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COLLECTOR'S BLUE BOOK

FEBRUARY 1914

Vol. I

No. 3

A Monthly Illustrated
Magazine for
Collectors

IN MARCH ISSUE

Herbert Wells Fay, the man
with a million pictures.

The Stamps of the Indian Feudatory States, by A. K. Bodmer.

The Indian Villages of New Mexico, by Ernest Ingersoll.

Alfred C. Philipps presents the first installment of a series of notes, a different subject every month.

In addition to
6 Regular Departments



Our Talent For 1914

Below we give a list of the prominent writers and collectors who will contribute to the columns of the Blue Book during 1914:

- ERNEST ACKERMAN**, former State Senator, Plainfield, N. J.
Who needs no introduction
- Prof. **WILLIAM TRAVIS** Burlington, N. J.
Authority on the Mound Builders
- R. L. STILLWELL** Deadwood, S. D.
Oldest Gem and Indian Curio Dealer in the U. S.
- CLIFFORD W. KISSINGER** Allentown, Pa.
President, S. P. A. Former Editor Pennsylvania Philatelist.
- R. L. DIETRICK** Lorraine, Va.
Has promised an article on Paper Money
- Mrs. A. S. STEWART** Toledo, Ohio
Will write on Old China Ware and Indian Pottery
- HERBERT WELLS FAY** DeKalb, Ill.
The Man with a Million Pictures
- E. B. JONES** Sioux City, Iowa
Authority on Philatelic Literature
- C. E. JENNEY** Fresno, Cal.
Has promised a series of Articles on U. S. Stamps and Envelopes
- E. R. ALDRICH** Benson, Minn.
Another Authority on U. S. Stamps
- HENRY MITCHELL** Philadelphia, Pa.
Will tell you all about U. S. Pennies
- J. N. BURTON** Madison, N. Y.
For twelve years Editor and Publisher, Philatelic Star
- M. M. STICKLER** Philadelphia, Pa.
Former Editor, Stamp Dept., Philadelphia Inquirer.
- F. SHREVE ARMSTRONG** Mt. Holly, N. J.
An illustrated article on Antique Furniture
- FRANKLIN FROSCHE** Chicago, Ill.
Special Correspondent Field Columbian Museum
- THOMAS CUDORA** Camden, N. J.
Has promised a series of articles on World Famous Collections
- C. V. WEBB** Perry, Ohio
Will be a regular contributor
- CHAS. T. SIMPSON** Washington, D. C.
Botanical section, Smithsonian Institute
- A. W. DUNNING** Brookline, Mass.
Has contributed a most interesting article
- C. B. HAMILTON** Norway, Me.
Well-known naturalist and collector
- A. K. BODMER** Harrisburg, Pa.
Promised six, and sent two articles, to date.

POMO INDIAN BASKETS



In basketry the Pomos found an outlet for the highest conceptions of art their race was capable of. Protected by their isolation from other tribes, they worked out their ideas undisturbed. With every incentive for excellence they had reached a height in basketry when the American first disturbed them which has never been equaled--not only by no other Indian tribe, but by no other people in the world in any age.

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We have a limited supply of Number 1 of this magazine which we will furnish to subscribers who wish to keep a complete file, for 10 cents each. Number 2 and Current Numbers, 5 cents each.

Pre-Historic Relics

by

Warren K. Moorehead

This book which consists of 376 pages, and 240 illustrations, formerly sold for \$1.00. We have bought the entire edition from Prof. Moorehead, and are going to offer them at 60c each, postpaid. This fascinating book should be in every collector's library. Kindly remit in P. O. Money Order or unused one-cent stamps, address all orders to

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Set of Ten different Chicago World's Fair Tickets, many similar to our fractional currency, becoming rare.	
The set of ten for only	.30

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S. ARCHIE HAMILTON

4 Pine Place Cresco, Iowa

COLLECTOR'S BLUE BOOK

Vol. I

CAMDEN, N. J., FEBRUARY 1914

No. 3

The Lincoln Museum

IT NOW CONTAINS OVER 8000 RELICS AND IS LOCATED AT
516 TENTH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY JOHN ELFRETH MATHIS

Written Especially for the Collector's Blue Book.

Forty-nine years ago this month the nation was shocked by the atrocious assassination of our beloved President, Abraham Lincoln. The house into which he was carried, and in which he died, was purchased by the U. S. Government some years ago for \$30,000. The building then contained a collection from his home in Springfield, Ill. This collection has now increased until it numbers over eight thousand objects connected in some way with the martyred President.

Entering the museum, the visitor passes two parlors on the left and is ushered into the death chamber at the rear of the hall. It is a narrow room occupied by a young infantry volunteer at the time of the tragedy. It contains the funeral paraphernalia taken from the catafalque and numerous other exhibits bearing upon the death and funeral; but unfortunately the bed in which the President died was sold at auction after the death of the tailor who kept the lodging house. The purchaser sold it in Chicago for \$550 and two weeks later was offered \$1000 for it. The present owner has agreed to donate it to the collection whenever the Government shall make the little museum fireproof.

Back of this room is a larger one occupied by servants of the lodging house at the time. Here is installed a

library of 4000 works and articles bearing on Lincoln and the tragedy. Through this is reached a large rear room in which is seen the furniture from the Lincoln homestead. The most conspicuous of the many items are the Lincoln cook stove, the walnut cradle in which Lincoln himself often rocked his children to sleep, his office chair, in which he sat when he wrote his first inaugural address; two horse hair sofas, a settee, his favorite home chair, a horsehair rocker with very tall back, and a little pigeon-holed desk.

In the front parlor of this house Mrs. Lincoln rested on the night of the tragedy when she was not beside the President's death bed. Here are shown the original spur which tripped Booth—causing him to break his leg while he was escaping from the President's box—and the flag in which the spur caught. Here are also relics of the arsenal prison, in which the conspirators were confined, as well as original portraits of all the conspirators themselves. A ghastly series of relics nearby are photographs showing the various steps in the execution of the conspirators and twists of the ropes by which they were hanged. Here are also relics of the barn in which Booth was shot, and locks cut from his hair while his body lay in a naval vessel off the Washington Navy Yard.

A black locust rail, to which is attached the affidavit of John Hank's, Lincoln's cousin, that it was split by the great rail splitter and none other,

hangs in the archway between the front parlor and that to the rear, in which, on the night of the assassination, were gathered the various officials of state,



HOUSE IN WHICH LINCOLN DIED

President Lincoln was shot in Ford's Theatre, at twenty minutes past ten, on the night of April 14, 1865, and was carried to this house (directly opposite), the home of William Peterson, where he died the next morning at twenty-two minutes past seven. The remains were taken to the White House at nine o'clock.

who awaited the death of the President. In this rear room is a museum of relics of the Lincoln campaigns, including framed copies of the scores of notable cartoons caricaturing Lincoln.

Besides these articles named, the little museum contains 1000 Lincoln biographies, 250 memorial sermons preached the Sunday following his death, 90 funeral marches dedicated to him, 250 medals bearing his likeness, and 3000 classified newspaper clippings relating to him. Some of the most celebrated of his recent biographers have spent days at the house making researches among these data.

THE CURSE ON FORD'S THEATRE

Out of the front windows are seen, directly across the street, the great gray facade of the old Ford's Theatre, whose curtain, rung down after the flight of Booth across its stage, never again rose upon a play. The playhouse was immediately closed by Secretary of War Stanton, and subsequently an investigation exonerated Mr. Ford from any responsibility for the tragedy. Ford thereupon sought heavy damages for the suspension of his business, and the dispute was ended by the Government's purchasing the theatre. It was then converted into a medical museum for the army, and it was a ghastly coincidence that the vertebrae of Booth's neck and the part of the spinal cord, penetrated by Boston Corbett's fatal bullet, were both exhibited in this museum as curious specimens of morbid anatomy from a gunshot wound.

When the medical museum was removed to the present building alongside the National Museum they were taken there, and are now on exhibition to physicians, along with the peculiarly enlarged spleen of Guiteau, the assassin of Garfield. At the time of the McKinley assassination an enterprising newspaper photographer applied for a permit to photograph these specimens

for the illustration of a timely article, but he was informed that permission would be given only on condition that publication be limited to scientific treatises.

In the old stable back of the theatre Booth's remains, rolled in a blanket, were stored for a time, after having been exhumed from their secret grave in the Arsenal grounds, and before being reinterred in a second secret grave in the Baltimore cemetery, where they are believed to still repose at an unmarked spot known only to the Booth family and to a few cemetery employes sworn to secrecy.

The chair in which Lincoln was sitting in the theatre box when shot on that Good Friday night of '65, is now stored at the National Museum, where it has never been placed on exhibition. The National Museum, however, displays a Prince Albert coat and cravat once worn by Lincoln, and which were obtained from a colored man to whom they had been given before the tragedy. It also has the high hat which the martyr President wore to the theatre on the night of the assassination.

LINCOLN'S DEATH MASK

But more important items of the National Museum's collection are the original Lincoln death mask made by the sculptor Clark Mills, just after the President's death; also the original life mask made at Springfield in 1860, just after Lincoln's first nomination, by the sculptor Leonard Volk, who accompanied the Notification Committee from Chicago. At the same time Volk made casts of Lincoln's hands, also shown in the National Museum collection. Before placing the clay upon the right hand Volk asked the candidate if he would not clench a bit of wood in the palm. Mr. Lincoln at once darted into the woodshed with one of Mrs. Lincoln's brooms and sawed about five inches off the end of the handle, which cylinder of wood is seen in the cast.

A Visit to the Lapidary

DESCRIBING THE CUTTING AND POLISHING OF GEMS
BY C. B. HAMILTON

Written Especially for the Collector's Blue Book.

Do you know how the lapidary works. Few people have had the good fortune to see how the expert gem cutter takes the rough gem, crystals of tourmaline, beryl, amethyst, topaz, and etc., and converts them into the most sparkling gems fit to be worn by any one.

In the last few years Maine has become a large producer of gems, especially of the tourmaline, in a great variety of colors, some topaz of the white or colorless variety. Beryl in the white, golden and aquemarine, amethyst of a very beautiful color (Royal Amethyst).

The demand for fine lapidary work has induced a few men to learn the art until now they can cut gems in every way equal to the best city lapidary. View No. 1 gives a very good idea of the kind of a machine that is in use at the lapidary of Mr. Bob Bick-

ford, and other Maine gem centres. It differs somewhat from the machine used by the city lapidary. This machine was invented by a Maine gem miner, and is in general use among the lapidaries of the State.

The term cutting, as applied to the cutting of gems, is incorrect; as it is really a process of grinding. View No. 2 shows how the lapidary works. As seen in the first view the grinding wheel, or, as the grinders call them, laps or mills, turn in a horizontal position, and are enclosed in a pan of tin; this is to keep the dirt and water from flying around. Back of the lap is a quadrant, with a movable arm carrying a steel stud. On the rim of the quadrant is marked the degrees of the circle. The stud has a sliding holder, which carries a wood hub and stick to which the gem to be cut is cemented. The hub is divided into parts by



Gem-Cutting Machine

small holes, and on the sliding holder is a pin which engages the holes. The hub can be set so as to get 4, 8, 16 or 32 sides to the gem to be cut. That is, the gem is held in the lap until enough is ground away to make one side, or facet, then the pin is set to the next hole and another side is ground, and so on around the gem. The movable arm can be set at any angle by moving it up or down.

After cutting a row of facets around the gem, the arm is set at another angle, and the next row cut. The swinging arm at the right of View No. 1, is

taken off and recemented bottom side up and the other side ground.

Gems are divided into two parts: the top and the bottom. The centre, which is the greatest diameter of the gem, is called the girdle, and the flat top is the table. The very small flat point on the bottom of the gem is called the culasse.

The lapidary cuts on the top 32 facets and the table. The first row from the girdle has 16 facets of a right-angle triangle shape. The next row, 8 diamond-shaped facets, and the last row 8 triangular-shaped facets. The bottom



Gem-Cutter at Work

to cut the table of the gem; the gem on the stick is held in the notches on the end, and is swung over the lap. This will grind a flat top or table, as it is called.

The gem to be cut is first sawed into suitable size pieces with a saw made of tin and the edge charged with diamond dust. After grinding one side flat it is cemented to a stick and ground to a cylinder shape, the length being the thickness of the finished gem. The gem and stick is now put into the wood hub and the top half-ground and polished, and then it is

has the same number of facets, but being thicker on the bottom half, they are of a slightly different shape.

The lap of the lapidary is made of carborundum, lead, tin, wood and felt. The rough grinding is on a carborundum wheel, followed by the lead and tin wheels. In cutting gems the abrasions keep growing finer as the gem is cut, until the last polish is with a very fine powder. The wood and felt wheels are the last, and are used to cut round and oval-shaped gems, called the cabochon style.

Curios and Natural History

Edited by F. MAY TUTTLE

Osage, Iowa

President A. S. of C. C.

A remarkable discovery has recently been made in Guatemala. Who would have thought that the original Roosevelt grin was so ancient. But away back in the sixth century, A. D., some sculptors of the Maya race carved on their buildings faces bearing a strong resemblance to the cartoon of Col. Roosevelt. The discovery was made by S. Griswold Morey, who has reported the discovery of these old ruins near the city of Quirigua, Guatemala, 57 miles from the Carribean sea, to our National Geographical Society.

FLORA OF THE BLACK HILLS

Mr. W. H. Over, of the University of South Dakota, at Vermillion, recently sent the writer 40 beautiful specimens of the Flora of the Black Hills and the Bad Lands. Last summer, while Mr. Over was out on a collecting tour, he found 25 doubtful specimens that may yield some new species. This section of the U. S. has never been thoroughly canvassed, and we are very glad that so thorough a student as Mr. Over has taken up this work.

PEARLS AND PEARLING

Mr. Herman Nuyer, the pearl dealer, of 41-43 Maiden Lane, New York City, in a recent letter has the following to say in regards to the pearls found in the Big Cedar river, which flows about two miles from Osage, Iowa: "Cedar pearls are of splendid quality. The average lustre is as fine as any river (except two) in America. The colors are wonderfully rich. Colored pearls are slow in sale, but if good, bring splendid prices."

In the spring of 1913, Mr. Withelm, of Hazelton, Pa., found a jet black crystal about 1½ inches long. This was a most unusual find for that locality as the white crystals are most common. Mr. Charles D. Romig, of Audenried, Pa., has one of the white crystals seven inches long and 3½ inches in diameter, and weighing 3½ pounds.

Mr. A. A. Hinsley, of Du Bois, Ill., secured quite a lot of interesting land and fresh water shells on his trip to Guatemala during the winter of 1913. He expected to return to that interesting country for two or three months this winter.

Mr. John P. Kelly, of Concord, N. H., says that about three miles from Concord, near a little town named Millville, are foot prints in the stones. We wish some one would direct us to an explanation by some noted geologist.

Mrs. Ruth H. Brant, of Iowa City, has recently added to her collection some beautiful shells from the coal mines near Albia, Ia. She and her husband took a trip up the Sandee Creek last fall and found many of the large horned corals, and also some of the patty pan "acervularaa." Last fall Mr. and Mrs. Brant took a delightful trip to New York via the St. Lawrence river. They visited Niagara Falls, Lake Ontario, and passed through the Thousand Islands. To two people so thoroughly versed in the delights of nature study this trip meant much. We were their guests for a time in May, 1913, and will long remember the delightful time we spent in their company.

One of the recent publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture is: *Distribution and Migration of North American Herons and Their Allies*, by Wells W. Cooke. Two of the A. S. of C. C. are credited with data furnished: Mr. N. W. Worthington, of Shelter Island Heights, New York, and Mr. C. E. Pleas, of Chipley, Fla. This report is a very valuable one, for all of the species of Heron there is a map of North America showing just where these birds may be found. The book sells for a small price, I believe, 15 cents, and is really necessary to the ornithologist.

Popular Mechanics for November, 1913, contains an illustrated article on Taxidermy, by Henry L. Ward, director of the Milwaukee Public Museum.

The Palace of Fine Arts at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, will be the only building of permanent construction. Its estimated cost will be \$580,000.

A VALUABLE CLOCK

Mr. Guy Hill, of Jonesboro, Tenn., has a valuable old clock of the "Grandfather" style. The clock bears the name of George Long, and the place Hanover on the dial. From reliable data it is probably 114 years old, and possibly considerable older. Mr. Hill would be very grateful for any information any one could give him in regard to the clock. His address is R. F. D. 3, Box 72, Jonesboro, Tenn.

Last November the report came from Pendleton, Ore., that Prof. Clinton T. Hodge, of the University of Oregon, had found a nesting place of the long-sought passenger pigeons. He will visit the place this spring and try to revive the species because of their immense value to farmers as insect destroyers.

TWO RED-LETTER DAYS

February the 25th and 6th were red-letter days for our private collection and library. On the fifth came two beautiful specimens from Mr. Alfred W. Jones, of Salada, Kans., a large polished red abalone from California, and a fine specimen of the spring oyster from Panama. The latter is colored a deep yellow, shading into the color called burnt orange. Then from Mr. H. P. Seebohm, of San Francisco, Cal., two pairs of tiny wooden shoes, which the peasants of Sweden carve out and decorate during the long winter months. These little shoes sell for 20 cents a pair, and would make very dainty gifts. Mr. Seebohm's address is: Box 652. If you order a pair, don't forget to mention this magazine. But on February 6th, a letter came from one of Iowa's most noted botanists, and under whom the writer has been working the last year in gathering botanical data. Prof. Pammel, who says, "I am sending you a copy of the Weed Flora, of Iowa. This will enable you to identify many of the weeds. This book is one of the 100 works on natural history that we had expected to buy some day, as an addition to our library.

Mr. Robert Moses, 506 High road, Tottenham, N. England, says of a vacation spent in North Wales last summer: "I had a holiday with my family, and incidentally added to my collection a vast number of shells; all the tiny things, such as adostonias and rissoas, in fact, I added over a dozen species to my collection some of them rarities."

The Mitchell Connty Press, published at Osage, Iowa, recently told of the capture of a silver wolf near Nora Springs, Ia. The hunter received the handsome sum of \$70 for the skin. Wolves are very scarce in this part of the State, and the silver wolf is much more rare than the gray wolf.

Collector's Blue Book

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All copy for the March issue should reach this office not later than the 12th of March.

Application for second class postage rates have been made.

Address all mail and make all checks and money orders payable to the Business Manager, 625 Pearl street, Camden, N. J.

VOL. 1 FEBRUARY 1914 No. 3

EDITORIAL

The "Collectors' Blue Book" celebrates with the current number its third appearance in the field of periodic literature. It has been accorded a kind welcome, both by collectors and dealers throughout the country. Few

collectors' magazines have won popular favor in so short a time as has the "Blue Book."

Appealing, as it does, to all classes of collectors, it is making for itself friends in all quarters of the globe. With this issue we open a new department, in charge of Mr. Remsburg, and we feel sure you will enjoy reading his monthly letter. From now on all articles appearing will be original, and written especially for this magazine. We feel sure you will appreciate them, and hope you may obtain information and help that will be an inspiration to you in the forming of your collections.

The "Collectors' Blue Book" is unique, in that it is a high-class magazine at a low subscription price. Only one other collectors' magazine being published in the United States today containing as much reading matter as the "Blue Book," excepting two house organs, which naturally depend on the results of their own advertisements to carry them through.

As we stated in the two previous issues, we are sending sample copies to an entirely different list of names each month, and as we have 14,000 names in our index and adding more every day, it may be several months before you receive another sample copy, so if you wish to see subsequent numbers, or desire to keep a complete file, now is the time to subscribe.

This magazine is being printed in our own plant, where we have all facilities for the making of a first-class magazine, and we, therefore, positively guarantee to print and mail to every subscriber twelve consecutive numbers of the "Collectors' Blue Book."

SPECIAL NOTICE

With this issue the "Collector's Blue Book" takes over the subscription list, advertising contracts and good will of the "Philatelic News", of Ossining, N. Y. Full particulars will appear in next issue.

Archoeology and Ethnology

Edited by **GEORGE J. REMSBURG**

Porterville, Cal.

Vice-President, International Society of Archaeologists

A JINGLE OR TWO

by George J. Remsburg

When I am dead and to be laid
Within my cold and narrow bed,
Let some collector dig my grave
For he might find an arrowhead.

A journey never wearies me
As over the hills I walk,
For in my path there's apt to be
An arrowhead or tomahawk.

A novice, brim full of emotion
And zeal in his quest for old arms
Is carried away with his hobby—
Is beside himself with its charms.

A vision of treasure upstarts him
Toward the door he suddenly bolts
As he says, "I'm off for Mare Island
To get a collection of colts."

There was an old gun at Woonsocket,
And no one was able to cock it;
But a collector, they say,
Went to take it away,
And the thing went off in his pocket.

A collector who lives in Duluth,
Boasts of many things strange and un-
couth,
Among objects rare
Is a bunch of frog hair,
And the root of a humming-bird's
tooth.

A collector in Kalamazoo,
Of beasts has acquired quite a few;
He has a son, Cal,
And he said, "now I shall
Sit down and write Cal of my Zoo."

The Editor of this department received from Mr. Burnett a copy of *Pre-Historic Relics* during the past week, for which he has my thanks. The book is exceedingly interesting and fully worth double the price asked, not only to the archaeologist, but to the general collector.

The Rev. C. F. O'Leary, pastor of the Catholic Church of Notre Dame, in St. Louis, who recently returned from a visit to Ireland, is convinced that the white Esquimaux discovered by Vilhjalmar Steffansson, are in reality descendants of early Irish settlers. "It is my belief," said Father O'Leary, "that St. Brendan and his monks settled in America in the sixth century. Many historians believe this Brendan was a great mariner, as well as a great student, and with him missionaries were going out by the scores from Ireland to Germany, Italy, France and other countries. The Norwegians formerly called America 'the Lesser Ireland,' and we have the evidence of Brendan's discoveries in the sea which long was named for him Mare Brendanicum."

Father O'Leary when abroad visited the famous St. Brendan's Mount, on which the monastery stood, and studied the old records. The expenses of his trip to Europe were paid in part with a fund which his parish presented to him on the occasion of his fortieth jubilee last spring.

The methods employed by the Indians of the Balsam coast of South America in the collection of the resin are very crude. Incisions about ten inches long are made in the bark of the tree and then the sap is made to run by application of torches or by building fires around the tree. The trunk is then wrapped with rags, which are left there for several days, to absorb the exuding substance. The rags are removed and placed in a pot of boiling water, which separates the gum from the rags.

Postage and Revenue Stamps

Edited by LEON V. CASS

723 Columbia Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

President International C. C.

U. S. 5c, 1847

Sixteen years ago I bought five copies of the U. S. 5c 1847 at auction for 20 cents each. I sold them for 35 cents a copy. Now this stamp cannot be bought at auction in fine condition for less than \$1.75, and is sold at retail by many dealers at from \$2 to \$3 per copy. One Western dealer advertises to take fine copies for \$1.90 cash and sells them for \$2.25. The above is only one example that proves stamps are a profitable investment if one buys judiciously. Stamps are known to be of value even by the non-collecting public, as I know of one man who was engaged as a bank messenger, and as he lacked real estate or cash, the bank accepted his stamp collection in lieu of a \$5000 bond he had to put up. The collection had a catalogue value of nearly \$15,000, and would have easily brought \$5000 at auction.

THE PANAMA-PACIFIC STAMPS

The Panama-Pacific stamps seem to lack in popularity. Thousands of small post offices never ordered any, and many of the larger offices that ordered a supply, have none now, and do not seem to be inclined to order a new supply. The 10-cent value comes in two distinct shades. The first printing was in orange yellow, and the second a much brighter shade of orange.

Collectors of oddities should be on the lookout for the 3c U. S. 1873 issue, a copy of which has been found double printed. So far as known, only one copy has turned up, but at least one

sheet of 200 stamps were printed that way, and there is a chance to find more copies of this oddity.

One result of the Balkan war seems to be assured, and that is the birth of a new stamp-issuing country. The Province of Albania, it is said, is to have a distinctive set of stamps. Let us hope they will get out a set for actual postage use and not add a lot of unnecessary high values simply for sale to collectors.

THE GRAND OLD STAMP

The first pictorial stamps were issued by New South Wales. They are commonly called Sidney Views, and are numbered among the rarities that few collectors are able to obtain. The new King's Head stamps issued by the Australian Government, are now coming in, and are really an improvement over the short-lived kangaroo set. The five-penny stamp of New South Wales, commonly called the Grand Old Stamp because of its having been in use without change of design from December 1, 1855, to September 30, 1913, holds the record of the stamp longest in use ever issued. There were many minor changes during the 58 years it did duty such as different watermarks, shades, etc., but the design remained the same.

Pre-cancelled stamps are again coming into favor, and many new recruits are coming to enjoy this pleasant side line of Philately.

The official stamps of Egypt are to be discontinued according to recent advices. The Chinese Post Office Department notified the public that all

the old Ching Dynasty stamps were demonetized, but that they would be taken in exchange for the new Republic issues until April 1.

The editor of this department will be pleased to give any of the readers of the Collectors' Blue Book any information in his power desired in regard to stamps free of charge. It is my desire to not only make this page interesting reading each month, but to be of actual assistance to each and every one. Kindly enclose postage if you desire a reply by mail.

NEWSY NOTES

Many of the charity stamps of Roumania were designed by Queen Elizabeth, who is one of the most gracious of any of the royal families of Europe, and gives a goodly sum and much time to charitable work.

A press clipping states that the late Earl of Crawford's collection of rare stamps was recently sold in London for \$80. Who purchased the collection the article failed to state.

A local stamp club has been formed in Brooklyn, N. J., with George T. Lane, president, and William Lycett, secretary.

The number of stamps printed for the U. S. Government last year amounted to 9,773,424,000. A right snug little pile.

Passaic, N. J., has a stamp club of its own, which meets every second and fourth Tuesday in the month at 8 P. M., in the Y. M. C. A. Building. Mr. J. S. Van Ness, the president, extends an invitation to out-of-town visitors to meet with them any evening they are in session.

The Newark Stamp Club still continues on its tranquil way, and it is the only stamp club in the State to issue a monthly magazine. We wish that other and larger societies might show such enterprise.

NOTES ON U. S. STAMPS

by E. R. ALDRICH

In looking over some five cent 1847 stamps recently I found one peculiarly cancelled specimen. It was a pair and was obliterated with broken circles with black ink, while immediately adjoining the stamp was the dating stamp—Boston, 7 Feb., 1847, in red.

The majority of the specimens in this lot were cancelled in red and I note that this same thing occurs in the lots offered in recent sales, only a few of the described cancellations being of a different color.

Pen cancellation specimens of the first issue are not, so far as my experience goes, very plentiful. I have in my own collection two, a dark brown five and a pair of tens, and so far as I can recollect I only have met with one other copy so cancelled. This probably can be accounted for by the fact that most offices had the hand stamps and it was but the work of a minute to fashion a usable cancellation to use in connection therewith.

Possibly some of those who have made a study of this issue have listed the shades in which they have been cancelled, but if so it has escaped my notice. If it has not been done it would make an interesting study for some one who has the material at hand to do it. In this connection I may say I have a Charleston, S. C., red cancellation, and Concord, N. H., red cancellation. My other specimens were acquired like nearly all my collection a score of years ago or so, and have been removed from the cover. I have covers without stamps used in the year of the first issue, one from Albany, N. Y., with red hand stamp, and Buffalo, N. Y., with blue hand stamp. Boston hand stamps of the same period are red, but from the specimen spoken of above it may be otherwise.

(Continued on page 59)

Coins and Medals

Edited by F. WAYLAND POTTER

Sixth and Bailey Streets - Camden, N. J.,

Member A. N. A.

A FRIEND PASSED AWAY

With the death of Ben J. Green, in Chicago, January 17th, there passed from the Association membership one of the best dealers, a collector whose judgement and skill in his chosen field was unsurpassed, and, above all, one whose courage and loyalty has in so many ways helped to advance and develop the science of Numismatics. Jovial, faithful, loyal "Ben." To meet him was to inspire respect; to know him was to love him. The curtain has been drawn and our friend has passed to the great beyond, from whence cometh no messenger. Our sincere sympathy goes out to the members of his family, whose loss is greater than ours.—*Editor.*

WEALTH OF THE ANCIENTS

That Herod was a very wealthy man, classing him as are classed the wealthy men of this present day, seems to be proven by the following, which is taken from Josephus, Book XVII, Chapter VIII, page 366, paragraph 1, and is the second or altered testament of the king. Antipatrn, his eldest son, had been convicted of disloyalty to his father and of other serious crimes, and so was condemned to death, and was executed by command of Herod five days prior to his (the king's) death. He then made his second will as follows: Antipas, his youngest son, he made Tetrarch of Galilee and Berea. Archelaus' own brother of Antipas, by same mother, a Samaritan, was made king in succession. These two sons were raised and trained in Rome. To Philip, son of Cleopatra of

Jerusalem, was ceded the Colonies of Gaulonitis, Trachonitis and Paneas.

To Salome, his sister, he bequeathed Jamnia, Ashdod and Phasaelis Colonies, also five hundred thousand (drachme) of silver, coined money equal to about \$100,000. He made provision for, and left his entire kindred wealthy, by outright gifts of money and bestowing upon them annual revenues. To Caesar he willed ten millions of coined money (about \$2,000,000), also numerous vessels of gold and silver. To Julia, wife of Caesar, he gave many garments of exceedingly great value, and to certain others of his friends five millions more (about \$1,000,000). His death occurred soon after, having reigned for a period of thirty-seven years since being declared king of Rome.

The annual income of Herod was about one thousand six hundred talents, equal to 6800 pounds, and in our money about \$3,400,000, a fair salary even for these days of finance and income tax.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

So far as the writer's knowledge goes, every collector seems to hold especially dear some coin which has come to him while following out his line of research. This highly prized (to him) coin may represent some ancient period, some epoch where in the destinies of a nation were changed, or it may be a modern piece which has become the gem among the collector's galaxy of coins.

The editor of this department invites such collectors to contribute articles for these columns, giving a description of their prize pieces and their relative con-

nections. That such articles would be of vast interest to all coin lovers is an admitted fact. We hope to receive many responses to this invitation, and trust that it may interest all who delve in coin lore.

A QUEER OBJECT

Money is a queer object. We all seek it, we all make it, we all spend it, we all want more than we have and nobody is satisfied with what they have. While it is inanimate, it will, with care, reproduce itself. Place your savings in a reliable institution and add to it weekly or monthly for a term of years, and you will have when age creeps on enough to ease the declining years of life.

The following figures talk:

Five cents per day for 50 years.	\$	9,504
Twenty " " " "	"	19,006
Forty " " " "	"	38,015
Fifty " " " "	"	47,520
Eighty " " " "	"	76,032
\$1.00 " " " "	"	95,041

The above calculation is made on a basis of 6% being received for the money thus saved.

THE JOKESMITH

(Note—Makem Laff, our authority on impractical banking, will be pleased to answer questions like the ones below. Anything relative to the promotion of a mentally unsound banking system should be addressed to Makem Laff, Bank Notes Magazine, Indianapolis.)

Q. What is the best book on investment?

A. "How to Double Your Money; or Twenty Different Ways of Folding a Dollar Bill."

Q. Where did money originate?

A. Money originated in the Ark. The turtle came in with a greenback, the duck had a bill, the leopard showed several ten-spots, the skunk had a scent, and when the alligator yawned there was a draft.

Q. Why should I save money for a rainy day?

A. You might want to buy an umbrella.

Q. What is a quarter of 1853 worth?

A. A quarter of 1853 what?—dollars, cents, automobiles or sausages? Be more explicit.

Q. What is a Columbian half-dollar worth?

A. Fifty cents.

Q. How can we stop overdrafts in our bank?

A. Close the upper windows.

NOTES ON U. S. STAMPS

(Continued from page 57)

St. Johnsbury, Vt., used a red hand stamp at this period.

I recently added to my collection a pair of India paper proofs used, and upon a portion of the original cover. They were the 2c vermilion and 5c blue 1875 issue. The first, from its appearance, evidently was trimmed down die proof. In a recent New York sale an unused collection of parcel post stamps was offered. No less than 542 stamps, in single, pairs, blocks and shades were included, with a total catalogue value of \$108.00.

WILLIAM PENN'S TABLE

Mrs. Bella H. Oliver, of Chester, has an interesting relic in the form of an old-time heavy walnut table, known in colonial days as a "one thousand leg table." It is circular in shape and measures five feet in circumference. It was brought to America by William Penn, who dined from it regularly. The table descended to the Bradfords, who were well-known Philadelphia printers of the early days, and from them to a young man named McGowan, an apprentice in their office. It passed into the possession of Mrs. Oliver's father in 1849, and when he died it was bequeathed to his son, Dr. John Hepburn, of Warren, Pa.

Mrs. Oliver has been offered large sums for the antique curiosity, but she declines to part with it.

Museums and Collections

Edited by **THOMAS BURNETT**

1243 N. Twenty-sixth Street Camden, N. J.

Member Philadelphia Stamp Club

The editor of this department had the pleasure of viewing at a public exhibition on the evening of February the 17th, at Burlington, the splendid collection of paintings by Prof. Travis, depicting the operations of the Army of the Cumberland around Chattanooga during the civil war. The paintings number 32, 8 x 16, and cover 3740 square feet of canvas. Prof. Travis was officially authorized by General Rosecrans to execute the paintings, and was the only artist so appointed during the war. Prof. Travis has been a personal friend of the editor for 22 years, and many pleasant hours have I spent looking over his wonderful collections of curiosities. Prof. Travis is now at work writing an illustrated article on the mount builders for the Blue Book.

We received a letter from the assistant director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York city, recently that throws some light on the Altman collection, mention of which was made in last month's issue. This collection, valued at nearly \$15,000,000, consisted of 60 paintings, 20 sculptures, 466 pieces of Chinese porcelain, a collection of Chinese snuff boxes, a small collection of antiquities, and 16 Persian and Indian rugs. The immense value of the collection is placed principally on the paintings, among which are 13 by Rembrandt, the most famous of the old masters.

At a recent sale of curios in London, Eng., recently, a set of three panels of tapestry brought the unusual price of \$7875. While another pair

woven with the arms of William III brought \$6825.

At a recent sale held in Philadelphia the following prices were realized: \$1900 was bid for a three-stone diamond drop La Valliere set in platinum. It was purchased from Sandifer, in New York, and cost \$2750. Another La Valliere, purchased for \$1750, was sold for \$650. A diamond bar pin went for \$475, and a similar bid was made for a solitaire diamond ring, of about two and three-quarter carats.

Owing to the number of books being published on old furniture (I have four in my library), folks are beginning to wake up to the value of their old rush-bottom chairs, grandfather clocks and such. Antique chinaware is rapidly becoming almost impossible to obtain, in perfect condition. I mean when I say perfect, without a nick, or a chip off the spout or edge.

The Department of Archaeology of Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass, was founded in 1901 by Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Peabody. The department not only gives instruction to students in American archaeology under the Curator, Professor Moorehead, but in European archaeology under the director, Doctor Peabody. It has carried on field work in Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, Maine and Massachusetts. To this should be added the exploring done for Mr. Peabody in Arizona, New Mexico, Ohio, Tennessee, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Illinois and elsewhere. The collections are confined to archae-

ological material and number upwards of 82,000.

Several bulletins have been published and many of the specimens in the collections are illustrated in "The Stone Age in North America."

The department has a limited number of objects from the shell heaps of Maine to offer for exchange with advanced collectors.

The department does not purchase collections at the present time. Information concerning its work may be obtained by addressing W. K. Moorehead, Andover, Mass.

The University of Pennsylvania Museum has just received a bust of a Roman lady from Italy. Although unknown, the period at which it was made has been ascertained by the fact that the hair is dressed in the style of the wife of Marcus Aurelius, whose bust has been recovered.

The most important purchase made recently by the University of Pennsylvania Museum is a collection of Chinese porcelain of great value and extreme rarity imported directly from a native collector in Peking. The prices paid for these objects which are in some instances of no extraordinary beauty, is amazing to the layman.

In fact, until recently very few notable pieces of Chinese porcelain have come from that country owing to the competition of native mandarins, governors, princes and private collectors.

According to the Chinese, the art was discovered nearly 5000 years ago by five successive Emperors who worked with their own hands. Among the treasures purchased by the museum is a collection of Celadon ware which was the highest priced pottery in the history of China developed about the seventh century, but disappeared some four or five hundred years ago. These specimens are fascinating because their beauty and technique grow upon examination. The collection contains

nearly a dozen large bowls and vases which were used originally for decorative purposes.

A blue and white jar of peculiar pattern is one of the prizes of the collection. The Morgan collection in the Metropolitan Museum has a similar piece. Perfect specimens of the sort sell as high as \$10,000.

Brooklyn, N. Y., is a step in advance of all the other cities in the fact that they maintain a children's museum in Bradford Park, where everything is made plain for the children. During the year 1911-12 152,815 children visited the museum. The museum was opened in 1899, and also maintains a library.

A historic seal, used by by-gone chamberlains of London, has just been presented by Lady Dimsdale to the Guildhall Museum. It bears the date 1693, and is of silver, inlaid with jewels.

Another acquisition to the Cradle of Liberty (Congress Hall), Philadelphia, consists of Washington's eyeglasses, his toasting fork, an old ale mug, and a life mask.

In the collection of the Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, of Philadelphia, is a set of Turkish paper money, which is known to be genuine, presented to the Society several years ago. They are particularly valuable because bank notes are not in circulation in that country any more, the Government obliged to stop the issuing of paper money owing to the numerous forgeries.

The Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Science has just made some important additions to its ethnological collections through the expeditions of Stewart, Culin to Arizona, New Mexico, California, and Japan.

Mr. Samuel P. Avery presented the same institution some time past with a collection of Chinese cloisonnes and jades numbering one hundred and fifty-three pieces.

Autographs and Historical

Edited by **GEORGE J. REMSBURG**

Porterville, Cal.

President, Quirira Historical Society

WASHINGTON'S SIGNATURE

Mr. William H. Paret, a real estate dealer in Kansas City, Mo., has an interesting and valuable heirloom in the shape of a letter signed by George Washington. Mr. Paret received the letter from his father, the late William Hale Paret, Episcopal Bishop of Maryland, who in turn had it from his father, a resident of New York City.

How the first Paret came into possession of the letter the present owner does not know. The letter was written during the Revolutionary War, and was addressed to General Forman, one of Washington's subordinates. It is written in a beautifully regular "copper plate" handwriting, but the well-penned letters are not those of the Father of His Country. He dictated the letter to Tench Tilghman, his clerk, and merely signed his name to it. The letter, for which Mr. Paret has refused an offer of \$100, follows:

"Headquarters, 3d December, 1782.—
Dear Sir: Your favors of the 21st September and 24th and 26th October came regularly to hand, as they contained only intelligence of the movements of the enemy's fleet, and required no particular answer, I did not think it worth while to give the Chain of Expresses the trouble of riding the whole way back to you. Your letter of 26th September, directed by favor of Count de Brengle, never reached my hand until the 4th of November, and then it came from the eastward. How this delay happened I cannot say. But I beg you to believe that had the letter come directly to me, I should not

have failed to give you the information you requested."

LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Latter Day Saints and all members of the Mormon Church throughout the country, as well as historical students, are deeply interested in the announcement that an exploring expedition of the church dignitaries has located on the "Hill Cumorah," in Western New York, the exact spot where the golden plates of the Book of Mormon were found by Joseph Smith. An exploring party of Latter Day Saints visited the spot last spring, and after an investigation lasting several days, marked the place and a photograph was made of the scene.

NATIONAL CARTOON

Mrs. D. Harry Hammer, of Chicago, has inaugurated an instructive fad of collecting national cartoons, and is the possessor of a collection of cartoons of Uncle Sam numbering 30,000 different specimens. The original cartoon of Uncle Sam appeared in an English publication in 1842, Tom Nast setting the standard for future likenesses. Mrs. Hammer has been gathering these cartoons for the past 20 years. She says: "If every manuscript and printed page of American history of the past 20 years were obliterated from the earth and my collection of Uncle Sam cartoons alone remained, the history of the United States for that period could be quickly and accurately written."

WANTED, FOR SALE and EXCHANGE

One cent a word. Minimum charge, 20 cents. A twenty-word notice allowed each subscriber free. Copy must accompany subscription.

GERMAN silver keep check with your name and address and a key ring for 5 good arrowheads. Robt. Van Selver, 37 Prospect ave., Middletown, N. Y.

FOR SALE—Seventeen Spanish dollars dated 1811 to 1820, very good, \$13. J. H. Schumacher, 802 Prairie ave., Houston, Tex.

LEAD, zinc and Calcite to exchange for cabinet specimens of showy crystals or minerals from other localities. T. D. Ship-ton, Hanover, Ill.

JUST RECEIVED—From Nevada a fine lot of Indian Arrow and Spear Points, 1 to 5 inches. Price free. F. M. Gilliam, Highland Springs, Lake County.

STAMP Collectors—One dozen different stamp papers only 25c. E. Meyer Donner, 123 Baldwin st., Newark, N. J.

DEALERS! Will mail your circulars at 12c. per 100. Honest mailing, Fred W. Bauer, Unionville, Conn.

WANTED—The address of collectors of American Medals. Chas. K. Warner, 1115 Mt. Vernon st., Phila., Pa.

FOREIGN Revenues my line; 100 dif., 20c. Best peelable hinges, 10c. or 15c. Oscar T. Hartman, 1534 26th ave., Denver, Colo.

WANTED—Two Daler Swedish copper-plate piece; give date, ruler, condition and price. F. Wayland Potter, Camden, N. J.

CALIFORNIA gem crystals and minerals direct from the mines, situated in the heart of the gem fields, and can furnish any material desired at lowest prices. Albert Everett, Escandide, Cal.

"TWO-CENT Nevada State Revenue Stamp (John M. Duncan & Co., Austin, Nevada, Aug. 5, 1865)." Fine and rare. What's offered? Chas. S. Walek, Lansford, Pa.

IWANTA Stamp Co., 951 24th st., Des Moines, Ia. Stamps, Colns and Post Cards, Views of Des Moines. Parcel Post Stamps for sale or exchange. Precancel Stamps, from a number of cities. 100 Foreign 10c., 100 U. S. 10c., Parcel Post stamps free with each. Member of S. P. A.

CALIFORNIA curios for certain old books on early West, Indian relics, etc.; also want old U. S. coins and medals. What have you? Geo. J. Rensburg, Porterville, Cal.

20c. PER 100 paid for asst. used Parcel post stamps. Special prices paid for 50c., 75c., \$1 and 25c. green "dine" stamps. A. W. Dunning, Brookline, Mass.

POSTCARDS, 25 views, motto, birthday, landscape, etc., only ten cents; view cards and stamps exchanged. A. E. French, Emburence, Mo.

WANTED—To hear from collectors who have minerals to sell or exchange. C. B. Hamilton, Norway, Me.

PENNIES—I have them from 1856 to 1914, Denver and San Francisco, cents also proof, uncirculated, or any condition desired. Prices on application. Henry Mitchell, 2857 N. Lawrence st., Phila., Pa.

STAMPS FREE—Packet put up by Scott ten years ago and album only 10c. Free Unused Set to each customer. Approval 60 per cent. discount. Nutmeg Stamp Co., Station B, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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2 Elk Horn Chisels, for digging out canoes, 9 in.,	each	2.25
9 Doz. Gambling Sticks or Indian Cavelry,	per doz.	.30
3 Feather Covers, for gambling sticks,	each	.30
37 Alabone Shell Pendants, old and worn, 3 in.,	each	1.00
13 Alabone Shell Pendants, old and worn, 3½ in.,	each	1.25
7 Alabone Shell Pendants, old and worn, 4 in.,	each	1.50
73 Arrows, bone points	each	.30
25 Arrows, stone points	each	.30
25 Arrows, metal points	each	.25
7 Buckskin Head Dresses, decorated with feathers,	each	3.75
2 Dame Head Band of white deer skin,	each	6.75
2 Indian Bows, sinew back and strings, good,	each	3.75
2700 Indian Wampum or Money, made of shell, round, such as they find in graves at present time,		1.00-1.50

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- 2 Elk Horn Chisels, for digging out canoes, 7½ in., each 1.75
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- 9 Doz. Gambling Sticks or Indian Cavelry, per doz. .30
- 3 Feather Covers, for gambling sticks, each .30
- 37 Alabone Shell Pendants, old and worn, 3 in., each 1.00
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- 7 Alabone Shell Pendants, old and worn, 4 in., each 1.50
- 73 Arrows, bone points each .30
- 25 Arrows, stone points each .30
- 25 Arrows, metal points each .25
- 7 Buckskin Head Dresses, decorated with feathers, each 3.75
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