

The Quaker City Philatelist.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA
INTERNATIONALER PHILATELISTEN VEREIN.

VOL. III.

APRIL, 1888.

No. 4.

OFFICIAL DECREES.

EGYPT.

New Emission of Postage Stamps and Postal Cards.

AFTER the first of next January the postage stamps of five and ten paras now in circulation shall be superseded by new stamps of one and two milliemes. Consequently to expedite this change, the stamps of five and ten paras are exchangeable for the one and two milliemes. Under no pretext will these new stamps be put in circulation before the first of the year, and from this date no more of the five and ten paras will be sold. Those that remain should be sent to the General Post-office with the December account and their number credited in this account, under a special label: "Stamps of five and ten paras returned." Let it be well understood that the arrangements contained in the Bulletin of the 20th of last October, No. 42, Art I, shall be of no value after the 1st of January. There shall also be issued at the beginning of the year, new stamps of the value of five milliemes, which shall replace stamps of twenty paras now in use, as well as new postal cards, the value of which shall be expressed in milliemes. Meanwhile, as there still remains a large quantity of stamps of twenty paras and postal cards now in use, the new stamps of five milliemes as well as the new cards shall not be sent to the postal bureaus until the present issue shall have been used.

New Unpaid Letter Stamps.

There will be issued unpaid letter stamps of the following values:

5 piastres.	5 milliemes.
2 " "	2 " "
1 " "	

There has been adopted for each of these values the same colors as for the postage stamps of the same value.

The present issue shall continue to be used until the stock shall be used up with the exception of those of ten paras, which after the 1st of January shall be useless and be replaced by those of two milliemes. Consequently in sending wants of unpaid letter stamps for January, the ten paras shall be replaced by that of two milliemes. The unpaid letter stamps of ten paras remaining with the Post-office on the 31st of December should be returned to the General Post-office and labeled, "Unpaid letter stamps of ten paras returned."

Notice to the Public.

After the 1st of January there shall be issued:

1. Stamps of two milliemes and one millieme, which shall replace the stamps of ten paras and five paras respectively now in circulation.
2. Envelope stamps of one piastre which shall be sold at one-half millieme above the value of the stamp on the envelope, twenty envelopes shall cost twenty-one

piastres. Postage stamps of five and ten paras shall cease to be sold after the 1st of next January, but they shall continue to be good for postage, both by themselves and with those of the new issue for franking correspondence until the 30th of June, 1888. After this date they shall be useless, but will be exchanged for new ones until the 31st of December, 1888, at the General Post-office. After this last they shall be refused.

Alexandria, December, 1887.

JOTTINGS.

WE clip the following from one of the papers; it may be a chestnut, but we have not yet heard of it. "The very latest thing out, in the way of stationery, is an envelope of leather, which can be locked and sent through mail without being tampered with. Upon the back of the envelope is a tiny staple of gold or silver, over which fit snugly attached to the flap and this is secured by a dainty little padlock with a yale lock. Upon the face is an open pocket for the insertion of a card, bearing the address and necessary postage stamp." Rather a good thing for lovers with a meddlesome and jealous pa, we should think.

It may not be known, but we have lately been assured that it is not safe to send money per registered letter *out of Russia*. It is the desire of the Government to keep the money in the country. Any letter suspected of containing money is opened, and if it does contain such, half goes to the Post-office official and half to the Government. This does not apply to money going in. It appears to work something like the Turkish service. In that country whenever the authorities feel curious about the contents of a letter they open it; if it contains anything treasonable, of course you don't get it, and if not it goes to the waste-basket. Hence the reason of the Post-offices run by the foreign governments success. Is this a fish story? We think so.

We always like to add our quota of praise to a publication which deserves it, and certainly *The American Philatelist* does deserve ours in the highest form. Always full of valuable and interesting material, so different from that which fills many of our cotemporaries, it is, indeed, a pleasure to welcome it to our sanctum. Any one comparing it with the small and poor numbers of Vol. I, will see what push can do.

We notice that a new general curiosity paper, with a philatelic name, is to appear soon. We wish it all manner of success. Its name is *The Kentucky Stamp Magazine*, and hails from Covington, Ky.

We wish to call the attention of collectors in Philadelphia and vicinity to the advantages of the Quaker City Philatelic Society. This society has been in existence for over three years and is consequently not a venture but an assured success. The dues are low and the advantages many. It has a large and growing library and very fair collection, an excellent counterfeit collection for comparison of stamps. Meets first Saturday and third Thursday of each month, has discussions and debates on philatelic matters, essays are read, stamp auctions held, etc. For further information address F. E. P. Lynde, Secretary, Box 106, Phila. Visitors are always welcome on meeting nights.

As it appears to be the desire of several that we should publish minutes of the Quaker City Society, we have resumed them.

Notwithstanding the assurance from Washington that the Government did not intend to change the color of the adhesives in the near future, we already find the 5c. blue black and the 30c. red brown.

The Philadelphia Philatelist for March has a very good article on the current Mexican stamps from the pen of Theodore Siddall, of this city. Mr. Siddall is probably as conversant with his subject as any one at the present time. The article was read to the Quaker City Society as an essay and was pronounced the best of the season.

KALERMARAIG CHRONICLES.

Revised Version.

TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL THISITE, AND CAREFULLY COMPARED WITH THE
VOLAPÜK EDITIONS.

*These Chronicles were revealed to the Hermit, and are now recorded for the first time
in English.*

CHAPTER IV.

THEN it came to pass that many great men were raised up among the Antikes and these men wrote great books, and many read and reading believed, so the Antikes waxed strong in numbers.

2. Now there lived in those days one Jesam who was a seller of books and parchment and styles, and he dwelt in the land of the Thisites, and the Thisites were conquered by the Bulls.

3. And the Thisites intermarried with the Bulls, so that they were as one nation—the Thisites and the Bulls.

4. This Jesam was little known, for he was a modest man and did not talk in the market-place with loud voice, but dwelt in a village called Deum, and he died, and when he was dead, men said, “Truly, a good man hath gone from us, for he did what he could.”

5. Jesam begat a son and his name was Ricktap. Now by means of his name many supposed Ricktap to be an Hybernite, but he was nevertheless a true Thisite.

6. And in the village of Deum did Ricktap come to years of discretion, and when he had arrived at man’s estate and had journeyed about somewhat outside the walls of Deum he saw that Jesam his father was not known to men.

7. This troubled him much and by day did he ponder nor did he sleep at night by reason thereof, for he sought by some means to make his father Jesam known to men so that men would do him honor.

8. And he remembered certain good things that Jesam had proposed to do, but those that were in question were slow to act, and Ioria, the Queen, left those matters with the minister.

9. And much grieved, Jesam had retired to Deum and was heard of no more. Thus it came to pass that Jesam died without knowing that which he purposed to do had been done in divers places, for it is so written by the scribes.

CHAPTER V.

MOREOVER, there dwelt in the lands of the Bulls a goodly man whose name was PERECON, who was the son of OLAN, who was the son of IL.

2. Now Perecon was of the same generation as Ricktap, but Perecon was a Bull and Ricktap a Thisite, and Ricktap became angered against Perecon because he was a Bull and the son of Olan, for all men bear witness that many mighty things had been done by this Olan in the chief cities of the Bulls and much good did he do the nation, by his works.

3. Moreover he was a man of charity and many were the people among the poor that called him blessed.

4. Now Ricktap did not know what had been done in the Ægypto and in the land of the Gaulcites and in Britannia and in Spania and Ameri and even in Ching, for he did not read that which was written.

5. He wot not of what had been done in Britannia in the days of Karlos II, which is called The Merry, and those kings which succeeded him.

6. So Ricktap was as one who butts his head against a wall, for he would not be convinced by the truth but did act like unto a foolish man.

7. For when he was told of his mistake he hardened his heart and saith he, "Wherefore come ye unto *me* with these vague whisperings and stories from the land of ghosts?"
8. "Do ye think that I can (or will) believe such tales from the fays?"
6. So he did puff himself in that he should appear unto men wise.

CHAPTER VI.

SO it came to pass that Ricktap communed with himself, saying, "Thou hath wrought many years and are possessed of much of this world's goods; eat, drink and merry be, and now is the time come when thy paths shall be those of peace.

2. "Now is the time also come when thou shouldst memorize thy sire Jesam. For men will not believe that he did more than Olan. For why should much be made of Olan when Jesam, my father, is known to few out of Deum?"

3. Therefore did Ricktap wax wroth, for he believed that men worshiped Olan and being exceeding jealous he construed it in that manner.

4. And if men did but differ from his opinions he would wrap his toga round about him and would walk away and much did he pout.

5. So Ricktap went away from the habitation of men and dwelt in a desert place, even in the highlands for a time, and it was here he nursed his wrath and fanned its flame.

6. And after a long time he returned to Deum, and prepared to leave the lands of his fathers, and took up his abode in the chief city of the Bulls, even in Nodnol.

VII.

THEN Ricktap, the son of Jesam, spake with himself, saying, "Of a verity, a prophet is of little worth among his own countrymen. Therefore will I go out into all the world, and such as believe me not, them will I compel to believe, for I have much gold.

2. "But the field is large, and the unbelievers are of many tongues, and moreover, I am waxed old in years, for the days of my years have been many.

3. "Therefore will I send the word unto the Amerikites and the Germanicites and the Gaulicites and to all the nations for the word must spread till all men *shall* know of it.

4. "Therefore, will I multiply it by thousands and tens of thousands and thousands upon thousands until the leaves of its book shall be like sands of the sea, without number, and many are the fires that shall be kindled thereby.

5. "I will send to the East, that all lands shall know. To the Isles of the Sea and even to the ends of the earth and Kor.

6. "It shall be proclaimed from the house-tops in the cities by the Great Lakes even by GIRCHE GUMU. The mountains shall rejoice and be glad; it shall be known in the States of one hundred years.

7. "The waves of the sea shall spread the word, for it is good, and it shall be borne on the wings of the wind.

8. "Yea, I will assemble all my skilled workmen and them that are skilled in cunning devices and they shall work together for good."

9. So it came to pass that in those days, Ricktap did gather his clerks and the makers of paper and those that were skilled to make types and the setters of types and the workers of presses and those that bound books, for of making many books there is no end.

10. So by day they labored, nor did they cease by night, for by day and night they wrought and it took many chariots to take away that which they made.

11. Then they took it to the cities by the sea, even to the Pool of Livers, where the ships of the nations were wont to come.—(To be continued.)

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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Copy of advertisements for the May number must be in by April 26th.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.—As the time for the consideration of new officers for the coming election is now at hand, we offer the following names for the consideration of our readers:

President—JOHN K. TIFFANY, St. Louis, Mo.

Vice-President—W. C. VAN DERLIP, Boston, Mass.

Secretary—H. O. HARRIS, Doylestown, Pa.; R. S. HATCHER, Lafayette, Ind.; S. B. BRADFORD, Ottawa, Ill.

International Secretary—JOSEPH RECHERT, Hoboken, N. J.; HENRY CLOTZ, Staten Island, N. Y.

Treasurer—H. B. SEAGRAVE, Ionia, Mich.

You ought to see some of the envelopes sent out in the last lot of American Philatelic Association to the Philadelphia Branch. The stamps cut out and pasted on other envelopes, cut out and put back upside down, part of one stamp pasted on another, etc. And the prices put on them are just as queer. Some collectors may take interest in this stuff, but they are the collectors of oddities.

GOODRICH, of the *Eastern Philatelist*, advocates the re-formation of the Philatelic Press Association. There is no reason why such an Association should not be formed and every reason in its favor. As Goodrich says, the amateur and scientific press have each their league, and surely what they are able to do, the Philatelic Press can equal. THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST promises all the aid in its power for the formation of the Philatelic Press Association, and hopes that all its contemporaries will follow suit. Address all communications to W. H. Goodrich, Fitchburg, Mass.

WE never open the pages of our collection without having a copy of Durbin's catalogue at hand. There is a vast fund of information in this book. By its aid we systematize the specimens we already possess and plan the magnificence of our future collections. If you do not own a copy of this old, reliable catalogue, do not let a day pass without sending twenty-five cents to Durbin & Hanes for it. No wide-awake collector can afford to be without it.

It seems odd that more collectors do not make an addition to their collections in the shape of entire postal cards; no one not having seen such a collection can form any idea of the beauty of even a small one, while it is as interesting as any other branch of our hobby. The principal trouble in handling them is in the mounting, and we would be very glad to hear from an experienced collector on this point; for the present our ideas on the subject are rather hazy. The columns of *THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST* are open to discussion on this point; also, our want basket holds an enquiry as to the best manner of mounting whole envelopes.

THE February number of the *Figaro* has come to hand and we note that the squabble between the Washington dealers is still continued in it. Why can't they have it out like men and give the public a rest. Either accuser or accusee must be wrong and the sooner the point is settled the better. And then that New Yorker who is indicted for selling reprints (?), it should be very easy to settle that matter. Let it be submitted to three unbiased men of note in philately and take their decision as final. The philatelic reader is getting tired of this interminable quarrel. By the way, Brother Voute, you have one of the brightest papers in the country. Why don't you give your printer a nudge and tell him to use a little more care in proof-reading and in spacing?

JUST WHAT YOU NEED.—First, read this, and secondly, act upon it. Very likely this is not the first time that you have seen this paper, but still that don't show it will turn up at your address again unless you are a subscriber or send in enough of the needful to become one. Perhaps you are one of the latter and haven't quite made up your mind whether to drop a quarter on it or not; if you haven't reached a decision yet, or if your determination is adverse, stop and think it over. You get something new for your money every time, and not only that, but you have the privilege of airing your views in print, and you have no idea how nice that makes you feel till you've tried it. (Moral, try it.) It's worth your while if only for the latter item. Besides that you get the ads. thrown in for nothing, and they are not the least interesting part of a paper by any means. If you think they are dull and have never read them, do it once and find your mistake. You'll never skip another ad. in a stamp paper.

Send in your money in the first mail and see what a prompt response you will get.

WHY there should be any necessity for the formation of another national society outside of the American Philatelic Association is a question that is well worthy of consideration by all Association members. The only apparent answer lies in the fact that the young collectors, the boys, have not received sufficient inducements to join the older organization, while the new society lays claim to being more especially devoted to the interests of the young collector. The American Philatelic Association is just as well able as its competitor to take care of the young collectors, and more of an effort should be made in that direction.

Wonder is often expressed that so many collectors drop off just after beginning. To our mind, the reason lies in the fact that their older brethren in collecting are too apt to snub them whenever opportunity offers, neglectful of the fact that our ranks are to be recruited in great measure from the boys who take an interest in our science. Of course the boys don't know everything and it is not to be wondered at if in their ignorance they make better informed collectors rather "weary." But the one interrogated should remember that he was once in the same boat, and may be was even a bigger dunce. Let every one who has the interests of the American Philatelic Association at heart, look around at the young collectors of their immediate vicinity; it needs only a little encouragement and a little time spent in persuasion to induce them to take a livelier interest in their collections, and it is easier than you would suppose to get them to sign an application blank, and then we have a new member and very likely a collector saved to the science. I don't speak from theory, but from experience, as two of us tried

this plan, and as a result, the American Philatelic Association has three applicants from our neighborhood, two of whom were about to sell out their collections and quit the thing for a while; of the three, two are under seventeen. In addition to this showing I am able to promise at least four more applicants in the near future, with others in sight.

This showing in one neighborhood should act as encouragement to others to try the same thing and show to all concerned that the American Philatelic Association is abundantly able to take care of the "boys."

It is a source of wonder that *The American Philatelist* does not adopt towards the various American Philatelic Association Branches the same attitude taken by *Der Philatelist* with the Dresden Sections. *Der Philatelist* gives in every issue reports from various Sections which might be advantageously copied by the American Association in a modified form; the Dresden organ also gives in every issue the place and time of the meetings of the different Sections.

It would help to recruit the too few American Philatelic Association Branches if the collectors of the country were informed of the Branches that have been and will be formed in their vicinity, though it is not enough to merely announce such events, they should be kept constantly before the eyes of readers of the official organ. We have no doubt that there are in this city of Philadelphia many collectors who belong to the American Philatelic Association, who have not the faintest idea that there is such a thing as a Philadelphia Branch, and there are many more who would join the American Philatelic Association at once if they knew the advantages offered by Branch membership in the way of increased facilities for exchange and purchase and the great decrease in trouble caused by having one officer to take charge of the sheets and books sent in for exchange and made up by the Branch itself.

History has proved time and again in matters more weighty than stamp collecting, that in "Union there is strength," and this has been shown more than once in the short life of the American Philatelic Association. Let the American Philatelic Association be then like the country that has brought it forth—a union of many and independent States; with of course as many separate members as do not choose to join a Branch or who are unfortunate enough to be so placed as to render membership in a Branch an impossibility. It only needs more encouragement from the right parties and the thing is more than half done. To those who doubt the advantages offered by Branches we would offer a piece of advice—ask any member of an existing Branch his opinion of its usefulness. The collectors of this city are the possessors of one Branch, but there is now in process of organization another Branch in one of its suburbs, to be modeled after the one now in operation.

The Philadelphia Branch calls upon its sister Branches of New York, St. Louis and Denver *et al* to aid it in the formation of new Branches throughout the country, and let our Canadian members do the same, as well the members of the Canadian Association, as those of the American.

THERE is probably no stamp collector who has not heard frequent and persistent unfavorable criticism of almost every work of real importance to philatelists that has been published. Who has not heard others sneer at Horner's list of the stamped envelopes of the United States and speak of it as a work of no value and full of errors?

The same is the case with Casey's list, published some years ago in the *Stamp Journal*. Major Evans' "Philatelic Hand-book," some say, is of no value; that it is inaccurate and incomplete.

Coster's list of local stamps, I have heard spoken of as worthless and antiquated. Mr. Tiffany's book on the stamps of the United States, I have also heard spoken of in a most disparaging way. Now my experience is that in almost every case those who are most scathing in their criticisms are persons in whose judgment, opinion, or experience one would not be justified in placing the slightest amount of confidence, nor has

one of them either the ambition to undertake or the ability to produce anything of any real value to philatelists.

In my judgment, those who strive to furnish good reading matter to collectors are rather to be commended. Of what use is it for one who is in possession of some facts to ridicule the work of another who neither was in possession of them, nor knew how to get at them? It is now the custom to vilify the author if an incorrect statement or an omission is made in his article, and to call the attention of the philatelic public to the presumption of the blind who undertake to lead. This gives to one at least the satisfaction of posing before his fellows as a superior. He has the satisfaction of knowing one thing and this so fills him that all beyond is forgotten. His mind is generally small and narrow.

Who are the critics? Are they usually real seekers after knowledge? Those who are best informed upon philatelic subjects seldom, if ever, assume this tone of superiority. Those who are really in earnest in the study of philately are never immoderate in their condemnation, for they know that knowledge is only gained by much labor, and that much which they once believed to be fact has proved to be but fiction.

Why do not these blatant critics take the more useful course, and point out the error or misstatement, and give their reasons therefore, instead of decrying the whole, for the fault of a part?

It is much easier to destroy than it is to rebuild. This they instinctively realize and the fear of displaying ignorance after making professions of superior knowledge keeps them (with mock humility) from making their corrections in the philatelic press. H.

REGARDING REVENUE STAMPS.

DURING the last few years philatelists have awakened to the fact that there are other stamps to be collected besides postage.

During our late war, the United States Congress passed a law taxing all instruments of writing, patent medicines or nostrums, matches, perfumes, spirituous and malt liquors, etc., by requiring a stamp to be placed on these articles and canceled. There being such a great demand for these stamps, the government did not have time to perforate all, consequently some were issued only part perforated and some not perforated at all. Philatelists at first were satisfied to collect the perforated ones, then the part perforated and unperforated ones were sought. Now the advanced collectors are seeking for stamps in *blocks* of two, three, or more, of which quite a number have appeared, mostly on silk fibre, pink, or watermarked paper. Last week I had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Fitch's collection of revenue stamps, which is said to be the most complete in Philadelphia. Lately the Doctor has been making a specialty of stamps in blocks, not only in documents but in medicine; such as Ayers', Champion's, Fahnestock's, Zeilles', etc. He showed me a block of Husband's stamps printed on old paper, which he considers the rarest block of stamps, as it is the only block printed on old paper that has appeared. How so rare a variety should ever have been overlooked by the person having them is a very great mystery, but I suppose it is to be accounted for by the fact that philatelists are taking more interest in revenue stamps than formerly. I am glad to see that philatelists are taking such interest in revenues and hope to see the day when all will not only have a collection of postage stamps, but a complete collection of departments and revenues.

J. BROWN.

QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY MEETINGS.

MEETING, MARCH 3, 1888.

CALLED to order. Minutes of last meeting read. After the usual routine business, adjourned, at 10.30 P. M.

Meeting, March 15, 1888. No quorum.

F. E. P. LYNDE, *Secretary*.

LIST OF RUSSIAN DISTRICT STAMPS.

BY F. E. P. LYNDE.

AS there appears to be a growing disposition among philatelists on this side of the water to give these stamps their proper place and as so little is known of them, this list was thought to be of use to collectors of them. It is merely a short description of them and may be enlarged if found worth while.

ACHTRYKA.

Rectangular. Central design, cross on an inverted shield enclosed in a double circle, containing a Russian inscription. In four corners of stamp small circle containing figure five.

1872, 5 kopecs green.

1872, 5 kopecs blue.

ALATYR.

Oblong. Ornamental border of circular discs enclosing six-pointed star, running parallel with border on top and two sides Russian inscription. In centre value.

1 kopec black.

2 kopecs black.

ALEXANDRIA.

No. I. Circular. Outer circle consisting of flower-shaped ornaments. Inner circle Russian inscription. Value in centre of inner circle.

No. II. Circular. Outer rim of circle, pearl-shaped dots. Inner rim Russian inscription. At top of circle, enclosed by band, a scroll with Russian inscription; in centre, figure ten, with inscription on a band; at bottom two post-horns.

No. III. Circular. Circle of Russian inscriptions; in centre, Russian inscription and value on fancy scrolled ground.

No. IV. Oblong. Upright border, fancy scroll, parallel with border on all sides Russian inscription; Centre, at top a crown, middle double eagle, bottom value.

No. V. Border. Same as number IV, but enclosed by a single line. Inscription on top same but runs only half way down the sides, at bottom an oblong containing inscription, centre a crown.

No. VI. Same as V except slightly different border and oblong containing inscription at bottom is omitted.

No. VII. Oblong. Perforate, outer rim imitation of perforate. Inner border two lines at top, inscription at bottom, a label containing shield with cross, flanked by small crowns at sides and bottom, surmounted by crown at top sides of the label, two circles containing figure ten.

1872-74, No. I, 10 kopecs buff.

" " II, 10 " blue.

" " III, 10 " blue.

" " " 10 " green.

1880, " IV, 10 " blue.

" " " 10 " green.

" " V, 10 " red and blue.

1882, No. VI, 10 kopecs carmine and lilac.

" " " 10 " red and lilac.

1884, " VII, 10 " black and blue.

" " " 10 " " and red.

" " " 10 " " and yellow.

" " " 10 " " and brown.

" " " 10 " " and green.

(To be continued.)

Every one subscribing this month will receive a set of three Persian stamps. A 1c. stamp must be sent for return postage.

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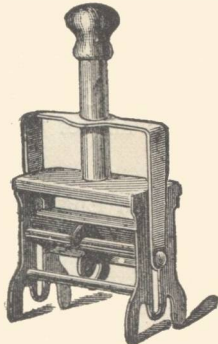
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.....188

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