



THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.

An Illustrated paper devoted to Stamp Collecting.

VOL. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., JANUARY, 1877.

No. 1.

Postal Cards.

THEIR UTILITY, COLLECTION AND ARRANGEMENT.

L. W. D.

The latest advance in the matter of cheap postage is the Postal Card. First appearing in Austria in 1870, it has been adopted by various Governments, and doubtless will ere long be in vogue in all the Stamp Countries,—at least in all those who desire to keep up with the times. The consumption of Postal Cards in England has run up to the millions annually, and they certainly will become as popular everywhere when introduced, and as soon as the people learn that the Postman has not the time, had he the inclination, to read them on his journeys to and from the Post Office. The "reform" in Sweden does not give the boon of cheaper postage. The single rate for letters is 12 ore, while the value of the card is the same. The only advantage derived from it is the convenience of writing a note wherever they may be, and dropping it in the first box (?) without the trouble attendant of writing a letter when in a hurry, or when all the materials necessary are not at hand. Holland and Belgium have in use a "reply-paid" card, which consists of two cards joined together;—one to be torn off, the answer to be written on it, and returned by the same postman if desired. The Field Post Card, used by the German army, during the Franco-Prussian war is very interesting. The soldiers carried them in their knapsacks

or pockets, and after the battle, even before they had left the field, they could write on this Post Card the glad news that they had safely passed through the day. Soon the postal-wagon would pass along, and long before they could get into Camp and write a letter, their post card was being hurried to anxious wives, mothers, fathers or sweet-hearts. But the Field Post Card carried mournful as well as joyful news. Some poor fellow has been mortally wounded, and by the dim light of the surgeon's lantern he had but time to write a farewell word to the loved ones he left behind, ere his spirit winged its flight to the other world. But even this farewell word was a comfort, and the Field Post Card enabled him to send it. During the siege of Paris there was a Balloon Post Card much used. It was expensive to send letters by this aerial route, and the light card was a favorite. The Postal card is now I presume familiar to all. Any collector having seen one will recognize any of them, so that a description is unnecessary. That they should be collected has, so far as I know, never been doubted by any one, *i. e.*, the collection of those cards bearing a stamp indicating their value. Those cards having no stamp impressed on them, have in my judgment, no more place in a collection than any other unstamped envelope. The query, "how shall I mount my Postal Cards?" will soon be forcing itself upon every collector. It is desirable to have some of them so placed that the

back can be seen as well as the face, as for instance the Ceylon. It seems to me that they could with advantage be fixed in the same manner as pictures in a photograph album. As they are of different sizes and shapes, it would require an album especially for them, and as the sale of such work would be limited, at least while the cards are so few in number, no publisher is likely to prepare it. Another mode of placing Postal Cards, would be to bind them in a cover with linen guards. The guards need not extend further than the border, and enough of them could be inserted to place all the cards that will be issued for years. The only objection to this would be that as hardly two cards are the same size they might not look so well bound in this way. An easy and very good way for mounting them would be to take sheets of heavy cardboard, and cut out spaces the proper size, leaving a little projection in each of the corners. Split this projecting piece and insert the corners of the card. The entire card if placed in this way, can be seen, except the little space on each corner. If the collector desires to show only the face of his cards, they could be laid flat on the page, and secured by a narrow strip of paper, gummed over each corner; or incisions made in the sheet, and the corners passed through it. Such are a few of the modes of mounting Post Cards that have suggested themselves to my mind. There are a couple of ways that I regret to say are followed by some, and perhaps always will be popular with those who collect stamps just to have them;—cut out the impressed stamp and gum it in the album with the rest of the collection; or put them in a bundle, wrap a piece of paper around them, and fling the package into a drawer or corner. Treated in the last named manner, they will soon become nicely soiled, and acquire an appearance of age truly refreshing in these days of reprint. The Postal Card marks an era in the universal demand for cheaper postage, and for their convenience will always be popular; but I look forward to the day when they

will be largely superceded by letters at the same low rates. A member announced not long since that he proposed introducing a bill in Congress to reduce the single rate of letters to one cent, but he has not yet done so, and it would not pass if he did, for the time has not yet come. But that it will come can hardly be doubted in the light of the advance of the past few years in that direction. "Haste the day."—*The Stamp Collector's Chronicle*.

COUNTERFEIT STAMPS. — Counterfeit stamps began to make their appearance almost as soon as originals found purchasers. The early forgeries, however, were mostly coarse imitations, and were easily detected; but as the demand for scarce varieties increased, the scoundrels who made a living by swindling little boys, or getting big ones to do it for them, took more care in preparing their dies and printing imitations till at the present time some of the productions almost baffle detection.

The early counterfeiters usually copied old and scarce stamps, and sold them to collectors themselves; but the modern forger counterfeits all the colonial and better class of cheap stamps as soon as they appear, and sell them to unprincipled dealers as *fac similis*, who retail them as genuine.

The property of the late Erastus Corning amounted to \$10,000,000, and revenue stamps of the value of \$10,000 were affixed to his will.

TO OUR PATRONS:—Every Postage Stamp sold is warranted genuine, and double the price paid will be refunded for any counterfeit or fictitious stamps purchased from us. All letters must be fully prepaid, and if an answer is required, must contain stamp for the same. In sending money, get the amount in as few pieces as possible. When the order is over \$2.00, send by P. O. order or registered letter. We are not responsible for money sent in any other way.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

EAST INDIA.

We are enabled to give our readers engravings of three new values for this country, viz:



9 pies, violet,
6 annas, bistre,
12 " mauve.



The 9 pies is probably to supersede the current 8 pies, being of the same color.

JAPAN.



5 rin, grey,
2 sen, grey brown,
5 sen, brown.

1 sen, black,
4 sen, blue,

We also learn that two new postal cards have been issued, viz: 5 sen, orange; 1 sen, light blue.

CANADA.

From *The Pearl*, of Toronto, we note the following: It is announced that a new stamped envelope will shortly appear. Design—head of Queen Victoria in an oval frame—value, three cents. We understand that the government contemplates issuing a new postal card, which will be a sheet of paper, gummed at one end, so that it will serve as an envelope.

TURKEY.



We are enabled to give the color and value of the complete set of the new issue for this country. The annexed engraving will convey a good idea as to the design. It will be seen that it is a marked improvement on the old stamps. The colors and values are as follows:

1 paras, black & rose,	2 piastres, blk & orange,
5 " plumb & green	5 " red & blue,
10 " blue & yellow,	25 " claret & pink.

DANISH WEST INDIES.

Two new values have appeared. The colors and values are: 5 cent, grey and green; 10 cent, brown and blue.

HONG KONG.

The 30 cent stamp comes surcharged; 28 cents in black.

NEW FOUNDLAND.

The new 5 cent (seal) blue, has arrived, and comes rouletted instead of perforated. It is engraved by the American Bank Note Co., New York.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.



The annexed illustration is the design of the new 5 cent envelope stamp of this Republic. It is printed in red on white paper. We presume other values will soon follow.

PERSIA.



The new set with the portrait of the Shah has at last appeared. (See engraving.) It consists of

1 shahi, black and lilac.
2 " " " grey
5 " " " rose.
10 " " " blue

FRANCE.

Same type as present issue, 20 cents, brownish red; 75 cent, carmine; 1 fr., green.

WURTEMBERG.

The 5 and 10 pfennig stamps have been impressed on the remainder of the 1 and 2 kr. Postal cards.

PERU.



We give our readers an engraving of the new 10 cent (red) stamp from this country. The design is very similar to the last issued two cent stamp, and we are informed that the entire series will be made to conform to this type. The design is very beautiful, superbly executed, and quite appropriate, but still we are sorry to have the beautiful Llama series withdrawn

from circulation.

BHOPAL.

A British state in the Province of Malva, India, has recently issued two stamps, which will probably be followed by others. The values and colors are as follows: 1/2 anna, brick red; 1/4 anna, black.

HOLLAND.

We learn from Messrs. Smith's *Circular* that a new series of low value stamps from this country will shortly be issued.

MONTSERRAT.

The Antigua stamps come surcharged. MONTSERRAT in black. 1 penny, red; 6 pence, green.

SALVADOR.

A series of envelopes are in preparation for this country. We hope to be able to give a description of them in our next.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., JANUARY 1ST, 1877.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year 25 cents. Six Months 15 cents.

POSTAGE PAID.

Will exchange with any paper. Specimen copy sent to any address for postage. *Agents wanted everywhere.* 25 per cent commission paid.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line, 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.

Address all communications to
THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Salutatory.

TO THE STAMP-COLLECTING FRATERNITY:

Herewith we place before you the first number of "THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER," which we hope will meet the kind support of all interested in the collecting of Postage Stamps. It will be our aim to make the "REPORTER" second to none of its kind, and to accomplish this we would respectfully request writers on stamps to favor us with their MSS. For first-class, *original* matter we are willing to pay a good cash price. Through this paper all are at liberty to express their views free of charge, provided it is on a sensible subject which will be interesting to stamp collectors. We shall endeavor to issue our paper promptly on the first of every month, illustrated with the engravings of newly-issued stamps, and containing other interesting articles to stamp collectors. We shall, as far as we are able, expose all parties who deal in *counterfeit stamps*, and to accomplish this point we would request all parties who have purchased *counterfeit stamps* to send them to us for inspection, along with the letter of the dealer of whom they were purchased, and if they are not genuine we shall not hesitate to pro-

nounce the dealer a fraud, and for the good of stamp collecting every one should join with us in this matter. Collectors who have any doubtful specimens in their collections, which they do not understand, by sending them to us will receive all the information in our power to give as to their genuineness. To collectors who are desirous of obtaining genuine stamps, we confidentially recommend them to the advertisers in this paper. All advertisements of dealers in *counterfeit* stamps, quack plaster medicines, etc., are not inserted in this paper at any price. Every collector who wishes to keep posted on new issues, how to detect forgeries, when to buy *genuine* stamps cheap, etc., should send 25 cts, and receive the "POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER" one year, postage paid.



All persons sending us 25 cts. for a year's subscription to the "REPORTER" before February 1st will receive *free* 15 visiting cards, (no two alike), with their name neatly printed upon them.

Never enclose nickels or pennies in letter. If you cannot send fractional paper currency, send 1, 2 or 3 ct. stamps. (1 ct. stamps preferred.)

FORGED STAMPS—HOW TO DETECT THEM!—A very little sentence, and easily written; and as easily answered by us. Learn to examine stamps, learn their peculiarities, their style of engraving, their water-marks and their perforations. Study your specimens, and you will find an imperceptible sense come to you, by which you can at once reject an ordinary forgery, and which sense will make you suspect—and that instinctively—the best of imitations. This is our advice, and has always been, and this is the true secret of how to become a good judge, both of genuine and forged stamps.—E. L. Pemberton.

It is to us a matter of surprise that there are collectors who as yet have failed to discover the advantage of having a neat Album in which to display their treasures.

It is true that a common blank book may answer every purpose where the collection numbers 100 varieties or less. In fact it may be all that is necessary in the case of those much more extensive, if the only object is to prevent the stamps from being lost. But such, we think, is not the chief end of stamp collecting. We desire, of course, to arrange our specimens in the most convenient and attractive form, and it is understood by every one that this convenient and attractive arrangement adds much to the real value of a collection.

With ruled spaces for every stamp issued, combining the different issues of the same country under one heading, clothed in a handsome binding, which would render it an attractive ornament for the center table, the Album recommends itself to the collector as being the *sine qua non* of Philatelic pastime.

PRIZES TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

To the person sending us the largest number of subscribers before June 1st, 1877, we will present a collection of 300 stamps, (neatly mounted in an Appleton's Postage Stamp Album,) valued at \$8.00. To the person sending the 2d largest number, we will present \$3.00 worth of stamps. To the person sending us the 3d largest number we will present \$1.00 worth of stamps. (Stamps to be selected by the winners.) To the person sending the 4th largest number, we will present a No. 2 Young America Postage Stamp Album. These prizes will be sent to the winners, June 10th, postage paid. The names of the winners will be published in the June number of this paper. Remember we give all agents a cash commission of 25 per cent on all subscriptions obtained, aside from these prizes. All persons subscribing before February 1st, will receive free their names neatly printed on 15 visiting cards all different. Now is the time to raise

clubs. Any collector can easily raise a club among his friends if he will but try. Rush in the names and secure a prize besides 25 per cent commission on all subscriptions sent.



Be sure and read the list of prizes to be given away this month, to the winners of the Word Hunt. (See page 6.)

SPECIAL NOTICES.

All stamps sold by us are warranted genuine.

We want all kinds of U. S. Official stamps in exchange.

Persons in need of visiting cards will do well to read the advertisement of Union Card Co.

We will take unused U. S. postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2 cent stamps.

We will send the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER one year to any one who will send us 100 Canada Bill stamps.

Always send stamp for reply, when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

We will send sheets of stamps, on approval to responsible parties that can furnish satisfactory references. None others need apply.

Collectors can depend upon receiving a reply to their orders by return mail, as we make it a rule to answer all orders the same day as received.

Our Canadian customers, when ordering, will please remit in U. S. or Canada paper money when convenient. If this cannot be obtained, send in unused 1-2, 1, 2 or 3 cent stamps. We will allow 75 cents per 100 for used 2 cent red Canada stamps, in exchange.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

We offer the following prizes for the largest number of words spelled from the word

PHILATELY.

before January 25th, 1877.

For the largest list \$1.00 worth of stamps.

For the next largest, a No. 2 Y. A. Stamp Album.

For the third largest, 75 visiting cards.

For the next in merit, Johnson's Illustrated Dictionary, 250 pages.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after January 25th. The names of the winners will be published in the February number of this paper.

FREE!!! Our latest price list and five rare stamps for green stamp. AMATEUR NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

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is the largest Amateur Paper published in the Dominion of Canada, and will be mailed to any address postage paid, one year for only 25 cents. Sample copy for stamp. Address,
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POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS.

These neat little Albums are specially designed for beginners or young persons, and are well calculated to contain a collection of 1500 stamps, squares being printed for 1,800 stamps. The size of the Album is large octavo. Each page is surmounted by the name of the country whose stamps it is intended to contain, and contains 35 spaces, giving accommodation to that number of stamps on a page and when neatly filled has a beautiful and rich appearance.

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Foreign Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

WANTED.—In large or small quantities, used stamp of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. We will pay good prices in cash or exchange. Parties having any of the above stamps to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with prices. Address, CHARLES F. BUSWELL, Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

The Flags of all Nations.

These brilliant colored flags faithfully represent the emblems of the different nations of the earth, that issue postage stamps, and as such, are a great acquisition to any album. They are beautifully and carefully printed in colors, on fine heavy paper for framing, or thin paper for albums. The set of 73 flags sent, postage paid, for 25 cents by CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Montpelier, Vt.

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In 1874, 12,500,000 letters were sold by the U. S. Dead Letter Office for old paper. Over \$1,000,000 in cash was found in a part of these letters, but as they had no name signed to them, the money could not be returned to the writers, and so they lost it. If their Return Cards had been printed on their Envelopes, every letter, and all this money, would have been returned to the writers. The Post Office Department recommends all persons to have their Return Cards on their Envelopes. We will mail you 100 good Envelopes with your address printed in the corner for 6 cents 50 for 35 cents, 25 for 20 cents, White or Buff envelopes, only a little more than the envelopes would cost blank. Address all orders to THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

The International Postage Stamp Album.

This Album contains spaces for all varieties of postage stamps ever issued in any country in the world, also for portraits of the rulers, flags and arms of every nation, together with valuable statistical information regarding their size population, capitals, etc., etc.

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The Album is printed in black, on white paper of the heaviest quality, and the size of the work is 12 x 10 inches.

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We will send 20 Amateur Papers, all different, for 10 cents and 3 cent stamp. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

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All orders under 50 cents must contain stamp for reply. Those marked with a * are unused.

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Argentine Republic.....	" " 5,	.30
Belgium.....	" " 8,	.10
*Baden, Land Post, 1,3,12.....	" " 3,	.10
Brazil, 1850.....	" " 3,	.12
British Guiana.....	" " 5,	.18
*Brunswick.....	" " 6,	.10
Canada.....	" " 12,	.15
Canada Bill.....	" " 25,	.40
Canada, Law.....	" " 6,	.25
Canada, Registration, 2, 5, 8.....	" " 3,	.15
*Confederate States.....	" " 4,	.12
Dutch Indies.....	" " 4,	.15
Hamburg.....	" " 6,	.20
Hong Kong.....	" " 4,	.12
Hanover.....	" " 3,	.10
Italy, official.....	" " 4,	.10
Japan.....	" " 6,	.30
Jamaica.....	" " 5,	.15
Newfoundland.....	" " 4,	.18
Nova Scotia.....	" " 3,	.12
Peru.....	" " 3,	.15
Portugal.....	" " 5,	.15
Roman States.....	" " 5,	.15
*Lubeck.....	" " 3,	.10
Sandwich Island.....	" " 3,	.12
Spain, Old and New.....	" " 15,	.20
Tasmania.....	" " 5,	.20
Turkey.....	" " 5,	.15
Servia.....	" " 4,	.12
U. S. Official.....	" " 25,	.40
*U. S. Post Office, 1847, 5 and 10c.....	" " 2,	.30
Victoria.....	" " 6,	.10
*Thurn and Taxis.....	" " 14,	.40

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- No. 1 contains 50 varieties, including East India, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, &c., &c.....Price 25 cents.
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- No. 7 contains 10 varieties of Canada Bill Stamps.....Price 10 cents.
- No. 8 contains 6 varieties of rare Stamps, including Cape of Good Hope, (triangular,) Japan, Newfoundland, (fish) &c. Price 25 cents.
- No. 9 contains 20 varieties of Stamps, including Saxony, Sweden, Holland, Spain, Norway, Italy, Hamburg, &c. Price 15 cents.
- No. 10 contains 60 varieties of used Stamps, including Austria, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, Holland, France, &c. Price 25 cents.
- No. 11 contains 30 varieties of Stamps, including Sandwich Islands, Turkey, Barbadoes, 12 1-2c Canada, Jamaica, Cuba, &c. Price 50 cents.

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Used Canadian Stamps Wanted!!!

We will give the following prices, in exchange for Stamps, Cards, or Decalcomania, from our price lists:

30 c. per 1000 for Canada postage, present issue.
75 c. " " " " " old "
20 c. " 100 " " " Registration 2 c.
40 c. " " " " " 5 and 8c.
25 c. " " " " " Bill Stamps.
\$1.00 " " " " " 12 1-2 and 15c. Stamps.
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No torn Stamps taken. All letters must contain stamp for reply. Price lists sent free.

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"The Postage Stamp Reporter."

The "Reporter" is an 8 page, monthly paper devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. It contains numerous interesting articles for collectors, and is illustrated with engravings of newly issued stamps each month. Terms only 25 cents a year, postage paid. Send stamp for specimen copy. Address.

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Editors insert the above and receive equivalent in the "Reporter."

ADVERTISEMENTS.



Send 25 cents and receive by return mail your name neatly printed on 75 tinted visiting cards. Address, Union Card Co., Montpelier, Vt.

Montpelier, Vt.



To Dealers in Stamps

We have about 50 cuts of stamps on hand, which we will sell for 50 cents each, postpaid. Every dealer needs them to illustrate Price Lists, &c. Send stamp for list. Any engraving made to order at low prices. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER Montpelier, Vt.

SCHOOL CARDS.—We will send Fine Bristol Cards with the above scroll on them, 25 for 15 cents, 50 for 25 cents, 100 for 40 cents. Address, UNION CARD CO., MONTPELIER, VT.



VISITING CARDS.

We will send any of the following, postage paid, upon receipt of price, with your name neatly printed upon them:

Name of cards.	per 25.	per 50.	per 100.
White Bristol,	\$ 15	\$ 25	\$ 40
Granite, [assorted tints]	15	25	40
Repp.	20	30	50
Glass, [print in gold]	35	60	1 10
Transparent,	35	55	1 00
Snow Flake, [6 colors]	20	40	65
Damask, [assorted tints]	20	35	55
Bristol, [tinted]	15	25	40
Chromo, [5 designs]	35	60	1 10

Agents wanted, 25 per cent commission. Address
UNION CARD CO.,
MONTPELIER, VT.



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VOL. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., FEBRUARY, 1877.

No. 2.

For the Postage Stamp Reporter.

The Mail System.

BY FLETCHER LADD.

The earliest record that we have of anything resembling our modern mail system is the manner in which the ancient Persian and Assyrian kings transmitted their decrees of state—by means of a regular line of messengers, stationed at a distance of a day's journey from each other, mounted on swift horses, and prepared for the utmost expedition. Rome thundered her edicts through the almost numberless provinces that acknowledged her sway, in a somewhat similar manner. But private messages were generally sent by slaves, and as only the higher orders could afford that luxury, it is plain that all communication with their absent friends was entirely cut off from the lower classes. This circumstance affords a striking contrast between the mail system of ancient times and the mail system of the present day, by which a letter of any length can be transmitted to any point in the known world for a mere trifle. The rude civilization of the middle ages hardly improved upon the system of Assyria, Persia and Rome, and it was not till the reign of James I. that it began to be more fully developed in England. In 1644, a member of the House of Commons was appointed master of the Post, (an office corresponding with that of Postmaster General,) and he established a communication by mail with every

part of England. Since the invention of the locomotive and the introduction of railroads, the facilities for correspondence, and in consequence, correspondence itself, have very greatly increased, until at the present day the postage revenue forms one of the chief revenues of nations. Of late years, too, the efforts of pioneer philatelists have given a deserved popularity to the work of collecting the different stamps issued by nations, as a convenient means of prepaying to the government the means of transmitting messages.

The uninitiated are still inclined to sneer at it as a useless folly, but it SURELY IS an absorbing and instructive pursuit to the young, and an interesting and scientific study to those of more mature years; and if the history of the powerful countries of to-day shall ever bear the same relation to coming generations that the history of ancient Rome and Greece bears to the present generation, the extensive collections of modern *Philatelists* and *Archæologists* will be the key with which the future historian shall unlock to his readers the mine of the history which otherwise would be lost.

What is Stamp Collecting?

ITS RISE, PROGRESS, ETC.

As an amusement for young people, or the older ones, postage stamp collecting seems more deserving of popularity and encouragement than any other pastime what-

ever. Why? Because time or money spent in making a collection is not thrown away, but gives something material to show for it, besides a vast fund of useful and valuable information. At the same time one is gaining a most beautiful collection of art specimens as a monument of one's perseverance and love of the beautiful; he is constantly learning what will be useful in life, and yet the study is so pleasing that one never thinks of it as a work, and hence it is the most satisfactory manner possible of studying geography and history. How different from the many silly amusements which give no lasting benefits. It is impossible to name an amusement that can at all compare with Philately. "Philately!"—we think some one exclaims—"what's that?" We will explain.

Stamp collecting first became popular in England. From thence it came to America and extended all over the world. It has its devotees in all climes. Soon after its appearance its advocates deeming "stamp collecting" too common-place a term, coined the word Philately to represent it. The word is from the Greek PHILO, meaning lover of, and TELOS, meaning tax. Taxes often being represented by stamps, a free translation gives us, lover of stamps. Philately, then, is a very appropriate name for the pastime.

Stamp collecting first became popular about 1860, and its progress since its rise is truly wonderful. No amusement could make such rapid strides into public favor the world over, unless it did possess extraordinary merit. Prince Arthur of England, the Prince of Orange, and many others high in rank, in all countries, are ardent philatelists. Our late merchant prince, A. T. Stewart, is said to have possessed a collection which he bought for \$5000 in gold of a collector in Paris, when visiting there sometime since. We know of one party who is now making a most magnificent collection, which he expects to sell to our government, when completed, for \$10,000. The Post Office Department is anxious to buy a full collection

of all countries for preservation. Many such opportunities offer themselves for disposing of collections if they are but finely and neatly preserved. No collector need fear to lay out money on his collection, because it will always bear a market value which increases every year it is kept. A collector, even if he should happen to tire of collecting, had better keep his book and not sell it under any ordinary circumstances, because it is an interesting treasure and curiosity for preservation.

The stamp collector takes great delight in looking over his treasures from day to day. A well arranged and neatly mounted collection presents so much beauty, so much that is curious and instructive, that one never tires of admiring its gems of beauty, its strange contrasts, comparisons, etc.

Every encouragement to the advancement of the delightful pastime for young people or old, helps to advance that which is a most pleasing, never-ending amusement, and which at the same time gives unmeasurable instruction and benefit. Let parents and teachers give their proteges every encouragement when they evince an interest in stamp collecting.

Our price list of Foreign Postage Stamps, Albums &c., will be sent *free* to any address, upon application.

Collectors can depend upon receiving a reply to their orders by *return mail*, as we make it a rule to answer all orders the same day as received.

There are several persons that owe us, whom we intend to *show up* in our March No. unless they remit before the next number is published.

Never enclose nickels or pennies in a letter. If you cannot send fractional paper currency, send 1, 2 or 3 cents stamps (1 cents stamps preferred.)

Our Canadian customers, when ordering, will please remit in U. S. or Canada paper money when convenient. If this cannot be obtained, send in unused 1-2, 1, 2 or 3 cent stamps.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

PERU.

The new 10 cent stamp from this country, which we illustrated last month, is printed in green instead of red. We understand that a five and twenty centavo stamp of similar design will shortly be issued.

HOLLAND.



We give an illustration of the new series of newspaper stamps just issued in this country. The 1 1-2 cent of the previous series has been suppressed. The colors and value of the new set are as follows:

1-2 cent, rose,	2 cent, yellow.
1 cent, green,	2 1-2 cent, violet.

CANADA.

We are indebted to MR. D. C. F. BLISS of Ottawa, for a specimen of the new International Postal Card. The new card was issued about January 1st, and is to be used between Canada and Great Britain. The design is neatly gotten up and is similar to the "one cent" (blue) card. The inscriptions are as follows: in the upper portion of the card, "Canada Post Card — to — United Kingdom,—The address only to be written on this side." Below this, the word *To*, and three lines for the address. Value and color, 2 cent green.

The new 3 cent envelope has not yet appeared.

SWEDEN

has made an addition to her set by the issue of a 4 ore, grey, of same design as the current stamp.

UNITED STATES.

We understand that a new set of stamps from this country are to be issued. We presume both the colors and designs will be changed.

CUBA

has issued another new set of stamps. The type of the 1876 issue has been retained. At top "Cuba, 1877," below the value; colors and value:

12 1-2 cent, violet,	50 cent, black,
25 cent, green,	1 p. golden brown.

NORWAY.

The post of Dramman is without doubt re-established. The stamp we illustrate comes lithographed on plain, white paper, 2 skillings, blue.



AZORES.

We learn that the 5 reis stamp in use in this colony is now surcharged in blue and the 20 reis in red.

GERMANY.

Again this country favors us with a new set of postals showing but a very slight variation from those which they supersede, the only difference in the new stamps consists in the word *pfennige* being spelled without the final *e*.

JAPAN.

We give an illustration of the stamp impressed on the new postal cards from this country mentioned by us last month.

5 rins. Orange, 1 sen., blue.



VICTORIA.

We understand that two new stamps and a postal card have been issued in this country, viz: 8 pence and one shilling. The design of the new shilling stamp consists of the diademed profile of Queen Victoria to left on solid circular disk, VICTORIA above, ONE SHILLING below, in white letters on curved labels, the whole on an engine-turned ground; scrolled frame. The new postal card is smaller than the old one. The words POST CARD are on a scroll above the British Arms, with directions below.

1 penny, violet on buff.

We want all kinds of United States stamps in exchange. Parties having such to dispose of will please send us a list (*enclosing stamp for reply*) of what they have on hand with *lowest* exchange price. We will give \$1.00 per 100 in exchange for *used* Centennial envelope stamps, cut square. \$2.00 per 100 for *used* United States red, 90 cents, present issue.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., FEBRUARY 1877.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year 25 cents. Six Months 15 cents.

POSTAGE PAID.

Subscription Price to Foreign Countries, two Shillings sterling per annum, Post Paid; payable in unused stamps of low values current in the country where ordered.

Specimen copies sent to any address, upon receipt of stamp for postage. *Agents wanted everywhere.* 25 per cent commission paid.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.


Address all communications to
THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

We send copies of our paper this month to our friends and patrons who have not yet subscribed, besides specimen copies to many others whose addresses we have obtained, and hope you will all be sufficiently pleased with its appearance and contents to invest 25 cents in a year's subscription. We shall strive to give you a paper that shall at all times advance the interests of collectors and collecting in every way, and we hope you will lend us your aid by subscribing and inducing your friends to subscribe. In order to succeed, and establish the REPORTER on a firm financial basis, we must have the pecuniary support of our friends and the stamp collecting fraternity. *Subscribe*, reader, and enable us to make many contemplated improvements, which will be made as soon as our subscription list warrants it. If you wish to receive the REPORTER regular in the future, send us 25 cents for a year's subscription. We shall strive to make our paper well worth the subscription price, and think those who subscribe will never regret having done so.

AGENTS WANTED.—We want *Agents* everywhere at 25 per cent commission, cash; or we will give 10 cents worth of stamps from our lists for every subscriber agents may send us. *Rush in the subscriptions.*

THE SMALLEST POST OFFICE.—The smallest post office in the world is kept in a barrel which swings from the outermost rock of the mountain overhanging the Straits of Magellan, opposite Terre Del Fuego. Every passing ship opens it to take letters out or to place them therein. Every ship undertakes to forward all the letters in, that it is possible for them to transmit. It hangs there by an iron chain, beaten and battered by the winds and storms, but no locked and barred office on land, is more secure, as it is not in the track of mail robbers.

Always sign your *full* address in every order sent. No matter how often you write us, never neglect this, for our correspondence is so extensive that it is impossible for us to remember the addresses of but a small portion of our numerous patrons throughout the world. We have several orders on hand where the sender has neglected to give his or her address, and thus we are unable to fill their orders on account of their own carelessness.

Persons answering advertisements in this paper will confer a special favor by saying, "saw advertisement in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER." 

Owing to the non-receipt of part of our foreign correspondence, we are unable to illustrate this number with as many engravings of newly issued stamps as we would wish, but we will try and make up in the March number.

We would like to exchange United States and Canada stamps with our European correspondents, for current stamps of the country in which they reside. We want correspondents in all countries.

Prizes to be Given Away.

To the person sending us the largest number of subscribers before June 1st, 1877, we will present a collection of 300 stamps, (neatly mounted in an Appleton's Postage Stamp Album,) valued at \$8.00. To the person sending the 2d largest number, we will present \$3.00 worth of stamps. To the person sending us the 3d largest number we will present \$1.00 worth of stamps. (Stamps to be selected by the winners.) To the person sending the 4th largest number, we will present a No. 2 Young America Postage Stamp Album. These prizes will be sent to the winners, June 10th, postage paid. The names of the winners will be published in the June number of this paper. Remember *we give all agents a cash commission of 25 per cent on all subscriptions obtained, aside from these prizes.* Send in the subscriptions as received.

Frauds and Dealers in Counterfeits. Collectors, do not Purchase of Them.

C. A. Lyford, Boston, Mass.
L. Perkins, Philadelphia, Pa.
L. Perkins, Camden, N. J.
G. H. Fabian & Co., 102-8 St. N. Y. City.
Atlas Stamp Co., Box 4763. " " "
Equitable Stamp Co., " " "
S. Allen Taylor, Ann St., " " "
Eastern Traffic Co., Richmond Va.
Wallace, Herley & Co., " "
Triumph Stamp Co., " "

We would like to hear from all collectors who have been *swindled*, with a true statement of the case. We will then do all in our power to investigate the party and if we are convinced that they are *not* reliable, we shall not hesitate to publish them in the above list.

We wish to purchase all kinds of U. S. Postage, Revenue and official stamps in exchange for stamps from our price list. Parties having any of the above in quantity to exchange, will please send same on approval or write us, enclosing stamp for reply.

Prize Word Hunt.

We offer the following prizes for the largest number of *words spelled backwards and forward alike*, received before Feby. 28th, 1877.

Examples.—MADAM; POP, &c.

For the largest list \$1.00 worth of stamps. (To be selected by the winner.) For the 2d largest list, Johnsons Illustrated Dictionary of the English Language, 250 pages. For the 3d largest list, 100 visiting cards. For the 4th largest list, a No. 1 Y. A. Stamp Album.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. No lists to be entered after February 28th. The names of the winners will be published in the March number of this paper.

Winners Last Month.

1st Prize, G. C. Smith, Westfield, Mass., 210 words.
2d Prize, Francis H. Casé, Canton Centre, Conn., 197 words.
3d Prize, Newbern J. Rice, Ashburnham, Mass., 163 words.
4th Prize, F. Boultee, 298 Ontario St. Toronto, Canada, 161 words.

Special Notices.

All stamps sold by us are *warranted genuine*.

We will take unused U. S. postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2 cent stamps.

We will send sheets of stamps on approval to responsible parties that can furnish *satisfactory references*. *None others* need apply.

Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

Please say, "I saw advt. in the 'POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,'" when answering advertisements in this paper.

DECALCOMANIA,

—OR—

TRANSFER PICTURES

Decalcomania are pictures reversed on paper, so that they can be easily transferred to any object to imitate oil paintings. They can be transferred in books, or on glass wood, tin, china, cards, &c. Just the thing to amuse the children, and they will be found not uninteresting to older people. 50 nice samples, with full directions, for transferring, will be sent free for 10 cents.

EMBOSSSED PICTURES.

These beautiful pictures have an embossed or raised surface. They are stamped out ready for use, and require no trimming. They consist of a great variety of designs, which can be used to ornament Scrap-Books, Autograph Albums, Cards, Fancy Boxes, Books, Envelopes, and, in fact, everything that taste and ingenuity can suggest. A fine sample sheet of these new and attractive goods will be sent upon receipt of 12 cents. Circulars free. Address for either of the above classes of goods,

GEO. H. RICHMOND,
Northfield, Vermont.

2-1t

YOUR name in elegant chirography, on 12 cards, containing a unique hidden scene, for 20 cents. Samples 6 cts.

2-1t

J. D. HOLCOMB,
Box 31, Mallet Creek, Ohio.

Gold, Silver and Copper Coins,

of all kinds for sale.

I can furnish all dates for silver weddings, or to keep as mementos of year of birth, either in dollars, halves or quarters.

2-3t

J. COLVIN RANDALL,
141 South 17th St., Philadelphia Pa.

AMUSING AND MONEY-MAKING.

Book of full instructions for making and working batteries for gold, silver and nickel plating and electrotyping. sent, post-paid, for 25 cts.

2-1t

We will send 20 Amateur Papers, all different, for 10 cents and 3 cent stamp. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

PRINTING PRESS FOR SALE.

Whereas, increasing business demands a press of greater capacity than the one I now have, I will send to any address for \$30 the following: An octavo Novelty Printing Press, complete, (cabinet form), prints 6" x 10" inches, 1 font card type, 1 type case, 100 blank cards, 1 ink roller with frame, 1 can ink, furniture, &c. The above press is not an old worn out thing, but is as good as when new, having been used but very little. For further particulars address,

A. E. WATSON,
Box 93, Hartford, Vermont.



Send 25 cents and receive by return mail your name neatly printed on 75 tinted visiting cards. Address, Union Card Co., Montpelier, Vt

ENGRAVING ON WOOD.

at very low rates for first class work. Amateur papers please notice. Address, FRANK HEMENWAY, Maplewood, Mass. 2-t

Advertise! Advertise!

OUR CHEAP RATES! Only \$4.50 for an inch advertisement in ten of the best Amateur papers, whose aggregate circulation is 20,000 monthly. Send 3 cent stamp for estimate of any advertisement. Address, THE AMATEUR NEWSPAPER AGENCY, 123 South 3rd St., Philadelphia Pa.



To Dealers in Stamps

We have about 50 cuts of stamps on hand, which we will sell for from 25 to 75 cents each postpaid. Every dealer needs them to illustrate Price Lists, &c. Send stamp for list. Any engraving made to order at low prices. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

50 DECALCOMANIA, or Transfer Pictures, all different, sent to any address, (with full directions for transferring,) for only 10 cents, and 3 cent stamp. Price list and sample picture sent for stamp. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier Vt.

The Flags of all Nations.

These brilliant colored flags faithfully represent the emblems of the different nations of the earth, that issue postage stamps, and as such, are a great acquisition to any album. They are beautifully and carefully printed in colors, on fine heavy paper for framing, or thin paper for albums. The set of 73 flags sent, postage paid, for 25 cents by CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Montpelier, Vt.

WANTED—In large or small quantities, used stamp of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. We will pay good prices in cash or exchange. Parties having any of the above stamps to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with prices. Address, CHARLES F. BUSWELL, Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF RULERS

For insertion in all Postage Stamp Albums. These photographs are the size of postage stamps and when inserted in the spaces prepared for them, add considerably to the interest of an album. Set of 48 portraits \$1.00
Address, CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Montpelier, Vt.

FOR 20 cents we will send your name neatly printed on 25 Transparent Cards. A "nobby" picture can be seen in each card by holding them to the light. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vt.

50 Extra Fine Cards with your name, for 15 cents and stamp. F. W. TUTTLE, Montpelier, Vt.

The American Packets

- OF -

FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,

FOR SALE BY

CHARLES F. BUSWELL,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

Foreign Postage Stamps,
Albums, &c.,

MONTPELIER, VERMONT.



Large 64 page price catalogue illustrated with 259 engravings post free, for 25 cents. Postage Stamp Albums from 25 cent. to \$25.00. Large 4 page descriptive price list of Albums, cheap packet lists of stamps, &c., sent free to any address for stamp for postage.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—In ordering stamps, always give name of list as well as number of packets.
All orders under 50 cents must contain stamp for reply. Always sign full address.

No. 1 contains 10 Stamps from Africa and Asia, including Hong Kong, Japan, East India, Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Egypt and Shanghai. Price, 25 cents.

No. 2 contains 15 varieties of good used Australian Stamps, selected from New South Wales, New Zealand, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 3 contains 80 varieties, including Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Russia, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 4 contains 100 used Stamps (duplicates). Price, 12 cents.

No. 5 contains 15 Post Cards, unused and uncut, from Austria, Canada, Great Britain, Ceylon, German Empire, Newfoundland, &c. Price, 60 cents.

No. 6 contains 100 used and unused varieties. A good packet for beginners. Price, 40 cents.

No. 7 contains 20 rare British Colonials, Jamaica, Tasmania, Queensland, Straits, Settlements, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, triangular, &c. Price, 50 cents.

No. 8 contains 25 U. S. official stamps, including Agricultural, Navy, Justice, War, Interior, Treasury, 90 cents, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 9 contains 20 unused stamps, including Heligoland, New Germany, Servia, Sardinia, Confederate States, Modena, Saxony, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 10 contains 10 varieties including, Peru, Chili, Bermuda, Japan, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 11 contains 10 British Provincials, including, Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 12 contains 10 unused stamps, including Thurn and Taxis, Obsolete Roumania,

German official, Baden Land Post, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 13 contains 10 South American stamps, including New Granada, Peru, Chili, Brazil, Bolivia, Argentine Republic, &c. Price, 30 cents.

No. 14 contains 10 rare stamps, including Naples, Turkey, Madeira, Japan, Lubeck, Bermuda, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 15 contains 12 varieties of British Colonia, stamps, including unused Ceylon, Jamaica, Barbados (1874), and used Tasmania, South Australia, Victoria, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 16 contains 450 mixed foreign stamps, (Duplicates). Price, 50 cents.

No. 17 contains 8 varieties stamps, including India 1 rupee, Sweden official, Newfoundland, Brazil Figure, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 18 contains 20 rare stamps including Bermuda, Japan, British Guiana, South Australia, Natal, Ceylon, Straits, &c. Price, 50 cents.

No. 19 contains 25 rare stamps including Azores, Argentine Republic, Egypt, Modena, Shanghai, Uruguay, Bolivia, Mexico, Curacooa, Chili, Roman States, Turkey, Antigua, Mauritius, &c. Price, \$1.00.

No. 20 contains 1000 mixed European stamps, (duplicates). Price, \$1.00.

No. 22 contains 30 varieties including Sandwich Islands, Barbadoes, Cuba, Alsace and Lorraine 10 cents, French Colonies, Spain official, Dutch Indies, Ecuador, Turks-Island, Tasmania, Virgin Islands, Prince Edwards Island, Oldenburg, &c. Price, \$1.00.

No. 23 contains 350 Foreign Stamps, all different. Price only \$5.00.

No. 24 contains 550 Foreign Stamps, all different. Price, \$10.00.

When answering advertisements in this paper, please say "I saw advertisement in the 'POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.'"

The Buckeye Amateur Gazette,

is an 8 page, 16 column monthly paper. Each issue contains choice stories, a Stamp Department by C. F. Buswell; also, spicy news, puzzle and book report departments *only 15 cents per year*. AGENTS WANTED. For full particulars as to agents. &c., address, WHITMORE & ROBINSON, 192 West 5th St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE greatest trick of the age!! all done with the magic Trick Cards, sent for 15 cents.
F. W. TUTTLE, Montpelier, Vt.

100 Mixed Foreign Stamps, for 15 cents. Address, UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier, Vt.

STAMPS sent on approval to parties sending references. Circulars free. CANADIAN STAMP CO. Montreal, P. Q.

TRANSPARENT CARDS.

HOLD THEM TO THE LIGHT.

YOUR name on 25 for 20 cents, or 25 blank for 15 cents. Samples and price list of the latest styles of visiting cards for stamp.

MOUTH ORGANS with instructions that will make any person become a player for *only 75 cents*. Catalogue of Novelties free. Agents wanted. Address

F. E. FRENCH & CO.,

Lock Box Q. BROCKTON, MASS.

(Say saw ad. in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.)

THE AMATEUR JOURNAL.

A four page monthly, acknowledged by all amateurs to be the best amateur paper published in the United States. It contains a Philatelic department, serial stories, advertisements, humorous articles, and carefully written editorials. *Only 25 cents per year, postpaid*. Address, *AMATEUR JOURNAL*, 62 West Ninth St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

COINS. FRANK S. LUSK, 694 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio. Price list for 3 cent stamp. Standard descriptive catalogue, 20 cents.

Here we are Again.

50 of the prettiest tinted cards you ever saw with name neatly printed, sent free for 30 cents. In order to introduce our cards we will send 20 mixed, including Snowflake, Damask, Marble, Repp, &c for 15 cents. Agents Wanted. Address, ELLERY & LAVENSON, Box 332, Sacramento, Cal.
Extra, to every purchaser of our cards we will give 15 rare Foreign Postage Stamps.

SPIRITS OUTDONE! by the wonderful feats performed by the aid of a splendid "Combination of Magic Apparatus," sent with 15 rare stamps for 10 cents and stamp.

HARRY SEAVER,
Montpelier, Vermont.

Postage Stamp Reporter."

The "Reporter" is an 8 page, monthly paper devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. It contains numerous interesting articles for collectors, and is illustrated with engravings of newly issued stamps each month. Terms only 25 cents a year, postage paid. Send stamp for specimen copy. Address.

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

When this is marked, Editors, please insert once and receive equivalent in the REPORTER.

ONLY 10 cents and stamp for a bottle of the "Rose Silver-Plating Compound" and the latest trick out. AMATEUR NOVELTY CO. Montpelier, Vt.

75 Varieties Genuine Foreign Postage Stamps for 25 cents. Stamp Album for 25 cents and upwards. Send for Price Lists.
UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier, Vt.

WANTED all kinds of used Canadian Stamps in exchange for Foreign Stamps, Cards, and Decalcomania. Send stamp for Price Lists and Particulars. Address,
UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier, Vt.



\$5 SELF-INKING-BEST! Printing Press, with outfit, \$6.50; \$7 Self Inking "BEST," with outfit, \$10. Rotary Job Press Chase, 5x8 \$45. Send stamp for Catalogue (no postal cards.) H. HOOVER & CO., 50 N. 9th street, Philadelphia, Pa.

VISITING CARDS.

We will send any of the following, postage paid, upon receipt of price, with any name neatly printed upon them:

Name of cards,	per 25.	per 50.	per 100.
Bristol, (white or assorted tints),	\$ 12	\$ 20	\$ 35
Granite, [assorted tints]	15	22	40
Repp, " "	18	30	50
Italian Marble " "	20	35	60
Glass, [print in gold]	35	55	1 10
University Plaid, assorted colors.	15	25	45
Emblematical, assorted designs,	20	35	60
Damask, [assorted tints]	20	35	60
Moire Antique, assorted tints,	20	35	60
Blank Scroll, 4 designs,	15	25	45
Transparent, assorted pictures,	20	35	60
Chromo, [5 designs]	35	60	1 10
Snow Flake, assorted tints,	22	40	65
Watered Bristol,	20	35	60
Italian Stone,	20	35	60

Send two 3 cent stamps for samples. Agents wanted, 25 per cent commission. Address

UNION CARD CO.,
MONTPELIER, VT.



20 VARIETIES FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS for 25 cts. stamps. Stamp Album space for 100 stamps, name of countries over each page only 25 cts. Cheap price lists free.

Address
C. F. BUSWELL, Stamp Importer
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.



THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.

An Illustrated paper devoted to Stamp Collecting.

VOL. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., MARCH, 1877.

No. 3.

For the Postage Stamp Reporter. Counterfeits and Counterfeiters.

W. HARRY BRUCE.

What is a counterfeit? How can I distinguish a counterfeit from an original—and why should I not collect the one as well as the other? are questions that have been put to us time and again by amateur collectors, and by those having for their main object the desire to cover the blank spaces in their albums in the shortest time possible, no matter with what. This is a subject that merits more attention at the hands of the publisher than has as yet been accorded it, and we trust to find many pages of the *Postage Stamp Reporter* utilized in the interests of this subject, and not afraid to strike when it finds a guilty one, let the blow fall where it may. We hope the few remarks to which we shall confine ourselves in this article will meet the consideration at the hands of the reader that such a subject demands, and that in future more particular attention may be paid thereto.

A counterfeit of anything is its counterpart or likeness. The counterfeit of a stamp is an imitation of it—in many cases these imitations are so coarse and unlike the copy as to be distinguishable at a glance by the connoisseur or the collector who has seen the original, though they will just as readily deceive the novice; while in other cases the resemblance is so near perfection as to de-

ceive the most experienced. To distinguish the genuine from the counterfeit the only course open to the amateur is to *trade only with reliable dealers*, as in many cases a comparison with the genuine is impracticable or impossible. Such dealers are easily found, and we would say *en passant* that it is not advisable for a young collector to trade with more than three or four at any one time, as he can, in most cases, do just as well with one dealer as with another.

As to collecting counterfeits—never do so. It is just so much trash; no ornament or addition to your collection; no value to you; for in offering it for sale you could not expect any experienced dealer to overlook them. On the contrary, he would set you down as a novice, and perhaps you would never realize for your collection one-half its actual value.

In conclusion we would say a word regarding counterfeiters. They are the common enemy of every honest collector. They take your money and give you no equivalent for it. It is your right, it is your duty to hunt them down, to expose them. If you get a counterfeit follow it up. If the party you bought it of will not tell whence it came, make him, by offering him the alternative of exposure. If he does not come to it then, expose him, for by selling it to you he becomes a dealer therein, and deserves all the disgrace which can be attached to such parties. In this way you will not only benefit

yourself, but collectors at large, and you will in many a case get to the bottom, and put the stigma on the shoulders of the guilty manufacturer.

The Three-Cent Stamp.

By about the middle of next May the public will have seen the last of the present three-cent stamps, and begin to get accustomed to something red, or possibly a new tint. The best and fastest color known; the three-cent green, has proved a plager for stamp-washers, who take off the oily cancellation without acid or alkali, and set the stamp afloat again.

So far, the Department has found no way out of the difficulty, and a long series of experiments just completed has resulted in nothing more than the assurance that green is the poorest of stamp colors. At the time it was adopted no other nation used it as its unit of letter postage, and, with its disuse, the common stamps the world over will run to reds and browns.

With the change of color, May 1st, there will be a change in design. The medallion head of Washington will be relieved by an open space of white, and the scroll work will have a different pattern. Altogether, the new stamp will bear some resemblance to a stamp of sixteen years ago, which most people have forgotten. The white background is adopted in the hope that any attempt to wash the stamp will leave this part irretrievably soiled.

Some other changes in the stamps are likely to follow the making of a contract, May 1, and a new head is likely to be introduced in the shape of a medallion of Liberty—one step toward bringing more similarity between the designs of coins and stamps. There is some intention of putting this design on the five-cent stamp, used mostly for foreign postage.

Conference and correspondence with other postal authorities show that loss from the reuse of stamps is much more frequent here than abroad. It is scarcely known in England, and there stamps offer the additional temptation of being easy to counterfeit. The practice has recently begun in India, and the frugal folks are giving the Anglo-Indian Office serious loss by their skill in dealing with canceled stamps.—*New York World*.

Beware of Counterfeits.

If a Postage Stamp collection
You're desiring to obtain,
Stamps will stand a close inspection!
And more confidence will gain!
Buy no postage stamps from any
Man who has more names than one,
For his counterfeits are many—
And his presence all should shun!
Though a little sheet, I'm speaking
Of some stamps are genuine,
Stamp collectors should be seeking
New an' old, and coarse and fine.
None are frauds—I can be proving
All are real—all are true,
And as the great world keeps moving—
I would keep advancing too!

TAYLOR,* you have been deceiving
People with the stamps you've sold,
Names you have adopted leaving,
But your game has got too old!
People learn you've been a "skinner,"
And your game was gulling them,
And you'll never be the winner
In tricks honest folks condemn.
All the stamps for sale I'm naming
All I've ever named before,
Rivals cannot be defaming,
They are true—who'd ask for more?
If you wish a good collection,
O'er my little columns read,
Know of stamps can bear inspection—
If REAL foreign stamps you need!

*S. Allen Taylor, dealer in counterfeit stamps, N. Y. City.

Value of Foreign Money.

ON A GOLD BASIS.

Pound Sterling, of England.....	\$ 4.84
Guinea, ".....	5.05
Crown, ".....	1.21
Shilling, ".....	.22
Napoleon, of France.....	3.84
Five Francs, ".....	.93
Franc, ".....	.18½
Thaler of Saxony.....	.68
Guilder, of Netherlands.....	.40
Ducat, of Austria.....	2.28
Florin, ".....	.48½
Doubloon of Spain (1800).....	15.54
Real, ".....	.05
Five Rubles, of Russia.....	3.95
Ruble, ".....	.75
Franc, of Belgium.....	.18½
Ducat of Bavaria.....	2.27
Franc, of Switzerland.....	.18½
Crown, of Tuscany.....	1.06½

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

—o—
ECUADOR.

We learn that an entire new set of stamps are in preparation for this country.

CUBA.



We give an illustration of the new stamps just issued in this island, as described by us last month. CUBA is the name now, and the heading Spanish West Indies will henceforth drop out of our catalogues, as, indeed, it ought to have done four years ago according to the actual use of the stamps; it would be much more difficult to tell how

long ago the Spaniards ought to have left this beautiful island to its rightful owners; however, the right name is on the stamps, and whenever the patriots gain their independence the stamps of *Cuba libre* can follow on without any derangement of albums. We are certainly pleased to see the name of the island on the new stamps, but were in hopes that the new set might be of the same pleasing design as the current set of the mother country.

SWEDEN.

The 10 ore Post Card is now mauve, and the 6 ore has changed from lilac to brown.

SWITZERLAND.

The inscription on the current officials is altered to CARTE-CORRESPONDANCE OFFICIELLE. A railway Post Card has been issued, which may be utilized as a telegraphic message by the earliest train, instead of waiting for the mail. It is printed in black on green.

VICTORIA.

We are enabled to give our readers an illustration of the new shilling stamp recently issued in this country. A new eight-penny is announced, and the provisional one, as well as the normal nine-penny, will consequently be discontinued. We presume the plate of the original eight-penny of 1855 is worn out.



PERU.

TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

A trio of new telegraphic adhesives have been recently issued for the use of this republic. They are of similar, but not identical type; they show the sun rising from behind an emblazoned escutcheon bearing the well known arms of the country. This device is contained in a lozenge-shaped frame with inscriptions on curved scrolls above and below. TELEGRAFO NACIONAL above; value in numerals, and words variously disposed in each stamp below. Perforated, color on white. 5 centavos, violet; 20 centavos, green; 50 centavos, brown.

PORTO RICO.

This island has issued a new set of stamps. The design consists of profile of Alfonso to right, in oval; "PTO RICO 1877," above, value below, arms of Castile and Leon in alternate corners; Greek word CORREOS in small letters; fleur-de-lis in an

gles. The values and colors are as follows: 12½ ct. de peseta, green. | 50 ct. de peseta, brown. 25 ct. de peseta, black. | 1 peseta, lilac.

GREAT BRITAIN.

We give an illustration of the new eight-penny stamp, recently issued in this country. They are of an ineffective pale red, and were issued conformably with the reduced postage to India and Australia.



FRENCH COLONIES.

The 2 cent brown and 10 cent brown on pink, extinct for home use, are doing duty in these colonies in an imperforate state.

GREECE.

We learn that a new edition is forthcoming, type as before, with probable varieties of shade. The current 40 lepta is now rose-violet on white. The new 30 l. is on a more yellowish paper than at first.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

The seal type, 5 cent, of this colony, first issued brown, then black, has been recently printed in blue, and rouletted instead of hole-perforated.



NORWAY.

The values and colors of the new set for this country are as follows.

1 ore, drab.	12 ore, green.
3 ore, light brown.	20 ore, red brown.
5 ore, blue.	25 ore, mauve.
10 ore, carmine.	50 ore, claret red.

NATAL.

The yellow penny *fiscal* has been doing duty lately for a postal; POSTAGE being surcharged thereon.

LA GUAIRA.

The private stamps of the country serving between this place and the islands of Curacao and St. Thomas, have been re-printed on white paper and in brighter hues. There are varieties of the same on yellow paper with larger perforations,

NEW ZEALAND.

The reported Post Card for this colony has become a visible fact. The die of the penny adhesive figures in the usual place, and the well-known trefole border of some of the provisional British Guianas runs between a thick outer and thin inner line. Value and color: 1 penny, violet-brown on buff.

FIJI ISLANDS.

Stamps of the *Fiji Times Express* are again in circulation. The type is but slightly changed. 1d., 3d., 6d., 9d., and 1l., black on pink.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., MARCH 1877.

SUBSCRIPTIONS :

One year 25 cents. Six Months 15 cents.
POSTAGE PAID.

Subscription Price to Foreign Countries, two Shillings Sterling per annum, Post Paid; payable in *unused* stamps or postal cards of low values current in the country where ordered.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.

Address all communications to
THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Again we send a large number of specimen copies this month to many collectors whose addresses we have obtained, soliciting their subscriptions. Collectors will find that, however small our paper is, each number will contain interesting articles about stamps and everything that concerns the interests of stamp collectors. Owing to our large foreign correspondence we have unusual facilities for obtaining information about newly-issued stamps, and we shall strive to give our readers as complete a list of such, as possible, each month. We shall do our utmost to make the *Reporter* one of the best of its class, and, with the aid of several first-class Philatelic writers, we feel confident of success. We invite one and all to lend us a helping hand, by sending us 25 cents for a year's subscription. We intend to enlarge to twelve pages as soon as our subscription list warrants it; therefore, collectors who wish to receive it should subscribe *now*, before the subscription price is raised. We feel quite sure that no one will regret the investment of the small sum asked for a year's subscription.

AGENTS WANTED.—We want *Agents* everywhere at 25 per cent commission, cash; or we will give 10 cents' worth of stamps from our lists for every yearly subscriber agents may send us. *Rush in the subscriptions.*

Any one receiving more than one copy of this paper will oblige us by giving same to some friend interested in stamp collecting.

Remember this, that 25 cents sent to the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt., will secure you a year's subscription to this paper. *Subscribe now.*

Persons subscribing to this paper will please state with which number they wish their subscription to commence.

We wish to purchase all kinds of U. S. Postage, Official and Revenue stamps in exchange for Foreign stamps from our price lists; also Match, Medicine, Beer, and all kinds of private Revenues. We will give 30 cents per 1000 for the current 1, 2, 3 and 6-cent postage stamps; \$1.00 per 100 for used 3-cent centennial envelope stamps cut square, and \$2.00 per 100 for used present issue 90-cent stamp. Persons having any of the other stamps named above will please send them to us (enclosing stamp for reply), on approval, with their lowest price for same. *No torn stamps wanted.*

Our California correspondents having California, Oregon and Nevada State Revenues to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with lowest price.

Persons answering advertisements in this paper will confer a special favor by saying, "saw advertisement in *Postage Stamp Reporter.*"

We would like to exchange United States and Canada stamps with our European correspondents for current stamps of the country in which they reside. Parties having such to dispose of will please send any quantity to us by book post registered, and we will send exchange upon receipt of same.

Our Foreign exchanges, when inserting our advertisements, will please *translate* same into the language in which their papers are published.

Visiting cards cheap. Read advertisement of Union Card Co. on page 6.

Prizes to be Given Away.

To the person sending us the largest number of subscribers before June 1st, 1877, we will present a collection of 300 stamps, (neatly mounted in an Appleton's Postage Stamp Album.) valued at \$100. To the person sending the 2d largest number, we will present \$3.00 worth of stamps. To the person sending us the 3d largest number we will present \$1.00 worth of stamps. (Stamps to be selected by the winners.) To the person sending the 4th largest number we will present a No. 2 Young America Postage Stamp Album. These prizes will be sent to the winners, June 10th, postage paid. The names of the winners will be published in the June number of this paper. Remember *we give all agents a cash commission of 25 per cent on all subscriptions obtained, aside from these prizes.* Send in the subscriptions as received.

Frauds and Dealers in Counterfeits.

COLLECTORS, DO NOT PURCHASE OF THEM.

C. A. Lyford, Boston, Mass.
 L. Perkins, Philadelphia, Penn.
 L. Perkins, Camden, N. J.
 G. H. Fabian & Co., 201-8 St., N. Y. City.
 Atlas Stamp Co., " "
 Equitable Stamp Co., " "
 S. Allen Taylor, Ann St., " "
 Eastern Traffic Co., Richmond, Va.
 Wallace, Herley & Co., " "
 Triumph Stamp Co., " "
 Jas. Lincoln & Co., London, Eng.

"The Postage Stamp Reporter."

The "Reporter" is an 8 page, monthly paper devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. It contains numerous interesting articles for collectors, and is illustrated with engravings of newly issued stamps each month. Terms only 25 cents a year, postage paid. Send stamp for specimen copy. Address.

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,

MONTPELIER, VERMONT, U. S.

When this is marked, Editors, please insert above once and receive equivalent in the REPORTER.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE REPORTER.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

We offer the following prizes for the largest number of words spelled from the word

COLUMBIA.

received before March 28th, 1877.

For the largest list \$1.00 worth of stamps.
 For the next largest, a No. 2 Y. A. Stamp Album.
 For the third in merit, Johnson's Illustrated Dictionary, 250 pages.
 For the next in merit 100 decalcomania pictures, all different.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. No proper names allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after March 28th. *No letter to be used twice in the same word.* The names of the winners will be published in the April number of this paper.

WINNERS LAST MONTH.

1st prize, Mark B. Kerr, 812, 21st N. W., Washington, D. C. 79 words.
 2d prize, J. Fred Hutchinson, 20 Mason St. Cambridge, Mass. 67 words.
 3d prize, N. J. Rice, Ashburnham, Mass. 66 words.
 4th prize, Claude Boulton, 209 King St. East., Toronto, Canada. 64 words.

All stamps sold by us are *warranted genuine.*

We will take unused U. S. postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2-cent stamps.

We will send sheets of stamps on approval to responsible parties that can furnish *satisfactory references.* *None others need apply.*

Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

Those in want of Visiting Cards cheap, but of fine quality, should consult the advertisement of the Green Mountain Card Co.

Read advertisement of "*Our Mutual Friend.*" Upon receipt of 15 cents for postage, the publishers will send a first-class magazine *free* one year.

Our Price Lists of Foreign Stamps, Albums, etc., we will send free to any address upon receipt of a 1-cent postage stamp.

THE AMERICAN PACKETS

OF
FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS.

Always state name of packet list as well as number of packet. *All orders under 50 cents must contain stamp for reply.*

No. 1 contains 10 Stamps from Africa and Asia, including Hong Kong, Japan, East India, Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Egypt and Shanghai. Price, 25 cents

No. 2 contains 15 varieties of good used Australian Stamps, selected from New South Wales, New Zealand, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 3 contains 80 varieties, including Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Russia, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 4 contains 100 used Stamps (duplicates). Price, 12 cents.

No. 5 contains 15 Post Cards, unused and uncut, from Austria, Canada, Great Britain, Ceylon, German Empire, Newfoundland, &c. Price, 60 cents.

No. 6 contains 100 used and unused varieties. A good packet for beginners. Price, 40 cents.

No. 7 contains 20 rare British Colonials, Jamaica, Tasmania, Queensland, Straits, Settlements, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, triangular, &c. Price, 50 cents.

No. 8 contains 25 U. S. official stamps, including Agricultural, Navy, Justice, War, Interior, Treasury, 90 cents, &c. Price, 25c.

No. 9 contains 20 unused stamps, including Heligoland, New Germany, Servia, Sardinia, Confederate States, Modena, Saxony, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 10 contains 10 varieties including, Peru, Chili, Bermuda, Japan, &c. Price, 25c.

No. 11 contains 10 British Provincials, including, Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 12 contains 10 unused stamps, including Thurn and Taxis, Obsolete Roumania, German official, Baden Land Post, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 13 contains 10 South American stamps, including New Granada, Peru, Chili, Brazil, Bolivia, Argentine Republic, &c. Price, 30 cents.

No. 14 contains 10 rare stamps, including Naples, Turkey, Madeira, Japan, Lubeck, Bermuda, &c. Price, 25 cents.

Address all orders to

CHAS. F. BUSWELL,

Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

WANTED! WANTED!! U. S. Document, and Private Revenue, Beer, Tobacco, Spirit, Playing Card, Foreign Revenue Stamps, &c., &c. Also collections of 100 and upwards, U. S. copper cents and half cents, for cash or exchange. \$3.00 cash paid for *Etna Match Co.*, 1c, green; American Match Co., 1 and 3c; Bonae-field & Poole, 3c, (oblong) brown; Brown & Dunling, 1c black; Doolittle, W. E., 1c Blue; Kensitt, (fruit) 1c green, Pierce Match Co., 1c green; Wise & Co., 1c black; \$1 to \$15 paid for certain varieties. Complete price list of private revenues sent on receipt of 3c stamp. *Established five years.*

E. F. GAMBS

413 South 4th St., St. Louis, Mo.



\$5 SELF-INKING-BEST Printing Press, with outfit, \$6.50; \$7 Self-inking "BEST," with outfit, \$10. Rotary Job Press Chase, 5x8 \$45. Send stamp for Catalogue (no postal cards.)
HOOVER & CO., 50 N. 9th street, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE MONTREAL GEM.

An 8 page, 16 column monthly paper, devoted to stamp collectors and others, filled with choice stories &c. Subscribe at once. Sent post-paid one year to any address for 25cts, 6 months 15cts. Agents wanted. Address, *Montreal Gem Publishing Co.*, 1373 St. Catherine St., Montreal, P. Q.

Two Papers for the Price of One.

THE NATIONAL MONTHLY, a first class, large, illustrated 32 column paper, will be sent one year together with the *Postage Stamp Reporter* for only 50 cents. Send stamp for specimen copy.

Address,
Lock Box 174,

THE NATIONAL MONTHLY,
Washington, D. C.

Card Printers, Read following price list of blank visiting cards.

White Bristol, per 100,	.08
Plaid or Damask, per 100,	.15
Snowflake, " "	.32
Embossed, " "	.16
Flowered, new " "	.20
Silhouette " "	.30

Price list free samples 10cts. Address, **NORTON BROS.**, 106 St. Clair St., Cleveland, Ohio.
N. B. 3 cents per 100 extra for postage.

75 Foreign stamps including Brazil, Spain, Great Britain, Austria, Italy, &c., for 25 cents. Price lists including 10 foreign stamps, free for 5 cent stamp. Address, **JOHN JOHNSTON**, 9 Lake Avenue Rochester, N. Y.

COLLECTORS! Send 3 cent stamp for specimen copy of the *St. Louis Philatelist*, a splendid 8 page stamp journal commended by the press everywhere. No post cards. **E. F. GAMBS**, Publisher, 413 South 4th St. St. Louis Mo.

Visiting Cards. 75 tinted cards with your name neatly printed on, will be sent post-paid for only 25 cents. We have a large assortment including many new styles at low prices. *Agents Wanted.* A fine assortment of samples sent for 10 cents. Address all orders to **Union Card Co.** Montpelier, Vt., U. S.

WANTED.—In large or small quantities, used stamp of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland. We will pay good prices in cash or exchange. Parties having any of the above stamps to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with prices. Address **CHARLES F. BUSWELL**, Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

The Card Agent's Gazette.

A live, 12 pages Monthly Magazine, containing six pages of interesting stories and sketches both selected and original also a liberal Puzzle Department, carefully written Editorials, a column for exposing Rogues, and a page devoted to asking questions for the benefit of the trade. It also contains each month a large number of first class Advertisements and a Card Agent's Directory in which are the names and address of every Card Printer who advertise to the amount of 50c., inserted six month FREE.

Price, 35c. a year, 3 months 10c in advance.
Address, "The GAZETTE,"
Box 410, St. Albans, Vt.

WE WANT AGENTS

To sell staple articles of our own manufacture. Terms upon application. Address FISK & CO. Holyoke, Mass.

FOR SALE. A collection of 250 Genuine Postage Stamps neatly arranged in an Improved Album, which contains spaces for 3000 stamps, including all new issues, and about 150 colored Engravings. Price \$4.50; will be sent C. O. D. Address, G. KAPPELER, 128 Day St. New Haven, Conn.

"Our Mutual Friend"

is an illustrated Monthly Magazine, printed in the highest style of the art, and calculated to please the majority of readers. Send for a Free specimen copy and judge for yourself. Address, FISK & CO., Holyoke, Mass.

\$10 = \$25 a day sure made by Agents selling our Chromos, Crayons and Reward, Motto, Scripture Text, "Transparent Picture and Chromo Cards. 100 samples, worth \$4 sent postpaid for 75c. Illustrated Catalogue free. J. H. BUFFORD'S SONS, BOSTON. Estab'd 1830.

Boys Look Here!!! Complete apparatus for performing the greatest sleight of hand trick ever introduced in America. Also the great Indian Fishing secret, complete direction for eating Red Hot coals of fire, and 5 rare Foreign stamps, all for 10c. and stamp. AMATEUR NOVELTY CO. Montpelier Vt.

VISITING CARDS.

We will send any of the following, cards with any name on receipt of price.

NAME OF CARD	FOR 100,	FOR 50,	FOR 25.
Bristol, white or tinted,	\$ 35	\$ 18	\$ 12
Granite assorted tints,	35	29	12
Satin, " "	45	25	15
Repp, " "	45	25	15
Plaid, " "	40	25	15
Scroll assorted designs,	45	25	15
Damask assorted tints,	50	30	20
Transparent; 24 styles,	60	35	20
Moire Antique,	60	35	20
Egyptian marble, 5 shades,	60	35	20
Italian stone, assorted tints,	60	35	20
Snowflake, assorted,	65	35	20
Pictorial 24 portraits,	85	50	30
Chromo, assorted,	1 00	55	35
Glass,	1 00	55	35
National Flags, 6 styles,	1 10	60	35

25 percent to agents, Address, GREEN MOUNTAIN CARD CO., lock box 774, Montpelier, Vt.

Decalcomania or Transfer Ornaments; Embossed Pictures, and Foreign stamps. Circulars free.
Address, GEO. H. RICHMOND.

Northfield, Vt.

"REMARKABLY REMARKABLE."

Our "Standard Stationary Portfolio" contains 6 sheets white writing paper, 6 sheets tinted writing paper, 6 white envelopes, 6 tinted envelopes, 1 lead pencil, 1 penholder, 1 oroid gold fountain pen, 1 golden pen, 1 blotter, 1 elegant card photograph, and an elegant piece of jewelry. Sample package sent to any address for 25 cents. Agents-wanted. Address, FISK & CO. Holyoke, Mass.

REMOVED.

W. Y. Edwards, has removed to 10 Barclay St. N. Y., where he would like to hear from all amateurs in the country. We have enlarged our place and have a great many facilities for supplying amateurs with printing material. Publishers insert this and above for 25 cts., and send marked copy.

50 Varieties Foreign Stamps 15 cents. Stamps on approval to parties sending references. Circulars free.

Canada Stamp Company, Montreal, P. Q.

The Youths Journal.

A 4 page, 12 column monthly paper, containing essays, historical, biographical and critical sketches, poems and editorials on topics of interest. Splendidly printed, on good paper. Specimen copy free! J. WILLIAM GARNER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

WANTED all kinds of used Canadian Stamps in exchange for Foreign Stamps, Cards, and Decalcomania. Send stamp for Price Lists and Particulars. Address, UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier Vt.

WE HAVE OVER

one hundred varieties of beautiful transparent cards. Many astute subjects. Six different samples mailed for 10c, or 50c per 100.
Address, FISK & CO., Holyoke Mass.

FOR 20 cents we will send your name neatly printed on 25 Transparent Cards. A "nobby" picture can be seen in each card by holding them to the light. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vt.

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Offers no prize except good reading, to its Readers. It is a small lively 4 paged 8 column monthly paper containing every month stories, amateur news &c. "subs" 10c and "ads" 3c per line. Address, CHAS. F. MCCANN, 104 George St. Cincinnati, O

To Dealers in Stamps

We have about 50 cuts of stamps on hand, which we will sell for from 25 to 75 cents each postpaid. Every dealer needs them to illustrate Price Lists, &c. Send stamp for list. Any engraving made to order at low prices. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER Montpelier, Vt.



THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.

When answering advertisements in this paper, please say "I saw advertisement in the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER."

The Flags of all Nations.

These brilliant colored flags faithfully represent the emblems of the different nations of the earth, that issue postage stamps, and as such, are a great acquisition to any album. They are beautifully and carefully printed in colors, on fine heavy paper for framing, or thin paper for albums. The set of 73 flags sent, postage paid, for 25 cents by
CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Montpelier, Vt.

YARDS. Agent's outfit, 10 cts. and stamp. 30 mixed cards, 10 cts. 50 Extra Mixed 25 cts. MELLENVILLE CARD CO., Mellenville, Col. Co., N. Y.

Transparent Cards.

48 all different for 25 cents; with your name 35 cents.

75 cards with name 25 cents. 25 for 10 cents. Agents wanted. Price list and samples of visiting cards. Comic envelopes &c., for stamp. Address, L. M. HOLMES & CO., Brocton, Mass. 3-3t

FOREIGN STAMPS. 100 varieties including Turkey, Spain, Norway, Sweden, Denmark &c., 25c. 30 Officials, State Executive, Agriculture, etc., 25c. Postage extra. Price lists free. W. W. PHAIR, Brooklyn, N. Y.

We will send 20 Amateur Papers, all different, for 10 cents and 3 cent stamp. Address, THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

Gold, Silver and Copper Coins, of all kinds for sale.

I can furnish all dates for silver weddings, or to keep as mementos of year of birth, either in dollars, halves or quarters. J. COLVIN RANDALL, 2-3t 114 South 17th St., Philadelphia Pa.

ENGRAVING ON WOOD.

at very low rates for first class work. Amateur papers please notice. Address, FRANK HEMENWAY 2-tf Maplewood, Mass.

50 DECALCOMANIA, or Transfer Pictures, all different, sent to any address, (with full directions for transferring,) for only 10 cents, and 3 cent stamp. Price list and sample picture sent for stamp. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier Vt.

TRANSPARENT CARDS.

HOLD THEM TO THE LIGHT.

YOUR name on 25 for 20 cents, or 25 blank for 15 cents. Samples and price list of the latest styles of visiting cards for stamp.

MOUTH ORGANS with instructions that will make any person become a player for only 75 cents. Catalogue of Novelties free. Agents wanted. Address

F. E. FRENCH & CO.,

Lock Box Q. BROCKTON, MASS.

(Say saw ad. in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.)

115 Foreign Stamps all different, many obsolete and rare, with list of stamps, sets, packets, embossed pictures post free, for 25 cents. Wanted Revenue, Match, Medicine, and Beer stamps. J. BEFIELD, Box 384, Chicago, Ill.

"Our Yankee Boss."

A monthly amateur paper. Only 20 cents per year. Six months 15 cents. Advertisements only 2 cents per line. Send 1 cent stamp for specimen copy. Address

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10-37th St. Pittsburgh, Pa.

"Corriere dei Francobolli."

Organ of Trade Stamps.

The Journal is published on the 7th and the supplement on the 22d of each month, to the amount of 2300 copies. Price of annual subscription for all countries of the Postal Union cents 48. The supplement bestowed gratis to the subscribers.

The Corriere dei Francobolli is the only Italian philatelist paper published twice a month. Correspondence in Italian, German, French and English. The large circulation of this journal makes it a first class advertising medium.

ADVERTISEMENTS 4 CENTS THE SPACE.

Letters and parcels to be sent post-paid to the office of the Corriere dei Francobolli

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Send 25 cents and receive by return mail your name neatly printed on 75 tinted visiting cards. Address, Union Card Co., Montpelier Vt

THE BOYS' HERALD, BOX 1164. ST. JOHN, N. B.

Is an 8 page monthly amateur paper; contains Editorials, Book Reviews, Poems, Articles, Stories, etc., Amat-ur news and a good Puzzle Department Advertisements 1 cent a line. Circulation 1500. 25 cents a year. It is patronized by a large number of reliable stamp dealers, as an advertising medium. Collectors would do well to send for it. Specimens free.

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Editors and publishers of amateur papers, send specimens, with advertising rates; state circulation. Address Fisk & Co., Holyoke, Mass.

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These neat little Albums are specially designed for beginners or young persons, and are well calculated to contain a collection of 1500 stamps, squares being printed for 1,680 stamps. The size of the Album is large octavo. Each page is surmounted by the name of the country whose stamps it is intended to contain, and contains 35 spaces, giving accommodation to that number of stamps on a page and when neatly filled has a beautiful and rich appearance.

No. 1, Flexible covers..... Price 25 cents.
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Sent post free, upon receipt of price. Address,

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Foreign-Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

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PHILATELICAL
S. K. TRIFANT
LIBRARY

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.

An Illustrated paper devoted to Stamp Collecting.

VOL. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., APRIL, 1877.

No. 4.

A Rare Postage Stamp.

Now that stamp-gathering is such a widespread recreation, says the Springfield *Republican*, it will be of interest to many to learn that the second postage-stamp issued to the United States, was engraved by Thomas Chubbuck, of this city, at Brattleboro from 1845 to 1840, while his invalid wife was undergoing treatment at a water-cure there, and had an office directly over the post-office by which he became intimate with F. N. Palmer, the postmaster. At that time it cost five cents to send a letter, and prepayment was optional. Post masters' salaries, moreover, were graded, as they are now to some extent, by the amount taken in at the office, and the postmaster at New York thinking that people would be more apt to prepay their postage if they could do so by means of stamps, had some struck off at his own expense. One of these reached the Brattleboro post office, and the plan commended itself to Mr. Palmer's judgment, who determined to increase the revenues of his office, if possible, by the same means. Accordingly he employed Mr. Chubbuck to prepare a copper-plate for him containing eight stamps, and had five hundred printed. They were printed with black ink upon buff paper, and were of about the same dimensions as those now in use. The design was very simple, consisting of an octagonal centre, differing from

the border in the direction of the tinted lines. The centre contained the initials of the postmaster, "F. N. P.," in fac simile of his handwriting: above it was "Brattleboro," below, "Five cents" and on the sides, "P. O." Before the issue of five hundred stamps was used up, the Government began to publish postage stamps, and the destruction was ordered both of the stamps on hand and the dies. Hence has happened the extreme rarity of the stamps, which has led some to doubt their existence. Mr. Chubbuck had a single sheet of the stamps in his book of samples of his work for a number of years, but finally sold them, about two years ago, to a New Haven gentleman, who gave him a dollar apiece for them, leaving the engraver chuckling over his bargain. Meeting the gentleman some time after Mr. Chubbuck learned that he had sold the stamps for \$10 apiece; "but the man I sold them to," said he, "got \$20 a piece for them." This gentleman wrote an account of the stamps, which was published without Mr. Chubbuck's knowledge, in an English postal magazine, with a wood-cut of the stamps. In consequence of this publication, Mr. Chubbuck has received numerous letters inquiring about the stamps, and offering generous prices for copies of them, one man being willing to give \$100 for the original plate, if obtainable. The plate, however, has been destroyed, and the

stamps are never met with except in the album of some philatelist who has been fortunate enough to secure a copy of the rare curiosity.

What Postage Stamps Tell.

An English writer says :

We have before us a pretty complete collection of stamps, and in glancing through its pages are reminded of many historical facts and events. But we will not do more than indicate the kind of changes which young collectors may usefully study. The mere acquisition of stamps, so as to feel pride, or make boast of a large collection, is a poor and pitiful thing. A long purse, without much industry or intelligence, can secure a large collection. But to have a judicious selection, and to be able to obtain amusement and instruction from the various devices in certain countries at different times, is a far worthier object. In Italy, for instance, the displacement of the Papal stamps by those of the Italian kingdom tells of the progress of national unity and freedom. The disappearance of the Confederate stamps from circulation in America is the memorial of the doom of slavery, and the advance of free labor and equal rights all over the world. Or, in later years, the handsome stamps, with large, plain figures for Alsace and Lorraine, tell of the result of the great war by which the restless French have been driven back, forever, let us hope, from the Rhine provinces, which they have kept for generations in commotion and disturbance. The recent rise and rapid progress of Japan, in imitation of western improvement, is notified by the presence of these series of stamps engraved by native artists, and printed on paper of native manufacture.

The recent changes in the Spanish Government are marked by the various devices employed: the Republic of 1870, by a head of Liberty, with mural crown; the accession of King Amadeo, by a fine series of stamps bearing his portrait; his abdication, by the

issue of a set with a seated figure, representing the Republic of Spain. Stamps have been recently issued by Don Carlos, with his portrait, which we hope will become only curiosities for the collector.

Review of Counterfeits.

The various Stamp Journals of this country are to be commended for their vigorous effort in trying to suppress and expose dealers in counterfeit stamps. This meritorious act should not cease until the whole pack of counterfeiters are made to go out of the business. They do more harm towards stamp collecting than can be imagined at a glance. When a collector finds that some of the choicest specimens in his collection, and which he prided most of all, are counterfeit, he gets disgusted and ceases to collect. Were it not for the gang of counterfeiters who infest New York, (and whose names it will be unnecessary to mention) there would not be half so many dealers in them. Through these swindlers, small dealers out of town are supplied with bogus stamps, and by these means counterfeit stamps are imposed on the market by unprincipled persons who do not know what they are selling or do not care: they only look forward to what can be made doing so. We have in view a few of these dealers, who have extended their operations too far to be good to the stamp collecting community, and we warn them unless they stop this nefarious trade, we shall expose them in full. Counterfeits are becoming more numerous every day; collectors should be careful to purchase stamps of reliable dealers only. Many persons labor under the impression that if a stamp is used it must be genuine: it is not so; some of the most dangerous counterfeits are obliterated by a postmark, it being a very convenient cloak to hide any defection there may be in stamp itself. In addition to the bogus stamps mentioned in our last, we would warn collectors against the following, of which there are a great many counterfeits afloat: Straits Settlement, St. Helena, Cape of Good Hope, Shanghai, Virgin Isles, Buenos Ayres, Cuba, Fiji Isles, and numerous others which we shall mention in an early number.—*Stamp Collector's Monthly.*

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

—0—

CAPE VERD ISLANDS.



colors are as follows:

5 reis, black,	50 reis, green,
10 " yellow,	100 " lilac,
25 " rose,	200 " orange,
40 " blue,	300 " chocolate.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

From the *Western Philatelist*, we learn the following: Our Buenos Ayres correspondent writes us that the 5, 10, 15 and 30 centavos stamps are to be surcharged 8, 16, 24 and 35 centavos respectively, and a 2 centavo stamp of new design is to be added. Mr. Trifel's circular also mentions a 25 cent registered letter stamp. The lately issued 5 cent envelope is already obsolete. An entirely new set is to be expected.

TURKEY.

We have received a postal card from this country printed in lilac on white card. The stamp is 20 paras of the current set and is printed on the card.

URUGUAY.



Recent mails have brought specimens of two new stamps for this country. The design, as will be seen by our engraving, bears a strong family likeness to the current fiscal stamps, but the engraving is done much better and the appearance correspondingly improved. The stamps come rouletted, and we presume are the work of the American Bank

Note Co., New York.

20 centesimos, brown, | 50 centesimos, black.

FRANCE.

It seems that the people of France are dissatisfied with the colors of the stamps lately issued and therefore a new set will be issued as soon as the present stock becomes exhausted. The complaints are made against all the low values being printed in the same color. We understand the design of the new set will remain the same, but the new colors will be as follows:

1 centime,	black, on blue paper,
2 centimes,	brown, on buff paper,
4 "	maroon, on grey paper,
5 "	green, on green paper,
10 "	black, on lilac paper,
15 "	yellow, on yellow paper,
20 "	blue, on blue paper,
25 "	black, on lake paper,
30 "	bistre, on red brown paper,
35 "	violet, on orange paper,
40 "	vermilion, on straw paper,

75 centimes, carmine, on rose paper,
1 franc, bronze, on straw paper,
5 francs, dark lilac, on lilac paper.

BHOPAL.



We give an illustration of one of the stamps lately issued in this East Indian country, as described by us in this paper some time since.

CABUL.

Circular 1 and 4 shahis, violet, of the last emission but one are reported. The lately issued lilac-grey impressions are now milky blue.

BRAZIL.

The 50 reis comes gophered at the back in the same way with certain of the United States and Peruvian stamps. Some of them have been manipulated by means of the rouletting machine of the American Bank Note Co.

DECCAN.

An interesting resuscitation of one of this government's stamps is announced. Large size, broad oblong, impressed in black on a white surface so as to show native characters in white. Dated 1288 (1871.) 1 anna, black on white.

FINLAND.

The current 10 penni post-card of this province is now printed in blue instead of lilac; and the word AINOASTAAN substituted for AINOASTANSA. The current Helsingfors local is now hole-perforated.

GUATEMALA.

Officials have been emitted for this republic in five s. ts; values and colors alike.

1/2 real, black,	2 reales, blue,
1 " green,	4 " red,
	1 peso, lilac.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The green shilling stamp comes surcharged "One Penny" at the top and a broad black line over the value at bottom, thus adding another provincial stamp to the set.

NORWAY.

An envelope of the value of 5 ore, blue, has been issued. The stock of postal cards, with value in skillings, which remain on hand has been utilized by surcharging the new value.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

We learn from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co.'s circular that in consequence of the adoption of the eight penny rate for letters via Brindisi, the large yellow eight pence of New South Wales has again come to the front, after lying dormant during the successive employment of the ten-penny and nine-penny values.

BELGIUM.

The post card in this country is now printed without border. Wrapper, values 1 and 5 centimos, are reported.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., APRIL 1877.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year, 25 cents. Six Months, 15 cents,

POSTAGE PAID.

Subscription Price to Foreign Countries, two Shillings Sterling per annum, Post Paid; payable in *unused* stamps or postal cards of low values current in the country where ordered.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements, 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line, 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.

Address all communications to

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

All stamps sold by us are *warranted genuine*.

We will take unused U. S. postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2-cent stamps.

We will send sheets of stamps on approval to responsible parties that can furnish *satisfactory references*. *None others* need apply.

Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

Our Price List of Foreign Stamps, Albums, etc., we will send free to any address upon receipt of a 1-cent stamp for postage.

Persons subscribing to this paper will please state with which number they wish their subscription to commence.

Any one receiving more than one copy of this paper will oblige us by giving same to some friend interested in stamp collecting.

Remember this, that 25 cents sent to the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier,

Vt., will secure you a year's subscription to this paper. Subscribe *now*.

The Novelty Co. of Wilkesbarre, Pa., have kindly sent us a sample of their Stamp and Card Cases. They are not only cheap, but durable, and well worth the price asked. Read their advertisement and send for one.

There are several parties to whom we have sent stamps on approval who have not made returns. We shall publish their names and addresses in full unless we hear from them soon.

Our Foreign exchanges, when inserting our advertisements, will please *translate* same into the language in which their papers are published.

We wish to purchase all kinds of U. S. Postage, Official and Revenue stamps in exchange for foreign stamps from our price lists; also Match, Medicine, Beer, and all kinds of private Revenues. We will give, in exchange 30 cents per 1000 for the current 1, 2, 3 and 6-cent postage stamps: \$1.00 per 100 for used 3-cent centennial envelope stamps cut square, and \$2.00 per 100 for used present issue red 90-cent stamp. Persons having any of the other stamps named above will please send them to us (enclosing stamp for reply), on approval, with their lowest price for same. No *torn* stamps wanted.

Our California correspondents having California, Oregon and Nevada State Revenues to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with lowest price.

Persons answering advertisements in this paper will confer a special favor by saying, "Saw advertisement in *Postage Stamp Reporter*."

We would like to exchange United States and Canada stamps with our European correspondents for current stamps of the country in which they reside. Parties having such to dispose of will please send any quantity to us by book post registered, and we will send good exchange upon receipt of same.

Prizes to be Given Away.

To the person sending us the largest number of subscribers before June 1st, 1877, we will present a collection of 300 stamps. (neatly mounted in an Appleton's Postage Stamp Album,) valued at \$10.00. To the person sending the 2d largest number we will present \$3,00 worth of stamps. To the person sending us the 3d largest number we will present \$1,00 worth of stamps. (Stamps to be selected by the winners.) To the person sending the 4th largest number we will present a No 2 Young America Postage Stamp Album. These prizes will be sent to the winners, June 10th, postage paid. The names of the winners will be published in the June number of this paper. Remember, *we give all agents a cash commission of 25 per cent on all subscriptions obtained, aside from these prizes.* Send in the subscriptions as received.

Frauds and Dealers in Counterfeits.

Collectors, do not Purchase of Them.

C. A. Lyford, Boston, Mass.
 L. Perkins, Philadelphia, Penn.
 L. Perkins, Camden, N. J.
 G. H. Fabian & Co., 201-8 St., N.Y. City.
 Atlas Stamp Co., " "
 Equitable Stamp Co., " "
 S. Allen Taylor, Ann St., " "
 Eastern Traffic Co., Richmond, Va.
 Wallace, Herley & Co., " "
 Triumph Stamp Co., " "
 Jas. Lincoln & Co., London, Eng.
 Star Stamp Agency, Port Hope, Canada.
 Union Stamp Co., 10 Goerck St., New York City.

"The Postage Stamp Reporter."

The "Reporter" is an 8 page, monthly paper devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. It contains numerous interesting articles for collectors, and is illustrated with engravings of newly issued stamps each month. Terms only 25 cents a year, postage paid. Send stamp for specimen copy.
 Address.

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,

MONTPELIER, VERMONT, U. S.

When this is marked, Editors, please insert above once and receive equivalent in the REPORTER.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

We offer the following prizes for the largest list of word-spelled from the word

POSTAGE.

received before April 30th, 1877.

For the largest list, \$1.00 worth of stamps.

For the next largest, a No. 2. Y. A. Stamp Album.

For the third in merit, Johnson's Illustrated Dictionary, 250 pages.

For the next in merit 100 decalcomanie pictures, all different.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after April 30th. *No letter to be used twice in the same word.* The names of the winners will be published in the May number of this paper.

WINNERS LAST MONTH.

1st prize F. Boulbee, 298 Ontario St., Toronto, Canada, 110 words.

2d prize, C. Boulton, 299 King St. East., Toronto, Canada, 105 words.

3d prize, M. B. Kerr, 812-21st N. W., Washington, D. C., 102 words.

4th prize, Geo. A. Fairbanks, Box 86, Winthrop, Me., 101 words.

⚡—Several lists were received that contained words with *more than one* letter of a kind in them. Such words *are not* counted. Read the conditions above.

Philatelic Funniosities.

AT THE POSTE-RESTANTE.—A servant being sent to the post-office, put his nose to the delivery-box and shouted out, "Louder." The clerk supposing him to be deaf, and that he was making a request of them to speak louder, so that he could hear, asked him, in a very loud tone, the name of the person for whom he wanted the letter.

"Louder," cried the servant.

"What name?" bawled the clerk.

"Louder," again yelled the servant, who now supposed the clerk was deaf.

The clerk took a long breath, and with all his might again roared out into the man's face the same question, "What name?"

The servant (a negro) started back in alarm, shouting at the very top of his lungs, "Louder, Louder. I told you Louder. The name is nothing else but Louder."

"Oh, ah! oh, ah!" said the clerk. "I never thought of that. Here's your letter."

⚡ Those in want of Visiting Cards should consult the advertisement of the Union Card Co.

THE AMERICAN PACKETS

OF
FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS.

Always state name of packet list as well as number of pack-t. All orders under 50 cents must contain stamp for reply.

No. 1 contains 10 stamps from Africa and Asia, including Hong Kong, Japan, East India, Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Egypt and Shanghai; price, 25 cents.

No. 2 contains 15 varieties of good used Australian stamps, selected from New South Wales, New Zealand, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland; price, 25 cents.

No. 3 contains 80 varieties, including Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Russia, &c.; price, 25 cents.

No. 4 contains 100 used Stamps (duplicates); price, 12 cents.

No. 5 contains 15 Post Cards, unused and uncut, from Austria, Canada, Great Britain, Ceylon, German Empire, Newfoundland, &c.; price, 60 cents.

No. 6 contains 100 used and unused varieties. A good packet for beginners; price, 40 cents.

No. 7 contains 20 rare British Colonials, Jamaica, Tasmania, Queensland, Straits Settlements, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, triangular, &c.; price, 50 cents.

No. 8 contains 25 U. S. official stamps, including Agricultural, Navy, Justice, War, Interior, Treasury, 90 cents, &c.; price, 25 cents.

No. 9 contains 20 unused stamps, including Heligoland, New Germany, Servia, Sardinia, Confederate States, Modena, Saxony, &c.; price 25 cents.

No. 10 contains 10 varieties, including Peru, Chili, Bermuda, Japan, &c.; price, 25 cents.

No. 11 contains 10 British Provincials, including Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland; price, 25 cents.

No. 12 contains 10 unused stamps, including Thurn and Taxis, Obsolete Roumania, German official, Baden Land Post, &c.; price, 25 cents.

No. 13 contains 10 South American Stamps, including New Granada, Peru, Chili, Brazil, Bolivia, Argentine Republic &c.; price, 30 cents.

No. 14 contains 10 rare stamps, including Naples, Turkey, Maderia, Japan, Lubeck, Bermuda, &c.; price, 25 cents. Address all orders to CHAS. F. BUSWELL;

Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt., U.S.A.

CORREIRE DEI FRANCOBOLLI

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION,
ORGAN OF THE POSTAGE STAMP TRADE.

The large circulation of this paper renders it a very desirable medium for advertisers and its terms are very low. Price of subscription, 50 cents per annum.

Letters and all other communications to be addressed, Manager of the "CORREIRE DEI FRANCOBOLLI," Corso, 31, Trieste, Austria.

Card Printers,

Read following price list of blank visiting cards.

White Bristol, per 100,	.08
Plaid or Damask, per 100,	.15
Snowflake, " "	.32
Embossed, " "	.16
Flowered, new " "	.00
Silhouette " "	.30

Price list free. Samples 10cts. Address, NORTON BROS., 166 St. Clair St., Cleveland, Ohio.
N. B. 3 cents per 100 extra for postage.

100 Excellent varieties of Foreign Stamps for 25c. post-paid. The packet contains: Austria and Austrian Italy, 1850-53, Sardinia, Roumania, 1860, Baden, Wurtemberg, 1850-53, Bavaria 1850-57, Sweden, 186c, Norway, 1806-63, Finland, 1866, Denmark, 1851, Saxony, 1850-63, Prussia, 1850-67, Schleswig Holstein, Hanover, Oldenburg, Brunswick, Thurn and Taxis, Spain, Portugal, Italy Official & Segnatasse, Greece, N. S. Wales, N. Zealand, Victoria, India, Cape &c, worth at least \$2.50 at catalogue rates. Price lists for stamp. Address, G. A. KNOCH, Kansas City, Missouri.

VISITING CARDS.

We will send any of the following, postage paid, upon receipt of price, with any name neatly printed upon them:

NAME OF CARDS	per 25.	per 50.	per 100.
Bristol, white or assorted tints,	\$ 12	\$ 20	\$ 35
Granite [assorted tints,]	15	22	40
Repp, " "	18	30	50
Italian Marble " "	20	35	60
Glass, (print in gold)	35	55	1 00
University, plaid assorted colors	15	25	45
Emblematical, assorted designs	20	35	60
Damask, assorted tints,	20	35	60
Moire Antique, assorted tints,	20	35	60
Blank Scroll, 4 designs,	15	25	45
Transparent, assorted pictures,	20	35	60
Chromo, [5 designs]	35	60	1 10
Snow Flake, assorted tints,	22	40	65
Watered Bristol,	20	35	60
Italian Stone,	20	35	60
Egyptian Marble,	20	35	60
Crown Royal,	20	35	60

AGENTS WANTED. 25 per cent commission paid. A fine assortment of samples post free for only 10c. Address all orders to Union Card Co. Montpelier, Vt., U. S.

THE YOUNG PLEADER.

A monthly; 4 pages, 2 columns, will be a regular visitor for 20 cents, to any address, one year. We give as a premium to each one subscribing, 5 packages of choice Flower Seeds any kind desired. Contributed to by the best Amateur Authors. Send for a specimen copy. Address

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Lock Box 418, Springfield, Ohio.

When answering advertisements in this paper, please say "I saw advertisement in the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER."

THE AMATEUR PUNCH.

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BOYS! LOOK!! You can get the BOYS' JOURNAL, a 6 page Amateur paper, one year for only 25 cents. Advertising rates, 5 cents per line. 25 cents per inch. Specimen copy free. Address, "THE BOYS JOURNAL," Box 785, Toronto, Canada.

Here We Are Again.

50 of the prettiest tinted cards you ever saw with name neatly printed, sent free for 50 cents. In order to introduce our cards we will send 20 mixed, including Snowflake, Damask, Marble, Repp, &c., for 15 cents. Agents Wanted. Address, SMITH & ELLERY, Box 295, Sacramento, Cal. Extra, to every purchaser of our cards we will give 15 rare Foreign Postage Stamps.

THE HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY FRED. S. WETMORE, Warren, Pa. Subscription price 15 cents per year, which includes payment of postage by publisher. Subscriptions commence at any time. Liberal inducements offered for Clubs. Advertising rates very low. Address, Fred. S. Wetmore, "Monthly Herald," Warren, Pa.

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ADDRESSES of Boys & Girls for Sale. 15 cents per hundred. Names all genuine. W. D. KENYON, West Monroe, Oswego Co., N. Y. "Ed's send sample with 'ad' rates."

Handsome Russian 4 Pocket Stamp and Card Case Combined, sent by return mail for 25 cents. Satisfaction guaranteed. NOVELTY CO., Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

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Decalcomania or Transfer Ornaments; Embossed Pictures, and Foreign stamps, Circulars free. Address, GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

SYNDICATE "Combination of Capital." New mode of operating in stocks. LOSS IMPOSSIBLE. PROFITS sure. Explanatory circular sent free. MOREAN & CO., Brokers, 38 Broad St. P. O. Box 3538, N. Y.

CARDS. Agent's outfit, 10 cts. and stamp. 30 mixed cards, 10 cts. 50 Extra mixed 25 cts. MELLENVILLE CARD CO., Mellenville, Col. Co., N. Y.

The Philatelic Favorite.

One of the best Stamp papers published. Only 15 cents a year. Stamp adv'ts half cent a word. Miscellaneous adv'ts 3 cents a line of 10 words. Specimen for stamp. Address, THE PHILATELIC FAVORITE, 4 Columbia st., New York City.

25 Glass Cards with name neatly printed in Gold or Silver for 25 cents, or 12 for 15 cent. Price list for stamp. CARD PRINTER, 506, Grand Ave., Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED Correspondence. A few young ladies and gents, age 17 to 19. Address Box 256, Waterloo, P. O., Ont., Canada.

100 Varieties Foreign Stamps, 25 cents; 50 varieties, 15 cents; 100 assorted, 10 cents; 50 assorted, 6 cents. U. S. 20 varieties, 15 cents. W. H. TIBBITS, Pollard Ave., Bath-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.

60 Foreign Stamps, including Alsace and Lorraine, Hamburg, etc., only 15 cents and stamp. Address, EDWARD ORR, 192 Sherbourne st., Toronto, Canada.

LOOK BOYS!! Send your address on a Postal Card and have two of my best stamp circulars sent to you. Address, JAMES H. SLEAN, 54, York st., Toronto, Canada.

50 Varieties Foreign Stamps 15 cents. Stamps on approval to parties sending references. Circulars free. Canadian Stamp Co., Montreal, P. Q.

STAMPS!! Reliable Agents wanted at 25 per cent commission. Stamps sent on approval. Try us! BUELL & PLUMB, Box 113, Westfield, Mass.

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A 4 page Amateur paper published every Saturday. Specimen copy free. Address C. H. GARD, cor. of Oak & Upper Sixth st., New Albany, Ind.

ENGRAVING ON WOOD.

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J. P. WHITEHOUSE & CO.,
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Why not buy direct from the *Manufacturers* and save 50 per cent! Any person using Blank cards wishing to SAVE MONEY should send 10 cents for samples and price list and deal with

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A Journal for Stamp Collectors and Dealers. Appears on the 15th of each month. Among its contributors and correspondents, are the best German Philatelists, and nearly all the Post-master Generals of the world.

Subscription, 80 cents per annum. Sample copy, 3 cents.

Address, SIGMUND FRIEDL,
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Gold, Silver and Copper Coins, of all kinds for sale.

I can furnish all dates for silver weddings, or to keep as mementos of year of birth, either in dollars, halves or quarters. J. COLVIN RANDALL,
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TRANSPARENT CARDS.

HOLD THEM TO THE LIGHT.

YOUR name on 25 for 20 cents, or 25 blank for 15 cents. Samples and price list of the latest styles of visiting cards for stamp.

MOUTH ORGANS with instructions that will make any person become a player for *only 75 cents*. Catalogue of Novelties free. Agents wanted. Address

F. E. FRENCH & CO.,

Lock Box Q, BROCKTON, MASS.

(Say saw ad. in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.)

50 Beautiful Decalcomania or Transfer pictures, all different, with full directions for Transferring only 10 cents an stamp. 75 tinted cards with *your* name neatly printed on them, only 25 cents, post paid. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vermont.

Publishers inserting this and above, will receive 100 Decalcomanies, all different.

French Watch Charms.

WE are selling a new style of imported French watch charms. Each charm contains a most exquisite view, such as French artists can only produce. These pictures are printed on glass and cannot be seen with the naked eye. With each is connected a lens magnifying one thousand times, rendering the picture or sentence wonderfully distinct and easily seen. Each of these is enclosed in a handsome open glass tube, about half an inch long, with a heavy gilt band and ring, by which it may be attached to a watch guard as a charm. Try one, and you will be sure to order more. Sample sent for 25 cents. Address orders,

J. P. WHITEHOUSE & CO.,

Northampton, Mass.

Transparent Cards.

48 all different for 25 cents; with your name 35 cents.

75 cards with name 25 cents. 25 for 10 cents. Agents wanted. Price list and samples of visiting cards. Comic envelopes &c., for stamp. Address, L. M. HOLMES & CO., Brockton, Mass. 3-3t

\$10 = \$25 a day sure, made by Agents selling our Chromos, Crayons and Reward, Motto, Scripture Text, Transparent Picture and Chromo Cards. 100 samples, worth \$4 sent postpaid for 75c. Illustrated Catalogue free. J. H. BUFFORD'S SONS, BOSTON. Estab'd 1830.

TAKE NOTICE. We have the largest and best selling Stationery Package in the world. It contains 6 sheets white paper, 6 sheets tinted paper, 6 white envelopes, 5 tinted envelopes, pencil, penholder, golden pen, steel pen, patent fountain pen, perfumed blotter, elegant card photograph and a beautiful piece of jewelry. Complete sample package mailed for only 25 cents. 5 packages for \$1. Agents wanted. Address.

J. P. WHITEHOUSE & CO.

Northampton, Mass.



\$5 SELF-INKING-BEST Printing Press, with outfit, \$6.50; \$7 Self Inking "BEST," with outfit, \$10. Rotary Job Press Chase, 5x8 \$45. Send stamp for Catalogue (no postal cards.) H. HOOVER & CO., 50 N. 9th street, Philadelphia, Pa. 4t

THE BOYS' HERALD,

BOX 1164, ST. JOHN, N. B.,

Is an 8 page monthly amateur paper; contains Editorials, Book Reviews, Poems, Articles, Stories, etc., Amateur news and a good Puzzle Department. Advertisements 1 cent a line. Circulation 1500. 25 cents a year. It is patronized by a large number of reliable stamp dealers, as an advertising medium. Collectors would do well to send for it. Specimens free.

200 Mixed Foreign Stamps, for 25 cents. Address, UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier, Vt.

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For insertion in all Postage-Stamp Albums. These photographs are the size of postage stamps and when inserted in the spaces prepared for them, add considerably to the interest of an album.

Set of 48 portraits \$1.00
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THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.

An Illustrated paper, devoted to Stamp Collecting.

VOL. 1. MONTPELIER, VT., MAY AND JUNE, 1877. No. 5 & 6.

For the Postage Stamp Reporter.
Stamp Collecting.

THE PLEASURE AND BENEFIT TO BE DERIVED FROM ITS PURSUIT.
—
W. HARRY BRUCE.

Among the many innovations introduced during the last decade, for the amusement of youth, none have gained more notoriety or popularity, nor had such a lengthened existence, as has that of postage stamp collecting. Starting some twelve years ago in the great metropolis of France, a few months found it advocated by thousands of enthusiasts all over the continent, in Britain, and even here in America. It seems to have sprung at once into public favor, and even at the present time holds no inferior position as a pastime, though of course the great furore it created in its early days has given place to a more settled and matter-of-fact view of the pursuit, and it has been strung on the same thread with numismatics, autographs, monograms and the like.

As a source of enjoyment we do not know of anything that will afford an equal amount at a similar outlay, taking into consideration the benefits afforded by it.

With what eagerness have we, when a young collector, sought time and again after this or that specimen, to complete our set, and how pleased were our feelings when it came within our reach, and was placed in the one vacant space. With what pleasure, after our school duties for the day had ended, did we seek some retired nook, some remote corner of the play-ground, to show

our treasure to an admiring companion, or mayhap to offer it in comparison with that of some equally ardent collector.

There are many benefits to be derived, many lessons to be learned from stamp collecting. In the first place we have neatness and cleanliness. It gives us an idea of system and arrangement; how to contrast and blend colors so as to show them to the best advantage, a knowledge that in many cases will prove invaluable in after life. No collector, if he has any taste at all, will tolerate soil upon the pages of his album, after he has once or twice arranged his collection and compared it with some that have been better kept, for he cannot but see the vast difference between the one that has been cleanly and tastefully arranged and the other all spotted and misplaced.

Again we have valuable lessons taught us in history and geography. We see a stamp that is new to us; we don't know where it belongs; we refer to our atlas, and thus we find that it is located in the South of Africa, on the east coast of South America, or elsewhere, as it may be. There are characters upon its face new and strange to us. We look up some record of the country to enlighten ourselves upon the subject. We read its history. Whenever we look at the stamp afterwards it is brought prominently to our memory, and by such frequent reminders soon becomes a lesson learned, but little of which is ever afterward forgotten. Perhaps the portrait of a ruler adorns the center field. We refer to history to find out who he is. With every new sovereign, as a general thing, comes a new issue of stamps bearing his likeness; when these different issues are arranged in the album it needs but a glance to get a pretty accurate idea of the internal history of the country. But now as our space is full we must close, hoping to return to the subject soon again.

Is Stamp Collecting on the Decline ?

The press has lately referred to Stamp Collecting as a pursuit which has had its day, and is now dying out. This notice appears to have been spread widely and been accepted as truth. To prevent collectors, with partial means of forming an opinion on the subject, from being misled by such statements, we will devote the necessary space to a brief consideration of facts sufficient to show their incorrectness.

The attention for a time bestowed on philately by that wonderful being "the Public," arose from several causes. Foremost was the novelty of the thing. The idea of gathering into a book samples of the Postage Stamps of all nations, seemed to be indeed, "something new under the sun;" and, being new, it was made the subject of a score of remarks by journalists who took little trouble to ascertain whether the ridicule which they lavished on it was deserved. The *Saturday Review*, in an article on "Softening of the Brain," was good enough to include stamp collectors among those who suffered from the malady, and on our own advent one of the London papers was pleased to style us "the organ of the puerile of manias." Of course, when remarks such as these had been made by those who would not investigate the matter any further, there was nothing left to say, and, as a natural consequence, the subject was dropped.

The requisitions for cancelled postage stamps made by numbers of collectors to their friends, during the infancy of Philately, was another cause of its publicity. At that time no arrangement had been made to supply the demand for a new commodity, the army of collectors had, therefore, to subsist by contributions levied on their friends. Whoever had a foreign correspondent or two had several applicants for the stamps which came on the replies to his letters, and the subject was thus brought under their notice. This pressure, once an indication of the popularity of collecting, has ceased to be felt to any considerable extent, but its ces-

sation has not been caused by decrease in the number of collectors. Quite the contrary. So many recruits were added to the ranks that it became a profitable undertaking to establish a regular trade in stamps, and for that purpose to appoint agents in other countries to buy up and transmit large quantities for sale at home. A crowd of dealers were soon actively working to meet the demand, and each making every effort to secure to himself the largest amount of custom.

The effect of the competition thus produced has been most beneficial to collectors. The prices of a great majority of stamps have been reduced to a level, which places them within the reach of all classes, and this has had the effect of largely increasing the number of purchasers. Four or five years since the cost of the commonest was considerable.

Referring to one of the earliest price catalogues we find the 1-4 schg. red Mecklenburg, the blue and red Ionians, and the Hamburg Locals, charged one-and-sixpence each; the 4 c. Luxemburg, and 1-2 d. Malta, a shilling; and the 1 c. French, four pence. When such as these were only obtainable at considerable expense, what must have been the cost of rarities? At that time a collection of a couple hundred of stamps was considered quite large; now, the cheapness of most varieties renders it easy to procure a thousand.

Yet the traffic which takes place in stamps is almost unknown to the general public. The outward signs of its operations are very slight. Dealers rarely advertise in the papers. And few keep shops exclusively for the sale of stamps. Four-fifths of the business is done by correspondence. The post-office daily receives and delivers large quantities of "bits of paper," and it must often happen that the bulk of the letter is in inverse ratio to the value of its contents. That there are fewer stamp periodicals is not due to any decline in the interest taken in the pursuit. Any one who will take the trouble

to examine the numerous ephemeral publications current a year or two since, will at once see their puerility and lack of useful information were sufficient to condemn them, and when to this was added the improper way in which, as commercial enterprises, they were managed, no one can wonder that they enjoyed but a short and limited circulation.

We have hitherto confined our remarks to the condition of stamp-collecting in this country. The state of trade is the natural index of the ascendancy of Philately. Accordingly we find that there are dealers in France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Austria, Italy, Denmark, Russia, Turkey, and several other countries, and it is fair to presume by their continuance that they all have a remunerative custom for their wares. In the three first named countries there are also well-conducted and flourishing magazines, entirely devoted to the stamp-collecting interest.

In Paris—pre-eminently the head-quarters of Philately—is a society, numbering among its members the *elite* of French collectors, formed for the purpose of prosecuting systematic research into all matter of interest connected with stamps. Two journals, *reduced* with marked ability, are also carried on there, and one of these contains reports of the proceedings of the *Société Philateliqne*. Besides this, there is in one of the best known thoroughfares—the Rue Lepeletier—a handsome shop in which only stamps and stamp publications are sold. It is the office of *Le Collectionneur des Timbres Poste*, is adorned with an enlarged representation of the United States 2 c. over the door, and of the English 3 d. and French 2 c. on the signboard above; and is, as the proprietor styles it, a “curiosity of the capital.”

Turning from the Old World to the New, we find that there are several small journals in the States, and in our North American Colonies; and no lack of advertisements in any of them. In fact, judging from the number and length of the dealers' announce-

ments, there must have been a great increase in the number of buyers within the past few years. Although collectors on the other side labor under the disadvantage of being at a great distance from the stamp centers, there is no reason to doubt that they are able to bring their books into a respectable state. Indeed, one album which we had the pleasure of inspecting might take rank with some of the best in the world.

In continuance, we may add that in the West Indies, and as far south as Brazil, philatelists are resident; that a considerable number are scattered through all the Antipodean colonies—that India and China each possess some members of the fraternity; that there is a sprinkling of it in Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, and British Kaffraria!

It thus appears that the circle of collectors is widening, not diminishing; and it is satisfactory to know that the pursuit now finds its followers not only amongst the youthful patron of the community, but also amongst maturer minds,—clergymen, doctors, lawyers, stock brokers, merchants, iron masters; besides vast numbers of private gentlemen devote their leisure to the acquirement of a collection of specimens of postage labels. The consequence of these accessions to the great body of philatelists is that stamps and their collaterals are more strongly and earnestly studied, and with more solid results than formerly. The smaller details are examined and noted with increased care, and every effort is made to get correct information, which, however, is now more easily obtained. So widely spread is collecting that inquiries concerning the stamps of almost any given country find ready answer from philatelists resident on the spot, and contributions to stamp lore are thus received from all parts of the world, as our own correspondence columns testify. Nor is it likely that the interest now manifested in so many quarters should suddenly cease. Notwithstanding many adverse prophecies, stamp collecting has held its ground thus far, and there is no reason to suppose that it will not continue to do so until stamps “shall be no more.”

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

BOLIVIA.

More than a year ago a series of stamps were prepared for this country by the National Bank Note Co., of New York, which are among the most beautiful stamps in existence. For some reason or other the stamps were not issued, but were promised for the 1st of January, 1877.



Some time last year, a discovery was made by the Bolivia Government that false stamps were circulating, and it immediately suppressed the then current series. Why the new series were not immediately issued, is not known, and at this late day there is no evidence that they have been placed in use. A makeshift, however, has been adopted. All letters are franked with an oval stamp, on which is the inscription, in black or blue, "Adm'on de Correos de Cochabamba, 10 cts." It is supposed that each city possesses a similar stamp with a change in the 'name.' Correspondence sent by steamer bears a stamp similar to the one we illustrate, applied in blue in various kinds of envelopes. These stamps are cancelled with an oval mark bearing "Cancelado." No value is represented on the stamp, and collectors suppose that it is merely an indication that the postage has been paid. As no letter can be forwarded without one of these impressions, it must be considered a veritable postal stamp, and collectors should be on the lookout for it. Like all provisional expedients, these will no doubt become quite scarce.

URUGUAY.



In our last issue we gave an illustration of the new 50c stamp for this country. This month we present engravings of the three lower values. The stamps come printed on white, unwater-marked paper and rouletted; the colors and values of the new set are as follows:

1 centesimo, brown,	20 centesimos, bistre,
5 centesimos, green,	50 " black,
10 " vermillion,	1 peso, blue.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Specimens of the new postal cards are received. A 1 penny stamp is impressed in violet in the upper right hand corner.

GREAT BRITAIN.



The annexed engraving shows the design of the new 2 1/2 p. envelope stamp recently issued in this country. It is printed on violet-brown, upon white and blue paper. We have received specimens of the 1876 4-penny stamp printed in sea-green.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Recent mails have brought specimens of the 5c red stamp, surcharged with a figure 1, one-half an inch high and about 3/16ths of an inch wide. We hear that the colors and values of the new set are as follows:

2 centavos, green,	16 centavos, green,
8 " carmine,	24 " blue,
	25 " lake.

VICTORIA.



We give a design of the stamp impressed on the postal card lately issued in this country. It is printed in light lilac on a thin card.

FINLAND.

We learn that an addition in the shape of a 1 mark stamp printed in dark lilac, has recently been made to the new set of this country.

SIERRA LEONE.

We learn that a new value, of same design as the current stamps, has been issued. Value, 3 half pence, printed in greyish lilac, on white.

ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

This Company have recently had a stamp made of the annexed design, for use on their steamers between Panama and St. Thomas. They are printed in both rose and blue; one color being used from Panama to St. Thomas, and the other from St. Thomas to Panama. We understand they are engraved by De La Rue & Co., of London, England.



TO PUBLISHERS OF PHILATELIC PUBLICATIONS.

We will send any of the cuts on this page for 50 cents each, postpaid. 5 for \$2.00. Address this office.

AGENTS WANTED.—We want Agents everywhere at 25 per cent commission, cash; or we will, give 10 cents' worth of stamps from our lists for every subscriber agents may send us. *Rush in the subscriptions.*

The Origin of Post Cards.

Like a great many other human arrangements the form of letters has undergone many changes. The ancients wrote on wax tablets which were fastened together by means of rings. The letter was to some extent a book. Then it took the shape of a roll, which was in use up to the middle ages. Afterwards, letters were folded and put in envelopes. The transition from one of these principal forms to the other has been gradual, and influenced much by the material used, as tablets, parchment, paper. The ordinary form of letters does not permit of the simplicity and brevity which are sufficient for a great many communications: simplicity, because the choice and folding of the paper, the use of the envelope, the affixing of the stamp, &c., are troublesome: and brevity, because in a formal letter politeness does not allow of the communication being restricted to the bare statement of the object of the letter.

Influenced by these considerations, Mr. Stephan, the present Postmaster-General of the German Empire, submitted to the German Postal Administrations who attended a postal conference at Carlsruhe, in 1865, a memorial in which he recommended the introduction of a new kind of letter, in the shape of an open post card, bearing on one side the name and address, and on the other the communication. Notwithstanding the approval which this project met with, it was not carried out at that time, because the German postal service had not the necessary uniform organization, and it was apprehended that it would occasion too great a decrease in the revenue. The next suggestion for carrying out this proposal was not made till 1869, and emanated from Dr. Emanuel Herrmann, of Vienna, who in the course of his researches was struck by the fact that a great many letters were sent, the importance of whose contents was in no proportion to the waste of trouble and polite sentences, and which might have been equally well forwarded without covers. The administration

acknowledging the importance of this proposition for the improvement of postal relations, received it favorably and carried it into execution as early as October, 1869. The new cards were quite in accordance with the idea of their first inventor, Mr. Stephan.

We glean the foregoing from *The Post-Office Gazette*, and it will be seen that while Dr. Herrmann was not the originator of the postal card idea, as has been stated, he was the first to have it put into practical use.—*The Philatelic Monthly*.

The Penurious Postal Card.

One sees some really Napoleonic strokes of meanness as the outcome of the postal card system. The audacity is sometimes superb. A writer saves a sheet of paper, an envelope, a stamp for postage and also a stamp for return postage—all by one dextrous postal card. The spirit of economy could go no further. But really, what rights in courtesy have letter-writers who do not consider their correspondents of importance enough to give to them the poor compliment of an enclosure? How is a communication to be entertained when the writer confesses by the postal card that it isn't worth a sheet of paper and a postage stamp? That the postal is very useful for circular notes, for announcements, for communicating any simple fact that does not call for a response, no one can deny. But we submit that social custom ought to establish that a missive of this kind calling for a response, except on business matters concerning the recipient, is an impertinence: and that a postal card, partaking of the nature of correspondence as ordinarily understood, is entitled to no respect or consideration whatsoever.—*Appleton's Journal*.

PADDY OUT-DONE.—One day a man called at a Sussex post-office, and asked "Have you got a letter from Brighton for a woman?" "What woman?" said the post-office official. "A woman hop-picking up here somewhere." "What name?" "I don't know her name." "Should you know it if you heard it?" "No, I don't think I should." "Then I cannot tell you." "Thank you; good day."

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., MAY & JUNE, 1877.

CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Publisher.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year, 25 cents. Six Months, 15 cents,
POSTAGE PAID.

Subscription Price to Foreign Countries, two Shillings Sterling per annum, Post Paid; payable in *unused* stamps or postal cards of low values current in the country where ordered.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements, 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line, 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.

Address all communications to

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Circulation 1000 monthly.

X Persons finding this notice marked will understand that their subscription has expired. Please renew.

All stamps sold by us are *warranted genuine*.

We will take unused U. S. postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2-cent stamps.

Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

Our Price List of Foreign Stamps, Albums, etc., we will send free to any address upon receipt of a 1-cent stamp for postage.

Persons subscribing to this paper will please state with which number they wish their subscription to commence.

Any one receiving more than one copy of this paper will oblige us by giving same to some friend interested in stamp collecting.

We can furnish back numbers of this paper for 5 cents each, postage paid.

Patronize our advertisers. They are reliable.

Remember this, that 25 cents sent to the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt., will secure you a year's subscription to this paper. Subscribe.

There are several parties to whom we have sent stamps on approval who have not made returns. We shall publish their names and addresses in full unless we hear from them before our next issue, and shall circulate many free copies in the towns where they reside.

Our Foreign exchanges, when inserting our advertisements, will please *translate* same into the language in which their papers are published.

We wish to purchase all kinds of U. S. Postage, Official and Revenue stamps in exchange for foreign stamps from our price lists; also Match, Medicine, Beer, and all kinds of private Revenues. We will give, in exchange 30 cents per 1000 for the current 1, 2, 3 and 6-cent postage stamps; \$1,00 per 100 for used 3-cent centennial envelope stamps cut square, and \$2,00 per 100 for used present issue red 90-cent stamp. Persons having any of the other stamps named above will please send them to us (enclosing stamp for reply), on approval, with their lowest price for same. No *turn* stamps taken.

Persons answering advertisements in this paper will confer a special favor by saying, "Saw advertisement in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER. Mention this paper every time."

We would like to exchange United States and Canada stamps with our European correspondents for current stamps of the country in which they reside. We will send in exchange 1000 mixed Canadian stamps for any 2000 of Germany, Italy, Holland and France, and for any 1000 of any other country. Parties having such to dispose of will please send any quantity to us by book post registered, and we will send good exchange upon receipt of same.

Frauds and Dealers in Counterfeits.

Collectors do not Purchase of Them.

C. A. Lyford, Boston, Mass.
 L. Perkins, Philadelphia, Penn.
 L. Perkins, Camden, N. J.
 G. H. Fabian & Co., 201-8 St., N. Y. City.
 Atlas Stamp Co., " "
 Equitable Stamp Co., " "
 S. Allen Taylor, Ann St., " "
 Eastern Traffic Co., Richmond, Va.
 Wallace, Herley & Co., " "
 Triumph Stamp Co., " "
 Jas. Lincoln & Co., London, Eng.
 Star Stamp Agency, Port Hope, Canada.
 Union Stamp Co., 10 Goerck St., New York City.

We would like to hear from all collectors who have been *swindled*, with a true statement of the case. We will then do all in our power to investigate the party, and if we are convinced that they are *not* reliable, we shall not hesitate to publish them in the above list.

Never enclose nickels or pennies in a letter. If you cannot send fractional paper currency, send amount in unused United States Postage Stamps.

Our Canadian customers, when ordering, will please remit in United States or Canada paper money, when convenient. If this cannot be obtained, send in unused 1-2, 1, 2 or 3-cent stamps.

Always sign your *full* address in *every* order sent. No matter how often you write us, never neglect this, for our correspondence is so extensive that it is impossible for us to remember the addresses of but a small portion of our numerous patrons throughout the world. We have several orders on hand where the sender has neglected to give his or her address, and thus we are unable to fill their orders on account of their own carelessness.

Parties in need of Novelties should consult the advertisement of the Union Novelty Company. They are reliable.

"The Postage Stamp Reporter."

The "Reporter" is an 8 page, monthly paper devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. It contains numerous interesting articles for collectors and is illustrated with engravings of newly issued stamps each month. Terms only 25 cents a year, postage paid. Send for specimen copy. Address.

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,

MONTPELIER, VERMONT, U. S.

When this is marked, Editors, please insert above once and receive equivalent in the REPORTER.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

We offer the following prizes for the largest list of word - spelled from the word

POSTAGE.

received before June 25th, 1877.

For the largest list, a ladies' or gents' genuine Russia Leather Pocket-Book; price, \$2.00.

For the next largest, a No. 2. Y. A. Stamp Album. For the third in merit, Johnson's Illustrated Dictionary, 250 pages.

For the next in merit, 1 package eggs of Pharaoh's Serpents.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after June 25th. *No letter to be used twice in the same word.* The names of the winners will be published in the July number of this paper.

WINNERS LAST MONTH.

1st prize, F. Boulton, 298 Ontario St., Toronto, Canada, 162 words.

2d prize, Jas. Sword, Box 355, St. Catharines, Ont., 146 words.

3d prize, C. Boulton, 299 King St. East., Toronto, Canada, 105 words.

4th prize, Horton Walker, 60 Maitland St., Toronto, Canada.

Several lists were received that were not made up according to the rules. Read the conditions above.

WINNERS OF PRIZES FOR LARGEST NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS OBTAINED.

1st, Chas. Leech, Providence, R. I.

2d, Fred S. Brown, New Orleans, La.

3d, James Jackman, New York City.

4th, Paul C. Seybold, Elmhurst, Ill.

A WORD TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—Owing to the large rush of orders received, during the past month we were unable to devote such time as was needed to get our paper out on time, and therefore concluded to consolidate the May and June numbers. The next number will be out the 1st of July.

Our California correspondents having California, Oregon and Nevada State Revenues to dispose of will please send same to us on approval, with lowest price.

INVISIBLE INK.

The secret of making this ink has, in late years even, been sold for enormous sums. It is a white powder which, dissolved in water, makes a colorless liquid which leaves no trace on whatever is marked or written with it, but which, when heated, becomes a jet black which never fades.

With this ink a postal card becomes as secret as a sealed letter, and anything private may be safely written on one without fear of being detected. It is of great value to boys and girls who can write their notes in school and pass them round with perfect confidence, as the teacher can never see anything more than a piece of blank paper. Young men and ladies can carry on a secret correspondence with it without fear of detection. If you wish to see what this ink will do, send us a blank postal card, and we will write you a note with the ink on it, and send it back.

PRICE 25 CENTS PER PACKAGE; 6 FOR 80 CENTS; 12 FOR \$1.50, POST-PAID.

Address all orders to UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

VENTRILLOQUISM. This book contains simple and full directions by which any one can acquire this amusing art, with numerous examples for practice. Any boy who wishes to obtain an art by which he can develop a wonderful amount of astonishment, mystery and fun, should learn Ventriloquism, as he easily can by following the simple secrets given in this book. It also tells how to make the Magic Whistle, for imitating birds, animals, &c. Price 20 Cents; \$1.75 per Dozen, post-paid by

UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

THE FOUNTAIN FINGER RING.



This is a finger ring, and being an odd pattern immediately arrests the attention of any friend, who will naturally ask to examine it. Attached is a small rubber ball, which is held in the palm of the hand and so as to prevent detection. This ball is filled with water, and when a person examines it that you wish to play the trick on, you have only to close your hand, which will throw a small steady stream of water directly in a person's face. Once filling the ball is sufficient to operate the trick a dozen times. If you wish, it may be very agreeable by filling the ball with cologne instead of water. Price 30 Cents; \$3.00 Per Dozen, Post Paid. Address UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

MODEL RUNNING ENGINES.

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Eggs of Pharaoh's Serpents.



These eggs resemble a small white pea. Place them on a plate and set fire to them, when a serpent a yard long uncoils itself from the burning egg. The snake may be afterwards kept as a curious ornament.

Europe and America have been astonished at

these chemical wonders; and the *London Times* pronounces them "truly marvellous, and apparently inexhaustible. By following the directions given with each box, they are perfectly harmless. 5 eggs in a box. 25 cents a box; 5 boxes for \$1.00.

1000 mixed European Stamps sent post-free for *only 50 cents*. 5000 for \$2.00; 10000 for 3.50. Address **UNION STAMP CO.**, Montpelier, Vt.



Send 25 cents and receive by return mail your name neatly printed on 75 tinted visiting cards. Address, **Union Card Co.**, Montpelier Vt

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The Magic Bottle Imp.

The bottle which the old veteran conjuror is bringing to you is a curiosity and a brain puzzler. It will stand up as persistently as a flag staff, and no one of your friends can make it lay on its side. But as soon as you take it in hand it will be very obliging, down it will go, and be as quiet as a sleepy kitten. It causes heaps of fun, and wagon loads of merriment. Any one can perform this simple trick, but the way it is done is not easily seen. The bottle can be handed to any one for examination.

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THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER

An Illustrated paper devoted to Stamp Collecting.

Vol. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., JULY, 1877.

No. 7.

A Plea for Philately and Philatelists.

Many well-meaning, sensible people smile and scoff at the idea of persons who are, perhaps, as sensible as themselves, collecting what they profanely term "Dirty little bits of paper." Yet perhaps these very individuals are accumulating at home, and guarding with the tenderest care and solicitude, a heap of dirty coppers in the shape of pennies: paying fabulous prices for some, because our wise and beneficent Uncle Samuel does not see fit to issue but a limited number; or others, whose sole object in life is to possess a certain beetle or butterfly; others to whom an old, black letter, worm eaten tome is a mine of wealth. In short, all men have their hobbies, just as little girls used to have their dolls some few years ago, before they became ready-made women. Now, brother collectors of minerals, prints, coins, plants, engravings, buttons! books, etc., why should not I have my hobby, and follow it out instead of being ridiculed? My friend of the button-mania, what interest is it to me that you possess a collection of fifteen thousand different buttons? All that I care about them is that my "*Cara Sposa*" supplies them to my clothes when needed. The idea of collecting buttons, ha! ha! I have just as good a right to laugh at you as you to sneer at me for being a philatelist. My friend, the herpetologist, I don't care for your fine specimen of "*Isthnognathus*" "*deKagir*," or "*Phrynosonas Donglasie*." What to me are birds, serpents, coins, books,

ferns, etc., when I can revel in the beauties of a rare and valuable postage stamp? Let us, then, as we all require a certain degree of forbearance from the eminently practical people of our country, for our little foibles, cling to each other, and bringing home to our minds the old adage, "One man's meat is another man's poison," cease to ridicule each other's fancies. Let us take a view of the few benefits to be derived from the study of philately, and ask ourselves why it is preferable as an amusement and occupation to the thousand and one other subjects for collectors to expend their mental energies upon. A person collecting minerals, or other objects of a like nature, can never expect to make his collection complete; besides, even to possess a respectable collection of books, coins, etc., requires a very large expenditure of time and money, much more than many collectors could afford, even were they willing to give. These collections are bulky, require great care for their proper preservation, and much study, to be properly posted up as to their history. To none of these objections is philately liable. For a very moderate expense an excellent collection of stamps can be procured, a collection can be made complete, at least, during the life-time of the collector. It requires very little study to keep it in complete order, and it can be carried about in a small parcel. To the young school-boy who is supplied by his dotting parents with a sufficiency of spending money for his little wants—apples, tops,

kites, etc., and a little over—there can be nothing more improving and interesting than the study of philately. He supplies himself at a very moderate cost, with a good album and catalogue, and goes to work. In the interval of study and rainy days, when out-door sports have to be given up, he can always find an inexhaustible store of amusement in his album.

In pursuing this study he becomes acquainted with a part of the history of different countries, some of which, perhaps, he would never otherwise have heard of. He learns who the sovereigns were, and naturally turns to his history to find out all he can about them. He comes across a stamp of "Heligoland," or the "Orange Free States," and straightway consults his geography to find out the localities of these heretofore unknown lands. He sees many different varieties of paper, good, bad and indifferent, and is led to inquire the process of manufacture, how the water-marks are put in, etc. Viewing with an artistic eye the engraving on a stamp, his mind naturally inquires how it is done,—how the perforations are made,—in short, there are many of these little points of interest that are as a sealed book to the "profane." He further becomes acquainted with the currency of different countries, and heraldry, if he has a taste for armorial bearings, and his fancy can be amply gratified in this occupation, as many of the stamps are simply a picture of the coat of arms of the country to which they belong.

If his means will allow, let him take a good journal and keep himself well up in the changes taking place in stamps, new emissions and withdrawals. I would say to my school-boy friends, and they are all my friends, for I have a most kindly feeling for them and their little amusements, if you have time, funds and disposition, collect, and by all means, take my word for it, you will find in it pleasure and profit. I don't know whether school-boys now-a-days eat molasses candy or not (they did when I was

a boy, not a great while ago), but if they do, let them, instead of ministering to their appetites for sweets, invest in something that will certainly improve their minds. In case they become tired of stamp collecting, they can always sell their specimens for a fair price. Now what I have been saying to school-boys applies just as well to children of larger growth. Any one who will give himself the slight trouble to investigate the subject of Philately will be sure to find in the science a vast fund of general information and pleasure. Some days since, I had the pleasure of conversing with a middle-aged gentleman, whom I discovered purchasing stamps, and upon my expressing my gratification at so practical a man as himself making a collection, he informed me that his pet hobby for years had been the collecting of minerals; but accumulating, they took up so much room to be properly displayed; so he had packed them in boxes and commenced stamp collecting, and found it more interesting to him by far than minerals.

It is a well known and recognized fact that one of our late prominent New York merchant princes had the finest collection of stamps in the world, and when we take into consideration the fact that in Europe celebrated "Savans" have not considered it beneath their dignity to devote their valuable time to the study of Philately, we should not judge ourselves wrong in following their footsteps. I propose in a future paper to give my friends, who feel sufficiently interested to follow me, a complete description of the manufacture of our own stamps, embracing the making of the paper employed, describing how they are engraved, printed, perforated and embossed, the quantities used in the course of a year, and a variety of information which I think will prove interesting and useful to all collectors of Postage Stamps.

A. J. P.

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NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

—o—

SALVADOR.

At last we are enabled to give our reader an



illustration of the new envelope stamps of this country. The design of the stamps, (as will be seen by the engraving,) are similar to those of Guatemala. The cutting of the head is quite poor, the profile being flat and the expression of the face meaningless.

We have seen two values, viz:

1-4 real, red on white envelopes. 1-2 real,

green on lemon envelopes.

PERU.

We learn of two more emissions for this country, viz:

2 centavos, purple. 5 centavos, blue.

ST. VINCENT.

The shilling stamp now comes printed in bright red.

ST. SETTLEMENTS.

The 30c. is now received, surcharged "28 cents," in black.

GERMANY.

The 50 pf. is now printed in dark green.

KAPURTHALA.

It would seem that the Native States of India are

veing with the English colonies in their postal productions. The cut represents a stamp used in one of the Native States of the Punjab, presumably, as it was sent to us by the Governor of the Province. More definite information of Kapurthala we cannot, at the present obtain, as the place does not possess sufficient importance to be in the Atlas. But one value is used, prepared from ivory blocks, each being engraved separately, and is printed on India paper, in rose, un gummed and unperforated.

2, Annas, rose,

C. & S. J.

NEW GRANADA.

The 10 pesos, comes printed on rose paper.

CURACOA.

A card without stamp, in green, and one of 12 1-2c. in bright orange, has appeared from this country.

CANADA.



We give an illustration of the design of the New Postal Card recently issued in this country as described by us some time since. As yet, the rumored new envelope stamps have not appeared.

MOZAMBIQUE.

A set of stamps has recently been issued for this Portugese Colony, of same design as the New Cape Verde stamps, recently described and illustrated in this paper. The values and colors are as follows:

5 r. black.	40 r. blue.
10 " yellow.	50 " green.
20 " bistre.	100 " violet.
25 " carmine.	200 " orange.
300 r. brown.	

ALAVAR.



Le Timbre Poste illustrated this stamp in its February number. In its March number it describes the inscriptions, viz: That on the top reads "Rajah Alavar," the King of Alavar; that below, the value, Navana.

9 annas, blue.

DUTCH INDIES.

A 12 1-2 c. postal card is now in use in this country.

TRINIDAD.

The 4 p. grey and 1s. orange, come surcharged TOO LATE in red.

ANTIOQUIA.



A second type of the 5 c. has been noticed. As will be seen by the illustration, the difference is mainly in the position of LIBERTAD and the use of an O instead of a Q in Antioquia.

CHILI.

We learn that a new set has just been issued for this country, values and colors, as follows:

1 c. grey.	5 c. rich claret.
2 " orange.	10 " " blue.
20 c. green.	

SIAM.

A new set of stamps for this distant country may be expected soon.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., JULY, 1877.

CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Publisher.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year, 25 cents. Six Months, 15 cents,
POSTAGE PAID.

Subscription Price to Foreign Countries, two Shillings Sterling per annum, Post Paid; payable in *unused* stamps or postal cards of low values current in the country where ordered.

All subscriptions and advertisements from Europe should be addressed to our authorized European Agent, D. E. G. Brasch, Hohe Bleichen 32, Hamburg, Germany.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Stamp advertisements, 10 cents per line, 70 cents per inch. All other advertisements 5 cents per line, 35 cents per inch. Discount on large, or standing advertisements.

Address all communications to

THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER,
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.

Circulation 1000 monthly.

Persons finding this notice marked will understand that their subscription has expired. Please renew.

All stamps sold by us are *warranted genuine*.

We will take unused United States postage stamps to any amount in payment for goods advertised by us.

Canadian correspondents will confer a special favor by prepaying their letters with 1-2-cent stamps.

Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

Our Price List of Foreign Stamps, Albums, etc., we will send free to any address upon receipt of a 1-cent stamp for postage.

Persons subscribing to this paper will please state with which number they wish their subscriptions to commence.

Any one receiving more than one copy of this paper will oblige us by giving same to some friend interested in stamp-collecting.

We can furnish back numbers of this paper for five cents each, postage paid.

Our foreign exchanges, when inserting our advertisements, will please *translate* same into the language in which their papers are published.

Those who are in need of blank visiting cards should *not* fail to read the advertisement of the New England Card Co., in another column.

The following named persons owe us for stamps sent them on approval: Ed. C. Aborn, 84 S. Buffalo Street, Warsaw, Ind.; John Macoun, Box 23, Belleville, Ont., Canada; P. K. Miller, 160 Delaware Street, Easton, Pa.; D. C. F. Bliss, Ottawa, Canada; A. D. Paraut, 61 Vitre Street, Montreal, P. Q.; C. H. Dunlap, Portsmouth, N. H.; J. H. Sandy, Portsmouth, N. H.; C. R. Rees, Portsmouth, N. H. Dealers, look out, and not be swindled by them. There are other parties owing us whose names will appear soon unless they remit.

Persons answering advertisements in this paper will confer a special favor by saying, "Saw advertisement in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER." Mention this paper every time.

We would advise all who wish to purchase revolvers to consult the advertisement of the *Western Gun Works*. They offer unusual inducements to purchasers.

We would like to exchange United States and Canada stamps with our European correspondents for current stamps of the country in which they reside. We will send in exchange 1000 mixed Canadian stamps for any 2000 of Germany, Italy, Holland, France, English, except 1 d., Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Austria, Bavaria and Wurtemberg, and for any 1000 of any other country. We want especially rare stamps, for which we will send *good exchange*. Parties residing in South and Central America and the Islands, who will send us a consignment, will receive *good exchange* per return post. Always register valuable packages per book post when convenient.

PRIZE WORD HUNT.

We offer the following prizes for the largest list of words spelled from the word

VERMONT,

received before July 30th. 1877.

For the largest list, a ladies' or gents' genuine Russia Leather Pocket-Book; price \$2.00.

For the next largest a No. 2 Y. A. Stamp Album.

For the third in merit, 100 visiting cards.

For the next in merit, 1 perfume shell.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after July 30th. *No letter to be used twice in the same word.* PLURALS OF WORDS NOT ALLOWED. The names of the winners will be published in the August number of this paper.

WINNERS LAST MONTH.

1st prize, James Duncan, Memphis, Tenn.

2d prize, Alexander Crichton, St. Catharines, Ont., Canada.

3d prize, E. G. Day, Mobile Ala.

4th prize, David Santord, Jr., Box 815, St. Paul, Minn.

Several lists were received that were not made up according to the rules. Read the conditions above.

Frauds and Dealers in Counterfeits.

Collectors, do not Purchase of Them.

C. A Lyford, Boston, Mass.

L. Perkins, Philadelphia, Penn.

L. Perkins, Camden, N. J.

G. H. Fabian & Co., 201-8 St., N. Y. City.

Atlas Stamp Co., " "

Equitable Stamp Co., " "

S. Allen Taylor, Ann St., " "

Eastern Traffic Co., Richmond, Va.

Wallace, Herley & Co., " "

Triumph Stamp Co., " "

Jas. Lincoln & Co., London, Eng.

Star Stamp Agency, Port Hope, Canada.

Union Stamp Co., 10 Goerck St., New York City.

Parties desiring Novelties should not fail to send a stamp to the Union Novelty Co., Montpelier, Vt., for their large illustrated catalogue of Novelties.

Remember this, that 25 cents sent to the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt., will secure you a year's subscription to this paper. Subscribe.

THE AMERICAN PACKETS

OF

FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS.

Always state name of packet list as well as number of packet. All orders under 50 cents must contain stamp for reply.

No. 1 contains 10 Stamps from Africa and Asia, including Hong Kong, Japan, East India, Ceylon, Cape of Good Hope, Egypt and Shanghai. Price, 25 cents.

No. 2 contains 15 varieties of good used Australian Stamps, selected from New South Wales, New Zealand, Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Queensland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 3 contains 80 varieties, including Austria, Belgium, Holland, France, Russia, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 4 contains 100 used Stamps (duplicates). Price, 12 cents.

No. 5 contains 15 Post Cards, unused and uncut, from Austria, Canada, Great Britain, Ceylon, German Empire, Newfoundland, &c. Price, 60 cents.

No. 6 contains 100 used and unused varieties. A good packet for beginners. Price, 40 cents.

No. 7 contains 20 rare British Colonials, Jamaica, Tasmania, Queensland, Straits, Settlements, Victoria, Cape of Good Hope, triangular, &c. Price, 50 cents.

No. 8 contains 25 U. S. official Stamps, including Agricultural, Navy, Justice, War, Interior, Treasury, 90 cents, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 9 contains 20 unused Stamps, including Heligoland, New Germany, Servia, Sardinia, Confederate States, Modena, Saxony, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 10 contains 10 varieties, including Peru, Chili, Bermuda, Japan, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 11 contains 10 British Provincials, including Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland. Price, 25 cents.

No. 12 contains 10 unused Stamps, including Thurn and Taxis, Obsolete Roumania, German official, Baden Land Post, &c. Price, 25 cents.

No. 13 contains 10 South American stamps, including New Granada, Peru, Chili, Brazil, Bolivia, Argentine Republic, &c. Price, 30 cents.

No. 14 contains 10 rare stamps, including Naples, Turkey, Maderia, Japan, Lubeck Bermuda, &c. Price, 25 cents.

Address all orders to

CHAS. F. BUSWELL,

Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

UNEQUALLED OFFER.

Full Nickel Silver Plated 7 Shot Revolvers as Premiums.

A MONTH'S AMMUNITION FREE

Tramps, Burglars and Thieves infest all parts of the Country. Every One Should go Armed.



Uses Regular Cartridges, kept by all dealers.

Specially adapted for the Pocket. Weight, 7 ounces. Loads without removing the Cylinder, either to receive Cartridge or Eject shell.

This is the Weapon for Police, Bankers, and Household use, \$3.00

100 Cartridges, \$3.00

Address WESTERN GUN WORKS, 69 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill. Testimonials.

Our NEW Model LONG RANGE Revolver. "TRAMPS' TERROR." Including 100 CARTRIDGES! Every Revolver Warranted Full \$3 Nickel Silver Plated and Best English Steel, Rifled Barrel; deadly accuracy and long range combined; automatic action. Cylinder revolves when Hammer is RAISED. BEST Low-priced Revolver Set. Once can produce.

Send 25 cents and receive by return mail your name neatly printed on 75 tinted visiting cards. Address, Union Card Co., Montpelier, Vt.

CUT OUT THIS CERTIFICATE AND RETURN WITH THREE DOLLARS.

WESTERN GUN WORKS PREMIUM CERTIFICATE.

A BOX OF EXTRA FINE TARGET CARTRIDGES FREE!

THE WESTERN GUN WORKS hereby agrees, on receipt of this CERTIFICATE and THREE DOLLARS, to send one Elegantly-Mounted Full Nickel Silver Plated Seven Shot New Model Long Range TRAMPS' TERROR REVOLVER, including a box of 100 Cartridges, and also an EXTRA BOX of SUPERFINE TARGET CARTRIDGES, loaded with extra strong Rifle Powder, and made especially for long range. These costly Cartridges are only presented to holders of this Premium Certificate and not sold in any other way. Also Shell Elevator and Cleaning Tools complete, all in elegant case. This offer only holds good for THIRTY DAYS from the date stamped hereon. Fill out address below in full and inclose it with \$3.00 to WESTERN GUN WORKS, 69 Dearborn St., CHICAGO, and you will receive promptly the Revolver, EXTRA Long Range Cartridges and entire outfit. Remit by P. O. Order, Registered Letter, Draft, or Express, at our risk. This Certificate only entitles to the Extra Long Range Cartridges when accompanied by the Cash. Not good on C. O. D. Orders. This Revolver and Outfit costs over \$8.00 at retail. Extra line engraved \$4.00.

Name..... State.....

F. O. Co.....

\$3

WESTERN GUN WORKS,
JULY 1st, 1877.
CHICAGO, ILL.

Give Name of Nearest Ex. Office.

STAMP DEALERS' ADDRESS BOOK!

Published by A. FLEISCHMAN, Vienna.

It contains nearly 400 exact addresses of dealers in all parts of the world.

It will be sent to any address, post free, upon the receipt of 60 cents, which may be sent in unused Postage Stamps of the lowest value.

Address,

T. A. MARTINETZ,
TIEFENGRABEN, 36,
Vienna, Austria.

PRINTERS.

You can save 50 per cent by buying your Blank, Transparent, Chromo, and 600 other varieties of cards of us. We sell Transparents at \$1.25 per 1000. Have 28 colors in Snowflake cards, \$2.50 per 1000. Our 50c doz. Card Cases are sold at retail for 25c each. We can supply you with any kind of Printing Press made. Do not delay, but send at once 10 cents for a large lot of sample cards. Special prices for cards by the 100 post paid.

NEW ENGLAND CARD CO.,
Woonsocket, R. I.

Always say saw advt. in The Postage Stamp Reporter.

THE HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY FRED. S. WETMORE, Warren, Pa. Subscription price 15 cents per year, which includes payment of postage by publisher.

Subscriptions commence at any time. Liberal inducements offered for Clubs. Advertising rates very low. Address, Fred. S. Wetmore, "Monthly Herald," Warren, Pa.

LATEST and Best Books on Steam Engineering. Send stamp for Catalogue. F. KERRY, Bridgeport, Conn.

TRANSPARENT CARDS A SPECIALTY.

144 Scenes in Visiting Cards alone. Circular and samples for 3c stamp.
MASS. CARD CO., Northampton, Mass.

VISITING CARDS. We have over 200 styles at very low prices.

AGENTS WANTED. Send 3-cent stamp for samples and agents' price-list. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vt.

DEALCOMANIA or TRANSFER PICTURES. J. P. JEWETT, Box 76, Ashburnham, Mass. or two alike, for 1c and stamp. Address.

HO! PRINTERS. HO!

LOOK at these Prices for BLANK VISITING CARDS.

	8 cents.
100 2 ply White, only	
100 " Tinted, assorted, only	10 "
100 " Granite, " "	10 "
100 " Snow Flake, " "	27 "
100 " Silhouette, " "	30 "
100 " Egyptian, " "	25 "
100 " Jet, " "	15 "
100 " Embossed, " "	15 "
100 " Chromo, 6 designs, " "	60 "

Samples of all Cards 10 cts. Price list free. On orders for 500 or less, 3c. per 100 extra for postage.

N. F. Claflin, editor of the Press, Montague City, Mass., writes: "Your cards are the VERY best I ever used. My customers say they are beautiful." Address NORTON BROS., 166 St. Clair St., Cleveland, Ohio.

SECRET CORRESPONDENCE INK

for writing on postal cards. Cannot be detected by any person except the proper receiver. Messages on postal cards as private as sealed letters. Ink enough for 1000 Postal Cards, with full directions sent postpaid for 25c. Send stamp for large illustrated Catalogue of Novelties. Address, UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

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Rare Coins bought, sold and exchanged.

"Harzfeld's Numismatic Circular,"

Mailed Free on application.

Mention this paper.

ENGRAVING ON WOOD.

at very low rates for first class work. Amateur papers please notice. Address FRANK HEMENWAY 2-11 Maplewood, Mass.

SYNDICATE "Combination of Capital." New mode of operating in stocks. Loss IMPOSSIBLE. PROFITS sure. Explanatory circular sent free. MOREAN & CO., Brokers, 38 Broad St. P. O. Box 3538, N. Y.

25 cts. Buys either 400 Decalcomanias, 100 Embossed Pictures, 100 Gem Chromos, 100 Diff rent Foreign Stamps, 35 U. S. Officials, 60 Printed Visiting Cards, or 10 Pharaoh Serpent's Eggs. Any 5 lots for \$1.00. Catalogues sent free. Agents Wanted. Send stamp for particulars. Address J. A. PIERCE, 12 1/2 State St., Chicago, Ill.

Briefmarken-Händler und Sammler!

Ich wunsche zu tauschen U. S. und Canada-Brief und Stempelmarken für gebrauchte Europäische Marken aller Sorten. Gut erhaltene Marken in grosser Anzahl bitte ich per Kreuzband recommandirt an mich zu senden und erfolgen die Fauschmarken postwendend. CHARLES F. BUSWELL, Briefmarken-Import, Montpelier, Vt., U. S. A.

When this is marked, Editors please insert above, and send equivalent advt. to be inserted in the "Reporter."

Eggs of Pharaoh's Serpents.



These eggs resemble a small white pea. Place them on a plate and set fire to them, when a serpent a yard long uncoils itself from the burning egg. The snake may be afterwards kept as a curious ornament.

Europe and America have been astonished at these chemical wonders; and the London Times pronounces them "truly marvellous, and apparently inexhaustible. By following the directions given with each box, they are perfectly harmless. 5 eggs in a box. 25 cents a box; 5 boxes for \$1.00.

Send stamp for our Agents' Illustrated Catalogue of Novelties. Address all orders to UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

We will send 20 Amateur Papers, all different, for 10 cents and 3 cent stamp. 40 for 20 cents. Address THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt.

4 SALE. A collection of 800 Stamps. For particulars address, H. WALKER, 60 Maitland Street, Toronto, Canada.

ONE DOLLAR buys a printing press and font of type all complete. Just the thing for printing cards, &c. Send 15c extra to pay postage. Address MASS. CARD CO., Northampton, Mass.

TRANSPARENT CARDS.

HOLD THEM TO THE LIGHT.

YOUR name on 25 for 20 cents, or 25 blank for 15 cents. Samples and price list of the latest styles of visiting cards for stamp.

MOUTH ORGANS with instructions that will make any person become a player for *only 75 cents*. Catalogue of Novelties free. Agents wanted. Address

F. E. FRENCH & CO.,

Lock Box Q, BROCKTON, MASS.

(Say saw ad. in POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER.)



\$5 SELF-INKING-BEST Printing Press, with outfit, \$6.50; \$7 Self

Inking "BEST," with outfit, \$10. Rotary

Job Press Chase, 5x8 \$45. Send stamp

for Catalogue (no postal cards.) H. HOOVER & CO., 50 N. 9th street, Philadelphia, Pa. *if*

200,000 MIXED EUROPEAN STAMPS just received, which we are closing out at the following low prices, post-paid:

1000 mixed European Stamps sent post-free for *only 50 cents*. 5000 for \$2.00; 10000 for 3.50. Address UNION STAMP CO., Montpelier, Vt.

Upon receipt of only \$3.00 for 50 cts. 50 cts. we will send all the following articles, post-paid: 1 Fine, Stylish, Rose Coral Shawl or Scarf Pin, 1 Fine Plated Col. Hat Band, 1 Fine plated Gents Watch-chain, 1 pair elegant Plated Sleeve Buttons, 1 Gents Bosom Pin, 1 set elegant Shirt Rosom Studs, and 1 Cozen Col. Orado Golden Pens. The above article are really more than double the amount, and at a lower price stores they would not ask less than \$3.00 for them. Send the stamp for large illustrated catalogue to UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

\$10 - \$25 a day sure, made by Agents selling our Chromos, Crayons and Reward, Motto, Scripture Text, Transparent Picture and Chromo Cards. 100 samples, worth \$4 sent postpaid for 75c. Illustrated Catalogue free. J. H. BUFFORD'S SONS, BOSTON. Estab'd 1830.

NOW READY.

The International Stamp Directory, containing the names and addresses of Dealers and Collectors throughout the World; also a list of irresponsible dealers and dealers in counterfeits. This work contains 60 pages and is the best work of its kind ever issued. In order to bring it within the reach of all we have priced it at the low figure of 15c. a copy. Send at once for a copy.

W. RICHEY BELL & CO.,
427 Brunswick St., Halifax, N. S.

WORK for the Unemployed!
MONEY SAVED to Business Men!
PASTIME for the Home!

FOR 10 CENTS, and 3 cent stamp for postage, we will send for one year, the handsome 8-page paper, **MODEL PRINTER'S GUIDE**



and also our superbly illustrated 100 page Instruction and Specimen Book, entitled

How to Print

Worth ten times the cost to every Business Man and Printer. Address, J. W. DAUGHADAY & Co., 723 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Publishers, and Manuf'rs of the Celebrated

MODEL PRINTING PRESS.
For Cards and Business, the best. Nine styles, from \$6.00 up.

Hand and foot power, hand-feeding and self-feeding. 5,000 in use and everybody delighted.

(From the New York Graphic.)

THE MODEL PRINTER'S GUIDE.

"This handsome Journal, published by J. W. Daughaday & Co., No. 723 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Manufacturers of the celebrated MODEL PRINTING PRESS, deserves the patronage of every one. It is not only a gem in its typographic appearance, but it is full to the brim of choice literary matter, while the information it imparts in reference to the art of printing is simply invaluable. No boy should sleep soundly, unless he has ordered it, and its suggestions would be found to be of immense advantage to Business men everywhere. Ten cents, and a three-cent stamp for postage, is the price for a year, and certainly such a sum could not be better spent. A handsome, 100-page Printer's Instruction and Specimen Book is sent free to every subscriber."

THE MODEL PRINTING PRESS.

Is now giving employment to thousands of persons, and is the means of enormous saving to Business men. Don't fail to send for the MODEL GUIDE, and "HOW TO PRINT," and learn how easily money can be saved or made by the use of the MODEL PRINTING PRESS.

LOOK. For only \$1.10 we will send post-paid to any address, a New Nickel Silver Hunting Case Time-Piece, Steel Works, White Dial, and warranted to keep perfect time. No agents wanted. Address H. F. DAMON, Box 508, New Bedford, Mass.

A handsome Russianline 4 Pocket Stamp and Card Case Combined, sent by return mail for only 15 cent-. Can also be used as a pocket book. Address, UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vt.

WANTED 100,000 used Canadian Postage, Registration, Bill and Law Stamps, in exchange for Foreign Stamps, Visiting Cards, Decalcomania, &c. Send unused 3-cent stamps for particulars. (Postal cards go into the waste basket.)

Address CHAS. F. BUSWELL,
Foreign Stamp Importer, Montpelier, Vt.

Japanese Handkerchiefs and Napkins, only 5 cents each, or 45 cents per dozen, post free to any address. UNION NOVELTY CO., Montpelier, Vt.

The Flags of all Nations.

These brilliant colored flags faithfully represent the emblems of the different nations of the earth, that issue postage stamps, and as such, are a great acquisition to any album. They are beautifully and carefully printed in colors, on fine heavy paper for framing, or thin paper for albums. The set of 73 flags sent, postage paid, for 25 cents by

CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Montpelier, Vt.



THE POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER

An Illustrated paper devoted to Stamp Collecting.

VOL. 1.

MONTPELIER, VT., AUGUST, 1877.

No. 8.

A Plea for "Revenue Stamp" Collecting.

There exists no doubt at the present moment many philatelists who can, with the great Roman Emperor, weep "because there are no more worlds to conquer." Let me, in a few words, call their attention to a branch of their favorite pursuit which as yet seems to have met with but little favor on either side of the Atlantic: I allude to the collection of Revenue Stamps, issued not only by our own Government, but others, for various purposes and uses. Take, for instance, our own revenue labels. It would be impossible almost to find designs of greater beauty or variety than at present exist. Commencing with the little 2-cent bank check, and running up to \$200 U. S. Internal Revenue, they present a variety of form and color infinitely diverse and pleasing. Produce me, if possible, a more beautiful or better executed stamp of any country than our \$3.00 manifest or charter party. A person may say, "True, they are very beautiful, but being only about 100, or thereabouts, in number, we can soon obtain them, and our labor is at an end." Not so, my industrious friend. If you should succeed in obtaining a full set of revenues proper, commence with match stamps; you will be astonished to find how many different designs you will obtain in a short time without appreciable trouble. Some of these stamps in the writer's possession are really works of art, and just as worthy of preservation as some postal labels I could name.

Should you imagine you have exhausted the "match" line of work, commence with "playing card stamps;" follow them by "shoe stamps, they in turn to give place to private proprietary stamps, whose number is legion, and whose designs are, for the most part, beautiful and appropriate, many of them bearing upon their faces an excellent steel engraving portrait of the fortunate inventor of some celebrated empirical remedy, like "Hembold's Buchu," or "Schenck's Sea Weed Tonic." Should you become weary of these stamps, (for you can never hope to have all of them) turn your attention to the cigar and tobacco stamps. It is no exaggeration to say those are the most beautiful of any stamps ever printed. Look at the vignettes upon 8 oz., class 16, tobacco stamps. No bank note possesses more delicate lines. The 1 and 2 oz. stamps are equally beautiful, the 4 oz. being a little shabby compared to the others. Upon the 16 oz. stamps may be seen an excellent engraving of a "Jolly Jack Tar," drawn, I will wager, by Darley, as it has the self-same nose all his characters are blest with. It is useless to enumerate these further, as they are all pleasing.

The cigar stamps are of two kinds, for those of foreign and domestic manufacture; while they are worthy of collection, they are not particularly beautiful. We now come to "Beer Stamps"—large convoluted circular ones, placed over the bungholes of barrels containing the celebrated Teutonic

beverage. We may also collect the oblong stamps placed on barrels of spirits; there are a number of varieties of these, and being well designed, are quite pretty. Should my collecting friends succeed in obtaining all these different varieties for their own country, let them turn their attention abroad. We find that England has issued some splendid revenue and bill stamps; for instance, the Foreign Bill Stamp of different values, printed in purple and scarlet ink. These stamps are readily obtained, and inexpensive, filling up a vacant space in our album creditably. Great Britain has also telegraph stamps—many different varieties—custom house stamps, besides bill, receipt, and proprietaries without number. The newspaper stamps are easily obtained, and very curious.

We find, also, India has beautiful stamps. The Canada Bill Stamps cannot be excelled in point of beauty, and Italy, France, Belgium, Sweden, and Norway, and the different German States, all lend their assistance to fill our revenue album. Who will therefore say, "I have exhausted Philately," when revenues have been neglected? One word of advice, and I am done. Do not place your revenue stamps in the same album with your postal labels. A. J. P.

AUSTRIA was the first country to adopt postal cards: indeed Austria invented them, and there are now few civilized countries which have not followed this example. They proved an immense success at once. It is noteworthy that the first cards bore the statement that, "the post-office undertakes no responsibility for the contents of the communication," a statement which shows that the post-office evidently expected that the new privilege would be abused; but experience soon did away with that idea.

WHEN is a school-boy like a postage stamp? When he is licked and put in a corner to make him stick to his letters.

CHEAP SETS OF STAMPS.

All orders under 50c must contain stamp for reply. Those marked with a * are unused.

*Alsace and Lorraine,	set of 7,	.25
Azores,	" 3,	.20
*Baden, Land Post,	" 3,	.10
Brazil, present,	" 4,	.10
Brazil, 1850,	" 3,	.12
*Brunswick,	" 6,	.10
Canada,	" 12,	.15
Canada Bill,	" 25,	.40
Canada Registration,	" 3,	.15
Chili,	" 3,	.15
*Confederate States,	" 4,	.15
Dutch Indies,	" 3,	.12
Denmark,	" 8,	.10
France,	" 12,	.15
Finland,	" 6,	.20
*German, (official),	" 7,	.25
Greece,	" 5,	.20
*German conf'd'n.	" 10,	.18
Hong Kong,	" 7,	.20
Hamburg,	" 3,	.10
*Italy, (Sardinia),	" 6,	.10
Italy, (official),	" 4,	.10
Japan,	" 6,	.30
Jamaica,	" 5,	.15
New Zealand,	" 5,	.20
Newfoundland,	" 4,	.15
Nova Scotia,	" 3,	.12
*Oldenburg,	" 5,	.20
*Roman States,	" 5,	.20
Roumania,	" 5,	.10
Russia,	" 5,	.10
Sandwich Islands,	" 4,	.20
Spain, old and new,	" 15,	.20
Sweden, (official),	" 5,	.20
Straits Settlements,	" 5,	.20
*Turkey,	" 5,	.20
Tasmania,	" 3,	.10
Victoria,	" 5,	.10
Great Britain, Revenue.	" 8,	.20
Austrian,	" 12,	.25
Custom House,	" 8,	.40
Italian,	" 7,	.25
U. S.,	" 25,	.25
U. S., match,	" 7,	.25
U. S., official,	" 25,	.25

Full price lists of Stamps and Albums sent free to any address upon receipt of stamp for postage. Large Illustrated 64 page Catalogue, postpaid, for 25c. Address all orders to

CHARLES F. BUSWELL,
Foreign Stamp Importer.
Montpelier, Vt., U.S.A.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

SIAM.

We learn that the new set for this far off country,

is to be of the annexed design. We are at this writing, unable to give the colors and values, this month but hope to be able to inform our readers next month.



BRAZIL.

The 10 and 20 reis stamps now come rouletted instead of perforated.

SHANGHAI.

The 9 Candareens blue now appears with the surcharge 1 Candareens in blue.

GRIQUALAND WEST.

Griqualand, a small Colony to the north of Cape Colony, make use of the stamp of Cape of Good Hope by surcharging them by the letters G. or G. W. in black or red. The following have appeared.

- 1 p. surcharged G. in black, large letters.
- 1 p. " G. W. in red, small letters.
- 4 p. " G. W. in black, small letters.
- 6 p. " G. in red, large letters.
- 5 sh. " in red, three varieties of letters.

MOZAMBIQUE.



The annexed cut represents the design of the new series of stamps recently issued for this Portuguese Colony, as described in our July number.

SAN MARINO.

The *Le T. P.*, informs us that this, the smallest country in the world, is to have Postage Stamps. There are to be five values, viz: 2, 10, 20, 30 and 40 centimes; colors not yet learned.

EAST INDIES.

The 2 annas, yellow, and 8 annas, rose, come surcharged, "On H. M. S."

MAURITIUS.



The 10 pence stamp comes to us surcharged "Half Penny" in black. See engraving.

JAPAN.

The color of the current cards has been changed to *chamois*.

5 rin, orange.

1 rin, blue.

MEXICO.

The 25c comes on wove line paper. The *U.* mentions a stamp for Monterey. It is similar to the Guadalupe. The inscription reads: "MONTEREY FRANCO." 5 centavos, black on blue.

HONG KONG.

The 18c stamp is now surcharged "16 CENTS" across the face in black, in two lines.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

We have received the 2 cent green of the new series.

ANGOLA.

There seems to be 2 type varieties of the 25 reis stamp. In one the Greek border around the crown is larger than in the other.

CEYLON.



The annexed cut represents the design of the new 4 p. envelope stamp lately issued in this country. It will be noticed that the design is almost precisely like the 4 pence of the previous series.

GREAT BRITAIN.

This country now possesses an extensive series of telegraph stamps.

- 1 d, brown-red. 3 sh, blue.
- 3 " carmine. 5 " carmine.
- 4 " blue-green. 10 " green-grey.
- 6 " green. £1 1/2 br'n-violet.
- 1 sh, green. £5 orange.

The Postage Stamp Reporter.

MONTPELIER, VT., AUG., 1877.

CHAS. F. BUSWELL, Publisher.

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Always send a stamp for reply when writing for information. Do not blame us if you receive no reply, unless you enclose a stamp.

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Persons subscribing to this paper will please state with which number they wish their subscriptions to commence.

Any one receiving more than one copy of this paper will oblige us by giving

same to some friend interested in stamp-collecting.

Boys are making money selling Visiting Cards for the Union Card Co., Montpelier, Vt., send 10 cents for full samples and *Agent's* price list.

Remember this, that 25 cents sent to the POSTAGE STAMP REPORTER, Montpelier, Vt., will secure you a year's subscription to this paper. Subscribe.

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For the next largest a No. 2 Y. A. Stamp Album.

For the third in merit, 100 visiting cards.

For the next in merit, 1 perfume shell.

CONDITIONS.—Open only to subscribers; however, persons may subscribe by sending subscription price at time of sending in their lists. Only words found in the *body* of an English Dictionary allowed. All lists to be arranged alphabetically. No lists to be entered after Sept. 5th. *No letter to be used twice in the same word.* **PLURALS OF WORDS NOT ALLOWED.** The names of the winners will be published in the August number of this paper.

WINNERS LAST MONTH.

First Prize, James Irving, Charlestown, S. C.

Second Prize, E. Tessier, Rimouski, P. Q., Canada.

Third Prize, Fred Crocker Troy, N. Y.

Fourth Prize, Alex. Orichton, St. Catherines, Ont. Canada.

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- Jas. Lincoln & Co., London, Eng.
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- Union Stamp Co., 10 Goerck St., New York City.
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