# The QuakerCity Philatelist. 

## OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA internationaler philatelisten verein.

VOL. V.

FEBRUARY, 1890.
No. 2.

## Æn Old 巴OST-OFFige G̋LEŖ̌.

II' was a bright, cold day in December, 1844, when the postmaster of Philadelphia was waited upon by a young man of perhaps 28 years, who had called to ask for an appointment. The postmaster, James Hoy, Jr., was alwavs affable, and at this time was in an especial good humor. The visitor could not have chosen a better man nor a better time for his interview. He was of fair complexion, of robust frame, and slightly above the middle height. He handed Mr. Hoy a letter written to him by the distinguished Democrat of that day, Simon Cameron, recommending him as a worthy young man and his nearest neighbor, and, above all, a good Democrat. The postmaster said it would please him to comply with the request and he would give the young man a clerkship. A few days later Mr. Brown appeared before Alderman Peter Hoy, and took his oath of office, little thinking, however, that he would remain in the same occupation for forty-five years.

The new clerk assumed the duties of his position nearly at the close of President Tyler's administration. He found the post-office of Philadelphia to be an immense establishment, bigger, by far, than he expected to find it when he left Middletown. It employed twenty-five clerks and the same number of letter carriers. But these were exclusive of those employed in the Northern Liberties, Southwark, Kensington and the other districts. The business of handling the mails was, however, yet conducted in a primitive manner. Although therè were railroads, their value in connection with the mail service was not yet appreciated or understood. Postal cards were yet to be introduced. Route agents were few. All mail matter had to pass through distributing and dividing offices. "What hath God wrought?" had been clicked through the telegraph wires, but that new agent had its whole record yet to make as a factor in civilized progress.

The salary of a clerk in 1844 was $\$ 45$ a month, equal in purchasing power to nearly twice that sum since the war. The carriers received two cents for each piece delivered and received no salary. Several made as much as $\$ 2500$ a year, and on or two received, some years, $\$ 3000$. The salaries of the 701 carriers of to-day, 501 of whom report to the main office, range from $\$ 600$ to $\$ 1000$, which averages something more than the 400 clerks receive.

While the population of this city has quadrupled itself in Mr. Brown's time of service, the post-office work has increased a hundredfold and the force employed to do the work is eighteen times greater. The incentive to the increased correspondence was the great reduction in the expense of mailing. During the time of Mr. Harrity's administration the rates of letter postage were reduced to two cents for one ounce or less to any point in the United States and Canada.

In Mr. Hoy's day the rates were : one letter, including only one piece of paper (there were no envelopes used those times), under 30 miles, 6 cents; 30 to 80 miles, 10 cents; 80 to $150,12 \frac{1}{2}$ cents; 150 to 300 miles, $18 \frac{3}{4}$ cents; 300 miles, 25 cents. For a greater distance there was an increased rate. There were no postage stamps in
use. Instead of twenty stamping and canceling clerks on letters, and a dozen or more on papers, packages and catalogues, there were two clerks, one relieving another-the newest clerks being appointed to perform the duty. They wrote the rates upon the letters. Banknotes were generally sent by mail, and each note was rated as a separate piece. It cost one and one-half cents to mail a newspaper. The window clerk was well prepared for any emergency that might arise in the way of making change with his customers. He could change quarter or half cents as readily as he could dollars and smaller coins, so that he never was perplexed on that account.

By his side stood a keg filled with half cents. If a person called to pay postage on a newspaper and presented two cents to the clerk, he returned the change, a one-half cent coin. If the customer tendered him a "levy" for the paper postage, he very likely received a dime and a cent in return. Cents those days were larger than the present two-cent pieces, a half of a cent was larger than the present cent. To pay $18 \frac{3}{4}$ cents a person gave the clerk a quarter and the latter gave him a "fip," which made the even change. Or the patron gave the clerk a "levy" and a "fip," or three "fips." A "levy" being $12 \frac{1}{2}$ cents and a "fip" $6 \frac{1}{4}$ cents in value.

When Mr. Brown came to Philadelphia he found no street cars, but the omnibuses would carry him from any point in Philadelphia to the Exchange on Dock street, in which the post-office was located. It occupied about one-sixth of the ground floor of that beautiful marble building. Some years later it was compelled to move to the more spacious seven-story edifice over the way, built by Dr. David Jayne. Here it remained some years; then it was moved to the granite building on Chestnut street, below Fifth, the sight of which is now covered by the eastern part of Drexel's marble edifice. About seven years ago the new post-office edifice, which had been building for many years, was occupied.

Of the clerks who first worked with Mr. Brown, some have since become prominent men in business circles. Among those who have passed away are William Rushton, who became the cashier of the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank. His son is now the assistant cashier of the same institution. C. D. Howell became paying teller in that bank, and Samuel Rushton also held a position there. Of those yet living who occupy a place in the public eye may be named: Samuel W. Bell, late receiver of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and now president of the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank. W. T. P. White, formerly register of the Water Department and now retired. Samuel M. White held for a long time a notable place in the Gas Dapartment. Henry Stellwagon is a retired business man. Henry M. Bemuth is a merchant on Church street. F. F. Clifton is the bookkeeper of the Commercial Bank.

The only letter carrier that rose into the high rank of postmaster during those fortyfive years was John Miller. He proved to be one of the ablest among the fourteen who served as such from the term of Mr. Hoy to that of Mr. Harrity. The fourteen were: James Hoy, Jr., George F. Lehman, W. T. P. White, John Miller, Gideon G. Westcott, W. B. Brown, C. A. Walborn, Charles M. Hall, H. H. Bingham, George W. Fairman, John F. Hartranft, A. Loudon Snowdon, H. S. Huidekoper and William F. Harrity. One or two of them rose from lower positions in the mailing or general departments.

Among the employees of the Philadelphia Post-office whose work has been deemed so valuable as to cause them to be retained for more than a dozen years may be named : Lewis G. Wunder, for forty years one of the ablest officials in any post-office, but whose salary has become smaller from year to year as his services became more valuable; William Bonsall Madara, superintendent of the city department, who has spent nearly twenty-nine years in the office and who is the father of the van system and took the initiative in uniforming the carriers; Matthew C. Bogia, who for years was the general night superintendent of the whole office and whose same position is now restricted to the city department, has introduced many improvements.

One of these deserves the gratitude of the newspaper press all over the country. A quarter of a century ago he suggested the use of colored and large envelopes in which
the daily correspondence to papers should be sent. Each daily now has its special color. The Press uses a buff envelope, on which appears, in big letters of red, its name and address. These letters can be seen at a glance by every person who has occasion to handle them, and can therefore give them prompt attention. They can be picked out from all other matter without any difficulty. The name of James Freeborn has been familiar to the business men of this city as the superintendent of the box office for nearly a quarter of a century, as well as to the citizens generally as a member of the Board of Education.

The Pennsylvania State letter-case is in charge of three foremen. Two of them, A. P. Dumont and Charles Adams, have been there twenty-five years, and Thomas M. Coleman, son of the late Thomas M. Coleman, has been there twenty years. These men have not had a substitute in their positions in ten years. Thomas Young, foreman of the New Jersey paper case, was there for fifteen years. Henry Paisley, foreman of the Pennsylvania paper case, for thirteen years, and Andrew McCall, an oldtime fireman, a leader of the Globe Engine Company, came there as general hustler of sealed and unsealed mail matter when he was fifty years old, and has been there fifteen years. Many others hold over with from eight to fifteen years to their credit.

These improvements have been introduced, among others, in the general mailing service during Mr. Brown's official life in the post-office: Une-rate postage for the whole United States on letters and papers, reduced rates of postage, the introduction of route agents, the introduction of railway postal cars, more rapid delivery of the mails, the registry letters system, postal orders, the uniforming of the officers and the carriers, and a more simple mode of doing business generally. The great object in the service is to handle each piece as little as possible, and thus to gain time. Mr. Brown is about seventy-four years of age, and has seen the service changed almost radically, in the interest of quick delivery, in his time. He appears still to be in fine health.

The stamp exhibition, held November 1, 1889, at Munich, seems to have been a great success. The plan was somewhat after the exhibition held in Boston last year. There were over eighty exhibits. Among the prize exhibits were those of Dr. Winzer, who showed the European stamps, in many cases both used and unused specimens of each stamp; the 2 lire, 2 soldi, 60 crazie, Tuscany ; and all of the 2 reales of Spain. Messrs. Sedlmayer and Hof showed the stamps, post cards and envelopes of Bavaria. Herr Joris also had a fine collection of Bavarian stamps. Mr. M. P. Castle presented the complete issue of Tasmania and sheets of 1854-5 Philippine, etc., one of the finest exhibits. Dr. Kloss had his collection of U. S. envelopes, lacking only a few of the rarities. Any quantity of German locals were on view by one of the exhibitors. Fiscals were presented by Herr E. Penater.

Mr. Haas had his collection of over 500 volumes of philatelic literature on view, making a magnificent display.

This exhibition should stir our American collectors to hold an exhibition that would cast all others in the shade. We have the collections and also a committee of competent collectors-Messrs. Corwin, Chairman, Gregory, Dejonge, Scott and Rasmus. This committee alone could give a fine exhibition of their own collections. The American Exhibition will be held at the time of the World's Fair. To our mind that is not the time it should be held. The World's Fair will dwarf what would otherwise be a sight in itself. Why not hold it at some other time, at some of the American Philatelic Association meetings ?

A part of Mr. Brock's collection and duplicates will be sold by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., February 17 and 18 . In looking over the catalogue, an ordinary collector would imagine that it was a very fine collection being sold, not duplicates and countries that Mr. Brock has decided not to collect. We doubt if a better lot of stamps will be sold at auction during this season.

# The Quaker City Philatelist. 

Published by The Quaker City Philatelic Publishing Co., Limited. Board of Managers:
H. McALLISTER, W. D. CORFIELD, W. A. MacCALLA.
P. O. BOX 33, Philadelphia, Pa.

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Copy of advertisements for the March number must be in by February 25th.

## Terms of Snhscription: 15 CENTS PER YEAR. ABROAD 30 CTS. <br> Subscriptions must begin with current number.

A Cross opposite this Notice signifies that your Subscription has expired.

The trouble with any international stamp would be in distributing the profits of its sale on a just basis. How would it do for our Government to make arrangements with the other members of the Postal Union, to enable our post-offices to sell a stamp of our own manufacture, which should pass enrrent in the mails of the other countries, if on letters addressed to America, or for whose use we should make, say, a yearly accounting, based upon the reports of the foreign postmasters as to the number of the stamps which have passed through their hands.

Mr. Walton, Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, is proving to be an excellent choice, and matters in his office are assuming an appearance of order and attention. Bills have been sent to all delinquents and notice given that the Association requires prompt attention in financial matters. Sharp, active work of this kind is just what has been needed, and the purging of the membership list of all delinquents will aid rather than retard our Association.

According to an official decree, a discount is allowed of six per cent on purchases of Costa Rica stamps of over 25 pesos, but on purchases of Guanacaste a special discount of twelve per cent is allowed. This must be the reason that stamps for use in this province are surcharged.

Although entitled to second-class postal rates, it costs four cents to mail a periodical to Germantown, within the city limits of Philadelphia, while the rate on the same periodical to Victoria, Australia, is but two cents.

The Japanese carriers deliver letters at all hours of the day and night. Imagine a man being awakened at $3 \mathrm{~A} . \mathrm{M}$. to receive a letter from the letter carrier which, on opening, proves to be a bill ?

Mr. Elihu Burritt proposed Penny (two-cent) Ocean Postage in 1846. When will it come?

## dontmings.

IT is reported that forgeries of the first issue of Schleswig-Holstein are post-marked with the figures 3,5 .
The 3c., brown, Ioc., orange, 1887, and the 5c., blue, 1888, of San Salvador, surcharged " Contra Stello," are bogus; none were authorized to be so surcharged.

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The London auction sales seem to be a permanent fixture. At the one on October 5, some good stamps were disposed of ; among them a Ceylon, 1863, gd., brown, no watermark, brought \$25; a Great Britain, 1867, 8d., brown, \$27.50; a Tuscany, 1850, 31., yellow, $\$ 32$; a Victoria, 1862, 6d., orange, $\$ 20$. At the sale of November 1 and 2, a Great Britain, Id., V. R., brought $\$ 30$; a $4 \mathrm{~d} .$, carmine, watermark small garter, $\$ 42.50$; a New Brunswick, Is., violet, $\$ 27.50$; a South Australia, 1855, 18., gray lilac, error of color, watermark star, imperfect, $\$ 55$; a Connell stamp brought $\$ 10.50$ at Chereley's sale of November 12 and 13 ; a Granada Confederation, 1882, a pair of 1 peso, used, \$32.50.

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All collectors of post cards should subscribe to the Post Card. A monthly that issues over tyventy-four numbers a year is something unexpected to collectors; they rather expect the opposite.

Sedang stamps have had quite a fall. The set can be bought for five cents, in place of $\$ 2.50$, as formerly asked.

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On the 24 th of March, 1843, the first public meeting ever held in favor of cheap postage in the United States took place in the Merchants' Exchange, in the city of New York. Curtis Bolton was appointed President; Eli Hart, Joseph Ketchum, Mark Spencer and William W. Todd Vice-Presidents; and P. M. Wetmore and William B. Townsend, Secretaries.

The results of the organization formed at this meeting were persistent pushing of the matter before the Senate and Congress, and largely tended to hasten cheap postage in the United States.

Barnabas Bates was the first to urge cheap postage in the United States publicly. This was done before the results of the Sir Rowland Hill plan were known in this country.

Brazil.-The following item was published in a Rio Janeiro paper, August II:
In the presence of the Minister of Finance to-day, at the mint, were printed the first impressions of the new stamps called "Southern Cross." The trial resulted very satisfactorily.

The new stamps, which we have had occasion to see, are artistically designed and much handsomer than the old ones. Upon a colored groundwork appears the "Southern Cross," surrounding the stars representing the provinces of Brazil.

The new colors, unchangeable by atmospheric influences, are more beautiful than the current series. They are due to Dr. Correa da Costa, a distinguished mining engineer, who was for ten years essayer at the mint.

The idea adopted of the application of the "Southern Cross" to the postage, revenue and telegraph stamps is due to Counselor Solragy, but this reform has been presented and put into effect by the illustrious and indefatigable director of that establishment, Dr. Ennes de Souza.

## H○URTE SATE

OF THE

## Quaker City Philatelic Society and Phila. Section I.P.V.,

## Will be held SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1890, at 8 p.m., at i42I FAIRMOUNT Ave.

All stamps in fine used condition, except those marked $*$, which are unused. Catalogued as per Durbin's seventeenth edition. Bids may be sent to any member of the Society, this paper or the undersigned. No commission for buying. All bids so much per lot.

## WILLIAM DIXON CORFIELD, 3609 Locust St.


Azores, 1871 25,* 1880 25, 1887 25,* violet
....... 3
bark, 2c.*. ..........................
Br. N. Borneo, 1886, \$1 .
3 on 4,5 on $8,2 \mathrm{c}$. on part
of envelope................

Ceylon, 1857, 1p.
$1885,15 \mathrm{c}$. on 16 c
25 C . on 32 C
28 c , on 32 .
56 c . on 96

Costa Rica, 1883, 40 C
Fiji Islands, 188r, is.
France, 1854,80 ., carmine*.
French Guiana, 1887, 05 on 2, 0.20 on 35, 0.25 on
30, allㅍ.
Martinique, 1881, .015 on $20^{*}$
o. New Caledonia, 1882,05 on $40 ; 1883,5$ on 40, both* 2
1886, 5 on If.;* 1883, 25 on $75 \ldots .2$
Great Britain, 1847, 6d., 1848, rod.
Fac simile, Mulready envelope.
Heligoland, 1876 , 3p., entire sheet. originals*
Holland, 1877, newspaper stamp, $1 / 2$ double perf. .
Hong Kong, 5oc. on 48.
20 on 30,50 on $48, \$ 1$ on 96
India, 1866 , prov. $6 a$
Italy, 1874 , unpaid Iol., pair.
1884, unpaid, rool.....
Jamaica, 1860, 6d., pine apple, 10 m.
Liberia, 1880, 6c....
Macao, 1884, io on 25 r., blue sur*
20 on 50 , green.
80 on 100.
1887, 8or
5 on 80 , 1o on 80 , gray
20 on 80 ,* gray
Mauritius, $1889,38 \mathrm{~d}$. on 9 d .*
Mexico, 1878 , engraved 1,2 , 4 r., 1p., all*
Monaco, wrappers, 886 , IC 2 C * 5 each ........ 4
Monaco, wrappers, 1886, IC., 2C ,* 5 each............ Io
Natal, is. rev., used, for postage
Paraguay, 1878 , 1 c . on 1 r ., pair*
Philippine Island, $1803,5 \mathrm{C}$.*
$1870,5 \mathrm{C} .$.
2c. on $2^{1 / 2}$

8c. on 2 c ., green sur....................
Portugal, 1867, 120r.*.
1884, 500*.
500r. ......................................
1000r ...................................
1887, 500
1887,5 on 20c.* (star)
Queensland, 1882,
$1 £$.
Russia, 1884, env. cut square, 2k.
St. Thomas and Prince, 1887 , 200r.*
St. Vincent, 1885 , 1 p. on $21 / 2 \mathrm{~d}$. on $1 p$.*
62. Shanghai, 40 c . on 100 , red sur.*
63. South Australia, 1860, 6d., blue
64. Spain, 1854, ir.........................
65. 1872-4, 10р., 1876 тр., 1878 1р., 1879 .....
66. Tasmania, $1871,5 s$
67. Timor, 1887, 5, 10, 8or., |all*
68. Tonga, 1886, 1p., 2, 6d., ish


179. United States Interior, 2, 3, 6......................... 3 180. War, 2, 3, 6, 12 ; Post-office, 3, 6; Treasury, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12 ; Agriculture, 3.................... 12
1882, roc.; 1872, 3оc.: officially sealed, 1888,* West. Union Frank, 1884..................... B. and O., $1886,1,5,10,25 \ldots \ldots . .4$ Amer. Rapid Tel., 188r. 1C., 5c.,,", 10, ${ }^{15}, 20$,* "duplicate," 1882, 5c........................

6
184.
185.. Locals*.


## REVENUES.

186. Playing cards, Victor E. Mauger \& Petrie, 3 var. 3 187. Excelsior Match Co., Ic.; Iron City, 1c.; Barber,
ı..; Active, sc.; A. M. Cimetre, ic.; Eichelo
\& Co., ic.; Star, rc., and Dougherty,5c., small 8
187. Radway \& Co., 2c., perf., pair...................... 2
188. Revenues, 1 , 2, 3 and 4c. var........................... r $_{4}$



189. 25 c . ins.; 30 , 40 exc.; 50 c . and $\$ 2$ cov.:

25c. ins.; 30,40 exc.; $50 c$. and $\$ 2$ cov.. 7
$\$$ I lease, $\$ 1$ life ins................. 7
Match stamps, Ic., 7 var.................................. 7
195. 1c., 4 var................................ 4
196. Cards, Lawrence \& Cohen, 2c.; Mauger \& P.,
197. Patent medicine................................................................ 7
198.
199.

201. I hf. bbl. beer, $1871 . . . . . . .$. ............................. 1
202. I " " 1878, Toba rbl., 5 bl. (2), ro bl. act. 6
203. Proprietary stamps, var................................... . . 5
204. Check, 2c* .................................................... 1
205. entire*...... . ..................................... . 22


208. Bill $x, 2,3,9$, 20, reg. 2c., 5c.................. 7
209. Confd. States, 1863,2 , 5, 10, 20*..................... 4

## ENTIRE ENVELOPES.

210. Confd. States, 1863,5 C., 2 on each env.............. 30
211. Tuscany, 1851, 9c............................................
212. Post cards Canada, Japan, France, \&c............................ 28
213. Blood's Penny Post, gold................................
214. Black, $1858 \ldots . .$. ................................... $x$
215. U. S. Post-office dispatch, ic. blue................... 1
216. U. S. 1853, 3C. 2 A, white note ( HI ) ; 3c. buff 2 A
$\left(\mathrm{H}_{7}\right), 2 ; 3 \mathrm{c} .2 \mathrm{D}$ buff $\left.\left(\mathrm{H}_{1}\right)\right)_{2} \ldots \ldots .$.

217. 1853, 3c. buff and white 2 D (H16 and 17);
218. 1853, 3c buff and white, H 16 and 17 ; 1865,

2c. die 2 ; $1870,2 \mathrm{c}$. white............. 4
220. $1853,3 \mathrm{C}$. white, H16; 1865, 2 c . die $2 \ldots \ldots .{ }_{2}$
221. 3 c. 1870 , amber. $\$ 2$; blue, $41 / 2$ amber, 5 c...
222. $1887,2 \mathrm{c}$. manila, amber; 1875, 5c, white die A and B,* $4^{1 / 2}$ and $5 \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$. 188x, xc. manila*................................... 13
 $1875,6 \mathrm{c}$. official'size*.................................. 7

## Bargains! Stop!

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Price only 50 Cents, valued by Scott's 50 th ed. Catalogue at over $\$ 3$.
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 Pa ．Agents wanted， $3 \circ$ per cent com．

KBYSTONE STAMP CO $\begin{gathered}\text { 2ry } \\ \text { caster，} \\ \text { ce，} \\ \text { Pa．} \\ \text { Ping } \\ \text { Cheapest }\end{gathered}$
Stamps out．Ag＇ts wanted， $33^{1 / 3}$ p．c．com．
MILLER，D．H．，r309 Pine St．，Phila．Agents wanted at 25 per cent commission．Ref．

P．NIESSEN Rue d＇Allemagne， 96 B，Brussels，Bel－ Rue d＇Allemagne， 96 B, Brussels，
gium，Stamps．Exchange wanted．
8
Whntan Agrints Wantar

In every college，school，\＆c．，to sell my
Unexcelled Sheets of Guaranteed Genuine Stamps

At $331 / 3$ per cent commission． Address

## C．J．Fuelscher

2307 DODIER St．，St．Louis，Mo．

## CASH PRIZES！

Ten dollars will be given to agents making largest sales from my fine approval sheets，on De－ cember 25,1889 ，besides a com．of $331 / 3$ per cent． Scott＇s $\$ 2.50$ album，seventh ed．，in splendid condi－ tion，containing a fine collection of 500 stamps，all dif．，with flags，coats of arms and photos of rulers， only $\$ 5$ ；Japan，1888，I5s．，purple， 25 s．，green，I2c． each，or the two for 20 c ．Packet of 58 var．only 1gc．，Newfoundland，Trinidad，etc．Price－list free． Mail trade only．R．P．SPOONER， 37 W．32D Sr．，New York City．A．P．A． 669.

## ت卫卫卫。

A 2sh．pale brown of Great Britain，catalogued at $\$ 4$ ，to the agent selling the most stamps from my sheets before March 30，at 35 per cent commis－ sion．Reference required．

## P．E．SNYDER，

28 W．Sixtieth St．，－New York，N．Y．

A NOVEL SCHEME．

## See Here a Moment－

Since August I have been disposing of my stock of stamps in small lots to quit the business．Lately I have made several attempts to dispose of my en－ tire stock in a lump，but have not been successfuis and now I propose to offer my stock to collectors at Less than wholesale prices and see if by so doing I can close up．In round numbers my stock invoices（lowest wholesale prices）as follows：


These will be sold at the rate of $70 c$ ．per 100 ，or $\$ \mathrm{I}$ for $150, \$ 6$ per 1000．Special price given on lots of 5000 or Io，000．
I wish to clear up my stamp business as soon as possible and would rather sell RIGHT NOW at a little under cost than to putter along all spring and summer．I have a very few of the pence issue， Newfoundland，Peru and Persia unused envel－ opes，and unused 5d．green New South Wales，one of which I will put in with every $\$ \mathrm{I}$ worth ordered， as far us they will go．
These stamps are worth from 25 c ．to 50 c ．each．
7c．U．S．entire env．，catalogue， 500 ．， $40 c$ ．
Besides these stamps I have about 45,000 com－ mon U．S．to offer at a bargain．

Write me．Order now．

## CHIHS A．TOWMSEND，

173 SOUTH HOWARD St．，
AKEON, O.

After having disposed of my stock of stamps I shall have for sale my cabinet at an extremely low price．

