

The Philatelist.

A JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. 1,

WATERVILLE, WASH., MARCH, 1896.

NO. 1.

OUR DEPARTMENTALS.

BY GORDON C. CORBALEY.

Few of the postal emissions of any country are as popular or as much sought after, as the stamps issued for the use of the various executive departments of our government. Their almost phenomenal advance in value during the past twenty years has greatly contributed to the enhancement of their popularity.

Many countries have issued stamps for the franking of the government correspondence. Most of these have been prepared by simply overprinting "Official," "Service," "O. S.," or some other surcharge, having a like meaning, upon the current postage stamps. In other lands, a frank of some sort is used upon official matter. This latter was the manner in which government mail was carried in this country previous to the introduction of official stamps in 1873. Our frank consisted of simply the initials of the sender written in one corner.

In the latter years of its use, this franking privilege was greatly abused, all kinds of matter, official or private, being sent under cover of a frank. Government officers went so far as to furnish franks to their friends. The abuse of this power was one of the reasons for issuing the department stamps.

Each year the head of the post-office department is required to prepare a

benefit that the government derived from the carrying of its correspondence, would be a good plan. This was well thought of, but the vast amount of statistical work necessary for its successful operation was urged as an objection. The project of issuing official stamps soon disposed of this difficulty. Dies were prepared and the stamps were printed and issued to the various departments. As an accurate record of all sent out was kept, little further work was required at the end of the fiscal year.

Adhesive stamps were prepared for each department, with envelope for the War and Post-office branches. These latter were re-engraved giving us the so-called Reay and Plimpton dies.

Enormous numbers of the stamps were used, and it was found that the government derived great benefit from its postal service. Then the small report of the earnings and expenditures of that branch of the government. Almost invariably this statement shows that the mail service has been a source of loss. This is generally regarded as unimportant, the post-office not being intended to be a revenue producer.

In 1872 as usual, the balance was on the wrong side of the account. The expenditures of that year being \$26,658, 192 against a revenue of \$21,915,426. This time considerable attention was given by the nation's statesmen to the subject. The post-office officials were of the opinion, that to ascertain the

pual deficiency no longer seemed a burden.

The penalty-envelopes were issued in 1877 but the use of the department stamps continued until declared invalid for postage in 1882. The latter five years of this period, the penalty envelopes were pretty generally used.

The designs of the stamps, except of the post-office department, were the same as of the then current 1870 issue with the addition of the name of the department above. To the State department set four higher values were added. The design of the being a head of William H. Seward, late Secretary of State under Lincoln, in the center printed in black surrounded by a neat border in green.

(to be continued)

The Semi-Scientific Article,

"The demand for manuscript on strictly scientific subjects has made a wonderful increase in the last few months that writers of odds and ends have undertaken the production of such grade of manuscript. This is to be regretted, and it tends to not only draw these mediocre pen pushers above their proper level, but also to lower the standard of the scientific article. Let those who really understand such subjects pen the scientific paper; and those who merely base their matter upon catalogues and periodicals should get out of the rut"

Thus wrote W. Lionel Moise, of "Impresario by the Way" fame, in the January number of the Michigan Philatelist. Mr. Moise has a happy faculty of having something interesting to write about, and writing about it in an interesting manner. In the above, however, I think it does an injustice to a class of writers who are endeavoring to contribute their share

toward the advancement of Philately, small and poor as it may be.

I judge from assertion that he would divide philatelic articles into to distinct classes, the scientific and the "odds and ends," or light articles.

The light article has its place in our literature. Many people's notes, Mr. Moise for instance, are very interesting reading, and also instructive. I believe in the publication of good notes, but the other forms of light reading which appear in our journals are too frequently entirely alien to Philately. What has the so-called philatelic story to do with our hobby, or a poem? Therefore; if the reader wants to get something instructive longer than note, he must needs turn to the scientific article. Mr. Moise would have us take only the deepest of the deep, scientific articles for the scientist only. Give the young collector, or even some older ones, one of these deeply scientific essays and I fear you give him in many cases an instantaneous cure for insomnia. Not that I do not appreciate the work of the scientific lights, but their writers are not the ones to place in hands of the beginner, or even those of many who have collected for some time.

What then shall we do to instruct our new devotees without tiring them out? Give them what I have termed the scientific article, which shall instruct and entertain at the same time. A prominent Eastern collector said to me a few months ago, "What we need in our papers are articles which are instructive, written in a pleasing manner." It is this want which some writers have tried to fill and branched off from the light and airy to something more serious.

And what should an article contain? "the Stamps of Hiliogoland" might include a list of postal issues of that

erst-while English possession, also one of the reprints and a statement of their status, then a short sketch might be given of the history of the Island, how it came under British control and how it finally was turned over to the country to whom it should rightfully belong from geographical location, and on account of the geography of the rocky islet would make an entertaining finish to the essay.

It is, of course assumed that the collector desires to know as much as possible about the country issuing stamps he gathers. Philately should, in my opinion, not be limited to the collecting of postage stamps, but should serve as a guide to the historical reach. If we adopt this view, we can make our hobby doubly entertaining and interesting us.

Still our dry as dust student will say "Non-scientific and foreign to Philately," and in reply I can only say that the article was not intended for him, but for the novice and the average collector, who does not delight in long statistical tables and lists of minute varieties.

This is one opinion in regard to our movement scientificward. It may be correct, and if so, I am quite ready to acknowledge myself in the wrong. It is merely given to the readers of the philatelist as the ideas of the one who earnestly wishes for the general advancement of the greatest of hobbies, philately.

VERITAS.

LITTLE FACTS.

Letter boxes were first used in this country in 1860.

The stamps of Finland cannot be used for foreign correspondence.

Wine costs the post-office department

about \$90,000 every year.

Costa Rica issues a 1000 peso revenue stamp. It is not used for postage.

Victoria issues postage stamps of higher values than any other country.

A set of ten stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver island sold for \$5 in Paris in 1891.

6,390,083 of the old issues of Peru were surcharged with the bust of Morales Bermudez.

Turkish newspaper stamps are placed on the paper before printing, which constitutes the cancellation.

O. S. stamps of South Australia with double surcharge are nice things to possess, as they are seldom seen.

The proper name of the country we call Montenegro is Czernogora (black mountain), of which Montenegro is an Italian translation.

The 1891 official stamps of Luxembourg differ from the other official stamps of that country as they were reserved for the use of the royal family.

Of the type set, provisionals of Madagascar 1891 there were issued the following of each value: five cent, 18,000; 10 cent, 12,000; 15 cent, 12,000; 25 cent, 2,000; 1 franc, 2,000; and 5 franc, 10,000. At the prevailing prices these stamps should be a good investment.

The governor of Cuba by a degree dated Sept. 20, 1891, authorized the use of the ten cent stamps, cut in halves diagonally as five cent stamps, for inland postage. This was done because the supply of five cent stamps had run out. Why are not these catalogued?

The Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

Philatelist Publishing Company,
Waterville, Wash., U. S. A.

Entered in the post-office at Water-
ville, Wash., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates.

United States, Canada, and Mexico 15c
All other countries, per annum 25c

Advertising Rates.

	1 mo	3 mos	6 mos	1 yr
1 in	50	1 25	2 25	4 00
2 ins	85	2 25	4 00	7 50
1 col	1 50	4 00	7 50	12 50
1 col	2 75	7 50	12 50	22 50
1 page	5 00	12 50	22 50	40 00

Unless first-class references are fur-
nished, cash must be sent with copy.
All bills payable upon receipt of marked
copy.

We will exchange two or more copies
with any philatelic publication.

All copy must be in by the 15th inst.
while all changes in standing adds
must be made by the 8th.

All amounts of one dollar or under
may be sent in unused one or two cent
stamps. Over that sum, a money order
is preferable.

Address all communications to, The
Philatelist, Waterville, Wash.

GORDON C. CORBALEY, Editor.
E. M. DALLAM, JR., Manager.

Waterville, Wash., March, 1896.

owed the right to defend himself, yet
we find the great organization repre-
senting our science on this continent
denying this right to a gentleman of
such untarnished fame as Mr. Carion.
However, if the association itself were
to be consulted, the clique opposed to
the well known San Francisco dealer
would find themselves overwhelmingly
defeated.

The P. S. of A. is now incorporated
and the stock ready for distribution to
members. We believe this to be a
wise step and one that will greatly
benefit this enterprising society. This
will cause the dead timber to drop out
and although it will result in a tempo-
rary decrease in numbers, the associa-
tion will be placed on a more solid
foundation than ever before. Why
not incorporate the L. A. P.?

A popular way to denounce a brother
philatelist is to call him a boy. Thus
the editor of the "International"
taunts the well known writer "Veri-
tas." If a boy could write such good
articles as that gentleman, or attain
any high station in the world of phil-
ately, he should be encouraged not
sneered at. Youth is no disgrace.

Several of our writers are making
great efforts to introduce humor into
their works. We would rather read a
treatise on U. S. plate numbers than
one of these ghastly efforts. But some
authors are very successful in this field.
To these we would say, keep on for
your productions are the better for it.
Humor, that is true humor, gives spice

The expulsion of Georges Carion from
the American Philatelic Association is
a blot on the fair name of that society.
The meanest and lowest criminal is al-

and often makes an otherwise worthless article pleasant reading.

All collectors resident in Oregon and Washington should join the Intersate Philatelic Association. The costs are nominal, the dues being but 25 cents, and much more than this small sum may be derived from membership, if one but be an active member. Application blanks may be obtained of the Secretary, Gordon C. Corbaley, Waterville, Wash.

Fashion plays a great part in the philatelic world. This is especially evidenced by the upward tendency of the value of some U. S. and British Colonies. These stamps are in fashion and the consequent demand is forcing the price up. The envelope stamps of this country, although not popular at present, will some day be in demand and prices will go booming. It is true that the valuation of these interesting stamps is constantly increasing but that is due to the advance of the adhesives. Once, philatelists stop in the mad rush for departments et al, the envelopes will spring into prominence and the philatelic thousands will wail at lost opportunities.

Politicians are already arranging committees for the campaign of 1896. Notices of candidacy are already appearing. Brothers of the pen, give us a rest. Leave politics alone until next summer, when you can boom your favorite to your hearts content.

Many publishers of the American Philatelic Press Association have been

published. But this society continues its work of good, so all venomous shafts aimed at it must fall back harmless. This little band of philatelic pen-pushers ought to and no doubt will do great good. Don't discourage a good thing because you were not the originator.

The article on departmentals, which begins in this number, will contain much that is of interest to philatelists. One paper will be devoted to telling the manner in which the stamps were used, and another to the comparison of the catalogue values of 1878, 1888 and 1896.

The evils of the proxy system are now being generally acknowledged. It offers the greatest opportunity for fraud and under its cover all kinds of political intrigue are possible. Trickery in the politics of our societies is something that should be crushed as a viper wherever found. To have a large number of members represented at the convention is advantageous. But when a few can contort the will of the majority so as to conform with their wishes, it is time to call a halt.

Officers can be elected by mail vote as well as through an agent and the same is true of constitutional amendment. These latter must nearly always be voted upon.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE
FOR LITTLE.

The Stamps of Corrientes.

Corrientes was the first Province to issue stamps in the Argentine Confederation; in the early part of 1856 the first emission took place. They were engraved on wood by order of the Governor, Justo J. Urquiza, but from the want of skill on the part of workmen there are no two out of the eight blocks prepared that are exactly alike. They are, as most of my readers know, nothing but a very poor copy of the stamps of the French Republic. They are printed on blue paper of a very peculiar texture; it is of native manufacture. The value was one real, which was intended to carry a letter to any place within the Confederation. In 1860, for some unknown reason, the postage was raised to three reals, and to save having new dies cut, they simply ran a pen mark over the old value. In 1861 the postage was lowered to 5 centavos, on which the authorities cut out the portion of the die that contained the value, and printed them with a blank space, instead of the denomination; but they were still impressed on the paper. In 1863 the postage was further reduced to 3 centavos, and the stamps were still printed from the same dies, but this time on yellowish-green paper. They have since been refined. In 1864 they were discontinued, and the stamps of the Argentine Republic, used in their place.—Empire State Philatelist.

NOTE—It will be noticed that no reference is made in the above to the two cent, on rose paper, 1875, and on mauve paper 1880. These were of the regular design with the value removed as in the three and five centavos.—Ed.
1407.

\$25 worth of Stamps For \$1.10.

Our "999 Mixture" for dealers and collectors contains 200 to 400 varieties to the thousand and catalogue at not less than \$25.00. Contains stamps from North and South America, Europe, Asia, etc., etc. Stamps catalogue by Scott at from 1c to 60 each. 1000 for 1.10, 6000 for \$5.50, prepaid, 100,000 for \$75.00 time.

Our "LULU" packet contains 100 varieties of used and unused U. S. stamps, issues of 1847 to date. Many 15c, 30c and 90c various. Contains 5 cut postals or locals and not more than 5 cut envelopes. Price \$6.00, ten packets for \$11.00. Only a few in stock.

U. S. Document Revenues, 1c to \$2.50, at 1/2c each. Do you want some? Have you heard that we are selling 1847-54 and various 30c and 90c stamps at 6c each? Well we are.

25,000 finely mixed North and South American, European, Asian, 150 to 200 varieties. \$13.00 by express.

Stamps sold for cash or on time.

Will exchange stamps for a small I. printing press and outfit or will give cash if cheap.

200 varieties of stamps from all around guaranteed to catalogue at not less than \$5.00, price, \$1.02, a complete set of U. S. in every other packet.

Big lists just out.

Bay State Stamp Co.,
Box 136, Hubbardston, Mass.

The Philatelist.

A JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. I,

WATERVILLE, WASH., APRIL, 1896.

NO. 2.

OUR DEPARTMENTALS.

BY GORDON C. CORBALEY.

The various departmentals were with one exception used upon official matter. How they were employed however is a matter upon which the American philatelic public displays a surprising ignorance. That they were to frank official mail is almost the sum of their information. And even that is hardly correct as the Executive stamps were for the private use of the President. The small number issued of this set is explained by their private use. No value above 10 cents was issued because of the little occasion for bulky pamphlets or documents being sent from the Executive mansion.

The most important and most desired of these official stamps were those issued for the most important of the various branches, the State department. As most of the correspondence of this department was with foreign emissaries and the rates being higher than the domestic, several higher values were issued. The lower values were much used upon simple letters but frequently bulky packages were despatched and one of the dollar stamps were required. Often, it was found more convenient to send these large bundles by express. When thus sent the stamps were placed upon it as though it were to be sent by mail. Probably most of the dollar stamps were thus used, rather as vouchers

than stamps.

The stamps of the Interior department were used as in contrast with the States, almost entirely in domestic correspondence. Because of the large business carried on between the Indian agencies and land offices, and the head office at Washington, these stamps are not very rare. They may frequently be found in old army posts. Frequently large packages of blanks were sent out thus requiring large postage. It would seem that dollar stamps would have had a large use.

The Justice stamps were not only used by the department of that name but were employed by the courts. The conveyance of jury summons being part of their work. As also notices of suit.

The Agricultural department being designed to look after the interests of the denizens of rural districts, no 90 cent stamp was needed. The seeds sent out being in most cases so light that high postage was not required. Many books are annually published by the government on agricultural and kindred topics. This department is intrusted with their distribution. This being another use for the officials. Why are the stamps of this department so seldom seen? Considering that most of their use was direct to the people, it would seem that the opposite would be the case.

The Navy and War department stamps were employed between the respective departments and their

minions in various parts of the world. A large part of the former going abroad. The War envelopes were used in various ways, the conveyance of the reports of "Old Probabilities" being the principal one.

The most used of all the departmentals were the Post-office stamps. Then as now an enormous amount of correspondence was carried on between the various offices and Washington. Also the mail of the Dead Letter office largely required these stamps,

(to be continued)

Successful Advertising.

Because of the large mail business, a dealer in stamp supplies must need depend for success upon advertising. Customers can only be secured by this means. To bring in large returns an advertisement must be well written, well displayed and well circulated.

Many dealers place their dependence upon spasmodic spurts. They advertise in this journal one month and in that the next. While in summer they solicit patronage not at all. No wonder these gentlemen regard the stamp business as a failure in such a course, to be otherwise would be an impossibility. Place your announcement in a good journal and keep it there the whole year round. Perseverance brings success. Although continual advertising is to be recommended, don't use the same ad. year in and year out. A collector will read the advertisement the first time seen but when he sees the same repeated time and again, he passes it by as something already perused. Take for instance the advertisements of the Standard Stamp Co., which with their eternal sameness are published in so many journals. They are well written and well displayed but enough is

enough of any good thing.

Perhaps the most important matter connected with successful advertising is the choice of a medium. In most cases the journals with the largest paid up subscription list are the favorites. Perhaps this is truly good policy as those who subscribe are in most cases the buyers. But this fact is so generally recognized that the columns of the truly valuable mediums are veritable bill boards. In such magazines an announcement of an inch will attract little attention.

In most cases I find that the journal with but three or four pages of advertising, if well circulated, will give better returns for the money expended.

In many instances a new journal will be found valuable although its subscription list be slight. The publishers are anxious to boom their subscription list and to do this circulate each month large numbers of sample copies. If this ambition is of the right kind a different list of names will be used each month and thus in the course of a year your advertisement will be read by thousands of active collectors. A journal having a circulation of 1500 copies of which 1200 are samples, should be as valuable as the magazine boasting 2000 with 500 samples as the rates in most cases more than equalize the difference of number circulated.

Choose with wisdom the papers that shall have your patronage. If some particular field is to be covered, utilize the magazine published nearest that region.

A position next to reading matter is to be desired and from many publishers this can be secured without additional charge.

Don't patronize a dealers directory. It is as good as money thrown away. Few collectors read this driest part of the journal and fewer yet answer.

The size of an advertisement is best governed by the pocket books. But a page of display seldom if ever pays for itself. I firmly believe that one-half column is the best paying size of an advertisement. This of course is beyond the reach of many dealers because of the cost. An inch ad will prove remunerative if not too crowded.

Don't attempt to crowd an autobiography, an entire catalogue, and several volumes of other statistics into an inch. It looks too crowded. Seldom will a collector carefully read a small ad in small type. Plenty of space between the lines is an attraction little recognized by our dealers. Small type must often be used by the printer in order that the copy can be crowded into the required space.

If you are announcing a few of the sets for sale by you don't put them solid. Have the description at one side with the price at the other. Connected by leaders a neat appearance is made. Mix a little white with your black.

Don't leave the entire matter of display to the printer. Already he has more than he can creditably do. This causes the advertising columns of our journals to present continually the same appearance. If you embody but one good idea in the copy, a printer will improve it until a paying advertisement can be formed.

If possible provide for a border around your advertisement. The way in which a neat border improves can not be realized until tried. It makes your advertisement stand out from the page and is bound to attract profitable attention.

Be sure and give some of your prices. Don't vaguely call yourself the cheapest dealer unless you prove by quotations your right to be considered cheap.

Make your announcements with regard to circulation. If you advertise in a journal for advanced collectors, don't gravely tell of the 100 beautiful stamps for 10 cents, you have for sale. That genus does not care for continentals.

In advertising in such juvenile publications as the "Youths Companion" don't ask excessive prices for your cheap stamps trusting to the ignorance of the purchaser to carry you through. If a boy judges from your description that 100 good stamps are sent for 25 cents, and expects to receive something superior to the ordinary packet he is disgusted with philately and philatelists, when your common selection is received. Remember that the boy of to-day will be the man of to-morrow. Those who have but a passing interest in our science, may be induced to follow our pleasant way for long years if fair treatment be but given them. It is your duty and my duty to secure all of the recruits possible.

Don't use catch words to head your advertisements. If you wish to call attention to the packets offered by you, make the heading word connected with packets and not some absurd unconnected phrase such as "A Brattleboro."

Above all things give nothing but facts in your advertisements. Don't offer the world and a complete collection for a dime. Common sense will show your reader the character of the offer. Don't advertise stamps for sale that you have not in stock. A person once compelled to wait for the filling of an order will never patronize you again.

Advertising has greatly progressed in the past few years but much improvement is still possible. Perfection can not be expected, when an advertisement is written by a person unfamiliar with such work. When the philatelic advertising agent become assured fast, we will find some work of art among the now dreary advertisements.

The Philatelist.

PUBLISHED - MONTHLY

BY THE

Philatelist Publishing Company,
Waterville, Wash., U. S. A.

Entered in the post-office at Water-
ville, Wash., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates.

United States, Canada, and Mexico 15c
All other countries, per annum 25c

Advertising Rates.

	1 mo	3 mos	6 mos	1 yr
1 in	50	1 25	2 25	4 00
2 ins	85	2 25	4 00	7 50
½ col	1 50	4 00	7 50	12 50
1 col	2 75	7 50	12 50	22 50
1 page	5 00	12 50	22 50	40 00

Unless first-class references are fur-
nished, cash must be sent with copy.
All bills payable upon receipt of marked
copy.

We will exchange two or more copies
with any philatelic publication.

All copy must be in by the 15th inst.
while all changes in standing ads
must be made by the 8th.

All amounts of one dollar or under
may be sent in unused one or two cent
stamps. Over that sum, a money order
is preferable.

Address all communications to, The
Philatelist, Waterville, Wash,

GORDON C. CORBALEY, - Editor.
F. M. DALLAM, JR., - Manager

Waterville, Wash., April, 1896.

The cause of anti-seebeckism seems
to be prospering. Now that Ecuador
and Honduras have canceled the con-

tract with the Hamilton Banknote
Company, the death of this system may
be prophesied. We believe that this
result is more due to the petition of the
National Philatelic Society than to the
48 or our verbose philatelic writers,
who have found these issues such a
perennial new theme. At any rate the
end is near and we may rejoice at its
approach.

Few of the American philatelic jour-
nals hold a higher position than the
"Philatelic Californian." Scientific
without being dry, it is always inter-
esting. We believe that a great part
of this excellence is due to the student
philatelists of San Francisco, who
deserve a high place among our sci-
entists. They not only find knowl-
edge but they reveal it to the world in
order that others may profit by their
good work. Would that we had more
journals like the "Californian" and
more philatelists like Zobel and his
colleagues.

Now is the time to purchase the
three, four, five dollar Columbians at
the bottom seems to have dropped out
of their value. We lately had these
values unused offered to us at five per
cent above face.

We recently had the pleasure of see-
ing some exchange books of the Inter-
state Philatelic Association. There
were many desirable stamps and all
were reasonably priced. Ex-Sup
Bartels is a "hustler" and will make
success of his department.

Seattle will shortly organize

local society. That society has many enterprising philatelist and there is no reason why such an organization would not be successful.

One good term deserves another is applicable to the Portland trustees Their administration has been satisfactory to all. Something peculiar in philatelic politics but true nevertheless. The state of Washington may this year ask for its first favor from the P. S. of A., the convention of 1897.

Several of our contemporaries seem to regard Michigan as a western state. Since when has it been such? When we studied geography that state was east of the Mississippi. When was it moved and by whom?

We wish good MSS., especially short notes of general interest and will give advertising space or subscriptions for any we can use.

The beauty of the Columbians is greatly damaged by the effort of the designers to put too much in a small space. "Muttum in parvo" is all right in a philatelic article but it does not improve the appearance of a postage stamp.

We hate to see a complete catalogue, an autobiography, and several volumes of other statistics crowded into an inch advertisement. It may be interesting but it looks cramped.

S. B. Hopkins, the counterfeit detector of the P. S. of A., seems to be the right gentleman in the right place. He thoroughly understands his business and is making one of the best fraud kill-

ers that society has been able to secure. He has clearly earned a re-election and should receive it.

We wish to inform our subscribers that we continually keep a sufficient sum on hand to refund all subscriptions should we be compelled to suspend publication.

Why not incorporate the L. of A. P. That society is rapidly taking a place among the national philatelic organizations and as such should be placed on an equal footing. In most of our societies there has come a crucial period when two roads are open one for success, the other to destruction. Sometime all will not be harmony and the various members will war against each other. Either the society will survive the storm or go down. The Sons of Philatelia have achieved the former but they are an exception not the rule and as such should be regarded. If the League of American Philatelists will band its members more closely together by incorporation, the danger may be rendered slight. Young as it is that society has already had a somewhat stormy passage and more trouble may be anticipated if its crew do not sign for the voyage. Mutiny is a possibility and desertion a certainty. No good skipper puts to sea without his crew signed for the voyage and so it should be with this, the fourth of our great national associations. Incorporation means a steady loyal crew and that is what is required for success.



Can YOU afford
to be without it?

E. T. PARKER'S

Priced-list of Post-
age Stamps. Sent
free upon applica-
tion.

SPECIAL

To the first person sending 15 cents for a years subscription to the "Philatelist" in answer to this advertisement will receive free of charge a 50 cent orange,

To every person remitting 15 cents for a year's subscription will be given one copy of a good philatelic journal as a premium. All so given away will consist of not less eight pages and most will be before 1890. Address

The Philatelist.

WATERVILLE, WASH.

Several of our prominent collectors seem to regard plate number collecting as a rather harmless craze. That is also the way outsiders look at philatelists. We don't gather the strips ourself but if some of our brethern wish to do so, why attempt to stop them and cry foolishness because you do not agree with them.

We don't see why so many of our contemporaries sneer at Brother Martin and his "International Stamp." That gentleman has plenty of push and his journal is a credit to him. We always find it interesting reading and value it highly as an exchange.

That dreary "in haste" pun which has gone the rounds of our philatelic press is getting rather ancient. May we soon be able to say, peace be to its ashes.

Next month we will have an article on the introduction of postage stamps, containing many interesting facts. And also a history of the Ledger dispatch will be given. We are intending to change printers so the May number may be a little late but it will make up for it in neatness of appearance.

Several of our dealers report a falling off of the boy's trade and attribute it to a lack of cash. In our opinion this is caused by a lack of incentive for collecting. Because stamps and collecting are not continually before them, a lack of interest is noticeable. At any rate let the cause be what it may, this is alarming. If our boys abandon our hobby, where are the recruits of the

ture to come from? Who will our successors be should this continue? Dealers are all of the opinion that something must be done, and that immediately, to revive the lagging interests of our youth in philately. But how this is to be done is the question. Our dealers remember the year 1891 as one of the busiest in the boy trade. At that time a prominent tobacco company was enclosing a foreign stamp in each package of its cigarettes and the interests of the boys were greatly aroused by making collections of these stamps. A revival of this system has been suggested as being the proper thing in this emergency. The giving of free stamps cannot but stimulate collecting. The idea of this being by the cigarette is distasteful to many and it would no doubt be better if some other agency could be chosen. Why not employ chewing gum? Let our principal societies petition some prominent gum manufacturing firm, say the Adams company, to give a foreign stamp free with every package of gum. Many dealers would be willing to donate thousands of stamps to this or any other firm if such a method would be adopted. Can't we try the petition at any rate?

The Shah of Persia is said to be a stamp collector.

Copies of the 50c yellow and 100c orange Mexico 1882 issue are seldom seen and are worth their full catalogue value.

\$25 worth of Stamps For \$1.10.

Our "999 Mixture" for dealers and collectors contains 200 to 400 varieties to the thousand and catalogue at not less than \$25.00. Contains stamps from North and South America, Europe—Asia, etc, etc. Stamps catalogue by Scott at from 1c to 60 each. 1000 for 1.10, 6000 for \$5.50, prepaid, 100,000 for \$75.00 time.

Our "LULU" packet contains 100 varieties of used and unused U. S. stamps, issues of 1847 to date. Many 15c, 30c and 90c various. Contains no cut postals or locals and not more than 5 cut envelopes. Price \$6.00, two packets for \$11.00. Only a few in stock.

U. S. Document Revenues, 1c to \$2.50, at ½c each. Do you want some? Have you heard that we are selling 1847-54 and various 30c and 90c stamps at 6c each? Well we are.

25,000 finely mixed North and South American, European, Asian, 150 to 180 varieties. \$13.00 by express.

Stamps sold for cash or on time.

Will exchange stamps for a small S. I. printing press and outfit or will give cash if cheap.

200 varieties of stamps from all around guaranteed to catalogue at not less than \$5.00, price, \$1.02, a complete set of U. S. in every other packet.

Big lists just out.

Bay State Stamp Co.,
Box 136, Hubbardston, Mass.

Expert Knowledge.

The scientific American journals devoted to our science are filled with copied articles, mostly taken from German, French, and English journals. Seldom do they contain penning of the advanced collectors of this continent. To give the readers of these otherwise excellent journals, the cream of the discoveries and knowledge of our European brethren, is commendable. But can't we have a scientific school of writers on this side of the Atlantic.

America can proudly boast of her philatelic experts, Tiffany, Calman, Scott, Collins, Hunter, and other well known gentlemen can take a high rank for their knowledge. But of others there are legion, unknown except to their intimate friends, they refuse to impart to their brother philatelists, the results of their research. Some plead as excuse for their negligence, that they can not write. They well know how fallacious is this plea for philatelic editors will accept facts, and pay for them, clothed in any manner however grotesque.

Knowledge unrevealed to the public is even worse than no information. Better not discover nor search at all, if you do so for your own good and not for the help it may give others.

Affairs move with a swift dash in America, which is unknown in staid England. The majority of our collectors have not the time to study their stamps so must depend for information upon others.

The people of Montenegro are very ignorant and hold education in contempt. There are but three or four schools in the entire country. Consequently very few even among the priests, can read or write, so letter writing is a fine art and probably a vast number never saw or heard of a postage stamp.

FOR APRIL

The EVERGREEN STATE PHILATELIST for April will be an extra fine number. Among other attractions will be a cut of the ten officers of the Interstate Philatelic Association, including the three P. S. A. trustees. No sample copies of this issue will be circulated but a uniform price of ten cents per copy will be charged. Address, R. W. French, Hartland, Wash.

WM. v. d. WETTERN, Jr.

Wholesale Dealer in Postage Stamp

411 West Saratoga St., BALTIMORE, Md.

New list just issued sent free on application to dealers only. Rare stamps and collections bought for immediate cash.

PHILATELIST.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. 1.

WATERVILLE, WASH., MAY, 1896.

NO. 3.

The Introduction of Postage Stamps.

Several years ago there occurred a dispute as to who was the true inventor of the postage stamp. The debate waxed warm and many bitter things were said. For a time, a large part of the philatelic journals was occupied by long screeds on this subject. But after all no definite conclusion was reached and the question to day is as unsettled as then.

Probably the first record of anything resembling a stamp is found in a carving on a tomb of ancient Egypt. A messenger is represented delivering a letter and a seal is seen in the upper right hand corner. This may not have been used as a stamp but it may be seen in several of the carvings left to posterity by the Egyptians of antiquity.

The first stamps of which we have any record were issued in 1653. In that year King Louis XIV of France granted to M. de Velaye the right to sell stamped envelopes to be used in his private post then being operated in Paris. The envelopes were used in the same way as to day, but consisted of a sheet of blank paper which was to be sealed so as to have the stamp appear on the outside. The fee per letter was one sou and collec-

tion boxes were placed in various parts of the city. This method soon fell into disuse because of mismanagement and the post suspended.

But in 1658 it was revived by M. Chamouset. He issued stamps to be affixed to letters. A uniform rate of two sous per ounce was charged for letters. This post was very successful and in 1659 the government becoming jealous of its large business, seized it and having pensioned the former owner, began the operation of the post as a government affair. The post rapidly declined in public favor after this seizure and was soon discontinued and forgotten. Whether the government made use of Chamouset's stamps is uncertain but probably not.

During the reign of Charles II a government post was conducted in London. All that is definitely known of it is that such a post existed.

In 1683, Murray & Dockura ran a private post in London. A uniform rate of a penny an ounce was charged. Stamps may have been used but no record to that effect exists. Later, this was purchased and operated by the government post office department.

At some time in the seventeenth century a penny post was operated

between London and Bristol. Nothing is known definitely of it, not even whether official or private but more likely the latter.

Adhesive revenue stamps were early in use in Holland. The exact date is unknown.

In the latter part of the seventeenth century official stamps were used by the Spanish viceroy of Honduras. These were employed upon government documents, carried by couriers, to show their official nature. Sometimes they were impressed direct upon the dispatch but more often an adhesive was used.

Spain in 1716 issued stamps for the use of the Secretary of the Crown. These official stamps had the arms of Castile and Leon as a design. Although slightly used they were not abolished until 1800.

In 1765, when the offensive stamp act was levied upon the American colonies by the British parliament, stamps were issued for use upon the taxed documents. This law was so hated by the colonists that its repeal soon took place. Because of the odium with which it was regarded, very few of the stamps were used. And to-day almost none are in preservation.

A royal decree dated November 7, 1818 announced that stamped postal paper should be used to prepay postage in Sardinia. The stamp part of these envelopes had a post boy for design and was prepared under the immediate supervision of the director of the postal affairs. They were on

sale at all post office and could be procured from tobacco venders, who received a commission from their sale. The three values, 15, 25, and 50 centesimi, were all of the same design. This method of prepaying correspondence was not popular and little used and when on the 30th of March 1836, they were withdrawn from circulation the public made no protest.

These envelopes are not very rare and genuine specimens are in several collections. But as for those offered at a few cents per set, their very price condemns them.

Early in the present century, one Treffenberg of Stockholm proposed to the Swedish Assembly of Nobles that stamped paper be issued to prepay letters. His scheme was warmly seconded by the influential Count de Schwerin, who urged its adoption on the ground of convenience to the general public. But his plan was overwhelmingly defeated.

Chas. Whiting of London in 1830 prepared stamped wrappers, which he urged the post-office department to adopt for newspapers. Again in 1834 a letter was addressed to Lord Althorp, Chancellor of the Exchequer by Chas. Knight, urging that a wrapper similar to this be adopted.

Before the latter date, in 1831, the post master at Elizabeth, N. J. sold locally prepared stamped paper to the public in large quantities. This was receivable for postage.

In 1834 James Chalmers prepared the renowned essay in his printing office at Dundee, Scotland. They

were printed from ordinary type and the back was rendered adhesive with a wash of gum. He showed his stamps to his neighbors and probably proposed the adoption of his label by the post-office department. But before he made his invention generally public in November 1837, Sir Rowland Hill had on February 13, 1837 petitioned the government to adopt the adhesive stamp along with other postal reforms. His plan met with much violent opposition and would have met with defeat if a veritable flood of petitions had not poured in upon Parliament. This evidence of the state of the popular mind had the desired effect and a commission was appointed to investigate. Its deliberations resulted in Hill's favor and on May 6 1840, the Malready envelope, bearing an allegorical device of England attracting the commerce of the world, was placed on sale. It met with much success at first but soon declined in popular favor and the employment of an adhesive was thought desirable. A reward of five hundred pounds was offered for the best design presented for such a stamp. Thousands were sent in but the very simple one by Heath of London was finally adopted and remained in use for many years.

Before this, in 1838, the Sydney, New South Wales, post office had issued a stamped envelope. The design was the arms of England and Hanover, which were used by the English rulers of the Hanoverian dynasty. But on the accession of

Victoria in 1837 the arms were separated as she was a woman and could not ascend the throne of Hanover. Thus by a curious accident the arms of the dead king and not those of the live queen were used. This envelope was intended for official use but was not long in circulation.

After the adoption of Rowland Hill's plan in 1840, nation after nation adopted these useful labels in their postal service, until to-day few countries do not use the postage stamp. GORDON C. CORBALEY.

A years subscription to this paper and a copy of Jones' Checklist of Philatelic Literature for a 25 cent money order.

R. W. French would make an ideal president of the L. of A. P. An enterprising business man, his lead would be to success.

New papers are appearing or being announced every day. Some are very creditable ventures but how many will survive the first year?

Several of our contemporaries have chronicled a perforated grill in the gum of the present U. S. set. This is really caused by the sheet being unevenly laid when they are placed in the press to smooth them out after perforating. The heavy pressure causes the impression of the perforations to be made in the gum. This is therefore only another example of the careless work in the bureau not as a protection against counterfeiting.

THE PHILATELIST.

Entered in the post-office at Waterville, Wash., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates.

North America, per annum	15cts
Abroad, per annum	25cts

Advertising Rates.

	1 mo	3 mos	6 mos	1 yr
1 in	50	1 25	2 25	4 00
2 ins	85	2 25	4 00	7 50
$\frac{1}{2}$ col	1 50	4 00	7 50	12 50
1 col	2 75	7 50	12 50	22 50
1 page	5 00	12 50	22 50	40 00

Unless first-class references are furnished, cash must be sent with copy. All advertising contracts payable quarterly.

We will exchange two or more copies with any philatelic publication.

All copy must be in by the 8th inst. while all changes in standing ads must be made by the 1st.

All amounts of one dollar or under may be sent in unused one or two cent stamps. Over that sum, a money order is preferable.

Address all communications to, The Philatelist, Waterville, Wash.

GORDON C. CORBALEY, - Editor.
F. M. DALLAM, Jr., - Manager.

Waterville, Wash., May, 1896.

Quality is what our societies need more than quantity.

The \$10 and \$20 State were canceled to order with a pen.

If Ashcroft or Beamish should be elected who would be in control?

The plates for the Columbian stamps are said to have cost \$180,000 to be manufactured.

The watermark to be seen in some of the U. S. revenues is composed of the letters U S I R, one letter to each

stamp.

A years subscription to this paper and a copy of Jones' Checklist of Philatelic Literature for a 25 cent money order.

We wish to exchange with all philatelic publications. If this notice is marked, please take it as a request to see your paper regularly.

The bluish tint to be seen in the paper of some of the first stamps of Ceylon is thought to have been caused by the use of alum in sizing the paper.

This month we are able to greet our readers in much improved appearance. But we are on time as usual though we feared that we would be late.

Why was not the P. S. of A. incorporated under the laws of the state of Minnesota? Did cumulative voting have anything to do with the change to Pennsylvania?

The summer elections are coming as is evidenced by the frequent political eruptions in some journals. We would rather have philately than politics but we wont get it.

The P. S. of A. and A. P. A. should hold their 1897 conventions in San Francisco. Neither of these bodies have ever honored the Pacific Coast in this way although surely we have enough members to demand such recognition.

On November 4th 1892, because that value was out of stock or some less worthy reason, "5d" was surcharged in carmine upon a few of the 4d clarel, St. Vincent. This provis-

ional was on sale for only one hour, the entire issue being purchased by speculators.

Personally we would support some of the Kissinger candidates if it were not for the ukase requiring that we should do so. As it is the editor takes pleasure in allying himself with the party which will place the name of Oney K. Carstarphen as our executive officer for the next year.

During the summer months, the stamp business rarely if ever pays expenses. We recognize this and are willing to help dealers continue their announcements before the public by accepting stamps for advertising in our June, July or August numbers. The stamps to be selected by us from your sheets or price list.

The English locals sometimes seen, were prepared for private circular distributing firms, but the government decided this illegal and stopped the scheme before the stamps could be issued. Consequently they have about as much philatelic value as the Hamburg locals. The plates are now in the possession of a prominent London dealer, who reprinted them galore, and at one time offered the entire set of 56 varieties for 2 cents to the trade. They could be had either perforated or imperforate if desired.

We dislike to believe that Kissinger with the remembrance of the effect of bossism, so called, in the S. of P. still fresh in mind, would attempt to control the will of the P- S. of A. One man rule will not be tolerated in

our societies, no matter who that one almighty power may be. The American people dislike tyranny and will crush it and the power behind it at the first opportunity. The same has been proved true in the American philatelic societies as well as in the great national government. The P. S. of A. is a national society of much benefit to its members if properly ruled. But the Philatelic Sons of America with the cumulative ballot system is not for the benefit of the majority.

We have received the initial number of the *Columbian Philatelist* published by J. F. Dodge. In point of appearance there have been better ventures. But the opinions of the editor seem to be the same as ours on several matters. He makes a vigorous protest against the present method of securing new members for our societies. His plea against members guaranteeing the responsibility of a person unknown to them is certainly warranted by the circumstances. One of the primal objects of philatelic societies is to have membership a guarantee of reliability. This is our opinion, but several of our organizations seem to be more on the one-man-benefit plan. However, if frands can get into our societies under the present method, a change is necessary. This can best be made by requiring that one of the references, at least, shall be acquainted with the applicant.

THE CATALOGUE QUESTION.

The catalogue lately issued by the J. W. Scott company seems to meet with general commendation from the philatelic press. All seem to recognize the fact that a change must soon be made in our catalogues. The specialist and collector classes are getting farther apart as the cycles of time revolve and new varieties are discovered. The every day philatelist desires to gather but one specimen of each stamp without regard to minor differences. This class is rapidly increasing. And as their numbers grow they demand increased recognition. This demand has caused the issuance of the catalogue under discussion. So far all right but it is not so much a list as an album that is wanted. Collectors will go on trying to fill the vacant album spaces irrespective of the catalogue. But an album that follows this catalogue in plan is what is desired. The specialist is a powerful factor in philately but not the only power. Then why should the catalogue give his varieties and let the rest select theirs?

Our idea is to have two catalogues. One a specialist's going even deeper in varieties than the present "Standard" and the other modeled on the plan of the J. W. Scott work. Thus both classes could be satisfied.

Several editors have criticized the new venture because the prices are not correct, and recommend that such a book should be issued by the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., in order to have

true values given. Yet the chief fault generally found with the latter company's excellent work is the unreliability of its prices. Inconsistent criticisms like this do harm to excellent enterprises and do no good to anybody.

They do Say,

That Oney K. Carstarphen will be the next president of the P. S. of A.

* *

That the next vice president will hail from the state of Washington.

* *

That Jno. K. Tiffany will not be a candidate for president of the A. P. A.—why?

* *

That Every Paget will be a candidate for president of the P. S. of A.—Paget, Paget, who is he?

* *

That Chas. Beamish will make a good secretary for the P. S. of A.

* *

That A. J. Littlejohn wants the presidency of the L. of A. P.

* *

That the L. A. P. ought to be incorporated.

* *

That San Francisco would make an ideal convention city.

* *

That the PHILATELIST is prospering. Have you sent in your subscription.

SHROLLER.

Remarks on Canadians.

BY ERA.

The first issue is said to have been first offered to the public on April 5, 1851. Their issue was officially announced to the world by order number 4, dated April 1 1851.

The 1851 issue was prepared by Rawdon, Wright, Hatch and Edson of New York, the same firm that furnished the first issue for the United States.

The catalogue of the British Museum says the portrait on the ten pence 1855 is that of Sebastian Cabot the great British navigator but common tradition has always assigned it to Jacques Cartier the famous French explorer.

The Canadian envelopes surcharged "official" or "H. M. S." are due to private individuals notions and while used by parties actually in service required the correct amount of postage and were of no official source.

The \$5 Supreme Court stamp and the \$5 Insurance of Quebec are both to be mentioned when the gems of the provincial revenues are under discussion.

I recently met with a bill stamp on vertical laid paper and as several other values have been noted it is more than likely that nearly all the last series can thus be found.

The five cent green registry stamp is occasionally found imperforated but the "occasions" are so few and far between that the stamp is a rarity of the first water.

Several of the old magazines are far behind Father Time but are making determined efforts to regain the lost position. Success be with you.

This month we send a sample copy of our journal to all the Pacific Northwest collectors on our mailing list. We hope that they will see fit to help us improve the PHILATELIST by sending 15 cents for a year's subscription. If each one would do this we would double our size and in other ways make improvements.

FREE To any person not acquainted with the **EVERGREEN STATE PHILATELIST** that magazine will be sent on trial two months. Address the publication named (postal preferred) at Hartland, Wash.

Please mention the Philatelist in answering.

JUST TELL THEM THAT YOU SAW ME

And send for a free sample copy of their neat journal for stamp collectors to **The Philatelist**.

Waterville, Wash.

Philatelic publishers are requested to insert the above three times in their paper and send copy for the same space in the **Philatelist**.

WM. V. D. WETTERD, JR.,

Wholesale Dealer in Postage Stamps,

411 West Saratoga St.,

Baltimore, Md.

New list just issued sent free on application to dealers only. Rare stamps and collections bought for immediate cash.



Can YOU afford to be without it?

E. T. PARKER'S

Priced list of Postage Stamps. Sent free upon application.

RELICS!

War Sabres, Canteens and Confederate Bills used during the Civil War, Coins, Stamp, Indian relics and Curiosities for sale. **List for two stamps. will buy-sell-or exchange.**

R: D. Hay,

Winston, N. C.

No postals answered.

\$25 WORTH OF **\$1.10**
STAMPS FOR

OUR 999 MIXTURE

For dealers and collectors contains 200 to 400 varieties of the thousand and catalogue at not less than \$25.00. Contains stamps from North and South America, Europe, Asia, etc., etc. Stamps catalogue by Scott at from 1c to 60cts each. 100 for \$1.10, 6000 for \$5.50, prepaid, 100.00 for \$75.00 on time.

OUR LULU PACKET

Contains 100 varieties of used and unused U. S. stamp issues of 1847 to date. Several 1c, 30c, and 90c stamps. Contains no cancellations nor locals and not more than 100 envelopes. Price \$6.00, two packets for \$11.00. Only a few in stock.

U. S. Document revenues, 1c to \$2.50, at 1c each. Do you want some? Have you heard that we are selling 1847 and various 30c and 90c stamps 6c each? Well, we are.

25,000 finely mixed North and South American, European, Asian, 150 total varieties. \$13.00 by express.

Stamps sold for cash or on time.

Will exchange stamps for a small printing press and outfit or will give cash if cheap.

200 varieties of stamps from all around guaranteed to catalogue at less than \$5.00, price, \$1.02, a complete set of U. S. in every other packet.

Big lists just out.

Bay State Stamp Co.,

Box 136,

Hubbarastown, Mass.

Please mention the **Philatelist** in answering.

PHILATELIST.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. 1.

WATERVILLE, WASH., JUNE, 1896.

NO. 4.

RETROSPECTION.

As I write I have before me the February 1895 and 1896 numbers of the Evergreen State Philatelist and cannot refrain from remarking on the great advancement which this journal has made during the past year. The number for February 1896 consists of 28 pages exclusive of cover—a gain of 14 pages over the same number for last year.

The reading matter in this year's number occupies 18 pages while the same number for last year only contained 9 pages exclusive of advertising. Adding to this that the journal is better and more substantially bound, is printed on better paper with newer and cleaner type, and also that each month's issue shows an improvement over the preceding one—we have an example of the kind of progressive journalism which deserves commendation.

Thinking of the advance in Philatelic journalism naturally leads us to think of the great strides which Philately in general has been making during the past years. Looking at the present colossal dimensions of the Philatelic world our thoughts are carried backward through the successive periods of philatelic advancement until our knowledge of its history

is exhausted and standing on the borders of the unknown past we ask ourselves the question—what was beyond this?—what was the beginning of Philately?—who was the first stamp dealer?—and since it is obvious that before there were dealers there must have been collectors the question arises—who and what was the first collector?

To all of these questions we must return the unsatisfactory answer—we know not. It is self-evident that before there were stamp collectors there must have been stamps to collect but in all probability there were collectors of one kind or another so soon after the issuance of stamps that the appearance of both stamps and collectors may be said to be simultaneous.

What was the beginning of Philately? On this question we can do no more than theorise. Possibly someone, away back in the dark ages of stamp collecting, and that someone most probably a schoolboy, noticed the differences in stamps and became sufficiently interested in them to attempt the formation of the first collection. The rest is comparatively easy. We can imagine the boy taking his collection to school and showing it to his chums. Anyone who has

ever been a boy at school will know how the fever for collecting would spread in the school until every toddler in the infant class would have his "tamps."

Undoubtedly many, after the first burst of enthusiasm, would lose their interest in the hobby but there must inevitably have remained a few determinate ones whose pleasure in the pursuit grew with their collections. From this small beginning was gradually evolved and developed the science of Philately as we have it today—a pursuit of ever-increasing popularity and of unflinching interest. A hobby of which its devotees may well be proud after looking around and observing the immense amount of capital embarked in their recreation.

MAX.

COMMENTS.

The auction sale seems to be carried a little too far of late, and is causing a good many complaints among the dealers who do not hold them. Often philatelists vie with each other in trying to secure certain desirable stamps and bid much more for the stamps than they really can afford. This is a nuisance and should be stopped before it has run its course.

* *

The nomination of Mr. O. K. Carstarphen seems to be a good one, and is meeting success with the Philatelists through out the country. And it

is safe to say that his name will lead all the rest when the ballots are counted next August in Minneapolis.

* *

Plate number collecting appears to be a thing of the past, as many of the larger dealers have disposed of their entire stock, and many report that they have not sold any in weeks.

* *

We have just been informed that Editor Corbaley upon the earnest solicitation of his friends has accepted the nomination of Auction Manager of the P. S. of A. The choice is a good one, and he stands a good show of being elected.

* *

Well! Has the P. S. of A. been incorporated?

If so, where are our stock certificates.

We were informed in January that they were ready to be mailed—but were not forth coming.

In the March "Pennsy" Kissinger in one of his editorials said the president and secretary were signing them. Why don't the secretary mail them?

* *

Still another candidate. This time for Exchange Superintendent of the L. of A. P. Edgar F. Barth is the

man. He is sawing wood and means business.

* *

Don't miss this page next month something interesting for everybody, better send in your subscription at once.

COMMENTOR.

Political Notes.

Vote for the western ticket and help down one man rule.

Edgar F. Barth would make a good exchange superintendent for the L. of A. P.

R. W. French seems to be a popular candidate for President of the League.

The great Christian Endeavor convention will be held in San Francisco in August 1897. Thus low rates are assured if that city is chosen as the next philatelic meeting place.

Miss Maud Charlotte Bingham is a popular candidate for vice-president of the P. S. A.

The well known dealer H. D. Ruehlman is a candidate for exchange manager of the P. S. of A.

Gordon C. Corbaley is mentioned as one of the auction manager possibilities of the P. S. A.

S. B. Hopkins revived that almost dead department, the counterfeit detector, and made it one of the most servicable. He is an expert in that line. So far as I have been able to discover, his administration has been satisfactory to all. Let an excellent

officer continue rather than take chances on a new one.

There is going to be a severe contest over every office in the Philatelic Sons of America. PROGRESS.

They do Say,

That the "Penny" is a philatelic magazine despite all reports to the contrary.

That the Interstate Philatelic Association is prospering. Seventy-six members in six months.

That a vote in the P. S. of A. is only worth five cents.

That it isn't bribery to buy votes in that society.

That R. W. French is not a politician.

That the use of watermarked paper will soon be abandoned by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

That Seebecks are dying and not very slowly either.

That Chinese locals are not as popular as of yore.

That England ought to have a new set of stamps.

That the Ecuador jubilee stamps are receiving considerable free advertising from the philatelic papers.

That several magazines are far behind Father Time.

That the entire set of "dues" on watermarked paper is now out.

That now is the time to buy high value Columbians. TRUTH.

THE PHILATELIST.

Entered in the post-office at Water-ville, Wash., as second-class matter.

Subscription Rates.

North America, per annum	15cts
Abroad, per annum	25cts

Advertising Rates.

	1 mo	3 mos	6 mos	1yr
1 in	50	1 25	2 25	4 00
2 ins	85	2 25	4 00	7 50
1/2 col	1 50	4 00	7 50	12 50
1 col	2 75	7 50	12 50	22 50
1 page	5 00	12 50	22 50	40 00

Unless first-class references are furnished, cash must be sent with copy. All advertising contracts payable quarterly.

We will exchange two or more copies with any philatelic publication.

All copy must be in by the 8th inst. while all changes in standing adds must be made by the 1st.

All amounts of one dollar or under may be sent in unused one or two cent stamps. Over that sum, a money order is preferable.

Address all communications to, The Philatelist, Waterville, Wash.

GORDON C. CORBALEY, - Editor.
F. M. DALLAM, JR., - Manager.

Waterville, Wash., June, 1896.

The Pipestone Philatelist has gone to the great beyond.

The cumulative ballot system has no place in a philatelic society.

*Kissinger may be a much abused mortal but it don't look that way.

Our next issue will have a large circulation but the rates will not be increased.

The S. of P. is slowly but surely returning to its former position and prosperity.

The auction season is about over.

The 90 cent orange 1890 unused is not worth as much as the Scott catalogue would have it.

The Michigan Philatelist, New Series, is announced by J. C. Brassington of Hart, Mich.

Bravo, Moeller, Bartels and MacMullin, you are the first of many to cast off the hateful yoke.

The political pot is bubbling merrily while new candidates are constantly coming to the surface.

The number issued does not entirely govern the value of a stamp. The part preserved has more to do with it.

A years subscription to this paper and a copy of Jones' Checklist of Philatelic Literature for a 25 cent money order.

The Springfield Philatelist will greet its readers no more but its subscription list is being filled by the Rocky Mountain Stamp.

The members of the P. S. of A. should be required to pay dues on the number of stock certificates owned. 25 cents per annum for each share.

We wish to thank one and all for their kind greeting to us, we would like to publish some of them but would rather fill space with something more interesting.

Every member of the P. S. A. will receive a copy of our next issue in addition to our regular circulation. It will be a bonanza for dealers, who desire to advertise in a good medium.

We believe that Kissinger has been guilty of serious mistakes if not downright attempts to control the society. If we are mistaken in this we are ready to retract all statements.

The International Stamp with characteristic enterprise will issue a convention number containing an account of the three great meets at Minneapolis. This number will contain not less than 40 pages.

There is much talk of seceding from the P. S. A. Such a move is fallacious and will never bring the desired result. We are going to stay with it and fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

We will have a communication next month from O. K. Carstarphen relative to some pertinent matters connected with the P. S. A. It was received too late for publication this time but will appear in our July issue.

We wish to exchange with every philatelic publication in the English language. Many papers have omitted to place us on their lists. We will discontinue sending our paper to these who do not desire to exchange with us.

The last of the "corner" on the Columbians is broken. John Calvert of Philadelphia who has been doing most of the buying now offers his entire stock of \$2 Columbians at \$2.25 each. They are a good investment at that price.

The Interstate Philatelic Association bids fair so soon rank as one of the foremost sectional societies. Its

officers and members are displaying that push which brings success. Long may it live and attain a great degree of prosperity.

Why did Kissinger create the Eastern exchange department? We believe that this office would be more servicable if divided into six or seven branches. But the members must by constitution amendment make this division, not the czar president by ukase.

The conventions will soon be held. During the intervening time, many bitter fights will be waged over offices. In this inter-society strife we wish to be considered as being fair and impartial to all candidates. We will allow our correspondents to favor whom they please. However, we wish to be distinctly understood as opposed to bossism no matter in what form.

There seems to be great danger of the early demise of several philatelic papers, which have lately been started. Most of these will suffer from that nearly fatal disease of young journals, of second-class rates. To those publishers who have for lack of time or other reasons been compelled to discontinue their paper, we will say, we will fill your unexpired contracts and subscriptions at terms which will surprise you.

In the initial number of this paper, we called the incorporation of the Philatelic Sons of America a good thing. Now, we wish most humbly to retract all such statements, for now it appears to be only a method

of strengthening one-man rule. This society is ostensibly one for the benefiting of its members not a business investment. Therefore, one member should have as much voice in a matter, where all are helped or injured in equal quantity, as any other. To give a man 500 votes to cast as he pleases if he is willing to pay the required \$125 is manifestly a wrong to the other members in an association for mutual benefit. The will of the entire society can be thwarted by one man if he possess the cash. Its all a question of money not members.

The Portland trustees have resigned their office and severed all connections with the P. S. of A. for the very simple reason that they believe that Kissinger is the law and constitution instead of that instrument which is supposed to govern the association. They wrote a manly letter to Mr. Kissinger stating in how they had found his actions illegal. The reply was pleasant enough but failed to answer the pointed questions asked. They had been repeatedly ignored by him and seemed to be regarded as ornaments not men. Knowing the facts in the case, no fair minded person can fail to agree with the Portland gentlemen. We applaud their action in resigning the office but we think that they should have stayed with the society and helped the reformers along.

E. T. Parker advertises in Printers' Ink.

The Seneca Philatelist applied for second class rates in September 1895.

To Advertisers.

You are constantly endeavoring to reach the ear or rather mind of the philatelic public. In your efforts to attain publicity, the papers with the best circulation are naturally used. There is a class of collectors that can be reached through almost any philatelic medium. But these are not the only desirable ones. Each publication covers a particular field and is read by philatelists who see no other journal. One of the most valuable fields, and one least covered by the average stamp magazine is the Pacific Northwest. This region we are endeavoring to cover with the Philatelist. A large circulation is guaranteed, a considerable part of which is in Oregon and Washington.

Our next number will be particularly large in point of number sent out. We will mail a copy to every member of the Philatelic Sons of America. Thus giving us nearly 1000 larger circulation than usual. Why not give us an ad for that issue? With our low rates it could not help paying you.

For Advertisers.

For Readers.

**Not the best
BUT
As good as the best.**

Send for a free sample of

The Philatelic West,
Box 116, Superior, Neb.

Special. 6 months subscription 10 cts.

Ray B. Bradley is business manager of the West Texas Sentinel of Abilene, Texas.

British South Africa has issued a new set of stamps.

The discovery of quantities of counterfeit Austrian Mercuries in the stock of Herr Friedl, a prominent dealer of Vienna, is causing quite an excitement among the expert philatelists of Europe.

The ribbed stamps of the first issue of Austria are very rare.

Very dangerous counterfeits of some of the stamps of Azores are reported as being on the market.

The two cent claret 1890 is not as rare a stamp as it is thought to be.

THE MISSOURI PHILATELIST,

a handsome 16.6x9 in. page monthly at 25 cts. per annum. At present we are mailing 2000 copies per month, one-half of which are paid up subscribers. Rather than send out so many samples we have reduced the subscription price for a short time to 10 cents per year. Send 10 cts. stamps or silver at once to

THE MISSOURI PHILATELIST,

Box 878. St. Joseph, Mo.

NEXT IN THE FIELD

The Philadelphia Stamp News a 12 page and cover magazine at 25 cts. per year. Sample free.

H. M. Porter Stamp Co.,

360 N. 46 St., Philadelphia, Pa.

SOMETHING

You will like. Packet "K," 15 American stamps, no trash, and 1000 "Perfect" stamp hinges for 35 cents, coin. Approval sheets at 40 per cent discount. Try a Selection.

Victor J. West,

Bushnell, Ill.

FREE To any person not acquainted with the EVERGREEN STATE PHILATELIST that magazine will be sent on trial two months. Address the publication named (postal preferred) at Hartland, Wash.

85 PER CENT DISCOUNT!

Isn't bad, now is it? That's what you get in our *Surprise Packet*. It contains 50 all different stamps catalogued over \$2.00, and will be sent post-paid for 30 cents.

E. L. Shove,

Unionville, N. Y.

The Boston Philatelist.

BRIGHT, NEWSY, INTERESTING

Subscription 20c per annum. Ads. 40c per inch. *Circulation 1000.*

E. B. HORN, Jr., PUBLISHER.

11 Greenwich Pk - Boston, Mass.

This space in our next issue will only cost you \$1.50, and an ad here will be seen by 2500 active collectors.

JUST TELL THEM THAT YOU SAW ME

And send for a free sample copy of their neat journal for stamp collectors to *The Philatelist*.

Waterville, Wash.

Philatelic publishers are requested to insert the above three times in their paper and send copy for the same space in the *Philatelist*.

WM. V. D. WETTERER, JR.,

Wholesale Dealer in Postage Stamps,

411 West Saratoga St.,

Baltimore, Md.

New list just issued sent free on application to dealers only. Rare stamps and collections bought for immediate cash.



Can YOU afford to be without it?

E. T. PARKER'S

Priced list of Postage Stamps. Sent free upon application.

RELICS!

War Sabres, Canteens and Confederate Bills used during the Civil War, Coins, Stamp, Indian relics and Curiosities for sale.

List for two stamps. will buy-sell-or exchange.

R: D. Hay,

Winston, N. C.

No postals answered.

\$25 WORTH OF **\$1.10**
STAMPS FOR

OUR 999 MIXTURE

For dealers and collectors contains 200 to 400 varieties to the thousand and catalogue at not less than \$25.00. Contains stamps from North and South America, Europe, Asia, etc., etc. Stamps catalogue by Scott at from 1c to 60cts each. 100 \$1.10, 6000 for \$5.50, prepaid, 100,000 for \$75.00 on time.

OUR LULU PACKET

Contains 100 varieties of used and unused U. S. stamps issues of 1847 to date. Several 15c, 30c, and 90c stamps. Contains no cut postals nor locals and not more than 10 cut envelopes. Price \$6.00, two packets for \$11.00. Only a few in stock.

U. S. Document revenues, 1c to \$2.50, at 1c each. Do you want some? Have you heard that we are selling 5c 1847 and various 30c and 90c stamps at 6c each? Well, we are.

25,000 finely mixed North and South American, European, Asian, 150 to 180 varieties. \$13.00 by express.

Stamps sold for cash or on time.

Will exchange stamps for a small \$1. printing press and outfit or will give cash if cheap.

200 varieties of stamps from all around guaranteed to catalogue at not less than \$5.00, price, \$1.02, a complete set of U. S. in every other packet. Big lists just out.

Bay State Stamp Co.,

Box 136,
Hubbardstown, Mass.

Please mention the *Philatelist* in answering.