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PIPESTONE, MINN.





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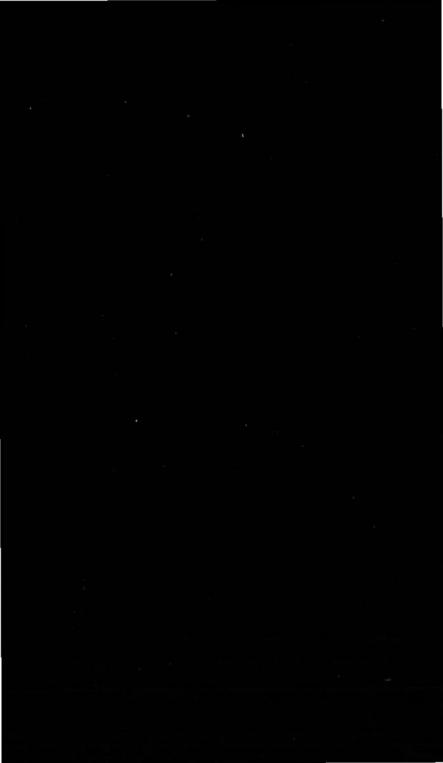
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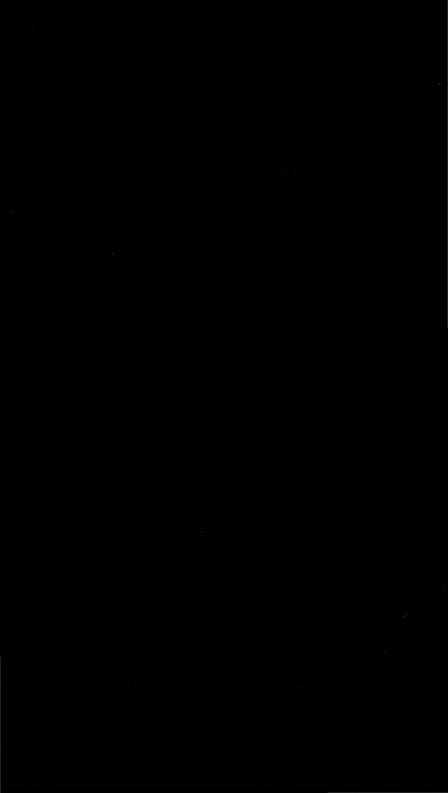
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ALWAY

Mention the Minneso when answering adver is





. THE MINNESOTA STAMP . .

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

PIPESTONE, MINN., AUG. 1896.

No. 1.

Notes on Rarities.

first Fiji island issue, the ed "express" stamps, were at the office of the Fiji Times, as printed every Saturday by L. Griffiths at his office on reet, Levuka on Ovalan. ost which called forth these vas established in the latter 870, and is, I believe, first ed to the public in the Oct. of the Times. Besides the ce at Lavuka, in charge of iffiths himself, branch offices at Suva, Rewa, Nandi, Ma-Kandeow, Bua and some half ther points. The scale of anged from 1d for a news-9d, which charge was made rs from one local office to while a letter to any other he world cost 3d from Le-6d from any of the other

The post continued in until Jan'y 1872.

rst plate prepared for the issue Great Britain was re-The second plate was origi-

nally prepared with a net-work, from which specimens were printed, and are occasionally met with, although surcharged specimens are eagerly picked up, but the plate was never used for issue until after the net-work was removed. Plate 3 was also prepared and can be distinguished by a small dot in the trefoil frame immediately below the ornament.

The genuine stamps of the 1867 issue San Salvador are canceled with a number of black dots, possibly intended for a fleur de-lis; also with the letters S. S. formed into a monagram inclosed in a heavy circle, and with a pen stroke. Any specimens cancelled with either parallel lines, circle with any name (like ordinary dating stamp), or with a series of concentric circles are counterfeits.

There were, it is stated upon good authority, upwards of three thousand designs submitted to the British Government from which to select a suitable design for the first adhesive postage stamp.

THE MINNESOTA STAMP.

HART AND RUEHLMAN, PUBLISHERS.

H.D. Ruehlman, Editor, box 79, Sharon, Wis. Chas.G. Hart, Business Mgr, Pipestone, Minn.

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EDITORIALS.

With this, our first number, we venture on the broad sea of philatelic journalism, only hoping we may live a long and prosperous life. We will publish a paper which will not be controlled by any one dealer or dealers, and will be a paper strictly for the trade. We hope to receive your subscription.

We will make no rash promises for the future, but let each issue speak for itself. We intend to publish 4 to 8 pages with a cover each month.

As the summer months roll on, the philatelic political pot commences to boil, and things seem to be very lively now in both the L. A. P. and P. S. of A. Although we do not publish our ticket in this issue, we would ask all who wish the Exchange

Department of the P. S. of A. II hands of a competent man in coming year, to vote for Mr. II Ruehlman of Wisconsin. Mr. I capable of filling the office in be...t possible manner, and we to see him come out with a majority. We would say Rueh first, last and all the time.

We have received with please copy of the Hand-book of Mid Collectors, published by W.H.I ler, Detroit, Mich. The prices cents and it is well worth it.

The Texas Philatelic Directory also been received. It contains complete list of collectors in Te Price only 15c. Address Ed. W. Heusinger, 113 City street, Antonio, Texas.

The Postage Stamp Craze,

"There is a young woman," a watchman at the New York postor "who spends several hours a did the corridors looking for rare postamps. She never looks for all and she never expects one, but watches those who do get them examines the stamps on all cast envelopes with great care. These must be very rare before she will it, and every time she gets a fort stamp she consults a small be which she takes from her pocket.

re decides whether she will keep not. She may not get a stamp lys at a time, but she does not to be discouraged. When she one she is as happy as if she had a gold mine."

s she the only one who comes for that purpose?" enquired the ter.

Bless you, no, there are hundreds em, and of every age, from small to gray-haired old men. Most hem want nothing but foreign ps for collections, while other ks are trying to collect a million. stamps. At any time you can the collectors going about the re carefully picking up every old clope and removing the stamps. Se people are all well-dressed and in to have nothing else to do but for stamps.

Several of these men who have at it a long time have struck up a a business between themselves rading stamps. When one of the way who is trying to collect a mil-United States stamps finds a rare ign stamp he trades it with one he collectors of foreign stamps two or three hundred old United as stamps, and considers himself paid. There are a few young two collect foreign stamps for purpose of selling them to colors."

ERRORS.

ERA.

The bona fide errors must be divided into two classes—those occuring in adhesive emissions and those of the envelopes and postcards, and at present it is my purpose to consider the first class only.

These errors can be further subdivided into six classes, each of which is caused by the manner in which it is produced.

- 1. Error in design. Usually found in bi-colored stamps, as the inverted centres of the 1869 issue. In one colored stamps the only notable examples are the 5 para Egypt with inverted frame and the 3 kopec Russia with background of the 5k.
- 2. Error in plate. Where a wrong die is by mistake inserted in a plate, causing a stamp to appear in the color which rightfully belongs to some other value. The 5b Roumania of 1876 is a well-known example.
- Error in die. Where a mistake in spelling or designing is made in the stamp, as the Qo error in Queensland or the CNETS of the Madison stamp.
- 4. Errors in watermark. As the New South Wales stamps where the figure of value is watermarked in the paper and wrong values are printed on the paper watermarked with some

other value.

- 5. Errors in perforation. This class is not so frequently met with as might be anticipated, and occurs by sheet being misplaced when run through the machine or by wearing of the needles, so as to leave two stamps unperforated.
- "Surcharge" errors. By far the largest class of errors, caused by typographical errors, intentional or otherwise, in the setting of the plate of the surcharge.

The Cancelled Stamp Habit.

There is a really witty writer on the *New York Press* from which we clip the following:

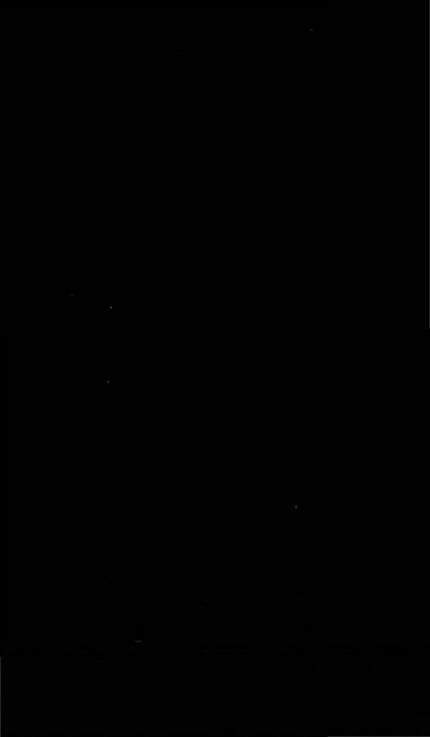
"The canceled stamp seems to possess all of the pernicious qualities of the opium habit, with none of the latter's temporary soothing effects. It takes possession of the poor victim's mind until he loses interest in life and living. His day and his night are merely so many hours of torture. Waking he thinks and sleeping he dreams of how he can increase his stock of canceled stamps. He plots and he plans to get hold of envelopes; he abstracts them in secret; he spends hours in hunting through waste baskets. He throws envious

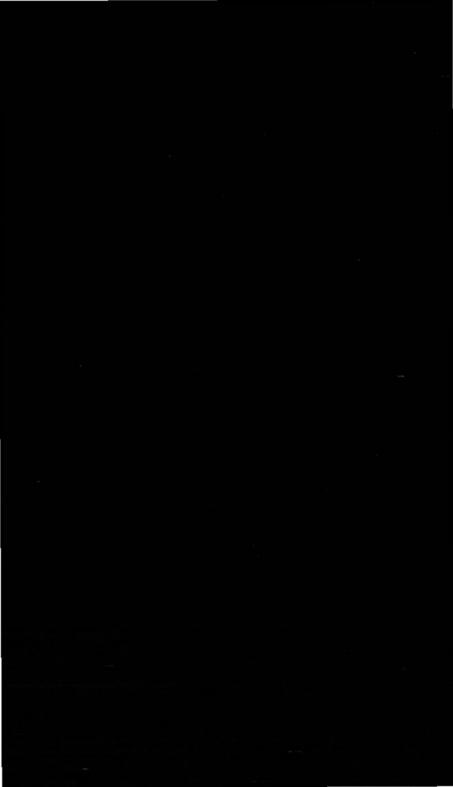
and suspicious glances at the ashbrels, and the sight of a postbrings thoughts of assassinations robbery. He writes letters simpler the sake of getting the cancel stamp on the reply, and he has about the post-office in a state of cination. There should be a Ke institute started for the cure of canceled stam habit before it read the asylum stage."

But the "method in our madne is seen when we point to the that at auction in New York cityl month a pair of these canceled star found a purchaser at the neat fig of \$102.

"What fools these mortals be."

The boy who collects a hundred so of postage stamps and then of to trade them for post-marks and post-marks for amateur papers, these again for tin tobacco tags, may be a good sort of a boy, but chances are he will never succeed making a good collection of anythi He has no fixed purpose. He doe stick to anything long enough to out if it has any merit, or to deve a lively interest in it. If he is g to collect stamps, for instance, let go at it in earnest, and if after trial he finds there is nothing then he ought to abandon it.







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