

# A Collection of Mexican Postal Cards

Is an ornament to any Album and the demand for these beautiful Cards is constantly increasing.

## PERU

Is another country which is receiving considerable attention for her cards, with their bright figures of value and Coat of Arms make a very pleasing effect.

## NICARAGUA

THOUGH somewhat neglected since 1850 should not be neglected. A complete set of these artistic cards is within the reach of every collector.

CONSIDERABLE interest is being manifested in the Cards of

## CUBA

and collectors are generally filling in their "Wants" in anticipation of coming events.

ANOTHER Spanish Colony

## THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

is now claiming its share of attention.

As superb specimens of the Engraver's Art we must not neglect the handsome cards of

## HONGKONG

Their unique design and fine workmanship entitles them to the first place among the British Colonies.

To come down to business I offer . . . . . until sold, a limited number of . . . . . collections from the above countries.

PACKET MEXICO, No. 1.—Containing 25 varieties, 1870-1895 single, double, provisionals and letter Cards. Cat. value \$6.10. Price, post paid \$2.25.

PACKET MEXICO, No. 2.—Containing 30 varieties, 1870-1895, a more complete collection than No. 1. Cat. value \$10.25. Price, post paid \$3.00.

PACKET PERU.—Containing 20 varieties, 1853-1896 single, double and Letter Card. Catalogue value \$4.70. Price, post paid \$1.00.

PACKET NICARAGUA.—Containing 27 varieties, 1878-1894 single and double complete. Catalogue Value \$2.25. Price, post paid \$1.00.

PACKET CUBA.—Containing 20 varieties, 1878-1896 single and double. Catalogue value \$5.80. Price, post paid \$1.25.

PACKET PHILIPPINE.—Containing 6 varieties, 1870-1896 single and double, all unique value \$2.75. Price, post paid \$1.00.

PACKET HONGKONG.—Containing 10 varieties, 1850-1896 single, double and Provisionals. Catalogue value \$1.45. Price, post paid \$0.65.

ALL the above Packets contain unused Cards only, except the Mexican, in which may be found a few used specimens, rarer than unused, but, whenever preferred, I will substitute unused Cards for them.

Order early to secure any or all of the above Packets before they are sold.

**A. LOHMEYER,**

922 N. Gilmer Street,

**BALTIMORE, MD.**

# The Maryland Philatelist

Fiat Justitia, Ruat Cælum.

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A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interest of Stamp Collectors.

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VOL. I.

NOVEMBER, 1896.

NO. 1.

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## OUR GREETING.

We believe there are enough collectors and dealers residing in Maryland and her sister states who are sufficiently interested in the science of Philately to support another Philatelic Magazine.

We have canvassed enough to believe we can publish another paper of this kind in Maryland, so with this, our first number, we make our initial bow to the philatelic public, and trust we will be well received.

This number will have a circulation of about 3000 copies. Whether we shall publish THE MARYLAND continually depends on the advertisers; if they show the interest in the future, as they have thus far, we think we will have a successful and prosperous existence.

We want good manuscripts on philatelic subjects, both historical and statistical, for which we will pay good prices.

We thank all those who have shown confidence in us by advertising in our first number, and assure you that it is appreciated, and we hope we will constantly be favored with same.

As our subscription increases we will enlarge our paper (the size of the page will remain the same, but the number of pages will be increased.)

We should like very much to have your subscription, and if a dealer your ad.

Thanking you all, again, for your support, we remain:

Yours in Philately,

THE EDITOR.

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## CHURCH HILL.

It may be of interest to the readers of THE MARYLAND PHILATELIST residing at a distance to know something of the town in which it is published.

A thriving little town of about 800 population, rightly deserving its name (Church Hill) as it contains churches of seven different denominations. What other town having not over 800 inhabitants can boast of seven churches.

The town is situated about 50 miles-southeast of Baltimore city, between the Chesapeake Bay and Delaware, in about the center of Queen Anne's County, one of the richest agricultural counties of Maryland, and one of the greatest peach growing counties east of California.

The only Philatelist in the town to our knowledge is the Editor.

## PROMINENT PHILATELISTS.



RALPH W. ASHCROFT.

This month we present to our readers a half-tone cut and short biographical sketch of Mr. Ralph W. Ashcroft, vice president of the Philatelic Sons of America.

He was born at Rock Ferry, England, on March 22nd, 1874, and his parents emigrated with him to America seven years ago, and with the exception of two years spent in Philadelphia, he has resided in New York and Brooklyn.

He graduated from Waterloo College of Oxford University, with first class honors, having been at the head of the graduating division.

He began to collect stamps about ten years ago, and is remembered in Philatelic Journalism as having been the publisher of the *Brooklyn Philatelist*, *Empire State Stamp Journal*, and the *Long Island Philatelist*. The two years service which he gave to the above Philatelic Journals has proved of great value to Mr. Ashcroft, as he has made journalism his profession.

Some years ago he was Secretary of the United Philatelic Society, and when the Philatelic Sons of America was organized in 1893 he became one of the charter members and was unanimously elected Secretary and did much for the building up of the Society.

Since he has been Secretary to the President of one of the largest railroad corporations in the country, but resigned to accept a position on the editorial staff of the *Clothier and Furnisher* but recently he has become Editor of *Gameland*, of New York City, a monthly magazine devoted to out-of-door sports, and is also Secretary and Treasurer of the corporation known as The Gameland Publishing Co.

Mr. Ashcroft was elected vice-president of the Philatelic Sons of America at the Lake Minnetonka Convention last summer, and will make a fine officer, as he has already shown in various offices.

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## STAMP COLLECTING AS A MORAL TRAINER FOR CHILDREN.

Among the many uses of stamp collecting, its most important is the great good it does in training and developing the minds of children. It serves to make the child refined, modest and as careful in picking his associates as in selecting the brightest specimens for his collection. An interesting collection of stamps makes a home more pleasant and a collector will spend most of his evenings at home instead of in riotous company. It makes him a very careful observer of himself as well as others. This leads him into most perfect manhood. A boy who has no interest in himself will never make a Philatelist, nor can a boy with imperfect morals be recognized among that branch of scientific students. He will be found out and cast upon this broad, unsympathizing arena to battle with something more fierce than a numidian lion; that of a stained character. Parents buy your child an album and give him a start for a collection and in after years you will have a son with a spotless character. Then you will have a daily reminder of what "Stamp Collecting" has done.—From *The Dixie Philatelist*.

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## INTERESTING ITEMS.

The first steel pen was made in 1830. The first iron steamship was built in 1830. Gold was discovered in California in 1848.

The first newspaper was published in England in 1588. The first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652.

The national colors of the United States were adopted by Congress in 1777. The cost of coal burned by an ocean steamer on a trip will average \$13,000.

**Miles of Books.**—In the library at the British Museum there are over thirty-two miles of shelves filled with books.

**Authors' Success.**—It is stated that Judge Albion Tourgee received over \$70,000 for his work entitled, "A Fool's Errand." D'Israeli \$5000 for his "Endymion," Moore \$15,500 for his *Lalla Rookh*, and Victor Hugo \$12,000 for "Ernani."

**You Cannot Count a Trillion.**—It is impossible to count a trillion. Had Adam counted continuously from his creation to the present day, he would not have reached that number, for it would take him over 9512 years. At the rate of 200 a minute there could be counted 12,000 an hour, 288,000 a day, 105,120,000 a year.

**Derivation of our Language.**—Over three-eighths of the words in the English language are derived from Latin, over one-fourth from the French, about one-tenth from the Saxon, and a little less from the Greek. The indebtedness from other languages is small.

**Hottest Place on Earth.**—Belzoni considered the track between the first and second cataract of the Nile as the hottest on the globe, owing to their being no rain. The natives do not credit the phenomenon of water falling from above. Hence it is that all monuments are so nicely preserved. Buckingham found a building left unfinished about 4000 years ago, and the chalk marks on the stones were still perfect.

# The Maryland Philatelist.

A Monthly Journal For Philatelists.

## SUBSCRIPTION.

United States, Canada and Mexico 25c a year.

Foreign Countries 40c a year.

SUBSCRIPTION BEGINS WITH CURRENT NUMBER.

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Good manuscript always in demand.

In case of change of address, the subscriber must give his old, as well as his new address.

## ADDRESS,

**T. H. GAFFORD, JR., PUBLISHER,**

**CHURCH HILL,**

**MARYLAND.**

An **X** opposite this paragraph signifies that your subscription has expired.  
Please renew immediately, if you wish the magazine continued.

## EDITORIAL.

"CUI BONO" they cry. "The up-to-date Philatelist" we reply.

\* \* \*

THE first subscription to THE MARYLAND PHILATELIST was received from Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, N. J.

\* \* \*

THE MARYLAND PHILATELIST is published by a collector, not a dealer, and is no house organ, but a general organ of the trade.

The Editor is merely a collector, and not a dealer, although he has dealt somewhat in stamps on a small scale in the past, he is out of the stamp business for good, or at least while he publishes this magazine.

\* \* \*

IN this issue we present to our readers a half-tone cut and short biographical sketch of Mr. Ralph W. Ashcroft, vice-president of the P. S. of A.

We will continue half-tones of Prominent Philatelists from month to month; this alone will be worth the price of subscription.

Next month we will have half-tones and short biographical sketches of several collectors; among them will be Mr. R. M. Miller, Secretary of the S. of P., of Piney Creek, Maryland.

\* \* \*

WE are two weeks later in making our appearance than we intended, so we have concluded to make our first number November, instead of October. Our December number will appear on time and be out by December 1st. Forms close for December number November 20th. Our December number will not be our regular Holiday number, but we will issue a fine Patriotic number in July, something to look forward to.

We will mail our paper next month in large envelopes, and philatelists who are forming a Philatelic Library will have the MARYLAND without the crease from being folded, thus making a much nicer appearance when bound.

PHILATELIC Address Books are all the rage. Besides those already out, the following are announced: Dealers' Directory, by Richard H. Bunce; New York Philatelic Blue Book, by O. Curth; Ontario Address Book, by R. C. Widdicombe; Rhode Island Address Book, by W. Sandford; Wisconsin Hand-book, by H. D. Ruchlman; North Carolina Address Book, by Knox W. Henry; Philatelic Hand-book for Colorado, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa and the Southern States, by Herbert C. Beardsley; Philatelic Paper Directory and Philatelic Society Directory and League of American Philatelists' Hand-book, by H. C. Beardsley, etc.

\* \* \*

MR. J. W. STOWELL of Federalsburg, Md., member of the P. S. of A., S. of P., etc., paid us a friendly visit a few days ago; he and several friends were on their way to the Chestertown Cycle Clubs' Annual Race Meet, in which they entered to race. Mr. Stowell won the mile inter-club race in 2:24 and in the team race Messenger and Stowell, both of Federalsburg, came in first and second. Mr. Stowell got his wheel badly damaged in one of the races and had to get another wheel to ride home; he also stopped on his way home, for a while, and we had a chat about Stamps and Philatelic Literature.

Mr. Stowell prints the *American Collector*, *Columbian Philatelist*, MARYLAND PHILATELIST, *Pennsylvania Philatelist*, and other philatelic papers, etc.

\* \* \*

WE have received from Mr. L. M. Lang, a copy of the Official Souvenir and Year Book of the Philatelic Sons of America.

It is a very neat pamphlet, about  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size and containing about 100 pages; the Official Colors are used on the cover, Purple ink on Cream paper. It contains portraits and sketches of officers and leading members of the society, list of Stockholders, History of the Society, report of the 3rd Convention at Denver, a Confidential Chat with Non-members by Roy Farrell Greene, etc., etc. Every Philatelist should have a copy.

Also received from the Facts Publishing Co., of Riverside, Cal., a copy of the California Philatelic Address Book, a neat little pamphlet,  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in size, of 22 pages and cover, containing 174 or more names. Price 10 cents of the Publishers.

Any books, pamphlets, etc., relating to stamps, which may be sent us will be properly acknowledged through our columns.

\* \* \*

THE *American Collector*, a high class illustrated monthly, published by R. M. Miller, Secretary of the Sons of Philatelia, at Piney Creek, Md., is meeting with great success.

Mr. Miller also informs us that the October number of his paper will be enlarged to 12 pages, and have a fine engraved heading, designed by Rev. W. A. Carver, of Dillsburg, Pa., whom we had the extreme pleasure to meet at the S. of P. Convention at Gettysburg, Pa., last August.

Friend Miller we wait with interest, the appearance of your October number.

\* \* \*

THE Sept. number of the *International Philatelist* is a great improvement over the last few numbers; it contains 24 pages and colored cover and has more space devoted to Philately and less to personals. Keep it up to its present form Bro. Beardsley.

\* \* \*

THE Sept. number of the *Philatelic Free Lance* contains a full report of the Philatelic Conventions. The S. of P. Convention report was furnished by Merrell C. Haldeman, the youngest member present at Gettysburg. The composition of this report would have been a credit to a much older person than Haldeman. Write on Merrell, you may be one of the star philatelic writers of your day.

\* \* \*

WE have received the following new publications: Vol. I, No. 1, of the *Eastern Stamp*, a neat little paper  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5$  inches in size, containing 8 pages and cover, published at Duck Pond, Me., by Fred W. Rugg; the *New York Philatelist* containing 8 pages and cover, published by Beringer & Herbst.

## THE MORAL FACTOR IN PHILATELY.

C. S. A.

We are quite aware that this title is not a new one. Indeed, its copyright expired by limitation several years ago, yet like many other sayings which by iteration becomes tiresome, it is one that has been taken for granted without any adequate sense of its meaning. However useless such a step in mathematics, it is sometimes needful to restate axioms in morality.

Not that there is any more in her moral force in philately than there is in fishing or in bowling, but it is a pastime which if properly indulged in will inculcate moral principles, and this in a more pervasive manner than is generally conceded. Such a sentiment, perforce, will be laughed away as too silly for serious reply. We will be pointed to the Society Attorney's, Counterfeit Detectors, Accounts for sale and the open-handed swindlers plying their wicked trade over all the World (most whom go scot free) as an answer to any attempted moral claims for the pursuit. But we decline to allow Philately to be measured by any such inseparable depravity. Besides, the object of this article is to present this moral aspect not to graduates in Philately, but to parents who have little thought on the subject, whose sons may be thinking of becoming collectors. If in any measure it can be shown that stamp collecting tends to elevate character by forming moral habits, then it is worth at least a hearing from the novices, even if some of the graduates (specially the revised critics) should fall into fresh spasms over seeing another article on this theme.

The writer is not an old man, yet he has lived long enough to note the general effect of collecting on the young, and that effect is constant, whatever the line of study selected. Take the out door collector, let him be the youthful geologist, entomologist, or what else, and you will find him generally (I might say universally) a moral youth. Observe where and how he spends his evenings. Is it on the street with "the boys," or down town with more associates? Not likely. You will find him home among his specimens, assorting and studying them, and reviewing the results of his latest excursions. Where, too, does he pass his holidays? Probably not with the wild lads of the community, but with one or more kind spirits in the fields and groves, increasing his knowledge of natural history, and adding to his collection. Parents need never be alarmed about the "where" of such sons. They, if any boys, can be safely left to themselves. Because nature is essentially moral, and the true study will never lead any boy away from infinite author. In all his recollection the writer does not recall an immoral youth who was a natural history student. So much for without, from within and the same law will be found still at work. Philately is essentially an in-door study, as geology and the others are pursuits of the woods. It is thus independent of any season or state of the weather. See some of its moral influences over the lad who pursues it.

1. The boy will be weaned from the street by having a counter attraction at home. Many a lad falls under the spell of evil associates because of having nothing better to employ his time. His mind as well as his body must be entertained, and if healthful sport is not given, he will hunger after the evil. Parents often wonder that for all their training their boys go to the bad. Induce them to take up some such recreation and study as stamp collecting, and you have thrown a stronger home-coil around them than may at first appear.

2. He will also invest much of his spare cash which now goes for candy, gum, cigarettes and other questionable habits, to that of building up an album. The writer knows of a number of lads whose weekly or monthly allowance of the families is invested in stamps even before it becomes due; when formerly it all went to the indulgence of needless tastes and appetites. Here the lad is teaching himself a spirit of self-control that is sure to work his character, and it is a wonderful testimony to the fascinations of Philately, when we reflect that it is about the only thing that will induce the average lad to endure such self-obligation.

3. But everyone knows that such a collection is growing in value as it grows in age, and the lad is thus laying by a friend that may well stand him in hand against the rainy day. If there is one thing which the usual young American needs to be taught, it is the value of money. He should be impressed early in life

with what we may term the sacredness of values; that money represents much more than its face denomination: it represents labor, sacrifice, genius and forethought care. You cannot eliminate morality from finance. Now, we can hardly conceive of a better system of savings banks for the spend thrift lads of this nation than postage stamp albums. Along with that spirit of self sacrifice which they imperiously demand, they are increasing their rate of interest on the investment such as no Savings Bank has ever yet offered.

4. But not least of all, collecting will develop the moral qualities of a lad by showing him the due rights of others. He will soon find that few pursuits present a wider field for wilful fraud than philately. Consignments from home and abroad will be at his command, with not more than the general good faith in human nature to measure his dealings. He can commit unlimited wrong to his fellows, often without detection, or, if discovered, with less chances of punishment. But the very fact of being so largely on his personal honor will develop every moral sentiment not to do a conscious wrong, and so inculcate a high tone of integrity and self-respect. True, we read of the scores who do break faith with their neighbors and steal their goods; but what about the ten thousands whose minutest act and thought is the soul of honor and "justice?"

The long winter evenings are before us. Many a lad in city and country will find them to hang heavy on his hands for lack of some intelligent diversion. Would it not be well for parents to heed this fact and so try to meet it? And where can they turn for a cheaper or more fascinating subject than that of philately? We do not say it will be against all good boys ever becoming bad ones, or converting all bad boys into saints. But it will make intelligent lads wiser, happier, and may result in changing idle, reckless lads into better, through its intellectual and moral influences on their lives.—From *The Dixie Philatelist*.

**The Largest Trees in the World.**—The biggest trees in the world are the mammoth trees of California. One of a grove in Tulare county, according to measurements made by members of the State Geological Survey, was shown to be 276 feet in height, 108 feet in circumference at base and 76 feet at a point 12 feet above ground. Some of the trees are 376 feet high and 34 feet in diameter. Some of the largest that have been felled indicate an age of from 2000 to 2500 years.

**The Largest Tunnel.**—The longest tunnel in the world is that of the St. Gothard, on the line of railroad between Lucerne and Milan. The Summit of the tunnel is 900 feet below the surface at Andermath, and 6000 feet beneath the peak at Kastlehorn of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is 26½ feet wide, and is 18 feet 10 inches from floor to the crown of the arched roof. It is 9½ miles long.

The sun is 92,500,000 miles from the earth. The later receives only one two billionth of solar heat. The nearest fixed star is 16,000,000,000 miles distant, and takes three years for light to reach the earth.

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#### "Philatelic Californian"

everywhere, and being anxious to reach exactly the people you, as the advertiser, want to reach, so as to remind them of the fact that your firm is ready to supply their wants in your particular line, we make the following offer:

For each \$1.00 worth of advertising we have from you, we will mail one copy of the **Philatelic Californian**, for one year's time, to each person whose name and address you supply us with.

FOR EXAMPLE:—If you give us a contract for a full page, for one year, we will add the 101 names you supply, to our subscription lists, and across the front page of the first issue sent, will print the following:

"At the request of Messrs. \_\_\_\_\_, whose advertisement appears in this number, we will send the **Philatelic Californian** for one year, free of expense to you. Remember each month, when you receive this magazine, that your good friend has thought of you and has something of importance to say to you, inside the covers."

The Philatelic Californian,

P. O. Box 257. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

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Watermark detectors. Duplicate Albums, Gauges, Devices for seeing through stamps. Lenses. Preparation for fixing fugitive colors. Means to destroy odor of benzine, Hinges, Oilers, Clips, Cleaning soap, &c

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**S. HAZEN BOND,**

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## The Sons of Philatelia

An International body of Stamp Collectors, organized in 1891; purely with an aim toward mutual helpfulness and profit.

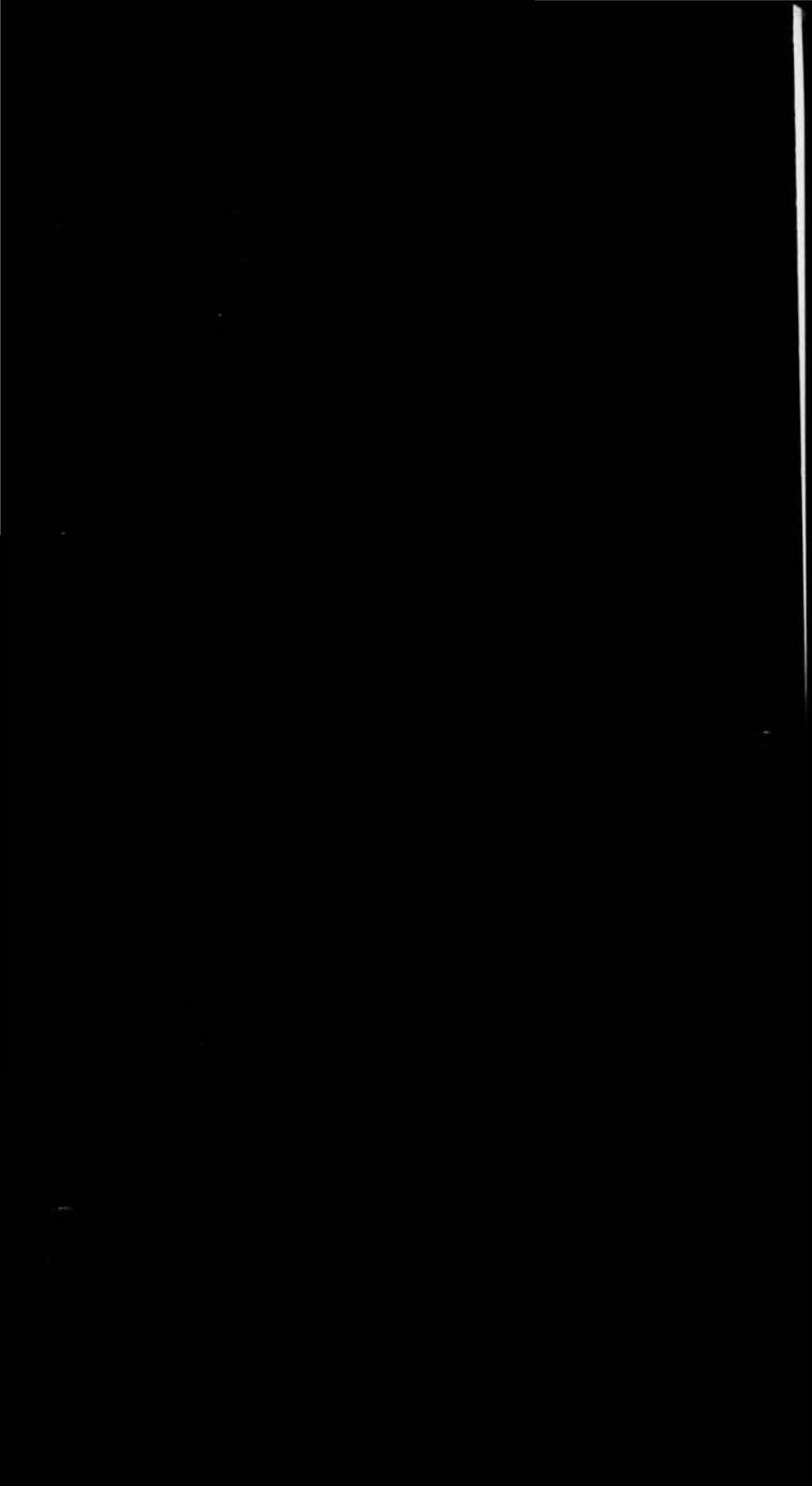
——  
We want your Companionship.

If not a member, send for information, application blanks, etc., and see what privileges at benefits the Society offers, and you will want to be one of us.

R. M. MILLER, Sec'y.

PINEY CREEK, MARYLAND.









FEDERALSBURG, MD., OCT. 25th, 1897.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that we have printed and delivered Three thousand (3000) copies of this issue of THE MARYLAND PHILATELIST.

J. W. STOWELL.

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