

The Quaker City Philatelist.

VOL. I.

MARCH, 1886.

No. 3.

(For the Quaker City Philatelist.)

PHILATELIC TROUBLES.

AIR.—I have 'em on my list.

BY YUM-YUM.

Of the many troubles the true Philatelist has found,
I've made a little list—I've made a little list,
And of such like offenders who might as well be
drown'd,
For they never would be missed—they never
would be missed.
There's the approval sheet nuisance, who must be
in his dotage,
Who sends you sheets of stamps, but never return
postage;
All publishers of Stamp papers, who get your money
in advance,
Issue one or two Nos. cheat the printer, go to St.
Louis or to France,
And all Philatelic frauds with their very cheap price-
lists,
They'd none of 'em be missed—they'd none of 'em
be missed.

CHORUS.—I have 'em on my list—I have 'em on
my list,
And they'll none of 'em be missed—
they'll none of 'em be missed.

There's the Philatelic funny man and all such like
elves,
And the vile counterfeiter, I'd like to give his
neck a twist,
And all conceited editors who libel better people
than themselves;
They never would be missed—they never would
be missed.
Then the enthusiastic blockhead with rapture, in
his tone,
About some outlandish country, and who knows
nothing of his own;
And the dealer from the country who says he wants
to buy,
Intrudes into your dwelling like another Paul Pry.
Then has the cheek to call himself a Philate-list,
I don't think he'll be missed—I'm sure he'll not
be missed.

CHORUS.—I've got him on my list—I've got him
on my list,
And I don't think he'll be missed—
I'm sure he'll not be missed.

And that surcharge parasite who just now is in
great demand;
The corrupt Post-official I have also on my list,
Who, if you insult him well, will surcharge all he
has on hand;
They'd none of them be missed—they'd none of
them be missed;
And apologetic publishers with compromising lies;
As "large circulation," "crowded out," and other
reason whys,
Enough to disgust any one who loves the good and
true;
And other "et ceteras" which I'd rather leave to
you,
But it really doesn't matter, for I've enough upon
my list,
For they'd none of them be missed—they'd none of
them be missed.

CHORUS.—I have them on my list—&c., &c., &c.

THE STAMPS OF MAURITIUS.

The Island of Mauritius, otherwise known as the Isle of France, was discovered by the Portuguese commander, Dom Pedro Mascaunhas. It is situated in the Indian ocean, off the eastern shore of Madagascar.

It became subject to the Government of Great Britain in 1810, by the expedition of General Abercrombie.

The island has been respectively under the control of the Portuguese, Dutch, French and English.

Its name was given it in honor of Prince Maurice, by the Dutch traveler, Van Neck in 1598.

Its inhabitants are 340,000 in number, of which 200,000 are Indian coolies, imported by the sugar-cane owners to work in the fields.

Of the remainder only 5000 are English, yet in the capital, Port Louis, one may see representatives from almost every nation.

The harbor of Port Louis is a great refuge for vessels during a hurricane, and the town is quite a centre for the expor-

tation of sugar, rum, wine, grain, machinery and guano.

Extensive railways are being prepared to facilitate inland travel and transportation.

The first stamps were issued by the English Government for this island at an early date. In 1847 there appeared two varieties, unperforated, 1 penny red and 2 penny blue.

The stamps bore a bust of the Queen with the word Post-Office on left, and Mauritius on right, and value at bottom.

The next year there appeared a similar pair of the same value, differing only from the rest in the fact that the word post-paid was substituted for post-office.

The year 1856 was ushered in with another pair of different design; this time the lettering at sides was omitted, and a Greek border was used for the purpose of ornament; the colors of this issue were the same as those of the previous emissions, but the size a trifle smaller.

In 1857 a need was felt for stamps of a higher value, as the old ones were very inconvenient for foreign correspondence. To supply the demand during the next two years the Government issued several varieties of the 4, 6, 9d, and 1s. The stamps were still unperforated, of fair engraving, the value being omitted in the earlier varieties of the set, but was inserted on the remainder. The stamp bears a figure of Britannia, leaning on a shield and lance, and the ship of commerce in the background.

The first perforated issue appeared in 1861, when a complete set, finely designed and engraved was issued. The values were 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10d, and 1, 5s. This set was printed in very fine colors.

In 1879 the standard coins were changed from English currency to the new order of values. The rupee being equivalent to 48 American cents or 100 native cents.

This, of course, necessitated the emission of a new set; while this was in preparation, the old stamps were surcharged with new values. In due time the new set appeared, finely engraved,

and in brilliant colors. The values were 2, 4, 8, 13, 17, 25, 38, 50 cents, and the 2½ rupees, equivalent to the English 5 shillings. This set is now in use.

Provisionals have appeared from time to time, but in large quantities, so that most of them can be obtained at a moderate price.

U. S. ENVELOPES SINCE OCTOBER, 1883.

Among the recent emissions of the now numerous stamp-issuing countries perhaps the most interesting to the collector are the various two-cent envelopes issued by the United States since the reduction in postage, I will therefore give a brief description of them.

First comes the October die, this is the most poorly executed of them all, but in my opinion the design is the handsomest, viz: head of Washington in oval surrounded by U. S. Postage, two cents in large letters on a ground of linked circles; color, red.

This die exists with the "star" watermark in all the sizes of blue, and in size No. 3 of fawn, which is worth \$5, besides the regular sizes with the "82" watermark, making in all twenty-three varieties.

The Nov. die follows, which under various modifications was used until July, 1884. The principal differences between this and the October die are, as a whole, it is more distinct and the inscription is in smaller letters and in bands connected to the ovals containing 2's by links. Color same as October. In some specimens the links over the left figure 2 are dotted. These are as a rule more valuable though some dealers do not notice the difference. Both these dies have the "star" watermark on the envelopes the same as the October.

In May these dies were issued in browns.

In June they were recut and printed on both red and brown. These issues are by no means as neat as the first ones, but the lines are more distinct. The recut envelopes also have their varieties, some being found with double connecting

links, some with two links and some with round O's.

To have a complete set of the November dies you must have 157 specimens.

In June a very few of the present or Kellogg die were issued in red. These are exceedingly rare; and last, but not least, for they are the largest of all, comes the present issue of stamped envelopes, which need no description.

In concluding, let me advise collectors not to cut out their envelopes, for by so doing, the value of the stamp is always decreased—take for instance the new red on fawn, size three, star water-mark, worth \$15 uncut; now cut this out and you destroy both water-mark and size, and have left something worth not more than three cents. E. H. M., Jr.

Chronicle.

EDITED BY L. W. DURBIN.

Antioquia.—The colors of the current series have been changed as follows:

- 1 centavo, blue-green;
- 1 " black on green;
- 2½ centavos, black on buff;
- 5 " green;
- 10 " lilac.

Bermuda.—We have received the 3 pence printed in gray.

China.—The new stamps have come to hand. They are similar to the old set but smaller and somewhat better executed. The set is as follows:

- 1 candareen, green;
- 3 candareens, lilac;
- 5 " buff.

Gibraltar has drawn upon three different Colonies for a supply of stamps. They have adhesives of Bermuda, as follows:

- ½ penny green;
- 2 pence, lilac;
- 4 " orange;
- 1 penny, rose;
- 2½ pence, blue;
- 6 " lilac;
- 1 shilling, brown.

The ½ penny card and ½ penny wrapper of Natal, and the 1 penny card of St. Vincent, are all surcharged "Gibraltar" in black letters.

Mozambique.—A new series of stamps has been prepared for this colony. In design they are similar to the Portuguese stamps of 1871, and are inscribed "Provincia De Mocambique." The series is as follows:

- 5 reis, black;
- 20 " red;
- 40 " buff;
- 100 " brown;
- 10 " green;
- 25 " lilac;
- 50 " blue;
- 200 " violet;
- 300 " orange.

Natal.—Through the kindness of Mr. Walker, we have specimens of a new provincial stamp. It is the 3 pence of the current issue, printed in gray, the value erased by a horizontal bar and "Two Pence" in black letters surcharged just above the bar. It does not look like a temporary affair, but rather a stamp that has come to stay.

Portuguese Indies of the same design as the new Mozambique, but with the inscription "India Portugueza." A series for this Portuguese Colony has been issued. It is as follows:

- 1½ reis, black;
- 1 targa, pink;
- 4½ " bistre;
- 2 " blue;
- 6 " green;
- 4 " lilac;
- 8 targa, orange.

Tobago.—The color of the 1 penny has been altered to rose.

Victoria.—The 1 shilling of the new "Stamp Duty" series has been issued. It is printed blue on buff.

Exchanges.

WE have received the following papers since our last issue:

Stamp World, Philatelic Monthly, Garden City Philatelist, Toronto Philatelic Journal, Collector's Companion, Philatelic Herald, Philatelic Journal of America, Carson City Philatelist, The Stamp and Coin Gazette. Publishers will please accept our thanks. If we have missed any it is because the publishers did not send papers direct to the Editorial Department.

—THE—

Quaker City Philatelist

Published Monthly,

IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELISTS.

Entered at Philadelphia P. O. as Second-Class Matter.

VOL. I. MARCH, 1886. No. 3.

Subscription Price, 25 cents a year.

ADVERTISING RATES:

One inch,	50 cts.	Half column,	\$1 40
Two inches,	90 cts.	One column,	2 75
	One page,		\$5.00.

20 per cent discount for standing advertisements 3 months or over.

Circulation never less than 1000 copies per month. Satisfactory evidence will be given regarding our circulation when desired.

All communications for the Editorial Department should be addressed to the Editors,

H. McALLISTER, 1226 Chestnut St.
E. R. DURBOROW, 25 N. 10th St.

Business Manager,

GEO. HENDERSON,
1221 Arch St., Phila., Pa.

Advertisements for No. 4 should be in by March 29th.

THE readers of our monthly have noted no doubt, the entirely original material in our columns, and will give us due credit for our painstaking efforts. We do not know a single philatelic magazine except the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST, which is entirely filled with original material, so many contain nothing but time-honored "chestnuts," with the addition of still another "chestnut" like "written for The _____," or something of the same nature. Not long ago we saw a long essay which was copied word for word (entire) in a leading Philatelic paper, with "written especially for" at the heading, which was written over two years ago, and has been published three times—twice before the journal referred to saw the light.

WE spent a very pleasant evening with Mr. W. v. d. Wettern, of Baltimore, some weeks ago. He has a well-arranged stock, and took pleasure in showing his many cheap specialties.

IN answering advertisements be sure to state that you saw the advertisement in the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST, as you thereby aid the paper financially, and as every increase in its advertising will result in a corresponding advance in its ability to make itself more attractive, all will be benefited. The advertiser will know how much he gets from us, while you will get a better paper, and we will also be gainers. Any one who has not been fairly treated, by dealers who advertise in our columns, will always find them open to a hearing, as we only *accept* the advertisements of dealers whom we believe to be responsible. We will consider ourselves indebted if you will give us early information to the contrary.

MR. WM. H. WARNER, the medal maker, has presented the Quaker City Philatelic Society with a large assortment of Philatelic papers and journals, making a desirable addition to the Society's library. The Librarian, Mr. Henkels, has a great many duplicate numbers which he would be pleased to exchange for others to make the collection a better one. Those having any which are not in the Society's library may make some good exchanges by writing to Mr. Henkels and giving a list of what they have and what they want.

THE Quaker City Philatelic Society recently received from Mr. E. B. Sterling, his complete list of United States Envelopes of the October dies, &c. He has also presented the Society with a handsome cabinet photograph of himself. Other leading Philatelists will confer a favor by doing likewise, as the Society has already a number of such Photographs, and would be pleased to have more.

THE opening of a batch of old letters may be compared with a forecast of the future—much may be found in either or *vice versa*. We regret that *vice versa* has generally happened to us, but this is not sufficient to prevent us from keeping right at it, if we only have the chance.

In the year 1800 the Eastern mail left Philadelphia at 10 A. M. every morning except Sunday, and arrived in New York at 10 A. M. the following day; now the mail leaves many times a day, and is frequently delivered within $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours from the time it reaches the P. O. here.

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

It is now just one year since the Quaker City Philatelic Society was organized. Since the opening meeting it has met with no serious obstacle, and resting on a successful past, now stands on a firm footing, and with the greater opportunities which it now has can well look forward to a brilliant future.

Its members have constantly shown great interest, appearing with regularity at the meetings, and show a firm determination to continue in this work. Real inducements are offered to all Philatelists in Philadelphia to become active members in its pleasant semi-monthly meetings as the too short evenings rapidly wear away in friendly debates and discussions over the various measures and subjects brought up for consideration.

The Presidential chair has been ably filled by Mr. E. R. Durborow, whose evident intention is to make this Society unequalled in this country.

Our Secretary, Mr. Siddall, has wrestled with the minutes and carefully licked them into shape. He has distinguished himself by notifying the members of the dates of the meetings at shorter or longer periods as seemed necessary to him. The position has not been an easy one, and we sincerely regret that he chose to resign from this office which he had so creditably filled.

Our Treasurer deserves special praise for able figuring, as his usual large balance with no cash on hand must have required intricate financiering.

The Corresponding Secretary of the latter half year has measurably aided the Society, and amused it not a little by his correspondents' answers.

The Librarian has changed his name so often that a general remembrance of the various Librarians would be required to do full justice.

Its members have generally paid their dues and accomplished what was asked of them without more than the usual remonstrances, and to them also is due every credit as the framers of Philadelphia's first successful Philatelic Society.

The Society's collection has advanced rapidly of late, and now makes a very fair showing in the handsome album which it is to fill. The library too has steadily grown, and is now no little trouble to the Librarian. Within the last month a very large addition was made to it by the kindness of Mr. Wm. R. Warner, the Medalist, who presented his large collection of Philatelic journals, and who promises to continue in his efforts to advance the Society in like manner at some future day.

Philatelists visiting the city are cordially invited to attend its meetings, and may feel assured that no conventional stiffness will prevent them from taking an active part in proceedings. H./M.

NEXT MONTH we will use new lists to send sample copies. If you want to receive the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST; 25 one-cent United States Postage Stamps, unused, should be sent at once. Fill in the enclosed blank and send it to us and receive the Quaker City's representative Philatelic Journal for one year.

Now is the time to subscribe—twelve numbers twenty-five cents. Don't you think it will pay you?

Q. C. P. S. Meetings.

MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 6, 1886.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved, it was decided that it would not be expedient to give a dinner. A photograph of Mr. Sterling, of Trenton, N. J., was acknowledged, for which he received a vote of thanks.

Mr. Warner also was thanked for his kindness in presenting the Society with a lot of Philatelic papers, &c.

The retiring Treasurer and Secretary give their reports which were approved.

Mr. Siddall proposed to print all postals for the Society free, which proposition was accepted, and he was thanked.

A committee of three was appointed to look up another room.

An essay on "Postmarks" was read by Mr. McAllister, who received a vote of thanks.

Mr. McAllister proposed Mr. Wm. H. Warner as an honorary member, who was duly elected.

It was then

Resolved, That the Librarian prepare a list of the papers he has belonging to the Society.

Adjourned.

MEETING, FEBRUARY 17.

The minutes of the previous meeting were corrected and approved.

A communication was received from W. G. Whilden, and the Corresponding Secretary was directed to make a suitable reply.

The thanks of the Society were given to Mr. Sterling for a copy of his Reference and Price List of U. S. Adhesive and Envelope Stamps, and to the publisher of the *New England Philatelist* for a volume of that paper.

Report from the committee on rooms was received, and the committee was given further instructions.

It was decided that the Society hold its next meeting in Early's new building, and the committee given two weeks more in which to finally decide where the Society shall meet.

Resolved, That the Treasurer notify all those in arrears.

The President appointed on the Executive Committee, Mess. McAllister, Henderson and Lynde, and for Essayists, Mess. Abbott, Barrie, Chiles and Corfield.

One corresponding member was elected, also the Philatelic Society of Santa Domingo. Adjourned.

WM. E. SCARLETT, *Secretary*.

Correspondence.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb'y 27th, 1886.

MR. H. McALLISTER,

Editor "Quaker City Philatelist."

DEAR SIR: On looking over the well-filled pages of the February number of "*The Philatelic Magazine*," I notice an article on "Postage in Various Countries," the writer of which, starts out by directly "cribbing" a portion of the essay, "Hawaiian Stamps and their Origin," published in the February and March numbers of the "*New England Philatelist*," one year ago.

Mr. Clemens has taken a half-page of the original article, changed a few words at the beginning and ending, and then deliberately gives himself credit for the whole.

I have often heard "that to be an editor all that is required is a pair of shears, a bottle of mucilage and a big arm-chair," very probably he makes good use of the first two articles.

I think it is time an end is put to such things. Who wants to go to the trouble of a lengthy research in obtaining the necessary information and then a year or so after your article has been printed to have another party publish it and give himself the credit.

I should be pleased to have your views on the subjects.

Very respectfully,

HENRY S. JEANES.

[A reply from Mr. Clemens is now in order.—ED. Q. C. P.]

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THE STAMP DEALERS' TRADE CIRCULAR.

On May 1st, 1886, will be issued the first number of "The Stamp Dealers' Trade Circular," which will thereafter appear on the 1st of September, November, January, March and May, with supplementary editions if necessary.

The aim of this publication is to stop some of the cry of "Fraud" which is too frequent in our stamp journals, and to afford parties who really have been defrauded the means of collecting their bad debts, when possible, and of informing its subscribers who the bad-pay customers are; and lastly to stop the practice of publishing good customers as frauds in order to keep other dealers from doing business with them.

It will contain a list showing the full name and address of the delinquent, the date of sale, the amount of indebtedness, the party seeking collection, the commission offered for collection of the bill, and any remarks bearing on the case.

The use of the Circular will be confined to subscribers, who will be known to each other by numbers (to save room in the Circular). The number of claims is limited to ten for each subscriber in any one number.

Subscribers who wish to insert claims in the Circular are requested to forward them, arranged legibly, to reach us at least ten days before publication day.

The subscription for the first year will be \$1.00, which if desired may be paid one-half cash and the balance in trade (U. S. Stamps only will be taken). No sample copies.

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COMMON SENSE
ABOUT

Postage Stamps.

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What more disgusting sight can there be to the true collector than an unused stamp from which the corner is missing, or a used specimen so badly clipped, that it is doubtful just what stamp you are looking at. Yet it is a fact that there is not one dealer in fifty who is particular in these matters. Such a thing is certainly dishonest, if nothing more.

And again, what collector has not found several, if not one half, of the stamps in a packet he has purchased, badly soiled. It is the favorite trick with the majority of dealers to "work off" their bad copies in packets.

The undersigned, appreciating the fact that intelligent collectors want good stamps for their money, makes it his specialty to sell only stamps which are in the best condition, and he solicits correspondents from all who would get an equivalent for their money.

In the matter of prices, mine will be found as low as those of any dealer, while in a large number of cases, they are very much lower. It is not my object to charge 25 cents for a stamp costing me 2 cents, neither do I wish to obtain \$10.00 for one costing 50 cents. This is the ratio of profit charged by more dealers than collectors are aware, and it is time we had a little old-fashioned honesty in the stamp business.

My Quarterly Price-List, the best in the country, sent free to any collector on application. Address,

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State where you saw this ad.

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