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# Grant's Monthly Philatelist.

JUNE, 1900.

NO. 1.

## CHARLIE SCARRIT'S WINDFALL.

BY JAMES GABLE.

the school at Squashville had rather a reputation. The Squashtown people were tired of telling of its evil ways, for they had no school of their own, so could not afford to hold up their hands in holy horror at their neighbors' shortcomings. The Squashvillers themselves admitted the fact with pious resignation, speaking of it as they did their "rheumatiz," "rain or crops and other manifestations of Divine Providence. So when Miss Sedgwick came as an applicant for the place of teacher that a man, an athlete to boot, had just thrown a commingled disgust and despair, the school board gave a gasp and at first inclined to refuse, but as I have said, Miss Sedgwick was very pretty she looked so appealing at them with her large dark blue eyes, shaded by long dark lashes, that no man could have the heart to resist her; and then the school board was only human, so did give way, and she was given the privilege, however, without sundry nods and nervous shakes of the head. Miss Sedgwick opened up school the next morning; not, it must be confessed, without some trepidation upon her part. She looked upon the lowering, unpromising faces before her, many of them older and larger than she. She came intending to win their love and affection by kindness, if possible, and if she failed—but then she must not fail, it would be fully six months before she could get on—but then, of course, that has nothing to do with this story. As a result to this end she had brought her stamp collection, for the new teacher was an enthusiastic philatelist, hoping to interest them in its contents. But she was disappointed, for after the

first few preliminary explanations, they gathered around her an eager, inquisitive and interested crowd. So interested were they that they forgot to pommel and jostle each other, except of course, Solon Bluefoot, the comedian of the school, who was, however, promptly sat down upon by the crowd and who, when he tried to shove a boy against the teacher, hoping thereby to win favor in the sight of Sar' Ann, was favored with an icy glare from the eyes of that roystering individual which promptly squelched him.

"Ain't them fine," said Silvan Swales, a misty expression in her eyes. "I wish I had a lot like 'em."

"Ve got lots like 'em," exclaimed Swen Larson, pointing eagerly to some of the Swedish stamps. "Dey coom fra old contra."

"Yis," said another, excitedly, "an' me mither gits some like them sent to her from her old home in Thralle."

Suddenly Miss Sedgwick was thrilled with a brilliant idea. "Suppose," she said eagerly, "that we all try to collect stamps. All who get letters from the old country bring them and exchange with others? Then, too, look up old letters and bring them here. I will tell you their value. Some stamps are very rare and are worth a large amount of money."

"I'sh dot so?" interjected little Levi Sokemstein, who heretofore had not taken much interest in the proceedings, but was now, all at once, deeply interested.

At last with great reluctance they turned away from the fascinating stamps to the duller drudgery of every-day lessons. But the new teacher had gained her point. The school, considering its reputation, was wonderfully quiet. Solon

would place his hands on his heart while his face would assume an agonizing, despairing expression whenever Sar Ann would look around. Seeing he could not make her laugh so, he caught a large, blue butterfly, tied a black silk thread around it and blew it in her direction. But when she caught the loud-protesting captive, cut the string and set the prisoner free, without as much as looking at him, his face fell and he set himself disconsolately to work.

That evening Squashville had something new to talk about, and to any one who is at all acquainted with small towns, it is needless to add that they were fully equal to the occasion.

"Did you ever?" said Mrs. Stibbins, who had hurriedly put on her sunbonnet and rushed over to her nearest neighbor's with the news. "My stars! What will they be a teachin' next? The idea of that slip of a girl tryin' to run our school an' then a teachin' stamps. What do you think of that?" And then they sat and talked until a towsle-headed girl came to the fence and yelled, "Ma, the baby's bumped his head an' is bawlin' fit ter kill!"

"Maw!" said little Sammie Sweibeck. "kin I collect stamps?"

"What!" shrilled Mrs. Sweibeck, pausing in the operation of supper-getting.

"I want to collect stamps," Sammie repeated, doggedly.

"You want to collect stamps. Now, who put that fool idea in your head, I'd like tuh know?"

"Teacher said I might."

"Wal, I didn't. You go out there an' rake over them beans, hoe that patch of potatoes, an' feed the chickens, an' milk the cows, an' slop the hogs, an' then while you're restin' yo' can shell them peas before supper; an' git a move on ye, too."

"Stamps, indeed," said Mrs. Sweibeck, sniffing, "I'll stamp ye!"

Silvan Swales came bounding into the kitchen, eyes sparkling and cheeks glowing with exercise. The very picture of rustic health and vigor. A tall, faded,

nervous looking woman jerked up quickly with a frown. "For Mercy's sake Sily," she snapped, "Do clean your feet before you come in here, and don't make such a noise, you'll wake the baby, an' he's cried enough today, the Lord know. And what did I tell about keeping dress clean. It would take a dozen women to look after you children; let alone ourself and your father don't care a mite, either. Like as not he's down to the store no loaf—"

"Oh, mother!" Silvan burst out, so much accustomed to these tirades to pay any attention to them. "can I get some stamps? Teacher said I could. Can't Maw?" she added pleadingly.

"Now, what on earth are you going to do with stamps, more tomfoolery, what do you suppose all this money is coming from? Only last week your pa gave you six cents for a writin' book. Does the teacher think we've got nothing else to do with our money but buy books? You go on out doors and clean your feet, and don't bother me again till supper time."

Charlie Scarrit, with his arms around his mother's neck, told her with great eagerness the new teacher's plan, and she listened like a good mother should and was greatly interested.

Mrs. Scarrit was the village dressmaker, a wee pale body, but a wonderful worker, as all Squashville admitted. Some time before her husband had died leaving her Charlie and a mortgage on the home. She had set resolutely to work to care for the one and pay off the other, but times were hard and Squashville was notoriously niggardly in money matters. Then, too, Squashville resented the fact that little Charlie was clothed. Gossip had it that he actually had three suits. This might not have been true, but everybody knew he always wore shoes and stockings, even in summer time. So Squashville shook its head askance and wagged its hands, after the manner of all big cities, but felt perfectly justified in giving her a little less for her work than she asked, or it was really worth.

Mrs. Scarrit stroked her son's

fondly. "We cannot afford to buy dear," she said fondly, "but I think a large number of very old stamps envelopes, upstairs, if they will do. are old keepsakes. We will look after supper."

The school house was crowded at an early hour the next morning; who had not been there the day before came now to investigate the new acquisition. There were excited Oh's! Ah's! as each one showed their treasures. Swen Larson had some from Sweden, Pat Shaugnessy a number from the British Isles. But of course American stamps predominated, interspersed with a sparkling of Canadian's. There was a buzz of interested and excited discussion in the schoolroom, of which the teacher was the storm center. Silvan came in with tear stained cheeks and handed her a note which ran as follows:

Dear Teacher: I ain't a goin' to let my study no stamps. Readin' ritin' an' writin' was good enuff fer me, an' its got to be good enuff fer her. Besides, 'tain't nothin' to scripture, nohow. So I'm  
DEEKON SWALES."

The school had hardly taken up when Mrs. Sweibeck entered, leading in tow the little Miss Sammy. The teacher greeted her courteously and gave her a seat, but was wondering why she had come, as she hardly expected visitors so soon, and with almost a sailor's prophetic instinct she divined an approaching storm. As she was deceived, for Mrs. Sweibeck had no time in preliminaries, and the teacher was fully aware of her reasons. "All plague tecked foolishness," she said as a final outburst, and looking as if she would like to say something more, "an' I won't have my Sammy with his head with such things. I want to learn somethin' of vally to him." "Well," said Miss Sedgwick, interrupting the torrent that was flowing down her, "the knowledge gained from this can be put to practical account. I'll show you," she continued quickening another avalanche of words as she was about to start. Selecting a stamp from a pile on the table, she held

it up, and wisely calling upon Sammy Sweibeck, asked him what country it belonged to.

"Denmark."

"That is right. Now, what are the principal exports of Denmark?"

"Vegetables, cattle an' butter."

"You don't say," interrupted Mrs. Sweibeck, eagerly. "How do they color their butter, Sammy?"

"They don't color it," interjected the teacher, "they send it to market uncolored."

"That's down right laziness. Why, they'd git two or three cents a pound more fer it if they used colorin'."

"Now, to what country does this belong?" went on the teacher, secretly pleased with her diplomacy.

"It's a seven penny stamp of New South Wales," Sammy answered, glibly.

"That is true. Of what island continent is it a part?"

"Australia."

"What is its chief industry?"

"Sheep raising."

"You don't say." This from Mrs. Sweibeck again. "An' what do they do for foot rot?"

The teacher was nonplussed for a moment; however it would never do to appear ignorant. "They are not troubled much with foot rot," she answered instantly. "Their greatest pest is a parrot, the size of a crow, that tears a hole through the back of its helpless victim and then eats only the liver, leaving the rest of the carcass to rot upon the field. They are so wary it is impossible to kill them, and they do a vast amount of damage. There is a big bounty for their heads."

"You don't say. Well, now, that's something sensible. I must tell Jonas about that. Sammy is jist natrally smart, isn't he?" apparently forgetting that the teacher had imparted most of the information. "It isn't everybody that knows all that, is it? But then he takes after his mother's side of the family. The Soperses allus were a smart set." And she got up to go, loudly de-



claring "that her Sammie was a goin' to have as big a lot of stamps as anybody."

After she was gone the newly collected stamps were shown to the teacher, Charlie showing his almost the last, for he was rather shy. The teacher gave an exclamation of surprise as she saw the first.

"Why, Charlie," she cried excitedly, "Where did you get this? It is a 5-cent Brattleboro of 1846. Why, there are two of them, and two New Haven stamps of the same year. Do you know," she said impressingly gazing at the bewildered Charlie, "that these stamps are worth a small fortune."

And Levi Sokemstein fainted.

Miss Sedgwick's words proved to be true. The stamps were sent away to a noted collector, who was only too glad to buy them, and for a sum that seemed incalculable wealth to hard-working Mrs. Scarrit, and which enabled her to pay off the mortgage which had been such an incubus to her, and to set her up in a small but exceedingly profitable business.

Squashville had something new to talk about, and enjoyed itself accordingly, and for a while stamp collecting amounted to an absolute mania, to be succeeded later by a more gradual and healthy growth.

Under Miss Sedgwick's guidance the school enjoyed the most peaceable and prosperous term in its history, and when she left to become Mrs. Charlie Seavers there was no pupil but what felt that he or she had lost a personal friend.



### A Fable.

A young officer of the United States army, in evening dress, was strolling along a lonely and shady street in Manila, when suddenly he was confronted by three natives. One of them was an officer, as could readily be distinguished by his uniform, the other, an insurgent, while the other seemed from

appearances to be a learned man. Insurgents accosted the young officer asked him who he was, and he knew well that if he answered, "an American he would probably be imprisoned, being a stamp collector, readily answered "A philatelist." The insurgent did not know the meaning of this, thinking it was another name for America, turned to his gentleman friend "Senor," he said, "Is a philatelist American?" The wise man did not answer at once, not being very well acquainted with English, but computed Greek, and answered, "No, General; phil means I love, and atelia, freedom of tax; therefore I think he must be a dit, like yourself." The insurgents, hearing this, let him go his way in peace.

Moral: You should do your thinking and arrive at your own conclusions.

### Indecision.

Ten dollars quite a sum to pay,  
For one who earns but three a day,  
And for a stamp that's lost its former  
And tempting looks the money, too.  
Let's see; with it I could take Lena  
the ball,

And still would not have to spend  
The next evening we could to the  
go

And have a seat up center row.  
And then a little supper, Moulton's  
Of course that would take all the rest  
I've half a mind to do it; and yet.  
If I do I may the act regret.

And this old stamp; how well 'twould  
look,

There's none so rare in all the book  
Curios have I gathered from many  
place,

Stamps that would any collection grace  
And this tiny stamp cut so queer, yet  
I need but it to make my list complete  
But Lena. Oh, pshaw; I don't believe  
she cares for shows,

It may be folly—but, by Jove, here

—CHARLES MARTEL

## "WHAT WOULD SHELDON DO?"

By A. LLOYD JONES.

Several weeks ago nearly, the entire world was aroused by the way in which a week, Rev. Charles M. Sheldon edited the Topeka Capital. This suggested the thought, "What Would Sheldon Do" had charge of a stamp paper. There the stamp paper especially that I he would make very few, if any at changes in. But taking the majority philatelic publications, undoubtedly would conduct them quite differently they now are. While I surmise he would make several innovations, his pages mostly would be in not doing of the things so commonly now practiced.

He would certainly not pad his subscription list and announce a list of paid subscribers that numbers from five to twenty-five times as many as it really is. As regards advertising rates I believe he would set a fair price on his paper and maintain that price to all advertisers; giving discounts to none, but making all pay the same. Of course I do mean that no discounts should be given on time contracts, but I do mean no greater discount should be given one than another on like contracts. The reliability of every advertiser would be closely inquired into. Perhaps Mr. Sheldon would make it a point to usually give samples of all goods advertised as far as possible. I do not believe he would admit to his columns ads of cheap goods, which when sent for the dealer would go straight out of, nor do I think he would tolerate those of "a dollar's worth of goods for a nickel." He likely would prohibit no ads of papers of doubtful reliability, nor allow exchange notices of the set of actresses' pictures to exchange for stamps." Especially would guard against those misleading advertisements designed to deceive by being so skillfully worded as to have two meanings. Of course, no advertisements of counterfeits or reprints advertised as genuine would be admitted, but it is a question too hard for me to decide as to whether he would allow reprinted and counterfeit stamps to be even advertised as genuine, and then, again, what would he do with Seebeck's and other speculative is-

mean by this he would allow no notes in the paper, for well-written notes are liked better than the long articles by many, but none of the notes would be insulting personals nor would they contain anything offensive or that would unnecessarily hurt anyone's feelings. As regards the frauds of philately he doubtless would want a clear case made out against them before publishing their name and blasting their reputation. Even though there was a clear case, but it was the culprit's first offense and there seemed to be extenuating circumstances or a chance for reform, he probably would refrain from publishing the name of the offender. He doubtless would wage a crusade against those two nuisances, the substitutor and also the dealer who sends out unsolicited approval sheets; he might also against the sample copy fiend, but I hardly think so. The columns of his publication would not be open to word wars. The use of pseudonyms very likely would never be allowed except in the rare instances where the occasion undoubtedly so demands.

Lastly, and in a way of summary, he would permit nothing to enter the paper's columns that would be mean, spiteful, obscene, delusive, untrue, or malodorous.



### An Appeal.

To be sincere! Oh, Lord of hosts,  
I thought to be sincere, with you,  
And earnest, but my broken boasts,  
Inspire me, still, to live and do.  
My broken vows, resolves unkept,  
Preach weakness to me when I dwell  
Upon them. And I could have wept  
For joy had I but kept them well.  
The gate of strength, I entered in,  
But left it, thinking I was wrong,  
And yet, you teach us when we sin,  
And to know our weakness makes us  
strong.

Away in this life we live;  
But, Father, you will help us yet,  
'Tis in your power alone to give  
The rest we need, but never get.

W. H. H.

much for advertising, now let us  
to the reading matter. Dr. Sheldon  
probably omit all philatelic gossip  
although in some cases does no one  
yet does no one good. I do not

## THE ISLAND OF GUAM.

By O. H. PHINNEY.

The United States' smallest colony, Guam, lies about 5,000 miles west of San Francisco, 3,000 miles west of Honolulu, and 1,400 miles east of Manila.

It is one of the Ladrone group of islands and is 26 miles long and from 4 to 6 miles wide.

Its location makes it of great strategical importance, and the harbor of San Louis de Apra will be made a well fortified naval station and one of the landing places of the Pacific cable.

It has a population of about 10,000 people one-half of whom are residents of its capital city, Agana, which is situated about the center of the island.

Its government is entirely in the hands of the Navy Department, and all officials report to the Secretary of the Navy.

It has the honor of being the first United States colony to have a regularly organized government.

When Governor Richard P. Leary sailed for the island on August 7th, 1899, he carried with him full equipment for every department of the island government; among which were postage stamps of 1, 2 and 5c denominations, to the value of \$750.00. They were the regular United States postage stamps surcharged with the name of the island "Guam" and it was supposed that this supply would be sufficient for one year, but upon his arrival at Agana, he found orders from dealers in postage stamps for more than his entire supply, and every mail brought additional orders.

He at once cabled an order to Washington for \$10,000 worth of all denominations from 1c to \$1.00. These were shipped to him November 10, 1899, and are now being received by dealers in this country.

The question of whether to collect them or not must be settled by each collector, but I, for one, consider them more worthy of a place in every collection than a majority of stamps issued during the past year, and shall seize the first opportunity to purchase them.

## THE PHILATELIC LITERATURE OF TO-DAY.

By PHILATELUCE.

Generally speaking, the average philatelic literature is very poor. There are very few philatelists who can concoct a philatelic love-story, a philatelic adventure, or even describe a stamp to interest the readers.

There are reviewers, and plenty of them, but their job is easy, their delight, all they do is receive four or five dozen papers free, jot something down about six or seven of them, fill two or three columns they are given with their view, and then use another half column to attack some other reviewer, or puff an innocent junior who has made a happy blunder, or puff up some fraud, or puff upon some of his personal business. Then they keep it up for a year or two and get a name for themselves for their stance—

"Mr. 'Wm. F. Philatelia, the famous philatelic view editor of the 'Philatelic Tribune' visited Quakerville and had a pleasant time with some of our dealers," or, "Mr. 'Wm. Philatelia' the Philatelic King was in town last week," and mind you, he has only written a year or two. Look at the years made him famous. Look at the fellow, America's greatest poet, who became famous while in short pants while at college, (national fame, I mean) or in Europe? No, his work of a few months made him famous, not his work of months.

Look at Richard Harding Davis, the reporter, now an eminent novelist, who rose from the lowest ranks of reporters to what he now is.

We need Philatelic Davis's, Lowell, Kiplings, and good reviewers.

**GRANT'S MONTHLY PHILATELIST,**

devoted to the Interest of Philately  
and its votaries.

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY.**

**W. C. A. GRANT, - - - Publisher.**  
**D. GRANT, - - - Manager.**

**SUBSCRIPTION.**—To all countries, 50 cents per  
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**PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS** will be inserted  
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Address all Communications to  
**W. C. A. GRANT,**  
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**JUNE, 1900.**

**EDITORIAL.****GREETING.**

In presenting a new magazine to the  
philatelic public we recognize the fact  
that in order to build up a large circula-  
tion in these days when magazines are  
so plentiful, our magazine must publish  
that which is of interest to the philatelic  
public as a whole, and in so doing to  
meet the requirements of each individual  
person. The old adage to the contrary,  
notwithstanding, which happily does not  
apply to literature. In other words, we  
will publish all the current thought and  
views of each succeeding month, to date  
going to press, as well as editorials  
and a story or two, and anything else  
which may be for the benefit, instruction  
and pleasure of our readers.

We shall at all times have the interest  
of our readers at heart, and assure them  
that the small sum charged for subscrip-  
tion will be well earned by us. We want  
our magazine to rest upon a solid founda-  
tion of paid-up subscribers, for they  
are the invisible but substantial rock-  
founded resting place, without which no  
magazine can prosper, for "it is not  
sufficient that a magazine can live by sam-  
ple copies alone." So, dear reader, if this  
copy of our magazine interests you and

you wish to receive it regularly, please  
make known your wish by sending in  
your subscription at once.

In future issues we will make our mag-  
azine even more interesting, in which  
editorials by different writers will be a  
prominent feature, and we will increase  
the number of pages our success will  
justify, thus giving our subscribers all  
the benefit.

We believe a magazine of this kind  
will receive the hearty support of both  
collectors and advertisers, and this mag-  
azine is launched on its course with the  
full assurance that it shall be a financial  
success, as the promoters have every  
reason to hope.

In the preliminary announcements we  
have announced our intention of pub-  
lishing a very large number of the first  
issue, but we have decided to bide a  
more favorable time when we are more  
able to give the various firms the benefit  
of advertising. Probably we may do so  
in the fall or winter season.

In closing, permit us to say that we  
have come to be a benefit and a help to  
the Philatelist, and will make our read-  
ing matter interesting and pleasing, re-  
gardless of expense, and will do all in  
our power to promote the interests of  
those devoted to stamp collecting.

**THE PUBLISHERS.**

**TO ADVERTISERS.**

Now that we have issued the first num-  
ber of this magazine largely at our own  
expense, it is only fair that we request  
the various advertisers to secure space in  
the second issue by June 10, or not later  
than June 15. Not for this reason, but  
because our circulation will be as large  
if not larger than any monthly stamp  
paper published in America. Your ad-  
vertisement will be appreciated. Our  
rates are net, except on long-time con-  
tracts. If you wish to know anything  
further concerning circulation, etc.,  
write us.



"A neatly arranged collection is a "joy forever."

Stamps have been favorites for collecting purposes since 1851.

April 15th was the 60th anniversary of the adhesive postage stamp.

The stamp books are on sale at the Kansas City postoffice. The collector who collect the different perforations will find four varieties in each sheet. How nice!

The Pan-American exposition stamps which have been the subject of much discussion of late, are now receiving more favorable comment since their issuance has become a reality.

July forms close June 15th. Advertisers wishing space in July number should send in their advertisement before that date. Writers for this magazine please bear above date in mind.

We notice that two parties have been arrested on the charge of counterfeiting foreign stamps. Also, in England two parties have been arrested and pleaded guilty on the charge of stealing stamps from the Crown agents.

In future issues we will give more attention to advertising, and we hope advertisers will take advantage of our low rates, as we wish to have our advertising columns so wellfilled each month so as to make the MONTHLY easily the buyers' organ.

Assistant Postmaster Madden has completed the collection of United States postage stamps for the government, which is to be sent to the Paris exposition and added to the exhibit of the postoffice department. It consists of some 600 specimens, comprising all the stamps issued in the United States up to the present time, including those of her colonies. It is said to be worth about \$3,000.

Col. Charles F. W. Neely, chief financial agent of the Cuban post office, has been arrested on the charge of embezzling

\$36,000 of government money. The sums have been missing for many months past, and it is assumed by the office now investigating the matter that defalcations were made possible by the fact that an issue of stamps ordered destroyed were sold in place of the stamps. This marks the first serious blot on the American administration in Cuba.

Now that the 1/2d stamp of England has been changed from red to green notice in Ewen's Weekly that several English dailies have connected the change with the recent visit of Queen to "The Land of the Shamrock." The change is made to conform to Postal Union recommendations, which are that the 1 cent stamps of all countries shall be green, the 2 cent red, and the 3 cent blue. This rule, although not being adopted by all important countries, as a uniformity in the color of the stamps most commonly used alleviates the difficulty of checking the postage of letters.

The correct spelling of the newly acquired island just east of Santo Domingo is "Puerto Rico." The form "Porto Rico," an anglicized or mongrel term made up of the Portuguese word porto and the Spanish rico, is also extensively used in this country. It is said that President McKinley prefers the form used by the inhabitants themselves, and by all Spanish speaking people, namely, "Puerto Rico," although neither form has been officially adopted by all the departments of the United States Government. From a contemporary we learn that the secretary of war has issued a general order saying "that in accordance with the provisions of the act for a civil government for Porto Rico, which fixes the spelling of that island as 'Porto Rico' that 'Porto Rico' will be the correct spelling of that island." Now, which is right? The war department says one thing and the postoffice another, and we are left in a quandary.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

The philatelic publications received by us during the last month tend to show a degree of prosperity well worthy of note. All bear testimony to the undisputed fact that stamp collecting is gaining ground, and new recruits are constantly being added to the roll of philatelists. A few of the magazines have been enlarged, while all seem to have their deserved support by advertisers.

The following have been received to date of May 15: Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Philatelic West and Camera News, The Perforator, The Evergreen Philatelist, The Bay State Philatelist, The Philatelic Chronicle, The Nebraska Stamp News, The Allegheny Philatelist, The Stamp Exchange, The Juniors' Collector, The Ohio Philatelist, The Philatelic Inter-Ocean, The Collectors' Companion, The Nebraska Philatelist, Foreign—Ewen's Weekly Stamp News, (England), Antverpia, (Belgium), L'Esper Philateliqne, (Belgium).

We have received a copy of the Stamp Collectors' Almanac from the publishers, Kirkpatrick and Pemberton, of London. It contains 56 pages, including cover, illustrated, and is brim full of interesting information.

## "WEE BITS."

By A. L. JONES.

Stone's "Literary Notes" in the Era are K.

Why don't stamp papers illustrate more?

Canada again promises us a weekly stamp paper.

The U. S. quarter stamp books seem very popular.

Miss Amy no longer is the only female philatelic writer.

Entire envelopes are again attracting considerable attention.

And still the Allegheny Philatelist is annexing publications.

"Chap" is writing "Wee Bits," though he doesn't call them that.

The royal boy or girl portrait stamps are fast becoming obsolete.

Stamps are booming and coins are receiving considerable attention.

Why is it the combination foreign-American papers don't succeed?

The latest philatelic accessory—the protective stamp holder—a neat article.

Some interest is being manifested in the revenue stamps of the Revolution war.

"Sprecken Sie Deutch?" If so the Allegheny Philatelist is the only one left to you.

A boy's stamp auction was a late happening worthy of imitation by other dealers.

J. F. Dodge has made a four-mile dodge. His new address is Abbottstown, Pennsylvania.

Staid old Mekeel's Weekly surprised us by its scare headlines on the Chicago stamp fraud.

The current series of United States plate numbers has just passed the one thousand mark.

Some advertisements, especially in Mekeel's Weekly, are more interesting than some of the regular reading matter.

Wouldn't you like to sell some of your stamps at prices in proportion to those realized at the "London War Stamp Auction?"

Though Mount Royal is an older name than Montreal, yet the Montreal Philatelist is older than the Mount Royal Stamp News.

Close on the heels of the news of the decease of the Weekly Stamp Tribune comes the announcement of the Philatelic Weekly.

In No. 6 of the Northwestern Philatelist some notes were headed, "Stampaparagraphlets," but where continued were called "Stamparagraphlets," and yet on the M. S. they were entitled "Stampagraphlets." Which is best?

Some people who wouldn't substitute stamps on approved sheets, (no, not for the world), yet will replace private proprietaries by the regular revenues on patent medicines. O, consistency, thou art a jewel!

While the usual large amount of spring advertising concerning proprietary medicines is appearing in the newspapers, an unusually large amount of advertising concerning private proprietary stamps is appearing in the philatelic papers.

Recently I had given to me the following definition of a philatelist: "A philatelist is a person who collects stamps for the interest and the educational value there is in them. Not necessarily a minor variety crank, but one who can give some information concerning stamps and does not collect them because they are pretty." I like the definition first rate. What do you think about it, or what is your definition for a philatelist?

## OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

By WM. A. McDONNELL.

Dealers are wont to remark that the stamp business will be as good if not better this spring and summer than has ever been the case before. In former years business would come to a standstill "when summer comes again," but the busy season now is not known by any special part of the year.

Messrs. J. C. Morgenthau & Co. disposed at auction a few weeks ago, the remnant of the Gremmel stock of odds and ends. The executors of Henry Gremmel's estate disposed of the stamp stock to Messrs. J. C. M. & Co. a few months after Mr. Gremmel's demise. At the time the sale was made other dealers predicted a financial loss for J. C. M. & Co., as it was generally believed that the price paid by them was rather high. But from what I understand there was included in the purchase price \$10,000 worth, face value, of unused British colonies alone, not taking in the large stock of used stamps of these countries. It is said that J. C. M. & Co. made a handsome profit, and the only financial losses they incurred was with the monthly philatelic paper, *The Postoffice*, which turned out to be a failure. Non-support the principal cause of its discontinuance.

A new set of stamps for the United States in 1901 is now assured. Designs have been submitted to the proper authorities. The following appeared in a New York daily:

"Designs for the special issue of postage stamps contemplated for the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo have been tentatively adopted by the postoffice department. In the issue are to be included 1-cent, 2-cent, 4-cent, 5-cent, 8-cent and 10-cent stamps, the denominations used for circulars, letters, double-weight letters, foreign mail, registry fee and combined registry and postal fees.

On one stamp will be engraved a picture of an American lake steamer; another will include a picture of some modern, well-equipped express train; a third is to depict a bridge over Niagara Falls and the Falls themselves if a suitable picture can be obtained; a fourth will include a view of the canal locks at San de Soule Marie. The automobile is to be made a subject of a fifth. All these designs typify artificial aids to commerce. For the sixth stamp the department is somewhat puzzled for a proper development of that idea.

It has been suggested that the color desire for pictures of the American might be gratified by a reproduction of the national colors on the sixth stamp. If the department can determine whether the flag is or is not an artificial aid to commerce this idea will probably be adopted.

## A FEW NOTES.

By JOHN PELTZ.

The newspaper sets of Cuba are going up in price. This does not surprise us we expected this, owing to the small amount of several issues printed. In this condition especially are they to be regarded as good property. We were much amused last year when we read an article on the stamps of Cuba, in which the writer stated that "the Cuba newspaper stamps are hardly worth the paper on which they are printed." Now, in a year's time his predictions will probably be false, for these stamps will surely rise in value.

In a recent philatelic paper was a notice to the effect that all British Colonial stamps pen-marked were used as revenue stamps. This is not true, at least partly so. Many pen-cancelled specimens have been used as postage stamps, mostly on packages, where the pen was more convenient to use than the post-stamp to cancel. Many U. S. postage stamps are found pen-cancelled but were not used for revenue purposes. If you doubt any of the above statements write to S. L. and he will confirm them.

So Dr. Asenjo has taken Mr. Seeber's place. What name will the stamp he issues now receive? As all the remainders are to be cancelled and given over to Asenjo at the end of each year we probably will tell these remainders from those that have actually done postal duty the gum which in the former will doubtless not be disturbed, for the government would hardly go to the trouble to lick all the stamps, and put them on paper, or even Asenjo himself. Asenjo prints stamps for one country at present but soon he will, doubtless, be supplying many of the South and Central American countries with stamps galore.



## ILLINOIS NOTES.

By S. E. MOISANT.

I hear that a Chicago collector has just applied for a patent on an adjustable binder for stamp albums.

A Chicago collector has informed me that she will get out a directory of the stamp collectors of the Prairie State.

Mr. Geo. C. Hartung announces that he will publish a new philatelic journal which will hail from Chicago, and will be called the Illinois Philatelist.

The stamp books are on sale at the Chicago postoffice. The first book was purchased by E. B. Butler, who had the souvenir endorsed by Postmaster Gordon.

Some time ago I heard that C. B. Sawyer of Kamkakee, Ill., was going to start a new philatelic paper. Mr. S. is now attending law school in Chicago and I have been unable to learn any of the particulars.

A number of special varieties were shown in Chicago this week. One is a cover sent from Chicago on February 10, 1852, and bears no stamp, but shows the postmark, "Paid 3" in an ornamental frame.

A. D. Buchanan of Chicago has been arrested by secret service officers on the charge of having plates and dies of foreign stamps in his possession. He is supposed to be the accomplice of the notorious Clark, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of counterfeiting.

The Northern Philatelic has just held an election in Chicago. The following were elected: President, A. C. Trask, 1748 La Salle street, Chicago; secretary-treasurer, Geo. C. Hartung, 1629 Barry avenue, Chicago; auction manager, S. E. Moisant, Kemkakee, Ill.; vice president, R. J. Ellis, Elk Point, S. Dakota; official organ, Northwestern Philatelist, Elk Point, S. Dakota.

Probably the most important event of the season is the great stride taken by the Chicago Philatelic Society. The leading feature is probably the large number of applications for membership received each meeting. At one meeting thirty-nine applications were posted on the bulletin boards. Another leading feature is the open sales department. F. M. Massoth, the auction manager, has held three very successful sales and more are announced. The first sale was held at the club rooms, but the rooms were too small to hold the crowds and the last two sales have been held at the Tremont House.

## OIL CITY LETTER.

By R. W. DARLEY.

Dear Friends: To those of you who have never been in Oil City a few lines of description will not be amiss. •

Oil City is situated on the Allegheny river, about 130 miles above Pittsburg; has a population of some 20,000, and is a bright, lively place.

Of the people it has been said that they are enterprising, and, that no matter to what part of the world you may go you will be sure to find an Oil City man there ahead of you.

This may be so and it may not. I cannot say, but wherever the oil business is followed, there you will find him every time.

There are a number of large manufacturing concerns located here. The National Transit Co. has large shops, and its offices are here too.

The National Tube Co. have a large plant for the manufacture of all kinds of iron pipe for the transportation of oil and gas.

The Oil Well Supply Co. have also a large place, and make all kinds of drilling tools and machinery. There are also numerous others, and several large refineries.

The only thing needed to make the list complete is a good, live stamp dealer.

(Among the young people (boys especially) there are many enthusiastic stamp collectors. The last few weeks several very fine collections of U. S. stamps have come to my notice. One of them contained most of the early issues, unused.

The envelopes were well represented, too, but had all been cut round. It seemed a shame to see so many of what would have been valuable stamps, spoiled in this way.

Another collection had a great many of the Confederate states and locals, and they were in good condition.

There were quite a number of the 2c 1899 envelopes (error) sold here. One firm used a good many, having some which had been imperfectly made, returned to them. When the party who sent them back found they were valuable, he tried to get them back, but it was too late.

It is well to keep posted in the stamp line so that we may be able to take advantage of good things when they come along.

At the time of writing there are 50c Columbian stamps selling at the general postoffice here, so anyone wishing to get any at face value will know where to send.



## OMAHA NOTES.

By F. W. ROTHERY.

The Postal Telegraph Co.'s new stamp frank for 1900 is dark blue in color.

In a sheet of Piso stamps just received, (the lower right hand stamp bears no imprint of the plate and is entirely blank.

Lewis Rolie's private proprietary stamp will be used on packages of breath perfume instead of packages of corn plasters, as originally intended.

W. C. Estes, the local dealer, showed the writer two curiosities: The 1c 1873 ribbed paper with pink moiree on back and a 2c 1879 on what I would call a hard soft paper.

C. O. Hughes, who has removed from Howe, Neb., to Omaha, is now giving all his time to his stamp business. Since coming here he has held the position of advertising agent for W. R. Bennett & Co. and Charles Shiverick & Co.

Answering the query of "the Idler" in Nebraska Philatelist: Warners, Lannan, Kemp and Johnson and Johnson Cancel their stamps, Fletcher and all others have their stamps uncanceled. As no one except the firm issuing them can use the stamps, it is not necessary to cancel them.

Following is a complete list to date of those firms issuing private proprietary stamps, who refuse to sell them: Hostetter Co., Lanman & Kemp, Warner's Safe Cure Co., Radway & Co., Chas. Marchand and Od Chem. Co. The Antikamnia Co. and William's Pink Pills Co. refer purchasers to a stamp dealer who has the exclusive sale of all their stamps.

## NOTES FROM CANADA.

By PIONEER.

Having accepted a very tempting offer from the publishers of this journal, I will strive to furnish the readers with original and interesting news of philatelic doings in Canada, and trust that my endeavors will be appreciated by the many readers of G. M. P.

Canadian reviews are receiving no little attention from many foreign collectors, and judging from the want lists on file in the dealers offices we think they are anxious to complete their lists before an advance in prices.

No less than two separate stamp societies are flourishing in the Canadian metropolis, while Toronto has but one. The hitherto progressive Hamilton Stamp Club is now defunct, and the Halifax club has been slumbering for at least two seasons.

As the majority of the collectors in America are aware that the ½ and 6c Jubilee stamps used when canceled to order? I have seen many sheets broken into blocks of 10 and cancelled to order, and in many instances sold as used blocks in the same condition.

The 3, 6 and 15-cent stamps of Canada are now obsolete, consequently the price of these values will naturally advance especially with the 6c numerals. Many holders of this stamp in quantities are asking \$3.50 per hundred, and undoubtedly \$4 and \$4.50 per hundred will be the prevailing prices within a few months.

Montreal, Canada, is now laboring under the disadvantages of supporting no philatelic journals. (Something very often attempted by a certain other Canadian city), but the results were a sudden failure. We trust, however, that Montreal has enough philatelic blood to keep at least one up-to-date journal alive.

Canada's National Society, the D. P. A. will hold their fifth annual convention at St. Catharines, Ont., July 2d and 3d. A very large attendance is expected, as the City of St. Kitts is centrally located, and will undoubtedly be the mecca of stamp holders and philatelists from all parts of Ontario, including many from the surrounding states of the Union.

The Canadian public is eagerly waiting for the appearance of the 4 and 7c values of postage stamps. Many inquiries are heard for them at the stamp wicket, and large mail-order houses find it very convenient in preparing their registered mail. As a 7c value is greatly in demand we may expect its appearance within a few weeks.

The ½ and 6c Jubilee, (these values which so many speculated in during the year of 1897), can now be bought for 30 cents and 35 cents, respectively, while each was the price many holders paid for them during the speculative or boom times. Surely a prudent collector can learn a wise lesson from this, viz: Never be induced to pay the speculator's prices because you think the stamp will never be cheaper. Everything comes to those who wait.

## NOTES FROM GREECE.

By I. H. DUNBAR.

I started collecting about three years ago and find that Greece has a most interesting variety of stamps. In all I have about 700 varieties, and know of quite a few more. I am always making new discoveries, my latest being a 20 Lepta small perf.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ . This is the first time I have seen or heard of any of the ordinary stamps of Greece perforated less than 10. Of the unpaid stamps I know of only one perf. from  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to  $13\frac{1}{2}$ . I cannot explain the above variety; am making inquiries regularly regarding it.

I have heard on reliable authority that the reason the Cretan stamps are surcharged, is the difference of currency in circulation in the island, and the surcharge will be taken off when the Cretan government issue their own money.

Since this island has been freed from the Yoke of the Turk, there have been innumerable local stamps issued by the various foreign powers in possession of the different districts, but few of them will be of any value as they were issued by speculators.

On the first of March (this month, old style) there were issued in Crete a full set of stamps to be used for exterior postal work, having the following values: Drachma, 2 Anachna, 1 Drachma, 50 Leptas, 5 Leptas, 1 Lepton. Those stamps believe will only be used temporarily, until the proper issue is brought out. The temporary stamps are most beautifully done, each having a different subject illustrated upon it. The proper issues will all have the head of Prince George as centerpiece. These temporary stamps have already become very rare.

## NEW ISSUES.

This Department will hereafter be in charge of A. Lilly, Sabetha, Kansas, who will be much obliged for early news of new issues. Specimen stamps should be sent in order that illustrations may be prepared. Full credit given.

**AUSTRIA.**—The 6 and 10h denominations have been added.

Postal Cards, Regular Issue:

6 hellers, gray on blue.

10 hellers, rose on gray.

**BELGIUM.**—The 1 fr. of the current type has appeared in orange.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

1 fr. orange.

**BOSNIA.**—The new set has been issued and is chronicled in the various journals.

The values are as follows:

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

1 heller, black.

2 hellers, gray.

3 hellers, yellow.

5 hellers green,

6 hellers, chocolate.

10 hellers, red.

20 hellers, red.

25 hellers, blue.

30 hellers, light brown.

50 hellers, violet.

Envelope. Regular Issue:

10 hellers, red on white.

Postal Cards. Regular Issue.

5 hellers, green on buff.

5x5 hellers, green on buff.

10 hellers, red.

Letter Cards. Regular Issue:

6 hellers, chocolate.

10 hellers, red.

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—Six pictorial penny postal cards have appeared. The cards are buff and the stamps carmine.

**CHAMBA.**—We understand that the  $\frac{1}{2}$ a and 1a current envelopes surcharged "Chamba Stete" and some are announced with the word "Service," which is the first official envelope for the native states. There is also an official postal card made by surcharging the name of the above state on the regular Indian service card.

Envelopes. Provisional Issue:

$\frac{1}{4}$  anna, green, black surcharge.

1 anna, brown, black surcharge.

Postal Card. Provisional Issue:

$\frac{1}{4}$  anna, ultramarine, black surcharge.

**CONGO FREE STATE.**—The colors of the following stamps have been changed in compliance with Postal Union agreement, which applies to the frame only; the center being in black as before.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

5 centimes, green and black.

10 centimes, carmine and black.

25 centimes, blue and black.

**Corea.**—A few of the lower values of the new issue have appeared.

**CRETE.**—Mr. J. H. Dunbar, writes: "I have received from Crete a full set of the new issues, of which the following is a fair description:

1 Lepton, chocolate brown, illustrated old Cretan coin.

5 Leptas, emerald green, illustrated old Cretan Coin.

10 Leptas, carmine, illustrated head of Prince George.

20 Leptas, rose, illustrated old Cretan coin, same as 5 Leptas.

25 Leptas, blue, illustrated head of Prince George, same as 10 Leptas.

50 Leptas, lilac, illustrated old Cretan coin, same as 1 Lepton.

1 Drachma, deep lilac, illustrated old Cretan coin.

2 Drachma, brown, illustrated full length figure of Jupiter.

5 Drachma, green and black, illustrated St. George and Dragon in Medallion.

The last of those stamps, from 25 Lepta to 5 Drachma, are surcharged in both red and black (provisional) in Greek characters.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.**—Four of the higher values of the Columbus commemorative issue are announced by Ewen's Weekly, which are supposed to be speculative, pure and simple. They are:

Adhesive. Commemorative Issue:

20 centesos, dark brown.

20 centesos, yellow green.

1 pero, black on blue paper.

2 peros, yellow-brown.

**FRANCE.**—Mekeel's Weekly chronicles a new stamp of France. It is a new value, 2 francs, and is said to be printed in brown and blue.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

2 francs, brown and blue.

**GERMANY.**—According to a contemporary, a new German 5pf. postal card, which resembles the commemorative issue, except that sun, clouds and inscription "1900" have been removed from the upper left corner. Also a 2pf. card comes as the 2pf. adhesive.

Postal Card. Regular Issue:

2 pfenning, slate on greenish blue.

5 pfenning, green on buff.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**—The new half-penny stamp made its appearance on Tuesday, April 17. They are printed from the same plates as the old red stamp. We have received the first specimen from the editor of Ewen's Weekly Stamp News. The color is dark, bluish-green, quite distinct from the current shilling stamp.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

$\frac{1}{2}$  penny, green.

**HONG KONG.**—A new stamp has been issued in the shape of a newspaper wrapper, the stamp being of the current type.

Wrapper. Regular Issue:

2 cents, green on buff.

**INDIA.**—The 6 annas value of the "India Postage" series has appeared. This stamp was prepared several years ago, but has not been placed on sale on account of the large stock on hand of the old type.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

6 annas, lustre.

**JHIND.** The new 3 pies stamp is reported with the surcharge "Jhind State" in two lines.

Adhesive. Provisional Issue:

3 pies, carmine, black surcharge.

**MARTINIQUE.**—The current 1c stamp is said to exist with the name in blue instead of red.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

1 centime, black, name in blue.

**MOROCCO.**—A new set of locals has been issued for the service between Mazagan and Marakech. They are printed in two colors with appropriate designs.

Adhesive. Local Issue:

5 centimos, red and black.

10 centimos, blue and black.

20 centimos, lilac and black.

25 centimos, yellow and black.

50 centimos, violet and black.

75 centimos, pale green and black.

1 peseta, carmine and violet.

**NABHA.**—The little 3p stamp of India has been surcharged "Nabha State."

Adhesive. Provisional Issue.

3 pies, carmine, black surcharge.

**NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.**—The 1 shilling stamp has recently appeared on paper watermarked Crown and C. A.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

1 shilling, black.

**PATILIA.**—This state is the first to surcharge the new Indian postal card.

Postal Card. Provisional Issue:

$\frac{1}{4}$  anna, red-brown.

**PANAMA.**—The various surcharged registration stamps have been superseded by what is intended to be a permanent issue.

Registration Stamp. Regular Issue:

10 centaros, black on light blue.

**SEYCHELLES.**—Several values have been issued for this colony, as follows:

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

6 cents, carmine.

25 cents, yellow and purple.

1 roupee, gray and rose.

2 ruppees, mouse and green.

**SOMALI COAST.**—The 4c surcharged 40c has been replaced by a permanent issue of that value in the regular type.

Adhesive. Regular Issue:

40 centimes, yellow and blue.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**—We are able to list the following surcharges. The surcharge consists of "Federal Malay States" in heavy black type with a bar across the old name.

Adhesive. Provisional Issue, on Negri Sembilan:

1 cent, lilac and green.

2 cents, lilac and brown.

3 cents, lilac and carmine.

5 cents, lilac and ochre.

10 cents, lilac and orange.

20 cents, green and olive.

25 cents, green and carmine.

50 cents, green and black.

On Preak:

\$1, green and yellow-green.

\$2, green and carmine.

\$5, green and ultramarine.

green and ochre.  
 TASMANIA.—Mekeel's Weekly chron-  
 three new values of the new pictor-  
 also a 2d letter card. The views

Lake Marion; 5d, Mount Gould and  
 St. Clair; 6d, Dilston Falls. The  
 card has a view on back, being one  
 six different views.

ives. Regular Issue:

penny, green.

pence, blue.

pence, carmine.

er Card. Regular Issue:

pence, violet on blue.

ATHY.—The French 5c stamp in  
 low-green has been surcharged  
 "aby" in red in place of the old green  
 up.

esive. Provisional Issue:

centimes, yellow-green, name in red.

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 100 varieties each from my stock of dupli-  
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British Guana, 1899, 2 on 10c, red and black	08	06
New Foundland, 3c Cabot	08	05
Peru, 1898 1c bistre (Franqueo)	10	08
Roumania, 1893, 1 and 2L	15	09
Switzerland, 1885, 5, 10, and 15r	13	08
Switzerland, 1882-90, 12 var. 2c to 1fr.	17	07

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1 1/2c Fletcher	"
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1 1/2c "	"
3 1/2c "	"
4 1/2c "	"
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3 1/2c Warners	"
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