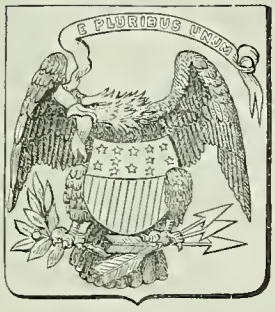


SAPPHIRE

THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. IX.

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THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL
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PHILATELY.

Notes on the Stamps of The United States of Columbia.

BY CHARLES PEYTON.



TYPE 1. TYPE 2. TYPE 3. TYPE 4. TYPE 5.

It is not my intention in the present article, to enter into the full history, of the various stamps issued by the different governments which have controled the destinies of the somewhat turbulent people, who inhabit this portion of our continent, but simply to give a reference list, of the different varieties, and with the aid of numerous illustrations, make the sequence of the series as easily understood as those of our own country.

In 1811 New Granada declared itself independent, and eight years later entered into a confederation under the name of The United States of Colombia. In 1831 this was broken up and the subject of our article took back its former name of New Granada, which was again changed in April. 1843, to the Republic of New Granada. This, later on was altered to Granada Confederation, which is the name that appears on the earliest stamps. The first series was issued in 1859, and consisted of four values. The illustration (Type I) relieves me of the duty of an extended description, therefore I shall merely call the reader's attention to its distinctive characteristics. The design consists of the national arms in circle, numerals of value above and below on ground of vertical lines, enclosed in octagonal frame inscribed CONFED. GRAN-

ADINA. CORREOS NACIONALES (national postage) and value. The colors and values are—

5 centavos lilac, brown-grey.
10 centavos light and dark yellow.
20 centavos dark and sky blue.

Second Issue, 1860, (Type 2) similar to last, ground of wavy vertical lines, small numerals of value.

2½ centavos pale green. 5 centavos blue, lilac, purple.
10 " yellow, orange, red. 20 " light and dark blue.
1 peso rose on white and blueish paper.

On the next series we note a change in name which is only retained on this issue.

Third Issue, 1861, (Type 3) national arms in oval inscribed ESTADOS UNIDOS DE NUEVA GRANADA (United States of New Granada) nine stars below.

2½ centavos black. 5 centavos buff, yellow.
10 " blue. 20 " red.
1 peso rose pink.

The 2½ centavos has been altered from the plate of the one peso.

Fourth Issue, 1862, (Type 4) similar to first issue, name changed to E. U. DE COLUMBIA (United States of Columbia) five stars above, and four below arms.

10 centavos blue, ultramarine.
20 " rose.
50 " dark and emerald green.
1 peso lilac on white and blue tinted paper.

Fifth Issue, 1863, (Type 5) arms in oval with branches at sides.

5 centavos yellow, orange. 10 centavos blue on white and blueish.
20 " red. 50 " green " " "
20 " green (error.) 50 " red (error.)

There are also the following varieties:

5c, star after value. 10c, dot after value.



Sixth Issue, 1864, similar to last, arms on solid ground, ornamental corners.

5 centavos yellow, orange.
10 " light and dark blue.
20 " vermilion.
50 " emerald green.
1 peso lilac.

Seventh Issue, 1865, arms surmounted by condor in rectangular scalloped frame.

1 centavo pink (for newspapers.)

Arms repeated three times and joined in form of a triangle.



2½ centavos black on lilac, triangular.

Arms surmounted by condor in oval, value below.

5 centavos yellow. 10 centavos lilac.
20 " blue. 50 " green.
1 peso lake, vermilion.



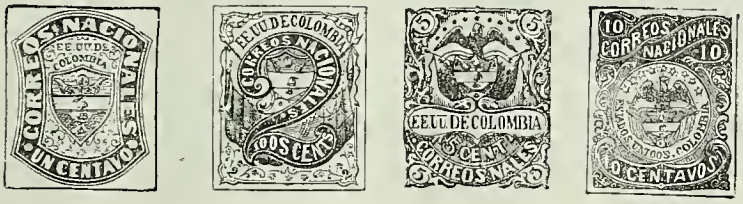
Eighth Issue, 1867, various designs as above. The 5 and 10 pesos similar design in rectangle.

5 centavos yellow, orange.
10 " lilac, purple.
20 " light and dark blue.
50 " light and dark green.
1 peso lake, vermilion. 5 pesos black on green glazed paper.
10 pesos black on red glazed paper.



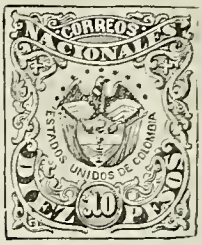
Ninth Issue, 1869-70, various designs as above.

5 centavos yellow. 10 centavos lilac, purple.
20 " blue. 50 " green.
1 peso rose, red.









Tenth Issue, 1870-4, various designs as above.

1 centavo green, rose. 2 centavos brown.
2½ centavos black on lilac. 5 " orange, yellow.
10 " lilac, purple. 5 pesos black on green glazed.
10 pesos black on red glazed.

Watermarked paper, or perforations have not yet been adopted on any of the stamps issued by this country.

(*To be continued.*)

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVARY TAYLOR.

BELGIUM.—*Continued from page* 184, *Vol. VIII.*

The opinion of the minister as to the excellence of Messrs. De La Rue's design, will hardly be borne out by the judgment of philatelists accustomed to the critical comparison of the stamps of all countries. The engraving is good—fineness in execution is, in fact, Messrs. De La Rue's strong point—but as for the design as a whole, it has nothing either elegant or forcible in its composition; and those who ought to know best declare that the effigy is very far from being correct.

The difficulties connected with the printing of Messrs. De La Rue's types, at Brussels, far from disappearing with practice, appear to have augmented. The deterioration in the designs was rapid and marked, more especially in the 10 and 20 centimes; of these many impressions are mere blotches as compared with the first copies. These rough specimens are, to my mind, well worthy of collecting side by side with the fine ones, as they illustrate the history of the series. Furthermore, they are evidence of the Belgian printers' inability to produce surface-

printed stamps. The higher values of English stamps are all surface-printed, and whatever may be said of the designs, it cannot be denied that the impressions are uniformly satisfactory, notwithstanding that they are from dies which have been for years in use ; if, therefore, the Belgians, from equally fine dies, cannot produce equally fine surface-printed copies, it must be their fault, and not the engravers'. So utter a failure was the 10c. in their hands, that it became necessary to introduce some modifications into the design, consisting, no doubt in the deepening of the lines, and probably the 20c. was operated on in the same manner. Whilst noticing these stamps, it is also necessary to observe that one edition came out on a thick paper, which might also be termed card. The colors are as follows :

10 centimes dark grey.
20 " dark blue, pale blue.
30 " bistre.
40 " carmine.
1 franc deep lilac.

After they had been some time in use they were replaced by thinner paper. At this last stage there appeared the 20c. pearl-grey blue, which is so distinct from the others as well to deserve collection, even by beginners.

We now come to the newspaper stamps which accompanied this series, viz : 1 centime grey.
2 " blue.
5 " brown.

The lowest value made its appearance on the 1st June, 1866, the 5c. on the 1st September of the same year, and the 2c. on the 1st January, 1866. All three stamps were designed by a M. Delpierre, and engraved by M. Dargent ; the plate came from Antwerp ; the paper, ink, &c., from Messrs. De La Rue's manufactory. Thus, whilst patronizing native art, the government still managed to give a share in the business to their old and much abused London friends.

The design for each stamp differs slightly in detail from those of its companions, and it can hardly be questioned that the 2c., with its light ground of horizontal lines, is the most successful of the trio ; but it has been justly observed that there was no necessity for having three different types for stamps which were sufficiently distinguished from each other by their colors : by means of a transfer, in the usual manner, one design might easily have been made to serve for all the values.

The one cent had only been in use a couple of months when it began to make its appearance unperforated, and continued to do so un-

til the end of the year 1866. The cause is rather a curious one, and worth relating. I have duly given the history of Messrs. Gonweloos' contract with the goverment, in 1863, whereby they undertook to perforate at least five hundred sheets per day, and the government promised to buy their machine if it were found to work satisfactorily. On these terms the perforation was continued, but the government always drew back from the performance of its promise. In 1865, however, M. Gonweloos had some hope of its being at length realized, but this hope soon disappeared when they found that Messrs. De La Rue, after delivering the printing material for the series of stamps manufactured by them, had been consulted as to the price of a perforating machine. The reply was not long in coming; they asked 1500 francs, (£60), against £95, the price of Messrs. Gonweloos' perforator A thousand francs gained, and the preference given to a foreigner; was it not all profit? The order was sent to London, and when the machine arrived the committee met to examine it. After having done so, they were forced to acknowledge themselves incompetent to decide on it. One of the members proposed that Monsieur Gonweloos should be called, and there and then he was sent for. As soon as he saw the machine, he perceived that what Messrs. De La Rue had sent was only the machine whereon are fixed the cylindrical needles; but perforators there were none. Required to explain, Messrs. De La Rue alleged that they had properly executed their order, which was for a machine to perforate stamps; in effect, the object received from London was intended for that purpose, but it would be impossible to work it without first receiving all the perforators necessary to be used. For 8000 francs more ($320) the venders were willing to complete it. This put a stop to negociations; the committee had the machine always before their eyes to reproach them, and Messrs. Gonweloos, furious at having been played with, notified the government that they would thenceforth perforate only the minimum quantity of five hundred sheets, as stipulated in their contract. As the daily consumption was a thousand sheets, the administration had to decide on abandoning the perforation of one of the stamps, and their choice fell on the one centime, which brought in less, and was more employed than all the other values.

Such is the history of the issue of the imperforate one centime, as related by the Belgian journal; and, of course, the lesson it inculcates is, that one should beware of employing committees and foreigners. However, the government got out of the matter at last more creditably than might have been expected. It bought a machine whereby the 300 stamps comprising the sheet could be perforated in one single

operation, whilst Messrs. Gonweloos' machine could only perforate one row of stamps at a time, on three sides.

The three newspaper stamps are found on thick card-like paper, like their (facially) more valuable brethren. Probably the supply of paper furnished by Messrs. De La Rue was exhausted, and after the dissatisfaction which their employment had caused, and the misunderstanding respecting the perforator, the government felt rather shy of entering into fresh contracts with them, preferring rather to use such materials as the country afforded.

In further conformity with the changes which occurred in the higher values, the 1, 2 and 5c. made their appearance again on ordinary paper, and the two centimes was issued in the same peculiar shade as its companion, the 20c.

2 centime pearl-grey, blue.

On the 14th March, 1867, a royal decree was published, authorizing the issue of 6 and 8 centime stamps, and they were accordingly prepared, but were never issued, as meanwhile a change had occurred in the ministry, and the incoming ruler of the department of public works was in favor of the issue of an entirely new series. The stamps were not engraved until long after the decree had appeared, and when the types were ready a committee was appointed to examine them. After a further delay they reported favorably on them; the striking off of a supply was about to commence—proofs, indeed, had already been printed—when the change above alluded to took place, and the designs were set aside.



The annexed engraving of the 6c. reproduces the type of both the intended stamps, as they were identical, except in the ground pattern. It will be observed that they differ in some respects from the stamps actually issued, and principally in the greater size of the corner figures.

We now come to the existing series. It was sanctioned by a royal decree of the 13th November, 1869, and two days afterwards the issue commenced, the 1c. and 10c. green being the first to make their appearance. Those now in use are as follows:









10 centimes green. 30 centimes amber.
20 " blue. 40 " carmine.
1 franc violet.

NEWSPAPER STAMPS.

1 centime green. 5 centimes amber.
2 " blue. 8 " violet.

There was to have been a 6 centimes carmine; but, for some unexplained cause, it has not yet been issued.

The accompanying engraving renders lengthened comment on my part unnecessary. Belgian writers abuse the likeness; but without venturing an opinion on so delicate a point, we may be permitted to admire the *tout ensemble* of the types, and especially of the low values. The designs are by a Belgian artist, Monsieur H. Hendrickx, and they were engraved on wood by Monsieur A. Doms. The initials of both artist and engraver appear on the lower edge of the stamps; those of the former on the right, those of the latter on the left hand side, in microscopical characters.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.

In 1867 a bill, or *projet de loi*, was brought in by the government, whereby (Art. 29) liberty was reserved to issue envelopes and bands, and put them on sale in the same way as adhesive stamps; and to fix the sum to be charged in excess of the facial value, to cover the cost of the paper and making. This was followed up by a royal decree of the 26th of October, 1868, which says that stamped envelopes will be put at the disposal of the public, and leaves it to the Minister of Public Works to decide on the type, color, form, facial value, date of emission, and selling prices.

In the early part of 1873 the long expected envelopes made their appearance. The design consists of the profile of the king to left, embossed in white on a solid ground, frame of engine turned work, with BELGIQUE above CENTIMES below, numerals of value in ovals at sides.

10 centimes green.

These are impressed on envelopes of various sizes, gummed the entire length of the flap and without any device.

UNPAID-LETTER STAMPS.

The vacillation of the Belgian postal authorities has nowhere been more conspicuously shown than in its treatment of the unpaid-letter



stamp question. Orders were given in 1869 for the preparation of a type for a stamp *à percevoir*, and in due time the annexed design was produced. Furthermore, and this is incomprehensible, it was approved of, supplies were printed off and got ready for despatch to the different post-offices. On the 29th December, 1869, however, there came an order to destroy all these supplies; not on the ground that the authorities had repented of their intention to put such an execrable design in circulation, but because it had been decided not to employ any unpaid-letter stamps at all. Immediately afterwards that decision must have been rescinded, for, in the following September, two unpaid-letter stamps actually made their appearance, and are still in use. The design is really a charming one, and is, perhaps, sufficient in itself to explain the final resolution of the officials. The values and colors are:



10 centimes green.
20 " blue.

Both are on white paper, and are perforated.

With the enumeration of these stamps we close our Belgian budget.

Newly Issued Stamps.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—First in importance to inaugurate the New Year with a new series of postage stamps is the German Empire. The accompanying engravings of the types of the lowest values, scarcely does justice to the originals, which are very finely engraved, and being printed in bright colors, are very effective. The set consists of the following values.





3	pfennige green.	25	pfennige brown.
5	" purple.	50	" grey.
10	" rose.	1	mark blue.
20	" blue.	2	" violet.

Envelope.—10 pfennige rose on white.

Post Cards.—5 pfennige violet, black inscription on buff. Single and double.

Newspaper bands.—3 pfennige green on white.

All the values under 10 pf. are of the first type, the 10 to 50 pf. of the second type the eagle of which is embossed. The 1 and 2 marks are of the same design as the 10 and 30 s.g. they supercede.

HELIGOLAND is to have a new series of stamps; they will be of similar designs and colors to the current set, but will be of the same values as the new German issue, viz.:

1, 2, 5, 10, 25, and 50 pfennige.

ANTIOQUIA.—A correspondent reminds us that we omitted to give a description of the 5 centavos in the list of those stamps given in the November number. The design consists of national arms in centre with inscription in two curved lines above and below, reading CORREOS CINCO CENTS E.E. U.U. DE COLOMBIA EO SO DE ANTIOQUIA; numerals of value in solid circle at sides.

SPANISH WEST INDIES.—The usual quartette for use in these islands



come promptly to hand and prove to be of the expected design. Whether they will be superseded before the year is out by a new set bearing King Alfonso's likeness remains to be seen. We sincerely hope they will, or the chances are that the son of his mother will not adorn the Cuban pages of our albums The colors and values are—

12½ c. de peseta purple.	50 c. de peseta green.
25 " blue.	1 peseta brown.

We should advise collectors to obtain the set at their earliest opportunity.

DENMARK.—The new series of stamps for this country, of which we gave the list in our November number, were issued on the first of the year. The design remains unaltered. The colors are as follows:

3 öre grey, frame blue.	12 öre violet, frame grey.
4 " blue, " grey.	16 " brown, " "
8 " red, " "	25 " green, " "

50 öre violet, frame brown.

Official Stamps.—3 öre grey, 4 ore blue, 8 ore red, 32 ore green.

Post Cards.—4 ore blue, 8 ore red.

Official Post Cards.—4 ore blue, 8 ore red.

Newspaper Bands.—4 ore blue.

Envelopes.—4 ore blue, 8 ore red.

SPAIN.—Carlists stamps are turning up regularly every month, and are likely to do so, as long as they find purchasers, but we hardly think they will derive much revenue from sales on this side of the water.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The English post cards are now to be printed on two qualities of card, which will be sold at 7 and 8 pence per dozen respectively.

LUXEMBURG.—The four centime stamp was lately issued, printed in a greenish-blue color, and unperforated.

ITALY.—Official stamps will shortly be issued for use in this country.

We omit any description of them, preferring to await for the actual stamps to illustrate.

TASMANIA.—The colors of the 9 and 10 pence stamps have been changed to yellow and lilac respectively, and the entire set is now watermarked with C C and crown.

The United States Locals and their History.

BY C. H. C.

Continued from page 188, *Vol. VIII.*

CHARLESTON, S. C.

The only known Despatch company in this city was

HONOUR'S POST,

and its branches. It was established in the year 1850, by Jno. D. Honour, jr., he having (according to his statement) obtained his authority from the Post Office Department at Washington. He associated with him his brother-in-law, Mr. Kingman, who took charge of the western portion of the city, leaving the eastern section to Mr. Honour. Thus they continued for several years, when Mr. Kingman withdrew, and his place was filled by Mr. Martin. Mr. Honour informs me that neither of these gentlemen had any authority from Washington, and were only recognized there as his subordinates.

In April, 1860, Mr. Honour relinquished his interest to Mr. Beckman, who continued the post until the end of the recent civil war.



TYPES I and II. Both issued in 1850, and printed in black on lavender paper. Being type set, (and very carelessly at that) many varieties exist, differing in the arrangement of the pearls.





TYPE III. Date 1851. Black on lavender paper. Varieties as in I. and II.

TYPE IV. This is the the rarest type of all, as I have never seen but one specimen. It was current in 1856, and printed in black on lavender paper.





TYPE V. I cannot assign the exact date. Black impression on lavender paper. Varieties as in I and II.

TYPE VI. Used in 1860. Black on lavender paper.



Mr. Beckman does not appear to have issued any stamp.

WASHINGTON, D. C,

Despatch business in the Capital could not have been profitable, as there seems to have existed but one company, viz: the

WASHINGTON CITY DESPATCH,

and even that, judging from the rariety of its stamps, must have been short-lived.



Current about 1856. A coarse lithograph, printed in violet on white paper. Rather less than a dozen specimens are known.

The JOURNAL, Vol. V, page 38, also notes: "Different design, 1c. blue;" and "Different design, 1c. violet." I can give no further particulars. I therefore pass on to the city of

CHICAGO, ILL.

and I may as well premise that concerning the locals issued in this city, I have been unable to obtain much information as to dates, &c.

CHICAGO PENNY POST.



Orange impressions on white paper. Reprints (or else an uncommonly large and fresh looking "surplus stock") can easily be procured.

FLOYD'S PENNY POST.



The only color in which I have seen *canceled* specimens is blue on white paper, and that is the only color acknowledged by Mr. Floyd. Mr. Scott informs me, however, that he has seen canceled copies in brown. Reprinted in blue, brown and green.

BRADY & CO.



TYPE I.—This is a very rare stamp, and is printed in lilac on white paper.

TYPE II.—This is much commoner. Red brown impression on yellow paper.



The genuine stamp, as will be observed from the reproduction, has a comma after the word "BRADY." In what is generally considered the counterfeit, the comma is absent. Many other minor differences are also noticeable.

A peculiar circumstance in this connection is that these stamps are stamps are sold by a New York dealer in strips of five, consisting of four of the (supposed) *counterfeits*, and one reprint from the *genuine* die! It would thus seem probable that collectors have labored under

a mistake, and that both varieties are genuine. How else could they appear in the same sheet?

I believe that this company sold out to

CLARK & CO.,



who issued a very similar label, also impressed in dark red on yellow paper.

Reprints exist in several fancy hues, but original copies are not often met with.

BRONSON & FORBES.



This stamp was resuscitated by Mr. Wm. P. Brown several years ago, and illustrated by him in the "Kuriositi Kabinet." Black on green glazed paper.

EASTON, PA.



This thriving city was favored in the the year 1856, with the locals herewith re produced. One, it will be observed, was a simple type set impression, the color being black and the paper red. Of the other, the central disk bearing Washington's head is engraved, the leting, &c., being from type, and for this reason several varieties exist, "EASTON DESPATCH" showing the most noticeable differences. Black on white paper.



Browne and his enterprise soon discontinued, owing to lack of patronage.

N. B.—The first type is of the greatest rarity, only one copy being known. This not being in my possession or accessible, I reproduced the stamp from memory, but the printer has altered my design in many particulars, especially in the border, which should be (if I remember rightly) two *straight* lines, one thick and the other thin.



CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Frazer & Co. This has lately been brought to light by Mr. Scott.

The engraving is on metal, and the impression in pink on white. Date, &c., unknown.

NEW ORLEANS, LA.



MENANT & Co. Red impression on thin white paper. Date unknown, although it could probably be ascertained by any person having time to consult the New Orleans directories or old files of newspapers.

ST. LOUIS, MO.



Squier & Co. This post existed in 1847. The stamps were printed in black (?), green and puce, on white paper. They were all rouletted, being with the exception of one of the Boyds, the only locals on which any such attempts were made.

I must now follow up with a lot of stragglers, concerning which I can give no information as to date, locality, &c. I shall therefore arrange them alphabetically. Afterwards the posts of San Francisco must come up for consideration.

BROWN & McGILL.



Lithographed in blue on white paper. Mr. Scott is under the impression that he has also seen it in black. It is generally supposed to have been used in New York City.

BROWNE'S CITY POST.



"Which is it, Brown or Browne," is a question that I have been asked many times, for it will be observed that the inscription differs on the two values. The reason for this peculiarity is unknown to me.



The stamps are said to have been lithographed by Gibson & Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, for use in that city, and the first part of this statement is certainly correct, so far as the lower value is concerned, on which the large central numeral bear the words *Gibson, Cin.*, in scrip letters.

The impression in both cases is black on white paper.

BARR'S DISPATCH.



Type set. Black on green glazed paper. I personally know nothing about this stamp, but as it is generally accepted as genuine, I include it in my list.

C. & W. BRIDGE DESPATCH.



This is another local, concerning which I am profoundly ignorant, though it is said to have been used for the transportation of letters across the bridge from Columbia to Wrightsville, Pennsylvania.

Type set. Bronze on green and on vermilion.

To be continued.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Philatelic Library a catalogue of Stamp Publications. Attempted by JOHN K. TIFFANY, St. Louis; Privately printed.

The above is the modest title under which Mr. Tiffany presents to his brother philatelists the results of several years labor, and the expenditure of many hundreds of dollars in cash. In a philatelic point of view, it is decidedly the most important work that has yet been issued, as it will save from oblivion some hundreds of publications pertaining to stamps. The catalogue consists of 110 pages of small type, and enumerates the full titles with explanatory notes, where necessary, of 1461 publications of various kinds, relating to stamps. The size is quarto, and it is printed on the finest quality of slightly tinted paper. The cover is adorned with quite a curiosity in the way of an engraving of a ten cent St. Louis stamp, enlarged to about ten times the size of the original, and engraved on wood by Mr. J. M. Kershaw, the engraver of the original stamp used in 1845, nearly thirty years ago.

The great expense the author has been under in preparing the work, and the consideratiou that it is given away solely for the benefit of the science, makes us rather shy of criticisiug it; but as we believe the author to be desirous of diffusing all the information possible on the subject of his work, we correct that part of it relating to our firms publication commencing on page 23.

The AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY, Vol. III, *illustrated in colors*, omitted. *Two-page extra, issued March* 25, 1870, omitted; published at 75 and 77 Nassau St., instead of 175 and 177. Vol. VII, published *semi-monthly*, 22 *numbers*, (two double).

The Stamp Collector's Friend. Issued with the impriut of nine different dealers.

Photographs of the entire sheet of New Caledonia, and the Brattleboro stamps omitted. The last is a very valuable and scarce work

Three sets of names for Albums have been issued, only one noted. Some hundreds of circulars have been issued by our publishers, of which nineteen only are noted.

Mistakes and omissions are inseparable from a work of this kind, and the only way to arrive at anything near a complete list is for some one to make a catalogue, and await criticisms. This, Mr. Tiffany has done at his own expense, and the thanks of the entire stamp collecting world are due him for his valuable work, and his still better example.

The Stamp Collector's Magazine. Alfred Smith & Co., Bath, England. The December number of this widely known and influential magazine arrived too late for notice in our last month's issue and perhaps would

not have been noticed if it had arrived earlier, if a startling announcement in print would have a similar effect on writing, as it is commonly stated to do when spoken, viz: "Take your breath away." Certainly we have never read such unexpected or painful news in any stamp paper as greeted our eyes on opening the number before us. The news is briefly this, that the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* will be discontinued, owing to a falling off in its subscription list. This is simply a disgrace to English collectors, for certainly no paper ever deserved better of the class for whom it was published, than the *S. C. M.* Its articles were always well written, and readable; its news always fresh and reliable. We have been trying to make up a club in this country of 100 subscribers at five dollars each, to send to its publishers, in the hope that this would be an inducement to continue its publication. We have already succeeded in getting eleven, and shall be pleased to take the names of American philatelists for one or more copies at this rate, and hope this appeal will have the desired effect, for there are certainly many of our readers who can afford to take five copies, and, after seeing what Mr. Tiffany has spent for the common good, cannot well see how they can refuse.

The article explaining the reason of its discontinuation, Mr. Overy Taylor's valuable paper on Finland, Newly Issued Stamps, and an article styled "Personal Matters," completes the number. The last paper will be of interest to persons who have invested in Berford's, as Mr. Casey selected its editor as his judge, put in his statement, is tried, and doubtless convinced by his arguments.

In conclusion, we can only put on record the sentiment of American amateurs, that the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* and its publishers are deserving of the thanks of Stamp Collectors the world over.

Lloyd's Map of the American Continent. Published by the Lloyd Map Company, Philadelphia. Sent post free for 25 cents.

This is almost out of the line of publications to which we call attention, but the want of a good and cheap map on which to locate the positions of the Confederate provisionals and U. S. locals, induces us to point out its advantages to our readers.

It is printed by a new invention in relief on steel, and shows the American Continent from ocean to ocean, on one entire sheet of bank note, 40x50 inches large. It is printed on a lightning press, and colored, sized and varnished for the wall so as to stand washing, and is mailed any where in the world for 25 cents, or unvarnished for 10 cents. This map shows the whole United States and Territories in a group, from surveys to 1875, with a million places on it, such as towns, cities, villages, mountains, lakes, rivers, streams, gold mines, railway tations, &c.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

BERGEDORF.

This magazine may claim for itself the honor of introducing to public notice the town which gives its name to the graduated series of



stamps we are about to examine. Prior to the year 1863, the question, Where is Bergedorf? would have formed a good conundrum; and I feel sure that "Give it up" would have been the answer of many well-informed persons who could have accurately indicated the latitude and longitude of Kamschatka. In the second number of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, however, there appeared an interesting article on Bergedorf, to which I am now glad to have recourse myself, to brush up my knowledge of that out-of-the-way locality, and for the compilation of which the author must have felt, to some extent, repaid by the gratitude of philatelists. It gave to the mythical German town a local, though somewhat uncertain habitation; for, according to the contradictory testimony of the gazetteers consulted by the author, it is on the Bille, or Rille, and is distant "nine miles E.; ten miles E.S.E.; twelve miles E.; ten miles E.; twelve miles E.S.E., and twelve kilometres S.E. of Hamburg. It was once a troublesome little place, a thorn in the side of the twin commercial giants of other days—Hamburg and Lubeck. Wicked and highly romantic robbers took refuge in its castle, and thence sallied out to obtain forced loans from travellers, and to requisition surrounding communes in the most approved style. One fine day, however, the peace-loving burgesses of Hamburg and Lubeck united, and, after an attack on the town, they regularly smoked the hornets out of their nests in the rocks, and the dramatic brigand was seen no more in those parts. That was early in the fifteenth century; and soon after a certain duke of Saxony, who had been a protector of the Bergedorf band of brothers, made over his rights to Hamburg and Lubeck jointly. Ever since then the town has been sinking deeper and deeper into oblivion; its very history has to be dug out of old manuscripts; and, but for the fortunate advent of philately, it is impossible to say what would have become of it.

The foregoing (very thin) slice of history is a necessary introduction to the study of the stamps themselves, for the central figure of their unique design is formed of a tower, and the half of an eagle, of which the other half is evidently held in durance vile. This quaint device is composed of the arms of Hamburg and Lubeck, the two pro-

tecting cities, which, it may be mentioned, for more than four hundred years alternately nominated the bailiff or governor of Bergedorf, and each supplied an equal number of soldiers to garrison the castle. The subordinate position of the town is further denoted by the four corner letters in the inner square—L. H. P. A.—which signify *Lubeck* (and) *Hamburg post amt* (post office). It seems strange at first that a town which had degenerated into a mere suburb of Hamburg should be allowed to issue stamps, and have a semi-independent existence of its own; but in this very fact we get a glimpse of old feudal practices and traditions. The town was placed in the position of a vassal, but its allegiance was due to commercial cities, which sometimes were hardly put to it to maintain their own independence; so, whilst Bergedorf was snubbed by its more powerful neighbors, they on their side had too much kind feeling for a sister town to govern it out of existence altogether, and so left it some of the symbols of sovereignty. When the North German Confederation was established in 1866, a good many useful institutions, together with not a few time-honored shams, were annihilated ; and it is among these latter, I fear, that the Bergedorf post office must be classed. Let us hope, however, that the Bergedorf postmaster escaped the fate of his office, for he must have been a man of some originality, and bent on marking his tenure of the situation by a striking innovation. To that effect he "created" to (use the French expression) the stamps which form the *raison d'etre* of this present article.

The intelligent inhabitants of Bergedorf did not participate until somewhat late in the day in the blessings of postage stamps. It was not until November, 1861, that the first pair saw the light. They were the half schilling black on violet paper, and the three schilling black on rose. These two stamps, and especially the latter, have attained a high degree of rarity. How many forgeries of them have been concocted I leave it to Mr. Atlee to say; but without trenching on his ground, I may mention the one simple and unfailing test of genuineness, and that is—identity in every detail of engraving with the common stamps of the same values, viz., ½ schilling indigo and 3 schilling purple on rose. The rare and the common are one and all *from the same dies;* therefore colour is the only distinguishing point, and the slightest variation from the common type is damnatory. To young beginners, for whom these papers are written, and who are thinking of investing in a pair of first issue Bergedorf, my advice would be—Don't ! unless you are prepared to pay a very high price for them, and are dealing with a stamp merchant who has a character to lose.

The second series of stamps was issued only eleven days after the appearance of the first. Its values are pretty well known ; still, as they are now obsolete, it may be as well to mention that they are as follows:

½-schilling black on violet. 3 schilling purple on rose.
1 " " white. 4 " black on brown.
1½ " " yellow.

It would seem that the two rare stamps—though by the accident of their appearance before the rest they are considered to form a distinct series—ought rather to be deemed varieties, seeing that they were not engraved before the other values, and that they show the same distinctions of size.

All five stamps were lithographed. They remained in circulation until 1867, when the post-office business was made over to the Confederation, and after their suppression a sheet of proofs, taken in black from the original stone, made its appearance. From this interesting witness we have evidence of the order in which the stamps were drawn. On the first line are found the 4 and the 1½ sch., below these the 3 and the 1 sch., and under them again the ½ sch. stamp, of which the annexed engraving is a copy. It appears that this value was so extensively forged at Hamburg, that the Bergedorf postal authorities had caused this new design to be prepared, and were about to issue it when the war of 1866 broke out, and the project fell through. On this sheet of original proofs a peculiar error was noted by its examiner M. Moens. The 1½ sch. bears on the left the word *schillinge*, with an *e*, and it appears that some stamps were actually issued showing this variety—stamps, I presume, of the first issue; for very shortly the error was discovered, and in the lithographic transfer from which the sheets were printed the superfluous and ungrammatical *e* was effaced.



With the exception of the above-mentioned design, Bergedorf is fortunate in not possessing any *essays*. The grotesque device which ornaments its stamps has not been further twisted and turned to suit the purpose and fill the pocket of any ingenious engraver. And—still greater wonder—it is, to the best of my belief, innocent of reprints. The stamps which have long been selling, since they ceased to circulate, below their facial value, are genuine remainders, though whether printed off to meet the wants of home correspondents or foreign customers remains doubtful. Beginners, however, may accept them for what they are, viz., genuine stamps, and be thankful that they can get them so cheap.

The United States Locals and their History.

BY C. H. C.

Continued from page 11.

This is supposed to have belonged to some New York company, and



its proprietor is said to have been one Baldwin. Black impressions on white paper. Reprints are offered in large quantities.

CITY EXPRESS POST.

The labels bearing this inscription, and having a numeral of value for the central design, must be assigned a place among the "doubtful," as nothing whatever is known about them, nor have canceled copies ever been seen. All that can be said in their favor, is that an unused pair in *black* came out of the celebrated McCoy collection.

1 cent black on white.
1 " blue " "
2 " " " "
2 " black " "

FISKE & RICE.

I extract Mr. Scott's description from Vol. V, page 66, of the JOURNAL, which must suffice instead of the usual illustration:

"FISKE & RICE'S above, EXPRESS below, in curved lines, locomotive steam engine in centre, enclosed in rule border. Set up with type and foundry cut of engine. Black impression on vermillion glazed paper. Small rectangle."

G. A. MILLS.
HALL & MILLS.



Type set. Black on green paper. These labels were undoubtedly used in New York City, (I find G. A. Mills in the directory for 1851-52,) but as they have only recently come to light, I was unable to describe them in there proper places.



JONES' CITY EXPRESS POST.



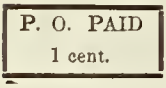
Black on rose-colored paper.

POST OFFICE DESPATCH.



Red on bluish paper.
Blue on bluish paper.

POST OFFICE PAID.



This is described in the *S. C. M.* for 1872 page 164. Black on white and on blue paper.

ROADMAN'S PENNY POST.

As the authentic character of this label has never been satisfactorily shown, I dispense with the usual illustration, and content myself with a brief description.

Transverse oblong border of links. ROADMAN'S PENNY POST in three lines. Type set.

Rose on white paper.

SNOW'S DESPATCH.



This is one of Mr. W. P. Brown's resuscitations, or rather it came out of the McCoy collection which he purchased.

Blue on blue. Black on black.

SNOW'S EXPRESS.

I extract the following from the S. C. M., for 1872, page 164: "Th- design (if such it may be called) is of the simplest, being an old-fashe ioned looking figure 1, with SNOW'S reading upwards on one side, and EXPRESS reading downwards on the other. Above is ONE between two strokes, and below is CENTS similarly placed. Blue upon thin paper."

STRINGER & MORTON.

Here, too, I am without the stamp to illustrate. I therefore transcribe Mr. Scott's not over lucid description, viz: STRINGER AND MORTON'S CITY DESPATCH. Small oblong, black on gold.



WHITTELSEY'S EXPRESS.

Red on white.

Blue on white.

We must now turn our attention to the Pacific Coast beginning with the city of

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

The history of these posts will not be attempted at present, as I purpose to dwell upon the subject at some length in the course of the article which I am now writing on the Western Envelope Franks.



CALIFORNIA PENNY POST CO.

Blue impression on white paper. Both are of the highest degree of rarity.





CALIFORNIA CITY LETTER EXPRESS.

Heogs & Madison.

Blue on white paper. This is a most peculiar label, combining an advertisement and a postage stamp.

H. & M. are also said to have issued another stamp, which is described by Mr. Madison as "some sort of a fancy thing with a horse in the centre, and printed in red."

ROBINSON & CO.

I extract the following from Dr. Gray's: I. ROBINSON & Co. ONE CENT. Rectangular, colored impression.

Brown on blue. Black on blue. Red on green.

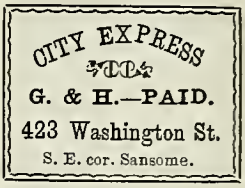
II. ROBINSON & Co., SAN FRANCISCO EXPRESS. Paid. Oblong. Black on yellow.

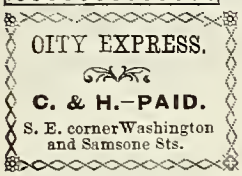
I have never seen either of these.



GAHAGAN & HOWE.

Blue on white paper. Both of these are type set.





Black on white paper. Also type set.

A fourth variety is said to exist, but I have never seen it.

GEORGE A. CARNES.



TYPE I. Rose on white paper. (Value, 5c.) On St. Valentine's Day Mr. Carnes charged double his usual price, and on such occasions used a very simple provisional stamp, made by surcharging his regular label with a large blue X.

TYPE II A cheap wood block. Larger than last, with star above the bear's head. Black, red, blue, bronze, silver, gold.

TYPE III. Large label for packages. Transverse oval inscribed "CARNES CITY LETTER EXPRESS." Value in centre.

15 cents rose on white.
25 " " " "

TYPE IV. Same as last, but reading "CARNES & Co. CITY PACKAGE EXPRESS, 621 MONTG. St."

15 cents rose on white.
25 " " " "

The authentic character of Type I. is said to be beyond doubt. As to the others I cannot say as much, and I should not be very much surprised if it should ultimately turn out that they were (like poor Hodge's razors) made to sell, with the sanction of Mr. Carnes.

W. E. LOOMIS.



S.E. cor. Sans'e & Wash'n

Rose on white. Loomis succeeded Carnes, and, being apparently of an economical turn, used Mr. Carnes' design, merely erasing the latter's name therefrom. The job was done very badly, so that traces of the first and last letters are almost always discernible. Below the stamp has been added "S. E. COR. SANS'E AND WASH'N." (Sansome and Washington Streets.)

LANGTON & CO.



This was used by the above firm in some western city : but exactly where, I cannot say.

Black on white paper.

To be continued.

Newly Issued Stamps.



The official stamps as noted in our last are now before us, and, as will be seen by the engraving, are more remarkable for simplicity than beauty. The design and color is the same for all the values, which are as follows : 2, 5, 20 and 30 centesimi; and 1, 2, 5, and 10 lire, lake.

Two new values have been added to the set of unpaid letter stamps, viz., 5 and 10 lire, blue.

Canada.—*The Philatelist* quotes as follows from a Montreal correspondent: "I have been told by a person acquainted with the engravers to the Post Office Department, that there are now in hand designs for two stamps for registered letters, of the value of 2 cents and 4 cents, respectively. They are oblong in shape, and have REGISTERED POST at top, and large figure of value in centre." We have no means of testing the accuracy of this information before going to press, but the values appear remarkably small for registered letters.



Spain.—Still they come. This time it is only a new pair of war stamps, of the annexed design, and most wretchedly printed. The colors and values are—

5 centimos dull green, 10c. lake.

We understand that a new set of stamps of the same design as the last issued 10c. de p. are now ready, but from the late turn in Spanish politics, it is doubtful if they will come into use, and if they do, they are not likely to be long lived.

Queensland.—We are indebted to Mrs. Craig for the first sight of the shilling stamp of this country, in a new color, viz., purple. It had been changed about a year before from pale brown to claret.

Japan has again treated us to a new value, and this time the design is quite novel. Unfortunately, we have not been able to obtain a sufficiently clear specimen to engrave, so our readers must remain content with our description. The central device consists of a bird with a tail—wonderful, if not horrible, as it appears to be formed of a heavy beam of wood, and extends half across the circle. We can only attri-

bnte the peculiar position of the bird to the supposition that its tail is tnrning it over. Ferns are to the right and left, and what appears to be a village, with a flag-staff in the distance. This is enclosed in a circnlar band, inscribed 15 SEN above, and 15 (1 in space divided off) SEN below. Japanese characters at sides, and also in a curved label above, with a chrysanthemum in the eentre, ornamental corners; color lilac. We must confess to being perfeetly charmed with this stamp, the design being quite unique, and reminding us of the quaint figures we see on fans and tea ehests. We hope it is but a forernnner of a new series of similar designs.

Just as the forms are being made np another valne has eome under onr notice. The design is similar to the 15 sen., bnt the bird is mueh larger, and looks something like a pea hen. The eolor is pink, the value is 12 sen.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The three-half penny envelope stamp has lately been issned in connection with the 1 p. pink, and 2 p. blue, forming envelopes of the value of 2½ p. and 3½ p., in eaeh ease the 1½ is snppressed in brown instead of pink its ordinary color. We nnderstand the best qnality of post eards is printed in brown instead of violet.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Two new values are to be issned for use here, a 12 e. and we believe a 24 e. The latter will bear the portrait of King Kalakaua, and probably be greeu, while the former will be adorned with the portrait of his son, and be printed in black.

HONDURAS is reported as preparing a set of four values.

SWITZERLAND has added a new value to its enrrent set, to be nsed for the prepayment of patterns, &c. The type is the same as the current set. The value 15 centimes, and the eolor the most ineffective lemon yellow we have yet seen.

CUBA, not Spanish Cnba, but *Cuba Libre*, has, we are informed, issned postage stamps. Particulars in our next.

PERU.—The unpaid series of this eountry (Llama and steamship) has been joined by another value.

2 centavos green.

HELIGOLAND.—The forthcoming set of stamps is to include a post card and envelope.

WURTEMBURG.—A stamp we take to be the forernnner of a new series has just come over. The design eonsists of nnmeral of valne in cirele; arms, on small shields, at sides; K. WURTT. PORT above value; in words below, in enrved lines,

20 pfenning blue.

There will probably be a set of the same colors and values as the German Empire.

A Complete History of Forged Stamps,

And how to detect them.

BY THE AUTHOR.

How to detect them ! A very little senteuce aud easily written, and as easily answered by us. Learn to examine stamps, learn their peculiarities, their styles of engraving, their watermarks, and their perforations. Study your specimens, and you will find an imperceptible sense come to you, by which you can at ouce reject an ordinary forgery, and which sense will make you suspect—and that instiuctively—the best of imitations. This is our advice, and always has been, and this is the true secret of how to become a good judge both of genuine and forged stamps.

As, however, it is the younger portion of our community, who have to suffer most by forgeries, we must essay by every means in our power, to explain to them the great points which mark the genuine stamps from forgeries, and this we must do with every country, and as concisely as possible. There are certain magazines, which by reason of being perused amongst the juvenile members of society, have been sought out by sundry dealers, who know the effect of an advertisement baited with 100 *rare varieties for* 25c. Even as the guileless pike swallows the delicately concealed hook of Piscator, so the ingenuous youth purchases the abomiuations of these dealers, and probably becomes, when he subsequently learns how he has beeu caught, as dead to Philately as the parallel we have drawn would suggest.

Wheu we have described all the forgeries we have seen, we will conclude with some remarks on the makers of these things; but meanwhile, month by month, we shall mercilessly expose those who systematically deal in them.

For the sake of simplicity we inteud to classify forgeries as follows:

1st class.—Forgeries of stamps so well executed as to require a lengthy description.

2nd class.—Poor imitations, but so far good that they require a few words of description.

3rd class.—Wretched lithographs, showing an unhealthy whiteness of paper, emanating from Hamburg, or Boston, U. S. So badly done that to indicate their existence, and to give one point of difference will suffice.

4th class.—Labels utterly fictitious, or which never had any postal character.

5th class.—Stamps changed in colour by the use of chemicals, perforated for sale, or in some way altered "with inteut to deceive."

AMOY.

On page 18 of the fifth volume of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, this label, belonging to class 4, is engraved. It is there given as a humbug, and such it undoubtedly is. There are three varieties—

3 (what?) blue. 5 (what?) red. 10 (what? yellow. The design is comprehensive, and does not stick at trifles. There are depicted an eagle, vulture, or condor, with scroll in his beak, inscribed *Fanqui;* a mandarin with umbrella; a pagoda; a string of fancy Chinese characters; and a steam man-of-war; and the stamp is marked *Shangai, Amoy, Ningpo, Hong Kong.* This came out many years ago, and sold very largely during the mania for essays—that was a time when anything that *looked* postal was certain to be largely bought by collectors.

Antigua.

There are forgeries of these stamps belonging to the third class, which may be detected by the entire absence of watermark, and the irregular and broken appearance of the engine-turned ground. Belonging to class 5 we find sundry specimens steeped in indigo, and sold as essays; they are indeed essays, but on credulity.

Antioquia.

The 1869 series of these stamps has been imitated by Spiro, of Hamburg, who, taking for their motto *dum spiro spero,* are ever hoping for new issues, that they may imitate the same, to their own great profit. The forgeries are very second-class, and, briefly, may be distinguished by the absence of rays above the eagle in the 5c. and 10c. In the original 2½c., 5c., 10c., and 20c., the head of the condor is very small, and the wings are shaded all over, except the top of the right one in the 5c. and 20c. The stars (nine in number), are very large in the 5c.; those on the 2½c. and 10c. are smaller, whilst those on the 20c, are smallest, and closest together; the forgery of the 20c., being printed from the 10c. die, can be at once detected by the two labels round the arms, which in the real 20c. form a continuous oval. We have seen no forgery of the 2½c.; we may further add that there are no rays behind eagle in either 2½c. or 20c. genuine; so their absence can only prove the badness of suspected 5c. and 10c.

Argentine Confederation and Republic.

These stamps, for their simplicity and crudeness of design, gave the forgers the first opportunity of exercising their skill; but, so little was known of the details of their device, and so little attention was paid to such details by collectors, that the first forgery which appeared, though omitting the pole and cap of Liberty, had a large sale. We purpose treating this important seriesof stamps rather fully, to show our readers how stamps must be studied, before a thorough acquaintance can be said to have been made with them. These verbose descriptions, if followed out through each country, would far exceed the space to which we ought to limit ourselves; consequently, after this, we must treat other countries concisely, and not too fully; the publication of the minutiæ of each stamp has the disadvantage of showing the forgers

what points to be most careful in imitating, although drawing the attention of amateurs to the same points. Perfect fac-similes of all the issues will be found in part I. of *The Philatelical Catalogue;* the illustrations therein given are photographed from the originals, and are exact counterparts, line for line; and no collector should be without them.

CONFEDERATION.

TYPE I.—*Issued April*, 1858.

Design: A rising sun above transverse oval upper half of oval lined, lower containing two clasped hands supporting cap of Liberty on staff, lettered above in arched line CONFEON. ARGENTINA, below, value in curved line, entire ground plain, all within solid Greek frame. Rect. col. imp. lithographed.

5 c. vermilion.

TYPE II.—*Issued end of* 1858.

Design: As I. in all respects, save that numerals are smaller, and the frame bears a larger Greek pattern. Rect. col. imp. lithographed.

5 c. red; 10 c. green; 15 c. blue.

REMARKS.—The first type, which has but one stamp, far exceeds the type which follows it, in execution. In this stamp the rays round the sun are composed of very minute dots, and are not very thick at the "roots." In the hands which clasp the staff, the fingers may be seen and counted; the oval containing the hands, &c., does not touch the frame of the stamp; there is a full stop after figure 5 and after word CENTAV; there are eleven loops in the border, both at top and bottom; there are sixteen on the left side, but only fourteen on the right. The second type, which is of coarser execution, has the rays of the sun composed of larger dots than in type 1; the border has seven loops at top and bottom, and nine on each side (*i.e.* only counting those which are well-defined and perfect, this applies to the other type). The oval containing hands, &c., touches the frame on both sides; the hands have no clear fingers, but possess two gigantic thumbs, which are very distinct. The whole execution is rougher than the last type. The ends of the rays are quite square, coming to one uniform length, close to the name above them. The 5c. has always either one or two stops after the numerals, but not the 10c. or 15c. The colour of this 5c. is not nearly so rich as that of the 5c. large figure usually is. This digest of the stamps will be found useful; for there are many series of forgeries, which it is impossible to describe *in extenso*, though we shall give all their salient points.

Of the first type, it appears that, really and truly, there are no forgeries. The imitations of the second type do duty for either, and amongst them are none with the small Greek border—a sufficient distinction when it is remembered that there are seventeen turns in the Greek pattern to left side in the large figured stamp, and only ten in

the next type. There are so many different forgeries of the second type, that it will be simpler to dissect the real stamps, and to quote their general characteristics, rather than wade laboriously through a separate description for each imitation. The points in the genuine issue are these :—

1. Border. Left side ten turns, in right side eleven, top and bottom nine, beginning left and top on the inner edge of frame, right side and base on the outer edge. Large mark, either square or upright, in each angle.

2. Head. Leans slightly to the right, face broad, and certainly swelled on the left side, and is not a bad likeness of the Tichborne claimant.

3. Rays. Follow the shape of the space appointed for them, but are long or short at irregular intervals, never set to one length beyond two or three together. Two strokes under ON, very close together.

4. Value. Numerals upright ; lowest part of 5 very large and curved beyond any ordinary shape ; no dot after numerals in the 10c. or 15c. *Centav* always dotted.

5 Arms. Cap large and lengthy, nearly same thickness throughout, with two white marks on it.

6 Oval, containing arms, touches the frame upon each side, and has nine lines of shading in upper half.

FORGERY A.

Of this there are 5, 10, and 15c., and a 5c. in red-brown, from a slightly-altered die. (1) The frame has eleven turns each side, and on all four sides it commences on the outer edge. (2) Head long, and face cheerful-looking. (3) Rays as "set" as the clipped shrubs in a Dutch garden, and sloping upwards, therefore not fulfilling the description given previously ; two distinct strokes under ON. (4) Numerals sloping; dot after numeral in 5c. and 15c., and dot always after *Centav.* (5) Cap is divided into three white portions, is long, narrow, and curved to the right, resembling a horn. (5) Oval does not touch.

FORGERY B.

Of this we have only seen a 5 centav ; it is not much superior to the preceding. (1) The frame has eleven turns to left and right, and commences on the inner edge on all sides but the left, where it begins outside. (2) Head short, and face broad and fat. (3) Rays ending with clear and unbroken strokes, and not too numerous. One stroke under ON. (4) Numeral upright and dotted. (5) Cap round, very white, and with one spot in centre. (6) Oval touches.

FORGERY C.

Of this we have only a 10 centav. (1) There are ten turns to left, eleven to right, left and top commence inside, the others commence on the outer edge. (2) Head shows a countenance full of idiotcy, and the

said head *does not touch* the oval below it. (3) Rays are disposed in concentric arched rows ; one stroke under ON. (4) Numerals large, upright, and like word *Centav* of one uniform thickness (or rather thinness) throughout. (5) Arms ; cap shows a white mark, with several indentations in it, and its shape is quite undefined. (6) Oval does not touch frame.

FORGERY D.

This is the 15c., matching the above 10c., and resembles it in most generalities ; but (1) the right side begins outside at top, but at base finishes off square ; if it had been continued, the last stroke would have made twelve turns, commencing outside at top, inside below. (4) Numerals large, 5 being exaggerated, and the curve thickened. (6) Oval touches.

FORGERY E.

This is the best imitation of all—indeed the only one in any way successful. We have only seen a 5c. (1) As genuine. (2) Head more like genuine. (3) Rays the same ; almost as genuine—two long strokes under ON, too distinct. (4) Numerals like the original. (5) A solid blotch of colour. (6) Oval touches, but contains only eight lines of shading.—*The Philatelical Journal.*

Phases of a Ruined Life.

HOW A FARMER'S BOY BECAME A MILLIONAIRE BUT IS NOW A CONVICT.

In a small town in Iowa thirteen years ago there lived a rich and prosperous merchant—one widely known and universally respected. He was one of our modern types of the self-made man. As a farmer-boy he had sought a place in the village as clerk in a "country store." In three years he became partner and in five sole proprietor. The town grew and his business grew with it. Profits were large in those rapidly growing Western towns, and even then supply scarcely equalled demand. With a good beginning in the world, and a keen eye, unbounded energy, and a fund of good nature, so necessary to the business man, to develop this beginning, with few wants and a simple solid trust to the foundation of experience, success was certain. The war came ; it was to his business but a new lever. He was largely engaged in dry goods ; we all know how they went up. He saw the advantage ; he had nerve, and went in largely. His bills at this time with Claflin & Co. were enormous. He was well known in New York, and called perfectly good. It was the golden age with him. In the back room of his store he had whole cords of sheeting and calico which were worth 800 per cent. more than they had cost.

It would not have been surprising if such monstrous fortune had a marked effect upon the mind of this simple, straightforward business

man; if he had felt the secure foundation of experience less necessary; if he had seen new horizons opening up great possibilities in the future; if he had planned Napoleonic schemes of commerce in a wider field. It is not known that he had these dreams; what we do know is that his good judgment became unreliable and played him false; that during the ensuing five years he lost money nearly as fast as he had made it; that he finally sold out and came to New York with a saved remnant of his immense fortune, but with unbounded ambition and the utmost confidence in his own abilities.

Benoni Howard was one of the few business men whose honesty and liberality during a long career were never by any human being doubted. He always paid everything that was demanded of him, and with interest. This was with him a mania. It extended beyond the pale of his business into his moral life. He had something of the Indian in his nature, for he never forgot a favor nor forgave an injury. "I'll be even with you yet" was his favorite remark, uttered in his quiet, determined way, and those who knew him best looked to themselves when he made that remark. The subsequent history of this man is the story of a single act and its results—an act of resentment. It was this fatal quality, resentment, which was the shoal on which his life was wrecked.

In 1865 Benoni Howard became proprietor of the immense establishment known as the New York Match Company in Forty-second street. The business carried on here was something enormous. He bought of the Government no less than seven hundred thousand dollars worth of revenue stamps. The Government allowed him a certain percentage on these drawbacks. A misunderstanding occurred here, the Government, according to his figuring, not allowing him what the contract required. He felt that he was an injured man; he applied strong language to the Government officials and was promptly snubbed. "The Government has cheated me; I'll be even with them yet," he said as he walked away.

The enemy, however, was too strong for him. The Government watched him, and found that he did not buy as many stamps as he used, and they suddenly made a descent upon him, shut up his factory, broke up his business, and threw him upon the world a ruined man. Unstamped boxes of his matches had been found in the market, and it was upon this fact that the action was taken. Nothing more serious was suspected until nearly a year later, when a fisherman in the East River found buried in the mud, and covered with wax and verdigris, a copper plate for printing revenue stamps, and bearing the name of Benoni Howard. Howard made desperate efforts to get that plate from the unsuspecting fisherman, but the detectives were too quick for him, and outbid him for the fatal piece of copper bearing the name of the ruined match manufacturer.

He was not the only man involved, however; there was another man

who trembled when he learned that this plate was in the hands of the police. That man was the engraver who had made it. He did what other frightened men do with the strong instinct of self-preservation —he ignobly betrayed his partner, made a clean breast of it, and hopelessly implicated Howard as a counterfeiter. He was tried, and the jury disagreed. Hundreds were ready to come forward and testify to his good character—that of the engraver was questionable—and the evidence, though morally overwhelming, was not legally sufficient.

Last summer a man from the States came to the town of New Liverpool in the province of Quebec. He was accompanied by his wife, as if his stay was to be permanent, and he engaged his services to a merchant at a salary of $1,500 a year. He was a man of forty-five, and had a crushed, too quiet air, and a close observer of human nature might have noticed the nervous, scared look in the face of the poor wife, and under his own forced calmness a dull terror, an unrest, the heart of a man "hunted down." His nights were troubled, for it was said by the neighbors that the unhappy wife would often awake from her dreams with screams and tears. It was her woman's prophetic fears only too soon to be realized; it was her husband, Benoni Howard, the counterfeiter, who was on Saturday sentenced to five years' hard labor in the Penitentiary.

Clippings.

The Orientals are very fastidious about writing, and calligraphers enjoy a high reputation among them. It is said that each letter of the Arabic alphabet requires one year's practice before the writer is able to execute it in the thoroughly approved fashion. A fine hand is the first and most important, and sometimes the only sign of a good education. Fine specimens of writing are often gilded and framed to hang up in rooms, as we use pictures, which are forbidden to them. The prices paid in Persia, Turkey, Egypt, etc., for specimens of the writing of famous scribes, are often fabulous.

The Postal Congress, which met on the 15th of September, at Berne, at the instance of Germany, promises to effect a very important reform. It was participated in by twenty-two nations, among which were the United States and Egypt. Heretofore the rates of postage in the different countries of Europe have been fixed without any reference to one another, and have been necessarily and arbitrarily high. The convention proposed a uniform rate of postage upon all letters and papers carried within the boundaries of the nations represented in the convention with the exception of the United States and Egypt, a small additional charge being proposed in order to cover the cost of transporting the mails by sea to or from the latter countries. The charges agreed upon were five cents for prepaid letters, ten cents

for unpaid letters, two and a half cents for postal cards, and two cents for printed matter weighing not more than four ounces. The whole amount of postage is to be collected at the offices at which letters and papers are mailed, and a small proportion of the amount collected is to be paid at fixed interest to the postal departments of other countries through which such letters and papers may be sent. These regulations are to be binding only upon such governments as may ratify the postal treaty drawn up by the convention; but as Germany has made haste to ratify it, the other European nations will doubtless follow her example, and thus a great step will be made towards universal penny postage.

A GENTLEMAN who was a stranger in Little Rock, went to the desk of one of the hotels, and asked if he could buy a postage stamp. The clerk replied that he had none, whereupon a bystander took out his pocketbook, and graciously handed the gentleman a number of stamps, telling him to help himself. The stranger took two of them, and, thanking the gentleman for his kindness, handed back the remainder of the stamps and six cents pay for those he had taken. But the pennies had scarcely been placed in the hands of the other when he flung them on the floor, and exclaimed violently, "If you were not a damned fool, sir, you would know that an Arkansian does not peddle postage stamps." No apologies would be accepted, and the irate man walked out of the hotel muttering about his offended honor.

Answers to Correspondents.

Philatelist, Philadelphia.—A complete collection can only be obtained by a considerable expenditure of time and money. No amount of cash could procure a *complete* collection in a month or two, as the few collections which can lay claim to that title are owned by wealthy persons who could not be induced to sell. You can obtain a first class collection in a year or so at a moderate expense.

H. E. F., Chicago.—We should certainly advise you to sell your collection at auction, you would probably realize more money that way than by any other method, and would be doing stamp collecting a real service. Auction sales of coins have increased their value wonderfully, by keeping the general public aware of their value, and by giving collectors confidence in their ever increasing value as shown by a comparison of auction catalogues.

Ernest F., Toledo.—The "Common Sense Album is decidedly the best published, and is used by all the leading collectors in the U. S. and Canada." The talented author of the History of the U. S. Locals will shortly give a History of the Confederate Locals.

B. F., New Brunswick.—Your Album contains a large number of confederates as is usually the case with the smaller English collections. You had better send it back to England to sell. We have marked the imitations, and our publishers return it by book post.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

BREMEN.

The emissions of this town, if not distinguished by any remarkable excellence of design, present at least a pleasing *ensemble* to the eye.



The principal device which ornaments them is emblematic of the sovereignty which belonged to the once free city. The Bremen burgesses kept the key of their own door, instead of giving it into the custody of some neighbouring potentate, and knew how to maintain their independence long after other equally important towns had succumbed.

Its series of stamps does not possess any very remarkable history: had the stamps voices, they might answer inquisitive querists in the words of Canning's celebrated knife-grinder story, "Heaven bless you, sir, we've none to tell." Yet, uneventful as was their existence, there are still some few items in it which require mention.

Thus, in the first place, we have the dates of emission. Moens unhesitatingly gives 1855 for the 3, 5, and 7 grote, and 5 sgr., but Berger-Levrault gives 1860 for the 7 grote. For the 10 grote, 1861 is generally ascribed, and we all know that the 2 grote made its appearance in April, 1863.

These stamps are divisible into two categories: 1, those which served for letters posted and delivered in the town or district; 2, those used for external correspondence, The 2 and 3 grote, in conjunction with the envelope, represent the former, and the remaining values the latter. The 2 and 3 gr. are inscribed STADT POST AMT (state, or city, postoffice); the 5 and 7 gr. bear the words FRANCO MARKE, without the name, and the two higher values bear the name only; the inscription would, therefore, seem to have been left in all but the two local post stamps to the discretion of the engraver. In like manner the crown surmounting the key, present in the 3, 5, and 7 grote, is absent from the others, and probably from a similar reason the 5 and 7 gr. were issued pursuent to the rules of the German postal union, as we find that in value they nearly approach the 2 and 3 sgr., and are printed in the colors originally chosen for these denominations.

The original series, composed of the 3, 5, 7 grote and 5 sgr. appeared unperforated. In 1861, however, a new value, the 10 gr., was added, and it made its *debut* perforated, or rather pricked; in the 1862 the 5 gr. followed suit, and in 1863 came the 2 gr. The 3 gr. and the

5 sgr., pricked, were issued in 1864, and in 1866 the emission of properly perforated stamps commenced with the 3 gr., the other values submitting to the change in 1867.

It is worthy of note that of the 3 grote stamp there were three separately engraved types side by side throughout the sheet, and of the 5 gr. there were two dies similarly placed.

Imperforate copies of the 5 sgr. are found upon a thick, intensely white paper, in addition to that ordinarily used.

After the suppression of the Bremen postoffice, a large number of its stamps were sold under cost price; and may, for aught I know, be still selling. I have no reason to suppose them to be reprints. They were probably remainders; and comprised among their number, the unperforated 5 grote and 5 sgr., the pricked 10 sgr., and perforated 2, 3, 7, 10 gr., and 5 sgr.

Prior to their appearance, Bremen stamps—even used—commanded a relatively good price, being far less common than the emissions of many other of the German States; and numerous forgeries were the result, which must have yielded a rich harvest to their owners.

ENVELOPE.

The handstamped envelope served for local postage, and it was formed of white or of blue paper. The stamp, a simple transverse oval, contained the key and crown upon a shield; and on the edge of of the envelope, in a line with this device, is the word FRANCO; the whole in black. Some specimens are found without the word FRANCO, but their authenticity is somewhat doubtful. The value, unexpressed upon the stamp, was one grote. As there is a most dangerous counterfeit about, collectors need to exercise caution before purchasing any of these envelopes.

BRUNSWICK.

The Brunswick stamps offer absolutely no difficulty to the collector, not even that of price, for the rarest can be obtained for fifty cents, and their history is devoid of any obscurity; the present paper can therefore hardly claim to be more than a catalogue of the various issues.

Everyone knows the Brunswick horse, the graceful and all but unique device of the Brunswick stamps—all *but* unique, for the crown on the ¼ gr. quartett alone prevents it from being entirely so. Simple and neat is the sole commendation which the type requires. The earlier issue appeared on the 1st January, 1852, and continued through different editions of colour, paper, &c., down to 1865, when it gave place to the second series, which remained in service until the Brunswick postal department was merged in that of the North German Confederation.



The first three stamps were the 1 sgr. rose, 2 sgr. blue. and 3 sgr. red. They are printed on white paper, and are devoid of watermark Their circulation lasted only fourteen months: hence, as compared with subsequent emissions, they are rare. The second edition, which came out in March, 1853, is in black on coloured paper.—the coloured impression having probably been found hardly sufficiently *prononcée*— and the values are:—

1 sgr. orange, yellow, and nankin-yellow.
2 " dark blue.
3 " rose.

To these were added, in March, 1856, two low-value stamps for printed matter,—the ¼ sgr. brown and ⅓ sgr. white. All five stamps are watermarked with a post-horn.

In February, 1857, the post-office, apparently thinking that the oblong ¼ sgr. was too much for the money, introduced the economical and peculiar postal coupon here represented, of which each quarter, or any two or three, may be used separately. It was printed in black on thickly gummed paper watermarked with a post-horn, and continued in use until the extinction of the Brunswick post-office; but had that office continued a little longer in existence this stamp would have been superseded by an impression of the same design in dark bistre on white paper. The posthumous type is common enough, and should find a place in every collection. It is duly watermarked; it is not a reprint, but an original stamp, and its authenticity is beyond question. The stock, which had been prepared in advance, became the property of some speculative German dealer, and has been disseminated, together, in fact, with the entire oval series, over the four quarters of the globe.

The issue of 1857 continued in uninterrupted circulation until 1862, when, rather oddly, the postal authorities reverted to the style of the first edition, and issued a 3 sgr. rose on white paper, waterwarked post-horn. Then, in 1863, they reverted to the black impressions, producing on this occasion a new value, the ½ sgr. black on green, and, finally, in 1865, they returned once more to their first love, the impression in colour, at the same time adopting the improvement of perforation or, rather, in this instance, piercing. At this last date they issued a

1 sgr. yellow, on white paper perf.
3 " rose, " " "

and they issued a supply of perforated

⅓ sgr. white.
½ " green. } black impression.
2 " blue.

This completes the catalogue of the stamps of the first types, unless we add that the ½ sgr. is found perforated, to use the now generic

term, by two other methods. It will be observed that the 2 sgr. was evidently less used than its companion values, as it continued to be issued on coloured paper when the 1 and 3 sgr. were emitted on white.

It was in November, 1865, that the second series of Brunswick stamps was put in circulation, after a delay of several months, during which a number of proofs of the new design circulated among collectors. These proofs were struck in black on white, blue, green, rose, and yellow papers, and were no doubt authentic. Besides this, the design appeared on post-office orders before the adhesives came out.

Four values were issued in the new type, viz., $\frac{1}{3}$ gr. black, 1 gr. rose, 2 gr. blue, and 3 gr. brown; the old oblong $\frac{1}{2}$ sgr., black on green, continued in use concurrently with them, until all the stamps were withdrawn, nor even in the reserve stock does any supply of this value in the new type appear to have been found, a proof that it was not much used. The design is of the usual German style, though relieved by the central figure, and neatly executed. The perforation is in upright rectangles, which probably is the most convenient. The only notable colour variety is found in the 1 gr., which exists in rose and in a rosy red. Thus much for these adhesives, which were less common during their circulation than those of many other German states, but of which unused specimens have become dirt cheap, since they have been withdrawn from service. The stock must have been originally sold at waste paper rates, to admit of single specimens being put at the prices at which they are now offered.



ENVELOPES.

The regular issue of envelopes did not take place until more than three years after the emission of adhesives; but at about the same time as the first series of these latter became current, a handstamped envelope was prepared for the special use of the town of Brunswick. Its design, if such it may be called, is excelled by that of many postmarks, and consisted simply of a circle, with the letters within; ST. P. on the first line, and FR. on the second. These letters stood for STADT POST, FRANCO (City Post, Free). This primitive type was struck generally towards the bottom of the envelope, and sometimes on the right, sometimes on the left. The official issue was in red on grey paper, but impressions are found on papers of all colours, and these are said by Dr. Magnus to be the envelopes presented to the administration, that is, as I understand, submitted to it. Still, without in the least impugning the learned doctor's authority, I may be permitted to suggest that, although impressions on all the known colours of paper may have been submitted to the post-office, it does not follow that all the known specimens were so submitted, and one is led to infer from their num-

ber that a reprint took place. The unindicated value of this hand-stamped envelope was 3 pfennige, and I presume it was used to frank letters posted and delivered within the town. No government envelope of the same value ever made its appearance, and it may be that this one continued to be used until 1867, but on this point I have no data whatever. I only know that at one time a specimen of the "stadt-post" envelope cost twenty-fifve cents, and that now it may be obtained for ten cents, which argues either a long currency or an extensive reprint.

The first government emission took place on the 1st of August, 1855, when the large 1, 2, and 3 sgr. made their appearance. These values were struck on the left upper corner of the envelope, and above them ran the oblique double-line inscription of value in minute letters, followed by the words POST COUVERT; the whole printed in blue. Of these stamps there exist several colour varieties, the principal of which may be noted.

1 sgr., yellow, orange-yellow.
2 " light blue, dull blue, Prussian blue, dark ultramarine.
3 " pale rose, bright rose, and carmine.

Besides these, two stamps—the 1 sgr. and the 2 sgr.—are found with the lettering in bluish lilac. Collectors who take differences in size and tint of envelopes, will note that the stamps are impressed on large and medium-sized envelopes, of which some are white, and some of a rose, green, or blue tint.

The 1865 series is identical in type with the adhesives of the same year, but the relief of the envelope impressions is much higher than that of the adhesives; the same blue lettering as in the preceding series running obliquely above, the youngest collector cannot mistake the one for the other. Of the three values which form this series, the following are the colours:—

1 groschen, bright rose, pale rose, carmine.
2 " ultramarine, pale and dark.
3 " brownish bistre, pale bistre.

It will be noticed that in these and their companion adhesives the denomination is changed from silbergroschen to groschen.

The Engraving and Printing of Postage Stamps.

A CRITIQUE, BY AN ENGRAVER.

M. Motteroz has just published a remarkable work—*Essais sur les gravures chimiques en relief*. The same indefatigable explorer of every ramification of printing art has sent a long communication to *L'Imprimerie* concerning the manufacture of bank notes and postage stamps; and on the subject of postage-stamp printing we find him so interesting that we shall quote him entire:—

To be convinced that there are difficulties almost insurmountable in executing really fine printing, it is enough to look at postage stamps, which each government endeavors to have as well executed as it can get them.

On their first appearance, postage stamps were almost everywhere produced by the copper-plate process; in two or three countries lithography was the fashion.

These two printing processes are enormously more costly and less regular than that of letter-press. Plates, like transfers, wear out rapidly; and after having had a few good proofs, one has to do with blurred and worn-out lines.

A large number of countries now follow the letter-press plan; and since every government endeavours to have its letter-press stamps as fine as if in copper, we may judge of the difficulties there are to surmount.

The examination of a collection, almost complete, which M. Baillieu has been so kind as to place at my disposal, together with a large amount of information, enables me to give a few hasty outlines of the present state of postage-stamp printing in the different divisions of the globe

Lithographed Stamps.—Mexico and most of the Spanish colonies employ lithography, although the results obtained are generally bad.

Bergedorf has some rather good proofs.

Roumania, some very middling.

New Caledonia lithographs a horrible caricature of Napoleon III.

During the seige of Paris the government, which probably failed to send its postage-stamp *cliches* out of town, had some stamps lithographed in the country, which were not nearly so bad as the other lithographed stamps.

Stamps from Copper-plate.—The United States use copper-plate both for their bank notes and their postage stamps, and have obtained splendid results. A postage stamp for 15 cents reproduces a large picture representing Columbus taking possession of America, and each one of the numerous personages is perfectly visible.

Brazil, Chili, and the Argentine Confederation, have now very fine postage stamps, engraved and printed at New York by the American Bank Note Company.

Jamaica, Malta, and Holland, for the higher-priced stamps, have very finely wrought engravings; too much so for good printing.

Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and some other English Colonies, still use copper-plate.

Letter-press Stamps.—Russia employs thin inks, and has some *chefs-d'œuvre* of typography.

The stamps for the English colony of Hong Kong are almost as fine

as those of Russia; and some of them might be mistaken for copper-plate engravings. The celebrated house of De La Rue & Co., of London, produces them. This extraordinary house manufactures the stamps of a large number of countries, and engages in everything which relates to paper. At this moment it has hold of the French market for letter papers, and our stationers do not go out of their way to struggle against this invasion.

The British Indian stamps, as well as those of the Mauritius, are very striking as to their printing.

The latest issue of Portugal is also very fine.

Whilst the English colonies have stamps printed in superior styles Great Britain herself has very ordinary ones. The English stamp, are at about the same level as those of Turkey, Greece, Switzerland, France, Prussia, Hanover, Denmark, and Wurtemburg. In the last-named country, about the year 1850, a very elegant stamp was brought out, composed exclusively of vignettes and type.

Stamp printiug is less than mediocre in Poland, in Norway, in South Australia, and New South Wales; it is really bad in Victoria, and particularly in Spaiu and the Spanish colonies, where letter-press is used.

Italy is difficult to class. It is the country of experiments in stamps. The Italian are of all styles; and in tbe present time some are made which are rather good than bad. But in this land of art, nothing excellent has been produced, if we except the very remarkable copper-plate stamp produced in Sicily, towards the end of the reign of Ferdinand.

Of all postage stamps, the worst are those of the Papal States. Engraving and printing alike carry us back to the infancy of these two arts.

Conclusion.—In the very considerable number of stamps made use of in all countries, there is scarcely half a score of which one can say, —these are well printed. If an examination were made of the innumerable papers of value, of private and public banks, all the world over, the same proportion would be disclosed. Whence it may be concluded, that the most insurmountable obstacle to oppose to the forging of bank notes, postage stamps, and other papers of value, is an absolutely perfect impression of finely engraved surfaces.

At the present time, when the increase in our taxes is causing a great number of new stamps to be printed, I have thought it my duty to point out the surest means of frustrating the designs of those who may intend to defraud the public treasury.—*The Printers' Register.*

——o——

Newly Issued Stamps.









PERU.—The way odd stamps have been coming out in this country, has perplexed quite a number of collectors, so we annex engravings of the principal types of the letter stamps which are now in use with list of values.

ADHESIVES.

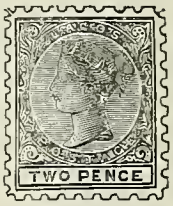
2 centavos,	purple arms.	20 centavos,	brown, Llamas.
5 "	green, Llamas.	50 "	green, Sun over mountain.
10 "	scarlet, "	1 sol,	red, Sun in glory.

ENVELOPES.

2 centavos,	blue.	10 centavos,	red.
5 "	green.	20 "	purple.
		50 centavos,	rose.

The two centavos unpaid letter stamp which was described in our last, turns out to be an essay, or rather a value engraved by the company through a misunderstanding.

LAGOS.—Our list of these stamps given some months ago, appears to have been incomplete, or else the four values first issued were found to be insufficient to supply the hundred or so of white men who inhabit this distant colony, however, two new values have turned up making the set.



1 penny,	lilac.	4 pence,	rose.
2 pence,	blue.	6 "	green.
3 "	brown.	1 shilling,	orange.

BERMUDA.—Again this little island or rather group of islands has run short of stamps, this time penny ones, and again the large stock of shillings has been drawn on. They are now coming over surcharged in plain type, "One penny" same type as this in two lines across the face.

ST. DOMINGO.—The 1 real lilac chronicled by us some months ago, we have now found out to be a changeling, the color of the original stamp having been extracted and then dyed violet.

CANADA.—Is reported to have issued a 30c. stamp, color grey, but we have not had an opportunity of examining it.



JAPAN.—Last month we described two new values for this country, and have now the pleasant duty of chronicling a third. It is of the same general design as the others, but the bird appears to be an eagle, the frame is much handsomer to our taste, but this may be owing to the rich colors of the stamp-cochineal red, the value is 45 sen. Our readers are indebted to Mrs. Craig, for an early description of this interesting stamp. In regard to the 15 sen., what we took for a flag staff in the back ground of that value turns out to be the bird's leg. The accompanying engraving of the 12 sen. will give a very fair idea of the set.

REPUBLIC OF CUBA.—A few of the stamps prepared for the insurgents have found their way to our office, but it is very doubtful if the main body of the stamps will succeed in reaching the mountain fastness of their owners, and we really canuot see what use they will be, if they do succeed in running the blockade of Spanish gunboats and patrols and arrive safely at their destination.

We first heard of their intended issue about a month ago, and received the statement with considerable distrust, which was augmented by the pains which was taken by those in charge of their preparation here to inform collectors couceruing their issue, and take orders for large or small quantities. Directly we received a copy, a reporter was sent to interview Mr. Mijuel Aldama, (the head of the Cuban Junta in New York,) concerning them. Our reporter was informed by M. Aldama that he had received orders from Cuba, to obtain a supply of Postal Stamps, and that he had caused them to be prepared by the National Bank Note Co. of this City. So much for the authenticity of the stamps, and after the above iuformation regarding their origin, every one can form their own opinion, as far as we are concerned our faith in them will largely depend upon the success which may be achieved by the heroic band who have struggled so long against overwhelming odds for their country's freedom If they succeed in establishing their independence, this stamp will doubtless rank as the first issue of free Cuba, if otherwise, it will be relegated to keep company with the stamps of the "Fenian Brotherhood."

As far as the stamp is concerned we can only regret that it does not emanate from the regular authorities which would give it a character and make it plentiful, as it is one of the prettiest stamps it has been our lot to describe. The design consists of a shield divided by a band inscribed REP. DE CUBA, the upper portion is a key between two islands, the lower half is again divided the left half being occupied by four diagonal stripes, while that on tne right bears a palm tree, above is the word CORREOS and a ribbon, below CENTAVOS, with numerals of value in each corner, the lower being much the larger. It is printed in the

same shade of green as the three cents U. S., on white unwatermarked paper, and is perforated.

United States.—We have delayed calling special atten ion to the new envelopes, in the hope of being able to lay full particulars before our readers, but as the time appears as far off as ever, we have concluded to chronicle such values as we have seen, and put off full descriptions of the dies until we are able to describe them all. When first noting the Plimpton envelopes, we remarked that the engraving was very poor, this it appears was owing to Mr. Reay having employed all the first-class die makers in the country to come and sit in his office every day for a month or so, in the hopes of making it impossible for the new contractors to get workmen to prepare the dies and so lose their contract. This finessing, however, was frustrated by the government accepting such work as the new company could prepare, which unfortunately was very bad. Under these difficulties the 1, 2, 3 and 6c. envelopes, and perhaps others were prepared, As soon however as the first rush was over and the good workmen released from their lucrative idleness, the company set about preparing new dies, which we are pleased to state, are fully equal if not superior to those prepared by the first contractors. Of those improved dies we have seen the 1, 2, 3 and 6 cents general issue, and the 2 and 3c. post office department envelopes, the latter can easily be distinguished by the figure of value being much larger than in the old style.

The United States Locals and their History.

BY C. H. C.

Continued from page 23.

This, the concluding paper of my article, at least for the present, will be devoted to a general revision of what I have already written, for the purpose of making some additions, mainly, the result of recent discoveries and investigations. For the sake of convenience, alphabetical order will be adopted.

Barr & Co. (page 14), also comes in red on white.

Blood—D. O.—& Co. I have the little "*Penny Post*," (Vol. VIII, page 174), blue on lavender, on a letter dated August 27, 1853.

Brady & Co. (page 12). Mr. Taylor says that Brady's Type II, and Clark's labels were not used in Chicago, but in New York; Clark's being current in 1857–9, and Brady's afterwards. If so, the Chicago Brady, who undoubtedly used Type I, must have been a different individual.

Brooklyn Express Co. (Vol. VIII, page 157). I am able to state

that this company was in existence in 1853, as I have the 2c. blue on a letter dated April 2d of that year.

BOUTON, JOHN (Vol VIII, page 117). Type III also comes in black on blue paper.



CITY DISPATCH. This is a very rare local, and from its extreme ugliness, it is almost to be regretted that it is not still rarer. Red on white paper.

FRAZER & Co. (page 13). The color of this label is wrongly stated. It should be black on pink.

HINCKLEY, A. M. This gentleman, who was President of the Metropolitan Errand and Carrier Co, is said to have started an express on his own responsibility prior to the formation of the incorporated company. The stamps ascribed to him have for the central design a large figure 1, enclosed in an oval. Above is A. M. HINCKLEY'S EXPRESS Co., in two lines; below, ONE CENT. ERRAND AND CARRIER, on left; FOR CITY DELIVERY, on right. The whole on a lined ground and enclosed in an upright rectangular frame. Reprints (so-called) only are known, and these are found in red, blue and black on white paper.

HOOGS & MADISON is the correct name of the firm noted on page 21, though the printer (or proof reader) would insist on spelling it differently. I like to humor this worthy individual, who certainly must be confounded by Philatelic lore, and I consequently overlook Eratta, discernible and other interesting changes of an orthographical character, as well as his rather eccentric manner of punctuation; but when it comes to mispelling the name of a firm, I must ask leave to put my protest on record.

The illustration on page 21 is not all correct, as the number of words on each line does not correspond with the original.

INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS Co. This I have purposely omitted from list, as I believe it to be a fraud.

METROPOLITAN ERRAND AND CARRIER EXPRESS Co. This company was started in 1855, not 1858, as was stated on page 142. Vol. VIII, through a typical error.

In regard to the stamps of this enterprise some interesting developments have recently come to light. Scott has always held that the blue stamps were never used for postal purposes, but were merely printed on the circulars of the company for advertising, and, indeed, the arguments which he brought to bear seemed most plausible. I am now enabled to settle the matter definitely, by stating that at least one value of the blue stamp was used for postal purposes (and probably the

whole set), as the one cent in that color has recently been resuscitated by Mr. Jesse K. Furlong (from among a quantity of papers belonging to one of his relatives, not a *Philatelist*), properly cancelled, though, indeed, the source whence it comes does not leave a shadow of doubt as to its authentic character.

To this I have to couple another less interesting, but nevertheless important reeuscitation made by myself, viz., the 1 c. stamp of the same company (on an envelope and properly cancelled), in dark red brown, of the exact shades of the reprints, whereas, the stamps are usually in a considerably lighter color.

PIP'S DAILY MAIL. This is a very dubious customer, hence I give it no more than a passing notice.

ROBISON & CO This is *said* to have been used in Brooklyn in 1856, but I cannot make any positive assertion. Black on blue paper. I have never seen an undoubtedly genuine copy.



SWART'S (Vol VIII, page 109). Type I also comes in blue on white paper.

In the course of these papers, my object has been to present, as concisely as possible, the most important facts (so far as known) connected with the history of each company; and, I trust that the extremely difficult nature of the subject will be accepted as an excuse for my many shortcomings.

As new facts are continually brought to light, I purpose supplementing the papers already written, by semi-annual or quarterly lists of recently discovered locals, together with items of importance bearing upon the history of the companies already known;—indeed, anything which may seem of interest to the local collector.

I must also mention that I have, for reasons which it is hardly necessary to explain, omitted "Hussey's Post" from my list, but I hope to give a full description of its stamps at some future time. Other labels have been omitted for want of proper evidence as to their bona fide character, such as 2 types of Glen Haven Daily Mail (though I *believe* these to be genuine); N. Y. City Express Post; Franklin (Head); Godfrey's; Kingman's, in green (these last two I have never seen), Troy and Albany Express.

If I were to chronicle doubtful locals, my article would assume much larger proportions than at present; and I have, therefore, except in case where special mention to the contrary is made, described only those which are genuine beyond peradventure.

Our Revenue Chronicle.

Again we have a little batch of U. S. Proprietary Stamps to chronicle, and although there is nothing very striking to notice, they are about enough to add a new page to our Album. Before describing the new issues, it may be as well to state that the "A. Goldback" stamp, which was put down as a medicine stamp, in our last issue, was incorrectly placed, as it turns out to be used for matches; we were much surprised by the information, as it is the only adhesive match stamp that has the word PROPRIETARY on it. It must certainly be a mistake of the designer, as there is nothing proprietary in matches; any one is at liberty to make them, and no special virtue is claimed for them by the makers.

We commence our description with the notice of a match stamp, which was issued about a year ago, when Greenleaf & Co.'s business changed hands. The new firm still continue to use the beautiful little green one cent stamp, but have had their initials cut on the plate; we accordingly find the letters B. J. & CO. in the center, placed just above the Phœnix; fortunately the design is not spoilt by the addition—

B. J. & Co., 1 c. green.

We now turn our attention to the medicine stamps, and find a very pretty pair used by Johnson, Holloway & Co., these were also issued some time back, and a description of them has been in type for the journal twice, but unfortunately was crowded out each time. I hope it will have better luck this time. The stamps are upright rectangles, an inch and a-quarter high, by three-quarters wide. The design consists of an alchemist kneeling at a furnace, and with the aid of a good pair of bellows, evidently trying to keep the pot boiling; behind him, and conveniently near at hand, we see some herbs growing; their proximity to the pot puts us in mind of the pigs coming to be killed. In half circles above and below the central device, are the name and address of the proprietors; in curves turning the reverse way, are the words, INTERNAL REVENUE, PROPRIETARY MEDICINES, UNITED STATES, above, value; below in straight lines, numerals of value in the four spaces formed by the inverted curve.

Johnson, Holloway & Co., 1 c. black.
" " " 2 c. green.

Our old friend Barry has been altered (by the way, another alchemist blowing his fire); the word PROPRIETARY being found in place of TRICOPHEROUS.

Barry, 1 c. green.

We now come to a little stamp which gave us uneasiness for months. It occurred in this wise, we were presented with a copy, from which on close inspection, we found the name had been erased, although it was done so neatly, that but for an accident, it would have defied detection.

The design consists of a house with a flag floating over it, on which the name can be partly distinguished, and to add to our perplexity, some reading on the side of the house is most provokingly near being legible. In vain we procured the strongest possible magnifiers, but all was useless, until at last we procured an unaltered specimen, and then when we had left off hunting for them, they came along with taunting frequency. The design, as we said before, consists of a building in circle, surrounded by a band, inscribed, UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE PROPRIETARY, CENT above ONE CENT below; numerals of value in upper; U. S. shields in lower corners.

A. Vogler & Co., 1 cent, black.

We now come to an old friend in a new dress, the stamp which for years has proclaimed that it is the United States guarantee of the genuineness of Brandreth's pills, has been superseded by a new one, enlarged in all its proportions making it 1¾ in. by 2 in.

The design is identical with its predecessor (which, by the way, we believe was one of the first proprietary stamps issued), except the words, ALLCOCK'S POROUS PLASTERS, replaces the "United States guaranteeof genuineness." This, we understand, the government has declined to put on stamps, after the absurdity of the thing was pointed out.

Lagos.

This is a British settlement on the coast of Dahomey, W. Africa, comprising the Island of Lagos, called Eko by the natives, and the coast from the river Yerewa, near Badagry, to Ode, lon. 4 degrees, 10 minutes E.; pop.in 1871, 60,221, of whom only 92 were whites. Within these bounds are the fortified trading posts of Badagry, Lagos, Palma, and Leckie, and a few native villages. The station at Ode is now abandoned. A strip of country back of these forts, from 5 to 12 miles wide, is considered to be under the protection of Great Britain. The coast is low and sandy, with outlying bars and lagoons inland. The Island of Lagos is at the mouth of Ikorodee lagoon, which opens into the sea, through a narrow channel. Large vessels do not pass in, but land their cargoes on the outer beach, whence they are carried by canoes to the inner lagoon. A narrow arm of this lagoon stretches westward, parallel to the coast, about 60 miles, to Denham lagoon. Badagry is on the inner side of this strait. Palma and Leckie are on the outer coast., 70 or 80 miles further east. The chief rivers that empty into the lagoon are the Yerewa, the Ogun or Lagos, and the Ona. The trade at these settlements was once flourishing, and previous to the troubles on the Gold Coast, the revenue amounted to £45,000. The principal exports are palm oil and kernels, shea butter,

ground nuts, cotton, and Indigo. In 1872, the value of the imports was £366, 256; exports, £444,848. The revenue for the same year was £41,346; expenditure, £41,346; public debts, £18,628. The town of Lagos had in 1871 a population of 36,005, of whom 82 were white. The Church (of England) Missionary Society, the Wesleyan Society, and the Roman Catholics, have churches and schools there. The hospital, built originally as a barrack for troops, is the principal public building. Lagos was formerly the capital of a small territory tributary to Dahomey; it was one of the chief slave-trading stations on the coast, and was strongly fortified. In November, 1851, a British consul was fired on while negotiating a treaty for the abolition of the slave trade, and a small force from the Bloodhound, which at tempted to avenge the insult, was driven off. In December following an organized attack was made, and it was captured, although de-, fended by 5,000 men and more than 50 guns. It was formally ceded to Great Britain in 1861.—*American Encylcopædia.*

Adventures of a Letter.

A curious story of the travels of a registered letter is told by the various stamps and directions on an envelope received at the New York Post-office a few days ago and now kept as a curiosity by the searcher at the dead-letter desk. The envelope originally contained a registered letter and a draft for a considerable amount, enclosed by a hotel-keeper in Houston Street, to his aged father in Paris. Its original address was

Mr Andree Vanoni,
No. 117 Grand Rue St. Mourisse,
a St. Mourisse,
anvirons de Paris.

On the back of the envelope, as required in the case of all registered packages, was written the address of the sender, as follows:

Mr. G. Vanoni,
36 Houston street,
New York City, America.

With these two inscriptions, a thirty cent postage stamp, and the New York office stamp, "New York, Apr. 7, 1874, Registered," the letter started on its travels. It appears first to have been handled at London, for it bears a large stamp, "London, Registered," and it must have turned up next at Calais, for it is stamped "Calais, April 21, 74, Registered." Its first appearance in Paris was on the next day, as is testified by the stamp, "Paris, April 22, 74, Rec.," and then the trouble of the postmen began. It appears first to have gone to St. Maurisse, but not finding its owner there it came

back with that information upon its face, a stamp of the St. Maurisse sub-office, and the suggestion in roundabout French, "Try Gravelle." Gravelle was accordingly tried, for the letter got another stamp from that sub-office, but with no better success, and the next advice was, "Rue de la Cordonnier" The street of the shoemaker fared no better than the street of St. Morris, and, after apparently two or three more experiments and doubtless no small outlay of patience and shoe leather by as many postmen, the letter turned up in the "Bureau des Rebats and Reclamations, Paris," as appears by a bold superscription in red ink. This bureau appears to have wrestled desperately with the problem of M. Vanoni's whereabouts, and a sort of scarlet rash of directions and reports is visible on both sides of the envelope, all written in red ink and all emanating from the bureau of the two R's. Finally a happy thought appears to have struck some rebater and reclaimer, for on one corner of the envelope appears the word "Decede," indicative of the belief that M. Vanoni had departed this life. The word, however, was not written in the bold and confident style of a man who knew he was right, but in a weak uncertain hand, and looks as though it might have been merely put on as a modest suggestion which might save trouble. The suggestion, however, was found to be a good one, for lower down on the back of the envelope is found another "Decede," with the street and number at which the death occurred. With so much known it was easy to ascertain the rest of the story, and accordingly a brief but touching obituary of the good M. Vanoni is found written across one end of the envelope. By this time the letter had been stamped no less than twenty times with stamps big and little, blue, red, and black, and it had become so crossed and recrossed with addresses, surmises, reports, and necrology that it looked like a wire-woven Chinese puzzle. However, the original address of the sender was stilll egible, the Parisian bureaucrats of the double R pitched it into the American mail, and back it came over the Atlantic. It was received at the New York office on Friday, and delivered after five months' wandering to Vanoni *fils*, who had long ago heard of the death of his father, and was anxiously awaiting the return of his draft.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Just as we go to press we have received copies of the new stamps for these islands. The colors and values as given in our last are incorrect, they are as follows :

2 cents, brown, portrait of King Kalakaua.
12 " black, " of his son.

The colors appear rather dingy together, but arranged with the set according to value, have a fine effect in setting off the gayer colors.

Peddling Postage Stamps vs. Rascally Reprints.

The question of how to detect reprints is daily becoming of increasing importance to those collectors who really study their stamps, or take any pride in having their album filled with genuine old postage stamps, many of which are veritable historical monuments, having been issued years ago by the different nations, under circnmstances which mark an era in the circle of time. In making a collection, there are two classes of persons whom it behooves the amateur to be specially on his guard against: First, the unprincipled counterfeiters, who make their living by swindling collectors and breaking the laws of their country—and secondly, a pack of needy adventurers who administer the post-office of some degenerate government, and eke ont small salaries by reprinting or counterfeiting the old issues of their country, and huckster them out to collectors, and seem to imagine that they are the law, or at least that their official position will shield them from the responsibility of their acts. If these statements were not fully borne ont by the facts, it would seem incredible that any postal department could descend to such meanness for so small a reward; for we will gnarantee that the total sales of any such trashy reprints would never reach the insignificant snm of five hundred dollars, although many thonsands of dollars worth of genuine stamps could easily be sold. There are two reasons for this: First, it is an utter impossibility to imitate the old printing, even when the plates, paper, &c., are all on hand, which in nine cases ont of ten is not the case; then of course the differences between the gennine old originals and trashy reprints mnltiply, and we find differences in the color, paper, perforation, gum, and probably even in the appearance of the die itself, by reason of wear and other causes. Second, the large class of persons who are always writing to the postmaster-general for old stamps, are just that class who are too mean or indigent to purchase them. They have only to know that stamps can be had on application, by paying the face value, and they will religiously abstain from wasting the stamp necessary to take their begging letters to the postal authorities. There is a vast deal of difference between getting ten dollars worth of scarce old stamps given to yon, and paying ten dollars for a pack of rubbish. Of course, it is not probable that any respectable government will, at this late day, be likely to engage in the business of "peddling postage stamps," or mannfacturing "rascally reprints"; but it is well that collectors should be made acquainted with the governments who have gone into the business, so as to give the stamps of these countries careful scrutiny. We therefore give the "roll of *dis*honor," but may as well explain where the dishonor lies before proceeding.

Every person or government has a right to make anything they please, always providing they do not infringe any other person's patent, and sell the goods manufactured for what they really are, but it is equally true, that if a publisher states that a book is nearly out of print, and that when the stock on hand is exhausted, it will not be issued again in that form, and by means of these statements, induces dealers to buy up his stock, and then reprints his work in the original form, he is to use the mildest language guilty of a dishonorable practice. But a case nearer in point, occurred a few years ago in our own country. The 1804 silver dollar was found to be very scarce, and readily sold for several hundred dollars, when some official at the mint struck off a few hundreds from the original die, these reprints, through an oversight, could easily be distinguished from the originals. But it raised such a storm of indignation through the land, both by the owners of originals and all honorable men, that the fraud was immediately repudiated by the goverument. A word to the wise is enough, and we hope our friends across the border will take the hint.

The Roll of Dishonor.

Moldavia counterfeited the first two issues of its postage stamps to swiudle collectors.

Hanover reprinted its stamps to turn an honest penny.

Prussia reprinted its first issue, and probably realized the magnificent sum of ten dollars by the operation.

Spain cancelled the old stock of stamps which remained on hand, and did a thriving business peddling them out to collectors.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

DENMARK.

The history of the Danish stamps offers an agreeable contrast on the score of clearness to that of many others. Here all is comparatively plain sailing; and there will not exist the necessity for clearing up obscure points to tempt me to that forgetfulness of the title of these papers, for which I have been not unkindly reproved.

The only difficulty I find is a chronological one, and it is not of great



importance. The year 1851 is everywhere quoted as that of the issue of the 2 rigsbank skg blue, and the 4 "R.B.S." brown; and Levrault assigns the 1st of April as the exact date of issue of the former; but were they not both issued on the same day? The general notion is that the 2 sk. was issued alone, and was therefore the the first Danish stamp; but upon what foundation this belief rests, I know not. The 2 skilling, it should be borne in mind, was in all probability intended for use within the capital only; and though it has been suggested by a philatelist, whose opinions are entitled to the greatest weight, that a local stamp might be issued for experimental purposes before the emission of a series for the entire country, I cannot see how the result of such an experiment could serve as a guide in preparing an issue for general purposes, since the circulation in the capital could form no index to the requirements of the provinces. Moreover, if the 2 sk. had been launched into circulation as a trial, it would, we might suppose, have been followed, immediately on its success being demonstrated, by a full series; yet, in fact, its only companion during its two years' circulation was the 4 "R.B.S.", issued, as I think, simultaneously with it; and when the 2 sk. was suppressed, the 4 "R.B.S." went with it.

However, be this as it may, the 2 sk. is necessarily classed apart, because it has a type to itself. The type, like that of most first issues, is not a very brilliant one, but it is fairly engraved, and like the imperfect organizations of primeval animals (if such a simile may be allowed), it contains the rudimentary parts of subsequent species. Thus the crown which appears on this stamp is repeated in every successive series, and the post horn finds a place in all but one. It is further distinguished by the crown watermark, which runs through all the issues. "Once upon a time" this stamp was tolerably rare; but now a used copy can be procured for a shilling, and an unused one at double that price. It has been forged, like almost every other rarity, but has not been reprinted, and it has no varieties or sub-types.

The 4 rigsbank skg.—or "R.B.S.," as it is generally called, from the abbreviation of the value which figures on the stamp itself—is exceedingly common; and, to judge from the fact that it is found in at least three distinct shades of brown, it must have been extensively used. The attention of beginners may be drawn to the fine undulating diagonal buff lines which cross the paper.

The "rigsbank skilling," which formed the denomination of value of the first Danish stamps, was part of an old-fashioned currency, of which the "marc banco" was the unit. The marc contained 48½ rigsbank skilling, and was worth 35 cts. of our money; hence, the first 2 sk. was worth one and-a-half cts., and the 4 sk. three cents. The modi-

fied adoption of the decimal system led to the suppression of these stamps, and the issue of others whose value was indicated in "skilling," of which a hundred went to form the rix-daler, a coin equalling fifty-four cents.

The second series is composed of four stamps, viz., the 2, 4, 8, and 16 sk.; but of these, if we adhere to Levrault's version, only the first two were issued in 1853, the others not appearing until 1857. This is a statement I have no means of verifying, and which I should accept only under reserve.

The design is a faithful copy of that of the 4 "R.B.S."; indeed, it requires careful comparison to demonstrate that the centre is not formed from the old die. The inscriptions alone are changed, or rather abbreviated, and the colours of the first two and four skilling are roughly reproduced on their successors The crown watermark is also repeated. The type is divisible into two sub-types: No 1 with granulated spandrels, No. 2 with undulating horizontal lines in spandrels. The No. 1 type was certainly the first to appear, and it has its representatives in in all four values, whilst No. 2 is represented only by the 4 and 8 sk. For the production of sub-type No. 2, the whole design was either re-engraved or touched up. The date of issue of the "undulated ground" stamps is unknown. Probably it took place at a comparatively late period, if we may judge from the fact that the 8 sk. remained in circulation for a considerable time after the other values were superseded. The 16 sk. of the first sub-type, and the 4 and 8 sk. of the second, exist *pierced*, and Levrault catalogues a 2 sk. *piqué* by a private company. This series enjoys the exceptional honour of having been neither reprinted nor forged, though in 1856 a Copenhagen printer, named Thiele, inserted an advertisement in a local directory, consisting of a lithographed representation of an envelope bearing his address, and an imitation of the Danish 2 sk. stamp in the corner, the postmarks and cancellations being also copied; and the conceit is said to have answered.

The next series—that of 1864-5—has but recently passed out of circulation Its design—exceedingly plain and unpretending—is well engraved, and is relieved, to some extent, by the delicacy of the colours in which it is printed. The increase in size, as compared with that of its predecessors, and the introduction of accurate and complete perforation, distinguish the issue, as also the addition of a new value—the 3 sk. mauve. Each value, except the 8 sk., possesses at least two color-varieties, and all the values have the crown watermark.





The description of the 1871 and 75 issues is almost supererogatory. That they are handsome is allowed on all hands, and with reason. The 1871 issue is as follows:—

2 sk. blue centre
3 " violet "
4 " carmine " } greenish grey frame.
8 " brown "
16 " green "
48 " mauve " bistre frame.

The changes made in the currency o Denmark necessitate an alteration in the denominations of its postage stamps, accordingly the new year (1875) ushered in the set described in our January number.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.



The "service" stamps, like their companion cards, are of too recent origin to require lengthened notice The design which adorns them is of a somewhat more complex character than that of the adhesives for public use, but the conception is certainly a successful one, and the trio of stamps—the 2, 4, and 16 sk.—forms an enlivening addition to the Danish page, which, commencing with a few commonplace labels, bids fair to become one of the brightest in our albums. I presume these stamps are really employed for statistical purposes, as the readiest means of checking the weight and extent of official correspondence. That they are really *postage* stamps I am not prepared to say, but I hope to discuss this question under a separate heading.

ENVELOPES.



The two envelopes issued in 1865—the 2 sk. blue, and 4 sk. bright red—continue to do duty. Two varieties of each value exist, those with and those without an s after the figure of value. The envelopes were first issued with the s, then without; and since then have again appeared with the s. Of the 4 skg. without s, three trifling varieties, distinguished by the shape of the numeral, have been discovered, and thus we have broad figure, thick figure, and thin figure; but the utility of collecting all three is questionable.

POST CARDS.

These are of two classes. There are the post cards for general use, and the official post cards. The values are the same for each—viz., 2 and 4 sk.—and are indicated by means of impressions in one colour, from the dies of the adhesives. The cards for the public are inscribed

BREV-KORT, and those for official use TJENESTE-BREVKORT. The unofficial cards show the Danish arms in the left upper corner, encircled with the badge of the order of the elephant.

LOCAL STAMP.

The only known local stamp is that of Holte, a town about six miles from Copenhagen, of which the engraving is here reproduced. It is said to have been issued about the year 1868, by the local authorities of the town of Holte, in order to cover the cost of collection or delivery by the rural letter-carriers of the district. Why Holte, above all other towns, should possess a stamp, is a question which remains to be answered. If "Landpost" stamps are required at all, why does not the government issue a series for the entire country! Or is the Holte label an authorised experiment? If so, it has lasted a long while. It was not known to collectors until the end of 1870, when M. Moens unearthed it, and obtained information direct from Holte as to its employment. It appears it is put on the letters for the district by the rural carriers, who first punch a hole through the stamp, in order to obliterate it; they also put it on the letters which they collect in the district for the town, and then the town officials obliterate it with the ordinary handstamp. The value of the stamp is 2 sk., and the impression is in red-brown on white. Besides the Holte stamp, there are two series of railway stamps, not certainly of more interest than those of our own country, and quite out of place in a postage stamp album.



FRANCE.

As, in all that relates to the fine arts, France is among the foremost, it is but natural that her postage stamps should be distinguished, in an eminent degree, by the correctness of their designs and the delicacy of their execution. Nor is it surprising that, issuing as they do from a country which has proved the home of revolution, they should reflect, to a peculiar extent, the political convulsions which have rent it since their first appearance. The various emissions have been referred to with pride by every writer on postage stamps, as strongly evidencing the value of philately as a teacher of history; and, in fact, so clear from anything like doubt or difficulty are their own annals as to stamps, that the interest which attaches to them is rather historical than philatelical.

The first series saw the light just after the revolution of 1848. The Government of Louis Philippe had witnessed the establishment of the cheap postage system in England eight years before, but, notwithstanding the repeated demands of the mercantile community, had taken no steps towards its introduction in France. It was reserved to the

Republic to confer the desired boon on the people, and accordingly, in the autumn of 1848, under the *régime* of Etienne Arago, the decree was issued, fixing the uniform postal rates at 20 centimes and 1 franc, and ordaining the emission of stamps of those values on the 1st of January, 1849. There remained between the issue of the decree and the date indicated for the appearance of the stamps, an interval of only three months in which to prepare the supplies; and but for an accident, the work of engraving the dies and printing off the stock would have been confided to an English firm. Pressed for time, the government applied to Messrs Bacon & Perkins (or sir Perkins, as the French work has it from which I gather these details), for an estimate. "Sir Perkins" replied that he would require six months to deliver the stamps, and that his price was one franc per sheet of 240. This being an exorbitant price, and the time demanded exceeding that fixed by law, the government broke off the negotiations, and looked about for a French engraver. Not many months before, when coin was scarce, the French finance minister had requested the Bank of France to issue a large number of 100-franc notes. The bank could not comply with the request, for it had only one plate—that of the 200-franc note—and the engraving of a new plate was reckoned to cost a thousand pounds, and eighteen months to a couple of years' labour. In this difficulty recourse was had to an engraver named Hulot, who in *two months* completed the plate of the present 100-franc note, and turned out a sufficient supply. To him the government now addressed itself, and a week before the 1st of January, 1849, every post-office in France was provided with stamps, besides which there remained in stock a surplus of eight to ten millions. It was a brilliant success for M. Hulot, and some time after he wrote a letter, containing some interesting details of the way in which he got through his work. "In five weeks," says he, "the matrix was engraved; within an equal period the *ateliers* were fitted up, and the plates, containing the electrotype casts for 300 stamps, executed. Lastly, a few day's pressing, with hand-worked presses, producing 1,200,000 stamps per day, enabled me to supply all the French post-offices."

The type, of which the printing was superintended by M. Hulot, was actually engraved by M. Barre, and remains to this day one of the finest productions, if not *the* finest, among stamp designs. The profile of the Republic may be described as faultless, and the minor details harmonize in their severity with the classic portrait. "In this instance," as Dr. Magnus well observes, "the obligatory framework does not distract attention by misplaced florets or ornaments."



Everything is in the best of taste, and the only fault found with the

design is based on utilitarian grounds,—the numeral of value is not sufficiently conspicuous. Regarded, however, from an artistic point of view, can it be said that the recently issued 1 c., 2 c., and 5 c. Republic are improved by the large corner figures? Does not their presence, on the contrary, constitute a blemish?

Of the two first issued stamps, the 20 c. made its appearance in black, and the 1 franc in vermilion. The latter is counted among the choicest rarities in a collection, and it is not surprising that it should be so scarce, seeing that it only remained in circulation a single twelvemonth. It was then withdrawn, because the post-office was about to issue the 40 centimes orange, and feared that the two values would be confounded together, on account of their similarity of colour, joined to their identity of design. Pursuant to a post-office circular of December 1, 1849, the stock of vermilion one franc remaining in the provincial offices was collected and returned to Paris; hence the suppression was complete. Probably, in prevision of the issue of 40 centime stamps, for which orders were given in April, the one franc, as early as August, 1849, was printed in carmine. No official document exists authorising the employment of this colour, and a well-informed writer suggests that directions were simply given to the printer to print the stamps for the future in a colour with less orange in its composition. Finally, about the time of the emission of the 40 c., the 1 franc was issued in dark carmine.

The 40 c. orange made its appearance in December, 1849, or January, 1850, and the provincial offices received their supplies during the first ten days of February. This stamp is found in several shades of orange.

By the law of the 15-18th May, 1850, a retrograde step was made in the postal tariff, the rate for a single-weight letter being thereby fixed at 25 centimes. This necessitated the issue of the 25 c. blue, which took place on the 1st July following, blue being chosen to replace the black of the 20 c, because the latter colour was reserved for the postmarks. The change in the rate gave rise to another call on M. Hulot's energies, and led incidentally to the printing off of a supply of a provisional stamp which never was issued. When, after rhe passage of the law, M. Hulot was requested to prepare a new plate, he was unable to assure the Minister of Finance that it would be ready in time, and it was therefore agreed that he should print a supply of stamps in *blue* from the 20 c. dies, and surcharge them with the figures 25 in *red* This was accordingly done, and a machine was employed to print "25 c." in red on each stamp, the machine being a wheel, with types of the figures at the extremity of each spoke. M Hulot was able, however, to get ready the plate of the new 25 c., and to print a sufficient

supply from it within the given time ; so the provisionals, not being wanted, were all destroyed, save some very few specimens, of which only three or four are known to exist. Some sheets of the 20 c. *blue* without the surcharge got mixed, it is supposed, with the supplies of the 25 centime blue, as an obliterated 20 c. blue is in the possession of "A Parisian Collector."

On the 12th (or 23d) July, 1850, the 15 c. green made its appearance, and on the 12th of the following September, the 10 c. brownish yellow, or cinnamon, completed the series. All the values, except the 1 franc vermilion, but including the embryo 20 c. blue, were reprinted in 1862. The reprints are distinguishable by the lightness and brightness of their tints. The obliterations are of three kinds : (1) a lozenge formed of seven crossed bars—the well-known "gridiron" mark; (2) a six-pointed star of dots; and (3) a lozenge formed of dots, with the post-office number in the centre. The two latter are also found on the imperial stamps.

On the 2d December, 1851, occurred the *coup d'état*, which gave to Prince Louis Napoleon the actual supremacy, and enabled him to prepare the way for his assumption of the purple. The profile of Liberty on the stamp was no longer appropriate. The Republic existed in name, but the President was the *de facto* ruler. This state of things is accurately indicated on the presidential stamps. The title, REPUB. FRANC., remains, but the portrait is that of Napoleon. They were, moreover, in their essence, "provisional" stamps, destined to remain current for but a brief space of time. The 25 c. blue was issued on the 12th August, and the 10 c. cinnamon in the course of September, 1852. The portrait of the Prince-President is by no means a bad one, and it is executed with the same carefulness, and by the same hand, as the profile of Liberty. Beneath the neck appears a minute capital B.—the initial of Barre, the engraver's name. The blue 25 c., like the blue stamps of the Republic, and the empire, differs very much in intensity of shade, varying from light to a full dark blue.



After the proclamation of the empire, it became time to think of changing the obsolete inscription on the stamp. REPUB. was taken out, and replaced by EMPIRE, and the metamorphosis was complete. The issue of imperial stamps commenced in August, 1853, with the 10 c. cinnamon—the value used for the local Parisian rate. A few days afterwards, the 1 franc carmine followed, a stamp which is now getting of a certain rarity. Then came, on the 8th September, the 40 c. orange, and on the 3d November the 25 c. blue. This last had but a brief currency, for it was soon after decided to return to the old rate of 20 centimes, and it is consequently a trifle rarer than its companion low values.

The 20 centimes blue came out on the 1st July, 1854. A universally recognised very dark blue variety of this colour exists. In October, 1854, appeared the 80 centimes carmine, of the same shade as the 1 franc, which it, in fact, replaced; and on the 4th November of the same year, the 5 centimes green, inaugurating the establishment of low rates for priuted matter, was issued. From that time, up to 1860, no further change was made.

To be Continued.

Newly Issued Stamps.



GUATEMALA.—Again we have the pleasure of being first to introduce a new series of postals to the philatelic public. The fact of a new series of stamps being in preparation for this republic, was announced in our pages in the December number, and we have had the good fortune to secure a set of the envelopes before they left this country for their future home. The design, as will be seen from the accompanying illustration, is very ordinary, and the execution is still worse, in fact, any one not well acquainted with the youug person thereon depicted, would imagine that she was crazy (to tell the truth, there are mauy things done in her name (Liberty), in the South American Republics which would tend to confirm that opinion, so perhaps the artist is not far wrong.) The colors and values are as follow:

½ real (*medio*) green on white and lemon.
1 " (*un*) blue on lemon.
2 reales (*dos*) vermilion on white.
Size of envelope 3¼ by 5½.

Newspaper Wrappers.—¼ (*cuartillo*) real, black on Manilla, same size as U. S. wrapper.

Unfortunatcly we have not been able to obtain a specimen of the adhesives to engrave, but hope to be able to lay it before our readers in our next. The design is a profile of the present presideut, Don J. Rufino Barrios. The colors and values are as follow:

¼ real, green. 1 real, blue.
½ " brown. 2 " red.

The set will be accompanied by a series of official stamps, similar in design to the adhesives, and a postal card. They are all engraved by the Columbian Bank Note Compauy, of Washington, and from the beauty of the execution of these, their initial effort in postage stamp engraving, we shall look forward with pleasure to welcome new arrivals in our albumsfrom their atelier.



HELIGOLAND.—The new set of stamps for this little island has at length reached us, and answers to the description heretofore given in these pages. To our thinking the execution does not equal that of the last set, the embossing of the head being very defective, and the design is uot as light and effective as the old series. The values are as follow, the colors green and rose, being differeutly disposed in each case.

1	farthing,	1	pfennig,	green	and rose.
2	"	2	"	"	"
3	"	5	"	"	"
1½	pence,	10	"	"	"
3	"	25	"	"	"
6	"	50	"	"	"

The peculiarity of giviug the value in two kinds of money will at once strike the observer, but if he attempts to apply the ordinary rules of arithmetic to a solution of their value, he is likely to get slightly mixed, for instance, we are told that 1 farthing is the equivalent of 1 pfennig, but 3 farthings equal 5 pf. This might be explained by the fact of 1 f. or pf. being the lowest monetary unit, but the next two values tell us that the stamps are first 1½ p. (6 farthings) or 10 pf., and second, 3 p. (12 farthings) or 25 pf. According to this rule a collector buying stamps of the lowest value, would get 25 for 3 p., if he purchased according to the German currency and only 12 for the same amount if he paid in English money. The fact of the matter is, the whole thing is a complete farce, and the stamps are simply gotten up by the postmaster of the island to sell to collectors, and we are afraid that the grand success he achieved with the last issue will teud to make a new set every year a necessity for the postal wants of (to guard against fraud, of course,) the two thousand fishermen and few visitors who inhabit the island.

FRANCE.—The figures on the 10 centimes stamp have been enlarged, leaving only the 25 and 40 c. with small figures of value; these will doubtless soon follow suit. We had almost forgotten to add that the color remains unaltered.

FIJI ISLANDS.—If "coming events cast their shadows before," we have an indication of a new set for these islands, as the old series are arriving surcharged V. R. in fancy letters over the C. R. on the stamp. This we suppose is to hint to the gentle savage, in a delicate way, that Victoria reigns in the place of His Majesty Cacobau.

RUSSIA.—This most conservative of all countries, in regard to its stamps, is now about to make a change in its postal rates, which will necessitate two new values, a 2 and 8 kopecs. They will correspond to the two types now in use, the 2 k. being printed in black and pink,

like the one, three, and five kopecs, while the 8 k. will be issued in grey, with a pink centre similar to the three highest values. We understand that the 30 k. will be discontinued, and that the 5 k. post card will be replaced by one of the value of 4 kopecs.

VENEZUELA.—We understand that a new series of adhesives and envelopes has been prepared here for use in Venezuela, but have not yet had an opportunity of examining any of the proofs.

UNITED STATES.—So many different stories in regard to the envelopes have been told to us, that we do not know what to believe. The Plimpton Co. inform us that they have prepared two dies, and struck off a supply of each value, but we knowing the inaccuracy of all statements regarding stamps, not made by experienced philatelists, we must wait developments before giving the statement full credence. Another party positively assures us that the Plimpton Co. have bought Reay's dies, and will in future use only these, which would of course give us our old stamps back again. Still another well informed party (or who from his position should be), tells us that a set of new dies, of entirely new design, is in preparation. After hearing all these statements, we are in a worse muddle than ever before.

The new post cards are reported as being nearly ready. The design as described to us consists of the same head in the right, and a monogram of the letters U. S. in the left upper corner. POST CARD will be printed across the top of the stamp, but there will be no direction. The monogram will be printed in black, while the head, border, &c., will be in violet, and the card itself white.

JAPAN.—An 80 sen is reported, but we think the statement doubtful.

SPAIN.—Alfonso XII is to be represented on a new set of stamps, to be issued to the public July 1st; we sincerely hope that he will succeed in maintaining his position till that date, for we shall be pleased to see the boy's face in our albums. The new set will be of the same values as those now in use, and it is implied in the Spanish paper from which the notes were given us, that the colors will also remain the same.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—We have just received a stamp which we take to be the forerunner of a new series of stamps for this colony. The new comer bears the profile of Queen Victoria to left in oval, the expression of the face being very pleasing and natural, but of course is not to be regarded as a likeness; above in half circle is the name of the colony, SOUTH AUSTRALIA; value below in straight line; rather coarse ornamental work fills the remainder of the stamp, which is of the ordinary size, and is perforated and watermarked with a crown and S. A.

Notes on the Frenked Envelopes

OF THE LETTER EXPRESS COMPANIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

By C. H. C.

Harrier's, D. W., Express.—I. Fancy scroll. "*D. W. Harrier's Express.*" "*Paid*" below.

Black on 3 c. white, 1861.

II. Same inscription in fancy transverse oblong frame.

Black on 3 c. white, 1861.

III. Smaller. Same inscription in double lined transverse oblong, with truncated corners.

Slate blue on 3 c. white, 1864.

Deep rose on same.

IV. Similar to type II, but nearly square. Fancy lettering.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

Purple on same.

Hall & Allen's Dutch Flat Express, on 3 c. buff, 1853, over W. F. & Co.'s frank.

Holland, Morley & Co.—Scroll. "*Paid. Holland, Morley & Co.'s Express.*"

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

Red on same.

Holland & Wheeler's Daily Express.—"*Paid*" above. Transv. obl. fancy frame.

Black on 3c. white, 1861.

Hopkinson's Express.—*You Bet, Nevada County, Cal.* Obl. rect. in two lines.

Red on 3 c. white, buff, 1861.

II. "*Hopkinson's Express, Paid,*" in two lines. Rect. fancy border.

L. U. C. —— on 3 c. white, 1864.

III. Rect. lined back ground, larger than type II. Same inscription in three lines.

—— on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

Holladay (The) Overland Mail and Express Company.—Inscription as above. "*Paid,*" in large shaded letters in back ground.

L U. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

A. E. Red on 3 c. buff, 1864.

Hunt's, W. P., Warren's Express. "*Paid.*" Streamer.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864; 3 c. flesh, 1870.

Hunt & Hart's Warren's Express.—"*Paid* 50 *c.,*" in oval lined border with fancy ornaments.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

Hinckley & Co.'s Express Mail.—Unrolled scroll. Name as above. "*Fast Run via Denver. Paid Through.*"

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

HOGAN & Co.—I. "*Paid. Hogan & Co. North San Juan and Humbug Express, connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.,*" in five lines. Fancy border, rounded corners.

T. Black on 3 c. white, lemon, 1870.

II. Same inscription in four lines, enclosed in a border consisting of border of a single hair line and scallops

T. Black on 3 c. white, 1870.

HASTINGS' EXPRESS. "*Paid.*" Man on horseback flying over ground, and bearing streamer inscribed "*News.*"

L. U. C. Black on ord. yellow laid envelope.

HARRISON'S SUSANVILLE AND GOOSE LAKE EXPRESS COMPANY.—Streamer inscribed as above. "*Paid*" at top.

T. Red on 3c. white, 1870.

HAYWOOD'S EXPRESS. (See Pac. Union Express Co.)

HUNTLEY, C. C., STAGE AND EXPRESS LINE, in red, over "*Paid,*" in large shaded mauve letters.

L. U. C. on 3 c. buff, 1864.

INDIAN CREEK EXPRESS. "*Paid.*" Stage coach crossing mountains.

T. Black on 6 c. (rose) white, buff, 1864.

Same on 6 c. (violet) white, buff, 1864.

JAMES & Co.'s KOOTENAI EXPRESS. Name in two lines.

A. E. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864, with W. F. & Co.'s frank at top.

JONES & EDGAR'S CANYON CITY EXPRESS. "*Paid.*" I. Type inscription.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c; buff, 1853.

II. Same inscription in three lines of print.

L. L. C. Black on 3c. white, buff, 1861.

III. Same in two lines enclosed in obl. rect. fancy border.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

IV. "*Jones & Edgar's Canyon City Express,*" in one line. Open lettering. "*Paid*" beneath.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

V. Same. "*Paid* 50 *Cents*" beneath. All in double lined obl. rect. frame.

Black on 3c. 1861.

JONES & EDGAR'S OWYHEE EXPRESS. "*Paid* 50 *Cents.*" I. Open letters in double lined rect. frame. Type set in two lines.

Black (cut from envelope).

II. Same. "*Paid* 75 *Cents.*"

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

JAMISON'S, J. C., EXPRESS. "*Paid.*" Large scroll.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

KENSON'S OWENS RIVER EXPRESS. "*Paid,*" in scroll, all contained in oblong lined rect.

L. U. C. Red on 3 c. buff, 1864.

KERSEY'S, J. D., EXPRESS, in obl. lined frame with truncated corners.

Red on 3 c. white, buff, 1861.

Black on 3 c. white, 1861.

KENNEDY & Co. I. obl. rect. frame. "*Kennedy & Co.'s Half Moon Bay and Pescadero Express, Office,* 679 *and* 681 *Market Street, S. F.*"

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1864.

II. Same with "*Paid*" on right ride.

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1864.

There are also *Kennedy, Long & Co. Bagage and Transfer Co.* and *Express and Transfer Company* on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

LANGTON & Co. I. *Langton's Pioneer Express* in old English. "*Paid*" below surrounded by flourishes, identical with the device of Harrier type I.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

II. Transv. fancy oval pointed at ends. In middle of frame at top and bottom are seven small blocks with thirteen to each side. "*Langton's Pioneer Express. Paid.*"

L. U. C. Black on plain yellow laid envelope; 3 c. white buff, 1853; 10 c. white, buff, 1853; 3 c. buff, 1857.

Blue on 3 c. buff, 1853.

III. Similar to II, but with eleven blocks instead of thirteen.

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1853; 10 c. white, 1861.

Red on 3 c. white, 1861.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1857; 3 c. white, buff, 10 c. white, 1861.

IV. Fancy obl. rect. "*Langton's*" above, "*Paid*" in outlined letters traversed by "*Pioneer*" in centre; "*Express*" below. Elaborate ornamentation.

L. U. C. Black on 6 c. (rose) white, 1861; 3 c. (rose) white, buff, 3 c. (brown) white, buff, 6 c. (rose) white, buff, 6 c. (violet) white, buff, 1864.

Blue on 3 c. (brown) buff, 1864.

V. "*Langton's Nevada Mail and Express Co. Paid.*" Plain, type set.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

LOCKWOOD, C. M. & Co., CANYON CITY EXPRESS. Type set. No border.

L. U. C. Black on 3c. buff, 1864.

LATTA'S MOUNTAIN EXPRESS. "*Latta's Mountain Express. Paid,*" in obl. rect. in 3 lines of type in fancy border. Stage coach with four horses going to left, on each side of middle word "*Express.*"

Black on —— (cut from env)

II. Same device, border and wording. Coasches smaller than in type I, and windows blotched and black. In type I the passengers can be seen and counted.

T. Black on 3 c. white, 1864.

III. Same device, border and wording, except that "*Express*" is flanked by fancy ornaments in lieu of coach at each side

Blue on 3 c. white, buff, 1854.

LOON CREEK EXPRESS. I. Double lined frame. "*Paid. Loon Creek Express. Letters for Loon Creek should be addressed Care Shepherd's Express, Idaho City, I. Ty.*"

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864, with W. F. & Co.'s frank A. E.

II. "*Loon Creek Express. Paid,*" in two lines.

A. E. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864. W. F. & Co. at T.

III. "*Loon Creek Express. C. J. Tassel, Messenger. Paid,*" in 3 lines.

T. Black on 3 c. white, lemon, 1870, under W. F. & Co.'s frank.

LL PORTE EXPRESS CO. Trans obl. with truncated corners. Lined ground, name as above in shaded letters slanting from left to right, over word "*Paid.*"

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff 6 c. (rose) white, buff, 6 c. (violet) white, buff, 1864.

LAMPING & CO.'S EXPRESS. Transv. obl. lined ground. Inscription as above. "*Paid*" in ornamental letters in back ground.

A. E. Black on 6 c. white, buff, 12 c. 1861; with W. F. &. Co.'s frank at T.

A. E. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 6 c. white, buff, 1864.

T. Black on 6 c. (rose) buff, 1864.

T. Black on 6 c. (violet) white, buff, 1864.

Answers to Correspondence.

L. H. H., Chicago.—Thanks for your information, we have embodied it in our list of novelties. Our thanks are also due to Mr. Sebeck for a sight of the new Bermuda.

Philatelist, St. Louis.—There is scarcely a particle of truth in the letter you quote. Mr. Stockwell kindly consented to help our publishers in the retail department of their business, when short of help, while new hands were learning. He left, much to their regret, to fill other engagements. If you wait patiently you will get full particulars.

H. S., Philadelphia.—We shall be pleased to hear from you, either in letter form, or in an article embodying your views on the subject.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

FRANCE.

In 1860 fresh facilities for the transmission of printed matter were accorded to the public by the reduction of the rate for circulation to one centime for every five grammes. This led to the issue of the one centime stamp, olive-green, in November of that year, and at the same time the 80 c. made its appearance in rose, and the 5 c. in light green.

Up to this time no steps had been taken to adopt the English system of perforation. which had been in operation for several years, and had already found favour in other countries. In 1861, however, a Paris house, that of Messrs. Susse fréres, pointedly indicated to the government the course to be taken, by setting up a perforating machine of its own. It was originally stated that Messrs. Susse merely used the machine to perforate the stamps which they sold over their own counter, but, according to Dr. Magnus, they also perforated the supplies of many of the ordinary stamp retailers, with whom the invention became popular, owing to the time it saved in separating the stamps. All the six values then current, viz., the 1 c., 5 c., 10 c., 20 c., 40 c., and 80 c., exist with the Susse perforations (which are very large and coarse), but specimens are now with difficulty obtained.

Shortly after the Messrs. Susse's machine had commenced working, the government, according to some authorities, issued a certain number of sheets of the six values *line-pierced* (that is to say, pierced with a series of short slits), and the same were put on sale in two of the Parisian post-offices and in several of the departments, but were soon withdrawn, the patentee of the perforating machine having threatened to commence an action against the administration for illegal imitation of his process. Negotiations were then entered into with him, and in 1862 the entire series made its appearance officially perforated. According to M. Moens, however, the line-pierced stamps were as much the fruit of private enterprise as the Susse series.

The issue of the perforated stamps did not give rise to any noticeable change in colour, and it is worthy of passing observation, that this is the only occasion on which an entire French series has appeared simultaneously.

The reduction, already adverted to, in the rates for circulars and

printed matter necessitated the issue of two fresh values, and advantage was taken of the opportunity thus afforded to create a fresh type.



The emperor's successes in Italy and Mexico had given him the right to grace his brow with a wreath of laurels, and this he figuratively did on the new stamps, as well as on the new coinage. The two centimes red-brown, with laureated profile, made its appearance on the 1st January, 1863, and the 4 c. lavender, of the same type, on the following 12th of September. The execution of both stamps is faultless, and the portrait of the emperor a good one. In the design utility was consulted even before elegance, a bold figure of value being placed in each of the lower angles, and the word *Francais*, abbreviated in the previous emissions, is here written at full length.

These two stamps, the two and the four centimes, have continued in use almost down to the present time, and that without any substantial alteration, though certain differences in the shade may be noticed. The 4 c. is found in a deep grey, and the 2 c. varies from light to dark; the design also on the later-printed supplies shows some traces of wear.

From 1863 we take a leap to 1867, noticing, however, in passing, the strange *on dit* published in the first volume of the Belgian journal, to the effect that it was in contemplation to issue a 20 centime adhesive with a microscopic view of Puebla in the centre, surmounted by a microscopic view of Pnebla in the centre, surmounted by a soaring eagle! It was indeed fortunate that this absurd project, if ever really entertained, was abandoned. Stamps may well be employed to illustrate memorable events which have long been embalmed in a nation's history, but it would be great temerity to render them souvenirs of contemporary doings, of which to-morrow's occurrence may totally change the value or significance. To resume: in 1867 the four values used for the prepayment of letters, viz., 10 c., 20 c., 40 c., and 80 c.



were issued with laureated profile and with EMPIRE FRANCAIS in full; and a fifth value was added, the 30 centimes chocolate, intended for correspondence with Belgium and Switzerland, with which countries postal treaties guaranteeing lower rates had just been concluded. The colours of this series are bright and effective, excepting only that of the 10 centimes, which value (it must also be observed) is found in several shades, from pale to brownish cinnamon. The design is a fuller one than that of the previous type, and is all the handsomer for the broader borders and more legible inscriptions. The 30 centimes with

ground of horizontal lines has been chronicled as a variety, but, as many (and I among the number) think, in error. It is true that the later printed specimens show this ground, but I believe it always existed, and that it has only become visible from some change in the mode of impression or from the deterioration of the die. The seven values (2 c., 4 c., 10 c., 20 c., 30 c., 40 c., and 80 c.) made their appearance about the end of 1869 *unperforated*, but specimens are now scarce.

In November, 1869, appeared also the long expected five-franc stamp, of which an engraving is annexed. Great things were expected of the engraver, M. Barre, but although the execution was characterized by all his usual delicacy, the design itself—copied in the main from that of the bill-stamps—proved a great disappointment. As was justly observed, but for the word TIMBRE-POSTE the stamp might well have been taken for a revenue label. The colour of this truly valuable stamp is mauve; the figure 5 and the letter F are said to be in violet-blue, but this I cannot perceive. That these signs were impressed *after* the rest of the stamp had been printed is evident, as the ground-work runs across them.



The list of imperial postage stamps proper closes with the 1 centime laureated, olive-green, which was issued in May, 1870, and is still in partial use. The *chiffres-taxe* and journal stamps remain to be treated of separately, and some notice will be necessary of the rejected envelope designs.

The last imperial stamp—the one centime—appeared in the month of May, 1870. On the 15th of July following war was virtually declared between France and Germany. In the course of August the Germans took possession of Alsace and Lorraine, and the stamps issued primarily for the service of those provinces form the earliest philatelic souvenirs of the great contest. On the 19th of September Paris was completely invested. A month later the engraved Republican stamps (perforated reprints of the 1849 series) made their appearance in the besieged capital. In the same month Gambetta and his co-delegates established themselves at Tours, and in December they removed to Bordeaux, where was issued the *lithographed* series of republican stamps. After the conclusion of peace, other values of the 1849 type (engraved) were emitted by the head office at Paris.



For the sake of convenience let us examine the Bordeaux series



first. Its emission was necessitated by the almost entire exhaustion of the stock of imperial stamps (fifteen millions in all), which M. Vandal, the last postmaster-general of the empire, had caused to be distributed among the provincial offices immediately after the outbreak of the war. The matter was one of extreme urgence. The dies of the 1849 type were shut up in Paris, and nothing remained but to issue some makeshift design in the most expeditious manner possible. To engrave a matrix would have been a work of months, and lithography was the only process which could be relied on for the prompt production of the much needed supplies. No doubt, to the pressure of time may also be ascribed the resolution to simply copy the existing designs,—there was really no time for the preparation and submission of drawings of new types, and the immediate adoption of the old ones was a safe course.

The order to prepare the series was given by the postmaster-general *in partibus*, M. Steenackers; and the director of the Bordeaux mint only ten days after the matter was first proposed to him was able to announce that everything was ready; in that short time he had set up an *atelier* capable of turning out 1,200,000 stamps per day, or, in other words, 8,000 sheets of 150 stamps, of all colours and prices. That the work should have been somewhat roughly done is not, under the circumstances, surprising, and it will be admitted that some of the values are by no means without merit as lithographic productions. Considerable variations are noticeable in the colours of nearly every value, and they are due only to accident; but as the almost natural accompaniments of a hasty emission, they illustrate, in a subordinate manner, the circumstances under which the series was prepared, and are, therefore, worthy of a certain amount of attention, even from beginners. I would not pretend to lay down any rule as to the number of shades to be collected, but would merely recommend that those which show the greatest divergence be taken in preference.

The series is composed of the following values:—

Large Figures in Angles.

1 centime, olive-green.
2 " red-brown.
4 " grey.

Copy of the 1849 *Type.*

5 centimes, chrome-green.
10 " yellow-ochre, cinnamon, bistre.
20 " blue, light to dark, ultramarine.
30 " chocolate.

40 centimes, light orange to vermilion.
80 " rose, carmine.

Each valne being separately drawn, it follows that there are as many types as there are values, and the 20 c. having been drawn again and again exists in not less than three types. The first type I incline to think was issued alone before the others; the second and third—or, adopting the results of Dr Magnus's analysis, the second, third, and fourth—I believe to have been issned simultaneonsly. My argument is, that the 20 c., being the value most needed, was the first printed, a supply of the very defective first type being despatched to such post-offices as were quite ont of stamps, pending the completion of the more carefully drawn second and third types.

The first type is easily recognizable; in fact, it is impossible to confound it with even the ronghly printed copies of the subsequent types. The impression is exceedingly coarse and blurred, and the space between the ring which snrrounds the profile and the marginal border at the top of the stamp measures *nearly one-sixteenth of an inch*, whilst, in the other types there is scarcely any space at all. The colour is a thick Prussian blne. This type was certainly in use for only a very short time, and specimens are at present by no means easily to be had.

As to the other types, I will not ventnre on giving any detailed description of my own. "A Parisian Collector" gives, as the most perceptible difference between his second and third types, that the latter has four Etrnscan frets in the border of the left upper side, and the former four Etrnscan frets, *and* the commencement of a fifth. Dr Magnns gives a second, third, and fourth type; but which is the second and which the third I must confess myself, after several hours' examination of scores of specimens, unable to determine. The differences between the two are so fine, and, therefore, very difficult accnrately to describe; whilst, on the other hand, owing to the imperfection and irregnlarity of the printing, the stamps vary so mnch among themselves that the eye gets distracted and deceived—at any rate, mine did. Moreover, Dr. Magnns himself hardly claims more for his third type than that it is the resnlt of a retouching of the second; we may, therefore, consider them as forming together only one in reality. His fourth type is distinguished from the preceding by the manifest increase in the height and thickness of the lettering. It appears to answer to "A Parisian Collector's" second type; and his classification, though I cannot entirely reconcile it with Dr. Magnus's, seems to be the best, unless, indeed, we register them roughly as second type, small letters; third type, large letters.

Perhaps in even discnssing these differences I am taking my readers somewhat out of their depth, bnt it seems to me that whilst beginners may safely postpone the study of varieties of perforation, paper. &c.

a knowledge of the types, in other words the *designs* of stamps, is indispensable. It does not follow thence that the acquisition of closely similar types, such as those just referred to, is necessary; and with regard to them in particular I think that a specimen of the first type, and one of either of the others, would amply suffice for all illustrative purposes.

Looking at the design in its entirety, its comparative roughness is in itself sufficient to distinguish it at a glance from the engraved type of 1849, and not the veriest tyro need fall in error on this point. The two series are, it is true, both unperforated, but here the resemblance ends. With regard to perforation, it may be well to state, that although the lithographed stamps were officially issued unperforated, the postmasters of some of the provincial offices caused the supplies which they received to be line-pierced, or rouletted, by hand-worked apparatus in their possession. I believe that not a few private firms also rouletted their stamps for convenience' sake; but these chance perforations, though specimens exemplifying them may be worth preserving as curiosities, if one happens to come across them, certainly do not constitute legitimate varieties.

The series as a whole forms an interesting commentary on the fortunes of France during the war. Its currency ceased shortly after the conclusion of peace, and during the greater part of the time that it was in circulation it could only be employed in two-thirds of France, the remaining third being occupied by the enemy. In consequence of the hostile occupation the postal service became unsettled, and the ith ographed stamps franked letters by many an unaccustomed route.

Notes on the Franked Envelopes

OF THE LETTER EXPRESS COMPANIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

By C. H. C.

Merchants Stage and Express Line, in black type, in three lines of scroll across word "*Paid*" in red.

L. U. C. Black and red on 3 c. buff, 1870.

Mead & Clarke. "*Paid, over our Clear Creek Route.*" Like W., F, & Co. Name of firm in old English open lettering.

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

McBean & Co.'s Granite Creek Express. Fancy lined rect. border. Inscription in two lines.

A. E. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864, with W., F. & Co.'s frank at T.

McBean & Co.'s Middle Fork Express. Same as preceding, and on similar envelope.

MORLEY, CAULKINS & Co., DAILY EXPRESS. "*Paid,*" Three lines of type in double lined rect. frame.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

MOSSMAN'S & Co.'s EXPRESS. "*Dirigo, Nez Perces and Salmon River Mines. Paid.*" Obl. fancy frame.

L. U. C. —— on 3 c. white, 1861.

NORMAN'S, G. H., EXPRESS. "*Paid*" Three lines in rect. obl. fancy border.

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

NEVADA CITY AND MEADOW LAKE EXPRESS. Type set in three lines on lined background. Obl.

T. Black on 3 c. white, 1864.

NICHOLS & Co.'s EXPRESS.—"*Paid.*" In three lines, the whole in obl. frame with truncated corners. Very plain.

Blue on 3 c. white, 1853.

II. "*Nichols & Co.'s*" *Express*, above "*Paid,*" below. View in centre. Dog watching safe in foreground; steamboats, cars, &c., in distance.

Black on 3c. white, buff, 1853.

" " ord. buff env. with U. S. adhesive attached.

ORGAN & TIBBETT'S EXCELSIOR EXPRESS. Transv. obl. fancy frame.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. white, 1864.

PACIFIC UNION EXPRESS Co. "*Paid.*" Scroll inscribed as above.

L. U. C. to T. — Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864. Red to rose on 3 c. white, buff, 6 c. white, buff, 1864, 12 c. 1861. Same on 6 c. white, buff, 1864, with W., F. & Co. over it.

Same, with "*Haywood Express Co.*" printed across in black capitals.

T. Red on 3c. buff, 1863.

Many of these come across end of envelope with private advertisements at top.

PANIMINT PONY EXPRESS. "*Paid* 25 *Cents—via San Bernardino.*" Elaborate design, horseman, &c.

T. Black on 3 c. lemon, 1871.

PACIFIC EXPRESS. I. Horseman in centre. "*Pacific Express,*" above. "*Paid,*" below. Name repeated on saddle.

L. U. C. Black on 3c. white, buff, 1853.

" " " 10 c. white, 1853.

II. Same inscription altered to "*Pacific Express Co.,*" but unchanged on saddle.

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. white, buff, 1853.

" Black on 3 c. " " "

III. Same as II, but horse more heavily shaded, and saddle shows *C* of "Co." The word "*Paid*" is also different, all the letters being thicker and shaded.

L. U. C. Black on ord. buff envelope.
" " " " yellow laid envelope.
" " " 3 c. white, buff, 1853.

PACIFIC STAGE AND EXPRESS CO. I. Transv. oval with scalloped border. "*Pacific Stage and Express Co., San Francisco, Sacramento, Auburn, Grass Valley, Eureka, Virginia.*" Four horse coach in centre. "*Paid*" below.

T. Blue on 3 c. white, 1861 (Reprinted in L. U. C. of ordinary white env')
T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

II. Same as last with list of offices omitted. (This is mentioned to me by Mr. Lomler.)

III. Transv. obl. "*Pacific Stage and Express Co.*" above. "*Paid*" below. Six horse stage in centre. Truncated corners.

L. U. C. Rose on 3 c. white, 1861.
" Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1861.

T. Reprinted in black and in rose on ordinary white and buff envelopes.

IV. Same as II, but at top of envelope is printed in one line, "*San Francisco, Sacramento, Auburn, Grass Valley, Nevada, Truckee Meadows, Virginia.*"

Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

PATTISON'S EXPRESS. "*Paid.*" Scroll of fancy lines.

Black on buff (cut).

PAULY'S, N. O., EXPRESS. I. Transv. obl. frame, rounded at corners. "*N. O. Pauly's Express. Paid.*"

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

II. Same, but single lined frame, fancy ornaments.

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

III. Same inscription in three lines of type, in small rect. (nearly square) double lined frame.

Black on white (cut).

Same inscription in two lines of type in fancy border with leaves. Obl. rect.

Black on white (cut)

PAULY & NOHRMAN'S EXPRESS. "*Paid*" above in small rect. fancy border.

Black on white (cut).

PENNY POST CO. (*See San Francisco.*)

PENMAN'S, R., EXPRESS. In one line of type under W., F. & Co.'s frank.

Black on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

PESCADORO AND HALF MOON BAY STAGE CO.

Said to have issued a frank, but I have never seen it.

PHILIP & GREGORY'S EXPRESS. Type in fancy obl. frame.

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

PRIVATE POST OFFICE.
PUBLIC POST OFFICE.
PUBLIC LETTER OFFICE.
} (*See San Francisco.*)

RAMEY, J. C., & Co.'s EXPRESS. "*Paid* 50 *Cents.*"

Black on buff (cut).

RAUMS' RUBY HILL, SCHELLBURN AND RUBYVILLE EXPRESS. "*Agency White Pine Daily News.*" Fancy obl. frame.

T. Black on 3 c. white, lemon, 1870.

A. E. Black on 3 c. lemon, 1870, with W., F. & Co. at T.

RUBY HILL AND SCHELLBRUN EXPRESS. "*Mell. Raum, Agent.*" Fancy obl. frame, pointed ends.

T. Black on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

ROCKFELLOW & Co.'s EXPRESS. "*Paid* 75 *Cents*," in design of flourishes.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1861.

RUNDELL & Co.'s EXPRESS. "*Paid* 50 *Cents*," in two lines, open letters.

T. Black on ord. yellow wove envelope.

RANDELL & JONES' EXPRESS "*Paid* 50 *Cents.*" Black in obl. rect. frame of two lines.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. white, 1861, with W., F. & Co. at T.

ROBINSON & Co. (*See San Francisco.*)

A Caution to Collectors.

BY C. H. C.

The U. S. Government having sanctioned the issue of what it is pleased to call "specimens" of its obsolete postage stamps for sale at face value, I think a few words of caution may not be amiss. So far as stamp collecting is concerned, the majority of these stamps are worthless reprints, and the others, being from new dies, are counterfeits (or at least would be so called if emanating from a private source), so that exactly where the "specimens" come in I cannot see.

To take up the stamps in their order.

1847 *Issue.*

The stamps of this issue, now offered for sale, are evidenlty from new dies; and as I prefer to call things by their right names, I shall in the following descriptions, designate them by the term "counterfeits."

The counterfeits are considerably shorter, but wider than the genuine; in fact the difference (in length particularly) is so great as to be noticeable upon even a cursory examination.

Another striking feature is the prominence given to all the foliage and other ornamental work, which is brought out very much more boldly than in the genuine.

Upon careful examination, almost innumerable minute differences will be found to exist in the engraving, but they are generally impossible to describe, and I must therefore content myself with a brief mention of a few of the more important ones, which will serve as tests.

FIVE CENTS.

Counterfeit.	*Genuine.*
The figure five on the left hand side is further from the bottom than the right hand one.	No important difference in this respect.
The hair on the right side of Franklin's head (*i. e.* is the left side of the stamp) is rather straggling, and one lock in particular (about on a line with the eyes) is distinctly separated from the rest of the hair, so that daylight can be seen between.	The hair is compact, and no stray locks are noticeable.
The left side of Franklin's mouth stops abruptly with a dot; and, distinctly separated from it, is another dot, giving the appearance of two moles or dimples.	The mouth is a veritable "*meat trap*," apparently elongated into his left cheek by some fault of the engraver.
The right eye is in proportion with the left.	The right eye seems to possess an unusual quantity of white beneath the pupil.
The top line defining the shirt-bosom reaches the oval frame almost opposite the centre of the top of the F of FIVE.	It reaches the frame almost opposite the top of the *figure* 5.

TEN CENTS.

The circle noted in the counterfeit does not exist.	Near the end of the hair on the left side of Washington's face, one of the curls forms a *very minute* white circle with black centre.
There is a very small line finish-	This small line is absent, so tha

ing Washington's cravat just above the inside black line surrounding the disk.	the cravat reaches to the edge of the disk.
Washington's lips are not unusually thick.	They are very thick.
The right side of the collar is shaded by several lines, but is plainly distinguishable from the coat.	Is so heavily shaded as to be barely distinguishable.

There is one other difference which I may also mention, it being common to both values. I refer to the small letters at the very bottom of the stamp, just inside the line which encloses the entire design. They can be comparatively easily made out on the originals (especially the 10 c.); while on the counterfeits they are smaller and almost illegible, and on the 5 c. particularly are little more than specks.

I now take up the reprinted stamps of the subsequent issues, for which the old dies were found and used. Consequently no differences exist in the engraving, (except perhaps some very minute ones in the 1857, issue, of which some values are said to be from new plates made from the original matrix), but the paper, printing, perforation and gum are dissimilar from the originals, and it is by these details that the worthless reprints are to be detected.

1851 *Issue.*

The stamps issued from 1861–6 were imperforate, and these have not been reprinted. The

1857 *Issue*

was identical in design with the foregoing, but the stamps were perforated. In the originals the perforation is on the scale of 15½ per two centimetres, in the reprints it is 12. This test will of itself suffice, though if it be not enough, I may mention that the reprints are on pure white, whereas the originals are on decidedly tinted paper.

Eagle (Carrier) Stamp.

The originals are always imperforate; the reprints are perforate, 12 per two centimetres. The paper differs as in the 1857 issue.

1861–5 *Issue.*

These stamps were issued in two ways, first with a smooth surface, and afterwards with a small gridiron pattern (*grille*) embossed on the centre of each stamp, for the purpose of making it more difficult to remove the cancelling mark. The reprints are without the *grille;* and approach so closely to the originals, that collectors should be very cautious in accepting any specimens. The best test is the gum, as explained further on.

1869 *Issue.*

The originals *all* had the grille, the reprints have not.

1870 *Issue.*

This being the current issue, even the ungummed sets now offered for sale cannot be called reprints.

Newspaper Stamps of 1865.

The reprints are almost impossible to detect from the originals, and I am quite at a loss to give any test. If anything, they (the reprints) have been too carefully worked, and the design stands out too clearly especially on the 10 c.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In addition to the tests given above, there is one which will apply to all the issues On original copies of the

1857 issue the gum was decidedly brownish
Eagle stamp " " " " "
1861 issue " " " generally brownish, especially on the stamps without the grille.
1869 } " " " varied from decidedly brownish to almost white.
1870 }

On the 1861–9 issues of the reprints (as also on the eagle), simple gum arabic seems to have been used, the color being perfectly white. Furthermore, if the stamps are bent at all, the gum *cracks*, which is in no case true of the originals.

The 1847, 1857 and 1870 issues of the reprints are not gummed at all.

COLOR.

The following are among the more noticeable points of resemblance and difference.

1857.—3 cents. Reprint approaches a red orange, the originals are red to red brown.
The 1, 5, 10 and 12 c. are too light.
The 24 c. is too dark, approaching nearly to the shade of the current 12 c.

1861.—Many differences exist in the colors, but it is almost impossible to describe them. The 3 and 30 c. are too dark. Any one having a proof set of this issue cannot be for a moment deceived, as exactly the same shades are reproduced on the reprints.

1869.—The colors are very good.

EAGLE STAMP.—In the originals the color is dull blue, while in the reprints it is clear dark blue.

Newly Issued Stamps.

Our list of novelties is remarkably small this month, and contains nothing for our artist to illustrate.

UNITED STATES.—The new post card will be issued on the first of August.

WURTEMBURG.—The 20 pfennige is to be joined by three new values on July the first; they will conform in colors and values to the new German, viz:

Adhesives.
3 pfennige, green.
5 " lilac.
10 " rose.

Envelopes.
5 pfennige, lilac.
10 " rose.

Newspaper Bands.
3 pfennige, green.

Money Order Cards.
10 pfennige, rose.
20 " "

CANADA.—An eight cent stamp will shortly be issued.

PORTUGAL.—Will add two new values to its set of postals, 2½ and 60 reis. They are expected this month.

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—Will follow suit with a 15 reis.

TURKEY.—Is again reported as being on the eve of issuing a new set of postals, meanwhile the surcharge on the current set has been altered.

A Russian Postman Twenty Years Ago.

BY GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.

The postman was one of the fiercest little men, with one of the fiercest and largest cocked hats, I ever saw. His face was yellow in the bony and livid in the fleshy parts; and the hugh moustache lying on his upper lip looked like a leech bound to suck away at him for evermore for some misdeeds of the Promethean kind.

This Russian postman: don't let me forget his sword, with its rusty leather scabbard and its brazen hilt, which seemed designed, like Hudibras's, to hold bread and cheese; and not omitting, again, the half-dozen little tin-pot crosses and medals attached by dirty straps of particoloured ribbon to his breast, for this brave had "served," and had only failed to obtain a commission because he was not "born." This *attaché* of St. Sergius-le-Grand, if that highly respectable saint can be accepted as a Muscovite equivalent for our St. Martin of Aldersgate, used to come clattering down the Cadetten-Linie on a shaggy little pony, scattering the pigeons, and confounding the vagrant curs. You know the tremendous stir at a review, when a chief, for no earthly purpose that I know of, save to display his horsemanship and to put himself and his charger out of breath, sets off, at a tearing gallop, from one extremity of the line to the other: the cock-feathers in the

hats of his staff flying out behind them like foam from the driving waters. Well: the furious charge of a general on Plumstead Marshes was something like the pace of the Russian postman. If he had had many letters to deliver on his way, he would have been compelled to modify the ardour of his wild career; but it always seemed to me that nineteen-twentieths of the Cadetten-Linie were taken up by dead walls, painted a glaring yellow, and that the remaining twentieth was occupied by the house where I resided. It was a very impressive spectacle to see him bring up the little pony short before the gate of the hotel, dismount, look proudly around, caress the ever-sucking leech on his lip—as for twisting the ends of it, the vampire would never have permitted such a liberty—and beckon to some passing Ivan Ivanovitch, with a ragged beard and caftan, to hold his steed, or in default of any prowling Ivan being in the way, attach his pony's bridle to the palisades. It was a grand sound to hear him thundering—he was a little man, but he *did* thunder—up the stone stairs, the brass tip of his sword-scabbard bumping against his spurs, and his spurs clanking against the stones, and the gloves hanging from a steel ring in his belt, playing rub-a-dub-dub on the leather pouch which held his letters for delivery—*my* letters, my newspapers, when they hadn't been confiscated—with all the interesting paragraphs neatly daubed out with black paint by the censor. And when this martial postman handed you a letter, you treated him to liquor, and gave him copecks. I have seen the lowest order of police functionary—and the martial postman was first cousin to a *polizei*—seize Ivan Ivanovitch, if he offended him, by his ragged head, and beat him with his sword-belt about the mouth until he made it bleed. Whereas, in these degenerate days, I am told, a Russian gentlemen who wears epaulettes, or a sword, is not allowed so much as to pull a droschky-driver's ears, or kick him in the small of the back, if he turns to the left instead of the right.—*Under the Sun.*

Review of Philatelic Publications.

The Postage Stamp Catalogue Profusely Illustrated. Thirtieth Edition. New York, J. W. SCOTT & Co., 75 & 77 Nassau Street.

We have so often called our readers' attention to new editions of this standard catalogue, that we had almost concluded to leave the pleasant task to other pens, rather than occupy our limited space with a new notice every few months; but the great change made in the Thirtieth edition, warrants our departure from a half formed resolution.

The old traditions appear to have passed away, for we find for the first time that the pages are composed of three columns instead of two,

which gives over one-third more matter in a page; this has been utilized to accommodate over one hundred new engravings in the body of the work, thus we find nearly every stamp under an engraving of the type, but where each stamp in a set is of a different design, a note with a number attached refers the reader to the supplement, where an illustration of the stamp will be found, this saves space and keeps the stamps of a series together. The large number of illustrations must at once commend it to all new beginners, and we are much mistaken if it does not find a large sale among the reading public generally, for few persons will begrudge twenty-five cents for a picture of every postage stamp that has ever been used, enabling them to form an intelligent opinion as to the merits, in an artistic sense, of our own postal labels.

With the prices at which the different stamps are offered we have nothing to do, but may remark, *enpassant*, that they are very moderate. We might also call attention to the fact that U. S. Stamps are steadily rising in price, and advise collectors to complete them at the earliest possible date.

The general get up of the work is superb, being decidedly the best stamp catalogue ever printed either here or in Europe; the paper is of the best quality, and the printing excellent. The reading is very clean and beautiful, being set in Bruce's new type, with patent figures, and with the very pretty ditto marks which take the place of inverted commas, were made expressly for this work, and consequently have never before been used in America. The values of the Turkish stamps being repeated in the native characters will prove a great help to collectors, as these stamps usually get misplaced in arranging. The cover is quite interesting, being formed of an enlarged engraving of the 25 c. newspaper stamp, with a few words altered. The character of the stamp is well sustained, and being printed in exactly the same shade of red, might easily be mistaken for the stamp itself, if it were not for the size.

We are pleased to note the emphatic way in which the publishers have set their face against the frauds now being foisted upon collectors by the government, and close with the following extract from the preface.

"UNITED STATES STAMPS. J. W. Scott & Co. wish it distinctly understood that all the U S. Stamps sold by them are warranted genuine original impressions, and not the spurious reprints and imitations lately circulated to deceive collectors."

Notes.

Adams & Co.'s Express.—A large quantity of these stamps have turned up lately, and can now be had at about 25 c. each. This is

good news for "local" collectors, as Adams & Co.'s stamps have heretofore commanded high prices, and hard to get at that.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—From cards issued by the post-office of these islands, we get the following as the names of the worthies depicted on the stamps: 5 and 13 c. blue, bust of King Kamehameha III., both 2 c. red, Kamehameha IV., 5 c. blue and 6 c. green, portrait in oval, Kamehameha V., 2 c. brown, the present King Kalakaua I., 12 c black, Prince Leleiohokee, the heir apparent, 18 c. red, Governor Kekuanaoa, 1 c. violet, Princess V. Kamamalu. This gives the portraits of four reigning kings, more than are represented on the stamps of any other country.

U. S. STAMPS.—Some parties in Washington seem to think that vast fortunes are made in the stamp business, and as they (fortunately for themselves) have some money that don't belong to them to speculate with, have started in the stamp business. They have a fine stock of cancelled $20 State Department (and are likely to keep them), for sale at $20 each; also the rare carrier's, like the one which sold at auction in N. Y. for $77; these they will sell at 1 c. each, so send on your pennies boys, and get cheap stamps. As this will be a great boon to young collectors, we gladly give this advertisement free. Address, Jewell, Stamp Dealer, Washington, D. C. E L. Pemberton calls it "official jobbery and sanctioned forgery."

Correspondence.

BROOKLYN, N. Y, April 12th, 1875.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately:

In looking over a number of newspapers published in New York City prior to the Revolutionary war, I find hand-stamped upon the middle of the last page of No. 748, of "The New York Gazette, or The Weekly Post Bag," of May 16th, 1759, an impression in red ink.

The design is similar to the shield of the seal of the colony of New York at that period, and not unlike the vignette at the head of the newspaper.

Answers to Correspondence.

A. H. L., St. Louis.—The last edition of our published price list contains more illustrations than any other work on stamps that has ever been published.

S. S. S., Philadelphia.—We return your collection by book post, having marked all the counterfeits.

Revenue Collector, Omaha.—We shall give a list of about a dozen new match and medicine stamps in our next.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

FRANCE.

Stamps issued by the German Authorities.

The name they have received "Alsace and Lorraine" is essentially inaccurate, but it embodies the general belief entertained at the time of their emission, that their circulation would not extend beyond the ancient Elsass and Lothringen, of which it was the assumed intention of the Germans to take possession. In other words, the administration of the postal service in those provinces was looked upon as a mere preliminary — as in the case of the Schleswig-Holstein emissions — to the formal annexation. Not even those who foresaw the probability of the occupation of the heart of the country by the invaders had any idea that the German postal *employés* would follow the army and re-establish the every-day service wherever that army obtained a firm hold. Such, however, was the case. The currency of the "Alsace and Lorraine" stamps, originally limited to the vicinity of Strasbourg, spread with the unheard-of progress of the German arms, northward as far as Abbeville, and westward almost to Le Mans. At the termination of the war their circulation was once more restricted to the two border provinces, wherein they lost all claim to be considered as French stamps, and became in reality a provisional German series.

Some collectors may question the propriety of classing these stamps with the French, but on this point the opinion of the leading French authority—Dr. Magnus—may well be considered conclusive. In almost the last number of the extinct *Timbrophile*, after adverting to the difficulty of coming to a decision, he expresses the opinion that, although not a French emission, they should still find place in an article treating of the stamps *in use in France* in 1870–71. They cannot, in fact, with any propriety be classed apart, for, as shown above, they were employed not *only* in Alsace and Lorraine, but in several other provinces; nor can they be placed with the German Stamps, for they were not, except at the last, used in Germany, and it is certainly a safer course to chronicle the stamps according to the place of their currency than according to the nationality of the issuing authorities.



The emission of the Franco-German stamps took place about the end of August, 1870, when five values made their appearance, 1 c., 2 c., 4 c., 10 c., and 20 c. In January of the following year two more values were issued, the 5 c. und 25 c., which completed the series. The design offers but slight ground for comment. Whether from motives of delicacy towards the invaded. as has been suggested, or ,as is more probable, from mere considerations of utility, the inscription is limited to the word POSTES, and nothing appears on the face of the stamps to indicate the circumstances which led to their emission. These stamps were made for use, and not for ornament; and like many another series, hailing from the banks of the Rhine, they give proof of the true German love of things practical. For most collectors one specimen of each value will suffice, but those who care for varieties will be careful to obtain examples of an *erreur d'impression*, which occured in respect of all, or nearly all, the values, and consists, to put it concisely, in the ground-pattern being upside down. In copies which present the design in its normal state, the concave side of the curves is uppermost, in the error the reverse is the case; but the occurrence of these varieties proves simply that the printer took hold of the sheet, on which the *burelage* had been impressed in advance, by the bottom, instead of the top, when he put it under the press to receive the imprint of the frame and inscription of the stamps.

It has been stated that a sub-type exists, with the lettering closer together. This is by no means improbable, but I have had no means of verifying the statement. I have compared together stamps showing the *burelage* right side up, with others with reversed *burelage*, and find the inscriptions differ only to such a slight and almost inappreciable extent as may be explained by the clearness or the thickness, as the case may be, of the impression.

In colour some of the stamps vary considerably; thus the 2 c., with ordinary ground, is of a dark chocolate-brown, whilst those with reversed *burelage* are of a light red-brown, approaching to burnt sienna. The 10 c. also exists in at least two distinct shades, and minor variations may be noticed in the others. No doubt the total quantity of stamps used was very large; the accidental appearance of colour varieties is therefore by no means surprising.

Post Cards.—These were issued in the beginning of the year 1871. They bore no impressed stamp. They contain, however, a place for an adhesive, and bear the needful inscriptions. I have never come across any of these cards myself, and have reason to suppose that their circulation must have been extremely limited.

Tax on Letters.—Just after the armistice was concluded, by virtue

of which (among other things) the Germans were to hold the department of the Somme until after the payment of the first half milliard of the indemnity, a charge of 20 centimes each was made by the German officials on all letters posted within that department. This charge they had received orders (as the French journals put it) from "a very high quarter" to impose, and it was collected at the receiving post-office. All letters from towns in the Somme bore, besides the French 20 c. adhesive, the handstamped inscription TAXE ALLEMANDE, followed by a large figure 2, signifying two *décimes*. This tax, or "requisition", remained in force for about six weeks; why it was withdrawn I do not now remember. The imposition of such a charge was a high-handed proceeding on the part of the Germans, especially after the conclusion of peace; but it must be said that if their management of the French post-offices was signalized by some arbitrary acts, it was also made the opportunity for beneficial innovations, which, unfortunately, the French have been unable to maintain in force; as, for instance, when letters were carried by the Germans between Amiens and any occupied town at *ten* centimes, instead of twenty

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.



The *chiffre-taxe* stamps are applied by the postal officials to unpaid letters, and indicate the amount of postage which the postman is entitled to claim on delivering the letter. In 1859 two stamps, both of the value of 10 centimes, were issued; the first was lithographed, and was in fact a provisional; the second was typographed. The first was in use but for a very short time, and is, consequently, rare; the second remained in use until 1863, when it was superseded by the 15 c. The latter continued in circulation until 1871, when the three current values made their appearance. All these stamps are of one and the same type; the two 10 c. and the 15 c. are printed in black. The current set reads as follows:

25	centimes	black
40	"	blue.
60	"	yellow-ochre.

Besides these there is mention made in *Le Timbre-Poste* of May, 1871, of a *lithographed* 15 c. black, supposed to be of Bordeaux origin, but, as far as I am aware; no further information respecting it has been obtained.

Of the foregoing values a line-pierced issue of the engraved 15 c. took place, of which specimens are rather scarce, and the current 25 c. is also found so perforated.

The existing 25 c. represents the charge for unpaid letters posted and delivered in one and the same district. The other two current values are for general correspondence, but they are hardly ever used, either be-

cause the number of unpaid letters is very small, or because the postal *employés* prefer marking the postage in ink, as they have been accustomed to do.



JOURNAL STAMPS.

The stamps of which the design is here figured were issued about April, 1869, and are now obsolete. They were nominally of the value 2 c., and were printed in three colours — violet, blue and red The violet stamps are not fairly collectable, since they represent only the tax or duty on the journals to which they were affixed. The blues and the reds represented the tax *plus the postage*, and are therefore admissible. Their real values were as follows:—

For Provincial Journals:—

2 c. blue—tax 2 c. † postage within the department 2 c. = 4 centimes.
2 c. red—tax 2 c. † postage to any part of the country 4 c. = 6 centimes.

The issue of a similar series for the Parisian journals was also contemplated in the same colours, but of the value of 5 c., which in the case of the violet represented the duty only, while the blues and the reds represented the tax *plus* the postage. These latter stamps were, however, never issued.

The stamps had to be stuck on the newspaper sheets before the latter were printed on, so they might be obliterated by the print. To that intent it was ordered that they should be placed at the right upper angle of the first page. No limit, it may be useful to observe, was put on the period within which the newspapers thus prepaid might go through the post.

The collection of unobliterated specimens must now be very difficult, and used copies are for the most part obliterated by the print in an unsightly manner; yet these difficulties do not constitute any reason for our rejecting the stamps, of which the higher values unquestionably possess a postal character.

A COMBINATION NEWSPAPER WRAPPER.—The Post-Office authorities of the United States have authorised the use of a new combination newspaper wrapper. It consists of a combination of the newspaper wrapper and the postal card now in use, so that a publisher wishing to write something in relation to the paper he sends, may do so on the wrapper. It is proposed to sell this wrapper for two cents.—*The Printers' Register.*

Notes on the Franked Envelopes

OF THE LETTER EXPRESS COMPANIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

BY C. H. C.

SAN FRANCISCO. For convenience sake, the franked envelopes of the several despatch companies existing in this city, will all be described under this heading, as matters will be much simplified hereby.

PENNY POST CO. (Illustrated)

A. 5 cents. on "ordinary letter size" buff env. } with U. S.
7 cents. " " extra letter size" " " } adhesives of
(reads "*care of*" instead of "*For*".) } 1851 attached.

B. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

C. Red on 3 c. 1853, the transverse oval being embossed. (*See* S. C. M. 1872 p. 151.)

E. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853. On the reverse is printed "*The Penny Post Company, Office* 135, *California St., San Francisco. Letters enclosed in the envelopes of the Penny Post Company and Deposited in any Post-office, are delivered immediately on the distribution of the mails in San Francisco, Sacramento, Stockon, Benecia, Marysville, Coloma, Nevada, Grass Valley, Mokelumne Hill.*"

Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

F. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

G. Black on ordinary buff envelope.

H. The *Philatelical Journal* notes a stamp which is very similar in design to *B*, "but the entire background is of very fine horizontal lines, on which PAID 5 appears in white letters, surcharged with FROM THE POSTOFFICE, CARE OF THE PENNY POST CO., in text hand, above which are the words 'CALIFORNIA PENNY POSTAGE." The small imitation stamp is larger, and clearly resembles the 1853 envelope; the impression is blue on very thin white paper." It is somewhat dubious whether this is an adhesive or has been cut from the envelope.

I must mention that, while I include the Penny Post Co. under the heading of San Francisco, it was not confined to that city, but had offices in other places also, as will be noticed from my remarks concerning envelope E. In fact, it delivered letters throughout nearly all the large towns of California.

PUBLIC LETTER OFFICE above, in scroll shape, in large ornamental capitals; No. 5, in hollow of curve formed by LETTER OFFICE; KEARNY ST. below. In left hand upper corner of envelope, across the end of which is also printed, in old English type, DELIVERED WITHIN ONE HOUR AFTER MAILING. Black. on 2 c. U. S. POST envelope. Alongside the government stamp appears a fancy handstamp impression, reading "PAID 15 CTS."

Dr. Gray notes a similar frank in blue.

From the same authority I take

PUBLIC POST OFFICE. (Horseman) Black impression.

PRIVATE POST OFFICE. "*Kearny St. S. F. Letters delivered to any destination in the city within one hour after mailing. East of Taylor and Eight* 15 *c. West of Taylor and Eight* 25 *c.*"

The whole enclosed in an obl. florid frame L.U.C. Blue on 3 c. white, 1864, with 15, in large figures, to left of the stamp. Doubtless a 25 also exists.

ROBINSON & Co's SAN FRANCISCO EXPRESS. I. Scroll. Blue impression. (I describe this from Dr. Gray.)

II. "*Robinson & Co's Express*", above; "*Paid*", below. Bear in centre; hills, trees &c. in background. The whole enclosed in a double lined oblong frame, pointed at top.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

I am rather uncertain as to whether II was issued by the San Francisco ROBINSON or by some other party of the same name.

SALMON RIVER & NEZ PERCES EXPRESS. I. Inscription as above in two lines. "*Paid* 50 *Cents*" below. The word "*Express*" is in slanting capitals. Oblong double lined frame.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1861, with W. F. & Co. at T.

II. Same. "*Paid* 75 *Cents*".

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. white, 1861, with W. F. & Co. at T.

III. "*Express*" is straight capitals. "*Paid* 50 *Cents*".

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1861, with W. F. & Co. at T. (See also Tracy & Co. Type IV.)

IV. "*To Salmon River & Nez Perces Mines*", in one line under W. F. & Co's frank.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1861

SWIFT & Co's EXPRESS. I. Obl. shield, "*Paid, Swift & Co. Express*".

T. Black on ord. laid yellow env.

" " " 3 c. white, buff, 10 c. buff, 1853.

II. Double lined rect. frame. Same inscription.

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

SHEPERD's ENPRESS. (See *Tracy & Co.*)

SACRAMENTO RIVER EXPRESS. "306 *Montgomery St. Paid*". Plain, type set.

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

" Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1870.

SNOW SHOE EXPRESS. Man on snow shoes in oval.

I. Dated 1857. } R. U. C. Black on ordinary

II. No date. } laid yellow envelope

SCHOCH'S COPPER CITY EXPRESS. Obl; with fancy frame.

T. and L. U. C. on 3 c. buff, 1864.

TRUMAN & CHAPMAN'S EXPRESS. Trans. obl. Train of cars going to right. Name above. "*S. F. & S. J. Rail Road*" below. Rectangular double lined frame.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c buff, whit,e 1861.

J. C. TRUMAN'S EXPRESS. Same as preceeding.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

TRUMAN & Co's EXPRESS. I. Obl. frame. Train of cars going to left. Name above. "*Office in S. F. corner Front and Washington Sts. Prepaid Envelopes* $7.00 *per Hundred*".

T. and L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1864.

" Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

II. Obl. frame with tmucated corners, Lined disk. "*Paid. Truman & Co's Express*".

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

III. Same as II with address below, "*Merchants' Exchange Building, Battery Street opposite the Post Office*".

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

IV. Same as III with "*S. F. & S. J. R. R. Express*" above label

T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864.

TIBBET & Co's EXCELSIOR EXPRESS. Obl. frame enclosing three lines of type.

T. Black on white (cut).

TINNIN & OWEN'S WEAVERVILLE AND SHASTA EXPRESS. "*Paid*" above. Obl. frame like W. F. & Co.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

" " " 3 c. lemon, 1870.

TAGGART'S - GRANT I.—WEAVERVILLE AND SHASTA EXPRESS. "*Paid*" above. Obl. fancy frame.

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

THOMPSON & Co. Double lined obl. frame. "*Paid over Thompson & Co's and Wells Fargo & Co's Californian Routes*".

L. U. C. and T. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

THOMES AND SKADEN'S EXPRESS.

I. Type set. "*Paid Thomes & Skaden's Express, Susanville & Reno, connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.*"

T. Black on 3 c. lemon, flesh, 1870.

" Blue on 3 c. white, buff, 6 c. salmon, 1870. Variety. *Skadden* (with two *d's.*)

T. Blue on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

II. Streamer. Inscription as above, but name spelled "*Thomes and Skadan*".

T. Black on 3 c. white, 1870.
" " " 3 c. plain lemon env. official size.

III. Similar to II, but with streamer and lettering slightly altered. In II, the centre of the bracket opposite "*Susanville & Reno*" points to the left, — thus ⟨ , but in III to the right, — thus ⟩

T. Black on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

TRACY & Co. I. Obl. ornamented rect frame. "*Tracy & Co's Express*" in Old English letters. "*Paid*" below, with leaves &c. on each side.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

II. Obl. rect frame with five conical shaped ornaments at ends. Inscription as in I. "*Paid*" surrounded by scroll-work.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

III. Obl. rect frame of waived line, at top and bottom, and flourishes at ends. Description as in II.

L. U. C Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

IV. Streamer. "*Paid. Tracy & Co. Oregon Express*".

L. U. C. Blue on 3 c. white, buff, 1853.
" Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1861.
" " " 3 c. buff, 1861, with "*Boise Express, Paid* 50 *Cents*" in L. U. C.
" " " ordinary buff env. with U. S. adhesive.
" " " 3 c. buff, 1857, with "*Salmon River and Nez Perces Express*" in L. L. C.
" " " 3 c. buff, 1861, with "*Salmon River Express, Paid one dollar*" in L. L. C. in rect. single lined frame.

I also have type IV surch-ared, "*Sheperd's Express to Auburn, John Day's and Boise Mines, Paid*". In L. L. C. of env. is "*Boise Express, Paid* 50 *Cents*".

Black on 3 c. white, 1861.

WELLS.-L H. Same as "*English & Wells*".

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

WELLS & HERRING. I. Same as "*English & Wells*", but reading "*connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co.*" instead of "*at Nevada City &c.*"

T. Black on 3 c. white, lemon, 1870.

II. Inscription as in I, but in obl. rect. frame.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. lemon, 1870.

WHITING & Co's FEATHER RIVER EXPRESS. I. Trans. obl. single lined frame. Name as above. "*Paid*" at top.

Black on ord. yell. env. with U. S. adhesives.

II. Scroll, same inscription.

L. U. C. Purple on 3 c. buff, 1864.
" Black " 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

I also hear of a similar frank with "*Whiting & Co.*" rased from the die, and of a third type reading "*Feather River Express*".

WHARTON'S-J. P.-EXPRESS. "*Paid*" in obl. fancy rect frame.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

WHEELER'S EXPEESS. "*Paid*", in scroll.

L. U. C. —— on 3 c. buff, 1861.

" —— " 3 c. white, 1864.

WHEELER, RUTHERFORD & Co.'s EXPRESS. "*Paid*". I. Scroll inscribed as above.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

WALDRON'S KOOTENAI EXPRESS. Design of flourishes.

L. L. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1864, with W. F. & Co.'s frank at top.

WOOD'S-A. J. - OROVILLE, SUSANVILLE & TAYLORVILLE EXPRESS. In three lines in double lined rect. frame.

T. and L. U. C. on 3 c. white, 1864

WOOD & Co.'s EXPRESS. I. In twisted scroll, one letter in each fold.

T. Black on 3 c. white, 1864.

II. In fancy obl. border.

T. Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

III. Miner with pick over shoulder and pot in hand. Bench and accessories. "*Wood & Co.'s*" above, "Express ' below. In oval surmounted at top by fancy device. Similar device beneath.

A. E. (Upright) Black on 3 c. white, buff, 1864.

ZACH'S SNOW SHOE EXPRESS, in fancy scroll.

Black on white (cut.)·

WINES—G. H.—& Co's "*Paid California Express.*" Eagle on shield holding steamer inscribed as above.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853

N. B At the last moment we find ourselves unable to give the illustrations of the "Penny Post" envelopes with this number, they must therefore be delayed until next month.

—An Ohio paper says: "The man who carries the mail at Union City from the trains to the office is a clever fellow, but absent-minded. The other night the train was late, and he reclined on the floor, pillowing his head on a dog, while he held the mail bag in his hand. When the train came in he awoke, gave the mail bag a kick, and seized the dog by the cuff of the neck and tail and started for the mail car. The messenger told him the dog was not properly stamped.

Newly Issued Stamps.

UNITED STATES. The reduction in postage to Europe which goes into effect on the first of July, is likely to add quite a number of new stamps to our album. That issued by our own government is naturally the first to come to hand, and as will be seen by our engraving, is a beautiful addition to the current series. The portrait is that of the old hero Gen. Zachary Taylor; the rich shade of blue in which it is printed sets off the beauty of the engraving to great advantage. We understand that a modified copy of it will be prepared for the following departments: Interior, Navy, State, Treasury and War, also, envelopes for general use. The following extract gives a list of the countries to which the reduction extends, aud the probabilities are that those not having a stamp corresponding iu value to 5 cents, will provide one forthwith, and we think our officials will have to overcome their repugnance to a two cents post card.



On and after July 1, 1875, uniform rates of postage will be levied and collected in the United States on correspondence to and from the whole extent of the General Postal Union, formed by the Treaty of Berne, embracing within its limits the following countries, viz.: Germany, Austria, Hungary, Belgium, Deumark (iucluding Iceland and the Faroe Islands), Egypt, Spain (including the Balearic Isles, the Canary Islands, the Spanish possessions on the northern coast of Africa, aud the postal establishments of Spain upon the western coast of Morocco), Great Britain (including the Island of Malta), Greece, Italy, Luxemburg, Norway, The Netherlands, Portugal (including the Island of Madeira and the Azores), Roumania, Russia (including the Grand Duchy of Finland), Servia, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey. These rates are as follows, viz.:

(a.) For prepaid letters, 5 cents per fifteen grammes (½ ounce).

(b.) For unpaid letters received, 10 cents per fifteen grammes (½ ounce).

(c.) For postal cards, 2 cents each.

GUATEMALA. The new series of adhesives for this country is now before us. The head is that of the goddess of liberty, instead of the president as stated in the European magazines. The central profile is the same throughout the series, but the frame differs in each value. We have selected what to our idea is the handsomest and plainest of the series, for the subject of our illustrations. The colors and values are as follows:





¼ real, black.
½ " green.
1 " blue.
2 " red.

The post card is decidedly the richest design which has yet been adopted for this purpose, and reflects great credit on its producers, the Columbian Bank Note Company of Washington, D. C. The design is almost too elaborate for us to do justice to it in the space of a short paragraph but may be generally described as follows: Profile of liberty to left in oval, QUARTILLO REAL above and below, numerals (¼) at each side. This is enclosed in a very rich frame of scrolls occupying the centre of the card, the inscription CARTAS POSTALES DE LA REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA filling out the sides, on a band directly below the stamps are the words CORREOS DE GUATEMALA in small letters. The card is surrounded with a broad frame of engine turned work, cut at the bottom to admit the imprint of the company. The size of the card is 5¼x3⅜ inches. It is printed in black on buff card which unfortunately is not of the best quality, especially on the side reserved for the communication of the sender.

We have not seen anything of the official stamps reported as being forth coming.

JAPAN. Again we have these stamps in new colors, in fact it looks as if a philatelist had something to do with running the post office of these islands. Perhaps our old friend W. P. Brown has included printing with type setting, and is giving us a sample of his genius in color mixing, when he returns we may expect full sets in every color of the rain bow. However the newcomers are

1 sen, brown, 6 sen, orange,
4 " sea green, 10 " bright green.



GREECE. Following in the new fashions has issued a set of unpaid letter stamps. The entire series is of the annexed design and one color, viz. green frame with the figure in black. The values are as follows:

1 lepton 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, 60, 80, 90 lepta, 1 and 2 drachmœ.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA. The following cut represents the lately issued penny stamp for this colony; we have not seen or heard of any other values of this design.

CANADA. The New Dominion has added a newspaper wrapper to its stock of postals. The impression on the new comer consists of the

Profile of Queen Victoria to right iu oval, CANADA POSTAGE above, ONE CENT below, uumerals of value iu circles at sides, are impressed in blue on a strip 5x11¼ inches of pale buff paper.

WEST INDIES. A local stamp has beeu issued by the Hamburg American Packet Company, to pay postage on letters carried by them betweeu the various West Indian islands. The appearance of the stamp is very plain. The design consisting of the arms of the company? (anchor and shield beariug the letters, H. A P. A. G. surrounded by stars) embossed in white in circle in centre, HAMBURG AMERICAN PACKET COMPANY WEST INDIA LINE in two curved lines above, PRIVATE POSTAGE STAMP TEN CENTS iu two lines below, numerals in upper corner aud at base of central circle. The stamp is divided into quarters diagoually, the upper and lower beiug colored yellow, and the sides blue, but of course the colors do not extend over the embossed circle in the ceutre, the two lower numerals are also white on solid black disks, the lettering and upper uumerals being black.

We are indebted for the first sight of the stamp to Mr. G. T. McKinney, who has just returued from the West Indies and guarantees its authenticity.

ST. DOMINGO. We are informed by the same gentlemau, that the postal authorities of this island, are about to issue stamped envelopes, probably from the same die as the adhesives. We also learn that the postmaster will priut postage stamps on any paper furnished him, this accouuts for the great variety of colors in which the stamps are found, and the difficulty experieuced by amateurs in cataloguing the stamps according to date. We have heard this stated before, aud are glad to get the matter definitely settled.

A Few words of advice to Young Philatelists.

BY W. DUDLEY ATLEE.

The question often occurs to the minds of young collectors, "where shall I draw the line?" and this is a query which is most difficult to answer, for a reply to suit every one is out of the question. Wealthy amateurs can of course open their albums to any number of varieties that may seem to them most fit, but with those of moderate means this is next to impossible, so the only plea is for a lad to suit his collection according to his pocket. This short paper I dedicate to boys in darticular, for it is they who are chiefly perplexed in the matter of taking or refusing a certain shade, or variety of design.

Varieties are very well for those who have the time and money to expend upon them, but I think that the collection of varieties pushed to extremes and declared compulsory, is more likely to destroy stamp

collecting than to foster it. Therefore my advice to beginners is to commence by taking one specimen of each colour, and then afterwards add any *prominent* shades that may be obtained. Varieties of paper and perforation may be left for a future day, when the collector has thoroughly learnt the A. B. C. of philately. Always pick copies clean and showing a fair margin, for nothing is more unsightly than a lot of dirty thumb-marked, gum-stained labels, clipped and hacked about, and these placed in a book without any attempt at order or comliness. The owner of such a book is only fit to be a collector of bobbin labels —anything is good enough for *him*.

Never plaster your stamps down bodily, but mount them by means of tissue paper, hinges above, or by a small spot of thin gum in the upper corners only — never use paste. A stamp properly mounted can be removed at any moment without detriment to the album, should it be desired to insert a better copy.

If you should be fortunate enough to possess any entire envelopes and do not intend to collect them yourself, do not cut them up, but get some dealer or friend who does accept envelopes in their entirety to take them, and give you cut ones in exchange. This is policy, because for most whole envelopes you can get similar cut ones and other stamps added, to balance your exchange. Above all beware of forgeries, and if you know a label to be one at once remove it from your book.

Shun reprints, and bear in mind that a badly postmarked original is of infinitely higher value than the finest reprint ever produced.

Do not regard stamps as toys to look at simply, but study them, and be sure that the more they are studied the more you will know of history, geography, and other useful subjects.

In conclusion let me say, never buy stamps from doubtful firms.

Jewel & Co., Washington.

Last month we gave this enterprising firm of stamp dealers a free advertisement and see by papers published in varions parts of the country, that it was the means of introducing them to a good line of customers. We should scarcely have called our readers' attention to this, as every intelligent stamp collector is well aware of the far reaching influence of the Journal, but we have been severely taken to task by one of our subscribers, for recommending a firm who sell counterfeits, he states that he sent Jewell & Co. 15 cents for a set of the first issue U. S. stamps, and received in return counterfeits of the same. In reply to this we can only

repeat our oft stated caution to amateurs, that they must not expect to purchase bargains in stamps any more than they would in dry goods. By looking at the price list of our publishers, or any other respectable firm, they will find the 1847 issue U. S. quoted at 60 c. the set, how then could they expect to procure genuine copies of the stamps at one quarter the price. The members of the celebrated firm of H. B. Claflin & Co. were recently arrested for smuggling, simply because they had purchased silks about 15 per cent under the regular price, and yet with this case before their eyes, intelligent stamp collectors will send their money for stamps advertised at a quarter their value, and expect to get them all right. We have repeatedly stated that when stamps are advertised at half their value one of these things is probable ;

First. That the stamps advertised have been stolen.

Second. That the labels offered are not stamps, but simply imitations.

Third. That the parties do not intend to make any returns for the money received.

So much for bargains.

We will now return to Messrs. Jewell & Co.

This firm started with the mistaken idea that about two millions of people were extremely anxious, to obtain complete sets of all the U. S. stamps, and having sufficient influence to obtain most of the plates from which the old stamps were printed, proceeded to strike off reimpressions, and where the original plates could not be obtained in the guileless simplicity of their hearts (so as not to disappoint collectors and to complete the set, of course not to make money) had new dies made. These are all (genuine reprints and counterfeits) sold at the value expressed on them, but there is no fraud in this, for they are not sold as genuine or even as postage stamps, for it is expressly stated that they are simply "specimens of postage stamps", whatever that may mean, and *will not be received for postage*, and so have no postal value whatever, and lacking that essential quality of a postage stamp, fail to be anything except colored labels, which very few collectors will be found ignorant enough to disgrace their books with.

If these parties really wish to show the people (not collectors for they already know) what the old U. S. stamps look like, why don't they sell them at a reasonable price, say $5 the complete set of 151 pieces, instead of 262,87 the price asked. Five dollars is a fair price for the set of pictures, and would pay a handsome profit on the cost of printing, in fact our publishers would pay $5000 for the plates, and agree to supply the public with the complete set of 151, at $5 the set.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Revenue Stamp Catalogue. Second Edition. New York, J. W. SCOTT & Co., 75 & 77 Nassau Street, New York.

The new edition of this catalogue, after having been advertised for the last three months has at last come to hand.

The portion devoted to the Match Medicine and Playing Card Stamps has been entirely rewritten, and we notice a very material advance in the prices. This is as we expected, in fact we have repeatedly called our readers' attention to the rapid rise in value of these stamps, and collectors will do well to complete their sets, before another advance takes place, which our experience indicates is certain to occur before long. After carefully going through its pages, we find only twelve cases in which the price asked for any of these stamps, has been reduced, while a great majority have been marked up from twentyfive to four hundred per cent, or say a clear increase in value of one hundred per cent, and we firmly believe that any amateur can sell his revenue collection to day to any dealer at an actual advance over cost; this is more than can be said of a collection in any other line.

The list of Beer Stamps is the great feature of the catalogue, and for the first time we are able to get an idea of their value, which appears to average about fifty cents each, although some sell as low as five cents. It is strange considering the immense number used that they should be so scarce. Only one one-third barrel stamp is catalogued, but we have good reason to believe, that one of this value was prepared with every issue, but where they have all got to is a mystery, as only four specimens are known to exist and these all of the sixth issue.

It is very unfortunate that a list of the Cigar and Tobacco Stamps, is not included in this valuable companion to the collector; we shall try to remedy the omission by publishing a list in these pages.

Answers to Correspondents.

Philatelist Chicago. We should suppose that there is no law to prevent you counterfeiting obsolete U. S. stamps; or Messrs. Jewell & Co. would be liable to arrest.

Collector, Philadelphia.—The unused 5 and 10 c. 1847, U. S., you send are counterfeit, and never were and can not now be used for postage. If you were given to understand that you were to get genuine postage stamps for your money, you have been swindled, no matter whom you purchased from. You should demand your money back. No person in the United States has authority to swindle, or would be sustained in such a transaction in a court of law.

J. H. D, Washington. The reports which you mention, to the effect that the newspaper stamps now sold by the Department, are remainders of the original stock, have been in circulation for some time. We are quite convinced of their inaccuracy however, as we purchased the entire original stock of the Department (except a few copies of the 10x25) some time ago, under their guarantee that no more existed.

Clippings.

WASHED POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Third Assistant Postmaster-General of the United States, strongly recommends that provision be made by law, for furnishing to each and every Postmaster throughout the country, indelible ink and other requisites for effectually cancelling postage stamps, and for post-marking None of the Post-Offices are now furnished by the Department with any such articles for the protection of the Goverumeut. Mr. Barber estimates that the proportion of washed stamps used again in the payment of postage, is five per cent. of the value of all the stamps sold each year, causing an annual loss of 1,000,000 dollars to the revenue of the Department in England

THE RATES FIXED BY THE POSTAL CONVENTION have afforded an additional argument, in favour of the adoption of the decimal system of coinage. The "cent," or hundredth part of a pouud, is exactly equal to twenty-five centimes, the rate fixed for letter postage, and the book-post rate of seven centimes, is almost exactly equal to three "mils."

WEST AFRICAN SETTLEMENTS —We find it gazetted that our possessions on the western coast of Africa (presumably Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Lagos), are destined to be amalgamated under the title of West African Settlements. Will not this necessitate the adoption of a new set of postage stamps, ruthlessly extinguishing the issues of the forenamed districts?

—Retail cigar dealers are unhappy over the new cigar box, which has perforated coupons on the inside edge corresponding with the number of cigars in the box. The coupons are furnished by the Government in place of stamps, and when a cigar is sold a coupon has to be destroyed before the purchaser. Before loug they will have each cocktail manufactured for married men announced to their wives by a telegraphic bell-punch.—*Boston Globe.*

SNAKES PER POST.—A package was received lately at the Dead-Letter Office at Philadelphia, contaiuing half-a-dozen of snakes, two of them dead. Among the live reptiles was a copperhead, five feet long. The snakes were enclosed in a tin box perforated with holes, and were addressed to Germany. They were stopped at New York for insufficient postage.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

EUROPE.

Germany.

Under the above heading might be included, after Lallier's fashion, the emission of all the states, great and small, which go to form the Fatherland ; but such an arrangement would, in reality, be a deviation from the alphabetical order adopted in these papers, and, in philatelic parlance, the issues of Germany are understood to be those of the Thurn and Taxis office, the North German Confederation, and the present German Empire. Let us, then, confine our attention to these.

THE THURN AND TAXIS OFFICE.

To many young collectors the signification of the words Thurn and Taxis must be by no means clear. Ten years ago, in the first number of *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine*, one of the earliest and most accurate of philatelic writers, Mr. Mount Brown, explained the meaning of this strange title ; and very recently, in the pages of a contemporary, an abridgement of Mr. Mount Brown's article was published, but, as in these elementary papers, it is my duty to begin at the beginning, I need offer no apology for repeating the information already given respecting the origin of the Thurn and Taxis post-office.

Thurn and Taxis is not the name of a place, but of a family, whose ancestors were first heard of in Italy, as the *della Torres*, Lords of Valsassina ; eight of the *della Torres* were, in succession, lords of Milan; the last of the eight, Guido the Rich, perished in a feud with the Visconti, and one of his sons, Lamoral I., settled in the territory of Bergamo, and took from the montain Tasso (one of his possessions there) the name *del Tasso*, and afterwards *de Tassis*. His great-grandson inherited the possessions of his predecessors, united their titles, and was known as Roger I of Thurn and Taxis. This personage was knighted by the emperor, Frederick III., in 1450, and in the latter half of the century founded the fame of his house by the establishment of a post in the Tyrol. This is all we know of Count Rogers I., but it is sufficient to warrant our taking some interest in this half-forgotten German prince, who deserves to be ranked with Louis XI. as one of the earliest postal benefactors. He must have known how to manage the post he established ; for instead of it dying out, like many another knightly venture,

it proved to be the initial step towards the foundation of a service whose functions only ceased with the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866. So successful was the conduct of his enterprise, that, in 1516, his son—on whom Roger's mantle seems to have descended—was charged by Maximilian I. to form a post from Brussels to Vienna,—no mean undertaking in those days. The subsequent progress of the Thurn and Taxis post is best described in Mr. Mount Brown's own words :—

"In 1852, on account of the war with the Turks, an imperial post was established from Nuremberg to Vienna, which ceased on the return of peace. On this Charles V. ordered Leonhard, Count of Thurn and Taxis, to establish a permanent post, which went from theNetherlands, through Treves, Spires, Wurtemburg, Augsburg, and the Tyrol to Italy. In 1543 he created the Count *Oberpostmeister* of the German empire. About the end of the sixteenth century, the Thurn and Taxis post, shaken by disturbances in the Netherlands, and oppressed by debt, fell into disuse, but rose again under the favour of the Emperor Rudolf II. But the Palatinate, Wurtemburg, Saxony, Brandenberg, Mecklenburg, and other states of the empire, formerly under Thurn and Taxis, had in the meantime established posts in their own states, and refused to recognise the validity of the office. Upon this Lamoral, Count of Thurn and Taxis, was raised to the rank of Baron of the Empire, and received the imperial post in fee for himself and male heirs, which was subsequently extended to his female descendants. Various states have at times shaken off or purchased the monopoly ; thus, Austria, Prussia, Bavaria, Hanover, Saxony, Baden, Oldenburg, &c., have now their own postal arrangements. But the Thurn and Taxis family still possesses, as a fief of the empire, the posts in Nassau, Saxe-Weimar, Schwarzburg, Rudolstadt, &c., &c. In the free cities of Hamburg, Lubeck, and Bremen, they possess *some* of the posts, but the general direction of the Thurn and Taxis office has had its seat since 1811, at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, where the Thurn and Taxis posts are *exclusively* used."

From this we see that the Thurn and Taxis post survived, though with diminished importance, the empire under which it was created. We find, moreover, that, until a few months ago, a post conducted, not by the state, but by a private family for its own personal benefit, existed in the heart of Germany, as one of the recognised means of international communication ; and the two unpretentious series of Thurn and Taxis stamps carry us back, by their associations, past locomotives and mail-coaches, to the old feudal times, and the primitive post-houses and runners of a by-gone age.

The list of the states served by the Thurn and Taxis office is as follows :—

Northern States (unit of currency, the thaler)—Electorate of Hesse, the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar, the Principalities of Schwarzbourg-

Sondershausen, Reuss, and Lippe, the free cities of Bremen, Hamburg, and Lubeck.

Southern States (unit of currency, the florin)—Grand Duchy of Hesse, the Principalities of Hohenzollern, the Grand Duchies of Nassau, Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Cobourg, the principality of Schwarzbourg-Rudolstadt, the Landgraviate of Hesse-Hombourg, and the free town of Frankfort.

The stamps issued for the two sections were all prepared at Frankfort, and, although M. Berger-Levrault gives the date of emission of the first *groschen* (or Northern) series as 1852, and that of the *kreuzer* (or Southern) series as 1850, I am inclined to believe that both were issued *together* in 1852, everything being in favor of a simultaneous emission. These stamps, like those of Baden and Wurtemburg, were issued pursuant to the provisions, or as a consequence of, the postal convention of the 6th of April, 1850, to which the Thurn and Taxis office was a party. The inscription, DEUTSCH-OESTR. POSTVEREIN (or German-Austrian Postal Union), which is found on all the Thurn and Taxis stamps (on the right-hand side), refers to this convention, whereby the postal arrangements over a great portion of central Europe were regulated, and uniform rates established.

The first series were printed in black ink, and were composed of the following values and colours :—



Northern States.

¼	silber groschen		red-brown.
⅓	"	(1858)	flesh.
½	"		green.
1	"		light blue.



1	silber groschen	dark blue.
2	"	rose.
3	"	yellow.

Southern States.

1	kreuzer	green.	
3	"	light blue.	
3	"	dark "	
6	kreuzer		rose.
9	"		yellow.

The Northern issue shows a larger number of stamps, on account of the fractional denominations, which have no equivalent in the Southern currency. It will be observed that there is complete identity of colour in the corresponding values of the two series, and even of shade in the

blue stamps. The two varieties of the blue are very distinct, have always been admitted, and seeing that they occur equally in both series, it is hardly likely that they were the result of accident. Probably the dark shade was the first issued—in former years it was certainly a *shade* rarer than its companion—and it being found that the postmarks did not show up clearly, it was superseded by the light blue.

The designs are neatly and even finely engraved, but are not remarkable for their originality. A numeral of value in the centre of a square (for the *groschen* series), and of a circle (for the *kreuzer* series), sufficed, in the opinion of the Frankfort officials, for use, and a special ground pattern for each value for ornament. These designs remained current to the last, without any alteration.

In 1859 a second edition of them made its appearance, distinguished from the first by being printed in colour on white paper, and also by the addition of two new values to each set. The colours read as follows :—

Northern States.

¼ s.gr.	red.	3 s.gr.	brown.
½ "	sea-green.	5 "	lilac.
1 "	pale blue.	10 "	vermilion.
2 "	rose.		

Southern States.

1 kr.	light green.	9 kr.	yellow.
3 "	blue.	15 "	lilac.
6 "	rose.	30 "	vermilion.

The ⅓ s.gr. is not represented in this set, and there is one exception also to the general similarity of colour in the corresponding values. Whilst the 3 s. gr. is in brown, (the colour about that time adopted by various states in the postal union), the 9 kr. continues in its old shade, yellow.

The high-value stamps are of considerable merit, and may be said to be as pretty as stamps with numeral in centre can be. The two Northern values show the figure in the centre of a " tesselated" square, as it has not inaptly been termed ; and the 15 kr. and 30 kr. have the figure on a similar ground, within a circular inscribed scroll.

In 1862-4 a fresh series saw the light, characterised by an interchange of colour, and printed, like the preceding, in colour on white.

Northern States.

1864.	¼ s.gr.	black.	1862.	1 s.gr.	rose.
1863.	⅓ "	green.	1864.	2 "	blue.
"	½ "	orange.	1863.	3 "	bistre & yellowish bistre.

Southern States.

1862.	3 kr.	rose.
"	6 "	blue (shades).
"	9 "	bistre (shades).

No further change took place in the colours, but in 1865 all the values of both sets, except the two highest in each set, viz. :—

s.gr. ¼, ⅓, ½, 1, 2, 3, kr. 1, 3, 6, 9.

were issued line-pierced, and the emission is marked by some accidental differences in shade. Subsequently, the same values were issued perforated, or rather pierced, on a line of colour. The two highest values in *groschen* appeared *piqués*, and also pierced in parallel lines, in 1866 ; the 15 kr. and 30 kr. appeared at the same time pierced in parallel lines. We believe, however, this was an unofficial *piquage*. These differences in perforation may only perplex the beginner, and copies of them are not now easily met with.

ENVELOPES.

Only one series, properly so called, has been issued for each of the two groups of states. The silber-groschen set and the kreuzer set appeared simultaneously on the 21st September, 1861. The values then issued were the following .—

Northern States.

½ s. gr.	orange.	2 s. gr.	blue.
1 "	rose.	3 "	stone.

Southern States.

2 kr.	yellow.	6 kr.	blue.
3 "	rose.	9 "	stone.

Each series shows the numeral of value on a plain ground, enclosed in an engine-turned pattern, inscribed frame ; but the Southern set has this border enclosed in an interior octagonal frame. The colors of the corresponding values, with the exception of the two lowest, are identical.

Later on, at the close of the year 1865, an additional value was added to each set, viz. :—

¼ s. gr. black. | 1 kr. green.

Three different supplies, or, as they may be termed, editions, of these series were printed off—the first two at Berlin, the last, on the occasion of the issue of the above mentioned low values at Frankfort.

The first edition has the minute diagonal inscription above the impressed stamp—EIN HALBER (EIN, SWEI, or DREI, as the case may be), SILBER GROSCHEN POST-COUVERT—printed in lilac. In the second edition the inscriptions are of the same colours as the embossed stamps. The third edition is distinguishable from the second only by its comparatively

imperfect execution. The two former editions should be collected even by beginners, but the last hardly comes within their scope.

It now only remains to state that at the close of the war of 1866, a large portion of the country served by the Thurn and Taxis post-office became incorporated with Prussia. Arrangements were made for the purchase of the remaining privileges of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, and on the 1st of January, 1867, the monopoly ceased to exist, and was afterwards merged in the North German Postal Confederation.

The General Postal Union.

On the first of July a reform was inaugurated which, albeit quietly arranged and introduced, is none the less a great step towards closer interconrse between the nations of Christendom, and a notable improvement in Continental commnnications. The new rates agreed upon among the varions countries which were represented at the Postal Conference held at Berne in last October will come into force, and a very considerable reduction will be made in the cost of transmitting letters, newspapers, patterns, documents, and cards. The International Conference in question attracted very little general notice while it was sitting, bnt the proceedings were from beginning to end bnsiness-like, and nearly every nation in Enrope being present by depnty, a common postal basis was arrived at, which now includes the whole continent, with the temporary exception of France, whose financial circnmstances obliged her to postpone nntil the beginning of next year her entry into the scheme. The United States and Egypt have further added themselves to this Postal Union, so that it is over a vast portion of the civilized globe that the reduction of rates will have effect, on and after the the 1st of July. From that date a letter not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight can be sent to or from any of the Enropean conntries, Egypt, Iceland, the Faro Islands, Madeira and the Azores. the United States, Malta, Tnrkey, and the Canary Islands, for twopence-halfpenny. A post card will go or come over the same wide area for five farthings, and a newspaper not weighing more than four ounces for a penny; and for a penny the Continental pnblic may also send anywhere printed papers, books, patterns, legal and commercial docnments, share-lists, manuscripts, music-scores, photographs, and cards of bnsiness, up to the weight of two ounces. For fonrpence sterling above and beyond the postal charge a letter may be registered to any of the Enropean towns, cities, or villages, and donble rates will be charged on delivery for such as have not been prepaid. Stamps of the value of twopence-halfpenny and foreign post cards with an impressed stamp of one penny farthing have already been prepared in

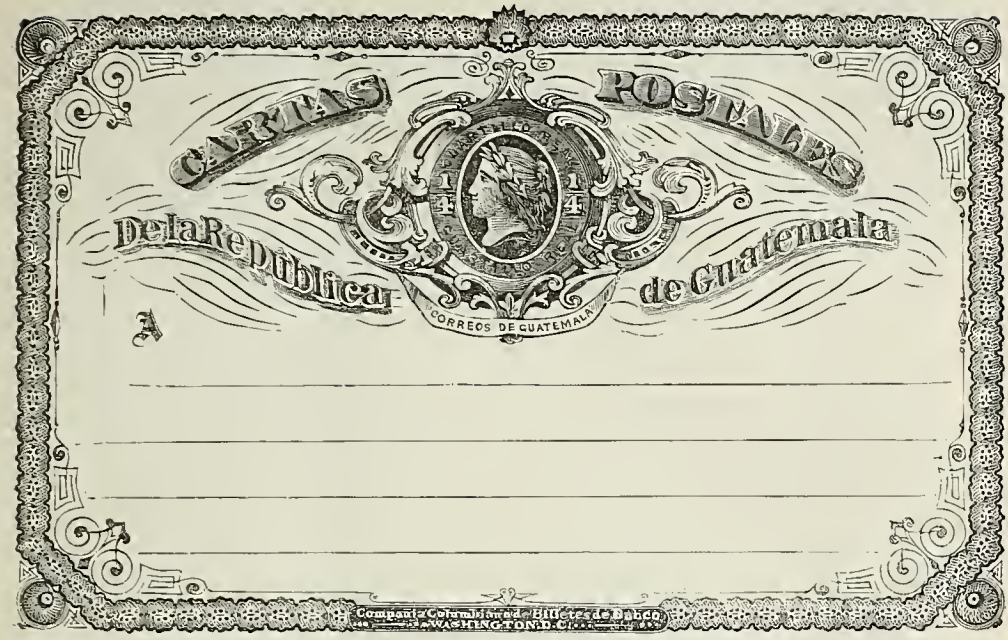
this country for the international postal tariff, and we shall see what a a large reduction has been effected if we recall a few of the charges now made upon a half-ounce letter destined for the various divisions of the European map. To Germany and the United States the existing rate is threepence; to Russia, Sweden, and Norway, fivepence; to Portugal and Italy, sixpence; to Egypt, tenpence; to Malta eightpence and one-and-fourpence: to the Canary Islands a shilling. The great mass of correspondence is transacted by ordinary letter and post card, and upon these, coming and going through Europe and to America, the Conference at Berne has succeeded in giving us the boon of a diminution, in all cases sensible, and in some very considerable indeed.

The chief merit, however, of this wide-spread benefit is its uniformity. In matters affecting public use this point is of an importance quite beyond exaggeration—for anything like uncertainty or variation will embarrass the letter-writing and message-sending millions far more than a little enhancement of charges. There are some methodical people who, when any change is announced in postal, telegraphic, and travelling matters, duly provide themselves with the official notification, and are always well informed. Out of the ranks of business these precise people are exceptional; the mass of mankind likes to have rules and regulations very plain, and will not be troubled to find out whether it costs a halfpenny more or less to send by way of this country or that. The soul of Rowland Hill's memorable reform was the uniform penny, and the Post-office soon found the enormous advantage of simplification; for it is a matter of history that in the first year of that reform the number of letters sprang from eighty-two millions to one hundred and seventy millions. By 1871 it was a thousand millions, and the last returns are yet more wonderfully demonstrative of the advantages of simplified charges. Now, twopence-halfpenny is simple; and, though we have no coin to represent it, there will be the international stamp, selling at half-a-crown the dozen; and anybody wanting to transmit a letter to any part of Christendom, as well as to Turkey and Egypt, will have no trouble in discovering the rates of postage which have stopped so many letters hitherto; he will stick on the "international stamp," or write upon the penny-farthing post card, and so long as his missive avoids France it will go "like a bird." We cannot conceal from ourselves that hitherto "twopenny-halfpenny" has been an adjective of contumely and depreciation. Why it should have become a popular expression for disdain it is hard to understand, seeing that twopence is everywhere respectable enough, and a halfpenny useful in its way. But twopence-halfpenny must be revindicated! Under its international guise of twenty-five centimes, or the fourth of a franc,

or a lira, it has become the first symbol of common interest and union between the countries of Europe, and "twopence-halfpenny"—all honor to it!—will have conciliated Christendom in a postal fraternization long before we see one religion, one meridian of longitude, one international tribunal, or one coinage. It is a pity that France could not come into this excellent alliance of the Post-offices directly, but until she can the slight defection had best be left out of the general mind. It would only spoil the simplicity of the reform to dwell upon the fact that letters to France must pay as at present, and that letters by way of France will in certain cases be overcharged beyond the international rate. The natural and even desirable result of the temporary abstention of France is that nothing will go that way unless compelled; all the Alsace and Lorraine correspondence, for example, from England and the continent will take its way by Strasburg instead of Paris. The broad outcome of the change now announced is that the public may send a letter all over Europe and to the United States for a ten-farthings stamp, and a post card for five farthings, besides the liberal arrangements made for papers, books, patterns, and documents of all sorts.

No doubt the result of this diminution, and above all, of the happy simplification of rate, will be an increase of correspondence and a commensurate enhancement of profit to the various Post-offices. The marvellous records of the postal services—one of the very greatest additions to human progress which modern times have made—all go to render it clear that every boon of this kind is instantly repaid by general public utilization. Wonderful, indeed, is the difference between the old times and the new in respect to that little-regarded but invaluable official the postman. Nothing in our days would have astounded an ancient statesman more than the organizations which give every man his messengers, and place the whole world within his reach. Prospero and Oberon could not boast a power greater than twopence-halfpenny will now bestow upon anybody and everybody, and "to think" as old Pepys would have murmured, that one hundred and thirty years ago there was a night when London only sent out one letter by the northern mail, and that to an Edinburgh banker named Ramsay! But the present tariff, though it will usefully stimulate international intercourse, and develop a countless number of links which a doubtful or heavy rate discourages, must not be regarded as final. We must come eventually to a uniform stamp and charge for all postal service throughout Civilization, and that at a lower tariff than here announced. Meanwhile, this present step is a welcome instalment of international reform, and will tend in no small degree to increase that interchange of trade and acquaintance which is silently weaving a chain of peace around the nations—often broken, but always repaired and always growing stronger.—*The Daily Telegraph.*

Newly Issued Stamps.



GUATEMALA.—Above we give an engraving of the handsome post card described last month, but of course our wood cut does not do justice to the splendid original.

UNITED STATES.—We are now enabled to present our readers with an engraving of the 5 cent envelope stamp, which will shortly be issued to the public. Unfortunately our cut is not up to our usual standard, and does not do justice to the design, which although not a striking likeness is finely cut, and in well embossed specimens a handsome stamp. The color will be blue.



The issueing of this value appears to be the signal for several important changes in our envelopes, which may be summarized as follows: The 7 and 24 cent envelopes will be discontinued. The 2 cent will be printed in vermilion. The amber paper will be discontinued and blue substituted. The cream paper will be changed to "fawn," a color somewhat resembling that sold by the stationers as chocolate. We give these few particulars for reference, but full descriptions will be found in Mr. Coster's valuable paper commenced in this number.

BELGIUM—Has issued a new stamp of the value of 25 centimes, color brown, same design as the current set.

GREAT BRITAIN —The English is the first of the foreign stamps created by the international treaty to come to hand. The design, consists of the well known profile of Queen Victoria, to left, in broad octagon frame, inscribed TWO PENCE-HALF-PENNY at sides, POSTAGE above, 2½ below, and the usual colored letter in the outer corners, the color is mauve, of the same tint as the 30 cent Straits Settlements. The entire appearance of the stamp with the exception of the letters, is more like the designs used in the colonies, than has heretofore been employed by the mother country. The adhesive is accompanied by a post card for international use. The stamp in the left hand corner bears the head of the Queen, to left, on an angle ONE PENNY above, FARTHING below. In the centre is the following inscription : FOREIGN POST CARD FOR COUNTRIES INCLUDED IN THE POSTAL UNION, THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE. The whole is included in the usual Greek pattern border which likewise runs across the card, cutting off the inscription from the portion reserved for the address.

SWITZERLAND.—The frame of the post card has been left off, which detracts considerably from a card which never was noted for beauty.

QUEENSLAND.—The Philatelist notes that the color of the four penny stamp of this colony has been changed to bright yellow.

TASMANIA.—The same journal states on the authority of the Postmaster of the Colony that the 9 p. and 10 p. have never been issued in any other colors than blue and black, consequently the stamps or those values lately chronicled in yellow and lilac must be proofs or frauds

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—A new value for the Portuguese possessions has lately been heralded by the dealers, namely: a 15 r. carmine ; will the gentlemen kindly tell where they procured their supplies, we venture to assert it was not from the colonies themselves, as such a value never has been issued by the authorities, but was invented by a person in this country who imagined he had the abilities of the concoctor or the 10 cent. Prince Edward Island. Has the Philatelic Society any special reason for not noticing this fraud, or does it want to save itself the trouble of another unsuccessful attempt at impeachment.

TURKEY.—We learn from A. S. & Co's. circular, that from the first of the month this country will take charge of its own foreign mail instead of forwarding the letters through the various European consuls or mail agents at Constantinople. The change will be accompanied by an entire new set of stamps, which are said to be after the style of the first issue, and as unpaid letters will not be received, we shall only get one set of stamps instead of the usual compliment.

JAPAN.—In our list of the new colors of the low values of Japan we omitted to chronicle the

½ sen. slate.

A new postal card (if the old sheet of folded paper was entitled to that name) accompanies the new stamps. The stamp is of similar design to the adhesive but is perfectly circular and is impressed in the left upper corner, the card to stand endways. Directly below the stamp are five groups of Japanese characters, and in the lower corner is a rectangular tablet full of writing in the same language. The border is the same as on the old card, the whole being impressed in blue on buff card of the usual size. Value 1 sen.

WURTEMBURG.—The full series of the new style is now out, the colors and values being as follow:

3 pfennig, green.	20 pfennig, blue.
5 " violet.	25 " brown.
10 " rose.	

Post Cards, single and double, of corresponding design, on blue card, value 5 pf., color violet.

Envelopes, similar design, in octagon frame, impressed on blue tinted paper.

5 pf. violet. 10 pf. mauve.

Money Order Envelopes, same, on yellow paper.

15 pf. orange. 20 pf. blue.

RUSSIA.—The new Russian stamps have arrived, they are scarcely equal in appearance to the old values, although they are very pretty. Being printed in ordinary colors they lack the glossy surface which adds so much to the beauty of the Russian stamps, this, however, is compensated for by the fact that they will stand washing.

The post card has nothing particular to note concerning it. The envelope is printed in a dark slate. It differs from the other values in having only two words in the inscription instead of three.

The "Plimpton" Envelopes.

BY C. H. C.

Having been fortunate enough to secure a set of the Envelope Stamps prepared by the Plimpton Manufacturing Company, I think that a list pointing out the differences which exist between the new dies and those formerly used by Mr. Reay, may prove of service to Philatelists in arranging their collections. And here I may say, that while I believe my list contains all the dies made by Mr. Reay and the Plimpton Co, it is *barely possible* that still others exist of the 1, 2 and 3 cents Envelopes, unknown to me. It is rumored that the Plimpton Co. have already

made two dies of all the values, but I do not believe that the statement has any truth, so far as those above 3 cents are concerned.

A cursory comparison of the Reay and Plimpton Envelopes, must impress any one very favorably with the latter (excepting of course the first dies of the 1, 2 and 3 cent, which were prepared in a great hurry and discontinued as soon as more satisfactory ones could be engraved.) The heads, especially, are vastly superior to any heretofore produced, and for perfection of outline, skill and perspicuity with which all the hair and minor details are brought out, and general delicacy of finish, cannot be equalled by any other postal envelopes in the world.

But to return to my list.—I will take up the general denominations in their order, and only endeavor to point out such differences as will serve as tests.

ONE CENT.

Reay.	*Plimpton—A.*	*Plimpton—B.*
1. There is a very slight space between Franklin's two lips, though sometimes owing to bad printing it is not noticeable.	1. The lips are closed.	1. The lips are closed.
2. Almost all of the ear is visible.	2. The ear is entirely covered by the hair, except perhaps the very end.	2. Only the lobe of the ear is visible.
2. The hair is in coarse lumps, and entangled.	3. The hair while curly, does not seem to be at all entangled.	3. The hair is very well engraved and stands out very distinctly. It is extremely curly.
4. Franklin clearly has a double chin.	4. The chin while full does not appear to be double.	4. The double chin appears, though not as distinctly as in Reay's die.
5. There is a heavy crease across the neck.	5. The crease is barely perceptible.	5. There are several heavy lines, evidently intended to convey the idea of a neck cloth wrapped around the neck.
6. The engine turned work is very good, but	6. The whole affair is poorly done (though	6. Both the frame and the head are well

the engraving of the head is indifferent.	the head is as good as in Reay's) and the engine turned frame is wretched, being sometimes nothing but a mass of blotches.	done—indeed the head is a beautiful piece of engraving.
7. On the left side of the stamp, the bust is rather nearer the oval frame than on right side.	7. The bust almost touches the frame on the right side, while on the left it does not.	7. The two sides of the bust and the top of the head are all about equi-distant from the frame.

TWO CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton A.*	*Plimpton B.*	*Plimpton C.*
1. Jackson's lips are just a little separated, as though he might be grinding his teeth.	1. Lips are shut.	1. Shut.	1. Shut.
2. The figures 2 are small but thick well formed, and enclosed in circles.	2. The figures are long thin; also enclosed in circles.	2. Figures pretty well done and enclosed in oval.	2. Figures well done and enclosed in oval.
3. The engine turned work is clearly done.	3. Very badly done, and sometimes very blotchy.	3. Well done.	3. Not as well done as in B.

In the above stamps the most noticeable point of difference is the figures; which in *Reay* and *Plimpton A* are enclosed in circles, while in *Plimpton B & C* they are enclosed in ovals. How then to distinguish between the two dies forming each of these classes ?

In *Reay's* die the periods after U. and S. are *square* and distinct. In *Plimpton A* they are round and indistinct, especially the one after the S. Take the words "TWO CENTS"; in *Reay's* all the letters are about equi-distant from the edge of the engine turned pattern, in fact one row of the diamonds or loops (as I may call them in default of a better word) is always preserved below every letter of these two words. In *Plimpton A* this is not the case, no attempt apparently having been made to preserve any regularity in the design. This is particularly noticeable of the S of CENTS, which reaches almost to the very edge of the pattern.

As regards *Plimpton's B and C*, the lettering in the latter is very much heavier than in the former. In *B* the engine turned pattern is preserved in the centre of the O of POSTAGE, but in die *C* the centre is defined by a single white line with a small colored speck inside. In die

B the line of diamonds under TWO CENTS is pretty well preserved, though they are a little flattened out in most instances, noticeably under the s of CENTS. In die *C.* however, they are very bad, and have been reduced to mere shapeless specks, to make room for the heavier lettering.

THREE CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton A.*	*Plimpton B.*
1. The figures 3 are in circles.	1. They are in ovals.	1. They are in ovals.
2. Lettering good.	2. Lettering poor.	2. Lettering larger than either of the other dies, and very distinct.

The Reay's die can be easily distinguished by the figures being in circles, as noticed above.

In *Plimpton A* the periods after U. S are square and not particularly distinct, but in the die *B* they are round and prominent.

In die A.	*In die B.*
The figure 3 is long and thin, the one on the right side having a kind of top heavy appearance. The knot of Washington's queue is very prominent, being heavily embossed.	The figures are thicker and shorter. While very plain, the queue is not so prominent.
The top fold in the drapery stops some distance before it reaches the queue. This fact is easily noticeable.	All of the drapery is continued the whole distance across Washington's shoulder, until finally it reaches the queue.

SIX CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. The mass of hair on the top of Lincoln's head stands up and overhangs the forehead a little. While the outline is well defined, the mass of hair already referred to is not very well done.	1. It overhangs very observably, in fact the outline forms a regular hook, and a line drawn perpendicularly from the furthermost projection, would almost reach the end of the beard; whereas in *Reay*'s die it would not clear the eyebrow. The mass of hair on the top of the head is well done and each lock stands out clearly.

SEVEN CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. The figure 7 shows nothing peculiar.	1. There is a most noticeable twist, in fact a regular hook, on the end of the figures 7.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
2. About one-half of the ear is visible, and the hair around it appears very curly.	2. Only a small portion of the ear is visible, and the hair around it has been curled to an extent which is really alarming.

TEN CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. The mouth is shut.	1. Open a *very little.*
2. The queue is not very distinctly done, and it finally almost turns in towards the neck.	2. It is very distinct, and finishes abruptly, standing out prominently from the neck.

TWELVE CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. Clay's ear is partly covered up by one lock which seems to have fallen over it.	1. The ear is quite distinct; and although a great deal of hair surrounds it, it is not at all covered up.
2. On the lower half of the stamp, there are 43 of the small points forming the inside of the engine worked pattern.	2. There are 41 points.

FIFTEEN CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. There is a weak attempt to adorn Mr. Webster's face with whiskers (alongside the ear.)	1. No whiskers.
2. All the hair seems to start from the top of the head and to be brushed down.	2. The hair shows a part on what would be the left side of the head; and, on the very top, one lock stands slightly separated from the scull.

TWENTY-FOUR CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. The inside of the engine turned frame is composed of a small rectangular pattern.	1. The inside consists of a pointed pattern.
1. The General seems to have a "double" chin, or rather the apple of the neck stands out very prominently.	1. The chin and neck are badly defined, the latter standing from the furthermost projection of the former, but no particular prominence is given to the apple.

THIRTY CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1. It is brushed away from the ear.	1. The side lock of hair on the face almost or quite touches the ear in front.

2. The furrow noticed in the Plimpton die does not exist, the mouth ending with a dot.	2. Starting from the mouth and running almost at a right angle from it, is a deep furrow or line in the face.
NINETY CENTS.	
1. Remark No. 2 regarding the 30c. will also apply here.	1. The mouth has a deep furrow, as in the 30 cents.
2 Perry's lips are rather thick and slightly opened.	2. The lips are rather thin and compressed.
3. There are three small dots inside the o of POSTAGE.	3. There are four dots (sometimes barely distinguishable) inside the o of POSTAGE.

I hope next month to compare the dies used for the Post Office and War Department, and then to give a list of various sizes, colors and denominations of envelopes emanating from the Plimpton factory.

(*To be continued.*)

Clippings.

HOW LETTERS SOMETIMES MISCARRY.—A prominent American shipping house owning a fleet of European stamers, were daily in receipt of letters from the West containing money for passage tickets, to be forwarded to Ireland. They frequently complained of the loss of their letters, positively assuring the Postmaster that one of their own firm received their letters. Special Agent Holbrook worked on the case day and night, but was baffled at every turn. One day he followed the young member of the firm after he had received the letters for the firm. It was raining, and the merchant's umbrella rested on his head, the handle being supported between his arm and his breast. On his way to the store, Holbrook saw the letters go from one side pocket into the other, and the torn fragments of some of them flutter into the street. These Holbrook picked up hastily while following his victim. The latter entered the office soon after the clerk had passed in, and inquired for the senior member, of the house. On asking permission to investigate the matter, he was asked who he was and by what right he interfered with their business. "I am the Special Agent of the Post-office Department," Holbrook replied, "and there"—pointing to the young man—"is the culprit, with the money in his vest pocket, and here are the fragments of the letters from which the moneys were abstracted." The offender was a nephew of the head of the house, and, of course, the matter was hushed up.—*The New York Times.*

Too late for insertion under the proper head, we have received copies of a new stamp for Holland, 12½c. pearl. We are also notified of a 25 centime for Belgium.

Newly Issued Stamps.

SPAIN.—We are now enabled to give the design of the new series of postage stamps for this country. The set has been announced so long (and expected much longer) that collectors generally have been led to expect that the forthcoming type would be superior to anything that has preceded it, but in this they are doomed to disappointment.



The head of the young king is delineated with considerable effect, and if it had been set in a well designed frame would make a handsome stamp. The following values have come to hand :

2	centimos	de	peseta,	pale brown.
5	"	"	"	violet.
10	"	"	"	light blue.
20	"	"	"	orange brown.
25	"	"	"	lake.
40	"	"	"	dark brown.

The stamps are printed on very thin unwatermarked paper, perforated and numbered on the back.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Annexed is a representation of the new type to be used in these islands, unfortunately we have been unable to procure the entire set. The color of the value before us is brown on green. The general design as will be seen by the cut is the same as employed by the mother country, slightly modified to get in the name of the colony.



NORWAY.—The 7 skilling stamp of this country has been withdrawn from circulation, and a 6 skilling printed in the same color, issued in its place.

BARBADOS.—The following changes has been made in the color of these stamps : 1 p. ultramarine. 4 p. red. 1 s. purple.

BELGIUM.—Two stamps for international postage were issued by this country, one of which was noticed last month, the values are :

25 centimes, bistre. 50 centimes, black.

The international post card which accompanied the adhesives shows evident signs of having been prepared in a hurry. The die of the 10 cent adhesive is impressed in the right upper corner, small arms in the centre, above CARTE-CORRESPONDANCE, below in French and Flemish, a notice in two lines to the effect that the front is reserved for the address only. It is enclosed in the old frame and is printed in black on blue card.

FIJI ISLANDS.—We are informed by a valued correspondent that a new value is now in use here. " It is formed of the old three cent green

with the usual surcharging of six cents. The new surcharge of V. R. with the addition of TWO PENCE printed over all."

SHANGHAI.—Presents us with two new stamps as peculiar in regard to color as they have heretofore been curious in design. They are printed from the old plates in the annexed colors.

1 candareen, lemon on yellow tinted paper.
3 candareens, rose on rose " "

FINLAND.—The international value of the new set of stamps has come to hand. The design consists of the ducal arms in the centre on shield, in oval of wicker pattern, PENNIA above and below, FINLAND on the left, SUOMI on the right, numerals of value in circles in each corner. The announced values are as follows:

2 penni rose.	10 penni,
5 "	20 "
8 "	32 " rose.

Post Cards.—10 penni violet, 16 penni.
Double Card.—10 x 10 penni violet.
Envelopes.—20 and 32 penni.
Receipt Slips.—10 penni.

ITALY. *Officials.*—This series of stamps have received an accession to their number of a 90 centesimi same color and design as the remainder of the set. A double post card for official business was issued on the first of July. The 15 c. stamp is impressed to left, and a circular space on the right for the stamps of the office from which it is sent. In the centre is the inscription CARTOLINA POSTALE DI STATO PER LA CORRISPONDENZA COI TINDACI-DOMANDA. (State post card for correspondence with the Mayor's——demand) Below in a circle is the Italian equivalent for "To the mayor of——" In the lower left hand corner a large oval inscribed CONTRUSSEGNE DEL MITTENTE (countersign of the sender). The reply half has no stamp and is inscribed with "Reply of the mayor of——" The color is bluish green on white.

GREECE —Two new values to be applied for single and double international postage are in course of preparation. The denominations are 30 and 60 lepta, we are not yet acquainted with the colors.

UNITED STATES.—The new postal cards have not yet put in an appearance but may be expected at any moment. The two cent adhesive is now printed in vermilion, and the 7, 12 and 24 c. stamps are withdrawn from circulation. The order to make envelopes of fawn paper announced in our last, has been countermanded almost as soon as given, so that only three values have got out, viz.: 2 c. 3 c. and 6 c. New dies are being prepared for the War Department Envelopes. Full particulars of which we expect to be able to give in our next.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

EUROPE.

Germany.

THE NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

The Confederation called into existence by the war of 1866, was essentially a provisional one, intended to pave the way for that greater combination which resulted from the Franco-German campaign. It



lasted only four years, and gave birth to but one emission, properly so called ; but it is a remarkable illustration of the complex nature of postal arrangements in the present day, that that emission comprises, all told, no less than twenty-seven stamps, more or less entitled to the distinctive epithet of "postage." Besides the duplicate series of ordinary prepaying stamps, we find a special label for the local service of a semi-independent city, a couple of envelopes, a couple of newspaper bands, a duplicate set of "service" stamps, and a pair of registration stamps. Even in a rudimentary article like the present the enumeration of all the values seems almost a superfluous occupation of space ; I may, therefore, I think, confine myself to a rapid glance at the few peculiarities which the series presents. With regard first to the design : certain of the values of the franking series proper, and possibly all, show the figure of value shaded. At first sight the centre of the figure appears to be filled by a thick solid vertical line and two thin lines, but a closer inspection shows that the middle line is formed of a diagonal shading, the lines of which run from right to left. In the normal type the centre of the figure is quite white. The 1 groschen and 1 kreuzer and 3 kr. are the only values in which the diagonal shading has been remarked, but it may well be that the variety is exemplified in all the values.

All the values of the franking series proper exist both pierced (*percés*) and hole-perforated. They were first issued *percés*, and the perforating machine was called in action as, and when, fresh supplies were issued. The printing of these fresh supplies gave rise to certain more or less marked differences in shade : thus the $\frac{1}{3}$ gr., 1 gr., and 2 gr. are found in shades varying from light to dark of their respective colours. These variations call for no special attention, but the change from a mere *perçage* to perforation requires to be noted.

It has been asserted that the stamps just referred to were issued watermarked. In a Belgian paper an approximate engraving of the watermark was given, but after a careful examination of many copies I can but concur in the opinion expressed by the editor of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, that the pretended watermark is nothing but a *mottling* in the paper, undeserving of notice. Such an almost inperceptible change in the appearance of the back of the stamp as this mottling produces, can never have been intended to serve as a means of distinguishing genuine stamps from false ones.

The stamp issued especially for Hamburg is a peculiar one. It has no central device, and the value (half schilling) is not indicated. It remained in use, I believe, as long as the other stamps of the series, and was used for the city postage. It would be curious to know on what grounds the privilege of employing a special stamp was conceded to Hamburg, whilst it was withheld from two other free cities—Bremen and Lubeck.

The registration stamps—so called for want of a better title,—are remarkable for the comparative fineness of their engraving. It is also worthy of note that the plan of printing these stamps on gold beaters' skin, initiated by the Prusian administration, was not continued by the Confederation officials. It is to be regretted that these stamps should have been obliterated by penmarks, as such marks are far less slightly than the ordinary impression from a hand-stamp, and unused copies are difficult to obtain.







The service stamps for the two sections of the Confederation are distinguished from each other, not only by the difference in denomination, but also by a difference in the colour of the ground. Whilst the groschen set is printed in black on a light brown ground-work, the kreuzer are printed in black on pearl-grey.

Of envelopes, properly so called, only two were issued, the 1 gr. and the 3 kr., both rose; but a number of "converted" envelopes of the absorbed states were issued. Perhaps, in strictness, the collection of all the *sixty four* varieties should be advocated; but however interesting such a number of varieties *may* be to advanced collectors, it can hardly be expected that beginners should feel equally desirous of obtaining them all. However, the best plan will be to explain the mode of conversion, and leave the readers of these papers to judge for themselves as to the collectable value of the varieties. The envelopes used were those of Prussia, Saxony, Brunswick, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, and Oldenburg.

Over the impressed stamps on these were stuck adhesive stamps of the Confederation. After the adhesives were attached the envelopes were brought under a die, from which an impression in pale grey, of a rectangular shape, about 1½ in. by 1 in. was struck. This rectangular stamp, with rounded corners, was filled with minute repetitions of the inscription—NORDDEUTSCHER POST BEZIRK. It flattened the embossed stamp, covered the adhesive label, and left a broad margin of grey all round. The only envelopes to which this grey surcharge alone would not apply were the Oldenburg, of which the embossed oval stamps were so large, that to cover them it was necessary to print off a special supply of adhesives, with an eighth-of-an-inch of margin every way. These were used to hide the embossed stamp, and then the grey impression was struck.

The *values* of the envelopes thus surcharged with adhesives, are as follows :

Surcharged with a 1 *gr. adhesive.*

1861. Prussia, 1, 3, s.gr. : 6 pf. ; 9 kr.
1863-5. Saxony, ½, 1, 2, 3, 5 s.gr.
1865. Brunswick, 1, 2 s.gr.
1864. Mecklenburg-Strelitz, 1, 2, 3, s.gr.
1862. Oldenburg, ½, 1, 2, 3, s.gr.

Surcharged with a 2 *gr. adhesive.*

1863. Prussia, 2 s.gr.
" Saxony, 2 s.gr.

Surcharged with a 3 *kr. adhesive.*

1867. Prussia, 1, 2, 3, 6, 9 kr.

From this it will be seen that only twenty-three values were operated on, the sixty-four varieties being, in fact, made up of surcharges on different sized envelopes.

I must not omit to state that the currency of the Confederation series was initiated by the issue of the adhesives for public use on the 1st of January, 1868, and terminated by the issue of the first series for the German Empire, on the 15th December, 1871.

GERMAN EMPIRE.

The stamps inscribed DEUTSCHE REICHPOST were issued as above stated on the 15th December, 1871, though their general currency may fairly be dated from New Year's Day of 1872. No change in the postal rates or arrangements marked the emission, even the colours are the same as those of the corresponding values in the preceding series. As originally issued, the first German series comprised the following denominations :—



Adhesives { ¼, ⅓, ½, 1, 2, 5 groschen.
1, 2, 3, 7, 18 kreuzer.

Wrapper { ⅓ gr.
1 kr.

Envelope— 1 gr.
" 3 kr.

Registration Stamps—10, 30 gr.

About the middle of 1872, the ½ gr., originally issued in orange-red, made its appearance in a dull yellowish orange.

On the first of June, 1872, the issue of a second series of adhesives was commenced, differing from the first only in the enlargement of the eagle and the introduction of certain modifications in its design. The stamps with enlarged eagle, though the difference be only a secondary one, must be considered as forming a distinct series, the change affecting to a certain extent the central design, and being made intentionally and for an important reason, viz., to bring the representation of the eagle on the postage stamp into conformity with the shape and bearings decided on by the heralds for the imperial arms.



In this second series all the above mentioned adhesive values are represented, plus two new denominations which appeared towards the end of the year, viz., the 2½ gr. and 9 kr., both printed light brown.

In 1874, the two new values were issued surcharged in the same color as the stamps with the value in figures, almost the size of the embossed centers.

The present series of stamps having been so lately introduced to our readers, we shall not tire them with a repetition of their colors and values.

The post cards, being (until lately) unstamped, possess but comparatively little interest. The registration stamps are identical with those of the North German Confederation, excepting in so far as concerns the inscription.

With regard to the envelopes, only the 1 gr. and the 3 kr. exist of the first series, but all the values of the second issue were printed off, private persons being allowed to send envelopes to be stamped with any existing denomination,—subject, of course, to certain necessary restrictions. Varieties without number, and without value from a philatelic point of view, will thus be produced, and, I can only say that one single specimen of each denomination should suffice.

I have not touched on the field-post envelopes of the Confederation or the Empire, believing it to be unadvisable to notice hybrid issues with which the general public has nothing to do. For a similar reason the stamps of the various invalid associations appear to me to be undeserving of special attention.

History as told by Postage Stamps.

Very probably it never entered Lord Macaulay's mind that his New-Zealander would be a stamp collector, but as an intelligent man of the future of course he will be, and we can well understand that his reflections as he sits on one of the ruined arches of London bridge, will naturally revert to his collection, which more vividly than the ruins of the mighty metropolis, will tell him of the great wealth, the enormous power and the vast extent of territory ruled by the British Queen Victoria.

We think our young readers may be interested in looking over the following representations of the stamps of the British Empire, they afford ample room for reflection and could be used as a text for a history of ten thousand pages. Will some of our subscribers favor us with a translation of the story they so plainly tell. We will give a prize of ten dollars worth of stamps for the best article on the subject, to occupy from three to five pages.




POSTAGE
POST PAID
MAURITIUS
ONE PENNY
NATAL
ONE PENNY
3 THREE 3
THREE CENTS
NEW BRUNSWICK
POSTAGE
5 FIVE CENTS 5
5 CENTS 5
NEW SOUTH WALES
REGISTERED
NEW ZEALAND
POSTAGE
ONE PENNY
NOVA SCOTIA
TWO CENTS
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
POSTAGE
ONE PENNY
QUEENSLAND
ONE PENNY
POSTAGE
SIERRA LEONE
ONE PENNY
SOUTH AUSTRALIA
NINE PENCE
SIX PENCE
ST. HELENA
POSTAGE
SIXPENCE
ST. LUCIA
POSTAGE
ST. VINCENT
ONE PENNY
STRAITS SETTLEMENTS
POSTAGE
TWELVE CENTS
TASMANIA
ONE PENNY
TRINIDAD
FIVE SHILLINGS
TURKS ISLANDS
ONE PENNY
VICTORIA
ONE PENNY
NEVIS
ONE PENNY
POSTAGE
FOUR PENCE
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE
POSTAGE
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
TWO PENCE





The "Plimpton" Envelopes.

BY C. H. C.

(*Continued from page* 112.)

A few days ago, I came across another die of the 10 cents Plimpton envelope. This new comer (or rather old comer resuscitated) was prepared simultaneously with dies A of the 1, 2 and 3 cents envelopes, and like them was intended merely for temporary use, until something better could be prepared. We therefore have, in all, three dies of the 10c. envelope stamp; one issued by Reay and two by the Plimpton Co. Two of this trio have already been described on page 111, but I now rewrite what was there said, so as to include the additional variety.

TEN CENTS.

Reay. (described on page 111)	*Plimpton.*	*Plimpton B.* (described on page 111)
1. The mouth is shut.	1. Shut.	1. Open a *very little.*
2. The queue is not very distinctly done, and it finally turns in towards the neck.	2. The queue reaches down straight almost to the very end of the bust.	2. The queue is very distinct, and finally finishes abruptly, showing out clearly from the neck.
3. The size of the head is in accordance with the rest of the series.	3. The head is uncommonly large, occupying almost the entire disk. There is very little space betwen it and the oval frame.	3. The size of the head is not unusually large.
4. The peculiarity noted in *Plimpton's A* does not exist.	4. Back of the ear, one lock of hair seems to fall down in the form of a "pothook".	4. No such peculiarity.

Having thus disposed of all the dies, the next point that presents itself is the sizes, colors and denominations of the envelopes from the temporary dies, which have since been superseded by better ones, viz.:

Die A of the one cent envelopes.
Dies A & B of the two cents "
Die A of the three cents "
Die A of the ten cents "

SIZE.	DENOMINATION.	DIE.	QUALITY OF PAPER.	COLOR OF PAPER.
No. 1. Note size, $2\frac{3}{4}$x$5\frac{1}{4}$ inches.	3 cents.	A	First.	White.
No. 2. Ordinary Letter size $3\frac{1}{16}$x$5\frac{1}{2}$, in.	2 cents.	A	"	"
	2 "	A	"	Amber.
	2 "	B	"	Amber.
	2 "	B	"	White.
No. 3. Full Letter size, $3\frac{3}{8}$x$5\frac{1}{2}$ in.	3 "	A	"	Amber.
	3 "	A	"	White.
	3 "	A	Second.	Cream.
	10 "	A	First.	Amber *
No. 4. Full Letter size, ungummed for circulars, $3\frac{3}{8}$x$5\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1 cent.	A	First.	Dark Buff.
No. 5. Extra Letter size, $3\frac{1}{2}$x$6\frac{3}{8}$ in.				
No. 6. Extra Letter size, ungummed for circulars, $3\frac{1}{2}$ x$6\frac{3}{8}$ in.	1 cent	A		Dark Buff.
No. 7. Official size, $3\frac{15}{16}$x$8\frac{7}{8}$ in.				
No. 8. Extra Official size, $4\frac{3}{8}$x$10\frac{1}{4}$ in.				
No. 9. Newspaper wrappers, $6\frac{5}{8}$x$9\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1 cent.	A	Manila.	Light Buff.
	2 "	A	"	"
	2 "	B	"	"

NOTE—* I am not certain whether this die was ever used. I have seen three *cut* copies but they may be mere specimens. If the die had any currency, it was undoubtedly a very short one. It was never intended for more than temporary use, until something better could be prepared; and as a considerable stock of Reay's 10 c. envelopes still existed, possibly it was never called into service.

It must be remembered that the qualities and colors of paper, as noted above, are in accordance with the official designations applied to them. The P. O. Department recognizes three colors of paper, viz.:

White.
Amber (which is what is generally known in stamp parlance as "Lemon".)
Cream (which corresponds with "Flesh Color.)

Three qualities are also used, viz.:

First quality (which is found in White and Amber.)
Second " (" " " " Cream.)
Third " (" " " " Amber.)

So far I have not come across any *obsolete* Plimpton dies on Amber of the third quality, though they probably were issued on that paper.

Next comes the official list of envelopes, as amended July 1st, 1875. All sizes, colors, &c., not mentioned thereon are now obsolete. Size No. 4½ is a new one, similar to the "Trade No. 6" envelope, and is likely to be largely used. The 2 cents envelopes are printed in vermilion from *Die C*; and the 1c. 3c. and 10 cents are from *Die B* of the respective values.

SIZE.	Denomination.	QUALITY.	COLOR.
No. 1. Note Size, 2¾ x 5¼ inches.	3 cents.	First.	White.
No. 2. Ordinary Letter Size, 3 1/16 x 5½ inches.	1 cent.	First.	White or Amber.
	2 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	3 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	3 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	3 cents.	Third.	Blue.
No. 3. Full Letter Size, 3⅜ x 5½ inches.	3 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	5 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	3 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	3 cents.	Third.	Blue.
	5 cents.	Third.	Blue.
No. 4. Full Letter Size, ungummed, for Circulars, 3⅜ x 5½ inches.	1 cent.	.....	Dark Buff.

SIZE.	Denomination.	QUALITY.	COLOR.
No. 4½. Commercial Size. 3⅜ x 5⅞ inches.	3 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	5 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	6 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	10 censt.	First.	White or Amber.
	2 cents.	Second.	Crerm.
	3 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	6 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	3 cents.	Third.	Blue.
	5 cents.	Third.	Blue.
No. 5. Extra Letter Size 3½ x 6⅝ inches.	3 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	6 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	3 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	3 cents.	Third.	Blue.
No. 6. Extra Letter Size, ungummed, for Circulars, 3½ x 6⅜ inches.	1 cent.	.....	Dark Buff.
No. 7. Official Size, 3 15/16 x 8⅞ inches.	6 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	10 cents.	First.	White or Amber.
	3 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	5 cents.	Second.	Cream.
	6 cents.	Second.	Cream.
No. 8. Extra Official Size, 4⅜ x 10¼ inches.	6 cents.	First.	White.
	15 cents.	First.	White.
	30 cents.	First.	White.
	90 cents.	First.	White.
No. 9. Newspaper Wrappers, 6⅝ x 9½ inches.	1 cent.	Manila	Light Buff.
	2 cents.	Manila	Light Buff.

In explanation of the foregoing list, I extract the following from a circular of the Department, issued by the Hon E. W. Barber, Third Assistant Post Master General (who has kindly sent me a copy), under date of June 21, 1875 :

"The Department will issue a revised schedule of stamped envelopes to take effect on the 1st July."

"The changes * * * * * will be in the addition of certain grades and denominations, and in the discontinuance of other grades and denominations which have met with little or no demand."

"Among the changes, all of which need not be here specified, as

they will appear fully in the schedule, is the addition of 5 cent envelopes, in suitable sizes and qualities, for foreign postage.

"There will also be added, in appropriate denominations, a new size ef envelopes, $3\frac{3}{8}$ by $5\frac{7}{8}$ inches, to be designated as No. $4\frac{1}{2}$ COMMERCIAL."

"The 7, 12 and 24 cent envelopes will be discontinued."

"In order to avoid the liability to mistake caused by the near similarity in color between the 2 and 10 cent stamps (and stamped envelopes), the former will in future be printed in vermilion, the color of the discontinued 7 cent stamp."

"The color of the third quality envelopes throughout will be changed from amber to blue, to render them less transparent."

What I desire to call special attention to is the change in the third quality envelopes. It will be observed that all those on *amber* (*third quality*) are obsolete, blue having been substituted therefor.

The Plimpton Co. also prepared dies for the 7, 12 and 24 envelopes, but I have never come across any uncut specimens, and (the denominations being already obsolete) they are likely to be of considerable rarity. I have, however, the following *cut* copies:

7 cents on amber, (*first* quality).
12 " " white and amber, (*first* quality).
12 " " cream (*second* quality.)
24 " " white and amber, (*first* quality.)

As will be noticed from the foregoing extracts from the Goverment circular, certain *sizes* and *colors* of the still current denominations were discontinued on July 1st, and the color of the 2 cents stamps was changed from brown to vermilion. Those discontinued may be termed

OBSOLETE ENVELOPES FROM CURRENT DIES,

and under the heading must be included all envelopes bearing Plimpton's 1c. (die B) 2c. (die C) 3c. (die B) 6c 10c. 15c. 30c. 90c. on sizes, colors, &c., not included in the foregoing list. I have already found

2 cents (die C) in *brown* on white (cut)
3 " on official size, second quality of cream.
6 " on full letter size, first quality of white and amber.
30 " on first quality of amber.
90 " on first quality of amber, and on second quality of cream.

About the first of July, the shade of the first quality of amber was considerably changed, almost reaching the color generally recognized as chocolate. This innovation was not favorably received, however, so that the old shade was speedily returned to. Three values, (2, 3 and 6 cents) were issued on the chocolate paper; but, as to size, I cannot speak, having only seen *cut* copies.

Just as the printer is going to press, I have discovered a sub-variety

of Plimpton's *Die* 2 of the *Two Cents* envelope. The most noticeable difference is in the O of Postage. In one variety the centre consists only of one oval white line, while in the other, the engine turned pattern is continued in the centre of the said letter.

Both varieties (which we shall call varieties I and II, respectively) are found on the envelopes assigned to Plimpton Die 2 in my list of obsolete dies; except the ordinary letter size in white, which I have not so far found impressed with variety II.

To be continued.

Clippings.

THE REIGNING KING OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS, though not of the Royal Kamehameha stock, was in rank fully equal to the late King. He is about forty years old, and has held many high offices of State. He was a member of the House of Nobles, and at one time chamberlain to Kamehameha V. Intellectually, he is said to be very much inferior to his predecessor, Lunalilo, and far less qualified to perform the duties of a ruler. His Majesty received a "good common school education." He is identified with what is called the party of reaction: he is firmly opposed to any interference with the independence of the kingdom, and, consequently, is against annexation to the United States. This fact makes him popular with the natives, and also with the great body of foreign residents. Kalakua is decended from the celebrated Keiwikei-Wikau, one of whose privileges was to have lighted torches carried before him in daytime. His grandfather, Kainahawa, had the misfortune to poison his wife in 1841, and "expiated his offence on the gallows," or was, in plain English, hanged for murder. Kamehameha III., who was on terms of intimate friendship with the murderer, was rather reluctant to allow the sentence to be carried out; but Captain Wilkes, who happened to be at the island at the time with the vessels of the United States Exploring Expedition, having been consulted, the result of the gallant officer's opinion was that the law was allowed to take its course. King David Kalakua is married to the widow of the Uncle of Queen Emma, but has no children, and is considered peculiar in his habits.—*The New York Herald.*

HOW TO UNMOUNT POSTAGE STAMPS.—After many trials we find it the best mode of unmounting to place the *back* of a stamp on a well-wetted piece of flannel; not on any account, to lay the flannel upon the stamp. Several can be attended to at once in this manner, and the exact moment seized for detaching the stamps before they become too much saturated. This procedure is of course requisite for the choicer

specimens only ; common stamps being usually printed on strong paper may be dipped in water and left till detached.

INVISIBLE INK FOR POST CARDS.—The main objection most people have to sending communications on postal cards is, that the writing is, of course, open to general perusal. A good way of avoiding this difficulty is to use sympathetic ink. A solution of ten grains of hyposulphite of soda in sixteen teaspoonfuls of water is the simplest fluid for the purpose. Use a perfectly clean pen, and after writing go over the letters with a smooth paper cutter to remove all traces of the salt. Exposure to the heat of a bright coal fire turns the writing black.—*London Journal.*

STAMPS ON BLUE PAPER.—Chemical action is solely responsible for the bluish-green tint which is found on the Barbados Britannia, no value, the Ceylon 6d., the Chili 5c., the Cape 1d., the Great Britain 1d., the Mauritius Britannia red, and the Trinidad red ; but something else is responsible for the ½d. Ceylon, the India 4 and 8 annas, the Great Britain 4d., the Malta ½d., and the Sierra Leone 6d. As to blue stamps on blue paper, scarely a specimen appears to be free from doubt whether the blue tinge does not result from some fault in the printing, which has caused the blue ink to run into the paper.

EARLY FRENCH AND GERMAN POSTS.—Louis XI. of France, by a royal ordinance, dated the 19th of June, 1464, established a sytem of posts in that kingdom, but only for the particular use of the court, and that he might be the sooner and more certainly informed of any political movements in his own kingdom and in neighboring states. In the beginning of the thirteenth century pedestrian messengers were maintained as a part of the establishment of the University of Paris, and these messengers were employed in conveying money and letters to and from that capital for the students of the university, who were at that time collected there from almost every country of Europe. The first organized plan for the transmission of private correspondence in France was formed in 1619, when a public letter-office was opened. A few years earlier that this last-mentioned date, the Count de Taxis established posts in Germany, at his own expense and as a private speculalion. The scheme was, however, soon adopted by the government, on which occasion the Emperor Matthias, in acknowledgement of his publc spirit, gave to the Count, in fief, the charge of postmaster under himself and his successors. This was in 1616.—*The Philatelist.*

JAPANESE NEWSPAPER POST.—In Japan, from January 1st, to June 30th, 1874, 1,119,267 newspapers were forwarded by post.

SUSPENSION OF THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—Mr. F. Jeppe, the Postmaster-General of the South African Republic, has been suspended by order of the Acting President, on account of a deficiency of £840 out of the value of stamps printed under

his supervison, and in his charge, while holding the joint apartments of Treasurer-General and Postmaster-General. Mr. Jeppe professes to be utterly unable to account for the deficiency, and can only suppose that they may have been accidently burned among parcels of redeemed Government notes, the packages of unused stamps having been, for want of proper safes, kept in the same place as the redeemed notes, in his joint office of Treasurer-General and Postmaster-General; or that they must have been stolen. Neither seems very feasible, and certainly neither can have taken place without an amount of culpable carelessness or neglect, especially in regard of the theory of their having accidently been burned. Of either theory no evidence seems to be adduced. Under any circumstances we feel bound to say, that the Government had no escape from the necessity of suspending Mr. Jeppe, in the face of such an unaccounted for deficiency of stamps, which whether in his capacity of Treasurer-General or Postmaster-General, were in his charge. Mr. Jeppe has proved himself in many respects a very highly efficient Postmaster-General, both in the organization and control of the postal service under very difficult circumstances. In these respects the public are sure, for a considerable time at any rate, to be great sufferers. There is at present literally no one in the service able to take his place satisfactorily.—*The Diamond News.*

Answers to Correspondents.

J. A. B., Philadelphia.—1.—Entire envelopes are only collected by the *crême de la crême* of philatelists. In fact there is only one collection of entire U. S. envelopes in the country worthy of the name, and this is owned by C. H. Coster, Esq. It numbers about 450 varieties. 2.—There are 65 varieties of the Plimpton Envelopes reckoning only the different dies and color of the paper.

L. E. P., St. Louis.—Different countries carry off the palm in point of numbers in the various branches of Philately, for instance, Spain has issued the greatest number of adhesives the United States penchant is for envelopes and officials. Wurtemburg's ambition runs in post cards. Great Britain supports her dignity with a vast array of revenue stamps, while Italy beats all creation in changing her mind, as is exemplified by surcharging all her revenue stamps in two or three different ways.

S. S. H., Chicago.—The arms of all nations advertised by our publishers, to be issued July 15th, are not yet ready. The great care with which they are being prepared has consumed more time than was expected. A few more weeks will certainly complete them.

H. F., New Orleans.—Private Revenue Stamps are much sought after now, our publishers are offering very high prices for any that are at all scarce.

History as told by Postage Stamps.

No. II.

Below we give illustrations of every type of stamp used for postal purposes in Spain. They give with remarkable clearness an epitome of the various revolutions which have convulsed that distracted country.

We offer a prize of five dollars worth of stamps for the best history of Spain embracing the last twenty-five years, the materials for which are to be drawn solely from a study of the stamps themselves.



Notes on the Franked Envelopes of the Letter Express Companies of the United States.

BY C. H. C.

(*Continued from page* 89.)

WELLS, FARGO & CO.

I will first give a list of the franks, and then enumerate the various envelopes on which they are found.

I. Trans. obl. frame with truncated corners. Lined ground (very coarse) with flourishes, &c., inscribed "*Wells. Fargo & Co.*, in Old English letters. "*Paid*," above. "*Over our California and Coast Routes*," below.

II. Trans. obl. frame with truncated corners. Lined ground, inscribed "*Paid. Wells, Fargo & Co.*," (the name being in Old English letters), in two lines; also, "*Over our California and Coast Routes*," the portion of the ground on which the latter appears, being solid. This is the common W. F. & Co., frank, so frequently alluded to in the course of these papers.

Sub-Varieties.

a.—"*For Mexican Ports Paid* 25 *cents*", in one line, below.
b.—"*Paid over our Mexican Coast and California Express- - -*25 *cts.*," in two lines, below.
c.—Same as *b*, but with two dashes instead of three between "*Express*" and 25.
d.—Same, "35 *cts.*," with two dashes.
e.—Same, one long dash.
f.—Same, "$1.05," Two dashes.
g.—Same, "$1.05," but all in one line of print.
h.—Same, "*Paid over our Mexican Coast Route*,"—"$1.05" below.
i.—Same as *f*, "$1.40."
j.—Same as *g*, "$1.40."
m.—"*Paid* 25 *cts.*" below.
n.—Same inscription but L. L. C.
o.—"*Victoria, Vancouver Island*," below in scrip letters.
p.—Same in capitals.
q.—"*Victoria and British Columbia.*"
r.—*Boise Mines.—Paid* 50 *cts.*," below.
s.—"*China and Japan Express*" below.
t.—With ordinary 25c. Pony Ex. stamp impressed alongside in blue.
u.— " " 25c. " " " rose.
v.— " " 25c. " " " brown.
w.— " " 10c. " " " blue.

III. Similar to II., but with "*Through our California and Atlantic Express,*" substituted for "*Over our California and Coast Routes.*"

IV. "*Wells, Fargo & Co.,*" in large letters crossed by ½ *Ounce Paid From St. Joseph to Placerville, Per Pony Express.*"

Reprints, so called, exist, but they differ considerably from the originals, the letter W being altogether too pointed at the bottom.

V. Stramer inscribed "*Wells, Fargo & Co.,*" (in old English). *Paid Via Omaha, N. T.* (in smaller Roman Capitals).

VI. Same, with "*Paid Over Our Lower California Interior Route Only. Paid* 12½ *cents,*" printed below in two lines. "*Via Omaha, &c.*, omitted.

VII. Same, with "*Paid Over Our Lower California Interior Route Only*", in one line of Roman capitals. Below is "*Paid* 12½ *cents.*

VIII. Same, with "*Via los Angeles*" in print.

IX. "Pony Express Stamp" impressed without any other frank.

LIST.

TYPE.

I. T. Black on 3c. white, buff, 1853.

II. T. Blue on 3c. buff, 1853.

T. Rose on 3c. white, buff, 1864.

T. (sometimes L. U. C.)
Black on ord'y buff and lemon, envs. with 3c. 1853, adhesives.

T. Black on 3c. white, buff, 6c. (red) buff, 1853.

T. " " 3c. white, buff, 1857.

T. " " 3c. white, buff, 1861, (sometimes with 10 and 25c. Pony Express adhesives attached.)

T. " " 6c. white, buff, 12, 24, 30, 40c., 1861.

T. " " 12c. 1861, with Lamping & Co.'s frank at end, and W. F. & Co.'s over it.

T. " " 3c. white, buff, 6c. (violet) white, buff, 6c. (rose) white, buff, 9, 12, 24, 30, 40c., 1864.

T. " " 3c. white, lemon, 6c. white, 6c. (official) lemon, 1870.

I. *a.* Rose on 3c. white, 1861, 3c. white, buff, 1864.

b. Black on 3c. buff, 1861.

c. " " 3c. white, buff, 1864.

d. " " 10c. white, buff, 1861, 10c. white lemon, 1870.

e. " " 10c. white. 1861.

f. " " 30c. 1861.

m. " " 3c. buff, 1861.

n. " " 3c. " "

o. " ord. white envs. } with Br. Col. or Canadian adhesives attached.

p. " " " " }

q. " " " " }

r. rose on 3c. white, buff, 1861.
s. black on 10c. white, 1861, 30c, 40c. 1864.
t. " " 3c. white, 1861, and 1864.
u. " " 3c. " 1861, black on 3c. rose, 1861.
v. " " 3c. " 1861.
w. " " 3c. " 1861.

III. T. Pink on 10c buff, 1853, 10c. white, buff, 1867, 10c. white, buff, 1861.

T. (Sometimes L. U. C.) Black on 3c. white, buff, 10c. buff, 1861, 3c. white, buff, 6c. (rose) white, 6c. (violet) white. buff, 12c. (brown and claret, 18, 24, 30, 40c. 1864.

IV. A. E. Rose on 10c. white, 1861, Envelope bears printed address "Agent Pony Express. St. Joseph, Mo. For——"

V. L. U. C. Red on 3c. 1853. (Reprinted ?)

VI. A. E. Black on ordinary yellow Env. (Reprinted ?)

VII. A E. do. do. do. (do. ?)

VIII. L. U. C. Black on 3c. buff, 1853.
Red on 10c. buff, 1853.

IX. T. Rose on 3c. white, 1861.

TYPE II. is frequently found across the end of 3c. Envelopes of 1853–70, with various private advertisements at top, the entire face of the envelope being generally printed in grey, blue, green, flesh or pink tints.

Sometimes these advertisements are obliterated by an extensive fancy pattern, and in one instance by "W. F. & Co." in large letters. I do not attach much significance to any of them.

I have also seen W. F. & Co., TYPE II. printed on the back of a 3c. 1853 Envelope, with an advertisement occupying the entire face.

This type (as will have been observed in the course of this article, this being the "W. F. & Co. frank" so frequently referred to) comes printed on the same Envelopes as the franks of other companies. In addition to those already noted, I have it impressed directly over the "Pacific Union Express Co." on 3c. white, buff, 6c. white, buff, 1864.

To be continued.

A STRICT CONSTRUCTIONIST.—A laughable construction of the ruling of our Post-office Department that nothing must be attached to a postal card has just been reported to the Department. A gentleman desired to send a postal card to a foreign country, and put on the necessary one cent stamp to pay the additional postage, but the postmaster refused to forward it because it had the stamp "attached."

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

EUROPE.

Greece.



When first the Greek stamps made their appearance, their classical elegance of type created quite a *furore* among the then numerous but unscientific crowd of stamp-collectors. An acquaintance with the one unvarying type extending over some fourteen years has, however, somewhat dimmed our first enthusiasm, and the defective printing of the more recent editions has destroyed the delicacy of outline which gave such a charm to the early specimens. The design is now—if the expression may be coined—in ruins, and its suppression at no distant day seems almost inevitable.

The birthplace of art contains no engraver worthy of the name. When the Greeks—then living under the dominion of the beneficent Otho—determined on issuing postage stamps, they wisely resolved to order them in Paris, and for that purpose addressed themselves to M. Barre, the engraver, and M. Hulot, the printer of the French Emissions. The type chosen—whether prescribed by the Grecian government or selected by M. Barre—was a happy one. No fitter postal emblem for the Homeric land could be found than the Head of Hermes, or, to adopt the Roman title, Mercury—god of messengers and commerce—and none could more worthily have portrayed it than M. Barre. On the Greek stamps he is drawn with the true Grecian profile, his head adorned with the winged cap, called *petasus*, given him by Jupiter, and the accessory portions of the design are of that subdued and almost severe character which befits the subject. That they were copied from the French stamps detracts nothing from their merit; no more appropriate framework could have been chosen than that originally designed to enclose the profile of the goddess of liberty.

The first edition of the Greek stamps made its appearance on the 1st October, 1861. It was printed in Paris, as has already been indicated, by M. Hulot, and was composed of the following values:—

1 lepton	chocolate-brown.	20 lepta	blue.
2 lepta	cinnamon.	40 "	reddish violet.
5 "	green.	80 "	carmine.
10 "	orange.		

All the values are printed on paper more or less toned, and in the 105 and 40 lepta the paper is of a decided bluish tint. The 10 lepta has a large figure 10 at the back, and is thus distinguished from the other values. No confusion, however, is possible with the 10 lepta of subsequent series, as the figure in this first issue is much larger than that on the later stamps. Reference is made in *The PhilatelicalJournal* to the existence of specimens of the first—or Paris-printed—10 lepta *without* the figure at the back. I have not met with any, nor can I find any reference to them in the catalogues I have been able to consult, but I have no hesitation in chronicling the variety on Mr. Pemberton's authority In like manner I may mention *en passant*, on the authority of Dr. Magnus, that some specimens of the first 10 lepta were unofficially perforated—probably merely a trial or for amusement.

The striking clearness of execution of the Paris-printed stamps, in itself suffices to no small extent to distinguish them from the subsequent editions printed off at Athens, but in respect of all the values, except the 1 lepton and 2 lepta, a more decisive test may be applied, seeing that the Athens-printed editions all bear on the back an impressed numeral of value, which is generally in the same colour as the stamp.

Two Athenian editions are distinguished by most writers, and are thus catalogued.

FIRST ATHENS-PRINTED EDITION.

On wove paper.

1 lepton	dark brown.	Without numeral at back.
2 lepta	bistre.	
5 "	emerald green.	With small numeral at back, of the same colour as the stamp itself
10 "	orange (on faint bluish-tinted paper.)	
20 "	ultramarine.	
40 "	light reddish violet (on blue-tinted paper.	
80 "	crimson-lake.	With *scarlet* numeral at back.
80 "	crimson-lake.	With numeral at back of *same* colour

SECOND ATHENS-PRINTED EDITION.

Struck from the plates, much deteriorated, on coarser paper, and less delicate in shade.

1 lepton	light brown	Without figures at the back.
1 "	redish brown	
2 lepta	yellow-bistre, with pink tinge.	
2 "	cinnamon.	

5	lepta	green, with more yellow in it than 2d edition.	With small numeral on back indicative of the value.
10	"	dark orange on slightly bluish paper.	
20	"	ultramarine.	
40	"	redish pink (*lie dev in*) on blue paper.	
40	"	solferino on blue paper.	
80	"	light pink.	

There is considerable difficulty in distinguishing between the *first* Athenian 1 lepton and 2 lepta and their Parisian prototypes. Perhaps it will be safe to say that the Athenian stamps are of a deeper shade, but even this is hardly a sure test. No similar difficulty occurs in respect of the third edition ; the coarseness of the two lowest values, and especially of the 1 lepton, is but too evident. Some of the latter are mere blotches, showing scarcely a trace of the framework and inscriptions.

Although the coarse impressions are all catalogued as forming a *third* edition, there can be no doubt that there have, in fact, been several *tirages*, each a little coarser than its predecessor. These gradations in inferiority might be remarked by an attentive observer, but it would serve no good purpose to crowd an overwhelming number of specimens by way of proof into an album. The successive workings have been accompanied with successive variations of shade. Thus we find the green 5 lepta in at least four shades ; the 10 lepta in five ; and the 40 lepta, the most changeable of all, in seven.

The design has remained unaltered in all its main points, but there is some room for the supposition which has been advanced, that the shading across the cheek and neck has been retouched and deepened. It is easy to perceive that the lines are much thicker and longer than on the Parisian edition, and they could not have been brought out by use, rather would they have been entirely effaced by wear and tear. Even the first Athenians show some difference from the Parisian series, and in the later impressions the face is fully whiskered.

The figures at the back are not always of precisely the same shade as the design itself. This may be specially remarked in respect of the 40 lepta, and would seem to indicate that the sheets are numbered at the back in advance, and that a surplus is sometimes left over. It may here also be appropriate to mention that there are two varieties of the figure at the back of the 5 lepta—a larger and a smaller.

The collection of the three editions, even by beginners, is to be recommended, although, perhaps, as an exception to the usual rule. The Parisian issue, or either of the Athenian issues alone, would very inadequately represent the Grecian emissions ; the differences in the execution are so great that, although they simply evidence the difference be-

tween Parisian and Athenian printing, and are for the most part accidental, they cannot in justice be passed over.

The unpaid letter stamps are of too recent a date to requre enumerating here, as they have been described and illustrated in the current volume.

Newly Issued Stamps.



United States.—W are indebted to the courtesy of the postmaster General for an early copy of the new postal card which we hasten to lay before our readers. It will be found to answer the description given of it some months ago.

Barbados.—Last month we did not have sufficient time or space to fully describe the new stamps for these islands. The new comers are of the same type as the old six pence and shilling and are of the following values :

4 pence, dark vermilion. 6 pence, orange. 1 shilling, purple.

The one penny has also changed somewhat in color, being printed in a brighter shade of blue than heretofore.

Spain.—Completing our list of these stamps from last month we add

50 centimos de peseta blue. 4 pesetas deep green.
1 peseta black. 10 " ultramarine.



Gold Coast.—We are indebted to Dr. Petrie for being the first to introduce the type of a new series of stamps issued for use in this distant colony of Great Britain The color of the single value we have seen is blue, value and design as engraved.

For the benefit of our young readers we might add that the Gold Coast is a part of the coast of Upper Guinea, W. Africa. It has a population of 408,070, and Cape Coast Castle for its capital. Two years ago it acquired considerable notoriety by the invasion of the Ashantees, who were however speedily repulsed by Sir Garnet Wolsey, who marched with 2000 men from Cape Coast Castle to Koomassie, and thus ended the war in two months.

Bavaria.—A new series of the same values and colors as the current German stamps is to be issued new year's day, 1876.

Portugal.—Has added a new value to its set, the design is the same as the rest of the series, the color and value is :

15 reis, brown.

British Guaina.—Different values of these stamps are now coming along surcharged, official in black or in case of the one cent in red.

Luxembourg.—Has also adopted the same method of manufacturing official stamps.

Canada.—Will issue a new stamp on the first of October. It is intended for the European postages under the International treaty. We have been unable to find out the color, the value we need scarcely add is 5 cents. The 30 cent announced some time ago turns out to be an error, no such value having been issued or contemplated.

The "Plimpton" Envelopes.

By C. H. C.

(*Continued from page* 126.)

It was my intention to have taken up the War and Post Office Department Envelopes this month, but having obtained many additions to my previous lists of Plimpton Envelopes of the series prepared for general use, I have decided to give these latter the preference.

To the list of

ENVELOPES FROM OBSOLETE DIES,

on page 122, must be added.

Two cents, Die B, on Dark Buff, Size No. 4, (Circular.)
" " " " " " " " " 6, (Circular.)
Three " " A, on Second quality of Cream, Size No. 7, (official.)

Next come the

OBSOLETE DENOMINATIONS,

viz. : 7, 12 & 24 cents. Cancelling my previous partial list, on page 125, I now substitute the following, which I believe to be nearly, if not quite complete :—

7 cents on *first* quality of amber. Full letter size.

12	" " first quality of white and amber	
12	" " second quality of cream,	Official size.
24	" " first quality of white and amber,	Official size.
24	" " second quality of cream,	Official size.
12	" " first quality of white and amber,	Extra official size.
24	" " first quality of white and amber,	Extra official size.

The following list of

OBSOLETE ENVELOPES, FROM CURRENT DIES.

also, supersedes the partial one on page 125. The Envelopes marked " (?) " probably exist. All others are in my possession.

SIZE.	DENOMINATION.	QUALITY.	COLOR.
No. 1. Note size.	3 cents.	Second.	Amber?
No. 2. Ordinary Letter size.	2 " (brown)	First.	White.
	"	"	Amber ?
	3 cents.	Third.	Amber ?
No. 3. FullLetter size.	6 "	First.	Amber *
	6 "	"	White.
	10 "	"	"
	10 "	"	Amber.
	6 "	Second.	Cream ?
	3 "	Third.	Amber ?
	6 "	"	" ?
No. 4. (Same.) Ungummed.	2 " (brown.)	——	Dark buff ?
No. 5. Extra Letter size.	6 cents.	Second.	Cream ?
	3 "	Third.	Amber ?
	6 "	"	" ?
No. 6. (Same.) Ungummed.	2 " (brown.)	——	Dark Buff ?

No. 7. Official size.	15 cents.	First.	Amber.
	15 "	"	White.
	30 "	"	"
	30 "	"	Amber.
	90 "	"	"
	90 "	"	White.
	15 "	Second.	Cream.
	30 "	"	"
	90 "	"	"
No. 8. Extra Official size.	6 "	First.	Amber
	15 "	"	"
	30 "	"	"
	90 "	"	"
No. 9. Wrapper.	2 " (Brown.)	——	Manilla.

I have obtained from official sources some interesting information regarding the chocolate colored envelopes (or "fawn colored" as the official term is) mentioned on page 125. This color was merely prepared as a trial lot on 2 and 3 cent envelopes of second quality of paper, and submitted to the Department for consideration. It was finally rejected, but, through some inadvertence, about 4000 or 5000 of the envelopes got into general circulation. As will be seen from the foregoing, the information given on page 125 was incorrect; but as it came through Mr. Scott from a semi-official source, I did not question it at the time. I may mention, however, that every other statement in the course of this article is made with the envelopes actually before me and can therefore be relied upon as strictly accurate.

I have recently found the current "Full Letter Size" (Nos. 3 and 4) with two styles of flap, one being considerably more rounded than the other. The manager of the Works says, "This is liable to occur any time we happen to break a knife, and results from the notion of the maker of the pattern. Neither of the two samples which you sent me, is of the exact form used now."

From this it would appear that a third knife exists which I have not yet seen. But on this point more anon.

Mr. Scott has pointed out to me a Sub Type of *Plimpton's Die A* of the One Cent Envelope. In the variety described on page 108 just the end of the lobe of the ear is visible, whereas in the sub-type this is lacking. The variety without any ear is found on Full Letter, ungummed (No. 4), the other on Extra Letter, ungummed, and on the Wrapper (Nos. 6 and 9.) Should I have further occasion to refer to these, I shall speak of them as "Type A," and "Type A (*variety.*("

The Postage Stamp History of the British Empire.

BY C. H. F.

What kind of a book is this? It must be an old collection of postage stamps. I wonder how long it has been lying hid away behind that shelf. Alas, there is no one left to give its history. The hands that so neatly arranged its now faded pages have long since turned to dust, (strange to think it may be some of this dust that now encumbers its covers); but perhaps it can give an account of itself, as it certainly can give the history of the nations who are herein represented by their postage stamps. How many of the countries represented have passed away, leaving little more than a postage stamp to mark their brief existence. 'Tis meet that their monument should be enclosed in his, which, written to mark the ownership of a stamp collection, has lasted longer than the marble one which was doubtless raised over his remains.

"*August 20th*, 1875.
Charles H. F——
Collection of
Foreign Postage Stamps."

Well his boyish pastime has provided abundant material for the study of many lettered men, but I am forgetting my study. Let's see what I can learn by looking through its pages.

One hundred and thirty-five stamps, each from a different country; but how is this, nearly one-third of them are embellished with the portrait of a woman, evidently the same in a great majority of cases, and most probably intended for the same in all, but the unskilled workmen who engraved the Indian, Mauritius, Prince Edward Island, and Victoria, have given a very different expression to the features of the British Queen, Victoria; for, without a doubt, this must be the personage depicted as we see exactly the same profile on the Straits Settlements and Columbia, which states on its face that it is British, and as it also includes "Vancouver's Island, this connects it with a stamp bearing a similar profile and labeled Vancouver's Island, this again is identified with Tasmania by bearing exactly the same likeness. In two cases, Jamaica and New South Wales, we find the royal crown replaced by a wreath of laurels. Were some great victories achieved in these places? or were the natives too strongly imbued with republican ideas to favor the symbol of royalty?

The more I learn by studying these interesting labels, the more I regret the ignorance of their designers, who have allowed such a splendid opportunity to hand down their history to posterity, to pass unimproved. For instance, I see by the Newfoundland stamp that the

beautiful girl depicted on the Natal label has lived and suffered like lesser folks, and is left a widow in her old age.

But can it be possible that a woman was queen of so enormous a territory? Let us see. First, there is that plain red stamp without any name, that must be the label used in the British Isles, probably it being considered that it was too well known to require a name. Then comes :

Antigua, an island in the Caribbean Sea,
Bahamas, a group of islands in the Atlantic Ocean,
Bermuda, an island in the Atlantic,
British Columbia, on our north-west boundaries,
Vancouver's Isle, in the North Pacific Ocean,
British Guiana, on the north coast of S. America,
British Honduras, on the east coast of Central America,
Canada, the northern part of North America,
Ceylon, an island on the east coast of India,
Dominica, an island in the Caribbean Sea,
Gambia, on the west coast of Africa,
Grenada, one of the Caribbean Isles,
Heligoland, an island in the North Sea, west of Holstein,
Hong-Kong, an island on the coast of China,
India, the southern part of Asia,
Ionian Isles, in the Mediterranean Sea, south of Greece,
Jamaica, an island in the Caribbean Sea,
Lagos, in Upper Guinea, Africa,
Malta, an island in the Mediterranean Sea, south of Italy,
Mauritius, an island in the Indian Ocean,
Natal, on the south-east coast of Africa,
Newfoundland, on the south of Labrador,
New Brunswick, province in British N. America, east of Maine,
New South Wales, on the east coast of Australia,
New Zealand, an Island in the South Pacific Ocean,
Nova Scotia, province in British N. A., south of New Brunswick.
Prince Edward Island, island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence,
Queensland, on the east coast of Australia,
Sierra Leone, on the west coast of Africa,
South Australia, between W. Australia and N. S. Wales,
St. Christopher, one of the Caribbean Isles,
St. Helena, an island on the west of Africa,
St. Lucia, one of the Caribbean Isles,
St. Vincent, one of the Caribbean Isles,
Straits Settlements, on the Strait of Malacca,
Tasmania, an island south of Australia,
Trinidad, an island on the north of Venezuela,

Turk's Island, one of the Bahama Isles,
Nevis, one of the Caribbean Isles,
Cape of Good Hope, southern extremity of Africa,
Western Australia,
Barbadoes, one of the Caribbean Isles,
Virgin Isles, in the Atlantic Ocean, east of Porto Rico.

These last five I cannot be sure formed part of the British Empire, but by the similarity of design, and the money and reading being in the same language as the others, it is very probable that they were included.

A careful examination will show that these countries were acquired on different terms ; some were undoubtedly conquered provinces, as we see the native characters still represented on the stamps, as in Ionian Islands and Hong-Kong, the latter, with Heligoland, would appear to be acquiring the language of the conquerors, as we see both languages on the stamp. Others, again, are evidently colonies, as, for instance, Queensland and Victoria, which were probably amongst the latest additions to the empire, and most likely named after the lady whose likeness they perpetuate.

By great good fortune I am able, by the aid of one solitary stamp, to determine the date when this great empire was in its greatest glory. In the corners of the British Guiana stamp we find the figures 1 8 6 0 which undoubtedly give the date of the Victorian era, but whether the beginning or the end I have no means of determining. Thanks to that little slip of paper from British Guiana, for she has completed the history with a date.

Notes on the United States Locals.

By C. H. C.

G. Carter's Despatch, (*Philadelpha.*)—See Vol. VIII., page 185.—I have recently come across this local on a letter dated November 9, 1850, which is about four months earlier than I have ever seen it before.

Metropolitan Errand and Carrier Express, (*New York City.*) See Vol. VIII. page 142 and Vol. IX. page 143.—I have also met an Envelope franked by the 1 cent stamp of this company and having an oval hand stamp reading A. M Hinckley & Co.'s Express, New York. The letter inside was dated February 4, 1856.

Brady & Co., (*New York.*)—See page 42 of the present Volume—I have before me one of the Brady & Co.'s labels (letter box type) on an envelope dated January 6, 1858. The adhesive is cancelled by a large handstamp, reading "Paid", and alongside is an oval handstamp "Brady & Co., City Despatch Post, 97 Duane St. ; all of which is

in complete accord with the information previously furnished by Mr. S. Allan Taylor.

Union Despatch. Horse's head in a centre on a white disk, enclosed in a circular band inscribed Union Despatch. Five Cents; the whole enclosed in a rectangular frame filled out solid, with figures 5 in corners. This stamp is generally only known by the counterfeit, but about four years ago I saw a specimen; which, while agreeing in general design with the foregoing, differs from it, inasmuch as the horse's head is on a background of almost invisible lines.

While I do not want to say that this stamp is genuine, it is evident that such a company existed, as I have several letters dated in 1846, bearing a small three lined handstamp impressed in blue and reading Union Post. H R. S., the initials being in italics.

Mr. Taylor also informs me that he remembers having seen in the year 1858, a deserted letter box at the lower end of 9th Avenue, in this City, with "Union Despatch" painted thereon.

Wells, Fargo & Co. The new paper label illustrated on page 158 of Vol. VIII., has recently been issued with regular perforations, making in all these varieties, viz.: unperforated, unlettered and perforated.

Broadway Post Office. I have an envelope bearing the handstamp; also, one of Swarts', showing that a contract probably existed at one time between these two concerns. Similar to which is referred to on page 111, of the last volume of the Journal as between the Broadway and Boyd.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The American Cyclopedia, Vol. xiii. New York. D. Appleton & Co.

This standard publication has, by its article on postage stamps, placed itself within the range of publications which can justly be reviewed in these pages.

The various articles in the Cyclopedia being each written by the acknowledged head in that particular branch of science treated upon. Of course we are not competent to offer a critical analysis of its contents, but may state that an almost daily reference to its pages has demonstrated its general accuracy and usefulness.

The article on postage stamps which more particularly claims our notice is not as full as we should have liked to see it, but as it is the first paper on the subject that has appeared in any of the great Cyclopedias we must be content, hoping the space may be doubled in future editions. The fine double-page plate of engravings gives a good idea of the various designs which have been employed for postal purposes The article will be found entire on another page.

The Coats of Arms of the World. New York. J. W. Scott & Co. This is a magnificent chart printed in gold and silver, and all the colors of the rainbow, and will be found very useful in determining the nationality of coins and stamps, but we believe it was prepared principally to supply the demand for a complete and artistically prepared set of arms of the world to insert in postage stamp albums, and we may add that it admirably fulfils its mission, adding greatly to the appearance of a set of stamps in either a prepared album or blank book.

Postage Stamps.

From the American Cyclopedia.

The system of prepaying postage by means of small adhesive labels, to be sold to the public and received by the post office in evidence of payment when attached to letters, was first advocated by Rowland Hill in 1837, and was adopted by the British post office in 1840, the stamps being first used on May 6th, of that year. They were introduced into the United States in 1847. The designs on postage stamps vary greatly with the time of issuing and the different nations that employ them. The first adhesive stamp issued by Great Britain consisted of a profile of the Queen, with the word "Postage" above and the value below; but this design was objected to by many governments on account of the seeming disloyalty of the blackening (in cancellation) of the portrait of their sovereign. Brazil, the second country which adopted the system, used a simple figure of value, rather large, which was eventually superseded by a portrait of the emperor. The various German States seem to have a preference for numerals of value surrounded by inscriptions, which were at first printed in black on colored paper; but this style of printing soon gave way to the more secure plan of printing with colored ink on white paper. Many countries have adopted the national arms as the principal design of their postage stamps, and most of the stamps printed in Europe are impressed on paper water-marked with some appropriate design as an additional protection against counterfeiting. The invention of the perforating machine in England, which enabled the stamps to be more readily separated from each other, was soon adopted universally. More varieties of postage stamps have been issued, and a greater number have been in use at one time, in the United States than in any other country. Thus the total number of varieties issued is 162 while 127 have been used at one time. Only 32 varieties have been issued by Great Britain, and 60 by France. Postage stamp collecting, or "philately," as it is now called, began as soon as stamps were in use in half a dozen countries, many volumes have been published on the subject, and several Periodicals are specially devoted to it.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVERY TAYLOR.

EUROPE.

Hamburg.

The stamps of the free city of Hamburg, though they cannot lay claim to any remarkable delicacy of execution, are distinguished by a pleasing quaintness of design, and when grouped together their varied colours show off to great advantage, rendering the page to which they are attached one of the most striking of those devoted to European countries. Another thing which, from a beginner's point of view, is very much in their favor, is that there are, properly speaking, no rarities among them. A novice, commencing his collection to-day, may, with a very small outlay of patience and cash, obtain the whole series, and no great exertions are needed to obtain an acquaintance with their particularities.

The first emission was brought out on the 1st January, 1859, and consisted of the following values :—

½	schilling,	black.	4	schilling,	green.
1	"	brown.	7	"	orange.
2	"	red.	9	"	yellow.
3	"	blue.			

The design consists of the numeral of value surcharged on the city arms (a castle with two turrets flanking a central and cross-crowned dome). The exceeding similarity between the stamps might lead to the supposition that all the values were produced from one original die, the numerals being cut over the arms. Such, however, is not the case. On comparing any two values together slight variations will become perceptible. Attention may be specially directed to the stars over the towers : they are of all shapes and sizes. It may also be noticed, incidentally, that the arabesque ornament in the left upper corner is modified according to the exigencies of the different inscriptions of value. In the ½ schilling it disappears altogether ; in the 7 schilling it is reduced to a trio of curves. As all these stamps were engraved on metal, the time employed in producing them must have been considerable. Possibly the expense of the initial series had something to do with the decision to employ lithography for the production of two new values which appeared in April, 1864. They were the



1¼ schilling lilac. 2½ schilling green.

The 2½ schilling differs from the 1¼ schilling in having the name HAMBURG in a horizontal instead of an arched label, and also in having a Maltese cross in each corner. In every other respect, it will be seen, the design of both is the same. The castle is smaller than on the engraved stamps, and the reduction in its size has enabled the draughtsman to favor us with an idea of the masonry by which it is supported.

Of the 1¼ sch. numerous color-varieties exist, which are, in fact, (the natural results of the choice of a color so extremely susceptible to change as lilac. A slight alteration in the proportions of the various ingredients used in its composition may frequently produce marked differences in tint. It may be affirmed that no two successive editions of a lilac, mauve, or violet stamp are of precisely the same shade) and the chances are that the second shows great divergence from the first. Such being the case no great attention can be claimed for the variations which are unintentionally, yet unavoidably, produced. Suffice it to say that the stamp was first issued in lilac, and that it exists in violet, in grey, in green, and (according to one authority) in blue.

All the foregoing stamps are watermarked with an undulating line easily perceptible when they are held up to the light. The 2½ schilling, it is true, exists, or is said to exist, unwatermarked; I have, however, never met with this variety, and it is only noted by one author.

In October, 1864, the ½ sch., 1 sch., 2 sch., 3 sch., 4 sch., 7 sch., and 9 schilling were issued perforated. No change in color then occurred, but most of the values were printed in rather paler shades. In 1865, the colour of the 7 schilling was altered to mauve, and the 3 schilling ultramarine—probably an accidental variety—appeared. At about the same time the 1¼ and 2½ schilling were perforated. The latter was issued in two tolerably distinct shades—dark green and yellow green. Since the suppression of the Hamburg office, unperforated copies of the 7 schilling mauve have appeared, and, though no postmarked specimens have been met with, the authenticity of this variety is generally admitted.

In 1866, contemporaneously with the emission of a series of envelopes, two new stamps, embossed like those on the envelopes, were issued. They were the 1¼ schilling deep lilac, and a new value, the 1½ schilling, carmine, both very effective impressions. The former is represented by the annexed engraving. The latter is of the same design minus the exterior rectangle and corner ornaments. In fact the type of the 1½ schilling is precisely that of the envelope stamps, and the perforations alone give it the appearance of a rectangle.



In the spring of 1867, the 2½ schilling green, issued in 1864, was rather unaccountably superseded by a stamp of the first type, of the same value. Possibly depreciation of

the lithographic stones may have been the cause, but the blurred lithographs were hardly rougher than the typographic impressions from the new die. The second 2½ schilling is but a seedy relation of the earlier values of the same type ; it is watermarked, however, like them, perforated, and owns to two distinct shades—yellow-green and blue-green, of which the former has now become relatively rare.

Had there been an embossed 2½ schilling envelope, no doubt the die would have been used when in 1867 a new adhesive of that value was called for ; but to have cut one specially to meet a temporary demand would have been inexpedient, and hence, so we may argue, the recourse to the 1859 design. Notwithstanding this reversion to the original type, however, it is permissible to suppose that had the Hamburg post-office continued in existence, a complete series of embossed adhesives would have been issued.

ENVELOPES.

A series of envelopes, prepared by the Berlin printing-office, was issued on the 5th April, 1866. The design adopted, was originally engraved for impression on two post-office order forms issued on the 1st January of the same year. The values of the latter were, respectively, 3 sch. blue, and 4 sch. green ; the colors are the same as those afterwards chosen for the envelopes of the same denominations, and perhaps, in strictness, these money-order stamps are collectable, inasmuch as they represented not only the cost of the order, bnt also the postage. However, leaving the hybrids to come up for judgment at some future time, let us examine the envelope stamps of which they were the prototypes.

The series consists of the following values and colors :—

½	schilling,	black.
1¼	"	violet.
1½	"	rose, crimson.
2	"	shades of orange-vermilion.
3	"	shades of ultramarine blue.
4	"	shades of yellow-green.
7	"	lilac.

They are a well-looking series ; the design is clearly cut, and the colors brilliant. Above the stamp is the ordinary diagonal inscription EIN HALBER (EIN U. EIN VIERTEL, &c., according to the new value), SCHILLING (or SCHILLINGE) POST COUVERT in black ink. *Schilling* be it observed, is the singular, and *schillinge* the plural. Now it happens that throughout the whole of the series the impressed stamp uniformly bears the word *schilling* in the singular, whatever may be the value, whilst the diagonal inscriptions on the envelopes of the 3 sch., 4 sch., and 7 sch. are in the plural. The 2 sch. envelope, however presents the anomaly of having the *schilling* in the singular throughout the inscription.

Hence it would seem, either that the envelopes of 2 schillings in their entirety, and the higher values, in as far as concerns the embossed stamps, are examples of grammatical errors, or that there is a looseness about the rule requiring the addition of a final e to the word which renders compliance with it immaterial.

There are no varieties in this series, other than those formed by the colors, as indicated by the above list, and they are simply accidental. Of differences in the tinting of the white paper, on which the impressions were struck, it is unnecessary to dwell, but the issue of four of the values on watermarked paper must not be passed over in silence, for they may be almost taken to form a new series, or at least a new edition. Their emission occurred in February, 1867. The values constituting the watermarked edition were struck in Hamburg, and issued in the following colors :—

½ schilling,	black.	
2 "	orange-vermilion,	various shades.
3 "	blue,	"
4 "	green,	"

The design of the watermark, which was of unusual dimensions, is the same as the stamp without the numeral. The envelopes which bear it are further distinguished by the fact that in the diagonal inscriptions, the word *schilling* is always in the singular, notwithstanding that the value may be in the plural. It only remains to add, that the 3 sch., although prepared for service, was never really issued, and at the end of the year in which the watermarked envelopes made their appearance, the Hamburg service and its stamps were suppressed.

It will be remarked that the intermediate values between the ½ sch. and the 2 sch. do not figure in the watermarked edition. The reason, as far as concerns the 1¼ sch , is that that value had been suppressed, aind in consequence of its short currency, the unwatermarked 1¼ schilling envelope has become rare. This has led to its being reprinted. The easiest way to distinguish the reprint from the original, is to examine the words *post-couvert* in the diagonal inscription ; in original copies these words are united by a line, in the reprints by a dot.

POST CARD.

The following was published in *The Philatelist* for February, 1871. " We are indebted to a correspondent for a description of a North German(presumably local for Hamburg) post card, as follows : size, 7½ inches by 4½ in. nearly ; very pale buff. Inscribed, NORD DEUTSCHES POST GEBIET CORRESPONDENZKARTE, &c. A rectangle in the right-hand upper corner contains the violet Hamburg adhesive without value, and the back of the card is ruled longitudinally with eleven fine dotted lines in grey." This is circumstantial enough, but I have never seen any such

a card myself, nor can I trace the slightest reference to it in any other journal.

ESSAYS, PROOFS, &c.

In the early days of stamp-collecting, frequent inquiries were made for a Hamburg "Interpostal" stamp, for which Lallier had allotted a space in his album. No such stamp, however, ever existed; but what appears to have been so christened by the careless French compiler, was an oblong impression, mentioned by Levrault as an essay, engraved in 1858, a year before the first emission, and containing the figure 1 in the centre on castle, SCHG. on each side, FR. STADT. HAMBURG above, and POSTMARKE beneath The essay, which I described in an article published in *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* in 1865, was printed on a delicate rose ground in black ink, on white paper.

"No end" of proofs of the ordinary adhesives exist, and they are of no real value, having been struck off to meet, or rather to create a demand. It is needless to catalogue either them or the "Instruction" stamps, similar to those of Bavaria, of which the use has already been explained.

Notes on the Franked Envelopes of the Letter Express Companies of the United States.

By C. H. C.

(*Continued from page* 132.)

HANDSTAMPS.

The great difficulty in collecting the handstamps issued by so many of the early companies, is to distinguish those used for making prepaid envelopes (like the handstruck envelopes of Finland), from those which were used merely as forwarding or advertising marks. While the former are clearly entitled to a place in collections, the latter (which form by far the larger number) are, in my opinion, not worth preserving, they being mere postmarks and nothing more.

In distinguishing between these two classes, it is necessary to consider the following points:

In the first place, it does not seem possible that the handstamps which are *dated* can have been used for the purpose of making prepaid envelopes, for the reason that a common design would naturally have been employed by all the offices of any one company. Furthermore, each office could not, under any circumstances, have been under the necessity of striking off a fresh supply every day, and if (as might otherwise have been the case) the supply was intended for use till exhausted, why should it bear any given date? If this does not seem reason enough for their rejection, we find instances where the companies having subse-

quently issued printed franks, used the same handstamps for mere cancelling marks. Now, if they (the handstamps) had any franking power in themselves, certainly they and the printed designs would not both appear on the same envelope.

Then again, there are many cases where we meet with two handstamps of the same express, each from different towns, on the same envelope. If *each* possessed franking powers, why impress *both*. Clearly they had no such quality.

On many of these envelopes we find separate handstamps reading "*Paid*," or "*Not Paid*." We might think the former of some significance, were it not for the fact that the "*Paid*" is generally so carelessly struck (sometimes in one place and sometimes in another, and occasionally *upside down*) as to satisfy me that it was not impressed until *after* the letter was posted.

Such stamps as read "*Forwarded by*," "*From*" &c., are evidently intended merely to indicate that the companies named were the forwarders.

It is not at all likely that any Western Express Companies issued prepaid letter sheets, so that handstamps found impressed on *sheets of paper* ought to be rejected.

As to such handstamps as are not included in any of the foregoing divisions, no rules for determining their character can be laid down ; but there are of course many circumstances connected with each, which collectors must take into consideration in forming their opinions.

In the following list, the handstamps will be indicated as under :—

(*a*) Undoubtedly used as franks
(*b*) Probably used as franks.
(*c*) Undoubtedly *not* used as franks.
(*d*) Probably *not* used as franks.
(*e*) Unable to form an opinion.

LIST.

(*c*) ADAMS & Co., (various).

(*c*) J. BAMBER & Co.'s EXPRESS. (SAN FRANCISCO.) Large circular dated handstamp. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

(*b*) J. BAMBER & Co 's CONTRA COSTA EXPRESS. Large oval.
L. U. C. Black on 3c. buff, 1853.

(*b*) Same. SAN FRANCISCO.
L. U. C. Black on ordinary buff env.

(*c*) BERFORD & Co.'s CALIFORNIA EXPRESS. Oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

(*e*) T. W. BLAKE & Co.

(*c*) BROWN'S EXPRESS. MURPHEY'S. Oval, on ordinary envelopes.

(*c*) BYAM'S EXPRESS. FIDDLETOWN. Oval, on ordinary envelopes.

d CITY EXPRESS. G. & H., 423 WASH'N ST., S. E. CORNER SANSOME ST. Oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

c CITY LETTER DELIVERY. S. E. CORNER WASHINGTON AND SANSOME. Scalloped oval. Plain yellow envelopes.

c CITY LETTER EXPRESS. Oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

d CRAM, ROGERS & Co., (Yreka, Weaverville.) Oval Stamp, ordinary envelopes.

CHEROKEE EXPRESS. PAID. Oval, Block type.

Blue on 3 c. white, 1864.

c CENTRAL OVERLAND CALIFORNIA AND PIKE'S PEAK EXPRESS. Oval ; two types (dated and not dated.)

Blue on 10c. 1853 and 1857 respectively.

c DOHERTY & MARTIN.

c DODGE & Co., CALIFORNIA EXPRESS. Blue, Shield shaped. Adhesive of 1851.

c FREEMAN'S & Co.'s EXPRESS, COLUMBIA. Oval. Black on ordinary envelopes.

c FREEMAN'S & Co.'s CALIFORNIA, ATLANTIC STATES AND EUROPEAN EXPRESS. Black oblong on ordinary envelopes.

e J. B. FORD'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN EXPRESS. PAID. Double scroll.—on white envelopes.

e FOX'S EXPRESS. SANTA CRUZ. Oval. Struck in blue and in black on ordinary envelopes.

e CHESTER P. FOX'S HALF MOON BAY AND S. F. EXPRESS. Oblong. Red on plain yellow envelopes.

c GREGORY. Various, about seven varieties in all.

d GREATHOUSE & SLICER. Octangular oblong. Blue, black on 3 cents buff, 1853.

e WM. T. GIBB'S EXPRESS. PAID. In one line of open printing. On 3c. buff, 1853.

e Same. Oval. Black on ordinary envelopes with 3 c. 1851 adhesive.

e HENDERSON & Co., COAST EXPRESS. Block letters. Blue impression on 3 c. white, 1853.

c HUNTER & Co. (Various.)

c HALL & ALLEN'S EXPRESS. DUTCH FLAT. Oval. Black on ordinary buff envelopes.

e LELAND & MCCOMB'S SAN JOSEPH EXPRESS. Oval.—on 3 c. buff, 1853.

e LELAND'S SAN JOSEPH EXPRESS. Circular.—on ordinary envelopes.

c LANGTON & Co. (Various.)

e MUMBY & Co. Oval on ordinary envelopes.

e MANN & Co.'s EXPRESS. OROVILLE. Fancy Oval. Black on ordinary envelopes.

e OROVILLE & SUSANVILLE EXPRESS. Black lettering in oval. PAID, inside. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

e OREGON & CALIFORNIA R. R. EXPRESS. Circular. Blue on 3 c. amber, cream 1870.

c PACIFIC EXPRESS CO. SAN FRANCISCO. PAID.

Large transv. oval.

L. U. C. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853. (Also, bears the regular *dated* handstamp.)

d PETERSON'S LOWER CALIFORNIA EXPRESS. Circular. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

a PRINDLE'S EXPRESS FROM YREKA TO SCOTT & KLAMATH RIVERS. Double lined oval.

Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

e PALMER & Co. Black impression in small oval. Ordinary envelopes.

c PONY EXPRESS. SAN FRANCISCO. Pony in oval.

Red on ordinary envelopes.

Blue on 10 c. 1853.

d RHODES & LUSK'S EXPRESS. YREKA. Oval. (2 types.)

Black on ordinary envelopes.

d RHODES & WHITNEY. YREKA. Oval. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1853.

c REYNOLDS & Co.'s EXPRESS.

c REYNOLDS, TODD & Co. Oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

e RETICKER'S PONEY EXPRESS. Three lines on block lettering, on 3c. 1870.

e ROBINSON & Co.'s CITY DELIVERY. Small oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.

e F. RUMRILL & Co.'s EXPRESS. RABBIT CREEK. Oval. Blue on 3 c. buff, 1853

e ROWE & Co.'s. WEAVERVILLE. Oval. Black on 3 c. buff, 1853.

SAN FRANCISCO CITY LETTER EXPRESS, in two lines. Oval. (Outline not unlike Fargo & Co., California and Coast Routes.)

T. Black on white envelope.

" Blue on yellow env., with frame for marking time of receipt of letter across end.

a SAN FRANCISCO LETTER EXPRESS. Rect. obl. Blue on ordinary buff envelope.

a SAN FRANCISCO LETTER EXPRESS. Horseman riding to left. Blue on various ordinary envelopes.

(This handstamp was afterwards used for cancelling purposes.)

e STONER & SCOTTS. 50 c., in 4 lines of block lettering. Black on 3 c. buff, 1861.

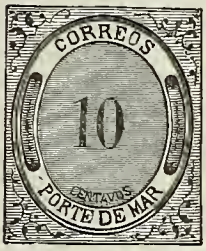
c TODD & Co. (also "TODD's." Upright rectangle. Blue on plain envelopes.

c. do. Oval. Blue on ordinary envelopes.
e. THOMPSON & Co, (Have never seen.)
c WELLS, FARGO & Co. (Various.)
e. WHITNEY & Co. FEATHER RIVER EXPRESS. Oval. Black on 3 c. 1861.

I have decided not to take up the Department Envelopes until my list of those prepared for public use is completed.

To be continued.

Newly Issued Stamps.



MEXICO. Some weeks ago we received a few stamps of the annexed design, but from their appearance concluded that they were the concoction of some knave, who had taken advantage of the rumor of a new issue being contemplated, to float bogus stamps on the market, we are glad to find that our suspicions were unfounded, and that the annexed cut represents a veritable issue for Mexico, and we should advise collectors to obtain the set at their earliest opportunity, as from their primitive design we think it is very likely, that the set is only provisional. The inscription "CORREOS PORTE DE MAR" signifies, postage for sea carriage, so we should conclude their use is supplementary to the other set now in use. The following values have been seen 10, 20, 25, 50 and 100 centavos, all printed in black.

FINLAND. We have seen two more values of the new set, a 2 p. which turns out to be slate, and an 8 p. green.

GOLD COAST. Two more values of the stamps of this colony have been noted; 4 pence mauve and 6 pence orange.

CANADA. The 5c. stamp announced in our last has now come to hand, and it turns out to be the identical one engraved in 1868, and described in the June number of the journal for that year.

We are inclined to think that the old die has been utilized to print off a supply, whilst a new plate is in preparation, for it scarcely seems probable, that the authorities would employ the large design for this popular value, after reducing the size of the others of the series. The color is dark olive green.

BOLIVIA. A set of postage stamps is in preparation for this country, the design will be similar to the current set.

UNITED STATES. We are informed that an 8c. postage stamp, is being engraved, but are inclined to think that the reported stamp is one of the new set of proprietary stamps.

PORTUGUESE INDIES. Some time ago a number of bogus stamps,

purporting to represent a new value 15 reis for use in these colonie - tensively circulated throughout the country, have been by a streak of good fortune which occasionally comes to the help of criminals, the government of the Portuguese Indies, shortly afterwards prepared a stamp of this value, (as we are informed by M. Moens whose statement we do not question), but unfortunately for the concoctor of the bogus stamps, the color selected is carmine while he had printed his in green.

This will enable our young friends to distinguish between the genuine and the false, unless the manufacturer changes the color of his to that of the genuine stamps, which in the light of present developements, he is not likely to do. The Editor of the Philatelist has got his ideas considerably mixed up in regard to these stamps, but as he often credits other papers with information they have taken from his own. it is not to be wondered at.

The History of Spain, as Illustrated by her Postage Stamps.

BY

PHI BETA KAPPA.

It is often remarked by those who seek to justify their favorite pass time, that stamps teach history. Stamp-collecting is reported to have had its origiu in the school-room, and the blank pages of a school-boy's atlas were the embryo from which have sprung the magnificent album-of modern philatelists. But when we come to examine the assertion more closely, we find that it is not strictly true that stamps *teach* history. Take for example the stamps of Spain. A person wholly unlettered could not tell from an examination of the Spanish pages of an album, to what country the stamps belonged,* and, just in the same manner, a person without any previous historical knowledge, could not read the history of Spain in her postage stamps. To such an observer, the change in type from the head of the sovereign to the national arms, might indicate a revolution as well in 1854 as in 1873 ; the change from the head of a woman to that of a man would point as much to the legitimate succession of monarchs as to a change in dynasty. Amadeus' portrait might be that of Alfonso, for all that the stamps show to the contrary. Stamps then do not, in the ordinary sense of the word, *teach* history. If we were dependent solely on them for our historical knowledge, we should often be led into error. But if we presuppose in the observer an ordinary amount of general information, we can see at once the benefit to be derived from their study. To such a man the different issues make up a chronological table, and are a valuable aid to the memory in recalling the various changes which form part of the

* Our author forgets that the name "Espana" is to be found in several issues. Ed

history of a nation. Indeed, so natural does it at length become to a philatelist to consider postage-stamps as following in their issues the changes in a country's history, that his first thought on hearing of any political disturbance is, not what effect it will have on the balance of power in Europe, but, what change will be made in the stamps.

There is another way in which stamps aid in the study of history. A true philatelist is not content with the mere acquirement of stamps, he studies them. He becomes unconsciously interested in the personages represented, and is induced to inform himself about their lives. And, in the same way, the examination of the national arms leads back to the earlier history of a country, and the various quarterings show the changes in dynasty or the acquirement of new territory.

Again, by the study of the component parts of the postage-stamps, we can get an idea of a country's progress. The improvement in engraving and design in the successive issues is an exponent of the state of art in the country. The adoption of a poor design, when a better might be had by paying for it, gives us an insight into the principles in which other weightier affairs are managed by the same administration. The tardiness of the government in adopting modern improvements, such as perforation or post-cards, might lead us to suspect it behind the age in other matters also.

To sum up then, we have the three following propositions:

I.—Stamps do not teach history, but they exemplify it. They cannot supply the want of knowledge, but they can supplement and illustrate ordinary information.

II.—The acquirement of stamps leads an intelligent observer to enquire into the history of the personages represented, and into the meaning of the various emblems employed.

III.—The component parts of the postage stamps of any country, are, by their different stages of advancement or retardation, exponents of the character of the government by which they are issued.

I propose now to take up each of these propositions separately, and to show how much of the history of Spain we can learn by the study I. of the Issue, II. of the Designs, III. of the Details.

I. STUDY OF THE ISSUES. The various issues of Spanish Postage Stamps, from their first use in 1850, down to the year 1868, exemplify, by the repeated succession of Queen's heads, the long reign of Isabella II. [1] Almost every year during that time, philatelists were wont to receive visible proofs of her continued sovereignty. But at last, more perhaps to the relief of stamp-collectors than of the natives of the country, there comes a change. The succeeding issue bears on its face the mark of a revolution. The stamp marked "Habilitado por la junta revolucionaria" reminds us at once of the serious

1. There is only one exception to this in the issue of 1854, which bears the national arms.

nature of the proceedings, which reached their climax in the expulsion of the Queen. But even this stamp, although coming from the capital city of the country, might be but the index of a casual disturbance, were it not followed at once by the series which bear the mark: "Habilitado por la Nacion." A single glance at these calls to mind the actual occurrences. They show that the revolutions of cities and the uprisings of provinces have culminated in a government which represents the Spanish nation. They show at the same time that that government is only provisional, while the presence of the Queen's head beneath the overshadowing mark reminds us that Isabella has not yet formally abdicated And may not this last fact also show that there is an undercurrent of feeling in her favor, which, although almost completely obliterated now, will one day reappear ? Looking at it in the light of recent events we may be almost tempted to say that it does.

The remaining issues, following each other in quick succession, have each a story of their own. The issue of 1870, bearing the head of Spain, calls to our minds that the government, provisional though it was, lasted for two years. We remember the almost comic search for a king, which led to results so serious for the neighboring nation of France; and we see in the emblem of Spain, the goal for which strove some at least of those patriots who stood so firmly by the constitution they had framed.

The next issue bears the head of Amadeus. We can hardly look at it without a feeling of admiration and respect for the person it represents. We remember, first, his acceptance of the crown, an acceptance conditional upon the ratification of the Cortes and the acknowledgement of foreign powers. Then we call to mind his conciliatory addresses to the nations whose respect he solicited, and to the Pope who was opposed to his elevation. We remember, too, his earnest endeavors to understand and sympathize with the countrymen of his adoption, and finally his firm resolve not to impose himself upon the Spanish people against their will, a resolve which ultimately led to his abdication.

The allegorical figure of Spain in the next issue marks the establishment of the republic, and its continued stability is negatively indicated by the fact that the next succeeding issue was not caused by any change in the form of government. The sword, depicted on this latter issue, may perhaps be a symbol of the divided state of the country. It is during the employment of these stamps that we come upon another which gives us an insight into the troubles which afflict unhappy Spain. A war tax stamp presupposes a war, and we remember at once the Carlist rebellion. From this we are led on to the various issues of Don Carlos himself. These show us, by their several designs,

the alternate success or misfortune of his cause. The crude yet bold design of the first issue is an emblem of his rash enterprise, and the laureled head on the second typifies his occasional victories. The inspiring inscription "Dios, Patria, Rey," found on the third issue, points out the ostensible motive for the conflict, while the purpose for which the stamps are actually employed, [2] shows the guerilla nature of the warfare carried on. The last issue of stamps, those with the head of Alfonso, can tell us but little of the country's history. The history and stamps are both in process of formation, and however much we may expect, both of the youthful king and of his promised stamps, we can only safely assert, that the designs of both are as yet scarcely known.

II. STUDY OF THE DESIGNS. The designs of Spanish postage stamps present but two different features They show either the head of the sovereign or the national arms.[3] I said in opening that an intelligent observer is led to study the history of the persons represented on the postage stamps. I do not propose however to give in this journal the biographies either of Isabella [4] or Amadeus, of Alfonso or Don Carlos Such biographies could at best be only meagre extracts from the Cyclopedia, or puzzling tables of family successions. To the Cyclopedias then I refer the ignorant and curious, and turn with more pleasure to the national arms.

Those stamps of Spain which bear the national arms are found in the issues of 1854, 1873, and 1874, of the regular series, the officials of 1854 and 1855, the war tax stamps, and the various frank stamps used by the Cortes and certain of the higher functionaries. Were we to collate these and place them in their order of issue, we might illustrate, by their means also, the changes in Spanish history. This however would be a needless repetition. I intend therefore only to give a short description of the arms of Spain, as drawn on the stamps issued during the reign of Isabella, and then to show the meaning of the various changes, which were made in these arms by the governments which followed hers. The arms, as shown on the series of 1854 are emblazoned on a shield divided into four quarters. The first and fourth quarters contain a castle, the arms of Castile, the second and third a lion, the arms of Leon At the base of the shield, between the third and fourth quarters, is a small triangular space, containing a pomegranate, the emblem of Granada. In the centre of the shield is a small oval, containing three lilies, the emblem of the Bourbon family. These lilies reappear in all the stamps issued by Isabella, and will probably bloom again, should any arm-bearing stamps be issued by her

2. See S. C. M.

3. The design of some of the newspaper stamps, however, consists of a large figure of value.

4. For a review of the reign of Isabella, see S. C. M., III. 138.

son.[5] Encircling the shield is current the collar of the Golden Fleece, and the whole is surmounted by a royal crown.

A frank stamp in use during this reign shows a shield differing in some respects from the one described. The first and second quarters show as before, the arms of Castile and Leon, and the pomegranate of Granada is still visible below, but the third and fourth quarters are occupied by the arms of Navarre and Arragon respectively. The shield contains in the centre, as before, the oval bearing the lilies of Bourbon.

These arms continued in use until the fall of Isabella. In the hurry and confusion of the first disturbance, the same stamps were still retained, but in the year 1870, the provisional government issued, for home use, a stamp bearing the head of Spain; and in 1871, for use in the colonies, a stamp representing a woman, seated, and resting on a shield bearing the national arms. With respect to these stamps, we cannot do better than quote a portion of a letter, written to the Stamp Collector's Magazine[6] in 1871, by an eminent Spanish philatelist.

"Shortly after the fall of Isabella II., and the Revolution of 1868, the provisional government consulted the Academy of History—one of the most respectable literary and scientific corporations in Spain—upon the choice of an allegorical representation of the country. A commission, appointed by the Academy, proposed, (and their proposition was approved by the government,) that the symbol of Spain should be a figure, similar to that which is depicted on the Emperor Adrian's medals, that is to say, a matron, seated, with an olive branch in her right hand and a crown on her head, in token of the national sovereignty. This figure is represented in full length on the Spanish impressed revenue stamps, as also on the lately emitted Cuban postage stamps."

The shield on which the figure of Spain rests her arm, contains, as in the frank stamp described above the arms of the five provinces—Castile, Leon, Navarre, Arragon, and Granada. The lilies are however conspicuous by their absence. These arms, as is said above, were used by the Provisional Government on the coins and revenue stamps but were not depicted on the postage stamps until the establishment of the republic in 1873. During the reign of Amadeus, several of the frank stamps bore, in the centre of the shield, an oval on which the lilies were replaced by the cross of Savoy. The 10 cent newspaper stamp of 1874, as well as the war tax stamps, contain the arms as adopted by the republic, surmounted by a mural crown. The series representing the figure of Justice have not, I believe, any national sig-

5. The fleur-de-lis of the Bourbon family will be noticed at the sides of the stamps of the aunt issue. Ed.

6. See S. C. M. IX 64.

nification, but were copied from an old type in use in the Philippine Islands.

We see then that we can find in the arm-bearing stamps, the symbols of the various Spanish Governments. The presence of the lilies indicates the reign of the Bourbons ; their absence, the establishment of the provisional government. The cross of Savoy is a type of the reign of Amadeus, and its absence, again, marks the era of the Republic.

III. STUDY OF THE DETAILS. In looking at the Spanish stamps from an artistic point of view, we find no occasion for complimenting the native engravers. The designs are, as a rule, ugly. Among the earlier issues the only one worthy of remark is the arms series of 1854, while in later years, the issue of 1867, which is a copy of the stamps of Italy, and the post cards, which reproduce a Belgian type in itself hardly tolerable, do not give a high estimate of native talent. It is true that many of the designs are pleasing and doubtless better results would have been attained if the ingenuity of the engravers had not been taxed by the call for a new series every year. The engraving of all the stamps was so poor that forgeries were extremely rife, and the government, instead of adopting the plan followed by other countries, of obtaining designs so finely engraved as to make the expense of forging them too great, had recourse instead to the shiftless and without doubt expensive plan of withdrawing a stamp and issuing a new one as soon as a forgery was discovered. The only precaution ever taken against forgery is found in the water-marked series of 1855 and 1856 and even that was counterfeited after a time. With regard to the colors of the different stamps, we find them with one or two exceptions, well chosen ; and the paper, particularly of the earlier issues, is remarkably good.

If we look now at the legends on the various issues, we see from the date 1850, on the first series, that Spain was ten years behindhand in adopting the great postal innovation. She was, in reality, the seventh country in Europe to make use of postage stamps. The values adopted for the several stamps are not too high, and in one instance, the one cuarto[7] of Madrid, it is extremely low. In the issue of 1866, we find the first attempt at a decimal currency. This change is due to a treaty made in 1865, between Spain and several other European countries. The introduction of low rates for newspaper stamps, accomplished in 1867, and marked by the word "Impresos" on the stamps, shows advantageously for Spanish education, but even this change was made long after it had been adopted for other countries. Finally the introduction of post-cards, to which the government was driven by the sarcasm and ridicule of a private citizen, and which was accom-

7 The real is worth about five cents, the cuarto, a little over half a cent.

plished five years after their first use in Austria, (a country itself somewhat behind the age) shows a great want of respect for public convenience, and of alacrity in adopting useful innovations

I have now completed, however poorly, the task which I set to myself, and shall deem myself happy if I have shown how to gather instruction and recreation from the pages of a stamp album.

Correspondence.

——Esq. New York, Sept. 1875

Sir—Having been invited by the Philadelphia Centennial Commission to exhibit my collection of postage stamps and stamped envelopes, next year. I have concluded it would be a very interesting feature of the collection to include specimens of our match and medicine stamps. which vary so much in design—some beautiful, some otherwise. No other country on the globe, I believe, possesses specimens of private proprietary stamps, and a fine collection of these, exhibited at Philadelphia, would attract considerable attention. I take the liberty, therefore, of asking you to send me specimens of your stamps, and if possible, the *proof* impressions of each value, the design of which, is, I believe very beautiful.

I think an article on the system of proprietary stamps would be readily accepted by any of our leading magazines—Scribner's or Harper's—and I would prepare one if I had sufficient facts and specimens for the purpose of illustration. Send date of 1st issue.

Hoping you will not consider my request improper.

I remain Yours Respectfully,

JOSEPH J. CASEY.

Founder of the National Philatelic Society.

New York, Oct. 9, 1875.

A. T. Goshorn Esq. Director General.

U. S. Centennial Comm'n Philad'a.

Dear Sir:—It having come to my notice that Mr. Joseph J. Casey of this city is soliciting valuable postage or revenue stamps, stating that he has been invited by the Philadelphia Centennial Commission to exhibit collections of stamps and stamped envelopes at the forthcoming exhibition, I now write to ask if such is the case, and whether he has engaged space for that purpose.

Of course there are many persons who would be glad to aid in the formation of such a collection for the purpose of an exhibition, provided they are sure that the stamps are really being collected by the party named for that object.

Soliciting an early reply

I am Respectfully yours,

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Offices of the DIRECTOR GENERAL. 1876. United States Centennial commission.

Philadelphia Oct, 11, 1875.

——Esq., New York City.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 9th, inst, is received. Mr. Joseph J. Casey has no connection whatever with this Commission, and has no authority to make a collection of stamps, and stamped envelopes for the exhibition.

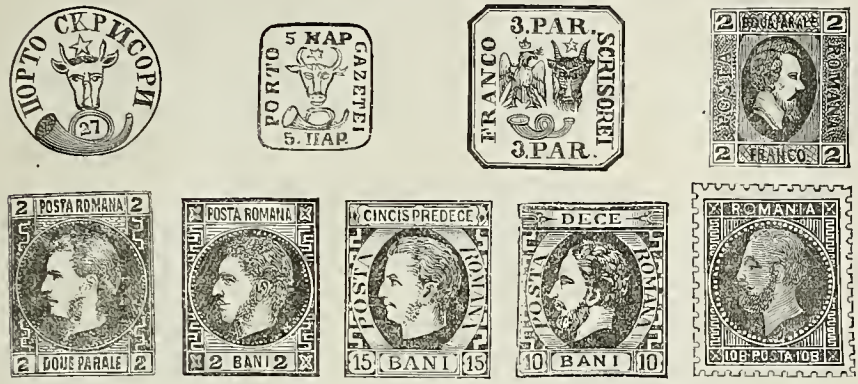
Yours very respct'y, (signed) A. T. Goshorn.

Director General

NOTE—We can vouch for the authenticity of the above interesting batch of letters that have been handed to us for publication, the originals of which can be seen at our office. In regard to the false pretenses by which valuable stamps have been obtained from several druggists. the law officers of the city will probably have something to say, but the ignorance of the founder of the National Philatelic Society in regard to proprietary stamps will astonish some, whilst the curious fact that the society has not elected its founder to any office will be noted by all. ED.

History as told by Postage Stamps.

No. 111.



This month we place before our readers illustrations of the various postage stamps which have been used in Roumania, they vividly call to mind the various changes which have taken place in this principality, since the adoption of Sir Rowland Hill's plan of prepaying postage, and offer a plain text from which to give the last twenty year's history of the country. We offer our usual prize of five dollars worth of foreign postage stamps, for the best article on the subject and invite competition.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of several papers on the history of Spain, and being in some doubts as to which the prize is entitled, we have concluded to publish the two best, each of which has merits of its own, we shall award the same prize to each. An article from T. M. A., contains some very good ideas, but it requires rewriting; we should advise our young friend to try again. The other papers do not call for any special mention.

Good News for Collectors.

A NEST OF COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.

For some time past numerous well executed counterfeits of the stamps of Iceland, Japan, La Guira, &c., have found their way into the stocks of retailers and the albums of collectors; we had but little difficulty in tracing all these frauds to Philadelphia, or Camden, N. J., and soon found out that they were being systematically distributed by a well organized gang of scoundrels, who at length became so bold, that the government determined to prosecute them under the act confirmed June 8th, 1872. Sec. 179. "That any person who shall forge or counterfeit postage stamps of any foreign government, shall be deemed

guilty of felony, and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment of not less than two, nor more than ten years, at the discretion of the court."

This it seems they considered more satisfactory, than trying them under the state laws for obtaining money under false pretenses.

This action is taken none too soon, for undoubtedly the various foreign governments have already been heavy loosers by the large number of counterfeits circulated. Every large dealer sells quantities of unused stamps to merchants and others, purchasing books and other small articles abroad, or desiring information from foreign countries, for which they buy the stamps of the nation written to, for enclosure in their letters to prepay the replies, &c, but of course the indirect loss is much more serious. Take Iceland for instance, the government of this island must sell at least a thousand dollars worth of stamps a year for collections to American dealers, a *successful* counterfeit would cut off this source of profit immediately, and a thousand a year to a country like Iceland is quite an object, especially in the present suffering condition of the inhabitants. But the harm wrought by the selling of counterfeit foreign stamps cannot be estimated in dollars and cents, it reaches much deeper than the pocket, it is sapping the foundation of rectitude in the minds of our boys, it is training them to be thieves and forgers, for many youths buy these imitation stamps knowing them to be such, for the purpose of swindling their schoolmates, thus entering on the path which can only end in ruin. We understand by the annexed paragraph taken from the Philadelphia Times, that the parties arrested do not deny their crime, but trust to the intricacy and chances of the law to escape punishment. Fortunately for their victims, they have carried on their nefarious business on both sides of the river, so if they escape justice in Philadelphia where they have been arrested, they will certainly get their just dues in New Jersey. We have no desire to prejudge the case, or to add anything to the fearful load which must oppress the parties implicated, but hope their suffering may serve as a warning to all who are engaged in this illegal traffic.

FOREIGN STAMPS OF DOMESTIC MAKE.

The collection of foreign and domestic postage stamps has of late years assumed considerable proportions. Boys of all ages and sizes can daily be seen haunting the Post Office and the offices of foreign shipping merchants, pleading with longing eyes for the coveted rarities. When uncanceled, however, t e connoisseur values them the more highly. To such an extent ha s the mania extended that certain individuals have found it profitable of late to manufacture counterfeit postage stamps of all nations, for the sole purpose of disposing of them to the collectors, or to the stores where they are vended Consequently the books of collectors are frequently filled with these spurious imitations of postage rarities. Before United States Commissioner Smith yesterday John A Wilson, Carlo Covini, Giovani Petroni and James Davison were charged with printing and selling counterfeit postage stamps. They were captured yesterday, and with them a number of lithographic stones for imprinting stamps of Nicaragua Greece, Guiana, Baden, Angola, Canada, Hanover, Argentine Republic, Roumania, Japan, and Austria. Samuel W. Heins testified that he had purchased counterfeit foreign stamps of Pe-

troni at his office, 135 South Fifth street. Charles B. Barry, special agent of the Post Office Department, testified that he found the stones, a perforating machine, a printing press, etc., at Petroni's residence, No 2003 North Fourth street. Petroni said he did not know he was violating the law, and if he was it was under improper advice from counsel. He saw James Davidson working the press. John Fry, special agent of the Post Office Department, saw Covini folding circulars at No. 135 South Fifth street. He visited Wilson's place, No. 513 Vine street, and found a number of counterfeit foreign stamps. Mr. Heins being recalled, said he had bought packages of stamps of Wilson, who said that some of them were imitations. Covini was discharged; Petroni and Wilson were placed under $2,500 bail each, and Davidson under $1,000 bail.—*Philadelphia Times.*

Revenue Stamp Department.

EDITED BY W. L. BROWN.

UNITED STATES.

We open this department with an account of some newly issued proprietary stamps, both a regular documentary set, and quite a number to be added to the already large congregation of private proprietary stamps. In the former, we have before us the forerunners of a new issue. We have, thus far been able to find only the one cent and two cent stamps, the higher values, it is presumed, will make their appearance as soon as the supply of the past issue is exhausted. The description of the one cent is as follows: Profile of Washington on ground of geometric lathe-work to left in oval. At the left "U. S. Inter. Rev." at the right "Proprietary." Value in numerals in the upper corners, and in words below. Colored impression on green tinted paper, perforated. The two cents differs only in showing the value below in a straight line (whereas in the one cent it is in a waved scroll), and a slight difference in ornamentation.

1 cent. Green.
2 cents. Brown.

It is rumored that an eight cents is in preparation, and that the fifty cents, one dollar and five dollars are to be changed to the new type, as likewise the two cent check stamp.

Among the private proprietary stamps there are quite a number of new ones to describe. First to mention are the

MATCH STAMPS.

B. Bendel & Co., have issued a pair of remarkably fine stamps. The designs of both are quite similar. The larger one in size and value, namely 12 cents, reminds one of the San Francisco Match Co.'s stamps, from which the conception is undoubtedly taken, the size being exactly the same. The design is a maltese cross containing a torch and inscription "B. Bendel and Co." in a circle inscribed, "The Empire Matches" and address, numeral of value in upper corners; "Twelve Cents" in lower left and right hand ones respectively, "U. S." in monogram at each side of centre, "U. S. Internal Revenue" in scroll above,

"1200 matches" below. Perforated as usual, no newly-issued proprietary stamps being unperforated unless by accident.

12 cents. Brown.

The smaller value likewise has the maltese cross in a circle inscribed "B. Bendel and Co. Empire Match Factory." "U. S. Internal Rev." above, value below, size of the ordinary rectangle.

1 cent. Brown.

The firm of Boutell and Maynard has adopted as a central idea, what appears to be a tin canister labeled "Boutell and Maynard, Matches." Above appears "U. S. Internal Rev." and below, the word "Proprietary." Value in numerals and in words at each side.

1 cent. Black.

The head of Washington as figured on the 90c., U. S. postage stamp issue of 1851, is reproduced in the newly-issued match stamp of the Washington Match Co., making a very striking addition to the long list of the emissions of the immortal Lucifer. Name above, value and the customary "U. S. Inter. Rev." below.

1 cent. Black.

The scarce Excelsior Match Co., has altered its address from "Waterown" N. Y." to "Syracuse N. Y." otherwise no difference.

1 cent. Black.

A curiosity among match stamps has just been brought to view, which is one with the full address including the number of the street. It is the stamp of "H. and W. Roeber," with name changed to "William Roeber" and address below 528 W. 50 st. N. Y."

1 cent. Blue.

Another new emission has also just appeared. A crown in circle inscribed "Crown Matches." The initial "D." is found under the crown, though what it stands for is more than we can find out.

1 cent. Black.

And still they come. This time it is the stamp formerly belonging to the firm of Cramer & Kemp. Their business having been sold to Mr. John Loehr, we find accordingly this gentleman's name substituted for the former firm.

1 cent. Light Blue.

Proceeding to the

MEDICINE STAMPS.

We have first a variety of the Alcock's described in these pages. It has simply gone back to the Brandreth's Pills, in *size* only, preserving however the design complete. The large size was probably the bar to its use, and the cause of the change.

1 cent. Black.

A change in the die of the Harter stamp is noticed. The first type has the name "Dr. Harter and Co." and address above the oval con-

taining the portrait, and the words "Family Medicines" below, while the second has "Dr. Harter's Family" above, and "Medicine" and address below. It is not easy to see why such a change should be made.

1 cent black.

For a very good reason which was a change of firm, the Home Stomach Bitters Stamp, in April of this year, had substituted on its face, the words "The Home Bitters Co." for "Jas. A. Jackson & Co." In other respects the same.

4 cents green.

A mate to the 4 cents Ring's Vegetable Ambrosia has appeared, differing only in color and value.

2 cents blue.

The 4 cents in a new color of the Edward Wilder stamp has been mentioned in this paper, but not the 1 cent, so that we have now two sets of these stamps, as follows:

OLD ISSUE.

1 cent, dark green.
4 cents, vermilion.

NEW ISSUE.

1 cent, light green.
4 cents, lake.

An entirely new stamp is one containing the inevitable portrait, in an oval, inscribed "Prof. Low's Standard Preparations." U. S. Internal Revenue" above. Numerals of value in small ovals at each side.

1 cent, black.

We conclude this monograph of the U. S. with a description of two stamps, which though they be old, yet will be new to many collectors.

T. W. Marsden.

Two cents. "U. S." in monogram in circle inscribed with name and address. Names of medicines and large figure 2 in long ovals at each side. Four cents. Inscription "U. S. Inter. Rev." in circle inscribed with name and address. Names of medicines in ovals at each side. Both stamps very long.

2 cents, blue.
4 " black.

FOREIGN REVENUE STAMPS.

Canada.—A new set of Registration stamps has been issued for the province of Quebec, Canada. The design is the favorite Canadian emblem, the beaver, in a circle. The words "Registration" and "Quebec" appear above. Coarsely perforated. Color, green.

5 cents.
15 "
30 "

Russia.—A set, likewise of three values, of new revenues, has emanated from this country. The design, which differs in each value, consists geuerally of the arms of Russia, on ground of fine lines. Perforated.

5 kopecks. Red aud black.
15 " Green.
40 " Orange and black.

Luxembourg.—has substituted for its former very pretty set of stamps, those of a new issue, of an extremely simple type. The centre is occupied by the arms of Luxembourg, on each side of which, is a square frame occupied on the left by the value, on the right by the sum expressing the rate of taxation. "Effets de Commerce" above, "G. D. de Luxembourg" below. Uuperforated.

A. Color, blue.

5c. 0 Frs. to 100.
10c. 100 " " 200.
15c. 200 " " 300.
20c. 300 " " 400.
25c. 400 " " 500.
50c. 500 " " 1000.

B. Color, deep rose.

1 Fr. 1000 Frs. to 2000.
1 " 50c. 2000 " " 3000.
2 Frs. 3000 " " 4000.
2 " 50c. 4000 " " 5000.
3 " 5000 " " 6000.
3 " 50c. 6000 " " 7000.
4 " 7000 " " 8000.
4 " 50c. 8000 " " 9000.
5 " 9000 " " 10,000.

C. Color, violet.

10 Frs. 19,000 Frs. to 20,000.

From the differeuce between the rates of taxation of the 5 frs. (9000 to 10,000 frs.) aud the 10 frs. (19,000 to 20,000 frs.) we shouldpresume that intermediate values exist.

Roumania.—The set of five stamps that came to the light ou the 15th of September, 1872, has been replaced by a new set, with date of emission, July 1, 1875. The arms of the couutry are iu a diamond, surrounded by ground work differing in each value.

Numerals of value in each corner. Perforated.

5	Bani.	Orange.
10	"	Blue.
15	"	Gray.
20	"	Rose.
25	"	Green.

Austria.—On the 1st of January, of the current year, the numerous series of Austrian revenues, were superseded by a new set, of a much finer appearance, and an unused collection of them would be an honor to any one's album. On them is the laureled head of the Emperor, above the numerals of value, below the value and date "1875." The portrait, value and border are in black, while the ground work is in green for the value in kreuzers, in rose for those in florins.

Kreuzers : ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 15, 25, 36, 50, 60, 75 and 90.

Florins ; 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15 and 20.

Switzerland.—From the Timbre Fiscal, we note a new issue for the Canton of Valais. This issue, which comprises three sets, made its first appearance July 1st, 1875. The first set, or Foreign Bill is of the same design as the first issue for Valais, substituting only the date of the law, from "24 Nov. 1869," to "11 Mars. 1875," Values, five in all. Color, rose. 25 centimes, 50c., 1 franc, 1 franc 50c., 2 frs.

The second set recalls the "Lettres de Voiture" stamps of this canton, the expression of value being however on white ground. Inscription, "Actes Administratifs, Tarif du 22 Mai 1875. Color, rose. Twenty-five values.

Centimes : 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50.

Francs : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 1000.

The third set differs from the above in the inscriptions only, which are "Timbre Proportion—Loi du 11 Mai 1875." Same color.

Centimes : 40, 60 and 80.

Francs : 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 200, and 500.

Postage Stamps vs. Diamonds.

We have repeatedly heard it asserted by persons first commencing to form a collection "that stamps cost a great deal of money to buy, but can scarcely be sold for anything." This statement may be true in a measure, but if taken as meant, that is in comparison with other things it is totally incorrect.

Take diamonds for instance, and they are usually considered to possess a standard of value second only to gold, and can always be converted into cash at an hour's notice, but what can they be sold for? one half or one third their cost, certainly not more, this we have tried personally. To settle this question, and demonstrate the truth of our assertion, any

of our readers who wish to find out for themselves have only to take off their rings or studs, and offer them for sale, or, if they do not happen to possess any diamond jewelry, let them attempt to purchase a brilliant, with the stipulation that half its cost price will be returned for it on demand, and they will find that they cannot make the bargain with any respectable house. Now what is the difference between the buying and selling price of postage stamps? In testing the valne of precions stones, we have taken the best as an example, so it is only fair to contrast them with the scarcest and most desirable stamps, and those we have no hesitation in asserting, can always be sold for two-thirds or three-qnarters their retail price, which if they have been kept some time is nearly certain to be more than their cost. It may be claimed that a collection cannot always consist entirely of the scarcest stamps, certainly not, neither can every person wear diamonds, and if they have bought Attleboro' jewelry instead, they cannot sell it at one cent on the dollar, and we defy any person to produce stamps that will not command instant sale at ten times that proportional amount.

Persons buying stamps can have but one of two objects in view, they buy for their amusement those stamps which please them best, and if they soon change their mind, they must be very unreasonable to expect to get the same price they paid for the stamps; it would be abont as reasonable to expect to purchase books and to re-sell after reading for the same money. Second, they buy for profit, in which case they have only to consult a file of catalogues, and they will find certain stamps steadily increasing in value, with every edition of the price list, let them purchase those, without regard to variety, and we guarantee they can at any time sell at a profit.

In conclnsion, we give it as our candid opinion, that money can be more advantageonsly invested in stamps either for pleasure or profit, than in any other merchandise or speculation which can be conducted on small capital, and operated by a person having other bnsiness.

Newly Issued Stamps.

United States.—The 8c. stamp noted in our last number is intended for postal pnrposes bnt has not yet been adopted. Stamps of the valne of 13 and 16 cents are also being prepared and will probably be nsed. They represent single and double letter rates with registration fee added.



Jamaica.—Has added two new values to its stock of postals, a two shilling claret which resembles the one penny in design, and one of the value of five shillings which we have not yet seen.

Denmark—The international stamp of this country has at length come to hand. It is of the same design as the

current series, 20 ore slate, carmine frame.

The postal card for the same purpose conforms in design to that in use for home service.

The value is 10 o., color green on white.



Bolivia.—The colors and values of the new series of postals for this country, are as follows:

5 centavos, ultramarine. 20 centavos, green.
10 " orange, 50 " carmine.

Russia.—The designs of the 10 and 20 k. stamps and envelopes have been altered to conform to the lately issued 8 k. the colors remain as before.

The "Plimpton" Envelopes.

By C: H. C.

(*Continued from page* 139.)

When I commenced these papers I had but little idea that I was undertaking a monthly chronicle, but such really seems to be the case. However, I am glad to notice that the Plimpton Envelopes are already being carefully studied by collectors, and if any incentive has been given by what I have written, I am amply satisfied. In two or three months when I am reasonably sure of being able to make it complete, I hope to give a revised list embracing all varieties issued.

Our additions this month are fewer than usual.

The 10 cents *Type A* on first quality lemon is now before me, on an entire envelope, (Full letter size) so that I am enabled to withdraw the doubts expressed on page 122 as to its existence in that condition. I have also seen an uncut copy on a white envelope of the same size.

Having become the possessor of a pair of uncut fawn colored envelopes, I am enabled to give the size, viz., "No. 4½ Commercial.

The one cent (Type A) has recently been discovered. Ordinary Letter size on first quality white and amber.

The two cents, brown (current die) on Ordinary Letter Size amber envelope also exists, hence the " ?" on page 138 can be effaced:

The three cent (Type A) also comes on Extra Letter Size, first quality of white, and second quality of cream; and on Ordinary Letter, first quality white and amber.

THE WAR DEPT. DIES.

These consist of the following values:—

Reay—1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15, 24c., 30c.

Plimpton—1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 30c.

(The 1c., Plimpton I have never seen, but it probably exists or wil exist shortly.)

The frame for each value is specially engraved in both the Reay and Plimpton envelopes, but all the *heads* used by Reay are identical with those on the corresponding values of the issue for public use. The heads used by the Plimpton Co. are :—

2 cents—Die 2 of the series for public use.
3 " " 2 " " "
10 " " 2 " " "
6 " } Same as in the corresponding values in the
12 " } series for public use, and for which the Plimp-
30 " } ton Co. only prepared one die each.

(See pages 110, 111 and 121.)

Among the most prominent tests for distinguishing the envelopes of these two contractors, are the following :—

TWO CENTS.

Reay.

1.—The mouth is slightly opened.

2.—The end of the ear and the lowest limit of the hair are about parallel.

3—The bust, while rather closer than on the right side, is not *very* much so.

Plimpton.

1.—The mouth is shut.

2—The hair reaches considerably below the ear, as can be easily seen on clearly struck specimens.

3.—On the left side of the stamp the bust is very close to the frame.

THREE CENTS.

Reay.

1.—The queue reaches down perceptibly below the bust.

2.—The hair appears to be extremly knotty or twisted, especially on the top of the head.

Plimpton.

1.—It does not reach lower than the bust.

2.—While very wavy, the hair is not knotty or twisted, but all flows gracefully back to form the queue. The locks above and covering the ear are heavier than the others, but flow back in the same direction.

SIX CENTS.

Reay.

1.—The mass of hair on the top of Lincoln's head stands up and overhangs the forehead a little. While the outline is well defined, the mass of hair already referred to is not very well done.

Plimpton.

1.—The mass of hair on the top of the head is well done stands out clearly. It overhangs the forehead very noticeably, the outline forming a regular hook ; and a line drawn from the furthermost projection would almost reach the end of the beard ; whereas in Reay's die it would not clear the forehead and eyebrow.

TEN CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1.—The mouth is shut.	1.—Open a very little.
2.—The queue is not very distinctly done, and it finally almost turns on towards the neck.	2.—It is very distinct, and finishes abruptly, standing out prominently from the neck.

TWELVE CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1.—On the inscribed band, there is a period after "Dept."	1.—There is no period afte "Dept."
2.—The ear is almost covered up.	2.—The ear stands out distinctly.

FIFTEEN AND TWENTY-FOUR CENTS.

I am informed that neither of these values have been prepared by the Plimpton Co., so that Reay's dies alone exist.

THIRTY CENTS.

Reay.	*Plimpton.*
1.—The mouth ends off in a dot.	1.—The mouth is ended by a long dash drawn almost at a right angle from it.
2.—The nose seems to be nearly straight.	2.—The nose is *decidedly* acquiline and the nostril considerably dilated.

The Postage Stamp History of Spain.

Philatelists assert that from a study of the Postage Stamps of a nation much of its history may be gleaned. Let us in this cause examine the stamps of Spain, and endeavor to prove the assertion by collating the materials furnished by these labels.

Except from the fragmentary inscriptions to be found on these stamps, indicating the language of the country which issued them, we do not learn the name of the country until we glance at its eighth issue. Its form of government is however clearly determined in its first issue by the crowned female head exhibited thereon. We also receive some information concerning the currency employed by this people from the denomination or facial value of the stamps. That Spain is a country possessing some degree of enlightenment, is evidenced by the fact that its local or foreign correspondence exists, to an extent requiring the use of the convenient postal stamp, and that this condition has existed for twenty five years, is exactly made out by the date to be found on its first type of stamps, that of the year 1850.

Here then, in short, we are told by these labels that there is a civilized country called Spain, possessing a monarchical form of government, a language, a currency, with commercial and social relations cemented by a postal system, and that for twenty-five years that type of progress the postal stamp has been in use.

The variety presented by these stamps suggests to us, that the Spanish postal authorities were unstable and easily dissatisfied, with that which once met with their approval. It may be urged in defence that these changes of type were the outgrowth of a laudable desire to improve; if so, we are constrained to exclaim, what persistence! what sublimity of patience were here displayed! in view of the success attained. Again, it may be that evil disposed persons had imitated these postal labels, and so flooded the country with their base counterfeits, as to seriously impair the revenue, then such changes were imperative. In this idea, we apprehend, the true reason for some of the changes is suggested.

A further inspection elicits the fact that Spain, during the quarter century illustrated by its stamps, has passed through several radical changes in government, and these would offer sufficient excuse for any alterations based thereon.

If the stamps give tolerably correct portraits of the queen who ruled over this country, it is apparent, that whatever her qualifications as a ruler or virtues as a woman, she was deficient in that beauty, so desirable in a woman and so commanding of devotion and admiration in a queen, when by other virtues upheld; if this be not so, then the artist has shamefully debased his arts, and himself if a Spaniard, by thus caricaturing his Queen.

Later portraits of this royal woman, as given on these stamps, denote some improvement in comeliness, but not enough to evoke our enthusiasm, and it is questionable whether the earlier heads were ever true portraits, or the latter not some embodiment and expression of artistic fancy; however this may be, the stamps incline us to believe that the queen actually did not possess much beauty, or the artist's efforts would have more nearly pictured that quality,

The series of stamps exhibiting the queen's head, is interrupted by one bearing that legacy of the days of chivalry, the Coat of Arms. How suggestive of Spain's former glory are the emblems borne thereon! The Lion rampant, indicating preparation for conflict and readiness to attack, and the Castle, significant of impregnability and means of defence if attacked.

The next stamp attracting special attention bears an impression of a female head, essentially different in character from those hitherto borne by these labels: it is that of a woman, noble and, may we say? beautiful, (for is her face not beautiful when compared with the examples preceding it) her luxuriant tresses surmounted by the castellated crown.

The conclusion to be drawn from this picture is, that the head is not that of a sovereign, but some impersonation of the country itself, of abstract Spain. This stamp is indicative of something other than a mere whim : Spain has cast off the incubus of royalty, and is ruling herself.

But on passing to the next stamp, we find evidence of still another phase of the destinies of this people ; evidence that they were not ripe for self government and are again resting in the shadow of royalty, this time, under the rule of a King.

His portrait is that of an amiable and intelligent young man, and he would seem capable of much good in the high position he has been called to occupy ; but thoughts of what he might be to Spain as its King are vain ; the next three stamps tell us his reign was short, and this turbulent people are again trying their hands at self government ; but it is not to be. Our next illustration depicts the features of another Kingly incumbent of the throne ; we see before us youth even to boyishness. How long will his reign be suffered to last ? a pertinent inquiry but its answer is shrouded in darkness. The past teaches us his tenure will not be lengthy, yet let us trust he may so endear himself to his people that they will be loth to disturb him.

By the next and last stamp presented for our inspection, we are reminded, that during the whole of the short career of this young man as king, he has been harrassed by the internal troubles of his country ; for he assumed with his crown the obligation to suppress an existing rebellion.

This stamp bears the effigy of a pretender to the Spanish throne, and the leader of a revolution of considerable magnitude ; information of its locality being afforded by the name thereon, of that division of Spain, anciently known as the province of Catalonia ; its extent and duration to be inferred, by the fact of the organization of a postal service, and by the date assigned to the stamp, that of the year 1874.

To which of these contestants shall we offer our sympathy ? To the youth now in possession of his mother's throne, continually worried by the efforts of this other to wrest from him his heritage, restored to him we will assume by the will of the majority of his people ? Or to the would be king who also claims an inherent right to the Spanish throne, and who has gathered around his standard a respectable minority of his countrymen ? Accordingly, as we are loyal believers in our own principles of government, we must give our support to him in possession by the pleasure of the majority.

Let us hope for an early solution of the difficulties that surround this people, and pray they may peacefully regain for their country, its former eminence among nations.

In honor of thy Sailor Son, Oh Spain !
Who searched and found our distant shore,
We wish thee joy forever-more,
And all the good thy ardent hopes can claim.

Stamps viewed from an historical stand-point.

Read before the "Société Française de Timbrologie," by M. de Bosredon.

Translated by Willard K. Freeman.

Timbrology* has frequently been compared with Numismatics, and the resemblance is certainly well founded. The object of Numismatics is the study of coins and medals ; Timbrology occupies itself with paper money *sui generis*, which can, in many ways, be assimilated with money, properly speaking. If in effect, stamps are not as generally employed as money (which is the universal medium of exchange, and consequently also, of the adjustment of accounts,) they fill at the same time, for certain payments, and in decided cases, the place of money.

It is for this reason that stamps are made with peculiar care, and that they generally bear, as do coins, the effigy of the reigning prince, or the national arms, or various other attributes of sovereignty. There is unquestionably this difference between coins and stamps,—that the value of the one is represented by a greater or less quantity of precious metal, which is real and intrinsic ; while the worth of the other is merely conventional. Beyond doubt, it will be conceded that stamps are not as durable as coins, which, surviving the lapse of ages, transmit to us the most valuable information concerning past events, with regard to which all other proofs have been destroyed by the hand of time. But, taking all these differences into account, it will be admitted that stamps, as well as money, are truly interesting from an historical point of view. Prompted by curiosity, we have inquired : what influence the occurrences of latter years have exerted in this respect ; and have found that almost invariably these events are reflected, so to speak, in the various alterations to which the stamps themselves, have been submitted, and, that in several instances they have furnished proofs of political or dynastical movements of certain states, that are entirely wanting in coins.

The first example that we have to cite, in following the chronological order, is attached to the question of Schleswig-Holstein, which was attended later on, with such serious consequences, and which contained the germ of the most terrible complications. March 24th, 1848, an insurrection burst forth in Holstein, (which had formed, since the treaty

*The study of stamps.

of 1815, a part of the Germanic Confederation ;) and Schleswig, from near relations, became involved in the common cause with Holstein. The two duchies elected for Sovereign, the duke Christian of Schleswig —Holestein—Augustenbourg, a descendant of an ancient (male) branch of Danish Kings.

Assisted by Prussia, they maintained their position until 1851. During this time (1850) the two stamps——blue and rose,—bearing the letters S and H, (which recall the name of the two duchies), were emitted. These stamps have an historical value, of still greater importance, since no coinage of money took place by the government, during the period of its independance.

December 2nd, 1851, took place in France, the "coup—d'etat," which, being ratified by the plebiscit of the 10th, of December ; followed and sanctioned by the constitution of January 14th, 1852, assigned the power to the Prince Louis-Napoleon Bonaparte, whose title of President of the Republic, was duly acknowledged. The type of the postage stamps issued to this time, was the symbolical figure of the Republic ; now, it is modified and two stamps, one of 10, and the other of 20 centimes are emitted (1852) with the effigy of the Prince—President, accompanied by the legend "Republique francaise." The two stamps are the characteristic representation of this transitory reign, during which, the Prince possessed in reality a monarchial power, while the government retained for sometime to come, its republican forms.

(*To be continued.*)

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The International Postage Stamp Album. By J. W. Scott. *Illustrated with* 1000 *engravings, New York, J. W. Scott & Co., 75 & 77 Nassau Street.*

Once again it is our pleasing duty to chronicle the appearance of a new album, and a splendid one it is, just the thing for the boys for whom it is evidently intended, for we see two of them on the cover, intelligent looking youths having in their hands banners bearing the arms of Germany and Spain, whilst the glorious emblem of their own country stands between them, the beautiful arms of England and France being placed in the lower corners. On opening the book we are met at the threshold by a splendid map of the world, which we are informed was engraved expressly for the albums, and it is evidently a work of considerable labor as we find every stamp issuing country, state or city, is noted on it, and as this is supplemented throughout the book by a large amount of statistical information given under the name of every country, it must prove as valuable in an educational point of view, as

it is interesting and convenient as a repository for a collection of stamps. The head of each page is adorned with the flag and arms of the conntry, and a neat frame with name below to enclose the portrait of its rnler. The arrangement of the conntries is alphabetical by far the best plan for a work of this kind, whilst the stamps are placed in sets according to issue. The great featnre of the albnm is the illnstration of every stamp, or type, these are placed in the compartments designed for the stamps, making it almost impossible for that oft qnoted yonth the "youngest collector," to make a mistake in arranging his treasnres, or to get a stamp in the wrong place. The cnts being covered up when the page is full cannot injure the appearance of the book. The anthor was evidently determined to have the albnm up to date, for besides finding spaces for the new 2c., vermilion and other recent issnes he has prepared frames for several sets of stamps, which have been announced bnt not yet issued, snch as Phillipine Isles, Finland &c., of which we have seen the types and odd values, bnt not full sets.

St. Nicholas Vol. III., No. 1. *New York, Scribner & Co.*

In the last nnmber of this excellent jnvenile magazine we find an article on Foreign Postage Stamps, illustrated by some dozen cuts. In a short Magazine article of this sort we cannot expect to find anything new, but the old gronnd has been carefnlly gone over in an interesting way, and some excellent ideas are thrown ont for the benefit of yonng collectors. In it we recognize the practiced pen of Mr. C. H. Coster, and hope it may have the effect on others which evidently prompted the writer, and add many new votaries to our favorite pnrsnit.

In the concluding paragraph the anthor says : "A word or two on the subject of connterfeits may not be amiss. Stamp-dealing is quite a lncrative pnrsuit, and the profits are certainly large enough to indnce the dealer to sell only genninc stamps ; it is a sad fact, however, that many persons conntcrfcit nearly every rare stamp, and palm off their cheat upon the yonng collector, and even upon the experienced amateur, as a valuable original. Young collectors shonld be careful to collect none bnt gennine postage stamps, and to have no dealings except with respectable and honest persons."

We attribute the dash of indignation in the above to the anthor's nnfortunate specnlation in "Berford's, which appears to have made him very cautions in purchasing of strangers, we sincerely hope all his readers will evince equal discrimination in their stamp transactions.

Answers to Correspondents.

H. H. R., Philadelphia.—Thanks for your information.

A History of Postage Stamps.

BEING A RESUME OF THE DESCRIPTIONS OF ALL KNOWN STAMPS AND THEIR VARIETIES.

For the Beginner and the Amateur.

BY OVARY TAYLOR.

Continued from page 149.





The Hanoverian stamps, although not numerous, yet offer a considerable number of varieties, and though there are no really obscure points in their history, they still require careful attention on the part of beginners.

The first stamp to appear was the one guten-groschen blue ; but for descriptive purposes we had better consider it as forming part of a series composed and issued as follows :—

1850.	1 guten-groschen	blue.
1850-51.	1 "	green.
	$\frac{1}{30}$ thaler	rose.
	$\frac{1}{15}$ "	blue.
	$\frac{1}{10}$ "	yellow.

The dates, though I am not aware that any official documents in justification have been published, are generally accepted as correct, and hence it would result that the circulation of the stamps commenced shortly before the close of the reign of King Ernest Augustus.

The series includes two types, one special to the guten-groschen, the other common to the remaining values. The two types closely resemble each other, the only difference lying in the shading of the shield and the manner in which the value inscribed on it is indicated. The shield on the 1 g.gr. shows an arabesque ground, and on it is the figure 1 with the denomination running up the centre. On the other values the shield is a solid one, bearing the fractional denomination in full, in two lines, crossing from left to right.

The two guten-groschen stamps differ among themselves in an important particular. Whilst the green shows the same watermark as the other values, a well-designed oaken crown, the blue appears, and until 1870 was thought to be, " watermarkless." In that year, however, M. Moens discovered that it bore a watermark consisting of a single-line rectangle, of nearly the same size as the stamp, and so difficult of detection that it had even escaped the notice of so keen an observer as Dr. Magnus. Thus it is pretty evident that the one g gr. blue was the forerunner of the series, and is entitled to be classed apart as an entirely separate issue. At one time it was suspected of being a chemical chan-

geling, but all doubts as to its genuineness have long since been dissipated, and it now properly heads the list of Hanoverian stamps, though, strangely enough, it happens that in the archives of the Hanoverian post-office no trace of a supply having been ordered can be found. When the other values were being prepared, and it was decided to print the $\frac{1}{15}$ th. on blue, it became necessary to select another colour for the 1g.gr, and the fresh supply—on green—was struck off on the oak-crown water-marked paper.

As all the members of the series are printed in black on colored paper, the varieties must be sought in the difference of tint ; but as there is much less deviation from the normal shade in paper than in coloured printing-ink—where the precise hue depends on the proportions in which certain ingredients are found—the varieties of this issue are not very striking. The $\frac{1}{30}$ th. alone exists in two distinct shades—salmon and carmine-rose—both of which are collectable. The varieties of the other values are unimportant.

The design of these stamps, which is very finely engraved, is interesting from the fact that it is in part formed of the English arms. My youngest reader is no doubt acquainted with the connection which exists between Hanover and Great Britain, and will therefore not be surprised to meet with the old familiar lion and unicorn on the Hanoverian issues, supporting the shield and the royal crown of England. The armorial bearings differ, however, in that the arms of Hanover, on an "escutcheon of pretence," are surcharged on the centre of the shield, and the motto, instead of *Dieu et mon droit*, is a Latin one, SUSCIPERE ET FINIRE, which can be easily deciphered on the stamps without the aid of a magnifier.

The mode of expressing the value adopted on the first series is an unusual one, the fractional denomination occupying the centre, and the equivalent in *silber-groschen* being inscribed on the banderole on the right side. This plan has one advantage, at any rate to us philatelists, —it teaches us that 1 sgr. is the thirtieth of a thaler, and remembering that a thaler is, roundly speaking, worth seventy-five cents, we find that the silber-groschen equals two and a half cents ; the early Hanoverian issues, it may here be noticed, are the only German stamps on which the *thaler* is used to express the denomination. As to the *guten-groschen*, an obsolete currency, 24 of them went to the thaler, there value being, therefore, just three cents. It seems strange that two stamps so nearly alike in value as the 1 sgr. and 1 g.gr. should have been maintained in circulation at the same time, but such was the case for several years.

On the 15th April, 1853, the series received an accession in the shape of a 3 pf. brownish rose, of simple design : value in pfennige ; name, surmounted by a crown, in a vertically-lined oval, with the fractional

value—EIN DRITTEL SILBER-GROSCHEN—on a scroll, which serves as a border to the upper half of the oval, the whole in a plain single-line rectangle. Let me, in passing, call my readers' attention to the inscription of the fractional value—one-third of a silber-groschen,—for later on we shall meet with the same type, printed in green, and bearing the value differently expressed. This early 3 pfennige is one of the rarest of the Hanoverians. It is distinguished from a later 3 pf. *rose* by its possession of the oaken-crown watermark.

The inaugural series of stamps on coloured paper, with its attendant 3 pfennige in colour on white was suppressed on the 1st January, 1856,



but the types were maintained. The second series differs from the first in that it is printed on white paper, covered with an open network, running in a horizontal direction, and composed of alternate lozenges and hexagons. The impression is in black, and only the network is coloured. The values are repeated without alteration—

1 guten-groschen	green.
$\frac{1}{30}$ thaler	rose.
$\frac{1}{15}$ thaler	blue.
$\frac{1}{10}$ thaler	orange-yellow.

In the 3 pf., which accompanies this issue, the design is struck in rose, and the network varies in colour from black to olive. The $\frac{1}{10}$ th. exists with very fine network. Obliterated specimens are far from uncommon, and *unused* copies of the other values may also be met with showing this finer ground, but it is tolerably certain that they are mere unauthorized reprints, or rather concoctions. The 1 g.gr. green and $\frac{1}{30}$ th. rose exist with the network running vertically, and are veritable printer's errors.

The first two Hanoverian issues are characterized by the possession of a peculiar, thick, rose-coloured gum on the back, and advanced collectors point with legitimate pride to the fact that the colour of the gum suffices to distinguish an original from a reprint, in proof of the necessity for carefully studying the backs as well as the fronts of stamps. In effect, the official reprints of the 1856 series all bear a whitish gum. The first series appears not to have been reprinted, but a number of worthless proofs, intended solely for sale to collectors, were struck off in 1864. Thus we find impressions on brown, blue, and rose paper, of the fractional values $\frac{1}{30}$ th., $\frac{1}{10}$ th., and $\frac{1}{15}$ th., and other similar changes were rung on the 3 pf., and on some of the 1856 stamps. Beginners cannot give too wide a berth to such profitless lumber.

In 1859 the series with the profile of the blind King Gerge V.—finely engraved, and of a design uniting many of the most meritorious

qualities—made its appearance, together with its satellite, the 3 pf. rose. This latter is distinguished from the first-issued stamp of the same colour and value by the absence of watermark. The values with profile are as follows :—



1	groschen	rose.
2	"	blue.
3	"	yellow.

Later on, in 1861, in conformity with the understanding come to between the German states, the colour of the 3 gr. was changed to brown, and at the same time an additional value was issued,—the 10 groschen, green. The denominations of value, it will be observed, are much simplified in this series ; there are no perplexing fractions, nor conflicting "guten" and "silber" groschen, but all are reduced to the one uniform currency of groschens. For a short time, however, in the year 1859—whether before or after the emission of the profile series M. Berger-Levrault (my authority for the statement) does not say—the 1 g.gr. green, of 1851, was reissued for temporary circulation, probably a supply of the old stock being opportunely at hand to meet some accidental failing of the current value.

The colour varieties of this series are the result of successive editions. When the changes above alluded to were made in 1861, a fresh supply of the 1 gr. and 2 gr. was printed off. Hence we have to catalogue these values as follows :—

1 gr. deep rose (1859), light rose (1861).
2 " dull blue ("), deep ultramarine (1861).

On the 1st April, 1860, a new value was issued, the ½ groschen, in black on rather thick, yellowish-white paper. This is an extremely simple stamp. A thick single-line rectangle encloses the word HANNOVER, in block type, a crown, a well-drawn posthorn, and the value. The 1st January, 1864, witnessed the appearance of a fourth 3 pfennige stamp, this time printed in green on white, of the same type as its predecessors, but differing from them all in having the fractional value expressed thus : DREI ZEHNTEL SILBER-GROSCHEN—three-tenths of a silber-groschen. Probably the former denomination—one-third sgr.—had been objected to as inaccurate, there being ten, and not nine, pfennige to the groschen.



The history of the Hanoverian adhesives winds up with the perforation, or, more exactly speaking, the piercing, of all the values, except the 10 gr. The 3 pf., 1 gr., and 3 gr. underwent the operation in June, 1864, and the ½ gr. and 2 gr. in 1865 or 1866. Owing to the comparatively short time during which the perforated supply of the two latter

values was in use, obliterated copies of the same are not frequently met with ; but the other three members of the series are tolerably common. The perforated 1 gr. is met with in rose and bright rose, and the 3 sgr., instead of brown, was issued perf. in bistre.

To be continued.

Convicted of Selling Counterfeit Foreign Stamps.

TWO YEARS IN STATE PRISON.

Monday the Twenty-ninth of November will be remembered as a red letter day by all honest Philatelists, for on that day in the United States District Court before Judge Cadwalader, Giovani Patroni was convicted of making and selling counterfeit foreign postage stamps, thus conclusively settling the fact that it is against the law to make or sell imitations of foreign stamps, the lowest penalty attached to the crime being two years in State Prison.

In this case tried in Philadelphia, Nov. 29th, the first witness called for the prosecution was Charles B. Barrett, who testified to visiting the prisoner at several places where he did business under various names, (G. Patroni, G. Perkins & Co. Charles Corvini & Co. Cosmopolitan Stamp Agency, Philadelphia Stamp Agency, Camden Stamp Agency, Stanmore Lex & Co.) and also to taking him into custody and seizing an immense quantity of counterfeit stamps,and the lithographic stones and other implements, used in their manufacture. This witness was corroborated by John Fay, a special agent of the post office department who assisted in making the arrest.

The Postmaster of Philadelphia testified to letting Patroni a box in the post office, and that he stated that he was in the Jewelry business.

Samuel W. Heins related how he purchased some counterfeit stamps of Nicaragua, Angola and other countries from Patroni, under instructions from the special agent of the department, and identified some stamps produced as those he purchased.

J. W. Scott, of New York, was called as an expert to prove the character of the stamps in court, he testified that he had been in the stamp business since 1860, and was well acquainted with all foreign stamps, he swore that the stamps purchased by Heins from Patroni were printed from the lithographic stones in court, and that they were excellent counterfeits of the genuine stamps.

On cross-examination by the prisoner's council as to the extent of the stamp business, he stated that it was very large, and extended to all parts of the civilized world and estimated the number of collectors in the United States at 200,000, whose collections varied in value from five dollars to fifty thousand dollars each.

This closed the case for the Government.

On behalf of the defense, S. A. Taylor was called to testify to the fact, that counterfeit foreign stamps had been largely sold in this country for many years.

After a clergyman had been called to prove previous good character the defense rested.

The counsel on both sides having addressed the jury, the judge summed up the evidence and left the case with the jury, with permission to return a sealed verdict, which they agreed on after three hours deliberation.

Court being called to order in the morning, the jury handed in their verdict which was guilty, with a recommendation to mercy.

The prisoner was then remanded for sentence; of the other two who were arrested with Patroni, Wilson having since been convicted of another crime was not tried on this charge. Davison who appears to have been the artist, employed to engrave the stones, was totally ignorant of the use to which they were to be put so he was not brought to trial.

At the close of the case the District Attorney stated it to be the intention of the government to prosecute all persons dealing in counterfeit stamps, this will effectually put an end to this nefarious traffic, and we shall be obliged to any of our friends who will forward information of any persons in their vicinity who deal in counterfeits, that we may at once lay the particulars before the proper authorities.

One very important piece of information was brought out on the trial, to which we wish to call particular attention, Patroni in his endeavors to conceal his identity, did business under several distinct names, nearly all of which were taken in imitation of incorporated companies as the "Philadelphia Stamp Agency, &c." We have repeatedly warned our readers of this class of dealers, and cautioned them to have nothing to do with any parties who do not carry on business in their own name, any person concealing his name must have a reason for it, and that reason in nine cases out of ten, is, that he either intends to sell you counterfeits or else keep your money and make no returns. Therefore, we say have no dealings with any one who trades under a false name or does not give an address where he can be found.

Revenue Stamp Department.

EDITED BY W. L. BROWN.

United States.—As we expected, the new set of proprietary stamps, is gradually being augmented, and we have now before us, the third value, three cents. It is of a larger size than the one cent and two cents, and possibly, the remainder of the series will increase in size, similarly to the preceding issue. The design does not differ ma-

terially from the two cents, the oval band containing the portrait, being, however, inscribed above "U. S. Inter. Rev., and below "Proprietary," instead of being at the sides, as in the former. The band also contains ten stars, five at each side.

3 cents Orange 4 cent brown on green paper.

And now, behold a handsome stamp, and more particularly so, as being the first departure from a formerly fixed rule. We allude to the new two cent check stamp, which made its debut about a month since. The portrait of GeorgeWashington, so familiar to us all, and which has been on every adhesive stamp of all the issues of the documentary series, has at last been taken off, and we are presented with a fine cameo head of Liberty. This is brought strongly into relief by being pictured on a light back ground. For the sake of collectors we could wish for more like this, but tax payers will not grumble. "U. S. Inter. Rev." above, value below. Green tinted paper—perforated.

2 cents. Deep blue.

MATCH STAMPS.

In accordance with the new departure, the name on the W. S. Kyle stamp has been changed to that of its present owner, A. Messinger.

1 cent. Black.

FOREIGN REVENUE STAMPS.

Canada.—The Timbre Fiscal gives a brief description or rather mention of a new issue of law stamps for the province of Manitoba. Design not given, supposed to be the same as those for Quebec and Ontario, color, green, values named.

10, 20, 25, 50 cents.
1 and 2 dollars.

Surinam.—We have just received a couple of stamps for this dependency, possibly a portion and perhaps the forerunners of a large set. They may be the stamps for Holland surcharged or they may be specially designed for Surinam for aught we can tell to the contrary. Large vertical rectangles. The arms of Holland and wreath in centre in beaded circle. Across this is surcharged in black, "Suriname." The border bears "Koning Ryx der Neder Landen—Plakzegel" which our readers can translate for themselves. Value above in figures and letters, below in letters, and printed in black. Unperforated. Centre in blue, the remainder in slate brown.

15 ct. (vijftien ct.)
25 " (Vijfen Twintig ct.)
Curacoa should follow suit.

Mauritius.—There are three classes of stamps used in this island, viz.:

§ 1. Exchange.
§ 2. Bill Stamps.
§ 3. Internal Revenue.

A noticeable peculiarity of the first two classes, is that they are printed, one value only on a sheet, but that value reads, *First, Second, Third*, respectively, so that when correctly separated they come in sets of threes.

§ 1. Exchange.

Date of Emission, 1870. Small rectangle, divided into three compartments. The middle and larger one contains the value in letters, and "Mauritius," in white on colored ground. The upper one, "First of," "Second of," &c. The lower one "Exchange," all in colored letters, on white ground. (Border differing for each value.) Colored impression on white paper. Unperforated. Six values.

First of Exchange.

1 penny.	Blue.	6 "	Green.
2 pence.	Rose.	1 s. 3 d.	Brown.
4 "	Vermilion.	1 " 8 "	Green.

Second and Third of Exchange, the same values.

§ 2. Bill Stamps.

1870. Long vertical rectangle. Profile of Queen Victoria to left, in pearled circle. "Mauritius" at top. "Bill Stamp" at bottom, in white letters in colored ground. Space above circle surcharged, "First of Exchange," &c. Space below by value in letters. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Stamps all of the same design.

First of Exchange.

1 penny. 2 pence. 4 " 6 "	Green.	Surcharge, mauve.
1 s. 3 d. 1 " 8 " 5 " 6 " 8 " 8 " 4 "	Orange.	Surcharge, blue.

Second and Third of Echange, the same values.

§ 3. Internal Revenue.

Stamps same size as the Bill Stamps. Same profile to left, in circle inscribed "Internal Revenue" in white letters on colored ground. "Mauritius" at top in colored letters on white ground. Value surcharged below. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated. Stamps all of the same design.

1871.	1 penny.	Rose.	Surcharge, blue.
1869.	3 pence.	Blue.	
	6 "	"	
	1 shilling.		Surcharge, mauve.
	2 shillings.	Bistre.	
	5 "		

Probably not one half of the values in the last two classes are mentioned, but it is all we know of, at present.

To be Continued.

Stamps viewed from an historical stand-point.

Read before the "Société Française de Timbrologie," by M. de Bosredon.

Translated by Willard K. Freeman.

(*Continued from page* 175.)

December 2nd, 1852, the Empire was re-established, and the prince Louis Napoleon proclaimed Emperor under the title of Napoleon III. Postage stamps were emitted bearing his effigy, with the legend "Empire francais."

This type existed until September 4th, 1870. Nevertheless, it received in 1863 a modification, by consequence of the Campaign of Italy; from this period, conformably with the laws of ancient Numismatics, the brow of the Emperor was laureated, as a token of victory won under his personal command. Telegraph stamps, the postage stamps of the Colonies, and the fiscal stamps, bore equally, either the effigy of Napoleon III, or the escutcheon of the imperial arms, or the eagle, which is one of the main features.

The same campaign of Italy, alluded to above, (*á propos* of the stamps of France,) brought with it numerous changes in the postal administration of Italy itself. The war against Austria had scarcely commenced, when the grand duke of Tuscany found it necessary to quit his state; soon the duke of Modena, and the reigning duchess of Parma, were obliged to follow the same step; Romagna placed itself under the protection of Victor-Emmanuel. Provisional-Governments were speedily established; at Florence (August 1st, 1859,) in Modena and Parma, (July 27th, and August 18th,) and at Bologna (August 2nd.) The assemblies renounced their sovereigns and declared the four provinces to be annexed to the Kingdom of Sardinia; but later, they leagued with Central Italy,———then divided into two distinct states. Tuscany and Emilie. A second vote of the assemblies (March 14th, and 16th, 1860) consummated the annexation, which was accepted March 18th, and 22nd, by King Victor-Emmanuel II.

These successive revolutions brought with them notable changes in the current series of stamps. Those with the lion of Tuscany, the eagle of Modena, the fleur-de-lis of Parma, and the pontificial stamps of Romagna, were replaced by others, issued by order of the revolutionary government.

They were improvised, so to speak, under the pressure of circumstances, and were circulated as rapidly as possible among the people, as a sign of the new sovereignty. Their design was extremely simple, and reduced in some cases to a legend composed of typographical characters; the impressions were defective, [in a word,] the execution of the new vignettes suffered in all points, owing to the eagerness to suppress the old stamps. It is to be remarked, that those of Tuscany and Modena, bore the cross of Savoy, symbol of the annexing tendencies that were then prevailing. They replaced, on the Modena stamps, the legend, "Poste estensi" (which recalled the ducal dynasty,) with the words, "Provincie Modonesi." The provisional government of Parma was not limited to the use of the stamps bearing the arms of Savoy; it had, since August 1st, 1859 prescribed, that those of Sardinia should be employed; but this measure, having raised difficulties, and Sardinia itself having deemed it premature a provisional emmission took place the 16th to 27th August, which remained in use until April 1860. Nevertheless, there was pressed into vigorous service from the 12th of January, a re-issue of the Sardinians.

So far as Romagna is concerned it is a singular fact that the pontificial stamps are found surcharged with a sort of cross of St-Andrew, which proves that the provisional administration did not consider the stamps valid, unless they were so designated; thus indicating the abolition of the ancient sovereignty.

In southern Italy, the stamps of the Kingdom of the Two-Sicilies,—the effigy of Ferdinand II. for Sicily, and the arms of the *Trinacrie* for Naples,———were not slow in disappearing with the reigning dynasty. May 10th, 1860, Garibaldi landed at Marsala and the 14th proclaimed himself dictator, in the name of Victor-Emmanuel, and organized a provincial government; the 27th May he took possession of Palermo, and entered Naples the 7th September; the 22nd October the annexation of the Neapolitan provinces of Marches and Ombria, were concluded; the 13th February, 1861, Francis II. (whose reign was too short for the preparation of stamps bearing his effigy), quitted Gaeta and took refuge in Rome.

At last, the 17th March, 1861, the first Italian parliament proclaimed Victor-Emmanuel King of Italy. A stamp, whose rarity enhances its historic value remains; a precious token of all these events. In this stamp, the ancient armorials of the Two-Sicilies were erased from the face of the die and were replaced by the Cross of Savoy, but a few traces of the

first design have resisted the graver, as if to render more obvious and striking, the rapidity with which this sudden political commotion was accomplished.

Other stamps bearing the effigy of Victor-Emmanuel II, were issued in 1861, and continued in use to the moment when the same currency (lire and centesimi) was current in all Italy, and then the stamps of the Kingdom of Italy were uniformly employed in every part of the peninsula.

Newly Issued Stamps.



CANADA.—The registered letter stamps announced as in course of preparation in our February number have now been issued. The design, as will be seen by the accompanying illustration is quite plain, but the excellency of the workmanship and beauty of the colors employed, make up for what is lacking in design. A set of three values for registration purposes is something that has never been required before in any country. Their introduction must be quite a blessing to the people who are fortunate enough to have the additional security of registration for an insignificant addition of two cents to the postage fee.

The colors and values are—

2 cents orange, 5 cents green, 8 cents blue.

Their novel shape and bright colors make them a pleasing addition to our albums.

JAPAN.—Another change, this time we presume to save paper, the 20 sen having been re-engraved and reduced in size to that of the low values of the set. It is printed in rose. We expect the other high values will also be reduced in size, but have had no intimation of the change.

JAMAICA.—The color of the 5 shillings announced in our last number is mauve.

BRITISH GUIANA.—In A. S. & Co.'s circular we get the following interesting clipping, with their comments from the *Demerara Times*.

"With regard to the item for providing new dies for postage and revenue stamps, the Government Secretary said there had been a long correspondence between the Government and the Crown Agents for Colonies on the subject. The stamps heretofore used had been obtained from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, and were produced simply by the process of lithography, and the Crown Agents pointed out some time ago that there was not sufficient security against counterfeiting. The Crown Agents were requested to ascertain from Messrs. Waterlow & Sons what precautions they had adopted, what was the condi-

tion of the plates now in use, and how long they would last. In reply to that the Government received by the mail of the 25th May information to the effect that the dies and plates in the hands of Messrs. Waterlow & Sons were worn out, and that it would be necessary to replace them. The Crown Agents recommended that they should be replaced by dies prepared by De La Rue's process, which was somewhat more expensive, but far more lasting, and would afford a greater degree of security, besides producing a much better-executed stamp. It appeared that if a 'Queenshead' were substituted for the present design of a ship, new dies could be obtained for about £65 less than the amount on the estimate; the 'Queenshead' was used by almost all colonies and could be more cheaply executed, but there appeared to be a feeling in favour of adhering to the old familiar design; he had spoken to several hon. members on the subject, and they all said they would 'stick to the ship.' The item was agreed to."

This extract gives us an interesting glimpse of the way in which De La Rue & Co. are gradually obtaining the entire control of the postal issues of the colonies, and also of the persistence with which the monotonous Queen's head type is sought to be forced on all alike, to the entire destruction of originality and dictinctiveness in design. I, for one, am very glad that the authorities at Guiana felt sufficient affection for the device of their colony to decide on its perpetuation even at some slight extra outlay.

ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS.—We are indebted to Mr. Sebeck for the first sight of a new value of postage stamps for these distant possessions of Portugal. The design is the same as the old series. The color and value is,

40 reis, violet.

BOLIVIA.—Mr. Coster reminds us that we did not give the design of the new stamps of this country in our last, and kindly sent us a set of proofs which he has had several weeks. The upper part of the design consists of the old stamp in miniature, with an open book, inscribed LA LEY below,—CORREOS DE BOLIVIA, on a band dividing the stamps in the center, value in words below, numerals in each corner.

Answers to Correspondents.

P. S. P. Chicago—Every type and color of the Plympton envelopes have now been seen except the 2 cent first die, "gold" or orange.

H. A. B., Trenton.—The Post Card Album is now ready, as will be seen by our publisher's announcement.

End of Vol. IX.

THE

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. IX. 1875.

A GENUINE FOREIGN STAMP PRESENTED TO THE PURCHASER WITH EVERY NUMBER.

TERMS:

SUBSCRIPTION IN THE U. S. AND CANADA $1.00 PER YEAR, ALL OTHER COUNTRIES $1.25. SINGLE COPIES 10 CENTS.

NEW YORK:

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

75 & 77 NASSAU STREET.

No. 110. February 20th.

J. W. Scott & Co.

Announcements, Philatelic and Numismatic.

The American Journal of Philately, annual subscription $1.00. Single copies, 10 cts.
" " " Vols. I. to VI. and VIII. $2 each bound.
" " " Vols. 1. & V. 50 cents each, unbound.
" " " Vols. II. & IV, VI. & VIII. $1 each unbound.
Illustrated Descriptive Price List of Postage Stamps, 25 cents each post free.
The Common Sense Postage Stamp Albums, price $2.00. 2.50, 3.50. 5.00, 6 00, 8.00.
Stamp Albums for Beginners, price 25c., 50c., 75c. and $1.00.
11th Series of Popular Packets, price 25c. to $10.00.
Cheap Sets of Stamps. See other page.
Single Stamps, as per Catalogue price.
Electrotypes of Stamp Cuts for Illustrating, price 80c. post free.
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The Revenue Stamp Catalogue, 25c. post free.
The Revenue Stamp Packet 25c. to $1.00.
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—o—

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THE REVENUE STAMP CATALOGUE.

We are pleased to announce to Collectors, that a new edition of our Revenue Stamp Catalogue is now ready and can be obtained of all respectable booksellers and Stamp Dealers throughout the world.

This valuable aid to the study of fiscal stamps accurately describes over two thousand American and Foreign Revenue Stamps, many of which have never been noted before. It is the only work on the subject ever printed in the English language.

The feature of this edition is a complete list of Beer stamps, printed at current market rates.

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—o—

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It will be found of great value to all NEWSDEALERS and STOREKEEPERS, as it gives the fictitious value of all American copper. By its means many small traders have made hundreds of dollars by selling coins taken in their stores, which they would otherwise have passed out in change. Price 25 cents, post free.

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Ready March 1.

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Our remarks concerning the value of the Copper coin catalogue, will apply with still greater force to this, for as the silver coin which has been hoarded up for the last fifteen years comes again into circulation, many rare and valuable pieces are sure to reward those who take the time to look at the dates before paying them away. It must not be thought that it is only the old pieces that are valuable, as, for instance, the publisher will pay $5 00 for the silver dollar of 1854, and so with other comparatively recent dates.

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Those marked * are unused, all the others are used.

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Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
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*Bermuda, 1865-73,	5	1 25
Brazil, 1866,	8	25
* " "	8	1 00
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J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

75 & 77 NASSAU STREET.

No. 111. March 20th.

THE COMMON SENSE POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

—:o:—

It has received the Highest Prize wherever exhibited, and was awarded the only Diploma for Stamp Albums at the American Institute.

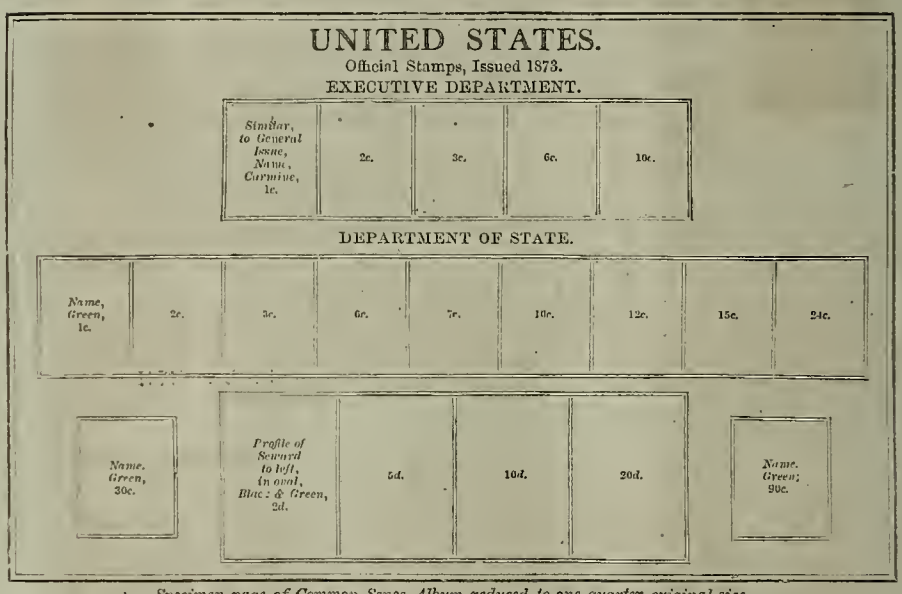
It has specially designed spaces for the reception of every Postage Stamp ever issued, rather larger than the Stamp itself, thus showing a neat border round each, adding much to the appearance of a set. Each space contains the description of the stamp it is designed for, thus making it nearly impossible to make mistakes in arranging the collection. It is brought up to the present time, having spaces provided for the Stamps of The Deccan, Fiji Islands, Japan, &c., &c., also, for the new issues of Canada, Ceylon, Luzon, Norway, Prince Edward Island, United States Official, &c., &c.

It is bound in the strongest manner, by the most skilful workmen, with the best materials. The following styles and prices now ready :

HALF CLOTH, beautifully illuminated in black and gold,	$2 00
CLOTH, gilt lettering, back and sides,	2 50
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HALF MOROCCO, extra fine, heavy paper, gilt clasp,	6 00
FRENCH MOROCCO, fine heavy paper, gilt edges, two gilt clasps	8 00
HALF MOROCCO, bound very strong, every other page blank, making it "perfectly permanent;" warranted ten years. Price only	10 00
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FULL LEVANT or RUSSIA, full gilt,	25 00

EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

"Special care has been taken to leave plenty of room for those governments that are still in existence, so as to accommodate future issues, and blank pages are left at appropriate intervals for the reception of Stamps from any countries that have not at present issued Postage Labels, but should any one desire additional leaves, specially designed pages to correspond with the body of the book are prepared for all new issues as soon as they are received. These are supplied by the publishers at a nominal rate, and can easily be inserted in their proper order by gumming them to the guards bound with the book for that purpose, thus making the Album PERFECTLY PERMANENT, and good after ten years as one just published."



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Much has been said and written concerning the collection of autographs; many learned men maintaining that the handwriting is a sure guide to the character of the writer; be this as it may, it is certain that from the earliest authentic records of history to the present day, there has never been lack of diligent searchers after the signatures of eminent men, and no one who has studied the subject, can doubt the historic value of narratives authenticated by the signatures of well-known characters, but it is not for this class of autographs that the present volume is intended, although if desired these can be pasted with good effect on the blank pages; but rather to contain a collection of the signatures of our friends and acquaintances, and thus, perhaps, be the means of preserving the hand-writing of many loved and lost ones, or at least help to pass many a pleasant hour amongst our friends by comparing hand writing and making guesses at character.

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—:o:—

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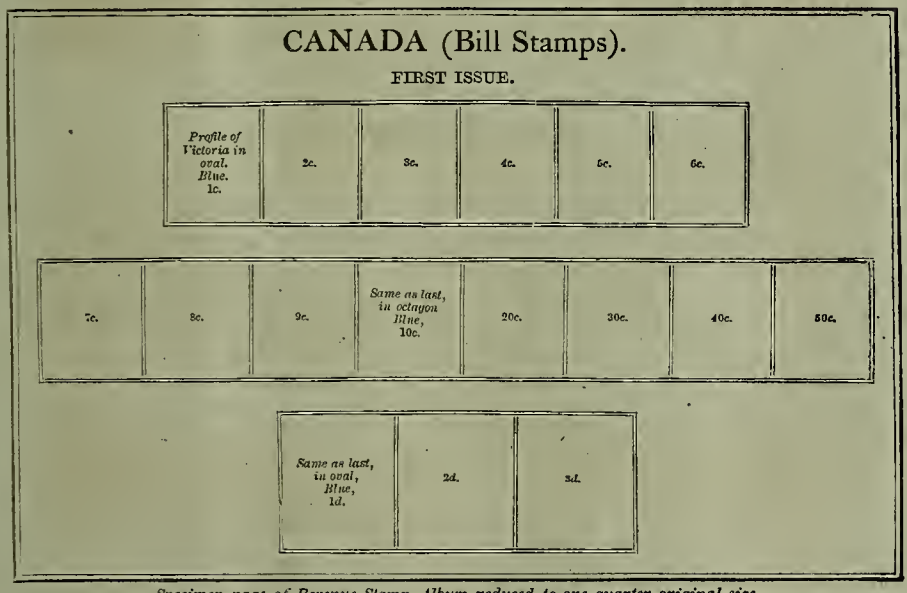
EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

In the present state of knowledge concerning revenue stamps it is simply impossible to make the book perfect, nor would it be advisable to do so, if the necessary data were at hand, as the supply of these labels is, at present, very limited, which would in that case, make it impossible to fill the Album. Perhaps the greatest charm in collecting revenue stamps consists in the uncertainty and romance connected with it: nearly every amateur having specimens in his album which are totally unknown to his brother collectors, and there being no definite value or degrees of value yet established; but, of course, this state of things is rapidly passing away, and ere many years, or even months have elapsed, collectors will awake to the knowledge that they have some priceless rarities among their revenue stamps, which, perhaps, have only cost them two or three cents.

Taking these facts into consideration, spaces have only been prepared for well-known and obtainable series of foreign revenue stamps; but by the plentiful distribution of blank pages throughout the book, ample room has been secured for all fiscal stamps that may be acquired by the owner. In regard to the amissions of the United States the case is very different, as nearly every American Philatelist is desirous of obtaining a complete set of the fiscal stamps of his own country. Therefore great care has been taken to provide space for every stamp that has ever been issued by our own country, with the exception of beer, spirit, and tobacco stamps, which it has been prononnced illegal to collect, but as large numbers do collect them, sufficient blank pages have been left for their accommodation, and taking into consideration their large size, they can be arranged with equal facility without the aid of lines.

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" EXTRA, heavy paper, large number of additional leaves, clasps, &c.,	5 00
HALF MOROCCO, twice the thickness of last,	10 00
" LEVANT, gilt edges, very strong and handsomely bound,	15 00
FULL " or Russia: a magnificent book	25 00

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THE

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1 Contains 25 varieties of United States Document Stamps. All of the first issue and some quite scarce, - - - - - - Price 25c.

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5 Contains 15 varieties of Canada Revenue Stamps, including some obsolete ones, - - - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

6 Contains 15 varieties of Foreign Revenue Stamps, including Italy, Austria, Great Britain, etc, - - - - - - - - Price 25c.

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8 Contains forty varieties of Mixed United States Revenue Stamps, including some of all issues, - - - - - - - Price 50c.

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12 Contains one hundred Revenue Stamps, including Canada, United States, England, France, etc., - - - - - - - - Price 1.00.

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14 Contains twenty-five rare Revenue Stamps, including Peru, Paraguay, etc., Price 1.00.

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H. 8.	1000 " " " " - - - - - - -	5.50
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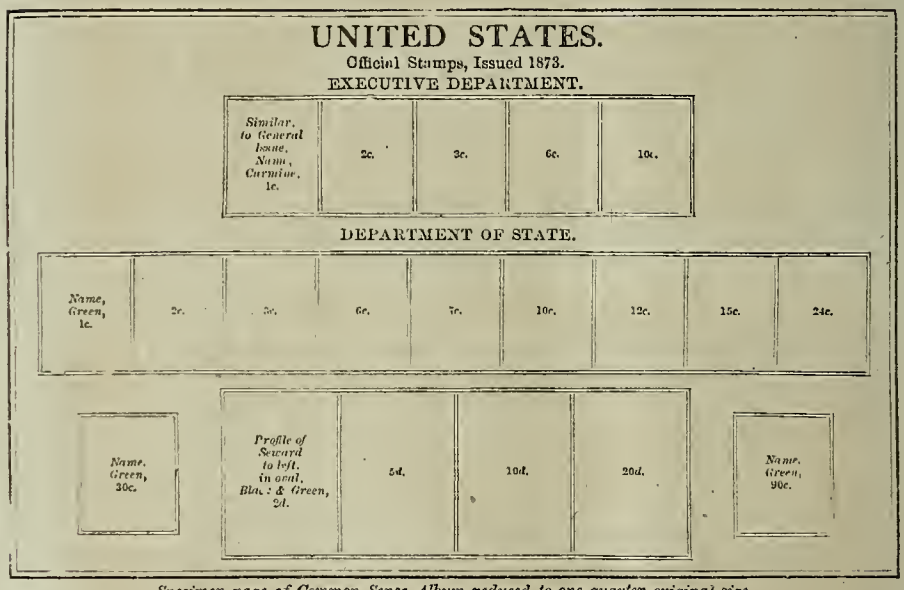
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HALF MOROCCO, bound very strong, every other page blank, making it "perfectly permanent;" warranted ten years. Price only	10 00
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FULL LEVANT or RUSSIA, full gilt,	25 00

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Specimen page of Common Sense Album reduced to one-quarter original size.

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Bavaria, 1849-68,	10	25
Belgium, 1849-69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
*Bermuda, 1865-73,	5	1 25
Brazil, 1866,	8	25
* " "	8	1 00
*Bremen, 1852-63,	6	1 00
British Guiana, 1860-3	6	25
British Honduras,	3	25
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870 71,	4	20
*Cashmere, 1866,	6	3 00
Ceylon, 1872,	6	25
*Confederate States, 1861-3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71,	15	40
Dutch Indies, 1870-4,	5	30
* " " 1874,	4	75
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854 69,	15	25
" 1872,	10	10
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Hong Kong,	10	25
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*Italy, 1856,	10	50
" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
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* " " Env.	2	1 00
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* " 1867,	5	25
* " Env. 1851,	7	2 50
* " " 1861:	3	50
" 1850-67,	20	50
Queensland,	6	35
*Roman States, 1867,	7	35
*Roumania, 1865,	3	30
* " 1866,	3	35
"	15	65
Russia,	6	25
Salvador.	4	50
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Saxony, 1851-63,	14	30
* " 1863,	6	10
*Shanghai, 1865	6	1 25
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* " " 1854,	4	25
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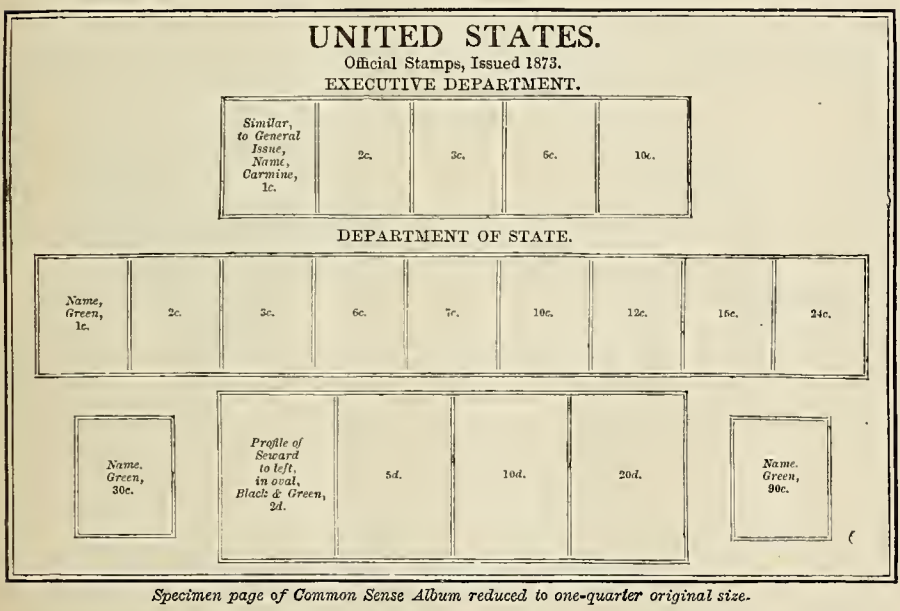
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EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

In the present state of knowledge concerning revenue stamps, it is simply impossible to make the book perfect, nor would it be advisable to do so, if the necessary data were at hand, as the supply of these labels is, at present, very limited, which would in that case, make it impossible to fill the Album. Perhaps the greatest charm in collecting revenue stamps consists in the uncertainty and romance connected with it; nearly every amateur having specimens in his album which are totally unknown to his brother collectors, and there being no definite value or degrees of value yet established; but, of course, this state of things is rapidly passing away, and ere many years, or even months have elapsed, collectors will awake to the knowledge that they have some priceless rarities among their revenue stamps, which, perhaps, have only cost them two or three cents.

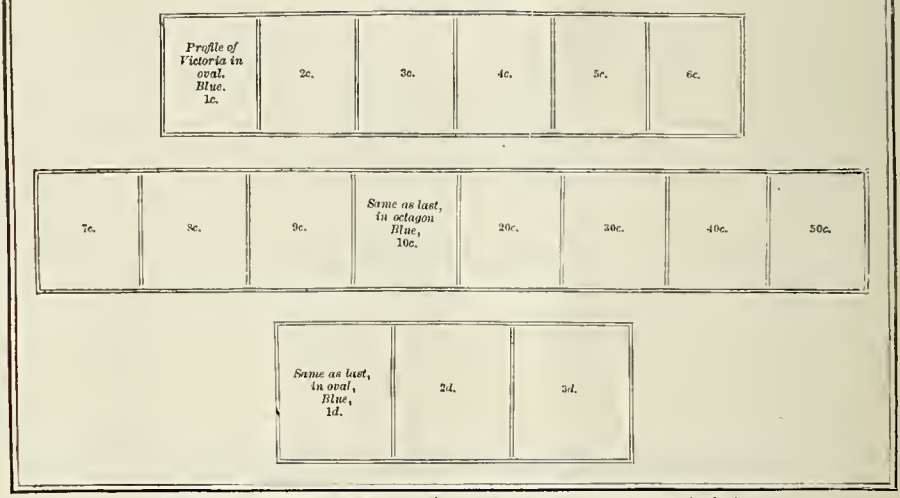
Taking these facts into consideration, spaces have only been prepared for well-known and obtainable series of foreign revenue stamps; but by the plentiful distribution of blank pages throughout the book, ample room has been secured for all fiscal stamps that may be acquired by the owner. In regard to the emissions of the United States the case is very different, as nearly every American Philatelist is desirous of obtaining a complete set of the fiscal stamps of his own country. Therefore great care has been taken to provide space for every stamp that has ever been issued by our own country, with the exception of beer, spirit, and tobacco stamps, which it has been pronounced illegal to collect, but as large numbers do collect them, sufficient blank pages have been left for their accommodation, and taking into consideration their large size, they can be arranged with equal facility without the aid of lines.

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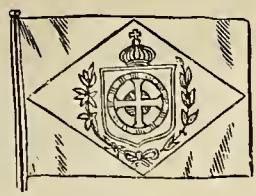
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43. United States.—G. Washington
44. " " A. Lincoln.
45. " " U. S. Grant.
27. Austria—Francis Joseph I.
10. Baden—Frederick.
28. Bavaria—Maximilian.
6. " Louis II.
21. Belgium—Leopold I.
24. Brazil—Dom Pedro II.
5. Brunswick—William.
47. Confederate States—Jeff. Davis.
3. Denmark—Frederick VII.
37. " Christian IX.
2. France—Napoleon III.
46. Great Britain—Victoria
14. Greece—George I.
19. Hanover—George V.
16. Holland..William III.
39. Italy..Victor Emanuel II.
32. Mecklenburg Schwerin..Frederick Francis.
34. Mecklenburg Strelitz..Frederick William
7. Mexico..Maximilian I.
20. Modena..Francis V.
41. Naples..Ferdinand II.
4. Norway..Charles XV.
18. Oldenburg..Peter.
31. Parma..Robert I.
17. Portugal..Maria II.
40. " Pedro V.
30. " Louis I.
34. Prussia..William I.
23. " Frederick William IV.
35. Roman States..Pius IX.
12. Roumania..Couza.
38. Russia..Alexander II.
29. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha III.
36. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha IV.
22. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha V.
9. Saxony..Frederick Augustus
33. " John
41. Sicily..Ferdinand II.
11. Spain..Isabella II.
42. Sweden..Charles XV.
25. Turkey..Abdul Aziz Khan
13. Tuscany..Ferdinand IV.
8. Wurtenhurg..William I.
15. " Charles I.
The Author.

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" 1863,	5	10
" 1867,	7	35
" 1850–67	25	50
Baden, 1851–68,	10	25
Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
Belgium, 1849–69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
Brazil, 1866,	7	25
* " "	7	1 00
British Guiana, 1860–3	6	25
British Honduras,	3	25
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870-71,	4	20
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Ceylon, 1872,	6	25
*Confederate States, 1861-3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71,	15	40
Dutch Indies, 1870-4,	5	30
* " " 1874,	4	75
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854-69,	15	25
" 1872,	10	10
Germany—Southern States,	12	40
* " Northern and Southern, 1859-62,	14	1 00
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" " 1872-4,	15	35
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*Hamburgh,	10	50
"	10	25
* " Locals,	11	50
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" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
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" 1872,	5	35
" 1874,	4	50
* " " Env.	2	1 00
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*New Caledonia, Photographs,	50	50
*New Foundland, 1857–60,	11	2 50
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*Portuguese Indies,	3	65
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* " " 1861,	10	4 00
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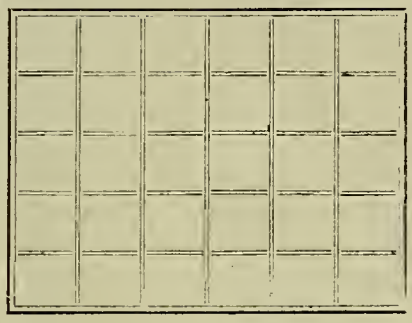
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1795	"	3 00 -	2 00 -	1 50





1795	Fillet Head,	3 50 -	2 50 -	2 00
1796	"	3 50 -	2 50 -	2 00
1797	"	4 00 -	3 50 -	3 00





1798	Fillet Head. Reverse. Large Eagle.	3 00 -	2 00 -	1 75
1799	"	2 00 -	1 75 -	1 50
1800	"	3 00 -	2 50 -	2 00
1801	"	5 00 -	3 50 -	2 50
1802	"	3 50 -	3 00 -	2 50
1803	"	2 50 -	2 00 -	1 75
1804	"	Excessively rare.		

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VOL. IX. 1875.

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½ a.	1871,	red	10	
1 a.	"	violet black		
2 a.	"	green		
3 a.	"	brown		
4 a.	"	slate		
8 a.	"	dark brown		
12 a.	"	pale blue		

DENMARK, E.

100 SKILLINGS OR ORE = 1 RIX DOLLAR.

2 r. s.	1851, (t 281) blue		30



4 r. s.	1851,	brown		3
2 s.	1853,	blue	8	5
4 s.	"	brown		3
8 s.	"	green		5
4 s.	1857,	brown	15	3
8 s.	"	green		5
16 s.	"	lilac		5



2 s.	1865,	blue	5	3
3 s.	"	violet		3
4 s.	1864,	red		2
8 s.	1868,	brown		5
16 s.	1864,	slate		5



2 s.	1871, blue & slate		5	3
3 s.	" purple " "		10	3
4 s.	" carmine " "		10	2
8 s.	" brown " "		20	5
16 s.	" green " "		30	5
48 s.	" violet & brown		75	15
3 o.	1874, grey & blue,			
4 o.	" blue & slate			5
8 o.	" red " "			5
12 o.	" purple " "			5
16 o.	" brown " "			
25 o.	" green " "			
50 o.	" violet & brown			

OFFICIAL STAMPS.



			New	Used
2 s.	1871,	blue		5
4 s.	"	carmine	10	5
16 s.	"	green	20	10
3 o.	1874,	grey		
4 o.	"	blue		
8 o.	"	red		
32 o.	"	green		

ENVELOPE STAMPS.



2 s.	1865,	blue	10
4 s.	"	red	10
4 s.	"	(no S) "	10
2 s.	1869,	" blue	10
4 o.	1874,	"	
8 o.	"	red	

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Same as Adhesive.

2 s.		blue	5
4 s.		carmine	
4 o.	1874,	blue	

DOMINICA, W. I. I.

12 PENCE = 1 SHILLING.

Head. Queen in Centre.

1 p.	1874,	lilac
6 p.	"	green
1 s.	"	solferino

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100 CENTS = 1 FLORIN.

10 c.	1864, (t 282) carmine		25	15



5 c.	1870,	green	10	
10 c.	"	bistre	15	10
20 c.	"	ultramarine	20	10
50 c.	"	carmine	40	5
1 c.	1874,	olive	5	4
15 c.	"	bistre	15	
25 c.	"	violet	25	
2 g. 50 c.	1874,	green and violet	2 00	

UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.



			New	Used
5 c.	1874,	yellow	10	
10 c.	"	green	15	
20 c.	"	blue	25	

DUTCH WEST INDIES, W. I. I.

Suriname.



2½ c.	1873,	carmine	10
3 c.	"	green	15
5 c.	"	violet	
10 c.	"	bistre	
25 c.	"	blue	
50 c.	"	red brown	



Curaco.

2½ c.	1873,	green	10
3 c.	"	grey	15
5 c.	"	carmine	
10 c.	"	blue	
25 c.	"	orange	
50 c.	"	violet	

ECUADOR, S. A.

8 REALES = 1 PESO.



½ r.	1865,	blue	15	15
1 r.	"	buff	20	10
1 r.	"	green		30
4 r.	1866,	red		50
1 r.	1873,	buff on blue		50

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AND ONE OF SCOTT'S STANDARD REVENUE STAMP ALBUMS,

REGULAR PRICE $5 00,

THE TWO BOOKS FOR $7.50, Post Free, $8.00 ;

OR, ONE OF SCOTT'S COMMON SENSE POSTAGE STAMP ALBUMS.

REGULAR PRICE $2 50,

AND ONE OF SCOTT'S STANDARD REVENUE STAMP ALBUMS.

REGULAR PRICE $3 00,

THE TWO BOOKS FOR $5.00, POST FREE.

Collectors wishing to avail themselves of these advantageous terms, should make early application.

All goods carefully packed to ensure there arrival in perfect condition.

THE REVENUE STAMP CATALOGUE.

J. W. SCOTT & CO., beg to inform Collectors that the New Edition is now ready. The delay in its publication which is greatly deplored by its Editor, was owing to causes quite unavoidable, and it is hoped, that the addition of the new issue of BEER STAMPS will compensate for the delay in its issue.

THE MATCH, MEDICINE and PLAYING CARD STAMPS have been entirely rewritten and arranged so as to facilitate reference. All the new issues have been added up to the day of going to press, and a few valuable resuscitations enrich its pages.

PRICE 25 CENTS.

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

75 & 77 Nassau Street, New York City.

THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. IX. 1875.

A GENUINE FOREIGN STAMP PRESENTED TO THE PURCHASER WITH EVERY NUMBER.

TERMS:

SUBSCRIPTION IN THE U. S. AND CANADA $1.00 PER YEAR, ALL OTHER COUNTRIES $1.25. SINGLE COPIES 10 CENTS.

NEW YORK:

J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

75 & 77 NASSAU STREET.

No. 115. July 20th.

CHEAP SETS OF STAMPS.

Those marked * are unused, all the others are used.

	VARIETIES.	PRICE
Argentine Republic, 1867,	3	35
Austria, 1850,	5	15
" 1863,	5	10
" 1867,	7	35
" 1850–67	25	50
Baden, 1851–68,	10	25
Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
Belgium, 1849–69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
Brazil, 1866,	7	25
* " "	7	1 00
British Guiana, 1860–3	6	25
British Honduras,	3	25
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870-71,	4	20
*Cashmere, 1866,	6	3 00
Ceylon, 1872,	6	25
*Confederate States, 1861-3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71,	15	40
Dutch Indies, 1870-4,	5	30
* " " 1874,	4	75
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854-69,	15	25
" 1872,	10	10
Germany—Southern States,	12	40
* " Northern and Southern, 1859-62.	14	1 00
German Empire, 1871,	13	25
" " 1872-4,	15	35
Great Britain,	28	50
*Hamburgh,	10	50
"	10	25
* " Locals,	16	50
*Heligoland, 1875,	6	75
*Holstein, Schleswig and Schleswig Holstein,	14	1 00
Holland, 1852-72	20	50
Hungary,	10	50
Honduras,	2	40
India, 1860-66,	6	10
*Italy, 1856.	10	50
" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
*Lubeck, 1859,	5	25
Luxemburg,	7	25
*Mecklenburg Strelitz	6	35
*Mexico, 1867,	4	5 00
* " 1864,	5	1 00
* " 1866,	4	1 50
" 1872,	5	35
" 1874,	4	50
* " " Env.	2	1 00
*Modena, 1859,	5	50
*New Caledonia, Photographs,	50	50
*New Foundland, 1857–60,	11	2 50
* " " 1866–74,	10	2 50
* " " " "	4	50
New Granada, 1869–74,	8	75
New South Wales, 1852–72	10	50
New Zealand,	10	40
* " 1873,	6	1 00
*Nicaragua,	5	1 25
North German Confed.,	13	25
Norway,	10	35
Peru, 1858–59.	4	1 50
" 1866–67,	3	25

	VARIETIES.	PRICE.
Portugal, 1862,	5	35
" 1866,	8	35
" 1871,	7	25
*Portuguese Indies,	3	65
*Prussia. 1850,	5	50
* " 1861,	6	25
* " 1867,	5	25
* " Env. 1851,	7	2 50
* " " 1861:	3	50
" 1850–67,	20	50
Queensland,	6	35
*Romagna, 1859,	9	75
*Roman States, 1867,	7	35
*Roumania, 1865,	3	35
* " 1866,	3	30
"	15	65
Russia,	6	25
Salvador.	4	50
*Sandwich Islands, 1864–71	5	1 00
Saxony, 1851–63,	14	30
* " 1863,	6	10
*Shanghai. 1865	6	1 25
*Sicily, 1859.	7	75
South Australia,	5	20
Spain, 1852–74	50	2 00
* " Second, 1874 issue,	8	2 00
" 1870,	10	30
" First, 1874 issue,	8	50
* " Official, 1854,	4	25
* " " 1854,	4	25
Spanish West Indies, one of each		
" " issue,	12	60
* " " 1857,	3	1 00
" " 1870,	4	75
" " 1871,	4	25
* " " 1873,	4	1 25
* " " 1874,	4	1 25
* " " 1875,	4	1 25
St. Settlements, 1868–72,	9	50
Sweden, 1872,	9	25
" 1858,	7	15
Switzerland, 1854–74,	20	40
* " Envelope,	4	50
" "	4	15
Tasmania, 1858,	5	35
*Turks Island,	3	1 00
*Turkey,	5	50
"	5	25
*United States, 1851,	8	1 25
* " " 1861,	10	4 00
" " 1871,	11	20
" " Official, Interior.	11	50
" " Justice,	9	1 00
" " Navy,	9	75
" " Post Office	9	50
" " State,	8	1 00
" " Treasury,	11	25
" " War,	7	35
" " " Env.	5	25
* " "Newsp'r Stamps, 1863,	3	1 00
* " "Envelope " 1865,	6	1 00
* " " " 1870,	18	1 00
" " Revenue 1st issue, 1c. to $1.00	17	25
" " " 2d issue, 1c. to $1.00	27	35
*Venezu la, 1859,	3	50
Victoria, 1852–74,	20	1 00
Western Australia, 1865.	5	30
Wurtemburg, 1851–73,	17	50

THE COMMON SENSE POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM.

—:o:—

It has received the Highest Prize wherever exhibited, and was awarded the only Diploma for Stamp Albums at the American Institute.

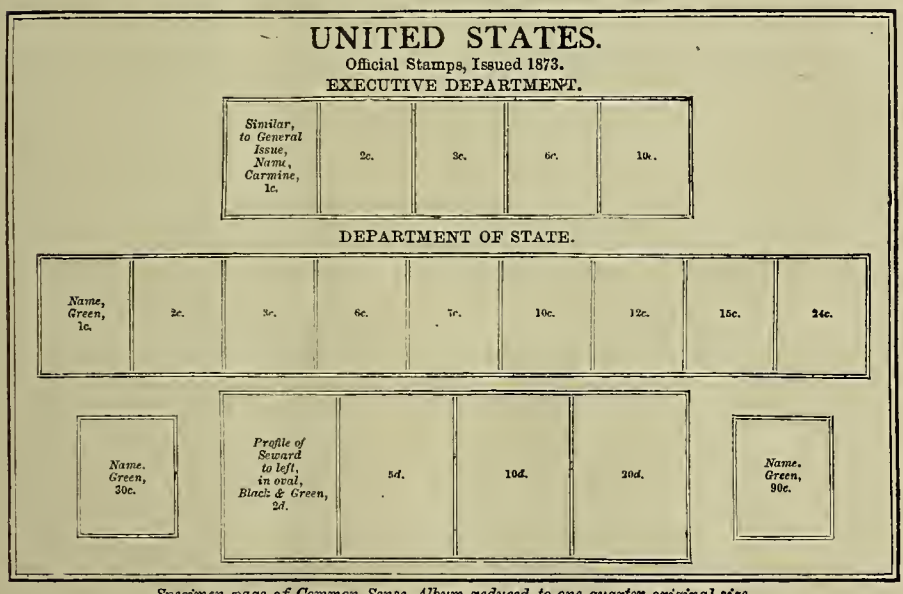
It has specially designed spaces for the reception of every Postage Stamp ever issued, rather larger than the Stamp itself, thus showing a neat border round each, adding much to the appearance of a set. Each space contains the description of the stamp it is designed for, thus making it nearly impossible to make mistakes in arranging the collection. It is brought up to the present time, having spaces provided for the Stamps of The Deccan, Fiji Islands, Japan, &c., &c., also, for the new issues of Canada, Ceylon, Luzon, Norway, Prince Edward Island, United States Official, &c., &c.

It is bound in the strongest manner, by the most skilful workmen, with the best materials. The following styles and prices now ready:

HALF CLOTH, beautifully illuminated in black and gold,	$2 00
CLOTH, gilt lettering, back and sides,	2 50
" guards, clasps, &c.,	3 50
" extra thick paper, gilt clasp, printed on one side of the paper only,	5 00
HALF MOROCCO, extra fine, heavy paper, gilt clasp,	6 00
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HALF MOROCCO, bound very strong, every other page blank, making it "perfectly permanent;" warranted ten years. Price only	10 00
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FULL LEVANT or RUSSIA, full gilt,	25 00

EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

"Special care has been taken to leave plenty of room for those governments that are still in existence, so as to accommodate future issues, and blank pages are left at appropriate intervals for the reception of Stamps from any countries that have not at present issued Postage Labels, but should any one desire additional leaves, specially designed pages to correspond with the body of the book are prepared for all new issues as soon as they are received. These are supplied by the publishers at a nominal rate, and can easily be inserted in their proper order by gumming them to the guards bound with the book for that purpose, thus making the Album PERFECTLY PERMANENT, and as good after ten years as one just published."



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" " Envelopes, white paper.
" " " yellow.
" " " orange.
" Officials Executive and State.
" " Justice and Interior.
" " War and Navy.
" " Agricultural, Treasury & Post Office
Bermuda and Bolivia.
France, last Republic.
Holland, 1872.
Iceland.
Italy Unpaid Letter Stamps.
Mexico 1872 and 1874 Issue.
North German Confederation Official Stamps.
Spain 1870 and 1872 Issue.
" 1874, both Issues.
Sweden, 1872 Issue, Official and Unpaid Letter Stamps.
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" Newspaper and Envelope Stamps.
Blank page with border to correspond with Albums.

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J. W. SCOTT & CO., are prepared to pay the very highest prices for all American and Foreign Stamps in lots and collections.

25c. per 100 giving for the following Match Stamps: Star Match, Portland, Me. Swift & Courtney; Barber Match Co.

50c. per 100 given for any other Match and Medicine Stamps.

$2.00 per 100 given for 100 all different.

$1 00 each given for Brown & Durling, black; Doolittle, Bousfield & Pool, 3c. brown; American Match Co., 1c. green; Wise & Co., Ætna, green; Rock Island, 3c. green; Chicago Match Co., 3c. black; Pierce M. Co., 1c. green; 1 & 4c. Ayres, red; Bennet Pieters. 6c. black; 2c. Husband, purple; T. Kenset, 1c. green; Marsden, 2c. blue; Balser's Ague Cure, 4c. brown, Dr. M. Pearl's, 6c. black; Swaim's, 6c. orange.

10c. each paid for 12½c. and $2.00 Beer Stamps.

50c. " " for 33⅓c. Beer Stamps.

5c. each paid for Cigar and Tobacco Stamps.

25c. " " 250 and 500 Cigar Stamps. and 15, 21, 22, 40, 50, 60 and 100 lbs. Tobacco Stamps.

N. B.—Only obsolete Beer, Cigar and Tobacco Stamps purchased.

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75 & 77 Nassau Street, New York City.

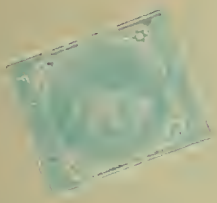
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No. 116. August 20th.

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	VARIETIES.	PRICE
Argentine Republic, 1867,	3	35
Austria, 1850,	5	15
" 1863,	5	10
" 1867,	7	35
" 1850–67	25	50
Baden, 1851–68,	10	25
Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
Belgium, 1849–69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
Brazil, 1866,	7	25
* " "	7	1 00
British Guiana, 1860–3	6	25
British Honduras,	3	25
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870-71,	4	20
*Cashmere. 1866,	6	3 00
Ceylon. 1872.	6	25
*Confederate States, 1861-3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71.	15	40
Dutch Indies, 1870-4,	5	30
* " " 1874,	4	75
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854-69,	15	25
" 1872,	10	10
Germany—Southern States,	12	40
* " Northern and Southern, 1859-62,	14	1 00
German Empire, 1871,	13	25
" " 1872-4,	15	35
Great Britain,	28	50
*Hamburgh,	10	50
"	10	25
* " Locals,	16	50
*Heligoland, 1875.	6	75
*Holstein, Schleswig and Schleswig Holstein,	14	1 00
Holland, 1852-72	20	50
Hungary,	10	50
Honduras,	2	40
India. 1860-66,	6	10
*Italy, 1856.	10	50
" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
*Lubeck, 1859,	5	25
Luxemburg,	7	25
*Mecklenburg Strelitz	6	35
*Mexico, 1867,	4	5 00
* " 1864,	5	1 00
* " 1866,	4	1 50
" 1872,	5	35
" 1874,	4	50
* " " Env.	2	1 00
*Modena, 1859,	5	50
*New Caledonia, Photographs,	50	50
*New Foundland, 1857–60,	11	2 50
* " " 1866–74,	10	2 50
* " " " "	4	50
New Granada, 1869–74,	8	75
New South Wales, 1852–72	10	50
New Zealand,	10	40
* " 1873,	6	1 00
*Nicaragua,	53	1 25
North German Confed.	13	25
Norway,	10	35
Peru, 1858–59,	4	1 50
" 1866–67,	3	25

	VARIETIES.	PRICE.
Portugal, 1862,	5	35
" 1866,	8	35
" 1871,	7	25
*Portuguese Indies,	3	65
*Prussia, 1850,	5	50
* " 1861,	6	25
* " 1867,	5	25
* " Env. 1851,	7	2 50
* " " 1861:	3	50
" 1850–67,	20	50
Queensland,	6	35
*Romagna, 1859,	9	75
*Roman States, 1867,	7	35
*Roumania, 1865,	3	35
* " 1866,	3	30
"	15	65
Russia,	6	25
Salvador.	4	50
*Sandwich Islands, 1864–71	5	1 00
Saxony, 1851–63,	14	30
* " 1863,	6	10
*Shangbai. 1865	6	1 25
*Sicily, 1859.	7	75
South Australia,	5	20
Spain, 1852–74	50	2 00
* " Second, 1874 issne,	8	2 00
" 1870,	10	30
" First, 1874 issue,	8	50
* " Official, 1854,	4	25
* " " 1854,	4	25
Spanish West Indies, one of each	12	60
" " issue,	3	1 00
* " " 1857,	4	75
" " 1870,	4	25
" " 1871,	4	1 25
* " " 1873,	4	1 25
* " " 1874,	4	1 25
* " " 1875,	9	50
St. Settlements, 1868–72,	9	25
Sweden, 1872,	7	15
" 1858,	20	40
Switzerland, 1854–74,	4	50
* " Envelope,	4	15
" "	5	35
Tasmania, 1858,	3	1 00
*Turks Island,	5	50
*Turkey,	5	25
" "	8	1 25
*United States, 1851,	10	4 00
* " " 1861,	11	20
" " 1871,	11	50
" " Official, Interior,	9	1 00
" " Justice,	9	75
" " Navy,	9	50
" " Post Office	8	1 00
" " State,	11	25
" " Treasury,	7	35
" " War,	5	25
" " " Env.	3	1 00
* " "Newsp'r Stamps, 1863,	6	1 00
* " "Envelope " 1865,	18	1 00
* " " " 1870,	17	25
" " Revenue 1st issue, 1c. to $1.00	27	35
" " " 2d issue, 1c. to $1.00	3	50
*Venezu la, 1859,	20	1 00
Victoria, 1852–74,	5	30
Western Australia, 1865,	17	50
Wurtemburg, 1851–73,		

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THE BEST AND ONLY CHEAP ALBUM FOR MONOGRAMS.

This series is beautifully printed on heavy tinted paper, with a very chaste design surrounding the page.

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No. 2 to contain 250; very strong and handsomely bound in the best English Cloth. Price, - - $1 25
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Cloth, gilt - - - - - - - - - - - - - $1 00
Cloth, gilt, superfine paper, violet border, - - - - - - - 2 00
Same in French Morocco, gilt edges, &c., - - - - - - - - 4 00



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(ESTABLISHED 1860,)

Dealers in Foreign Postage & Revenue Stamps,

COINS, MEDALS, &c.,

WHOLESALE, RETAIL, AND FOR EXPORTATION,



Nos. 75 & 77 Nassau Street, New York City.

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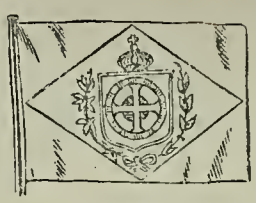
75 & 77 NASSAU STREET.

No. 117. September 20th.

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BRAZIL.



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Uncolored fac-similes, showing size and style.

These brilliant colored Flags faithfully represent the emblems of the different nations of the earth, and as such are a great acquisition to any Album, while the exceedingly low price (25 cents) at which they are published, places them within the reach of all."

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27. Austria—Francis Joseph I.
10. Baden—Frederick.
28. Bavaria—Maximilian.
6. " Louis II.
21. Belgium—Leopold I.
24. Brazil—Dom Pedro II.
5. Brunswick—William.
47. Confederate States—Jeff. Davis
3. Denmark—Frederick VII.
37. " Christian IX.
2. France—Napoleon III.
46. Great Britain—Victoria
14. Greece—George I.
19. Hanover—George V.
16. Holland..William III.
39. Italy..Victor Emanuel II.
32. Mecklenburg Schwerin..Frederick Francis.
34. Mecklenburg Strelitz..Frederick William
7. Mexico..Maximilian I.
29. Modena..Francis V.
41. Naples..Ferdinand II.
4. Norway..Charles XV.
18. Oldenburg..Peter.
51. Parma..Robert I.
17. Portugal..Maria II.
40. " Pedro V.
30. " Louis I.
34. Prussia..William I.
33. " Frederick William IV.
55. Roman States..Pius IX.
12. Roumania..Couza.
38. Russia..Alexander II.
29. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha III.
36. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha IV.
22. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha V.
9. Saxony..Frederick Augustus
33. " John
41. Sicily..Ferdinand II.
11. Spain..Isabella II.
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OF

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VOL. IX. 1875.

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J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

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No. 118. October 20th.

THE REVENUE STAMP ALBUM.

—:o:—

This Album is specially designed to contain the Revenue Stamps of the world, great care having been bestowed in its preparation. It contains the only complete list of U. S. Revenue Stamps ever published, and is well calculated to contain in a convenient and elegant form these interesting mementoes of the greatest struggle the world has ever witnessed, and vividly illustrates the darkest pages of our national history. It is made uniform with the Common Sense Postage Stamp Album, and forms an interesting second volume to that work.

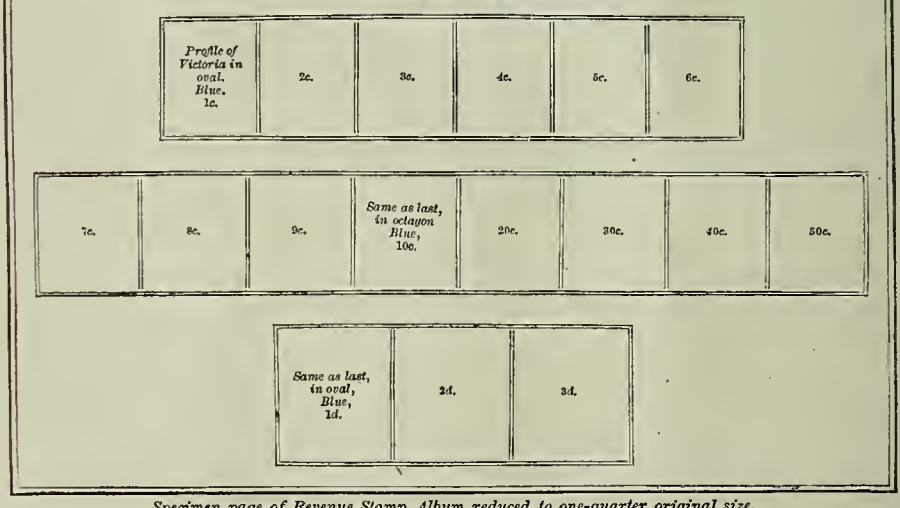
EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

In the present state of knowledge concerning revenue stamps, it is simply impossible to make the book perfect, nor would it be advisable to do so, if the necessary data were at hand, as the supply of these labels is, at present, very limited, which would in that case, make it impossible to fill the Album. Perhaps the greatest charm in collecting revenue stamps consists in the uncertainty and romance connected with it; nearly every amateur having specimens in his album which are totally unknown to his brother collectors, and there being no definite value or degrees of value yet established; but, of course, this state of things is rapidly passing away, and ere many years, or even months have elapsed, collectors will awake to the knowledge that they have some priceless rarities among their revenue stamps, which, perhaps, have only cost them two or three cents.

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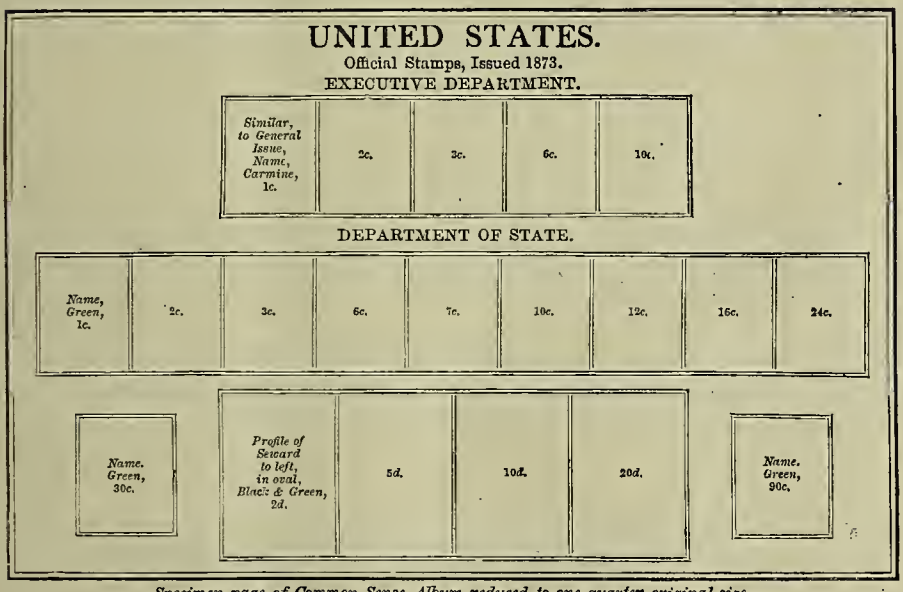
It has specially designed spaces for the reception of every Postage Stamp ever issued, rather larger than the Stamp itself, thus showing a neat border round each, adding much to the appearance of a set. Each space contains the description of the stamp it is designed for, thus making it nearly impossible to make mistakes in arranging the collection. It is brought up to the present time, having spaces provided for the Stamps of The Deccan, Fiji Islands, Japan, &c., &c., also, for the new issues of Canada, Ceylon, Luzon, Norway, Prince Edward Island, United States Official, &c., &c.

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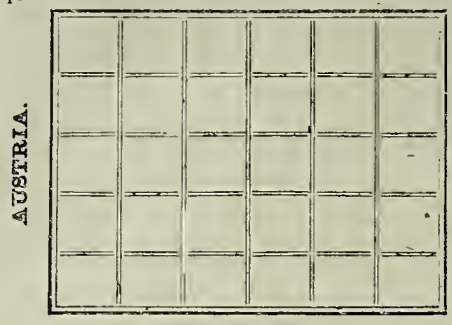
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A

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OF THE

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OF

ALL NATIONS.



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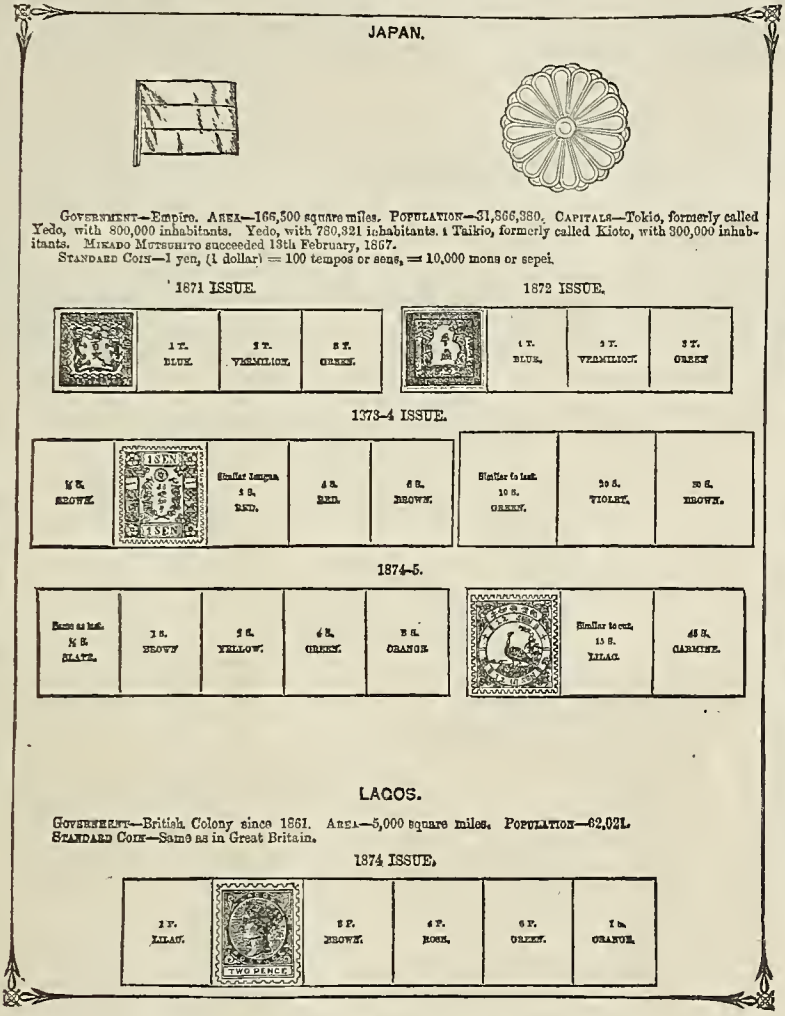
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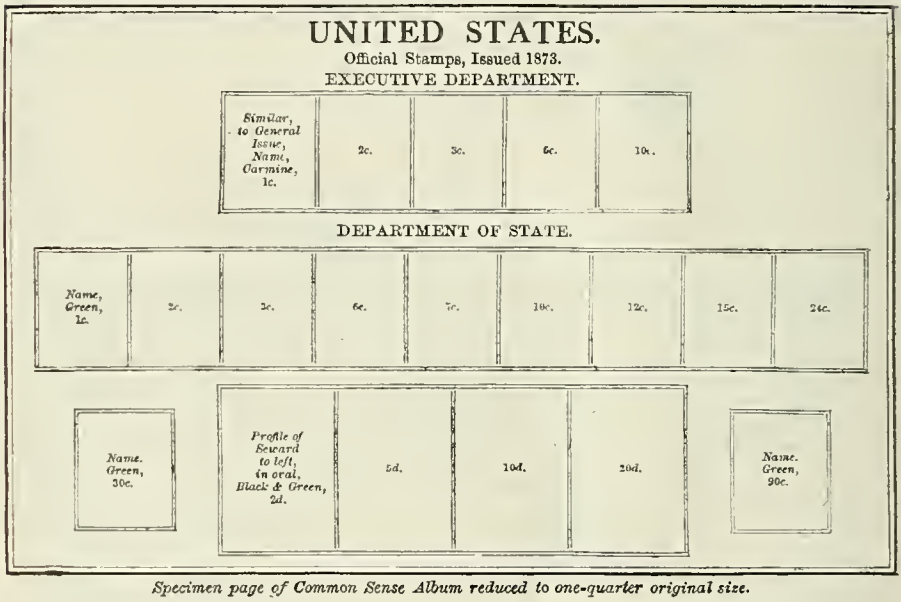
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EXTRACT FROM PREFACE.

In the present state of knowledge concerning revenue stamps, it is simply impossible to make the book perfect, nor would it be advisable to do so, if the necessary data were at hand, as the supply of these labels is, at present, very limited, which would in that case, make it impossible to fill the Album. Perhaps the greatest charm in collecting revenue stamps consists in the uncertainty and romance connected with it; nearly every amateur having specimens in his album which are totally unknown to his brother collectors, and there being no definite value or degrees of value yet established; but, of course, this state of things is rapidly passing away, and ere many years, or even months have elapsed, collectors will awake to the knowledge that they have some priceless rarities among their revenue stamps, which, perhaps, have only cost them two or three cents.

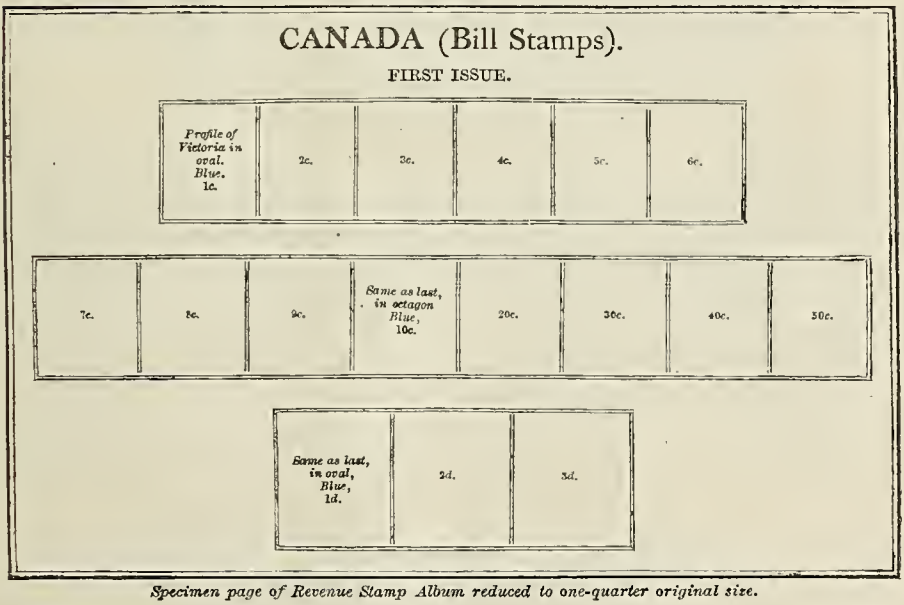
Taking these facts into consideration, spaces have only been prepared for well-known and obtainable series of foreign revenue stamps; but by the plentiful distribution of blank pages throughout the book, ample room has been secured for all fiscal stamps that may be acquired by the owner. In regard to the emissions of the United States the case is very different, as nearly every American Philatelist is desirous of obtaining a complete set of the fiscal stamps of his own country. Therefore great care has been taken to provide space for every stamp that has ever been issued by our own country, with the exception of beer, spirit, and tobacco stamps, which it has been pronounced illegal to collect, but as large numbers do collect them, sufficient blank pages have been left for their accommodation, and taking into consideration their large size, they can be arranged with equal facility without the aid of lines.

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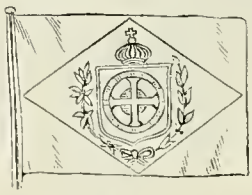
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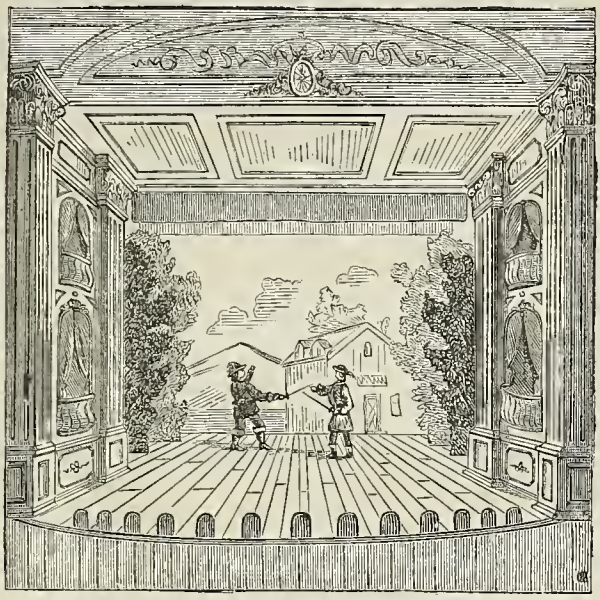
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10. Baden—Frederick.
28. Bavaria—Maximilian.
6. " Louis II.
21. Belgium—Leopold I.
24. Brazil—Dom Pedro II.
5. Brunswick—William.
47. Confederate States—Jeff. Davis.
3. Denmark—Frederick VII.
37. " " Christian IX.
2. France—Napoleon III.
46. Great Britain—Victoria
14. Greece—George I.
19. Hanover—George V.
16. Holland..William III.
39. Italy..Victor Emanuel II.
32. Mecklenburg Schwerin..Frederick Francis.
34. Mecklenburg Strelitz..Frederick William
7. Mexico..Maximilian I.
20. Modena..Francis V.
41. Naples..Ferdinand II.
4. Norway..Charles XV.
18. Oldenburg..Peter.
31. Parma..Robert I.
17. Portugal..Maria II.
40. " Pedro V.
30. " Louis I.
34. Prussia..William I.
23. " Frederick William IV.
35. Roman States..Pius IX.
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38. Russia..Alexander II.
29. Sandwich Islands..Kamehameha III.
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" II., 1869. Profile. Arms. Fine,	2.00
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Turkey, Native Characters. Fine,	3.00
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" Maria Theresa, 1778 Bust. Arms. Fair,	3.00
" " 1780. " " "	3.00
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Chili, 1822, Mountain. Pillar. Fine,	2.50
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" Napoleon I., 1811. " Fine,	2.50
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Great Britain, Charles II., 1676, Profile. Arms. Fair,	3.00
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" Victoria, 1848. Naval Medal. Fine,	4.00
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Mexico, Augustus, 1822. Profile. Arms. Fine,	3.00
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" Ferdinand II, 1809. " " "	2 50
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Sweden, Charles, XIV., 1836. " " "	3.00
New Grenada, 1847, 8 reales, Arms. Fair,	1.50
" 1848, 10 " " Fine,	2.00
Venice, Louis, 1794. Profile. Arms. Fair,	3.00
Westphalia, Napoleon, 1812. Profile. "	3.00
Basle, 1741. View of City. Very fine,	5.00
Ratisbon, 1780, " "	5.00
Lucern, 1754, St. Martin dividing his cloak. Fair,	3.00
Bourges Cathedral. Three Saints. Very fine,	5.00
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" Marriage, Medal. Fifteenth Century. Very fine,	5.00
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No. 4 contains 10 varieties of old United States Copper Cents, including 1802-3. Price 25c.; post free, 30c.

No. 5 contains 50 varieties of American Tokens. Price, 50c.; post free, 60c.

No. 6 contains 30 varieties of Foreign and American Coins, Tokens, &c. Price, 50c.; post free, 60c.

No. 7 contains 20 varieties of Foreign money. Price, 50c.; post free, 55c.

No. 8 contains 15 varieties of old American Cents, including 1798, &c. Price, 50c., post free, 60c.

No. 9 contains 75 varieties of American Tokens. Price, $1. post free, $1.15.

No. 10 contains 50 varieties of Foreign and American Coins, Tokens, &c. Price, $1, post free, $1.15.

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No. 12 contains 25 varieties of old American Cents and Half Cents. Price, $1. post free, $1.10.

No. 13 contains 100 varieties of Foreign and American Coins, Tokens, &c. Price, $2.50. post free, $2.65.

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No. 18 contains 10 Foreign Silver Coins, about the size of a dime. Price, $2.00; post free, $2.10.

WHOLESALE LIST.

1st quality Copper Coins, Tokens, &c.,	$ 50	per pound.
2nd " " "	1 00	"
3rd " " "	1 50	"
1st " Silver Coins, &c.,	1 25	per ounce.
2nd " " "	1 50	"
3rd " " "	2 00	"

N. B.—Where the Postage is not added the Packets will be sent by Express, which will be found the cheapest way of sending heavy Packets.



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	VARIETIES.	PRICE.
*Alsace and Lorraine.	7	50
Argentine Republic, 1867,	3	30
Austria, 1850,	5	15
" 1863,	5	10
" 1867,	7	35
" 1850–67	25	50
Baden, 1851–68,	10	25
" 1862, unpaid letter,	3	15
Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
* " 1865, unpaid letter,	3	25
Belgium, 1849–69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
Brazil, 1866,	7	25
* " "	7	1 00
British Honduras,	3	25
*Brunswick, 185 .	4	10
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870-71,	4	20
*Cashmere, 1866,	6	3 00
Chili,	5	25
* " 1867,	5	1 00
*Confederate States, 1861 3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71,	15	40
Dutch E Indies,	6	50
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
" 1873,	3	60
Finland, 1866,	5	20
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854 69,	15	25
" 1872-4,	10	10
Germany—Southern States,	12	40
* " Northern and Southern, 1859 62,	14	1 00
German Empire, 1871,	13	25
" " 1872-4,	12	25
" " 1875,	7	15
Great Britain,	28	50
*Hamburg,	10	50
"	10	25
* " Locals,	1 16	50
*Heligoland, 1867-73,	8	50
* " 1875,	6	75
Holland, 1852-72	20	50
" 1872,	8	40
Honduras,	2	40
Hungary, 1871,	9	50
India, 1860-66,	6	10
*Italy, 1856,	10	50
" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
* " 1874, off.	8	4 00
*Lubeck, 1859,	5	25
Luxemburg,	7	25
*Meckleaburg Strelitz	6	35
*Mexico, 1864,	5	1 00
* " 1866,	4	1 50
" 1872,	5	35
" 1874,	7	65
* " " Env.	2	1 00
*New Caledonia, Photographs,	50	50
*New Foundland, 1857–60,	9	2 50
* " " 1866–74,	10	2 00
* " " " "	4	50
New Granada, 1869–74,	8	75
* " " "	4	25
New South Wales, 1852–72	10	50
New Zealand,	10	40
* " 1873	6	1 00
*Nicaragua	5	1 25
North German Confed.	11	25
* " " " 1868-70,	20	1 00
Norway,	10	35
Peru, 1858–79,	4	1 50
" 1866–67,	3	25
* " " "	3	1 00
* " 1874, unpaid,	3	50
*Portuguese Indies,	3	65
*Prussia 1850,	5	50
* " 1861,	6	25
* " 1867,	5	25
* " Env. 1851,	7	2 50
* " " 1861:	3	50
" 1850–67,	20	50
*Romagna, 1859,	9	75
*Roman States, 1867,	7	35
*Roumania, 1865,	3	35
* " 1866,	3	30
"	15	65
Russia,	6	25
Salvador,	4	50
* " 1874,	4	2 00
*Schleswig, Holstein, &c.	14	1 00
*Servia, 1866,	5	65
*Shanghai, 1865	6	1 25
* " "	8	3 00
*Saadwich Islands, 1864–71	5	1 00
Saxony, 1851–63,	14	30
* " 1863,	6	10
*Sicily, 1859,	7	75
Spain, 1852–74	50	2 00
* " 1870,	10	1 00
" "	10	30
" First, 1874,	8	50
* " Second, 1874,	8	2 00
* " Official, 1854,	4	25
* " " 1855,	4	25
Spanish West Indie 1857,	3	1 00
" " 1871,	4	25
* " " 1873,	4	1 25
* " " 1874,	4	1 25
* " " 1875,	4	1 25
St. Settlements, 1868–72,	9	50
Sweden, 1858,	7	15
" 1872,	9	20
" 1874, unpaid,	10	50
" 1874, official,	9	55
*Switzerland, 1862–7,	13	2 50
" 1854–74,	20	40
" Envelope,	4	15
* " "	4	50
*Turks Island,	3	1 00
*Turkey,	5	50
"	5	25
*United States, 1851,	8	1 25
* " " 1861,	10	4 00
* " " 1869,	10	4 00
" " 1871,	11	20
" " 1847,	2	60
" " Dep't, Interior.	10	50
" " " Navy,	11	1 25
" " " Post Office	9	50
" " P. O. Env. 1873,	3	25
" " " Treasury,	11	25
" " " War,	11	1 25
" " " " Env.	5	25
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* " " Envelope, 1865,	6	1 00
" " Revenue 1st issue, 1c. to $1.00	17	25
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*Veaezu la, 1859,	3	50
Victoria, 1852–74,	20	1 00
Wurtemburg, 1851–73,	17	50

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY.

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. IX. 1875.

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No. 120. December 20th.

ALBUM FOR BEGINNERS,

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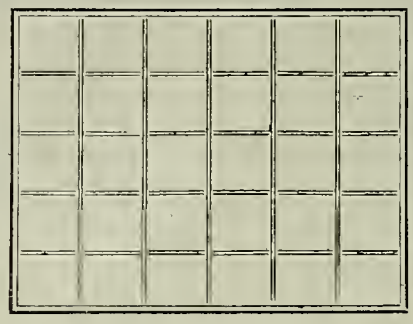
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*Alsace and Lorraine,	7	50
Argentine Republic, 1867,	3	30
Austria, 1850,	5	15
" 1863,	5	10
" 1867,	7	35
" 1850–67	25	50
Baden, 1851–68,	10	25
" 1862, unpaid letter,	3	15
Bavaria, 1849–68,	10	25
* " 1865, unpaid letter,	3	25
Belgium, 1849–69,	15	25
*Bergedorf,	5	25
Brazil, 1866,	7	25
* " "	7	1 00
British Honduras,	3	25
*Brunswick, 1865,	4	10
Canada, 1851-71,	18	35
* " 1870-71,	4	20
*Cashmere, 1866,	6	3 00
Chili,	5	25
* " 1867,	5	1 00
*Confederate States, 1861-3,	11	5 00
* " " 1863,	5	25
Costa Rica,	4	75
Denmark, 1851-71,	15	40
Dutch E Indies,	6	50
Ecuador, 1865-73,	4	40
" 1873,	3	60
Finland, 1866,	5	20
France, 1849-74,	48	1 50
" 1854-69,	15	25
" 1872–4,	10	10
Germany—Southern States,	12	40
* " Northern and Southern, 1859-62,	14	1 00
German Empire, 1871,	13	25
" " 1872-4,	12	25
" " 1875,	7	15
Great Britain,	28	50
*Hamburg,	10	50
"	10	25
* " Locals,	1 16	50
*Heligoland, 1867-73,	8	50
* " 1875,	6	75
Holland, 1852-72	20	50
" 1872,	8	40
Honduras,	2	40
Hungary, 187I,	9	50
India, 1860-66,	6	10
*Italy, 1856.	10	50
" 1863,	7	10
" 1870,	10	50
* " 1874, off.	8	4 00
*Lubeck, 1859,	5	25
Luxemburg,	7	25
*Mecklenburg Strelitz	6	35
*Mexico, 1864,	5	1 00
* " 1866	4	1 50
" 1872,	5	35
" 1874,	7	65
* " " Env.	2	1 00
*New Caledonia, Photographs,	50	50
*New Foundland, 1857–60,	9	2 50
* " " 1866–74,	10	2 00
* " " " "	4	50
New Granada, 1869–74,	8	75
* " " "	4	25
New South Wales, 1852–72	10	50
New Zealand,	10	40
* " 1873	6	1 00
*Nicaragua	5	1 25
North German Confed.	11	25
* " " " 1868-70,	20	1 00
Norway,	10	35
Peru, 1858–59,	4	1 50
" 1866–67,	3	25
* " " "	3	1 00
* " 1874, unpaid,	3	50
*Portuguese Indies,	3	65
*Prussia 1850,	5	50
* " 1861,	6	25
* " 1867,	5	25
* " Env. 1851,	7	2 50
* " " 1861:	3	50
" 1850–67,	20	50
*Romagna, 1859,	9	75
*Roman States, 1867,	7	35
*Roumania, 1865,	3	35
* " 1866,	3	30
"	15	65
Russia,	6	25
Salvador	4	50
* " 1874,	4	2 00
*Schleswig, Holstein, &c.	14	1 00
*Servia, 1866,	5	65
*Shanghai, 1865	6	1 25
* " "	8	3 00
*Sandwich Islands, 1864–71	5	1 00
Saxony, 1851–63,	14	30
* " 1863,	6	10
*Sicily, 1859.	7	75
Spain, 1852–74	50	2 00
* " 1870,	10	1 00
" "	10	30
" First, 1874,	8	50
* " Second, 1874,	8	2 00
* " Official, 1854,	4	25
* " " 1855,	4	25
Spanish West Ind ie 1857,	3	1 00
" " 1871,	4	25
* " " 1873,	4	1 25
* " " 1874,	4	1 25
* " " 1875,	4	1 25
St. Settlements. 1868–72,	9	50
Sweden, 1858,	7	15
" 1872,	9	20
" 1874, unpaid,	10	50
" 1874, official,	9	55
*Switzerland, 1862–7,	13	2 50
" 1854–74,	20	40
" Envelope,	4	15
* " "	4	50
*Turks Island,	3	1 00
*Turkey,	5	50
"	5	25
*United State 1851,	8	1 25
* " " 1861,	10	4 00
* " " 1869,	10	4 00
" " 1871,	11	20
" " 1847,	2	60
" " Dep't, Interior.	10	50
" " " Navy,	11	1 25
" " " Post Office	9	50
" " P. O. Env. 1873,	3	25
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