God, their congregations grow languid and ill at ease

and gradually lose interest in the good cause.

While on the other hand, here is a minister who sees the humorous as well as the pathetic, the droll as well as the dry, who is not averse to indulging in a bit of pleasantry by way of spice to his Sunday sermon. His congregation is kept interested, new faces crowd around his pulpit, the church membership is increased and his work is productive of much good.

Is it not so with Philately! Is it not because our hobby is a pleasant diversion instead of a weary, exhaustive study that our growth is phenomenal?

Certainly not a little of the powers which Philately exerts towards recruiting is vested in Philatelic poetry and fiction and not the least effective agent is Philately's humorous side.

DECEIT AND HYPOCRISY.

BY TRUTHFUL JAMES.

"A robe of seeming truth and trust
Hid crafty observation;
And secret hung, with poisoned crust,
The dirk of defamation.
A mask that like the gorget show'd,
Dye, varying on the pigeon
And for a mantle large and broad,
He wrapt him in Religion.

The above was written ages ago, but the truth still remains untarnished. Deceit and egotism were displayed then; they still appear and that, too, as prominently as when the famous bard penned the little poem. Today we hear in Philatelic ranks about "gag law" and "ring rule" and these phrases are used by a youth of eighteen summers who, from his own reports, is practicing exactly what he condemns in others.

Dear reader, did you see the number of the Penna Philatelist? Did you read the proceedings of the alleged convention of the United Philatelic Society and that of the Philatelic Sons of America? Did it occur to you that just a little of the

odious "gag law" and "ring rule" was indulged in? Old Truthful James read the account and if ever such methods of procedure were resorted to, it was in the former convention. We find one boy with something like sixty proxies holding a convention. The society never had a constitution and now that Mr. Ashcroft and his sixty proxies have consolidated the U. P. A. with the new P. S. of A. the old society never will have one.

The old board of trustees was composed of Messrs. Whitall, Carter and Barnes. Two of these gentlemen were in Chicago at the time of the alleged holding of the convention, but neither of them received any official notification of the time and place when it would be held. Mr. Tyren, the librarian, whom, I see, was re-elected, was also in the white-winged city and was likewise never notified. Ye shades of Dave Hill, arise and shake yourselves or you will lose your prestige. Was ever a snap convention held that was a marker to the U. P. A's? If so, James has never heard of it.

And then, on what grounds were the old board of trustees and Messrs. Miller, Spooner, Lang and Nickles expelled? Without a trial this upstart proceeds to "fire" these members bodily. All but two were in Chicago and could have easily been reached, but no, "ring rule" and "gag law" must prevail, while the blatant rankers must howl about "gag law" and "gang rule" when they are downed. Come, brother Ashcroft, square yourself. Justice is said to be blind and deals out her bundles impartially. If a thing is wrong in one sense, it is wrong when presented in the same sense by the other party. Right is right. Yes, in your own words; "Duncan, there is the call, which summons thee to heaven or to hell." The S. of P. is not run by a clique, its destiny is certainly fixed, but so is the destiny of the society of the "bolters." The former

will go on to a glorious future. What shall be the destiny of the P. S. of A. is uncertain. There is a saying that to name a child after a deceased friend or relative brings ill-luck. Will the star of the new P. S. of A. be fated to join that of the Philatelic society of America?

In Philatelic circles, custom largely governs. Then when consolidation was broached, why was not a mail vote called? Oh! this would never do with the "rule or ruin" crowd. "Ring rule" and "gag law" must again be called into play. If the S. of P. convention was illegal, pray, what was the U. P. A? If one wanted a precedent for S. of P. methods, let him take the rulings of various speakers of our National House of Representatives. But where, oh where will a precedent be found to guide us upon such an occasion as the U. P. A. convention Ralph W. Ashcroft, arise! Truthful James salutes thee. You have rendered Philately in particular and humanity in general a great service. We never knew how to hold as "coming together" (convention) alone, before. You are worthy of a place alongside of Solon, Socrates, Plato and Aristotle. Your name should ever hereafter be inscribed as the World's Greatest Philanthropist. "Ashcroft, forever, Vive le Ashcroft."

FOR W. P. U. MEMBERS.

We made a special rate to S. of P. members who would subscribe within a specified time and found that many availed themselves of the discount. Now the Western Philatelic Union comes in for her special rate. Our business manager being a W. P. U. man suggested that we give a year's subscription to any member of that organization upon receipt of 15 cents. We will do this provided such subscription is received before Dec. 15th. Here is your chance, gentlemen. Don't wait until the last minute, but send it NOW.

The Northwestern Philatelic Association.

Pres. F. Brown, Omaha, Nebraska.
 Vice Pres. G. B. Tuthill, Sioux Falls, S. D.
 Secy. G. W. Achard, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Treas. E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Ex. Supt. W. C. Whitall, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Libr. Rev. Dr. C. D. McDonald, Grafton, N. D.
 Auction Mgr. C. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.
 Purch. Agt. L. G. Lambert, St. Paul, Minn.

Board of Trustees, W. S. Ankeney, Chairman, Des Moines, Iowa.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTHWESTERN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION

ADOPTED OCTOBER, 3RD, 1893.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

The name of this Association shall be The Northwestern Philatelic Association.

ARTICLE II.—MEMBERSHIP.

SEC. 1. Any stamp collector residing in the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, North or South Dakota, may become a member of this association by applying to the Secretary; such application shall be signed by at least two references, one of whom is a member of the association, the other being a resident of the same place as the applicant. The Secretary shall thereupon cause the name and address of the applicant and his reference to be published in the next number of the official organ and if no objection shall be received by the Secretary within one month after such publication the applicant shall be considered elected and entitled to receive the membership card of the Association on payment of dues. In case any member shall object to an applicant, the application shall be submitted to the Trustees. The Secretary shall notify both the objecting member and the applicant to furnish proofs, substantiating his claims. The Trustees shall consider the matter and shall accept or reject the the applicant.

SEC. 2. Any member of the Association against whom charges have been preferred in writing, addressed to the Trustees, may be tried by a court composed of one of the Trustees, acting EX-OFFICIO as presiding officer, and four members of the Association, appointed by the Trustees. This court may in its judgment, suspend or expel such member and their action shall be final and binding upon all parties.

ARTICLE III.—CONVENTION.

SEC. 1. The Association shall meet an-

nually in Convention, at such date and place as shall have been designated by the last preceding convention.

SEC. 2. A quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of one half of the membership there represented, in person or by proxy.

ARTICLE IV.—OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. The officers of this association shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Purchasing Agent, Superintendent of Exchange, Auction Manager and three Trustees.

SEC. 2. The officers of this Association shall be elected for one year and shall serve until their successors have qualified. All officers shall be chosen by ballot under the direction of the Board of Trustees and at such elections it shall be necessary that at least two thirds of the membership shall vote, but a plurality of the votes cast shall elect—provided such plurality shall be at least one third of the entire number of votes cast.

SEC. 3. In case of the death, resignation or inability to act of any officer, the Trustees are empowered to appoint someone to fill the vacancy created.

SEC. 4. Whenever fifteen members of the Association shall prefer charges against any officer for dereliction of duty or violation of the constitution, he shall be tried for impeachment by a court composed of one Trustee, as chairman, and four members of the association to be appointed by the Trustees. The finding of such court shall be final and binding.

ARTICLE V.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SEC. 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association. He shall submit on annual report to be printed in the official journal. He shall sign all warrants on the Treasurer for moneys required by the Association. By and with the consent of the Trustees, or at the request of fifteen

members, he shall call for a general vote of the Association upon any desired question. The vote shall be under the direction of the Trustees and a majority of votes cast shall determine the question.

SEC. 2. The Vice President shall act in case of vacancy in the office of the President, or in the absence of the latter.

SEC. 3. The Secretary shall keep a true record of the proceedings of the Association, preserve all documents, and receive all moneys due from members for dues, giving his receipt therefor. He shall keep a correct financial account and pay over to the Treasurer all moneys received by him over and above the sum of ten dollars, taking receipts for same. He shall receive all applications and dispose of same as provided for in Article II, Sec. 1. He shall furnish a copy of the constitution free to each member and duplicates at the rate of 10 cents per copy.

SEC. 4. The Treasurer shall receive and take charge of all moneys and securities of the Association, delivered to him by the Secretary. He shall pay all warrants drawn on him by the President and Secretary and submit to each convention during his term of office a complete financial statement. He shall not hold in his possession more than twenty-five dollars, but shall deposit all over such sum in some reputable bank. He shall give a bond to the Trustees in the sum of fifty dollars.

SEC. 5. The Librarian shall keep in trust for the Association all Philatelic literature, albums, collections, etc., which may be purchased by or presented to the Association, subject to the provisions laid down in the by-laws.

SEC. 6. The Superintendent of Exchange shall conduct the exchange business of the Association, subject to the provisions laid down in the by-laws.

SEC. 7. The Purchasing Agent shall conduct the purchasing business of the Association, subject to the provision laid down in the by-laws.

SEC. 8. The Auction Manager shall conduct the auction sales of the Association, subject to the provision laid down in the by-laws.

SEC. 9. The Trustees shall perform such duties as are required of them by this constitution, the by-laws or the Association.

ARTICLE VI—REVENUES.

SEC. 1. The revenues of the Association shall be derived from dues of members and revenues of the different departments as provided in the by-laws, and such shall be used in defraying the expenses of the Association.

SEC. 2. All dues shall be payable annually in advance, on the first day of October of each year. The fiscal year shall begin on the first day of October and be divided into quarters. The dues to be paid by members shall be computed from beginning of the quarter in which they shall have been elected to membership in the Association.

ARTICLE VII.—PROPERTY.

SEC. 1. All officers shall, at the expiration of their term of office deliver to their successors all books, papers, moneys and other property of the Association and shall not be relieved from their bonds or obligations until this requirement shall be complied with.

ARTICLE VIII—AMENDMENTS.

SEC. 1. This constitution can only be amended or altered by the assent of two thirds of the members voting on such alteration or amendment, provided such two-thirds shall constitute a majority vote of the entire membership.

SEC. 2. Any by-law not in conflict with the Constitution may be made or amended by the Trustees, but should twenty-five members object to the proposed by-law or amendment, it must be submitted to a general vote of the Association as provided in Article V, Sec. 1.

SEC. 3. A majority vote shall be necessary to make or amend any by-law, provided such majority vote is more than one-third of the entire membership.

SEC. 4. In all cases of a mail vote, thirty days shall elapse between the time of sending out notices of such vote and the date of closing the polls and the votes of only those members in good standing on the date of mailing of such notice of vote shall be counted.

The Auction Manager is desirous of arranging an auction sale in the near future and requests members having stamps to send in lots. The first sale will take place when 50 lots are received.

CHAS. E. WILLIAMS, Palmyra, Wis.

THE ORGANIZING CONVENTION.

OF THE NORTHWESTERN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

The convention called to organize the new N. W. P. A. was held on Tuesday, Oct. 3rd, in Minneapolis, the following gentlemen being present: Messrs. Lambert, Belden and Nessenson of St. Paul; Mr. H. P. Baker of St. Croix Falls, Wis.; Prof. E. C. Downing of Macalester, Minn.; Messrs. Barnes, C. R. Brackett, F. Brackett, C. J. Tyren, Whitall and Achard of Minneapolis. The meeting was called to order and W. H. Barnes elected chairman. After a full recital of what was intended to be accomplished by the formation of the new society, the draft of the constitution, which appears in this number, was taken up and adopted in sections, also the by-laws. The latter will appear in the next number of this paper. The election of officers then took place and resulted in the following choice: Pres. F. Brown, Omaha, Neb.; Vice Pres. Geo. B. Tuthill, Sioux Falls, S. D.; Secy. G. W. Achard, Minneapolis, Minn.; Auction Mgr. Chas. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis., Librarian, Rev. Dr. C. D. McDonald, Grafton, N. D.; Exch. Supt. W. C. Whitall, Minneapolis, Minn.; Purch. Agt. L. G. Lambert, St. Paul, Minn.; Trustees, W. S. Ankeney, Des Moines, Iowa, Chairman. The society then adjourned, leaving the place of the next meeting in charge of a committee consisting of Pres. Brown, Secy. Achard and the Chairman of the Trustees, Ankeney. The following is the official list of Charter members with their numbers annexed.

GEO. W. ACHARD, Secy.

212 Boston Block. Minneapolis, Minn.

1. Frank Brown, Box 860, Omaha, Neb.
2. Geo. B. Tuthill, Sioux Falls, S. D.
3. W. C. Whitall, 125 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.;

4. G. W. Achard, 242 Boston Block, Minneapolis, Minn.
5. W. H. Barnes, 418 S. 3rd St., Minneapolis, Minn.
6. Rev. Dr. C. D. McDonald, Grafton, N. D.
7. W. S. Ankeney, 1304 Center St., Des Moines, Ia.
8. A. B. Nessensen, 329 Fuller St., St. Paul, Minn.
9. N. E. Carter, Box 430, Minneapolis, Minn.
10. J. S. Lawrence, Shattuck School, Fairbault, Minn.
11. L. G. Lambert, 252 Rice St., St. Paul, Minn.
12. E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.
13. C. J. Tyren, 309 14th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.
14. A. C. Phillips, Sioux Falls, S. D.
15. C. R. Brackett, co. Janney, Semple Co., Minneapolis, Minn.
16. F. S. George, 702 26th Ave. N. E., Minneapolis, Minn.
17. Chas. Giffin, 435 John St., St. Paul, Minn.
18. C. H. Wuerz, 378 N. Franklin St., St. Paul, Minn.
19. H. P. Baker, St. Croix Falls, Wis.
20. Chas. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.
21. R. P. Wood, 78 E. 5th St., St. Paul, Minn.
22. E. S. Martin, 2537 S. Colfax Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.
23. Prof. E. C. Downing, Macalester, St. Paul, Minn.
24. Frank Brackett, co. G. A. Brackett, Minneapolis, Minn.
25. E. Belden, 329 Fuller Street, St. Paul, Minn.

The following have applied for membership and if no objection is received by Nov. 1st they will be considered as elected to membership upon payment of dues

Robt. I. Mann, Mankato, Minn., reference W. C. Whitall, G. W. Achard.

THE NORTHWEST.

F. E. Smouse, 704 19th St., Des Moines, Ia. reference, G. W. Achard, W. S. Ankeney.

Alson L. Brubaker, Fargo, No. Dak. references, G. W. Achard, C. H. Knutsen.

Thos. C. Hawley, Lake Park, Becker Co, Minn. refs. E. R. Aldrich, W. C. Whitall.

The N. W. P. A. is intended wholly for collectors residing in Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the two Dakotas. None others will be admitted. It is intended as a sectional society and not as a rival of any state or national society. All collectors residing within the prescribed bonds are invited to become members. The initiation fee is but ten cents and annual dues twenty-five cents. If you haven't an application blank the Secretary will be pleased to send you some. The exchange department and auction department as well are both ready for business and you can find out about both by addressing the respective managers.

The Exchange Superintendent now has blank exchange sheets ready for sale at 5 cents each, or 6 for 25 cents. I am desirous of forming circuits and sending out books. I have 3 books ready for circuits now and all members desiring to be placed on an exchange circuit will please notify me at once.

W. C. WHITALL, Exch Supt.
155 Nicollet Ave. Minneapolis, Minn.

I want all kinds of U. S. British North America stamps in exchange for good foreign. Approval sheets at 50 per cent commission, lowest price! New 72 pp. catalogue FREE! H. Flachskamm, 925 La Salle street, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR W. P. U. MEMBERS.

Send your W. P. U. number and 15 cents and we will send you this paper for one year. This number goes to every W. P. U. man; but this will be the last one unless you subscribe.

EDITORIAL.

How often we notice the advertisement of dealers regarding cheap stocks. We are of the opinion that there are enough dealers now-a-days and that dealers who have wholesale lots to offer should confine their dealings to those already in business. This may seem queer in view of the fact that a publisher relies, to no inconsiderable extent upon dealers for his support, but we really believe that there are enough dealers to support all of the Philatelic journals now in existence.

♦ ♦ ♦

So many irresponsible boys are drawn into the dealers' ranks by the delusive advertisements and are a detriment to the cause we claim to represent. The writer has been talking with the S. of P. attorney and knows whereof he speaks. If you could see the files of claims sent against these boy-dealers, your opinion would speedily be changed to coincide with our. And taking another tack. These boys advertise, sometimes without paying the publisher, and an advanced collector, seeing the notice, replies, but imagine his disgust on receiving sheets from this high-sounding company to find nothing but the veriest rot, stuff which he had years ago. His opinion is immediately biased against the dealer and in two or three years this company desire to enter into relations with the advanced collector again. His answer is short, but somewhat caustic and in a negative degree.

♦ ♦ ♦

The company think the A. C. a surly chump, but oftimes he proves to be exactly the contrary. Now who is to blame for this. Certainly not the advanced collector, in a measure the company, yes, but more particularly the dealer, offering a stock for from \$1 to \$15 or \$25. My young friends may rest assured that the writer has no enmity or hostility against their entering the

ranks of the dealers, but they should remember that honesty and capital are today indispensable. A young man should not think of beginning to deal unless he can invest at least, fifty dollars, the more the better. You will agree with us when we invite your attention to the number of stamps which must now be kept as compared with the number required six, eight or ten years ago. Therefore, my friend, before you start as a full-fledged dealer, count over your resources and arrive at just how much you can invest.

◆ ◆ ◆

Above all things be honest. Be honest in your dealings with the wholesaler. Be honest in your relations with your customers. Be honest in your transactions with the publisher. Pay promptly all your bills and keep your credit unspotted. To frequently differences arise which ought to be easily settled between the two parties connected with the affair. But one rushes into print denouncing the other, while the second sends his claim to a collecting agent or attorney for his society, with the remark "X" is the worst fraud in the country". Our advice is not to be to hasty in such a matter. Look it over from a disinterested standpoint and you will soon arrive at the conclusion, that perhaps both of you were a little to blame. So as Polonius says to his son: "So thine own self be true, thou canst not then be false to any man."

◆ ◆ ◆

We hear Mr. Alson Le Brubaker of Fargo, N. D., has been appointed International Secretary for the Sons of Philatelia. We think he will make a good officer.

◆ ◆ ◆

Mr. Roy F. Green's resignation has been accepted by the board of trustees and he has been notified to forward all property belonging to the Sons of Philatelia to this city. Why this city do you ask? Why! our Mr.

Barnes has been appointed S. of P. librarian. Minneapolis certainly has her share of S. of P. honors now.

◆ ◆ ◆

Action was taken at the Minneapolis Branch S. of P. at last meeting towards securing a permanent room to hold meetings in. It is the intention of making it a kind of reading room, open at all times. Heretofore the meetings have been held at various places.

◆ ◆ ◆

In answer to some inquiries about cardboard proofs, we received the following communication which may be of interest to our readers:

WASHINGTON, D. C., October, 17, 1893.

F. S. GEORGE, Esq.,

702, 26th Ave. N. E., Minneapolis, Minn.

SIR:

Your communication of the 14th inst., addressed to the Postmaster General, has been referred to this office. In reply, I beg leave to say that the Government does not keep cardboard proofs of postage-stamps for sale, and never has done so. Such as have been prepared heretofore were intended mainly for exchange with foreign postal administrations. There never have been issued card proofs of stamped envelopes or postal cards. No arrangement can be made for furnishing you with specimens of proof stamps as they may be hereafter issued.

It may not be out of place to say, in addition, that the Department's supply of proof specimens of its postage-stamps is exhausted, and there is no certainty that it will ever be renewed.

Yours very respectfully,

R. F. CRANE,

Third Assistant Postmaster General.

THE NORTHWEST and Weekly Philatelist one year, 45 cents, by P. O. Note

Exchange Column.

No display, one cent a word. No ad taken for less than 20 cents, cash with copy, 9 words to a line.

WANTED.—Manuscript in exchange for advertising space, address Editor of this paper.

Wanted for cash, 3, 6, 8, 15 cents Columbians and all higher values. Best prices paid. W. C. Whitall, 125 Nicolett Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

One year's subscription for 20, 3 c; 10, 6 or 8c; 5, 15c; 30 cts. or 1, 50c Columbian. Address editor.

Wanted FOR CASH.

United States stamps, old issues, used and unused in blocks and pairs. Will give top side prices. N. E. CARTER, Box 430, Minneapolis, Minn.

NOTICE!

AS, J. TYREN,

STAMP BROKER,

14th Avenue S.,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., OCT. 30, 1893.

AR SIR:—

I beg to advise you that on January 1st I will establish a general philatelic brokerage business with office at 309 Fourteenth avenue south, and to tender my services in whatever manner may be found convenient to you. My long experience in philatelic affairs insures a proper and scientific handling of any matters intrusted to my hands.

Faithfully yours,

CHAS. J. TYREN.

Weekly Philatelist, 40 cents per year, (52 numbers) 25 cents for 6 months and best stamp news. Sample free, if you mention this paper. New Chester, Penn.

APPROVAL SHEETS.

For beginners at from 20 to 40 per cent commission. Reference required from all except S. of P. members. Cheapest stamp prices on the market, 6cents per 1000: 15c per 300. Dealers write for prices.

Whitall Stamp Co.

125 Nicolett Ave.,

MINNEAPOLIS, - - - MINN.

MY SPECIALTY

Is COLUMBIAN Stamps.

I will buy them for cash in any quantity, or sell at following rates:

1893,	1 cent,	per 1000	.....	\$1.50
"	2 "	"	1000	..... .40
"	3 "	"	100	..... 1.75
"	4 "	"	100	..... 1.10
"	5 "	"	100	..... 1.25
"	10 "	"	100	..... 1.35
"	6 "	"	100	..... 3.50
"	8 "	"	100	..... 4.25
"	8 "	"small per	100	..... 5.00
1888,	Special Delivery,	per 10	..	.25
1893,	"	"	" 10	.. '45
"	2 ct. env. cut square	"	100	.. .40

Order at once our prices are subject to change.

No approval sheets sent out. I deal in U. S. only.

CHRIS. PETERSON,

201, 203 S. Clark St. Chicago, Ills.

APPROVAL SHEETS.

Good at 50 per cent.

Better at 33 1-3 per cent.

Best at 25 per cent.

If you want to increase your collection at the minimum outlay for the maximum result, send for a selection of my sheets.

If you are unknown to me or not a member of the S. of P. or A. P. A. send a good reference.

If you desire U. S. send a list of what you want and I will quote prices.

My motto is small profits and quick sales. Address

CHARLES W. GREVNING,

U. S. and Foreign Stamps, 225 Avenue B. New York.

A price list will be sent for the asking.

FALL BARGAINS!

Watch this space every month as it will contain many "snaps." By importing direct, we are enabled to offer certain lines very cheap.

14 HONDURAS, 1892, COMPLETE, \$1.00.

This set comprises all from the 1 cent to 1 peso and is one of the finest of the engraver's art.

A FEW OTHER SNAPS.

7 Port. Cols 2½ r. 1893	..... .15	4 Costa Rica 1892, used	..... .18
5 Mexico, 1864, Eagle Issue	..... 1.00	3 Chili, Telegraph, 1887	..... .15
5 Sweden, 1891, Comp.	..... .10	4 Guatemala, 1875	..... .20
4 " Unpaid, 1892	..... .10	5 Ecuador, 1892	..... .15

The above eight sets, 37 stamps \$1.75 by P. O. note. Albums from 80 cents to \$3.50, always on hand. Order your 54th edition catalogue through us. Price 50 cents.

APPROVAL SHEETS.

We are prepared to supply advanced collectors as well as beginners with good STAMPS AT DISCOUNTS ranging from 25 to 40 per cent. below Scott. Our stock is the largest and most complete in the Northwest and we respectfully solicit a share of your esteemed patronage. We require first class references before sending our sheets.

Consignments of Stamps solicited. Send us your want list.

FOR DEALERS ONLY.

We are now prepared to supply dealers with the finest linen blank approval sheets on the market. The paper is extra tough ledger. Price, per 100 30 cents; 500 with your heading printed, \$1.25. 1000, printed, \$2.25. Ruled to hold 25 stamps, double sheets for 50 stamps twice above prices, sample free.

The Achard Company,

125 Nicollet Avenue,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

THE NORTHWEST.

NEW SERIES. MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., NOV. 1893. No. 5.

WANTED.

All Kinds of Used Columbian Stamps. and all other kinds of used U. S. postage and revenues for good exch. in U. S. and foreign stamps or cash. A set of 11 var. Columbian to 50c. \$1.00. Send for price list.
 J. A. PIERCE, 191 Clark Street, Chicago, Ills.



A collector cannot be said to be equipped to advantage unless he has his specimens without having before him a copy of *E. T. PARKER'S Priced-List of Postage Stamps.* 10 cents pays for a copy



50 PER CENT COMMISSION, AGENTS WANTED.

All sheets priced at catalogue rates and 50 per cent allowed on all sales. Valuable premiums. 36 pp. list free. Give us a trial.

STANDARD STAMP CO.
 H. FLACHSKAMM, Manager,
 923-925 La Salle St., St. Louis, Mo.

\$5 \$10 and \$20, Genuine Confederate bills only 5 cents each; \$50 and \$100 bills 10 cents each; 25c and 50c shinplasters 10 cents each; \$1 and \$2 bills 25 cents each. Sent securely sealed on receipt of price. Address, Chas. D. BARKER, 98 S. Forsythe St., Atlanta, Ga.

Well Mixed 23 POST PAID.
 100 Continentals Only \$8.00 Express extra.

100 fine varieties only 12c. 30 varieties of U. S. and Mexican Revenues 20c—a bargain. Approval sheets 50 per cent discount. 2 and 3c sheets a specialty. 16-page illustrated price-list free.

EO. KAUFMANN, Jefferson Barrack, Mo.

N. E. CARTER.

Dealer in United States and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps. Sheets of all grades sent on approval against good references or cash deposit.

Delavan, Wis.

WE'RE AFTER YOU!

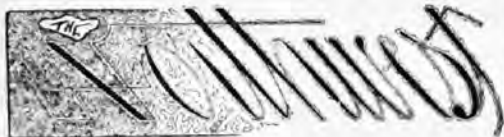
And the sooner you send for our approval sheets the sooner you will be pleased. You have tried all others, now try ours. We also send sets of fine stamps on approval. These sets are priced from 20 to 30 per cent below catalogue and yet we offer 20 per cent discount on all sales.

PACKETS.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 50 Different Foreign | - 10 cents. | 100 Different Foreign | - 25 cents. |
| 150 " " " | - 30 " | 200 " " " | - 50 " |
| 300 " " " | - \$1.00. | 1000 Assorted " " | - 18 " |

Send for our new twenty page catalogue. Every collector should have one. Free for the asking.

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Published monthly by the

NORTHWESTERN PHILATELIC PUB. CO.

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G. W. ACHARD,

W. C. WHITALL,

Managing Editor.

Business Manager.

Subscription: 25 cents per year in advance.

Advertisements 50 cents per inch.

Entered at Minneapolis as Second Class Mail Matter.



New York BRANCH

26 East 23d St.

Where will be on sale a stock of used and unused postage stamps. Address all mail matter to

Bethlehem, Pa.

MONEY.

Is not what I am after, but on the Q T, I will send my sheets to good Agents at 40 per cent.

I have a large Stock to select from, and send out nothing but good sheets of foreign stamps.

No U. S. on Approval,

W. H. BARNES,

418 South Third St.

Minneapolis,

Minn.

NOTICE!

CHAS. J. TYREN,

STAMP BROKER,

309, 14th Avenue S.,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., OCT. 30, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

I beg to advise you that on January 1st I will establish a general philatelic brokerage business with office at 309 Fourteenth avenue south, and to tender you my services in whatever manner may be found convenient to you. My long experience in philatelic affairs insures a proper and scientific handling of all matters intrusted to my hands.

Faithfully yours,

CHAS. J. TYREN.

The Weekly Philatelist, 40 cents per year, (52 numbers) 25 cents for 6 months. Latest and best stamp news. Sample free, if you mention this paper. New Chester, Penn.

Henry Gremmel's

Philatelic Publications

should be in the hands of every Stamp Collector and Dealer.

THE POST OFFICE.

One of the leading American philatelic monthly journals. 32 to 50 pages of very interesting reading every issue. Published on the 15th of each month. Subscription 25c. (Mk 1) to all countries per year. Advertising rates \$1.00 (Mk 4) per inch. SAMPLE COPY FREE.

POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE

of the Western Hemisphere, finely illustrated, giving prices for all known varieties of perforations and watermarks. Small pocket size, price 25 cents (Mk 1.)

PRICES PAID FOR STAMPS.

This book gives all the prices that we pay for stamps from the very commonest up to the greatest rarities, and if you have any duplicates for sale send for copy. It only costs 10 cents. (40 pf.)

RETAIL LIST OF SETS, PACKETS AND ALBUMS

sent free to all who ask it.

WHOLESALE LIST

the cheapest out, sent to dealers only,

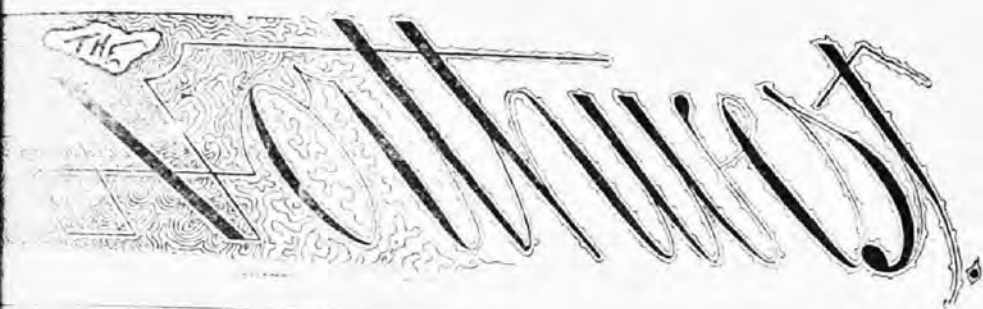
I PURCHASE FOR CASH

all kinds of postage stamps of North, Central America, in any quantity, especially rarities and old issues of the United States for which I am willing to pay high prices. If you have any U. S. Columbian 10c, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$3.00, \$4.00 and \$5.00, send them with your own price, on approval. Cash is sent by return mail for all stamps kept by me.

HENRY GREMMEI,

85 NASSAU STREET,

NEW YORK.



TO A LETTER.

Dainty, snowy, perfumed letter,
You have made my heart rejoice;
You have brought me glad, sweet tidings
And have conjured up a voice
From beyond the dreary distance
That divides my love and me;
My poor thoughts are wild and restless
As the troubled storm-swept sea.

You have thrilled beneath the pressure
Of her pulsing finger tips;
You have kissed (how I begrudge you!)
Her bewitching, curv'd lips.
She has smiled upon you, letter,
And has bent her eager face
Close above your written pages
With her old-time airy grace.

Therefore, letter I shall keep you
Resting close beside me here;
Every word is doubly precious,
Every line my heart holds dear;
You are now my rarest treasure,
Sweetest token of my life,
Better far than gold and glory
Gained within the world's fierce strife.

GUY W. GREEN.

GLIMPSES OF CHICAGO.

BY CHIC.

The cheap railroad fare to the white-winged city prevailing of late has been the means of inducing many to take the trip. Your scribe having carefully eschewed tobacco et hoc omne all summer and having saved every sou possible, concluded to avail himself of the reduction and taking the 7:30 Milwaukee (this is the only free ad appearing in this paper) found himself in the city by the great lakes the following morning. Rooms were secured without much trouble and the first day devoted to seeing the Fair. As we came along the Plaisance, we were nearing the Java village when a former Minneapolitan sung out "Hello, Chicky, old man, how are you?" We remarked that we were in the enjoyment of good health and proceeded into the Java village. Here we were just receiving a cup of coffee when my friend asked me if I was still collecting stamps. I was just going to reply in the affirmative when the Java girl imported from Coney Island or the Bowery who was serving the coffee dropped the tray breaking four cups and passionately asked as she leaned forward, "Do you know Meester Pierce, my Johnnie Pierce? Where is he to

day? I'm so lonesome without him." I replied that I had had the honor of meeting the gentleman and expected to see him that evening. My friend said his trousers felt a trifle damp and upon investigation we found that the dulcinea had spilled a quart of Java coffee grown in Alabama over his five dollar sporting pantaloons and had somewhat mottled the checks.

But to proceed. My object point was, of course, Pierce's. I had my mail addressed there and also received innumerable locks of hair ranging in colors from charcoal to canary at his emporium. On being in imminent danger of instant death, we passed the ruins on State street, known as the Government Building. A half a block from this we found 119. We walked up the stairway as J. A. afterward told us he had not time to telephone for elevator service and arriving at room 7, we entered. Here we saw a gentleman of about 55 years and upon adjusting a pair of glasses Carter obtained from the Italians we recognized our friend. "Hello Pierce, how are they coming," we ejaculated. "Well by the Javanese you've got me. I know your face but can't recall your name," he responded. Upon our card being produced we were immediately given the left hand of fellowship (that's the way Pierce shakes with his Java girl) and by passing into the six by six alcove adjoining the sanctum sanctorum dignified by the title of "The Latin College" we were introduced in rapid succession to Messrs. Severn, Glass and Ferris, the Chicago editorial crowd. Formality was immediately laid aside and we conversed upon every subject from a Philatelic Press Association to Chas. Joseph Tyren. We found all three to be men of remarkably good breeding for they listened to our munchausen tales

with, not arms, but mouths akimbo. Pierce in the meanwhile came in and said he had a call to make, but the boys were on and said he must be going on the Cottage Grove car at which one third of Puriton smiled one of his bland, childlike smiles and, like the Arab, silently departed. We rested our vocal organs long enough for the other three to get in an occasional word and Severn locked up the "College building" at 10:30 and we strolled along to the Varsity Hotel. But right here let me remark that if blaseness counts for anything the editorial trimmings could have given Cæsar Pompey and Crassus cards and spades and have scooped in the pot nevertheless. Thus endeth the first canto.

OUR SECOND DAY.

WE MEET MANY OLD AS WELL AS
NEW FACES.

Bright and early the following morning we hied ourselves back to State Street to get our mail. After a few minutes in stepped a young man of probably twenty summers, though his hirsute appendage would betoken one of sixteen, with the remark, "I've just sold Calman \$6,000 colymbians." Our host soon introduced us to Mr. Chris Peterson, the columbian aristocrat, who without a word of urging on our part, paid us his advertising account.

Chris dreams of a boat load every night coming to his address and sallies forth in the morning on his tour of investigation to obtain them. He told me he had somewhere in the neighborhood of half a million but is still looking for more. We suggested a tour of the local dealers and Chris being willing, we were soon in the store of the onely P. M. Wolsieffer. P. M. was out at the fair, but his right hand man, Friday Hopkins was there. We couldn't stop long however, and taking

the elevator in the Masonic Temple were soon confronted by a door labelled in high letter "Stamps, Coins." Entering, our guide introduced us and we enveloped our lilly black (Chicago dust stained) dextra manus within the folds of the ponderous maul of Mr. Archie L. Doherty. We remember receiving a letter from Alldrich which came from Doherty's place and do not wonder at the fondness which exists between the jolly Era and the jovial Archie. While here a German came in and tried to unload a lot of old silver coins of a nondescript character upon the proprietor but was told in forcible, but elegant English that he couldn't use them except to help fill up the Chicago sewer. We were shown the C. P. S. rooms adjoining A. L.'s rooms and were somewhat amused that a society boasting of over one hundred active members should only have twenty chairs to accommodate them, but they informed us that Hosmer usually allowed his feet to hang out of the window while Miller rarely stuck in anything but his head. We were invited to attend the meeting that evening and listen to Cottlow roar when someone would start a five dollar lot at about the same number of cents. We did find time to steal away from our Woodland avenue auburn-haired damsel and took it in or rather they took us in, for a more social crowd cannot be found than this same "Chicago gang." Here we met Mr. Sam'l Leland, the man with the wind-defiers. Deats, who does not yet look-like a married man, for he has all his hair yet, Gundji of Galveston, with whom we afterward passed many a pleasant hour and who is withal a perfect gentleman. Hosmer, the lady killer, Walsieffer, who ceased talking pianos long enough to see that Hopkins got his bids straight, Miller, the nickell auction shark, and many others

whose names are in our note book away down at the bottom of our trunk. Bradt wasn't alive, at least he didn't put in an appearance, likewise Phil Dilg whom I had counted upon seeing. But taking all of them and shaking up the bag, we think the suave Chas. E. Severn would take even in Blarney Castle though the original stone isn't there. And that reminds us that one young lady wanted to touch her lips to those of the Eagle editor as she said the contact would forever make her eloquent. And now if any of you should have the fortune to strike the wickedest city in America, be shure to look up the "gang". You will never regret it even if you are obliged to replace a lost limb with one of the manufactured sort. Say what they may, the Chicago boys will pass in a crowd and when any of them arrive at the pearly gates, St. Peter will immediately fall into an insomnia leaving the bars down for them, for as Tyren says; "They're all right."

N. W. A. P A. NOTES.

The Exchange Superintendent has just had some circulars printed setting forth the fact that his office is now open and ready for business and that he hopes the members will take a hand in assisting him to make the department as good as the best.

The auction manager hopes to have his first sale in January and writes that he wishes lots from the members for this sale. Send them in at once.

I want all kinds of U. S. British North America stamps in exchange for good foreign. Approval sheets at 50 per cent commission, lowest price! New 72 pp. cat alogue FREE! H Flachskamm, 925 La Salle street, St. Louis, Mo.

The Northwestern Philatelic Association.

Pres. F. Brown, Omaha, Nebraska. Ex. Supt. W. C. Whitall, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Vice Pres. G. B. Tuthill, Sioux Falls, S. D. Libr. Rev. Dr. C. D. McDonald, Grafton, N. D.
 Secy. G. W. Achard, Minneapolis, Minn. Auction Mgr. C. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.
 Treas. E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn. Purch. Agt. L. G. Lambert, St. Paul, Minn.
 Board of Trustees, W. S. Ankeney, Chairman, Des Moines, Iowa.

NEW MEMBERS.

There having been no objection to the following applicants, they are hereby declared elected to membership and will receive membership cards upon payment of the annual dues.

26. Robt. I. Mann, Mankato, Minn.,
27. H. E. Smouse, 704-19th St. Des Moines, Ia.
28. A. L. Brubaber, Fargo, N. D.
29. T. C. Hawley, Lake Park, Becker Co, Minn.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The following have applied for membership and if no objection is received by Dec. 1st they will be considered as

elected to membership upon payment of dues

- R. E. Wright, Broken Bow, Neb. Reference; G. W. Achard, E. E. Hubbell, Wm. A. Powers, Palmyra, Wis. References; C. E. Williams, F. Williams, Roy E. Hollister, Delavan, Wis. References; N. E. Carter, S. L. Carter.

The Secretary desires that all members should exert their influence among their collector-friends and obtain as many applications as possible. If the N. W. P. A. is to grow and flourish, there must be cooperation on the part of all. Now for a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together. Geo. W. Achard Secy.

The following By-laws were adopted at the convention Oct. 3rd, 1893. The constitution was printed last month.

BY LAWS.

1. Rules of order.

All questions of order and parliamentary law shall be determined by reference to Robert's Rules of Order.

2. Convention—Order of Business.

At the annual convention of the Association the President shall appoint the following standing committees, of three members each: Credentials, Standing Rules, Finance, Library, Exchange, Auction and Purchasing Departments (one committee) and a committee of five mem-

bers, of which the President shall be ex-officio chairman, on the constitution and By-laws. The following shall be the Order of Business.

I. Preliminary Roll Call. II. Appointment of Standing committees. III. Recess. IV. Report of Committees on Credentials. V. Roll Call. VI. Reading of Minutes. VII. Report of committee on Standing Rules. VIII. Communications. IX. Report of Officers and Standing Committees. X. Unfinished Business. XI. New Business. XI. Adjournment.

3. Librarian Duties.

The Librarian shall keep a correct list of all work, etc., in his possession and a

record of the same. He shall collect in advance, one cent and the necessary postage from every member desiring to take any publication from the library. All such shall be returned, postpaid, to the Librarian within ten days after receiving the same, and members who shall violate this rule shall not be entitled to have any other publication issued to them until they shall have satisfied the Librarian concerning the delinquency.

4. Superintendent of Exchanges—Duties.

This office shall conduct the exchange business of the Association, under the following rules and regulation:

(1.) Blank exchange sheets will be furnished by the superintendent at 5 cents each, 6 for 25 cents and only these will be accepted by him.

(2.) Members must remove the paper from the back of stamps and attach them to the sheets with gummed paper hinges so that they may be examined for water-marks, etc., and must mark the price of each stamp upon the proper place, legibly in ink. They must forward them, prepaid to the Superintendent, who will make them up and place them upon circuits. Sheet and book numbers are for the Superintendent's use, and will be placed thereon by him. The spaces on the sheets for the owner's name, and value of sheets must be properly filled out by the owner.

(3.) The member removing a stamp from a sheet must mark his name plainly in the square from which the stamp was taken. He must foot up the total amount removed from a sheet or book and mark his name and the amount in the proper space at the end of the book. If a name or amount is missing it shall be the duty of the next member on the circuit to note such an error on the sheet and notify the previous one. Failure to do so will make

the last party responsible for any loss.

(4.) Members having no duplicates in the exchange may receive books by applying to the Superintendent. Reference or deposit may be required by the Superintendent and must be furnished by such member. Members are allowed to keep exchange books five days. A fine of ten cents per day will be imposed for each day exchanges are kept over the allotted time.

(5.) The Superintendent will designate circuit routes and these must be strictly adhered to and completed before being returned to the Superintendent. At the time of forwarding exchanges to the next member on the route the sender must notify the Superintendent by postal card, giving the date of sending and amount he has taken. Books and sheets will be circulated until the Superintendent deems it inadvisable to continue same. Sheets and books must not be refilled.

(6.) Individual members are responsible for the value of all exchanges sent them from the time of receipt until forwarded and for any difference that may arise during that time, but the society shall be responsible for any loss in transitu, if investigation excuses the member from any fault. Returns of more than five dollars must be sent by registered letter or express, value declared; otherwise the sender will be held responsible for any loss. In sending exchanges or books the above shall apply.

(7.) The Superintendent has first choice of exchanges, as well as his own sheets free.

(8.) The Superintendent will keep an account with each member participating in the exchange, receiving and disbursing all money received. Statements of accounts will be rendered monthly if practicable and balances due the exchange

must be paid the by the 10th of the month. Settlement with owners will be made as soon as practical thereafter. The Superintendent shall deduct 10 per cent as a remuneration for his work of all sales, and may refuse the use of the exchange to any member not settling accounts promptly. He shall report any delinquency to the trustees at the expiration of 30 days.

(9.) The Trustees shall decide upon all cases of misunderstanding that may arise in this department.

(10.) The Superintendent shall give bonds to the Trustees in the sum of one hundred dollars.

5. Purchasing Agent—Duties.

The Purchasing Agent shall make arrangements to obtain at the lowest possible cost any stamps desired by the members charging five per cent for his work.

6. Auction Manager.—Duties.

The Auction Manager shall receive from members consignments to be sold by bid, accompanied by return postage. When not less than 50 lots have been received he shall publish a list giving particulars plainly, in the official journal. After the sale takes place he shall notify members of the sale to them of lots and forward the same after receipt of the amount offered. Any lot not satisfactory must be returned in two days to permit of a return of money paid for it. He shall make settlements with the owners as soon as possible after such sale. He shall receive 10 per cent of all sales as an equivalent for his work.

7. Trustees.

The Trustees shall assist in settling any misunderstanding that may arise in any department.

8. Dues.

The annual dues shall be 25 cents and

the initiation fee 10 cents. If any member fails to pay either within thirty days from the time when due the Society shall notify such member of his delinquency and if not paid within fifteen days thereafter the Secretary shall drop his name from the rolls, unless otherwise ordered by the trustees.

9. Official Organ.

THE NORTHWEST, a monthly magazine published at Minneapolis, Minn. is hereby designated as the official organ. The publishers shall send to every member of the society one copy of the official organ each month as published for which they shall receive the sum of fifteen cents per year from the society for each member. One dollar per page shall be paid for all official business of the Association published therein.

A CHANGE.

Doubtless many of our readers notice new names at the head of this paper. This comes through a change in the administration of affairs. Mr. George, who for so many months has been the publisher, found that he had too much upon his hands, and has sold THE NORTHWEST to a stock company of Minneapolis collectors nearly all of whom have had previous experience in Philatelic journalism. While believing that this paper has had nothing but pure original Philatelic matter in its columns, still the aim of the present owners will be to even excel its former standard and in order to merit the support of the past and that which we hope will come in the future. Arrangements have been made with our foremost authors to contribute frequently to its columns. The paper will be enlarged as its support grows. Will you be one to assist in increasing its size?

THE VALUE OF A LOCAL SOCIETY.

W. C. W.

Although this article may appear rather crude to some of the older heads, the author hopes that it may do some one some good and possibly be the means of bringing about the formation of many more local organizations in places which now appear to be hibernating. If but a single thought expressed herein finds a lodgement in someones mind the writer will be perfectly contented.

My idea of a society is a banding together of congenial spirits for the advancement of their hobby, science or whatever they may wish to term Philately. A national society goes a long ways, but it does not go far enough. To supply the existing want, the local organization is formed. This brings the members into closer relations, thus enlarging their ideas and views, for nothing so lends to baffle a man's ideas as seclusion and isolation from his fellow beings. The most essential thing to a society's welfare after it has been fairly organized is a room. Here meetings are to be held, and it may be used as a place for informal gatherings. In the furnishing of this society home, the library should occupy a conspicuous place. The librarian should arrange his papers in a systematic manner so that it will not be necessary to wander through a great stack of what is not wanted at that moment to find just the piece for which you are looking.

Another valuable adjunct to add to the comfort and enjoyment of the place, is a Philatelic Portrait album filled with the photos of our renowned Philatelists and authors. By calling the attention of our prominent collectors to the fact that their photos would be very welcome, we could no doubt secure quite a number and some of those perhaps from persons we may never see face to face.

We now come to the most important part in a society's doings; namely: the members. Considerable care should be exercised in a local society in their admission. We do not believe in admitting every one indiscriminately. Of what use is a member who comes to only one meeting a year, or even two or three? You will doubtless all agree with me when

I say he is useless. Yes, worse than useless for he acts as a drag upon the others, A case in point. Suppose A & B are two collectors, both members of the same society and great friends. A attends every meeting for quite a while, but B comes around to only one. Very soon A begins to think "Well, if B. does not find the meetings interesting enough to attend, I don't see why I should." Then he absents himself from the meetings thinking that perhaps he can find something more interesting elsewhere. Then there is the member who only looks at his album once a year. Surely he isn't very deeply interested in his pursuit and does not know much about his stamps. And when his turn comes to prepare a paper for delivery, before the society, he shrieks and begs to be excused. This isn't right. We want collectors who will make good active members, individually, as well as collectively, and will do all in their power to advance the interests of the society. And this brings me to something else, of which I desire to speak. Make the meetings interesting. This cannot be too strongly impressed upon the minds of the various members and only by co-operation can be accomplished. Even if you cannot all agree, it is probable for the best. You must keep up the interest. Inaugurate auction sales, talks by various well posted members, prepare and read papers, etc. You can all do this outside of Philately, why not, within. So let every one do his best to stir up enthusiasm and an increase in the membership as well as the attendance at meetings will be his reward.

WHAT \$1.00 WILL DO.

\$1.00 sent us postpaid will secure you a year's subscription to this paper, the Eagle, Amer. Phil. Magazine, Southern Eastern and Philatelic Californian. A library in themselves. Fifty cents by postal note will obtain this paper and any two in the above list.

We desire to exchange with all Philatelic journals. Send copies please and we will reciprocate.

SIXTH SALE.

Of the Minneapolis Philatelic Association Society will be held Friday evening, Dec. 22d. 1893, at Room 16 Collum block. Bids executed by W. C. Whitall, W. H. Barnes, G. W. Achard, the conductor of sales or any member of the society. Stamps will be on exhibition at 125 Nicollet avenue for one week prior to the sale. **BIDS MUST BE BY THE LOT.** The conductor will notify out of town bidders, when successful, who must remit before lots will be sent. If not satisfactory, they must be returned within three days or no money will be refunded. ϕ unused; unperf. unperforated; ent. entire; damg. damaged.

UNITED STATES.

1. 1847-5c fine used.
2. 1851-3c; 1857-3c; 3c outer line.
3. 1857-1c, 3c [3] outer lines.
4. 1861-66-3, 10, 24 damg, 30 (2)
5. 1868-10c grill no gum.
6. 1869-1c; 1888 30c.
7. 1869-30c.
8. 1870-3c double grill rare fine.
9. 1872-7, 30, 90c.
10. 1893-\$2.00 lightly cancelled.
11. Interior 1, 6, 10, 12, 30, last damg.
12. War, 1, 3, 12, 15, 24, 30, " "
13. ——— 7c.
14. State 6c; Justice 3c.
15. Post Office 6, 12, 15, 30.
16. Treasury 24.
17. Newspaper 3c.
18. ——— 7c; another used.
19. 1883 ent. envel. 4c white paper. [5]
20. 1887 ——— 4c manilla amber. [5]
21. Revenue unperf. 25c entry, warehouse receipt; 81. entry.
22. ——— unperf. strip 3 \$1. manifest.
23. Match, N. Y. 1c vermilion.
24. ——— A. Eichele, slight tear.
25. Revenue perf. \$10. probate, 1.60 & 1.00 foreign exchange.
26. Faunce's locals guar. originals. (10)
27. Confed. 1861-5c blue used.
28. ——— 10c '63 sheet 200 fine orig. gum
29. Barbados, 1/2 on 4; Mauritius, 1 on 16.
30. Brazil unpaid, 1890-10, 20, 300.

31. Brit. Guiana, 3c rev. used postally, 1c on \$2. on \$3.
32. Brit. Honduras, 1/5 on 3c; 5 on 3c.
33. Brunswick envel. 1855-1, 2, 3 sg.
34. Hongkong \$1 on 96; So. Af. 2 1/2 on 1sh
35. Phillipines, 1885-6 2-8 on 12 4-8
36. ——— 16 on 20
37. ——— 20; Grenada 1892-1 on 6.
38. Portugal 1879 150c; Japan 76-5c
39. Saxony 1859 5 n g fine used sga envel.
40. Uruguay 1889-5c Provisorio-Mex 72. 6c unperf. all fine specimens. U. S. of Columbia.
41. 1860-10, 20, 2 1/2c.
42. 1864-5, 10, 20c.
43. 1863-10, 1865-5, 1 peso.
44. 1866-5, 10, 20, 50c, 1 peso, 10 pesos.
45. 1868 70-5, 5, 25, 50c, 1 peso.
46. 1871-76-1 gre 1/2, 1 rose 1/2, 2 bro 1/2, 10, 20c
47. 1869-2 1/2c triang, 79-25c 91-1cperi 5c.
48. 1876-10 pesos, 1/2c. Bogata, 5c reg 5c
49. 1881-1 2-2-10c.
50. 1883-89 5, 10, 20\$, 50c, 1 peso.
50. ——— Registers, 10c Red on yellow, 5c "R," 5c, "A".
52. Antioquia 1869-2, 5, 10, 20c
53. ——— 1875-85 1, 5, 10, 50c.
54. ——— 1878 82 5c green, 20c brown.
55. ——— 1886-5\$, 10\$, 20\$, 50.
56. ——— 1888-5 green paper 4c buff paper* 10c green paper.
57. Mixed lot 100 Germ, Norw. locals about 40 rareties.
58. 250 Brit. Colonies about 50 varieties.
59. Salem N. C. 5c black ent. env. Up on back is the following: "This is a genuine reprint from original die. 1-6-88. C. H. McKeel." reserve \$1.50.
60. Jummo Cashmere 1/4 a blue, 1/4 Vermil. (Scott's No's 5 & 6) reserve \$2.50.
61. U. S. 1861- 3c genuine pink.
62. Brit Guiana 1860-1 2-4-24c 63-24 48c.
63. Tasmania 1855-1-2-4. 1858-6 blue, 6 mauve 1 s red.
64. Brazil 12 var. Argentine 6 var. Mexico 4 var. Hawaii 3 var. ent 90c.

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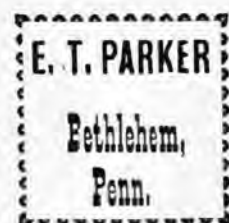
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THE NORTHWEST.

NEW SERIES.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., DEC. 1893.

No. 6

THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS.

—
BY ROY FARRELL GREENE.
—

He sat in his dingy, old study,
A room close in under the roof,
And the shutters of life clicked
around him
As they played 'mong the warp
and the roof,
For without there was gayety, laugh-
ter
And the clatter of tramping feet,
Which rose to his study window
From below on the crowded street.
He was drowsy and dull and
gloomy,
His life had been in vain,
So it seemed to him, and the ways
of life
Was a hopeless entangled skein,
Men had promised and ruthlessly
broken
As oft as they'd made one vow,
And women—well, somehow he
didn't
Put faith in them much anyhow.
Tomorrow was Christmas, and
children
As well as the sires and dames,
Were buying gay toys in pro-
fusion,
Dolls, whistles, horns, marbles
and games,
They were happy in thinking of
others;
Forgotten was honors and self,
But he, in his life so beclouded,
Was thinking of only himself.

In sheer desperation he sat there,
And was living the days of the
past,
But rousing at last from his dream-
ing,
His eyes on his album was cast.
And opening its pages in silence
He studied each picture, each
face
And this one of France seemed to
whisper
A word from the dear old home
place.
He thought of the days of his child-
hood;
In a cottage far over the seas,
Of the low-lying stretches of vine
yards,
Of mountains and forest and
trees,
And he thought of his boyhood
companions
With hearts that were loyal and
true,
And wondered if time had dealt
kindly
As they to maturity grew.
This album so mute, yet confiding
Had banished his sorrows and
cares,
Had turned all his thoughts to the
future
From the past and its forbidding
lair,
And his dreamy existence had
brightened,
He lived in his boyhood again,
Sang "Glory to God in the highest
On earth, peace and good will to
men."

THE STUDY OF POSTMARKS.

REV. M. R. KNIGHT.

Philately has opened out into a great many different branches of study, as method of printing, perforation, paper, watermarks, minute varieties in design, plate numbers, surcharges, reprints, etc. Among these the study of postmarks is deserving of an honorable place. This branch of philately has not, I think, received the attention which it merits.

At the outset I may say that I have a weakness for a stamp with the postmark on it. It has done postal duty. It has not been printed to meet the demand of collectors. It is not likely to be that *bete noir* of philately—a reprint. And I am not very anxious to have the stamp lightly cancelled. It happens sometimes that the postmark is of greater interest than the stamp itself. Some postmarks, it is true, are not very artistic, but it is something other than art that gives interest and value to the stamps themselves. The very fact that a stamp has actually carried a letter, or helped to carry it, from one post-office to another, invests it with greater interest to my mind. A number of stamps (for example some of the 1867 issues of Turkey) were prepared but never went into use. These are catalogued by all dealers, but are scarcely to be distinguished from essays. Post-marked specimens cannot be found. These and reprints, and all that ilk, would go by the board if we should confine our attention to obliterated stamps, or chiefly so.

I think I am right in stating that the majority of advanced collectors in Europe collect altogether, or almost altogether, postmarked stamps, when they do not collect both a used and unused specimen

of each stamp. Among my own correspondents in Europe I find very little demand for unused stamps. Even used post cards are generally preferred, and envelopes entire but used.

Postmarks are interesting to me from their variety. Let us run rapidly over some of the principal countries and note how varied they are. Baden, five concentric rings; Bavaria, three rings, the two outer ones quated; Belgium, a circle of parallel lines; later a diamond of dots; Bulgaria, a star within a circle; France, a diamond of crossed lines; Great Britain, an oval of heavy bars; Hamburg, several parallel bars, wide apart; Holland, a rectangle containing the word "Franco;" Saxony, two concentric rings with large net work between; China, a double square with an oval; St. Helena, a Maltese cross; Barbadoes, an oval of short, thick bars pointing to the center; Cuba, an oval filled with diamonds and star at each intersection; Montevideo, two ovals overlapping; New South Wales, three concentric ovals. From this it can be seen at once that postmarks are not all alike. Perhaps it may be incredible to some that there can be beauty in an obliterating mark, but such in my judgment is sometimes the case. I might instance several that are a pleasure to the eye.

But in our study of stamps, postmarks are a valuable aid to us in two ways; they help in the detection of forgeries and they assist in the classification of issues. The forgers often make an almost perfect imitation of the stamp, but by some mysterious facility they seem to lose their heads when they approach the postmark. In the forgeries of the first issue of Turkey, the postmark is on the back, and

shows through the transparent paper. A glance through Rev. R. B. Earle's "Album Weeds" will convince anyone of the importance of being well acquainted with postmarks. The forgers appear to think that anything at all will do for a postmark. Or if they do endeavor to imitate a postmark of the same country, it is likely to be one obsolete at the time or one of a more modern date.

Often the postmarks are the only conclusive data by which to determine to what particular years or emissions certain stamps must be assigned. The design of the postmark is changed as frequently, sometimes more frequently, than that of the stamps. The Greek stamps were of the one design from 1860 to 1883, but during that period we have three varieties of postmarks. The postmark is the only means of distinguishing certain stamps of the earlier issues of the French Colonies from the imperforate stamps of France itself of the same design. Many examples of the assistance derived in this way from an attentive examination of postmarks, will occur at once to the experienced philatelist.

Sufficient perhaps has been said to show that obliterated stamps have their points of preferability as compared even with the beautifully clean appearance of an unused collection, and that the study of postmarks is not one of the least important branches of philatelic science.

I want all kinds of U. S. and British N. A. stamps in exchange for good foreign. Approval sheets at 5 per cent commission, lowest price \$1.75 pp. catalogue FREE. H. Fleischmann, 925 La Salle street, St. Louis, Mo.

A PHILATELIC RECLUSE.

By ROY W. GREENE.

Some time ago I secured the address of a prominent minister in a Western city, who I understood, was collecting stamps, though the friend who gave me the information was not aware whether he had a large or small collection, all he knew was that the gentleman collected stamps.

I sat down and wrote to the minister, and at the same time mailed him a few stamp papers of a late issue which were duplicates to me.

In due course of time I received an answer to my letter and soon after we began an exchange of stamps for the benefit of our collections. In every transaction he was honest, prompt and reliable, so at last I mailed him an application blank for admittance into our society, at the same time explaining its objects and workings. He filled it out and returned it to me. I found by it: First, that he was a man of thirty-two years of age. Second, that his collection numbered four thousand varieties. Third, that he was not a member of any philatelic society. Fourth, that he had collected for twelve years.

The application was duly forwarded to our secretary, and in a short time my friend was a member. We kept up our correspondence and in one letter he told me that up to the time he received my first letter he had never seen a copy of a stamp paper, he had never known of one magnitude of the stamp trade, had never realized that there were so many collectors. A new era had opened up before him. He had collected for twelve years, had never met a collector, seen a stamp paper or found a society. It seemed almost impos-

sible to me that a person could amass a collection of four thousand varieties and not see a stamp paper. But upon questioning him I found that he had bought all, or nearly all, of his stamps from a Paris firm who were not connected in any way with a philatelic journal, and consequently the ever forthcoming sample copy was not to be scanned.

I have only occasional letters from my friend now, as we both exhausted our duplicates and ceased to exchange. But I have kept track of him through the columns of the philatelic press. He is developing into a most interesting writer on philatelic subjects, and though he writes under a pseudonym it is not because he wishes to make any attacks on his philatelic brothers, as is often the case with these authors who hide their identity behind a non de plume. He wishes to keep his identity a secret purely for local reasons and because of his professional calling. But I am proud to say he is doing good work, and gives promise of continuing it.

Don't I wish I had a fund of information which I had been accumulating for the past twelve years, without imparting an iota of it to the philatelic world? Wouldn't I flood the philatelic publishers with manuscript.

But I am gratified to think that it was through me that this recluse was brought out into the light of day and the philatelic world made the better and brighter for my work.

Strange as it may seem, I'll venture that there are others just like him, who are clouded in obscurity, who by a little missionary work could be claimed as a willing helper in the cause of philatelic

advancement. And if every member of our societies would take the task upon himself to hunt these out, I feel that a great good might be accomplished.

Whenever you hear of a recluse in stamp circles sit down and write to him, seek to lead him out into the light of day. And out of this veil of darkness may come forth a man of whom you will be proud to say: "I induced that man to join our ranks. It was I who enlisted him in Philatelia's cause.

Hunt them out! There are plenty of them still groping blindly in the dark who are only too willing to join hands with us in the good work as soon as they are aware of our purposes and aims. Seek them out.

THE APPEARANCE OF SOME STAMPS.

It is known that the great end of art is to give pleasure, and the most important channel through which a sense of artistic delight is received is the eye. The chief duty for which a postage stamp is intended is that of usefulness, and when the postage stamp in addition to being suitable for the fulfillment of its necessary office, is of an artistic appearance, a notable combination which the expression "esthetical of the useful" fits to a nicety.

In the study of the designs and workmanship of postage stamps there is a field of unbounded proportion. The stamps portray all manner of design from crude to artistic, ugly to handsome and from poorly to finely executed.

That dominant characteristic of the human mind, the striving for novelty, is reflected in the cases of many stamps and the stamps of certain countries are a disappointment, when the country's artistic resources are considered, while

again, in the instance of others; one is surprised at finding so great a degree of artistic merit, where it was scarcely expected. Some designs are very effective and some, while artistic, make but a passing impression on the beholder.

In some instances, the characteristics of a people and country are reflected in the design and workmanship of its postal emissions, although it is not the rule that this be true.

The designs of the stamps of the later issues of Great Britain and many of her colonies are quite pretty and chaste in conception, although the youthful looking portrait of Victoria becomes monotonous to the eye. The stamps of the recent issues of France and her colonies are engraved in highly artistic lines, yet they do not impress the ordinary mind as being particularly striking in appearance. One could properly expect that Germany, the land where art finds so congenial a home and so cordial a recognition, would produce notable results; but it must be confessed that Germany's issues do not include the artistically ideal postage stamp.

The postal issues of the Central American countries are as a rule, very ornate and brightly colored and reflect in some measure, the characteristics of many of the people of their countries in their love of color and elaborate design.

Western Australia has the sole monopoly of a most appropriate and artistic design, the swan. The fact of Western Australia having been called originally Swan River Settlement attests to the fitness of a stately swan settled on a river, as the subject of embellishment on their postage stamps, the eye of the artist is royally treated on looking

upon some of the stamps of this country; for instance, certain of the 1861 issue and the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1885. The stamps of Western Australia are delightful to gaze upon and a due amount of credit should be given this colony for achieving so pronounced a triumph in the production of artistic postage stamps.

Fine engraving often does much in redeeming the appearance of a stamp, the same as poor engraving detracts from the beauty of an artistic design. The numeral issues of Brazil while severely plain in design, are of good workmanship and for that reason present a good appearance. For a country that has issued so many stamps, Columbia had produced very little that is noteworthy from an artistic point of view, and one would think that Austria and Hungary, countries that art finds so congenial, would have prettier and more striking stamps.

New Foundland with the dog, fish and seal pictured on her stamps has designs at once appropriate, unique and pleasing especially in the instances of the dog and fish, the seal being a somewhat awkward appearing animal. The stamps of the first issue of Nicaragua are very pretty with the suggestive design and delicate colors, while the issue of Peru depicting the llama is a handsome one. The 1887 issue of British Guiana shows up well artistically, and on each stamp the two tints used in the coloring blend attractively. The stamps of the Cape of Good Hope are odd rather than particularly artistic while the figure of Britannica seated on certain of the issues of Barbados, Mauritius and Trinidad attract chiefly because of their unconventionality.

The earlier Nevis and Virgin

Islands are noticeable as being of unusual and taking design, and issues of Liberia furnish various unique designs. The Canada beaver stamps are attractive although too many details seem to be crowded into the design. The five shilling carmine-red 1880 issue of St. Vincent is a beautiful, artistic piece of workmanship and its size and color tend to make it impressive to the sight.

The tiger engraved on the stamps of Pahang, Selangor, etc., draws particular attention to those stamps for the tiger when pictured, always presents an elegant appearance. The Columbian issue of our own country is a beautiful one; perhaps to the cultivated eye of an artist, the artistic appearance of some of the stamps comprising the set might be questioned as having too much to the design, giving it a cramped, crowded appearance, in proportion to the size of the stamp.

We have designated a few of the stamps whose appearance appeal particularly to us and though, in some of the estimates of their artistic merit, we might have erred, it is certain that none will gainsay the assertion that there is an interesting and promising range of subjects in the postal issues of the world, worthy the attention of anyone having an admiration for beautiful, artistic, tasteful designs.

C. E. SEVERN.

AUCTION SALES.

At Gremmel's 10th sale held Dec. 5th the following were some of the prices realized: U. S. 1856, 24c \$10.50; 1860, 90c, unused, \$5.00; 1875, 24c, 5.20; 1870, 7c, 5.75; Justice 90c unused slightly damaged, 10; 30; 1853 Env. sq. cut, 3c wide label on buff, 14.75; 1861, Env. sq. cut, 4c blue red on buff, 6.25; 1853 entire env. 3c on

white, die 5, Horner No. 4, 10.00; Memphis, 5c red splendid copy on orig. env., 4.10; Mobile 5c blue line on orig. env., 5.95; Bavaria 1890 12c violet, perf. unused, 4.00; Brit. Bechuanaland, 1887, £5, used, 10.00; Cape of G. H. 1861-4p wood block, 5.35; Mauritius, 1848 1 p red brown, 7.50; 2 p bluish paper, 5.00; 1858, 4 p green very fine 17.00; New Republic, 1886, £1, violet on yellow horizontal pair, 14.00; same embossed arms, 10.00; Wurtemberg 1852, 18kr violet, fine, 3.00; 1863, 18kr. orange perf, fine, 3.00.

The prices paid on some of the lots was ridiculously low while on others, they were quite the reverse. But taking it all in all, one can easily go by the prices as a fairly correct criterion of values.

Burton of Madison, N. Y., has a sale booked for Dec. 22nd at which some fairly good bargains may be had.

Bradt will hold a sale on Dec. 20th of nearly four hundred lots, some of which promise to incite some brisk bidding.

The Northwestern Philatelic society's first sale occurs on Jan. 15th. A catalogue of this sale may be found in this issue and comprises 71 lots, 53 of which are U. S. and confederate. Send in your bids to C. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.

The sixth sale of the Minneapolis society takes place on the 22nd inst. and a good attendance is expected. Several out of town collectors have written that they shall try to be present. The next sale of this society will take place in February.

WHAT 50 CENTS WILL DO.

If sent us by postal note, you will get a year's subscription to THE NORTHWEST, Eastern Philatelist, and The Stamp. Send it NOW.

Are you a subscriber to THE NORTHWEST? If not do so at once.

The Northwestern Philatelic Association.

Pres. F. Brown, Omaha, Nebraska.
 Vice Pres. G. B. Tuthill, Sioux Falls, S. D.
 Secy. G. W. Achard, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Treas. E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Ex.Supt. W.C. Whittall, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Libr. Rev. Dr. C. D. McDonald, Grafton, N.D.
 Auction Mgr. C. E. Williams, Palmyra, Wis.
 Purch. Agt. L. G. Lambert, St. Paul, Minn.

Board of Trustees, W. S. Ankeney, Chairman, Des Moines, Iowa.

NEW MEMBERS.

There having been no objection to the following applicants, they are hereby declared elected to membership and will receive membership cards upon payment of the annual dues.

- 30. R. E. Wright, Broken Bow, Neb.
- 31. Wm. A. Powers, Palmyra, Wis.
- 32. Roy E. Hollister, Delaware, Wis.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The following have applied for membership and if no objection is

FIRST AUCTION SALE

of the Northwestern Philatelic Association to be Held January 15th, 1894.

CONDITIONS OF SALE.

The stamps are sold at so much per lot and the person bidding the highest will receive lot at his bid. Successful bidders will be notified of the lots received, and will remit amount upon receipt of which goods will be sent with privilege of returning same within three days if not as represented.

This, our first sale, I hope will be a success, and trust that all members will feel interested enough to send in bids, and lots for our next sale which must be in by Jan. 1st.

Address,
CHAS. E. WILLIAMS,
 Auction Manager,
 Palmyra, Wis.

UNITED STATES.

- 1. Eagle Carrier, used on orig. env., not very good.
- 2. 1851, 10c, used on orig. env., fine, reserve 40c.

received by Jan. 1st, they will be considered as elected to membership upon payment of dues.

E. F. Van Gorder, Box 9, Minneapolis, Minn., references Chas. E. Williams, Geo. W. Achard.

W. H. Radcliff, Sioux Falls, S. D., references Geo. W. Achard, Geo. B. Tuthill.

F. S. Parmalee, 1312 Douglas St., Omaha, Neb., references Frank Brown, F. R. Heft.

H. O. Anderson, 316 N. Carroll St., Madison, Wis., references, C. E. Williams, M. J. Johnson.

- 3. 1851, 1c, strip of three on orig. env., 2 slightly torn, reserve 30c.
- 4. 1855, 10c pair on orig. env., very fine, reserve 45c.
- 5. 1855, 10c, unused, fine, reserve 30c.
- 6. 1855, 10c, used, fine.
- 7. 1868, 3 strip of five, used, very fine.
- 8. 1868, 5c, used, very fine, reserve 1.25.
- 9. 1872, 1c, dark blue, block of 25, unused, reserve 40c.
- 10. Same, block of 10.
- 11. 1875, 1c, used, fine, reserve, 25c.
- 12. Interior, 2c, unused, block of 20.
- 13. Treasury, 24c, used, torn but neatly repaired, reserve 1.00
- 14. 1861, 10c, used, 5 on orig. envelopes, reserve 25c.
- 15. Cardboard proofs, 90c-72, 2c-75, 30c, due.
- 16. Playing Cards, A. Dougherty, 4c, black, fine, rare, reserve 1.00.
- 17. Officially Sealed, type set, two var, with and without period.

18. Western Union Tel. Co., 1886 unsevered pair, reserve 50c.
19. Western Union Tel. Co., 1888 block of four, reserve 25c.
20. Pacific Mutual Tel. Co., set complete 1, 5, 10, 25c.
21. Bloods Penny Post, Scott No. 15 42, on orig. env., fine.
22. Same.
23. Another.
24. Boyd's Local, block of 9, including (1) error "1 cents."
25. Orig. locals 8 var. allens (2), Am. Letter mail, Blood, Boyds (2), Brooklyn Faunce's.
- ENTIRE ENVELOPES,
26. 1853, 3c, Die one, uncanceled, also 3, 1c, 1857, lightly canceled, perfect reserve 60c.
27. 1853, Die one, on white with Nesbitts name on back, good, reserve 50c.
28. 1853, 3c, Die one, on white, fine reserve, 20c.
29. 1853, same, reserve 20c.
30. Same only buff paper, reserve 20c.
31. 1853, 3c, Die 2, on buff, (5) reserve 20c.
32. 1853, 3c, Die 4, on buff very good, reserve 25c.
33. 1864, 3c, on buff, with patent lines, fine.
34. Taylor, 5c, blue on amber, unused.
35. 1883, 4c, green Jackson, on white unused (10) reserve 1.00.
- SQ. CUT ENVELOPES.
36. 1853, 3c, Die 4, on white, quite badly damaged, used.
37. 1863, 2c, black, U. S. Postage above, on buff used very fine, reserve 60c.
38. 1863, Same, reserve 60c.
39. 1864, 2c, black on orange used fine, Die 2.
40. 1876, Centennial env. 2c, green used, fine.
41. War Dept. 12c, used, very fine, reserve 75c.
42. Locals adhesive, Allen's (5), one used 4 var. reserve 40c.
- REVENUE.
43. 25c, Entry of Goods (15) Insurance (5) all unperf.
44. 25c, Entry of Goods, unperf, unsevered pair, reserve 25c.
45. 3.00, Charter Party, unperf, fine, reserve 40c.
46. California State Rev., 10c, and 15 blue, fine reserve 25c.
47. U. S. Match 10 pieces, mostly damaged, cat. \$4.00, reserve 50c.
48. N. Y. Match Co., 1c, red cat. \$1.00, reserve 50c.
49. \$1.00 Entry of Goods, unperf. CONFEDERATE.
50. 1861, 5c, green used.
51. 1861, 10c, blue not very good, used, reserve 25c.
52. 1852, 5c, dark blue, large, pair on orig. env. very fine, reserve 75c.
53. 1862, 5c, blue, small, pair on orig env., reserve 40c.
- FOREIGN.
54. Argentine, 1884, 1c red, Off. surcharge inverted rare, reserve 1.00.
55. Argentine, 1885, 2c, green, red surcharge Off, uncatalogued, reserve 1.00.
56. Barbades, 1872, 1 sh. violet, (2) shades used.
57. Ceylon 1858 2 p. green env. unused cut square, reserve \$1.00
58. Costa Rica 1883 1c green unused, block of 10.
59. Iceland 6 a. 2 var. Penny Series, reserve 25 cts.
60. Japan 1 sen letter sheet used.
61. Lagos 4, 6 d. lilac unused catalogue 50 cts. reserve 30 cts.
62. Mexico 12 var. revenues.
63. New Zealand, 5 sh., Ecuador 1c, rev. used postally.
64. Panama, set 1, 2, 5, 10c, unused.
65. Peru, 1862, 1 d. red, 1863, 1 p. brown, 1868, 1 d. green.
66. Peru, 1858, 1 d. 1872, 5 last damaged slightly.
67. Spain, 55 var.
68. Straits Settlements, 10 var. cat. 81c, reserve 30.
69. Sweden, 41 var., cat. \$1.78, reserve 50c.
70. Wholesale lot, India, Japan, Hungaria, Swiss, Romania, 100 cat. at \$2.00.
71. 420 var. of foreign cat, at about 6.00 reserve 2.00.

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

No display, one cent a word. No ad taken for less than 20 cents, cash with copy, 9 words in a line.

WANTED—Manuscript in exchange for advertising space, address Editor of this paper.

One year's subscription for 20, 3 c; 10, 6 c or 5 c; for 2, 30 cts or 1, 50c Columbian. Address editor.

WANTED FOR CASH.

United States stamps, old issues, used and unused in blocks and pairs. Will give outside prices.

N. E. CARTER,

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

AUCTION SALES!

We are having one or two every month.

If you have any stamps to sell we'll be glad to sell them for you.

Send your name for catalogue.

GIVE US A TRIAL.

ADDRESS

JUDSON N. BURTON,

MADISON, N. Y.

DEAD THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC MAGAZINE. 25 cents per year postage copy free. SANDERS & BROWN, Box 20, Omaha, Neb.

A Christmas Present.

Sending of a nice little packet of foreign stamps (no trash) to all purchasing any of our packets viz:

- 1 U. S. Postage only Postpaid.....12c
- 1 U. S. Postage only Postpaid.....22c
- 1 U. S. Postage only Postpaid.....27c
- 1 U. S. Rec. Postage only Postpaid 22c

Mixed U. S. including Columbian. 1,000 postpaid. We send out U. S. at 33 1/2 percent com. Send U. S. at 33 1/2 percent com. Send We will buy for spot cash any 5-cent stamps or list.

WILLIAMS & CO.,

WISCONSIN.

WORLD'S FAIR SOUVENIRS.

For a short time only I will sell Columbian 1 c's. Envelopes mailed at World's Fair Postoffice.

CHICAGO DAY.

October 9th 1893, at 10 cents each or 3 for 25 cents This is the finest Souvenir of the great Exposition. Only 3 sold to one customer. Order at once as supply is limited and they will be worth 1 dollar each next month.

WANTED for cash, all kinds of used Columbian Postage Stamps in any quantity.

My wholesale list sent to dealers only

CHRIS. PETERSON,

Wholesale Dealer in U. S. Stamps.

500 WEST POLK ST.,

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

APPROVAL SHEETS.

Good at 50 per cent.

Better at 33 1-3 per cent.

Best at 25 per cent.

If you want to increase your collection at the minimum outlay for the maximum result, send for a selection of my sheets.

If you are unknown to me or not a member of the S. of P. or A. P. A. send a good reference.

If you desire U. S. send a list of what you want and I will quote prices.

My motto is small profits and quick sales. Address

CHARLES W. GREVING,

U. S. and Foreign Stamps 225 Avenue B, New York.

A price list will be sent for the asking.

ARE YOU LOOKING

For packets? Here is our special leader. There isn't the same value in any packet on the market. We call it No 7 because it's lucky.

500 all different, from such countries as Uruguay, Brazil, unpaid and newspaper, Argentine, Chili, Ecuador, Honduras, Hawaii, Old Mexico, Persia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Gold Coast Indian states, Ceylon surcharges, Portuguese Indies, and many others equally desirable. This packet will easily packet four times what we ask for it. Our price \$3.

Every third packet contains a Cuba surcharge catalogued at \$2.50,

THE ACHARD CO.

125 NICOLLET AVE.,
Minneapolis, Minn.

AUCTION SALES.

We intend holding a number of sales during the present season and parties having good stamps to dispose of or collectors who are thinking of breaking up their collections will do well to correspond with us.

Our charges are low and our facilities unexcelled. We know the buyers and can reach them. Try us.

THE ACHARD CO.,

125 NICOLLET AVENUE,
MINNEAPOLIS. - MINNESOTA.

ACCEPTED.

Have you done so to our proposal? If not, don't wait. You will find the stamps on our sheets the very best and the prices low. Then, too, we allow 40 per cent. discount. References are required from all save S. of P. or N.W. P. A. members who send their numbers along with their applications for sheets. When you have tired of other dealers, write us.

THE ACHARD CO.,

125 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

DO YOU BUY SETS?

How do these strike your fancy? This list is but a very brief one of the many sets on sale at our store. If you don't find what you want here, write us for a more complete list.

8 Bulgaria 1 to 50	18
5 Curacao 1889, 1 to 5	12
6 Costa Rica 1 to 50c, 1889	18
3 Chili telegraph, 1887	15
8 Egypt	10
25 Brazil	40
40 Brazil	90
50 Brazil	\$1.50
5 Ecuador, 1892	15
5 Mexico 1864, Eagle issue	\$1.00
5 Queensland .....	.08
5 Sweden 1891, complete	10
4 Sweden, unpaid, 1892	10
7 Portug. Col 1893, 2½ reis	15

ALWAYS ADDRESS

THE ACHARD CO.,

125 NICOLLET AVENUE,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

THE NORTHWEST.

NEW SERIES.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., JAN. 1894.

No. 7

WM. WETTERN JR.
WHOLESALE DEALER IN
Postage Stamps,
411 W. SARATOGA ST.,
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

New list sent out on application to dealers only.



A collector cannot be said to be equipped to advantageously purchase his specimens without having before him a copy of
E. T. PARKER'S
Price List of
Postage Stamps.
10 cents pays for a copy.

1000 Well Mixed Continentals Only **23c** POST PAID.
50,000 for \$8.00. Express Extra.

40 fine varieties only 12c. 30 varieties of U. S. and Mexican Revenues 2c—a bargain. Approval sheets 50 per cent. discount. 1, 2, and 3c sheets a specialty. 16 page illustrated price list free.
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CENTURY STAMP AND COIN CO.,
Post Office Box 9,
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

Good selections of stamps sent on application to responsible parties. References or society member required. We respectfully solicit a card of your patronage. Orders promptly attended to. New illustrated catalogue free. Cash paid for old stamps and coins.

FREE! FREE!
A beautiful unsevered pair of genuine confederate stamps on original envelope, to all sending packet No. 29, containing 100 var. of choice stamps. Price 25 cents.
Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded.
H. A. AMMANN,
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FOR SALE.

500 Columbian stamps and square cut envelopes, also 6000 other stamps.

MAKE ME A BID. Want old U. S. high values for stone relics. Fossils, Etc., Etc., also have sheets of U. S. at 50 per cent. off.

MRS. N. J. ROBINETTE,
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N. E. CARTER.

Dealer in United States and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps. Sheets of all grades sent on approval against good references or cash deposit.

DELVAN, WIS.

JAPAN.

	Per 100	500
1883, 2 sen red.	\$.10	\$.40
5 sen blue. ....	.10	.40
1888, 10 sen Orange. ....	.15	.60
15 sen violet. ....	.15	.60
25 sen green. ....	.15	.70
Above 5 values assorted. ....	.15	.60

All the above post free.

H. F. DUNKHORST,
1005 SEVENTH ST. N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

THE NORTHWEST.

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Where will be on sale
a stock of used and un-
used postage stamps.
Address all mail or-
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The Weekly Philatelist, 40 cents per year, 152
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6 months. Latest and
best stamp news. Sample free, if you mention
this paper. *New Chester, Penn.*

MONEY.

Is not what I am after, but on
the Q T, I will send my sheets
to good Agents at 40 per cent.

I have a large stock to select
from, and send out nothing but
good sheets of foreign stamps.

No U. S. on Approval.

W. H. BARNES,

418 SO. THIRD ST.,

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THEY ALL WANT IT
AND THEY ALL GET IT.

"WHY NOT YOU?"

It's the greatest thing ever of-
fered. Its a double bargain. It
can't be beat!

My renowned DIXIE Packet.
Containing 399 different postage
stamps from every quarter of the
globe; for only

ONE DOLLAR.

If you read the above, be sure to
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FREE!

Fifty different stamps to all ap-
plying for my unequalled approval
sheets at 50 percent discount.
Big premiums. Greatest induce-
ments to agents.

A. M. RARESHIDE,

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ORDER QUICK.

- 60 Var. U. S. Cat. \$1.40 40c
- 200 Var. foreign, one worth 30c
for only 50c.
- 7 Var. Ecuador, 5c.
- 4c Red on White, Amber, Blue,
and Oriental Buff cat. 65c. 25c
- 25c Venezuela Columbian 10c
- 1c stamps per 100 13c.
- 2c " " " 45c.
- 3c " " " 85c.

Selections sent on approval at 50
percent commission, U. S. at 2
percent. Every applicant gets
one of my famous 35 var. packets.

G. B. TUTHILL & CO.,

Box 896. Sioux Falls, So. Dak

THE NORTHWEST.

NEW SERIES.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., JAN. 1894.

No. 7

THE RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

By an Ex-Mail Clerk.

THE FIRST TRAVELLING POST-OFFICE.

The first we hear of a travelling post-office, which is a name now often given to postal cars, was in a memorial address to congress in November, 1776, by Ebenezer Hazard, Postmaster General, where he mentioned that on account of the many and almost constant removals of the Continental army he had to undergo great expense and fatigues, and that having to pay an exorbitant price for every necessary of life, and he had been obliged, for want of a horse, which could not be procured, to follow the army on foot.

A GIGANTIC MACHINE.

Although Ex-Postmaster General Thomas L. James has written an admirable article on the Railway Mail Service, which was published in one of our leading magazines, and other writers have given the public similar articles, there is still a mystery about this valuable department of our postal service which seems to make those who do their postal work upon the rail a little more than ordinary men. Nor is this to be wondered at. An express train rushes into the depot; the postal car with its barred windows and heavy doors looks like a travelling bank, but the words "United States Railway Post-office," painted in large letters on the sides show what it is; inside are seen

coatless men working for dear life, with piles of mail bags and pouches, heaps of letters and papers and racks of pigeon holes; a stop of a few minutes; mail bags hastily thrown off; others taken in; a few short, quick puffs of the locomotive and the express train rushes out with the railway postal clerks working harder than ever. Even the postoffice clerks know but little more than this about that branch of the service which is the greatest advantage to every man, woman and child of the United States.

William Lewins aptly says of the railway. "It is like a gigantic machine, one part dependent upon the other, and all alike dependent upon the motive power of the different contracting parties."

ITS BIRTH.

England, with her small extent of thickly settled country, was able to first put in operation a railway postal service, and the experiment was made in January, 1838, between London and Birmingham. This was so successful that one person made the remark: "By means of the extra railway facilities, letters now pass along this line (London and Birmingham), in a space of time so inconceivably quick that some time must elapse before our ideas become accustomed to such a rapid mode of intercourse."

It was some two score years after its adoption in England before the United States postal department

took any steps to avail itself of this great improvement. In 1860 an arrangement was made with the railroads to run a mail train from New York to Boston by way of Hartford and Springfield, so that the southern mails should be immediately transferred from New York instead of laying over until the following day, as they had done heretofore. This may be regarded as the birth of the postal railway service of this country. A few like arrangements were made with other railroads, so that mail trains were run between New York and Washington, of course, the only advantage of these mail trains was the quick transfer of mail matter from one place to another. The travelling post-office, where mails are assorted when going at the rate of fifty miles an hour, had not yet come.

THE FIRST RAILWAY POST-OFFICE.

Mr. W. A. Davis, one of the St. Joseph, Mo., post-office force, has the honor of making the first distribution and assortment of mails while they were in transit. In 1862 the thought occurred to him that if the mail could be assorted on the cars between Quincy and St. Joseph it would save the overland mail considerable valuable time. The department allowed him to carry out this idea, paying him for the work which he did. But to Col. Geo. B. Armstrong, who was afterwards the first general superintendent of the railway mail service, is due the honor of establishing the postal cars. The first car sent out upon his suggestion left Chicago for Clinton, Iowa, Aug. 28, 1864. At that time Col. Armstrong was assistant P. M. at Chicago, and his plan of running the post-office cars on the principal railroads, with a force of clerks to make up the mails for offices at the end of

and along the routes, was tested in this trip under the following order from Postmaster General Blair:

"Test by actual experiment upon such railroad route or routes as you may select at Chicago, the plans proposed by you for simplifying the mail service."

Although Mr. Davis was undoubtedly the first person who suggested the idea of railway post-offices, yet to Col. Armstrong belongs the gratitude and credit of establishing this important branch, which, starting in such a humble way, but a quarter of a century ago, now employs over five thousand men, extends to every part of the country, controls the contracting for mail service upon 140,000 miles of railroad and 6,000 miles of steamboat routes, and expends about \$20,000,000 annually.

ITS RAPID GROWTH.

In 1864 a special agent of the department visited the presidents of the several railroads, which run between Washington and New York, to find out what explanation they could give of the irregular mail service between those points. The officers evinced both a ready willingness to admit the existence of good cause for complaint, and the desirability of remedying the trouble, and also expressed themselves as desirous of doing whatever was in their power to secure more correct and rapid mail service. Postal cars were accordingly tried on the road between New York and Washington, and were so successful that within a few months similar cars were run between Chicago and Davenport, Chicago and Burlington, and Galesburg and Quincy. It was not long after the inauguration of this service before the postoffice cars were placed upon all the principal lines leading out

of Chicago and between New York, Albany and Buffalo.

PALACE POSTAL CARS.

The first travelling post-office which ran between Chicago and Clinton was built by the railroad company under the supervision of Mr. Zevely, who was Col. Armstrong's right hand man in instituting this service. The interior arrangement was elaborate and elegant for that age, but in comparison with the postal cars of the present day it was crude and primitive. Although the railroad companies build and own the cars, the postoffice department controls them. Different railroads have vied with each other in getting out elegant and convenient cars, some being almost equal in their fittings to the drawing room cars of the vestibule trains. On the western roads especially, no expense is spared to gain all the conveniences. The cars for long routes in addition to their ingeniously contrived work rooms, contain bedroom, parlor and dining room. But the majority of the cars are not like "my lady's boudoir." They are built for hard and constant work, and the wear and tear of railway speed soon leaves the marks of the service they have done for their country.

(Continued in our next.)

THE FIVE SHILLING STAMP.

By O. FIRTH.

(Read at Leeds, Eng., Philatelic society's meeting on December 2d.)

WEST INDIES.

Continuing the chronological treatment adopted in my paper on the 5s stamps of the Australian colonies,

TRINIDAD.

I find that the earliest issued stamps of the value under consid-

eration emanated from Trinidad. It appeared in 1860, and is thus one of the earliest of all stamps of a high value. It was engraved and printed by Messrs de la Rue & Co., and was printed dull lake on paper wmk *Cr. and C. C.*, and Perf. 2½. It is not an especially handsome stamp. It is about the same size, large rect., as our own 5s stamp, and a very similar design was adopted for a Natal stamp of the same value. It does not appear to have been used for some years, though I have not been able to find the date of its withdrawal from issue. An unperf post-marked specimen is known to the Leeds Philatelic society.

BARDADOS.

Barbados produced the handsome stamp, which reflected credit on Messrs Perkin, Bacon & Co., in 1873. It was printed in "dull rose" of rather a chalky character, I think, on paper wmk. with a six rayed star with a yellowish color, both of paper and gum. It was perf. 15½. This stamp was used in March, 1878, for the production of the 1d provisional, each stamp being vertically bisected and surcharged 1d on each half. There appears to have been no particular demand for a stamp of this value until 1885-7, in which issue, of the familiar uninteresting de la Rue type, a 5s bistre. appears, perf. 14 on *Cr. C. A.* paper.

JAMAICA.

Another uninteresting de la Rue label is the Jamaica one of 1875, August 27th. It is not distinguished either for size, design or beauty of color, being of ordinary size, common-place design, and uninteresting color, being deep lilac. It is wmk. *Cr. and C. C.* and perf. 14. I think it is now current.

TOBAGO.

Tobago rather unexpectedly takes

THE NORTHWEST.

the next place in point of date, being represented by the grey-black issue of August 1st, 1879. It was not a postage stamp at all, and I only include it to draw attention to the curious fact that after the words of Mr. E. D. Bacon (L. P. S. West Indies, p. 138) the London Philatelic Society should include it in their reference list. "In face of the fact statements, these two stamps (the 5s and £1) have no right whatever to be included in a catalogue of postage labels and ought for the future to be expunged from all such lists." It was work *Cr. C. A.* and perf.

ST. VINCENT.

St. Vincent next took the field, in 1880, with the well-known, and now much sought after handsome stamp of Messrs. Perkin, Bacon & Co's production. The color of most specimens is now of a faded rose-red in most cases, and for its age is about the oldest looking stamp extant. It is scarcer used postally than unused. It is on *star wmk* paper and perf. 12 and of large size. The color alone is quite sufficient to distinguish it from its remarkably new looking successor of 1888, which is printed in a very deep rich crimson color by Messrs. de la Rue, from the old plate, on *Cr. C. A.* paper, perf. 14. This stamp is still current.

BAHAMAS.

In August, 1885, Bahamas made its solitary contribution in the shape of a sage-green de la Rue label of orthodox type, and usual size, on paper wmk. *Cr. and C. A.* perf. 14. The color is rather faded looking, but is nevertheless its most striking, and, I think, most successful feature. I know of no other stamp of this exact shade.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

The Leeward Islands produced a

de la Rue bi-colored label in green and blue on October 31, 1890. This is, in my opinion, their most successful type, as shown in this present series. It is wmk *Cr. C. A.* and perf. 14, and has not yet been used in the manufacture of provisionals. S. C.

Note. -It is not the editor's intention to insert anything previously published, but the above article had but a limited circulation in America and being of such an excellent nature, we decided to give our readers the benefit of Mr. Firth's research.

HOW I STARTED.

ERA.

How many collectors have tried to trace back the first invitation which fair Philatelia held out to them? And how few can accurately determine when it was. The first collection of stamps which my memory will permit me to call to mind was owned by a school mate of mine in Cincinnati, in the "seventies." As I recollect it now it was not more than a couple of hundred specimens, but their owner had profited by the "St. Nicholas Article" which had but recently been published and had hinged them. In other days stamps were not as generally collected but I adopted the "hinge method" to the collection of post marks which I then had as my "Leres et Penates." I have often wondered what became of this collector and whether today he is still in the ranks. While memory recalls the collection, there is no recollection whatever of its owner. Somehow or other I, for a wonder, did not catch the craze and I have no recollection of anything stampic except that I picked up an uncanceled Centennial envelope, which survived the ravages of time and is

still in existence among my entire envelopes.

A lapse of nearly ten years occurred ere I again had stamp collecting called to my attention, when a fellow school mate brought a cigar box of duplicates to school to trade. This fellow student was August Von Glahn, now an attorney located in the Tacoma block, Chicago, where last fall I tried in vain to find him, but although calling twice had the misfortune not to find him in. Whether now a devotee to our hobby or not, I know not, but at the time in question enthusiastic was no name for it. At one time he held the office of corresponding secretary of the old Chicago Stamp collector's Union (this was in the days of Jerome Raymond and the Stamp Collector's Companion) and had dabbled in publishing, having in connection with one Busse (a cousin of his if I mistake not), sent forth the Philatelic Headlight, of which number one and a doubled two and three greeted the world.

These specimens must have been mostly a common mixture and yet though their look was pleasing to the eye, no respect was awakened in my as yet uncouth breast.

It remained for the philatelic press to make a convert and it remained for a member of the old Philatelic Gazette of Mann and Kendig to enlist me in ranks philatelic. Some how or other while in Minnesota, in the fall of '85, a stray copy fell into my hands and the advertisement of A. E. Ashfield, of Rye, New York, met my eye and not long afterwards a couple of approval sheets and a packet of continentals were in my possession. A small note book accompanied my accumulation until October, when I returned to the Garden City, when a visit to Stevens put me in possess

ion of an International and I was formally wedded to "our hobby." Although in Chicago for over six months I never met a fellow collector to converse with, although Stevens on one occasion called my attention to a gentleman who left just as I entered, as Mr. Bradt who is trying to organize a national society. That same fall, 1886, I left Chicago for the "Land of Blizzards" but whether I signified my willingness to become a member prior to leaving or just after arriving in the "Northland" I cannot now say, but my active connection with philately must be dated from the birth of the A. P. A., in the fall of 1886.

AN OLD TIMER.

During the summer of 1893, being on my vacation, I had the good fortune to examine an old collection of postage stamps, none having been added since '75. The album, in which it was mounted, was of English origin, and was a very small affair considered with the magnificent ones of today. The first three or four pages were filled with blue wood cuts, representing the rarest stamps of all the stamp issuing countries. The countries themselves were arranged by continents and not alphabetically as is now the general custom.

The advance in philately could be readily seen by the condition in which stamps were then accepted, hinges were an unknown quantity in those days, but that surely was no excuse for placing torn stamps or cut round envelopes in the collection, which gave it an unidy look, although many valuable stamps were contained in it.

Ceylon especially was well filled nearly all the early issues being complete, and what was remarkable, all were in fine condition.

Among the French stamps I noticed one, of which although I had heard a great deal, I had never seen before. This was the famous "Balloon stamp." It was an envelope stamp cut square, a little larger than a two cent red, '90 issue. It consisted of a simple maltese cross stamped in red, and was cancelled "Paris" and beneath, "C." This simple piece of paper had carried a letter from Paris to London when Paris was surrounded by the Germans and all communication shut off except by balloon. This stamp is, I suppose, almost unique. But let us pass on to the United States, none of particular value being noticed before them.

These stamps were arranged without order or reason, being simply stuck in at haphazard. Here reposing among a lot of revenues was what any collector might be proud of, namely a five cent New York, with a double line at the bottom. Here also I discovered another gem, a 30 cent Orange unperforated, with the head facing towards the right, and in a used condition, which is, in all probability the 30 cents of the issue of 1856. The departments were also in a very full condition, there being complete sets of Navy, Justice, State, Treasury, War Interior and Post-office, and many of these rare stamps as duplicates.

While looking over the stamps the owner was telling me their history, nearly all being obtained by trading while at a boarding school, in England. As "swapping stamps was prohibited it was necessary that they be smuggled in, and exchanged during recess, over lunch. "And many were the "black eyes" given and taken in those days over stamps" said he in finishing his story, and I, the album.

R. G. BADGER.

EDITORIALS.

CRAWFORD in a recent number of our worthy contemporary, *The Eastern Philatelist* bemoans the woeful condition of affairs as regards the compensation of philatelic authors. Well, perhaps, he is correct, but, if so, then how dark and dismal must be the pathway of the average editor who is obliged to do a great deal more work, and harder too, on his paper. The work of editing a stamp journal is certainly much more arduous than the writing of an occasional article for the philatelic press, but there is no pay in it. If, at the end of the year, the publisher comes out even or a few dollars ahead, he is extremely fortunate. The reason for such a state of affairs is plain. Philatelists rely too much upon the publisher's generosity and expect to receive the paper gratis, and then kick if there is something therein, occasionally, which hurts their esthetic tastes. Until the collector can be made to understand that the repeated sample copy is played out, philatelic authors should be content with the reasonable compensation which they receive. At any rate the majority of contributions to the philatelic press of today do not warrant a very large remuneration, as they do not possess the merit necessary to justify it. The trouble to our mind seems to be that too many write upon some abstract correlative subject instead of upon the stamps themselves and the knowledge to be derived therefrom.

As we look back over the year just closed and notice the failures in the business world as well as the sensations which from time to time have appeared upon the surface, we are forcibly reminded of

the fact that no year has been so prolific of the latter in philatelic circles as 1893. What with the early events that aroused our latent interests, the summer and fall have been unusually crowded with events of a stirring nature. The conventions, then the Bishop embroglio, the Hooper affair and finally the Hollis robbery, have kept our curiosities at a strained pitch to wonder, what next. It has been a year of extensive purchase on the part of most of our dealers. The festive columbian has been laid aside for a rainy day. Our collections also have received numerous additions by way of the great number of new issues emitted. New papers have been born, blossomed and died in a desert spot. But all in all philately has advanced by strides never before attained and we as servants in her retinue have likewise progressed. 1894 certainly has some grand things in store for us, if we but grasp the opportunity ere it be too late. May the New Year be one mingled only with pleasure is the wish of the THE NORTHWEST.

UNLESS our foresight is very indistinct, we prophesy that the coming ten years will be golden ones for philatelists. But no more so for the collector than for the dealer. There appears to be well defined lines pointing toward the formation of a gigantic stamp trust in less than a decade and to "be in it" at all then, the dealer must be a member of the trust. A great many will undoubtedly laugh at this assertion and say that we are visionary, but to those doubting Thomases we need only to refer to the number of corporations builded upon the business of many smaller concerns. Then take the new catalogue to be

issued by a syndicate of the large concerns in the east. Here is one instance of the beginning of the trust. Mark our words, inside of ten years the large dealers of America, England and Germany will be banded together in a philatelic trust of much stronger bonds than the old hanseatic league.

THE FUTURE OF PHILATELY.

By FELIX OLDBOY.

There is one remark with which our ears are so frequently greeted in these days that it has become a chestnut. I refer to the remark which we almost invariably hear when we show our collections to old friends who ten or fifteen years ago disposed of their collections for a mere mess of pottage and who now turn a cold shoulder upon anything philatelic. They say: "What! are you still a stamp crank? I thought nobody but children paid any attention to such things now." At first the remark staggered us, but of late it has bobbed up so serenely and so often that we have been able to formulate an answer.

But of late years, another question has been asked with unceasing regularity. Some friend says: "Why we collected away back in the '70s. Isn't stamp collecting dying out? I thought the craze was over." My reply has always been: "Yes, the craze is over, but stamp collecting has developed into philately and it will never die as long as people write letters and are obliged to rise stamps." To my notion stamp collecting is one of the liveliest corpses on earth. And instead of dying out is daily getting in new recruits. It is true many old collections are being sacrificed under the auctioneer's hammer, but if you will notice carefully, you will observe that some particular country

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NEW MEMBERS.

There having been no objection to the following applicants, they are hereby declared elected to membership and will receive membership cards upon payment of the annual dues.

33. E. F. Van Gorder, Box 9, Minneapolis, Minn.

34. W. H. Radcliffe, Sioux Falls, So. Dak.

35. F. S. Parmalee, 1312 Douglass St., Omaha, Neb.

36. H. O. Anderson, 316 No. Carol St., Madison, Wis.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The following have applied for membership and if no objection is received by Feb. 1st, they will be considered as elected to membership upon payment of dues.

E. T. Bemis, 515 East 2nd St. Duluth, Minn., references, R. N. Marble, G. W. Achard.

John J. Leavitt, Tracy, Minn., references Chas. E. Williams, J. J. Tevlin.

M. D. Merrill, Jr., 442 Broadway, St. Paul, Minn., references, L. G. Lambert, W. C. Whitall.

Adolph Larson, Madelia, Minn., references, Geo. W. Achard, J. J. Trowbridge.

Hugh Barr, 1228 Fremont Ave. Davenport, Iowa, references, C. E. Williams, L. J. Ickes.

Ray Hancock, 808 Brady St. Davenport, Iowa, references, C. E. Williams, L. J. Ickes.

J. C. Coburn, 2022 Webster street, Omaha, Neb., references, C. E. Williams, Chas. Kennedy.

Dan D. Doolittle, Box 455, Fremont, Neb., references, W. C. Whitall, Frank Brown.

H. C. Martin, Box 595, Duluth, Minn., references, C. E. Williams, G. W. Achard.

is missing in the catalogue. The owner has undoubtedly become a specialist and we have not yet lost him entirely. It may be true that we have lost a few old collectors who, after selling their treasures, have folded their hands calmly and asserted that they were done with philately. But where we see one such leaving our ranks we find a dozen new ones springing up. This year they have come up so fast that we haven't even been able to count them in our immediate vicinity let alone in the outside world.

Perhaps nothing has induced so many beginners to commence as the display in the government building at the World's Fair. While we older collectors saw much to condemn in the postal exhibit and A. P. A. exhibit as well, still to the initiates and the raw recruit, these

things were something grand.

But of the future. Probably twenty-five thousand new collectors were started by the above named exhibits and these new stampies will soon be our governing factors in our societies and will undoubtedly induce others to begin. In this way our ranks will always be filled. I am one of those who believe in philately for what enjoyment and pleasure you can get out of it and not altogether from a pecuniary standpoint and I believe we are coming gradually to a point where monetary values will sink into insignificance along side of the pleasure to be derived from a thorough research after knowledge in the stamp line. Hence it follows conclusively that as long as we pursue philately with such an end in view, it can never decline but will continue until Gabriel blows the last trump, and even then the stamp collector will be loth to part with his album.

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