

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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STAMPS OF BRAZIL.

THE following correspondence to the *Philatelic Record* under date of February 2, 1890, will interest our readers:

Brazilian stamps have been going through so many changes lately that I am afraid they will be very confusing to collectors later on if some proper record is not made at the present time.

Newspaper Stamps.—These were not supposed to be sold to the general public, but only to newspaper proprietors, and were for paying postage on packages of papers addressed to post-offices where the packages were opened and the individual papers distributed; the lower values of course only franked single copies. The first issue of these stamps in the commencement of 1889 was of the following values: 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300, 500, 700 and 1000 reis, all in orange yellow. The 10 and 20 reis were exhausted in two or three days, and a fresh supply was ordered from the United States; but objection having been raised to all the series being of the same color, a new series was ordered of the colors given in the *Record*. The 10 reis, olive, and 20 reis, green, were issued immediately on arrival, also the 50 reis, pale orange. The 100 reis, lilac, was not issued until October, and the other values *have never been issued*, nor are they likely to be, as the stock of orange stamps is not yet exhausted, and it is said a new stamp altogether is to appear. In this latter case the stock in hand will most probably be sold to collectors.

Wrappers.—The *Record* only gives the one set of 20, 40 and 60 reis. There were two sets issued. The first had the values in Spanish words. There was a considerable outcry when they appeared; and they were soon withdrawn, and other values in Portuguese substituted. Spanish: *veinte, cuarenta, sesenta*. Portuguese: *vinte, quarenta, sessenta*.

Envelopes.—The *Record* gives 200 reis, pink on white laid. I suppose this is a misprint for 300 reis. There has been no new issue of 200 reis envelope, the old 200 reis, black, still being in use. The 100 reis, green, should be catalogued as follows:

100 reis, emerald green, 78 x 139 mm.; letters of "Brazil" far apart.
100 " " " 94 x 119 " " " " "
100 " yellow green, " " " " " "
100 " " " " " " " " " " close together.

In the former the letters are about 1 mm. apart, and in the latter not more than $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

N. B.—The new envelopes do not bear the watermark "Correio Brasileiro."

Unpaid Letter Stamp.—A series of these, of values 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 300, 500, 700 and 1000 reis, all in carmine, were issued about November to provincial post-offices, but were never used in the general post-office at Rio de Janeiro, some objection being raised, I believe, to their all being in the same color. A new series of the same type, but different colors, was prepared, and came into use at the commencement of the present year. The colors are as follows: 10 reis, orange; 20 reis, blue; 50 reis, light olive green; 100 reis, carmine (same as first issue); 300 reis, emerald green; 200 reis, deep magenta; 500 reis, greenish gray; 700 reis, violet, and 1000 reis,

slate. None of these stamps will stand water, as the least moisture removes the color. These stamps, of course, were not intended for sale to the public, but the director of the post-office having heard that the employees were selling them to collectors (at least, such is the story), ordered both the withdrawn and the current issue to be sold over the counter for their face value, the stamps being previously defaced with the stamp of the department.

Letter Stamps.—It has been considered an open question amongst collectors here whether the third issue of Brazilian adhesives (the small upright figures) were ever officially perforated. The story is, that the perforation of some sheets of these stamps is due to the employees trying their hands with a new perforating machine that had been received from Europe. The perforated stamps would, therefore, not be a separate official issue. I wrote to the director of the post-office a short time ago, and the following is his reply: "The director-general of the posts declares to you, in reply to your letter of the 6th inst., that the last stamps of the type of the 60 reis herewith were sold by the post-office perforated, not constituting, however, a special emission."

I see quoted in some catalogues the 300 reis, orange and green, 1878, as rouletted as well as perforated. This must be a mistake, as there was no rouletted issue of these stamps. Probably a sheet or two escaped perforation, as happened lately with the 100 reis, lilac. Several sheets of these appeared in the post-office unperforated, and possibly these will be sold to collectors later on as rouletted.

They are now hard at work at the mint printing the new stamps for the republic. The 100 reis is already out, and is about as hideous as it could be.

AN ANTI-SURCHARGE ASSOCIATION.

[Mr. C. B. Corwin's article in the May number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* is of such importance to collectors that we reproduce it and hope that all of our readers will become members of that society. If all collectors were members the surcharge craze would die out. The laws of supply and demand apply very aptly to this class of stamps.—EDITORS Q. C. P.]

IT is high time that some decided steps were taken which would tend to check the noisome flood of surcharges with which we are at present, and have been for the past ten years, afflicted.

It is only by a radical effort that any good may come out of any such movement, and, therefore, I for one write myself publicly down as a non-collector or handler of surcharges from 1890 onwards; *i. e.*, I will not collect, buy, sell or exchange any locally surcharged stamps issued on or after January 1, 1890. Stamps which are surcharged by the makers, for economy's sake, such as St. Helena, Gibraltar, certain Ceylons, etc., are certainly collectible and are not to be taken into consideration in this excision, as, in general estimation, they are worthy of philatelic respect.

Let us, therefore, all, without regard to locality, band ourselves together as members of "The Anti-Surcharge Association," and see what our united efforts will produce towards checking this curse to philately.

Therefore, I will be pleased, in my official capacity, to receive the names of those philatelists who are able to conscientiously agree to the resolution as above noted, and the names sent in will be published in these columns from month to month as received. There is no reason to doubt that the new association now proposed should contain at least 1000 members at the close of 1890.

Let every one, who places himself thus on record, mention the matter to his friends and gain at least ten names towards this end, at the same time requesting each convert to seek an additional ten, and thus we will gather many to our ranks, and the sinews of the early members will be strengthened.

The members will be numbered in rotation as their names are received, and where more than one comes in the same mail, those who mailed their names first will receive

earlier numbers than those whose names were mailed later. When two or more names were mailed at the same time then the numbers will be allotted alphabetically. For the present, until some one else may be chosen, I will assume the duty of secretary, which duty will be comprised in keeping, in a suitable book, a membership roll and preparing it for publication. By virtue of this self-vested authority, I hereby assign to myself the proud number, One. Who will be number two?

CHARLES B. CORWIN, A. S. A. No. 1.

NEW YORK, April 15, 1890.

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

PORT OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.,
APPRAISER'S OFFICE,
April 26, 1890.

MR. MILLARD F. WALTON :

Sir :—In compliance with your request, I enclose herewith a copy of the letter from the Honorable Assistant Secretary of the Treasury authorizing the delivery, free of duties, of certain packages containing canceled postage and internal revenue stamps recently imported by you per mail.

Yours very respectfully,
D. C. CLARKE, *Assistant Appraiser*.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4, 1890.

COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS, PHILADELPHIA, PA. :

Sir :—The department is in receipt of your letter of the 20th ultimo, reporting on the application of Mr. Millard F. Walton, for the admission, free of duty, of books containing certain canceled postage and internal revenue stamps, recently imported at your port by mail.

The applicant states that the books contain stamps forwarded by the National Philatelic Society, of New York city, to its foreign members for exchange of duplicates and returned to him on circuit.

The appraiser reports that the importation consists of two packages, one of four books with eight leaves each, and the other of five books of forty leaves each, the stamps, which are both of domestic and foreign issue, being attached to the leaves and the price of each stamp written under it; that the aggregate value of the stamps, according to their subjoined prices, is \$387.98; that the outside leaf of the books has printed on it "The National Philatelic Society of New York, C. B. Corwin, Superintendent, 108 Water street, New York," with the owners' names, residences, value of sheet and sheet number printed in English, French and German and is accompanied by a list giving names and addresses of the parties comprising the circuit, and that the books are sent to these addresses in the order of the list, starting from New York, and each person selects such stamps as suits his purpose, writing his name in the space made vacant by the removal of the stamp, no foreign stamps being added after leaving the United States.

The books in question having been prepared in this country and returned in the same condition as exported, except as to the stamps removed therefrom while abroad, may, in the opinion of the department, be admitted free of duty under the provision of T. I., 649, for "articles the growth, produce and manufacture of the United States when returned in the same condition as exported."

You are therefore authorized to readjust the entry and to deliver the packages free of duty.

Respectfully yours,
GEORGE C. TICHENOR,
Assistant Secretary.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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OUR AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION TICKET.

FOR PRESIDENT—John K. Tiffany.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT—C. B. Corwin.

FOR TREASURER—A. N. Spencer.

FOR SECRETARY—Millard F. Walton.

FOR INT. SECRETARY—Joseph Rechert.

WE are not disposed to look with favor on the proposition to make the officers of the American Philatelic Association appointive, as we feel that this would prove a step in the wrong direction, as it would take away the interest which is created by each election and the many members of the A. P. A. are Americans with American notions of self-government and would, we think, be restless under such a system. Each member too has direct relations with the Secretary, Treasurer, and the other officials, and as the chance of re-election now depends largely on the attention which each *elective* officer gives to Association business there is now necessary much more than mere promises of future performances, in fact, there must be good attention given even to trifles or *presto* the officer is gone. We now have good, tried officers, men who are interested in the good of the Association and who strive to push it forward and it would certainly be unwise for this reason alone to change the present system.

BIDS were received at the Post-office Department for furnishing stamped envelopes for the four years beginning on the 1st of October next. There were five bidders. The basis fixed for the award was the total number of the various kinds of envelopes issued during the year ended March 31, 1890, comprising twenty-seven different items, and footing up about 500,000,000 in all. The lowest bidder was the Plimpton Manufacturing Company, and the Morgan Envelope Company, of Hartford, whose bid of \$770,418 is \$70,578, or 8.4 per cent less than the cost of a like number of envelopes at the present contract prices.

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST still lives after several years of peaceful prosperity, a longer life-time than nine out of ten of our contemporaries have managed to sustain. It was the first to reduce its subscription rate to the present low price and much of its success is due to that move. It goes regularly to a very large number of active philatelists and has proved to be one of the best mediums for advertisers in the country. With our present issue our advertising rates are lower than those of any other philatelic publication, *value* considered.

WITH the incorporation of the American Philatelic Association will come many desirable changes and new features to interest and attract new members to our ranks as well as to retain many members who would otherwise fill the retired list.

WE were much surprised and grieved to notice many names formerly well known in the list of members dropped by the A. P. A. in March, and we hope that for their own sakes they will come back and go out decently. You used to be gentlemen; retrieve yourselves!

WE have lately seen a half of a 2c. green used for 1c. which passed through the Boston Post-office. Our correspondent informs us that several specimens have gone safely through the post-office.

WHY not move the A. P. A. list up and fill the vacant numbers, or at least allow those who desire it to be moved up?

COLLECTORS should remember that there is no better time than summer time to get good things cheap for their collections.

W. VON DER WETTERN, our Baltimore friend, is just as hearty and jolly as ever.

WHAT has become of Mr. W. F. Bishop, formerly of La Grange, Ill.?

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
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