



# North Star

## PHILATELIST

SUCCESSOR TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH.

Vol. III. Minneapolis, January, 1887. No. 1.

### THE STAMPS OF ICELAND.

XENOPHON.

I shall not begin my article by a sketch of the island, its government, etc but shall pass directly to the stamps Iceland issued her first set of stamps in 1873.

There were three in the set, namely; 2 skilling, blue, 3 sk. brown and 16 yellow.

These were unperforated, but later during the same year they were perforated, together with 3 sk. grey and 4 sk. rose. The design consisted of a small circle in the center, in which was printed the numerical value. Around this was a wreath with a crown at the top and a horn at the bottom. Then came a circle, containing the word "ISLAND" at the top and "Postfrim, 2 sk."

In 1876 the same design was issued but the values were changed. The six composing the set were: 5 aur, blue; 6 aur, grey; 10 aur, carmine; 16 aur, brown; 20 aur, violet and 40 aur, green.

In 1883, the following values came out: 3 aur, yellow; 5 aur, green; 20 aur blue; and 40 aur, lilac.

The official made their first appear-

ance at the same time of the general issue which they resemble, the difference being that the officials have 'pjonfrim' below the numeral. There were two values; 4 sk. green and 8 sk. mauve.

They were perforated and unperforated. In 1876 the design for this department was changed. In the center of a shield is the numerical value, over which rests a crown. At the left side is the word "Pjonusta," at the top "Island," at the right "Postfrim," and at the bottom, the value. The values are: 3 aur yellow; 5 aur green; 10 aur blue; 16 aur carmine and 20 aur green.

All of the stamps, except the last set of official were manufactured in Copenhagen. The last set was made in England and is finer work. The unperforated series of 1872 are the rarest, while the rest are easily obtained.

The regular price of this paper is 25 cents, but until March 1st, 1887 we will send it to any address in the U. S. for 20 cents. Please send your money by a postal note. We will positively issue 12 numbers this year, and hope you will aid us in making this paper one of best.

## North Star Philatelist.

Subscription price.... 1 yr. in advance, 25 cts

### ADVERTISING RATES:

1 inch	50 cts.	3/4 column	1.40
2 ..	90 ..	1 ..	2.75
	1 page		5.00

20 per cent off on standing ads.

Terms strictly cash in advance. Money to be sent by postal note.

NORTH STAR PHILATELIST.

721 So. Seventh St. Minneapolis, Minn.

After a lapse of nearly a year we again offer to you a philatelic paper.

Our excuse for the past is that we were too busy with our studies and could not find time to conduct a paper as it should be. We have now more time and trust we shall be able to give you a good readable paper. All subscribers to the National Youth will be filled by this paper. We, of course desire a good subscription list and in order to obtain it have lowered the price until March 1. to 20 cts, and offer in addition prizes for the largest lists. Read "prizes" in the advertising columns.

We shall probably enlarge to eight pages. We can only do this with your help.

We should be pleased to receive contributions on stamp subjects and for first class articles we will pay the highest cash prices.

Mr. Lewis M. Hazlen, formerly editor of the Capital City Philatelist, died suddenly in Nov. His removal has made a gap which will be hard to fill, and by it the A. P. N. receives its first blow. May he rest in peace.

There are seven advanced collectors in this city.

The Texas Stamp starts out well.

Has the Philatelic Press Association given up the ghost? We have not heard any thing about it for quite a while. It should be revived.

The Stamp World is now published by Mr. Collins

Some papers publish ads which are not of the best quality. "Photographs that sell like hot cakes," are not the best things to advertise.

The American Philatelic Association should make a by-law to the effect that members of other societies be taxed but one dollar per year.

To get a philatelic paper cheap, subscribe for this paper.

To make your girl happy, buy her an album and a collection of stamps.

To get a good stamp trade, advertise in this paper.

Any subscriber wishing to use our exchange column may do so free provided his exchange does not exceed 30 words. However, we reserve the right to refuse any exchange.

Among the latest to disappear is Chas. Votier of St. Louis, who left a young wife and numerous creditors among them, the philatelic society of that burg mourns the loss of its treasurer.

Contributions on any topic of philatelic interest will be gladly received by the editors. Contributions will be treated impartially and we desire to announce that Philatelists will greatly oblige the North Star by favoring us.

After sending our "copy" to the printers we concluded to enlarge this paper to a 4-page paper, each page being 8 x 10 1/2 inches, and containing three columns each of which will be 8 3/4 inches long. If possible it will be illustrated. We trust you will subscribe.

The Queen's provinces at the north of us can boast of the rarest and most interesting stamps known to Philatelists. New Foundland has its rare shilling, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have rare shillings of unique designs—New Brunswick also being the home of the remarkable Connel stamp.

But Canada has its twelve-pence and of this I propose to speak in particular. A striking peculiarity of this stamp is the manner in which the value is expressed, twelve pence instead of one shilling. I have never learned the cause for the innovation, and can only surmise that its designer was not acquainted with English money.

They were made by Rairdon, Wright Hatch & Edson, of New York, and 51,000 of them printed on laid paper, and unperforated, were sent to the Canadian P. O. Department in 1851.

Only twenty dollars of them however were issued to postmasters. The Canadians were slow to appreciate the convenience of postage stamps, even the Postmaster-general having doubts of their utility. But few of either value were used the first year. This twelve pence was intended to pay postage to England, but the rate soon was changed to 10 pence and it was withdrawn. But very few of the 820 were used. The public not knowing that such stamps existed, what became of the 51,000 received by the government, I am not sure, but presume that they were destroyed, as none of them have escaped.

The peculiar history of the Connell stamp has furnished a theme for many writers, and has often been called the rarest postage stamp. But as far as

degrees of rarity can be determined, the twelve pence Canada, as a regular issue postage stamp, is as rare as any postage stamp. To be sure there is more conclusive evidence of their actual issuance to the public than in the case of the Connell, but genuine used specimens are as rare of one as the other. The Connell, along with the horse-man series of Buenos Ayres, are often considered as essays, while still open to question. But the twelve-pence Canada as a postage stamp is unchallenged, as a rarity it is still unsurpassed.—*E. B. Hunt.*

## CLIPPINGS,

A complete set of New Brunswick stamps is worth about \$415.

The ten Kopeck Poland Envelope stamp is very scarce.

The rarest Tuscan stamp is the 3 lire yellow, being worth \$10.

The Cashmere stamps rub because they are printed in water colors.

Romagna and Roumaina are two distinct States, the stamps of the former appearing in 1859 and the later in 1865.

La Guaira and Puerto Cabello are the two seaport towns of Venezuela, through one or the other of which all letters to or from the interior must pass.

We should endeavor to clear our ranks of every dishonest collector. Taken as a whole, philatelist's will, I think, compare favorably with any other class of people both for honesty and intelligence, but there is yet room for improvement.

The new letter sheet envelope has not proved successful. Complaint is made that a letter written on them will not copy.

**M. D. BATCHELDER,**  
(of Middlebury, Vt.)

**Stamp Importer and  
PUBLISHER.**

has removed his business to 2700 N. 9  
st, St. Louis, Mo. Our old customers  
we are sure will continue their business  
with us. We shall try in the future, as  
in the past to please all customers.  
Our stock is large, and we guarantee  
satisfaction. All our stamps are guar-  
anteed genuine. Sheets sent to respon-  
sible parties.

**LOOK LOOK!**

**Smart Agents Wanted.**

Sheets of stamps to Good, Smart and  
Responsible parties 25 per cent com.

Don't Delay, but Send Now!

**S. A. Stamps a specialty.**

Flour City Stamp Co

721 So. 7th St. Minneapolis, Minn.

**G. W. ACHARD & CO.,**

**COMMERCIAL PRINTERS,**

**PRIZE LISTS, & CIRCLARS.**

721 SO. SEVENTH STREET

**MINNEAPOLIS,**

**MINN.**

*Printers, National Youth.*

**Wm. v. d. Wettern, Jr.,**

Wholesale Dealer in Postage Stamps

176 Saratoga st.

Baltimore, Md.

Price list sent free on application to dealers only.  
All kinds of postage stamps purchased for  
cash.

**NOTE TO DEALERS**

The undersigned desire to buy out  
the business of several small dealers.  
If you desire to sell out, write us

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**PRIZES!**

In order to obtain more subscribers  
for this paper, we have decided to offer  
the following prizes to the persons  
sending the largest lists of new sub-  
scribers.

\$2.50 for the largest list.

1.25 for the 2d " "

.75 " 3d " "

.50 " 4th " "

This offer is good until Apr. 1, 1904,  
or if we do not receive 100 subscribers  
by that time, until we receive that num-  
ber. Send 3 one cent stamps for a  
lot of sample copies and subscription  
blanks. Send all money by a postal  
note.

**NATIONAL YOUTH**

**ADVERTISERS.**

This paper circulates largely in Mac-  
alester College, Hamline University,  
and the new northwest. In the col-  
leges, which the editors attend, are a  
number of collectors who are reached  
by no other papers, and we circulate  
more papers in the northwest than any  
other phil. paper. Try it once.

It will do you good.

## M. P. A.

Meeting of Jan. 15. Meeting called to order and adoption of minutes, election of officers resulted in the choice of the following: N. H. Ehle, Vice Pres, C. E. Drullard, Sec'y & Treas, G. W. Achard, Librarian, A. V. Chamberlin, Directors. Messrs. Skoll, Smith and Chamberlin. Two new members were admitted and the secretary appointed Mr. Chamberlin as essayist for the next meeting. Adjourned. After the meeting quite a number of exchanges were made. We have the nucleus of a library and desire that stamp papers be sent to us with a view to our subscribing to them and send them to the secretary, 721 So. Seventh st.—G. W. Achard, sec'y.

At the meeting of Jan. 24th Mr. Achard presided as both the president and vice president were absent. The secretary was directed to subscribe for the EMPIRE STATE PHIL. The constitution was ordered to be printed and six of members only be inserted. A. V. Chamberlin read an essay on Nats and its stamps. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 29th at 67 So. Eleventh st.

### EXCHANGES.

First class eggs for stamps. All first-class eggs, A. V. Chamberlin, 67 So. Eleventh st. city.

Revenues for foreign stamps—M. Skoll, 10 So. 11 st. Minneapolis.

**100 FOREIGN STAMPS** many varieties for a 4ct. stamp. Agents wanted to sell Approval Sheets. Collections Bought.

A. F. ASHFIELD.

Box 233. Rye, New York.

Philatelic Papers insert this "Ad" and Notice two months and send bill.

### FREE! FREE! FREE!

Sample copy of

### The Curiosity World.

Devoted to stamps, coins, Indian relics, birds, eggs, autographs, postmarks tags, etc, 25 cts. per yr. J. M. Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H.

## M. SKOLL,

Dealer in Postage Stamps.

Sheets of fine stamps sent on approval to responsible parties. Commission 33 per cent.

10 So. Eleventh St. Minneapolis, Minn.

## DEALERS ONLY

We offer the following bargains to  
per 10 per 50

Stamps to sell on sheets  
at 1 cent each, .05 .20  
to sell at 2 cents each, .09 .40  
to sell at 3 cts. each, .14 .60

These are all good saleable stamps and not common stuff.

Achard & Chamberlin,  
721 So. 7th St. Minneapolis, Minn.

## BIG BARGAINS.!

### PACKETS.

No. 1. 150 varieties from Mexico, Japan, Argentine, U. S. officials etc, .35  
No. 2. 250 different from Brazil, Hawaii, Mexico, Hong Kong, U. S. Colombia, Australia, Argentine and many other equally as rare .80  
No. 3. 50 very desirable stamps such as Bulgaria, Mauritius, Malta, Bolivia Japan, Ecuador, Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, Trinidad, etc, .35

### SETS.

Chili 8	.16	*Costa Rica '62 4	.60
Guatemala 5	.16	Ecuador 3	.07
Nicaragua 3	.14	*Honduras '66 2	.15
Salvador 4	.12	Mauritius Brit. 5	.70
St Christopher	3		.08

Orders over 35 cents postfree. Send for a larger list as the above is only a partial list. Agents wanted on good commission. Flour City Stamp Co.

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with us. We shall try in the future, as  
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**ATTENTION!!!**

**THE NORTH STAR PHILATELIST**

Will appear promptly each month and will contain  
AT LEAST SIX PAGES OF READING  
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**20 CENTS PER YEAR!**

**1000 SUBSCRIBERS WANTED**

**BEFORE JULY 1**

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NORTH STAR PHILATELIST.

721 So. Seventh St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

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CUT THIS AND OUT SEND WITH IT 20 CENTS.

.....188

Send North Star Philatelist to my address for one year:

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# North Star Philatelist.

VOL. III.

MINNEAPOLIS, DECEMBER, 1887.

NO. 4

the N. S. P.

## ORIGIN OF THE POSTAL SYSTEM.

MAC.

A short time ago our Philatelic world was informed that the French published the postal system in the nineteenth century. I do not agree with the gentleman, but contend on good authority, that Darius the Persian Monarch, instituted this system. The causes leading to its establishment are of considerable importance and may prove profitable to us. Let us take a glance at Darius and his domains. The great King came to his throne in the year 521, B. C., and early showed what we would call "superior executive ability". He divided his kingdom into twenty satrapies and gave to the people of each much individual liberty. He encouraged the people in the arts to a considerable degree and introduced a coinage system. Conspiracies beginning to arise in his dominions, he found out that what was needed was rapid communication and so established outposts throughout the Persian Empire. He decreed that there should

be certain army couriers whose business it should be to carry messages from one post to another. He also ordered that messengers to carry private correspondence should be appointed by the government. These carriers were mounted on swift horses and were compelled to ride day and night. The message was enclosed in a bag of Arabian gold (a kind of cloth) and this was encased in another made of cloth resembling bolting cloth. These two bags were then strapped around the waist of the postman and away he flew carrying his messages of good and evil to all.

For a few months private correspondence was carried by the government free of tax, but after a short time it was set aside and a nominal tax was placed on each parcel carried. Thus we see that our great postal system is over 2400 years old and not a recent contrivance.

From the Collector's Companion.

### A COLLECTOR QUIZZED.

Persons uninitiated in the various pleasures and vicissitudes of the Philatelic science, look upon all

the actions of a collector with wonder, not unmingled with pity, for they think he has certainly become demented, to spend so much time and money in collecting and classifying little pieces of colored paper.

This state of affairs leads to many curious questions that are propounded to the collector by the non-Philatelist, a few of which we shall try to answer on the part of the collector.

"What's the use of it?" is a question quite frequently asked. The uses of it are three-fold: First, the instruction which may be gained by a collector from his stamps, if he follows out something like the following directions: Whenever he gets a new stamp, consult some good map, and find out just where the country or colony is situated, its comparative size and importance; and also find out, through various sources, all about the country in question, such as its government, cities, natural peculiarities, and chief exports and resources. This may seem to be dry and uninteresting, but if followed out, it will give an additional charm to Philately, make it more useful, and raise you above your fellow collectors, who do not take advantage of the opportunity that is offered them of obtaining knowledge in a pleasant way.

The second use of stamp collecting is, while a person has something like stamps to take up his attention, he does not have to go on the street for amusement, and it thus keeps him out of mischief.

The third use is, it brings you into communication with a good number of boys and girls, for we have noticed that a boy or girl who takes an active interest in stamp collecting and "sticks to it," is usually a partner with whom we are proud to share our friendship.

Another question that requires answering is, "What's the fun in it?" This is a question that is quite easy to answer. What is the fun in collecting *anything*? Merely the satisfaction of having more of a rare thing than some other person. A sort of competitive amusement and competition is the life of sports as well as trade. Besides this, the collector of anything sees more pleasure in the beautiful and antique than in his hobby, which gives it an additional charm in his eyes.

"If the stamps (which are called) are not good to carry letters, why are they worth anything? They are worth something because they are in constant demand for collections.

Why is one cancelled stamp more valuable than another?" Cancelled stamps are valuable in proportion to their scarcity and the trouble connected with getting them.

The Philatelist has the advantage over most other collectors in the portability of his hobby, for no matter how large a collection he may have, he can put it all in one album and carry it about, and compare with his friends with the greatest ease; while the Numismatist, who has nothing like a complete collection of coins, has to hire an express wagon to carry all his albums and a cart full of heavy coins.

The Mineralogist is still worse off than the coin collector, for he has to rent a whole room to hold his specimens.

The Oologist is liable to break his eggs, and unless he uses great care in preparation, his eggs will not hold for a collection. Besides this, collecting entails a certain degree of cruelty, which is best left unnoted.

In addition to this, the Philatelist becomes acquainted with a great number of words of foreign languages, and also with a various monetary system of the different countries. The charm is lent to stamp collecting by the satisfaction attending

the possession of anything that comes from a great distance.

To sum up everything, we find that a stamp collector has not only one of the most instructive, but the most convenient of amusements, and last, but by no means least, the beautiful array of the many colored stamps in our attractive albums, make a sight of which we may well feel proud.

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#### EXCHANGES.

Free to subscribers. We reserve the right to reject any and all exchanges. No more than 30 words allowed.

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Cash or good exchange for old Arms, Indian Relics, or Tribolite. Send list and prices to Frank Dean Box 87, Cambridge, Neb.

Stamps, Coins, Relics, Books, etc., to exchange for same. Lists exchanged. W. S. Kinze, Wooster, Ohio.

Books, Coins, Sea Shells and Birds Eggs to exchange for Stone Implements and fossils. F. M. Kinne, 243 4th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn.

I have 40 varieties of first-class birds in full sets with data to "ex" for others not in my collection or for Ornithological books or journals. Send list and receive mine. Dr. W. S. Strode, Bernadotte, Ill.

# THE NORTH STAR PHILATELIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

Minneapolis Philatelic Society.

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25 cents per year in advance. Foreign countries 35c.

ADVERTISING RATES:

¼ inch.....35 cents. 1 inch.....50 cents.

1 page.....\$5.00.

Discount on standing ads. Send money by postal note.

EDITORS:

G. W. ACHARD. A. V. CHAMBERLIN,  
721 So. 7th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

We take pleasure in again presenting to the collectors of the Northwest this number of the NORTH STAR PHILATELIST. We have been lying dormant since January, but now hope to continue the issuance of this paper every month. If you are a collector of stamps, look over our sheet and should you deem it worthy of your support, subscribe. If you are a dealer we would be pleased to receive an advertisement from you. Our rates are low and we circulate more copies in the Northwest than any other Philatelic paper. Try us once and if you are not satisfied we will not ask it of you again.

Just about five years ago an auction sale took place in New York at which the following sets were disposed of: Executive, 35 cts.; State;

18 cts.; Agricultural, 18 cts.; Navy, 16 cts.; War, 11 cts.; P. O., Treasury and interior, 10 cts. each. The catalogue says that although the stamps were in the best condition yet the prices obtained were very high for a public sale. How the average collector would jump at such a snap to-day! But, of course our hindsight is always clearer than our foresight.

—It has been decided advisable by the publishers to give a stamp to every person who subscribes before February 1st, 1888. Note also that while the regular price of this paper is 25 cts, until February 1st, 20 cents by postal note will be received by the publishers, you will receive a stamp from one of the following countries:

First,	twenty-five,	Bolivia
Second,	“ “	Guinea
Third,	“ “	China
Fourth,	“ “	Gold Coast
Fifth,	“ “	Gambia
Sixth	“ “	Lago
Seventh,	“ “	Liberia
Eighth,	“ “	Montenegro
Ninth,	“ “	Paraguay
Tenth,	“ “	St. Lucia

—Subscribe while the rate is low

## NOTES.

There are to our knowledge 10  
 in this city. However only  
 or three do much of a business.

Advertisers must remember  
 we are not dealers and cannot  
 apt foreign stamps in payment  
 ads."

The press of to-day is certainly  
 a good deed for Philately in  
 fishing articles relating to stamp  
 ecting.

Our private schools and college  
 se in the vicinity of Minneapo-  
 have about 1500 students and  
 500 collectors who are reached  
 his paper. We claim to be the  
 Philatelic paper reaching the

If you are not a stamp collector  
 me one at once. You do not  
 w how interesting it is until you  
 fairly started.

The reason the 8c Canada regis-  
 letter stamp is so scarce, is be-  
 the Government finding the  
 and five cent stamp answered  
 purpose, had all of the 8c de-  
 ed.

We desire all who answer ad-  
 cements to mention this paper.  
 no extra expense to you, but it  
 favor which both publisher and  
 rtiser appreciate.

## M. P. A.

—The Minneapolis Philatelic As-  
 sociation met Nov. 18, at 67 So. 11th  
 St. Two new members were elected,  
 Mr. Trabert and Mr. Brackett.  
 Election of officers resulted in the  
 following choice: Pres., A. V.  
 Chamberlin; Vice Pres., C. E.  
 Drullard; Sec'y. and Treas., G. W.  
 Achard; Librarian, C. R. Brackett;  
 Directors, C. L. Trabert, M. Skoll  
 and Albee Smith. Messrs. Achard  
 and Brackett appointed to read  
 essays next meeting. After adjourn-  
 ment considerable trading was done.

—Nov. 26, meeting held at 113  
 Spruce Place. Three new members  
 elected, Messrs. Clark, Perry and  
 Wiltberger. Moved, seconded and  
 carried that the secretary procure a  
 cyclopedia of Philately. Moved,  
 seconded and carried that the society  
 purchase through the secretary,  
 maroon badges. Mr. Achard read  
 a paper on the "Support received by  
 Philately." President delivered an  
 inaugural address. Adjourned.

—Dec. 2, No. 625 So. 5th St.  
 Secretary directed to obtain book for  
 constitution and by-laws. Moved,  
 seconded and carried to have a stamp  
 auction after the next meeting. Ad-  
 journed.

**GENERAL CURIOSITY DEPT.**

These columns will be devoted to collectors of Oology, Mineralogy, Ornithology, etc. Contributions will be gladly received by

A. V. CHAMBERLIN,  
67 Eleventh St. S. Minneapolis, Minn'

For the N. S. P.

**RELICS OF AGES.**

Workmen at the lime works of A. C. Ladd, three miles from Cartersville, Tenn., have frequently found petrified bones in the rock they dug from the earth at various depths.

Mr. Ladd has shown them to several intelligent gentlemen, and they agree to his opinion, that they are human bones. He has the bones and believes they will stand any scientific test and prove at last to be human bones.

Mr. Ladd computes their age at 3000 years, but says that it is impossible to ascertain it accurately. The most beautiful things taken from this deep tomb is a birds nest full of eggs. The nest and the eggs are perfectly preserved and present a remarkable specimen of petrification. These curious relics form an interesting collection. Workmen who are well acquainted with the formation of the lime rock whence they were taken, say they are confident that there are other similar relics deeper down. They are con-

stantly finding small and indistinct fossils, but the recent "find" was the richest and most interesting made.

For the N. S. P.

**VISITORS OF MINNEAPOLIS.**

Among the birds which visit us the winter are the Northern Woodpecker which comes in flocks from 10 to 30 in number. Pine Grosbeaks also come in flocks. These are about the size of a Blue Jay and are of a maltese color with a spot of orange on their head and rump. The body of the males of the Evening Grosbeak are of a bright yellow color with black and white wings. The body of the female is dark and not as rich as the male. The Snow Bunting comes in very large flocks. They feed along the railroad track where they pick up what they can. Then there is the Red Poll which also comes in vast numbers. Many of these birds leave before spring opens up. The first arrival in spring are the Shore Larks, which come before the snow leaves the ground.

A. B. C.

For the N. S. P.

**GREAT AUK.**

This famous bird, famous because of its tragic fate, bred numerous on Newfoundland and on the Funk Islands during the last cent-



the last survivor of the last  
in Iceland were killed, now  
and eggs and bones are re-  
as the most precious treasures  
museum; long monographi-  
accounts are published showing  
exact number of these relics.

The last list (1884) is by Prof.  
Blasius, who enumerates 76  
mounted skins or mounted  
eggs, 9 more or less, com-  
skeletons, besides numerous  
and detached bones.

Mr. Robert S. Stewart recently  
bought a skin for \$625 and  
sent it to the museum of New

They laid but one large egg or a  
of a high rock near the water.

We would call the notice of  
of Curios, Indian Relics,  
to the advertisement in this  
of Mr. F. M. Kinne. Mr.  
stock is of a high grade, very  
and withal his prices are  
low. You will be well pleased  
to patronize him.

Now is the time to subscribe  
if you can get a good paper

We have received the Philatelic  
view and must say we are very  
pleased with it.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

F. M. KINNE,

U. S. and Foreign Stamps,

COINS, BIRDS EGGS, ETC.

243 4th Ave. S. Minneapolis, Minn.

Minnesota to the Front!

Fine Sheets on Approval.

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Benson, - Minnesota.

Charter member A. P. A.

H. T. RAY.

Dealer in

CONFEDERATE STAMPS,

Bald Creek, N. C.

	NEW	USED
1861—5c green,.....	\$ .15	\$ .10
1861—10c blue,.....	.40	.20
1862—2c green,.....	1.00	1.00
1862—5c blue,.....	.15	.10
1862—10c rose,.....	.40	.40
1862—5c blue, perforated....	1.00	—
1863—2c rose,.....	.10	.40
1863—10c blue, perforated,...	1.00	—
1863—10c blue,.....	.50	.50
1864—10c rose,.....	1.00	—
1861—5c black, of Goliad Tex.	5.00	10.00

I have secured a lot of these stamps from persons who knew nothing of their philatelic value and am thus enable to sell them cheap.

30 per cent discount on orders for \$5.00 or more.

Send postage stamps or paper money in common sealed letter and I will guarantee safe delivery.

Send at one before all are gone.

NOTE.—Philatelic papers please insert three times and send bill for pay.

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If you can. Job Printing to order. Our prices are lower than anyone. Postage must be sent along with the payment and copy. Send all money by postal note.

	PER 100	250	500
Note Heads,	\$ .35	\$ .75	\$ 1.35
Envelopes, 6's white	.45	.90	1.65
Circulars, 4x6	.35	.75	1.25
Circulars, 6x9	.50	1.00	1.50

Postage on 100 Noteheads is about 10 cents and same for Circulars. On Envelopes the postage per 100 is about 12 cents.

### Geo. W. Achard & Co.

721 South Seventh St.

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### WM. V. D WETTERN,

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Lists sent to dealers only on application.

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Minerals, Fossils and Shells,

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## STAMP ALBUM.

Just the thing for beginners or for a supplement album. It has spaces for 2000 stamps. Printed on good paper and bound in stiff board covers and cloth backs. Price 30 cents. Gum Papers best in the market 5 cents a sheet. Discount on large quantities.

A. V. CHAMBERLIN,

MINNEAPOLIS, . - MINNESOTA.

## Attention! Collectors and Agents

### 25 Per Cent Discount.

I am making a specialty of approval sheets S. and Foreign Stamps and desire all honest collectors and agents to send for one. A large assortment for agents. Reference required. Enclose for reply. Sheets must be returned in 10 days what price stamps you want. 100 varieties 12¢ I also have an assortment of albums. Hoesinger & Co's. Penny Post \$3.25.

### A. V. Chamberlin

67 South 11th St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

## PRIZES!

The agent selling the largest amount of Stamps from our sheets from now to March 1st, 1888 will receive a set of Me negro complete, unused, value \$1.00. Second prize, a set of Mauritius British value 75 cents. Third prize, Guatemala value 40 cents. Send now and begin work. Agents wanted everywhere. Reference or \$1.00 deposit required. We have a couple of Blood's Penny Post, used Kochersperger & Co., which we hold \$3.25 each.

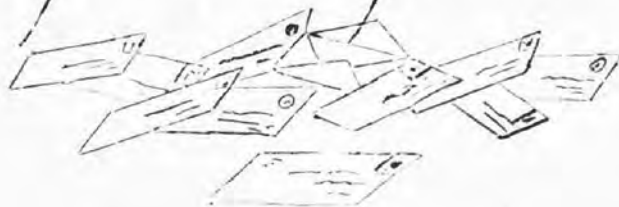
## N. W. STAMP CO.

721 South Seventh St.

MINNEAPOLIS, . - MINN.



NORTH STAR



PHILATELIST

C. L. T. DES

A MONTHLY JOURNAL  
FOR COLLECTORS:-

MINNEAPOLIS MINN.

# FLOUR CITY STAMP COMPANY.

P. O. BOX 1060.  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Stamps on approval to persons furnishing satisfactory *Written* or good *Minneapolis* reference, or *Cash* deposit. Orders filled at prices taken from Scott's or any Standard catalogue. Some very choice U. S. stamps now in stock. Collections purchased at highest prices. Send for circular.

### A FEW BARGAINS.

Argentine Republic, 90c Blue.....	30c.
New Foundland 3c green, tria.....	12c.
U. S. Treasury, 7c. used.....	25c.
U. S. War, 90c. new.....	15c.
U. S. State, 1c, 2c, 8c. Set of 3.....	50c.
U. S. 1870. 24c. lilac.....	28c.

Stamp papers wishing to run this ad, send rates and sample copy.

### CHEAP SETS. CHEAP SETS.

† means unused.		
† U. S. Agriculture	9	\$4 00
† Executive	5	6 00
† State	11	5 00
† Justice	10	5 00
† Navy	11	5 00
† Treasury	11	4 00
† Postoffice	10	3 00
† " "	4	25
† Interior	10	1 50
† War	11	75
† " "	11	60
† Locals	7	12
† American Rapid Tel.	4	.07
B & O	4	.07
+Constantinple Locals	3	.05
+Heligoland wrappers	3	.07
+Sardinia	10	.08
+Bavaria Return Letter	6	.07
50 varieties foreign		.03
100 " "		.10
1000 mixed " "		.18
5000 " "		.75

Postage extra, N. E. CARTER.  
Box 314 Delavan, Wis.

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As I devote my entire time to Philately, I am enabled to attend to all orders promptly. Agents wanted everywhere. Send stamp and cash deposit or satisfactory reference to one of my Approval Books

S. B. BRADT,  
52, Temple Court, CHICAGO, ILL.

### MINNESOTA TO THE FRONT!

Fine Sheets on Approval.

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BENSON, MINN.

Charter member A. P. A

F. M. KINNE,

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**100** Stamps all different. Natal, Mexico, etc.  
10 cts N. W. stamp Co. 721 S. 7th  
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If you are going away, take

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to Chicago, St. Louis and all points  
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J. C. Howard, Agent,

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## LOOK HERE!

### Smart Agents Wanted.

Sheets of stamps sent on approval to Res-  
ponsible parties at 25 per cent commission.  
Reference or deposit required.

**A. V. CHAMBERLIN,**

67 So. 11th st. Minneapolis, Minn.

# North Star Philatelist.

MINNEAPOLIS, JANUARY, 1888.

NO. 1.

## THE ADVANTAGES OF A SOCIETY TO COLLECTORS.

A society involves more or less expense upon its various members. It is natural enough that one should ask himself the question: "What advantage will this society bring?" before he joins one. Such advantages are too numerous for me to mention all of them, but a few, of those the most important, I will enumerate.

In the first place the social pleasure arising from the gathering together of several collectors should not be deemed slight, as often as a meeting of the society takes place, and often are the collectors brought together to compare their various collections, to exchange specimens to assist each other in classifying and arranging them. By this means a collector adds a great deal to his store of knowledge of his respective hobby and not unfrequently thereby enlarges his collection.

Then we should mention the advantages of the exchange department, which every well conducted

society has as one of its principal features. Just here may be seen the advantages of a society of collectors in all branches, as a collector of stamps may have a few rare coins or eggs which he can exchange with brother collectors who desire these things, and who may in their turn possess some good stamps taken from old letters at home or secured in various ways. Here again is a great opportunity to increase ones collection, and the value of many specimens is discovered which would otherwise remain unknown.

The library should be one of the great features. Here may be found many choice books and papers on Philately, Numismatics, Mineralogy, Natural History, etc., which one collector might not be able to purchase, but which the society could easily secure with but little cost to each member. Then comes the debates, the essays and the exhibition of specimens and the correspondence with other societies and the talks on various subjects, and the multitude of other things, all of which are pleasant and

instructive, and add greatly to the society's support.

Then the auction sales at each meeting are of much interest and a source of great revenue adding to the support of the society.

Beside the few advantages mentioned above, there are many others, which for want of time I cannot enumerate; but these compel me to exhort every collector to try to organize a society in his town, and the advantages derived from such a proceeding will more than compensate for the necessary trouble.

#### POSTAGE STAMPS OF NOVA SCOTIA.

MAC.

This possession of the Queen did not enjoy the privilege of postage stamps until 1857, when an issue of four values took place. The first was a square stamp of a dark red color with the head of the Queen in the center surrounded by a diamond shaped frame; above this was "Nova," below "Scotia," at the right "Postage," and at the left, "One Penny," with numerals of value in each corner. The remaining stamps of this set are of the same design, and may be described as follows: They are diamond-shaped stamps with a crown in the center surrounded by the rose shamrock and thistle, the emblems of England, Ireland and Scotland.

At the right "Nova," at the left "Scotia," at the top "Postage," and below, the value, also numerals of value in each corner. Of this design there is a 3d. blue, 6d. green, and 1sh. violet. The 3d is comparatively common, but the 1sh. has become nearly unobtainable. Collectors should beware of counterfeits of this issue.

These stamps continued in use until 1860, when the issue of a new set was begun. The 1 cent blue, 2 cents, lilac; and 5 cent blue had the head of the Queen to the left of the circle, with "Nova Scotia" above and the value expressed in words below. The three higher values, 8½ cents green, 10 cents red and 12½ cents black have the Queen's head slightly turned to the right of a circle with the same legends above and below as the lower values. The 8½ and 12½ cents have been quite rare, and have been extensively counterfeited.

These stamps were perforated and continued in use until the confederation of the British provinces in 1867 when they were superseded by the Canadian stamps. They are among the most interesting of the contents of the collector's album, and of course their increasing scarcity adds to their interest.

**M. P. A.**

Meeting of Dec. 17, 67 So. 11th St. Mr. Arthur Eastman was expelled from the society. Appro- priate resolutions were adopted regarding Mr. Durbin's death. Mr. Wilson was admitted to membership. Mr. Clark was the guest. Considerable trading done. Dec. 31, 113 Spruce Place. Mr. Durbin read an essay on the reprints of U. S. stamps. It was voted to hold a stamp auction at the next meeting. A counterfeit album was offered to be purchased. Mr. H. Wilson was elected to membership.

Dec. 7, 67 So. 11th St. Amend- ment No. 5. No person who is in arrears for dues or fines shall be allowed the privilege of voting, holding office or selling stamps at the meeting. The motion to hold a stamp auction at every meet- ing was carried. Mr. Achard read an essay on the "Postage Stamps of the Scotia." Mr. Brackett on the subject of collecting stamps. The sale was quite brisk, a 10c U. S. sold for 10 cts, while the 7c brought 8c.

We call your notice to the prizes offered by the Curiosity Department of this paper, and would like to be one of the competitors.

**EDITOR NO. STAR PHILATELIST:**

Please let me know through your paper what the Houston-Rothfuchs embroglio was about. C. M. G.

We have not paid much attention to the case, we know however that the parties are rival dealers in Wash- ington, and that Mr. H. brought the charge of selling counterfeits and re- prints against Mr. R., whose guilt was not shown very clearly. The A. P. A. trustees dismissed the case without arriving at any conclusion.

**THE A. P. A. ELECTION.**

The election of the American Philatelic Association to fill the un- expired terms of S. B. Bradt, secre- tary and L. W. Durbin, deceased, treasurer, resulted in the following choice: For secretary, Mr. H. O. Harris of Dowelstown, Pa.; for treasurer, Mr. H. B. Seagrave of Iowa, Mich. Perhaps no better choice could have been made, as both men are excellent persons for the re- spective offices to which they have been elected. Mr. Bradt has made a very good secretary and Mr. Har- ris will have his previous good rec- ord to guide him. Mr. Seagrave is a philatelist of no ordinary standing. He is widely known as an author, and as treasurer of the A. P. A. we predict for him a brilliant future. Accept our congratulations, gentle- men.

# THE NORTH STAR PHILATELIST.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

Minneapolis Philatelic Society.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

25 cents per year in advance. Foreign countries 35c.

ADVERTISING RATES:

1/2 inch.....35 cents. 1 inch.....50 cents

1 page.....\$5.00.

Discount on standing ads. Send money by postal note.

EDITORS:

G. W. ACHARD A. V. CHAMBERLIN,  
721 So. 7th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

In consideration of the very liberal support which we received when starting this little sheet, we are persuaded that you not only favor the project, but that you will also give it your continued support and approbation. We labored under some disadvantages in getting out our first issue, and were therefore not able to make it all we desired, but we hope to improve on it in the future. Our columns are open to any communication our limited space will admit of, which will not conflict with our mutual interests. More than this we invite any suggestions Philatelist may desire to make with reference to the improvement of our paper, and ask you to co-operate with us by giving us any information that you may be in possession of regarding any innovation in our science.

—We have received the *Cyclopedia of Philately*, and while it is not what we expected, it is well worth the price charged for it. Mr. Baker evidently spent considerable time in preparing it. There are a few omissions in Part I, but they are slight and would never be missed.

—The *Philatelic Annual* has arrived. This is the book from the pen of E. R. Aldrich. It is up to all the requirements of a book of that sort. It contains a review of '86 including the death notices of prominent philatelists, an excellent article on watermarks, an article on the stamps of Buenos Ayres and the rare stamps of Spain. It is a very neat addition to our philatelic literature.

—Remember that if you send a **POSTAL NOTE** for 20 cents by Feb. 1st, we will give you a year's subscription and a stamp worth 5c. We have received a large number already, but if your name is not down on our books, you should see that it is.

—It is quite probable that the W. Stamp Co. and Mr. A. V. Chamberlin will consolidate, which event, look out for the flying. They are both reliable firms and should they unite, will be of concern.



## NOTES.

Happy new year, '88.

Subscribe for this paper. Only one year until Feb. 1.

Mr. O. W. Dunn of Omaha, retired from the stamp business.

The first copy of the *Figaro* we ever seen is before us. Very *Boo. Voute*, come often.

Where is the *Empire State Philatelist*? We have not seen a copy since July.

Collectors of Bird's Eggs will find this paper unusually bright. If you are an oologist, you ought not to be without it.

But little can be gained by sending to Europe for stamps. American dealers are as enterprising as

Contributions are always welcome. We shall be pleased to hear from our subscribers any time, but especially if they send us something to increase the value of our paper.

One reason why the monetary systems of both England and Germany appear on Heligoland's stamps is that while the little island is in the possession of Queen Victoria, yet it is largely populated by Germans.

—From a mechanical hum-drum system of collecting, stamp papers can lift collectors to bright and energetic philatelists. It not only shows them what to do, but brings them into connection with the outside world.

—Learn to examine your stamps, learn their peculiarity, their style of engraving, their watermarks and perforations. Study your specimens and you will find an imperceptible sense come over you by which you can at once reject an ordinary forgery and which will make you suspect, and that instinctively, the best imitation.

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**PENNY POSTAGE.**

[SPECIAL TO THE NORTH STAR.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 11—Mr. Blount, of Georgia, as chairman of the House committee on postoffices and post roads, in an interview to-day said he thinks the penny postage would in a few years be a settled fact. "The government don't want to make money out of this branch of the service, and when the revenues from the mails warrant it, the penny postage will be demanded. But, in the present state of deficiency in the postoffice it would not be advisable to make the change."

**GENERAL CURIOSITY DEPT.**

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A. V. CHAMBERLIN,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

67 Eleventh St. S.

**PRIZE OFFER.**

We offer the following prizes to our subscribers for the best articles pertaining to this department. 1st prize, A Ruddy Duck's egg, value \$1.50; 2d prize, an egg of Great Blue Heron, value 30c.

**CONDITIONS.**

1. The regular subscription price of the NORTH STAR PHILATELIST must accompany each MS. unless you are already a subscriber.
2. MSS. calculated for the above contest must reach us before March 1st.
3. The names of the successful contestants will be announced in our March issue.

We received the *Hoosier Naturalist* and in it was advertised costs of certain eggs, the price of which was more than half the market value of genuine eggs. We think this is going a little too far. If you are going to sell your manufactured stuff, sell it at reasonable prices.

Our winter birds have given this part of Minnesota a cold shoulder, probably on account of the cold weather, 42 below.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

FROM MINNESOTA.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

While out collecting last season I noticed a pair of Red Tailed Hawks near an old nest and when I was near they got very mad and made great fuss, which made me think I had a Red Tails nest sure. I went up to the nest and found it empty but it was fixed up with new mud and I felt sure that the next time I came, there would be a set of 4 eggs, but I was doomed to disappointment, for the next time I went to the nest I found a pair of Cooper Hawks evidently in possession of the nest, and so it was, for the nest contained two of their eggs which I took. I noticed several times that Cooper took a Red Tails nest. Will some kind reader tell me why these columns why this is? Do the Coopers drive the Red Tails off?

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

During the last season I took several sets of the Broad Wing Hawk. The first set I took was May 1st which was a set of two eggs, which were fresh, a set of three on May 13th and another set of three on May 14th. They generally build their nests in large trees and are composed of twigs, lined with bark and feathers.

Subscription

**CRANE ISLAND.**

beautiful island live the Blue Heron and Common Loon. The trees on this island are all very large and can only be reached by the aid of climbers. I had from one to a dozen nests in it. In one tree there were a dozen nests, but they were empty, because the tree could not be climbed on account of the thick bark and the tree being so large I could not get any hold, nor could I by the aid of a strap.

The tree that I climbed had five nests built in it, at about 70 feet above the terra firma, I could only reach four of the nests and secured three sets of fourteen eggs of the Loon. While up in this tree I saw hundreds of birds on or near their respective nests and I also saw some of their eggs.

The Cormorants do not breed so abundantly as the Herons on this island. They select the highest points for their nests and it is a difficult as well as a dangerous job to get their eggs. It was a little early to get their eggs when I was there, so I did not obtain only three full sets, but I secured the Herons' eggs I wished and I left the island in happiness.

A READER.

For N. S. P.

**DOWNY WOODPECKER.**

This little Woodpecker, the smallest we have, is abundantly distributed throughout the Eastern States and is a resident throughout the year.

About the middle of May the male and female look out for a suitable place for the reception of their eggs and young. An apple, pear or cherry tree, often in the neighborhood of the farm house, is generally fixed upon for this purpose. The tree is minutely reconnoitered for several days previous to the operation; the work is first begun by the male, who cuts out a hole in the solid wood as circular as if described by a pair of compasses. He is occasionally relieved by the female, both working with their most indefatigable dilligence. The direction of the hole if made in the body of the tree, is generally downwards, at an angle of thirty or forty degrees, for the distance of six or eight inches, then straight down for ten or twelve more; within, roomy and capacious. But the entrance is judiciously left just so large as to admit the bodies of the owners. During this labor they regularly carry out the chip, often strewing them at a distance to prevent suspicion. This operation occupies the chief part of

a week. Before she begins to lay, the female often visits the place, passes out and in, examines every part, both of the exterior and interior with great attention and at length takes complete possession. The eggs are generally six, pure white, and laid on the smooth bottom of the cavity. The male occasionally supplies the female with food while she is sitting; and about the last of June the young are perceived making their way up the tree climbing with considerable dexterity. All this goes on with great regularity, when no interruption takes place. The wren often drives them away from their nest, but it goes and makes a new one.

F. C. DAY.

For N. S. P.

#### REMARKABLE CASTING OF BIRDS EGGS

In one case two of the Great Auks eggs were offered for sale at a shop where natural curiosities are bought and sold. They were offered, I believe, at five pounds each, which being a very low price, excited the suspicions of the buyer, who asked the seller to leave them while he examined them. He examined them accordingly, and although he doubted yet they looked very genuine indeed. They had the peculiar smell of the Auk's eggs, the hole through

which the contents were extruded was perfectly natural, the inner membrane of the egg being still in its place. Just as the price was about to be paid, a visitor happened to enter the shop who recognized the seller as a man who had sold many of these eggs of late at the same price, but who manufactured all the eggs himself. They were in fact nothing but models, expertly copied, and accurate in every particular, but yet only a composition of plaster of paris with other ingredients.

C. C. BRONSON.

#### SHORE LARK.

The Shore Lark or Horned Lark is one of our earliest birds appearing here early in the spring before the snow leaves the ground. They rear two broods and lay their eggs as soon as the snow leaves the ground, and fresh eggs late in June. They build their nests on the pebbles and is made by them digging a small hole in the ground and lining it with dead grass. The eggs are white covered with greyish brown blotches. Their nest are very difficult to find as the birds seldom descend directly from the nest, but creep away and then fly up. The best way to find them is to watch them for a while and thus place them

# H. T. RAY,

Dealer In

## CONFEDERATE

### STAMPS.

BALD CREEK, N. C.

	NEW	USED
5c green	\$ .15	\$ .10
10c blue	.40	.20
2c green	1.00	1.00
5c blue	.15	.10
10c rose	.40	.40
5c blue perforated	1.00	—
2c rose	.10	.40
10c blue perforated	1.00	—
10c blue	.50	.50
10c rose	1.00	—
5c black of Goliad, Tex	5.00	10.00

I have secured a lot of these stamps from those who know nothing of their philatelic value and am thus enabled to sell them cheap.

10 percent discount on orders for \$5.00 or over.

Send postage stamps or paper money in company with letter and I will guarantee safe delivery. Send at once before all are gone.

Philatelic papers please insert three cent and send bill for pay.

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### MINERALS, FOSSILS, and SHELLS,

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Send reference at 25 percent commission on low prices.

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U. S. Justice 3c unused	.12
" 6c "	.15
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Persia 1k carmine " 76	.10
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Other stamps at the same low rates.

All orders under 50 cents must contain return postage. Agents wanted everywhere at 30 percent commission. Reference or deposit required. Send now.

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### U. S. AND FOREIGN STAMPS.

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All unused and warranted genuine.

Alwar	2	.12
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2 cents extra with all orders under 50 cts.

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# **LOOK!**

Send 20 cents for 120 varieties of choice postage stamps from French Col. Java, Australian Col., Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, rare Indian, and Sweden official issues, Japan, Chili, Spain many kinds Russia late issues, West Indies, Prussia, & many others like these. Also Our New Bargain List and one or more of our approval sheets at liberal commission when responsible reference is sent. The prices of stamps are marked so very low on our sheets, that ready sale is found. WHEN 10c extra is sent we send 10 rare stamps from Bhopal Danish West Indies, San Marino Italy Estero, India H. M. S. green Egypt official, Sweden official 1 krona, etc. Give us a trial and save money. Stamps retailed at wholesale prices.

FRANKFORT STAMP CO.  
FRANKFORT, PHILAD'A. PA.

# WHOLESALE.

These bargains are not for collectors but for dealers only. Orders under 50 cents respectfully declined. Cash with order.

	per 5	10	
Argentine asst	6	10	Finland well assorted
Baden old issues asst	6	10	French Colonies extra assorted
Bulgaria asst	7	12	Japan finely mixed
Brazil asst	4	07	Luxemburg not common
Cape of Good Hope no 1s or 2s	6	10	Mexico 84 many varieties
Chili well asst	4	06	" 85
Cuba old and new issues	4	07	" 86
Dutch Indies many varieties	4	06	Peru extra assortment
Egypt finely mixed	5	08	Venezuela

Send for an additional list.

721 so 7th st.  
Minneapolis, Minn.

# N. W. STAMP CO.