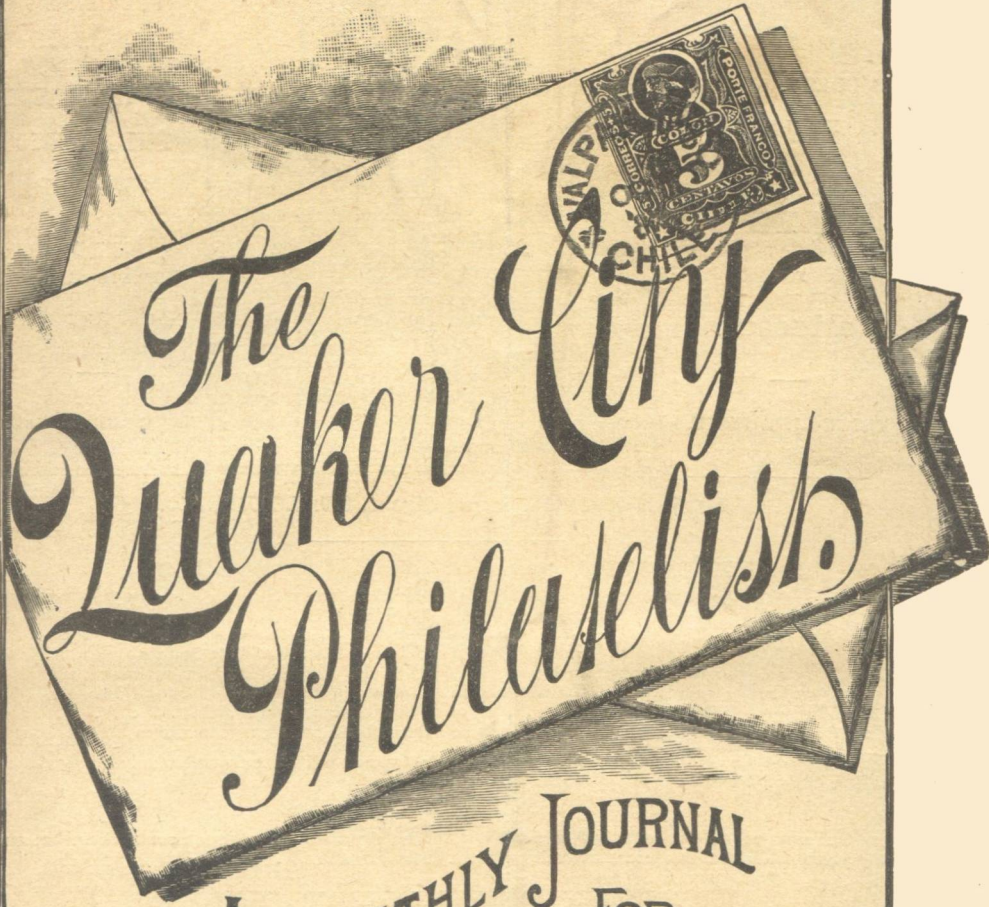


Vol. VI

DECEMBER, 1891.

No. 72.



The
Quaker City
Philatelist

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS.



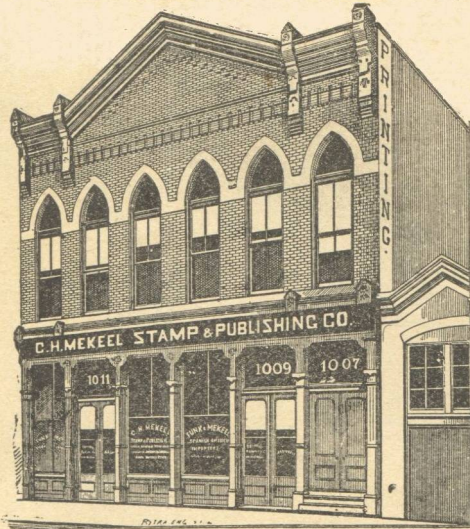
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The Quaker City Philatelist

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION, PENNSYLVANIA STAMP COLLECTORS' LEAGUE, AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONALER PHILATELISTEN VEREIN.

VOL. VI.

DECEMBER, 1891.

No. 12.

AMERICAN COLLECTORS THROUGH FOREIGN EYES!

BY CANADENSIS.

AT the present time considerable talk is going on in Europe over the ways and means generally used by the philatelists of the United States. While I do not agree with the bombastic utterances and wild ranges of flight indulged in by these foreign papers against my American friends, I must confess that the feeling is strong, particularly in Europe, against having any stamp trade whatever with the United States. I believe this is mainly due to the absurd customs regulations of the United States, to a great extent, and not the fault of her stamp collectors. In order to place the foreign aspect of the question fairly before the eyes of Americans, I take great pleasure in giving them a literal translation from the French. It is a continuation of an article written by Ch. de Solrac, *alias* Carlos, a well-known European philatelist and writer of no mean ability. In the *Paris Postal* for October, he severely criticises the actions of United States philatelists, both dealers and collectors, in a way calculated to prejudice the mind of foreigners and prevent them dealing on this side of the Atlantic.

While I do not pretend to give all the furious bombast, I copy the article aforesaid, which contains very many terms that are essentially *Parisien* and that are very difficult, not to say, impossible to translate into their intended meaning. Here is the article of "Solrac:"

"MESSIEURS LES AMERICAINS.

"My previous article has brought me many letters of approbation, proving that I had *hit the point*; on the other hand, I have received some from the United States, but my modesty prevents me from reproducing their *flattering terms*! Instead of being angry, I am, on the contrary, very glad, because if these gentlemen *screech* it shows that they were *touched*! In their regulations of the post-office, a small alteration was made, however, I must confess, in that instead of opening only registered letters the customs authorities now open *all* letters weighing more than one weight addressed to stamp merchants. This change is quite recent. Another alteration is that the customs authorities wanted to collect dues on the stamps that *were on the envelope* and which were *paying the postage* on a letter coming from Roumania and bearing the Jubilee stamps, on the ground that these stamps might have had a mercantile value!!!!

"I must confess that I remained mute in admiration of the boasted *land of the free*! This is what we can call *être à la hauteur*. [I cannot translate this latter phrase exactly; it means to be at the height of the circumstance or equal to the occasion.]

"If after this a European merchant can enter a single sheet of stamps in the United States he will be very lucky; unless he makes the trip himself and hides the sheets in his shoes.

"So the American merchants are secured against foreign competition and now *à la tour de Wesles*! [This expression I cannot translate, as I do not know exactly what it means. It must be some expression used in Paris and alluding to something unknown to me.]

"The American invoices begin to be very numerous. It began slowly at first, but is actually growing to an immense proportion. Buy *good little Europeans!* put your hand to your pocket. Buy some Honduras, they are worth more than the Panama. [An allusion to the Panama Canal stock which once was very high in the French markets, but now is worth nothing.] Make a *good little* speculation; quantities are unlimited! They are government stock, warranted on the *bills*. If we remark with stupefaction that, for an example, in the Honduras series, the stock differs completely with the color of the stamps newly arrived on letters, immediately they will prove to you by official papers that this was a new issue ordered by the Government of Honduras to his printer in New York and which [this is a verse in a French song]:

" 'Was about to leave * * * but * * * they held it,'

as the song goes, when these stamps were suppressed.

"This affair has always made me think that, after all, if it were a new (official) issue ordered to be put in circulation, it is not a reprint, and is all right. But if none of these stamps were ever used through a post office, and the colors differ absolutely, they are NOT ORIGINALS!!!!

"This puzzles me, because here I touch the delicate question of *reprints* which has been so much discussed.

"Where does *reimpression* begin, and where does it end? There are as many ideas as there are philatelists. If we are to go by the strict sense of the word *original*, the real original would be only the *first printing* of a stamp, the subsequent printings made for the use of the post when they want them would be reprints. The proof of this is that there is very often some difference between two *printings* of a stamp in use.

"In our 15c. blue of France, one might find a great many colors. But it is generally understood that the word *original* applies to all *printings* of stamps actually in use; *reprinting* only begins after such stamp is suppressed, such reprints not being good for postage use. [I use the word *printing* to mean *tirage*.]

"But then * * * the Honduras would be *reprinted*, since this *printing* has not been used by the post-offices. No, the Americans say: this *printing*, having been done previously to the decree of suppression, is not a *reprint* but a *stock*. This way of reasoning is somewhat QUEER. Let us not insist any more, but let our readers judge for themselves.

"However, the poor European merchants are getting *tired* of this way of doing business, which consists in buying Salvador series at 125 francs per 100 series, and see that a month later they are sold at 75 centimes a series on the Paris market!

"To conclude, up to the present, all those American *affairs* have caused us nothing but losses. Well I recall to memory the Costa Rica, the Guanacaste, the Honduras, the Salvador series *et tutti quanti* issued from the land of bogus *locals* and 'envelope demonsiacs?' When shall we have lost enough money? CH. DE SOLRAC."

The above translation will give many of our American writers an opportunity to reply, as it would surely be translated into the German and French if at all worthy. The facts stated above are to my mind considerably stretched.

THE RESULTS OF AN INTERNATIONAL STAMP.

BY BONUMITA.

SIX years from now, in 1897, the Congress of the Universal Postal Union will convene in Washington. This fact in itself is important and significant, but it will appear to be much more so when it is considered that the individuals who constitute this body control, or almost do (in a certain sense) the moving of the mails between nearly all of the countries of the world. There is no doubt but that British Bechuanaland and the Transvaal, the only two countries of any importance not now members of the Union, will then be admitted, bringing practically the entire world under their direction. You will remember in one of the sessions held in Vienna in

May, June and July of the present year, a representative—I do not remember just now of which country he was a delegate—offered a resolution giving power to the Congress to issue a stamp to be used on all letters passing between Postal Union countries. The resolution found strenuous objectors in the American and British delegates, but on what they based their opposition is not known, as the sessions of the Union are held with closed doors and only the general results are made public. The matter after much discussion was laid aside, but undoubtedly will come up in the next Congress, and assuming that it does and is favorably acted upon it will not be uninteresting to note its probable results in our own little philatelic world.

The stamp, or stamps, as the case might be, would of course be of the denominations of the inland postage, the foreign postage, and then up to any amount the Congress might designate. The question, if propounded now, would involve long discussions on the coinage, for, as you probably know, were an international stamp to be introduced on the 1st of January, 1892, one could purchase stamps in one part of the world, take them to another part and there dispose of them at a good per cent. advance over cost. But we believe that before many years the great statesmen of the world will have settled the money question for once and for all and there will be nothing to fear from that quarter. A writer recently suggested that the stamps would probably be printed in Switzerland. For this I can see no reason. The Swiss have no very large engraving firms within their boundaries and in addition, the expense of transportation would be much less if the manufactory were elsewhere. While discussing this with a friend a few days since, he suggested that the plates might be made in one country and printed from in the country in which the stamps are to be used. This also I consider as exceedingly improbable on account of the cost. The stamp would, as I look at it, be printed in London, and sent direct to a distributing agency in each country, from thence to be sent to the various post-offices as ordered. And now for the part the stamp collector has to play. To look at it broadly, would the introduction and continued use of international stamps tend to harm or benefit the general interest centred on philately? Let us consider the latter part of the question first.

We think you have already decided the matter in your own mind in favor of its being beneficial. But wait. That there would be no more surcharges (Oh! what a happy thought in itself) is true and no more new issues except perhaps a set of ten varieties every eight or ten years. And the learned members of our societies could then give their entire time and attention to proving old dates wrong and such and such stamps counterfeits and not be obliged to dabble in new issues and the like. But this would keep on and we soon would have a vast library of facts, no doubts, no fears, no anticipation of anything wrong to happen in the stamp world. Then (let us hope) would the young collectors render thanks to their predecessors for their work in showing them the right path, but not till then.

On the other hand, when all that is possible has been learned, what would our society meetings find to discuss. Surely not current topics which one now so delights to hear or read about, for there would be no present, no bright anticipations and wonderings for the future, everything would be of the past. And when the meetings had become tiresome and dull what would fill the pages of our monthly magazines (or perhaps daily papers then)? Truly, none of those articles which now go to make up a good journal, the medium above all others which causes a collector's breast to swell with pride and inspires him with more zeal for his chosen hobby. No striking or interesting articles would be published and would not the lack of them cause collectors, and especially the younger ones, to give up their albums in disgust? Or should, perchance, the papers be interesting and instructive, would not the great cost of some stamps, and a collector's inability to procure even the stamps of a few countries complete, discourage and cause him to lay aside his collection? If this be so, then philately, once the glory and delight of thousands of collectors would slowly die out.

We have hinted at results, some of which must ultimately come about if international stamps are adopted. Each one of us has his own ideas and way of considering

this; you, yours, and we, ours, and we leave it to you to decide for yourself, deeming it better to do this than to give our own opinion. We all may be glad, however, that none of the coming generation will see the downfall of philately. The hobby, if such it may properly be called, will certainly last through their lifetime—after that, who knows?

CHRONICLE.

Bermuda.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ d. has at last taken its proper color. It is now dark green.

Diejo Suarez.—More beauties from this colony. First a stamp of 5c. with "Diejo Suarez" at top, "Poste" at each side, "Republique Française" below. In the centre a female with sword and buckler, figure of value and date, "1891." There are also two unpaid letter stamps, 5c. violet and 50c. black, where the female is replaced by figures of value. These are lithographed. The fortunate holders have put the price of fifty francs on the three.

French Colonies.—*Le Timbre Poste* illustrates the new stamps to be issued January 1, 1892. They somewhat resemble the current issue, having the sealed figures representing Commerce and Navigation. At the top "Republique Française—Colonies—Postes." At the bottom a label of the name of the colony, above which a square for the value. There will be no change in the values except the suppression of the 35c., the 50c. rose and 75c. yellow. Below is a list of the colonies to be provided with the new stamps:

1. Cōngó Français.
2. Diejo Suarez et dépendances.
3. Guadeloupe et dépendances.
4. Nouvelle-Calédonie et dépendances.
5. Senegal et dépendances.
6. Guyane.
7. Inde (Etablissements de l').
8. Indo-Chine.
9. Martinique.
10. Mayotte.
11. Obock.
12. Océanic (Etablissements de l').
13. Réunion.
14. St. Pierre et Miguelon.

French Congo.—*Le Timbre Poste* illustrates four stamps engraved on wood, and all printed in black on white. They all have "Postes" at the top and "Congo Français" below. The 5c. represents a branch of banana (?), 10c. a palm tree, 15c. what is supposed to be a French flag, and 25c. head of a negro. Since the 2d of September the 1c. has been surcharged 5c., in same way as the 15c. already noted. The surcharge is in both black and red.

Great Britain.—The *Philatelic Record* says there is a new die for the 1d. envelope, bearing on the neck the letters "S. H.," presumably "Somerset House."

Guadeloupe.—The current stamps are now surcharged "Guadeloupe" across the top in black. There are several errors in spelling, such as "Gnadeloupe," "Guadelonpe," and "Guadbloupe."

Hawaii.—Mons. Maury has news that the 2c. will soon be issued with effigy of Queen Liliuokalani. The envelopes are now engraved instead of being lithographed.

India.—The *Stamp News* says the 8 annas with small surcharge "Service" is being used again, and that the design of the 6 annas is to be changed.

Jhind.—Messrs. Cheveley and Wilson lately sold at auction a set of stamps with surcharge spelled "JEIND." There were eight varieties and the price obtained was £27.

Luxemburg.—The new stamps are already surcharged "S. P." and are said to be for use of the sovereign only.

Madagascar.—The 1fr. is black on yellow and the 5frs. violet on white. Both have a red network.

Mauritius.—Of the 38c. surcharged 2c., already mentioned, 33,000 were issued. There are three others similarly surcharged: 72,155 of the 4c. rose, 3577 of the 17c. rose, and 46,268 of the 38c. on gd.

Paraguay.—*Le Timbre Poste* illustrates letter cards 2c. red on yellow and 3c. blue on yellow. They have the current stamp in upper right corner, and are inscribed "Republica del Paraguay—Carta Tarjeta Postal."

Portugal.—M. Maury informs us that a new series is in preparation, with effigy of King Carlos. The 500 and 1000 will be printed in two colors.

Surinam.—The *Philatelic Record* notes a 10c. unpaid letter stamp of new type. The figures are only 4½mm. high instead of 7mm., and the word "cent" is below in small Roman capitals. Color bright lilac.

Uruguay.—The eighth stamp of the third horizontal row of the 5c. red on violet has "1391" for "1891."

THE FIRST ENGLISH POSTMASTER.

BY name Brian Tuke, with an honorable prefix of Sir, is described (1533) in official records as "Magister Nunciorum Cursorum, sive Postarum . . . both in England and in other parts of the King's dominions beyond the seas." Long subsequent to such appointment, so the records of the time saith, details of such service of accommodation were regulated by proclamation and orders in council. In a curious collection of such royal edicts preserved in the library of the Society of Antiquaries is one of Philip and Mary, to regulate the supply of horses for conveyance of letters to Dover.

A little later (1556 is the date given) the lords of the council gave order "that the postes betwene this and the Northe should eche of them keepe a booke, and make entrie of everie lettre that he shall receive, the tyme of the deliverie thereof unto his hands, with the parties' names that shall bring it unto him."

In the earlier years of the reign of Queen Bess much of the foreign postal service to and from England was controlled by the "incorporated merchant strangers."

After James I came to the throne, the use of post horses came into vogue; and early in the seventeenth century appointment was made whereby the first Lord Stanhope, and his son after him, should hold the office of postmastership of England, under the title of "Master of Posts and Messengers," with a salary of one hundred marks (a little over three hundred dollars) a year, with all avails and profits thereto accruing.

THE committee appointed to select a suitable letter box for attaching to or near the doors of residences have agreed in recommending to the Postmaster-General one of the 1500 submitted. The contrivance looks something like an ordinary lamp-post letter box on a small scale. It is so arranged that the owner can tell without opening it (either in his house or outside) whether or not there is any mail for him. It has also a compartment for mail for the carrier to collect and is, in a word, as the committee agree, "a mechanical marvel, at once beautiful in its simplicity and admirable in its effectiveness for the purposes contemplated." The whole device costs but \$1.10. It is expected that this pattern will receive the official approval of Mr. Wanamaker some time within the next few days. The plan will be put into operation early in the coming year.

A TAX of one or two kreuzers is levied on all of the foreign newspapers sent into Austria. It is collected by means of the blue and brown newspaper stamps which are pasted on to the paper, the recipient having to pay according to their value.

FOREIGN PHILATELIC NOTES.

BY BONUMITA.

MR. DOUGLASS GARTH, the popular Secretary of the Philatelic Society of London, has accepted the post of Vice-President of the Philatelic Protection Association. The suggestion in a recent issue of an American journal, that the latter society give more definite information when their circulars announcing new forgeries are sent out, is a good one, and should be considered. Of what earthly use to a collector (except but to warn him) is a notice like this: "Ceylon: Various post-cards with forged surcharges, and also bogus surcharges." I acknowledge that they are not all as indefinite as the one noted. The Association is doing good work; let it take one step more forward.

THE publishers of the *Stamp News*, London, announce the publication of their second *Stamp News Annual*. The first was published last December and this one will be out about the same time. It will consist of over one hundred pages, profusely illustrated, and will contain original contributions by most of the leading philatelic writers of the day. The prices are 62 cents bound in paper, \$1.06 in cloth. The publication last year was very successful and we have reason to expect the new issue will be as popular as the first one.

THE *Paris Postal* is publishing advertisements of Benjamin & Sarpe, of England. These, it will be remembered, are the well-known "dealers in faked stamps." It is most amusing to see how careful the English stamp papers handle this pair of names. They know, at least one of them, from experience what is the best for them.

AN "Account of the Celebration of the Jubilee of Uniform Inland Penny Postage" has been issued in London. It contains in its 331 pages, not only a report of the Jubilee Celebration Committee, but an immense amount of information, valuable to both the public and the collector. As a frontispiece there is an excellent portrait of Sir Rowland Hill.

THERE is a German work just out, by A. Reinheimer, on postmarks, etc., on the obsolete issues of the German States and cities. To those who are interested in these stamps it would be very useful, as it is carefully written and has many illustrations.

A NEW Paris stamp journal is printed in blue and yellow inks on white paper.

MR. THEODORE BUHL has been shown two Hawaiian curiosities which will interest American collectors. The first is the rare 13c. of the 1853 issue, used on letter; the second is a 5c., same date, with a 2c. of 1862. Both were postmarked in Honolulu on June 1, 1891, at 2 P.M., and were addressed to San Francisco, where they were delivered.

ANOTHER book on the "Postal Jubilee" is the one published by Sampson Low, Marston & Co., London. It contains much information on postal history, manufacture of stamps, etc. It dwells at length on Patrick Chalmers' claim and also on forged stamps and the values of genuine ones. As usual, the values are, for the larger part, too high.

WORD just comes to us from Inspector Bario of the conviction of George A. Skinner, of Roxbury, Mass., for the improper use of the mails, under the *alias* of Robert Langlands. His way of working was something similar to that of Parker. To the Star Stamp Co., of Utica, N. Y., belongs the credit of reporting him. He was fined \$15 and costs. The light sentence is presumably attributable to his youth.

"We're after them."

The Quaker City Philatelist

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THE CONSOLIDATED PHILATELIC SOCIETY held a meeting on December 3, 1891, at the Secretary's residence, about twenty-five members being present. A Constitution was read and adopted, and the *Essex County Philatelist* made the official journal of the Society. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Mr. Heinsburger showed some beautiful specimens of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick provinces, and a few stamps were exchanged among the members. Our library is at present small, but we hope that by the time of the next meeting it will have grown from the contributions of philatelic papers. Mr. Walter Thorne, P. O. Box 1566, New York city, will receive all philatelic papers contributed. Before long we will bring before our members an auction and sales department, such as which will surpass every other society. The dues and initiation fee are \$1, payable in advance. For further particulars address the Secretary,

ALBERT SCHIFF,
462 West Forty-fourth street,
New York City.

A SOCIETY has just been formed in Albany, N. Y., under the name of "The Stamp Collectors' Union." Collectors wishing to join the Society should address, with stamp, for particulars, the Acting Secretary, A. H. Brett, 115½ Jefferson street, Albany, N. Y.

MONTENEGRO is a unique country in regard to its postal business. Until lately the mails were not sent to any of the large cities or villages, but every citizen had to go to the capital, Cetinje, for his letters. There has now been established a postal department, and the mail is sent from Cetinje to four other cities. The mail carriers travel to these four cities on foot three times weekly.—*Pictorial News.*

FOREIGN PHILATELIC GOSSIP.

BY CANADENSIS.

Miss Jeanne Moens, daughter of the great Brussels dealer, is publisher and proprietor of *Le Courier Timbrophilique*.

The convent nuns of Locle, Switzerland, and the Orphans' Home of Billodes, have gone into the stamp business as dealers.

A collection of 2850 fiscal stamps recently sold in Paris for \$200.

Brazilian affairs are getting mixed and the State of Rio Grande do Sul is using all kinds of stamps.

A series of forty postage and packet stamps of the Austrian-Danube Navigation Co. are now offered for eighty cents.

Skandinavisk Philatelite Tidende de Souderbs is the latest stamp paper from Norway. The *Curierul Marilor Postale de Pitesti* comes from Roumania.

Mr. J. Malo, of Ottawa, Canada, is at present traveling in Europe. He is securing the affiliation of the Philatelic Society of Canada with other national societies. He has visited France, Germany and Austria, and will visit Russia, Turkey, Italy and Great Britain before returning.

International cheap postage appears to be doomed, at least for the present. The British Postmaster-General has declared that there is no hope of a system of uniform penny (two-cent) postage between all the English-speaking countries. This would be bad news if it reflected a fact, but it does not. It reflects only present obstacles, which present themselves mainly in the shape of perhaps too careful men in office. Such obstacles will be removed by the people, by time, or by their own increase in wisdom. The idea of a uniform rate of cheap postage, the same for all English-speaking nations, both in their domestic service and in their communications with each other, is of a kind not likely to be abandoned till it is made a fact. It appeals to reason, to sentiment and to convenience. It will remain alive and gather strength till it conquers.

The palm for the best collection of Australians is given to Mr. Plashett Rodd, of London, with Mr. M. P. Castle, a good second. The Duke of Leicester is also "away up." Mr. Rodd has the unique 4d., West Australia, with "inverted swan," also complete plates (used) of the various shades of "Sydney views," such as one-penny in pale red, another in deep red, one on laid paper, still another on the hard, bluish paper, and so on.

The English will soon own the greater portion of Africa. What with British East Africa, British Central Africa, and British South Africa, John Bull is making enormous strides.

There is a vast difference between a "Philatelist" and a "stamp collector" as generally known. One is a scientist who gives research among stamps, the other is simply "a gatherer of bits of paper."

The Philatelic Society of Canada have established provincial branches of their association in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and British Columbia. They have also twelve local branches, with a large active and honorary list.

Nearly all the foreign journals are laughing at the Americans and their funny customs laws *re* old stamps.

The ten per cent. duty, which was imposed upon stamps in South Australia, has been withdrawn.

The Sydney Philatelic Club has for patron the Earl of Jersey.

One of the English stamp journals states that they have never seen or heard of the stamp with head of General Boulanger. This was chronicled by the writer over a year ago. It was a so-called essay, got out by German dealers at the time that Boulanger was supposed to be aiming at the dictatorship of France. It was printed red (typographed) on white wove paper, with the head of the General in centre in full war costume; at the top "Repub. France," and at bottom "10 centimes," perforated 13.

The *Stamp News* says that "the 2c. Canadian registry stamp is still current and that only the 8c. was withdrawn from use." This is liable to be misconstrued by the readers of the *Stamp News*. While the 2c. Canada registers are still accepted as *part* payment of the registration fee, none have been issued from the Post-office Department since 1889, and no more will be issued or printed, because there is now no 2-cent rate. The remainder may be kept for a possible future 2-cent rate or will be surcharged "5 cents," in order to use them for the present rate charged for registration.

Mr. W. J. Beatty, of Ottawa, Ont., has a strip of present issue 1-cent Canada on thin wove *buff* paper. The 2c. Canada present issue has been seen on greenish paper, but this is due to the chemical action of the ink.

Every Canadian collector should register on the National Society's roll by sending his name to J. R. Hooper, Post-office Department, Ottawa, Canada.

DEATH OF MR. PATRICK CHALMERS.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. Patrick Chalmers, at his residence in Wimbledon, in his seventy-third year.

The late Mr. Patrick Chalmers was the fourth son of James Chalmers, bookseller, of Dundee, who claimed to be the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp, and his name is well known to our readers, owing to the energetic way in which he worked in the interests of his late father's memory, sparing neither time nor money to attain his object. What he claimed was an official recognition of his father, as the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp, and although there is no doubt that at present many thousands of the public believe he was not asking more than mere justice, it is a fact that, even up to the time of his death, he had many enemies, notwithstanding which he worked unceasingly, fully convinced that he was entitled to what he asked.

There is no doubt that his enthusiasm sometimes carried him too far, but it must not be forgotten that he was often goaded into strong language by others who preferred to meet him with abuse instead of argument. Whatever his faults we can only remember Patrick Chalmers as a kindly Scotch gentleman, sincere in his belief that he was performing a duty to the memory of his father, and absolutely honest in his intentions, and we think that all our readers will hope, with us, that notwithstanding his death, a time will yet come when the claims of his father, the Dundee bookseller, will be properly inquired into by competent authorities.—*The Stamp News*.

WHILE the lives of our dealers are being made miserable by the Custom House officials, there is some consolation in the fact that we are not alone in this kind of a struggle, for the Australian collectors are complaining against injustices. Mr. O. W. Rosenhain, Secretary Philatelic Society of South Australia, has recently had letters held by the Customs Department of the Post-office, they suspecting that the letters contained matter liable to duty. (There is a defined duty of ten per cent. *ad valorem* on stamps there.) Mr. Rosenhain has declined to open several of the letters seized and they have been returned to the writers, and he has made inquiries of several mercantile firms whether or not they have had any trouble with the officials, to which was received the reply that they didn't collect stamps, and that is why their letters passed.

A NEW kind of stamp will soon be introduced in the postal telegraph service of Russia with a view of securing the inviolability of the privacy of letters. The new stamp is printed on very thin paper, cannot be used again if it is once put on a letter. When used wet and taken off the envelope it leaves an indelible impression upon the spot where it was attached, so that if a new stamp was put upon the same spot the impression of the first stamp can be seen through it.

—THE—
Western Philatelic Union.

—Organized April 15, 1889—

President, LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELLO, Fort Davis, Tex.
 Vice-President, BREWSTER COX KENYON, Long Beach, Cal.
 Secretary and Treasurer, A. P. HOSMER, 168 LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill.
 Exchange Superintendent, FRANK KÖENIG, 122 Kearny St., San Francisco, Cal.
 Purchasing Agent, G. FOLTE, 526 California St., San Francisco, Cal.
 Official Editor, MILLARD F. WALTON, Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.

Any Philatelist desiring membership application blanks, can have them sent post-paid, by addressing the Secretary. All members are entitled to vote, irrespective of age.

Members desirous of participating in the Exchange Department should apply to the Superintendent, to be placed on circuits.

The Exchange Department is for the use of members only. Blank Exchange Sheets can be had of the Superintendent at five cents each. A charge of five per cent. made on all sales.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

NEW MEMBERS.

- No. 107. W. P. Agee, Washington, Ark.
 No. 108. B. V. Jenkins, 1224 N. Charles street, Baltimore, Md.
 No. 109. R. H. Buckingham, 806 Noble street, Chicago, Ill.
 No. 110. J. S. Smith, Oak Park, Ill.

APPLICATIONS.

J. A. Heckelman, Cullom, Ill.; References, W. G. Jerrems, Jr., A. P. Hosmer.
 W. Clifton Whitall, 125 Nicollet avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.; References, N. Eleaster, B. C. Bissell.
 A. F. Weidenbacker, 2 Noel Block, Nashville, Tenn.; References, H. McConnell, Thomas Parkes.
 Frank E. Cady, 430 E. Superior street, Chicago, Ill.; References, A. P. Hosmer, W. G. Jerrems, Jr.
 James Torrans, 2 Forest avenue, Ann Arbor, Mich.; References, A. P. Hosmer, F. E. Cady.
 William A. Fletcher, 43 East VanBuren street, Chicago, Ill.; References, W. G. Jerrems, Jr., R. L. Parsons.
 Frank White, 269 Armitage road, Chicago, Ill.; References, T. R. Ferris, A. P. Hosmer.

RESIGNATION.

C. H. Holden.

The Society having increased so rapidly during the past year, it has been deemed advisable to secure additional space in the official journal to provide for the publishing of articles which have been unavoidably left out for want of room.

Beginning with January 1, however, it is our intention to have at least four pages, monthly, filled with articles of interest to members of the W. P. U., and we hope that if members have any news of interest, that they will send them to this office, when they will be duly presented to the members.

Of course, this increased space means additional expense, but the Official Board have taken into consideration the fact that the W. P. U. is larger and more powerful than ever before, and are more than willing to do everything in their power to give members a first-class official journal.

It was thought best to increase the Official Board to five members, and I am pleased to state that Mr. George R. Tuttle has been selected as the fifth member.

All the principal sections of the country are now represented on the Board, and I hope that this will convince most collectors that the W. P. U. is a national society in fact.

I have received several communications asking why the W. P. U. does not start a library. I have written to members in various localities, and in all cases have replies, promising hearty coöperation and nearly all favoring Chicago as the best place to locate the library. Under these circumstances I think we ought not to hesitate one moment, and I have referred this matter to the Official Board to act upon at once.

It is the intention of the W. P. U., in case it is decided to have a library, to give it every attention possible, as under ordinary circumstances the libraries of most societies are utterly useless, as far as any practical benefit is concerned.

After a long delay I have succeeded in getting the W. P. U. Constitution to the printer, and I think that by January 1, at the latest, every member will have a copy.

I will admit that the delay was very vexatious and trust that members will pardon the long wait.

Owing to the resignation of Mr. C. H. Holden, a vacancy was made on the Official Board.

After mature deliberation the Board has appointed Mr. Leroy D. Walker, of Troutdale, Oreg., to the vacancy.

Mr. Walker is one of the prominent members of Branch 3, and will, no doubt, prove a valuable acquisition to the Official Board:

CHICAGO, ILL., December 1, 1891. A. P. HOSMER, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

REPORT OF PURCHASING AGENT OF W. P. U.

Since my last report I have received and partly distributed the following stamps:

Luxemburg, 10c., 25c.	7c.
British Honduras, 2c., 3c., 6c., 12., 24c.	48c.
Greece, 1 lepta, perf.	23c.
Brazil, journaes, 100; postage due, 200 reis	17c.
New South Wales, 12½d., surcharge	26c.
New South Wales, 2d. postal card	6c.
Victoria, postage due, 4d., 5d., 10d., 1s., 2s., 5s.	\$2 37
Leeward Island, cards, ½, ½x½, 1x1; envelope, 2d., and wrappers	32c.
Holkar, ½ anna.	1½c.
Hyderabad, ½ anna, 3 annas, 4 annas	30c.
Travancore, 1 chuckram, 2 chuckrams, 4 chuckrams; envelopes, 1 chuckram, 2 chuckrams, 3 chuckrams, 4 chuckrams	36c.
Chamba, envelopes, ½ anna, 1 anna; reg., 2 annas; cards, ½ anna brown, reply and service.	18c.
Faridkot, envelopes, ½ anna small and large and 1 anna large; reg., 2 annas; cards, ¼ anna.	18c.
Nabha, envelope, green coat of arms, 1½ annas; envelope, brown coat of arms, 3 annas; cards, ¾ annas and reply	22½c.
Hyderabad, envelope, ½ anna; card ¼ anna	4c.
India, 2½ annas and 9 pies stamps; envelopes reg., 2 annas, small and large size; 2½ annas surcharge.	34c.

I have a lot of India native stamps sent to me on approval, used and unused, guaranteed genuine. If any member desires some of them please address

SAN FRANCISCO, November 19, 1891.

G. FOLTE, *Purchasing Agent.*

REPORT OF EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT.

Since my last report sixty-five sheets, valued at \$289.75, were received.

FRANK KÖENIG, *Exchange Superintendent.*

CHICAGO BRANCH, No. 1.

The fourth auction sale of the Branch took place on the evening of November 27, and proved to be one of the most successful yet held.

Upwards of twenty members and collectors were present, which again breaks the record for numbers.

The prices realized on the United States stamps were very high and in some cases reaching more than catalogue price.

Branch 1 has added four members to its membership during the month of November. This is, indeed, gratifying to the local members who naturally take a great deal of pride in the W. P. U.

Mr. G. Y. Lansing, of Albany, N. Y., passed through Chicago early last month; his stay was very brief, and local members were unable to extend him the accustomed hospitalities.

Local officers will be nominated at the next meeting for the ensuing year.

Just who will be nominated is at present uncertain, but as there is plenty of good material in the society, there will be no difficulty in securing first-class officers.

Our local Librarian reports more additions to the library, most of which are first-class periodicals.

The increasing attendance at the W. P. U. meetings is marked; there is always something of interest at the rooms; either an auction sale, under the supervision of Auctioneer Ross, or exchanging of specimens between members, so that members are always on hand, sure of enjoying themselves in some capacity.

The auctioneer reports that the next (fifth) sale is well under way, and will consist of high value United States envelopes, good foreign and many others. These sales will be continued as long as collectors desire good stamps. It has always been the policy of Branch 1 to have nothing but first-class goods in their auction sales, and a glance at the auction list will show that Mr. Ross has succeeded in doing so.

Catalogues will be mailed to any address upon applying either to the auctioneer or the undersigned.

CHICAGO, ILL., December 2, 1891.

A. P. HOSMER, *Local Secretary.*

OUR Government is endeavoring to increase the sale of stamped envelopes over that of stamps to as great an extent as possible. It can be readily seen that this is not done for profit but for convenience to the Department, there being a much larger gain to the Government by the sale of stamps than by stamped envelopes. The use of stamped envelopes obviates the danger of the stamps falling off in the mails and it greatly lessens the number of letters which go to the Dead Letter Office. At the last session of Congress a bill was introduced to compel all persons to use stamped envelopes for their correspondence, but of course it was at once laid aside, as a proposition against the people is not to be entertained for a moment.

THE printers of HARRY FURNISS' caricatures of the Jubilee Envelope and Card state that 9901 of the Envelopes, and 9917 of the Cards were printed, after which the plates were destroyed.

WM. E. BAITZELL,

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Sole Agent in United States for William Brown,
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taken under 50c. Yours respectfully,
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Brooklyn, N. Y.

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U. S., 1861, 12c. black	15	12
" 24c. black	15	12
" 1866, 24c. mauve	25	20
" 1868, 12c. black, grill	30	22
Argentine, 1890, 40c. olive	25	12
" 60c. blue	20	10
Haiti, 1891, 2c. on 3c. blue	20	10
" 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7c., used, per set	25	25
Argentine, 1890, 5c. on 8c. env	15	15
* " same entire env	20	20
*Brazil, 10r. yellow, newsp	75	40
* " 1889, 200r. yellow, newsp	50	30
Cape Verde, 1886, 200r. lilac	20	20
" 300r. orange	25	25
Canada, 1879, official seal, original gum	2 50	I 25
Jamaica, 3d. revenue, used postally,	75	30
Portugal, 1884, 1000r. black	I 00	50
*Russia, 1890, 1r.	I 00	60
* ROUMANIA, 1891, Jubilee Sets, complete, only a few sets left		I 00
*Roumania, 1890, 1½, 3, 5, 10, 15 and 25b	29	20
* " 1881, 50b. brown, unpd,	20	16
* " 60b. " "	25	20
* " 1889, 5b. green, yell. p.	10	10
* " 1890, 10b. " "	6	4
* " 30b. " "	15	11
*Royal Mail Co., 1875, 10c. rose	I 00	I 00
*Hong Kong, 1891, 7c. on 10c. green	20	20
Hong Kong, 1891, Jubilee, 2c. rose, used, very rare		I 00
*N. South Wales, 1890, 5d. gr'n, o.s.	I 00	35
* " 1891, 2½ d. bl., o.s.	15	15
Paraguay, official, 1891, 1c. green	15	15
" 2c. vermil	15	15
St. Pierre Miquelon, 1891, 15c. on 30c. brown, used	20	20
St. Pierre Miquelon, 1891, 15c. on 40c., used	25	25
*Br. Honduras, 1891, 2c. red	5	5
* " 3c. brown	6	6
* " 6c. blue	12	12
* " 12c. lilac and green	22	22
* " 24c. yel'w and blue	45	45
*Complete sets only	80	80
Leeward Island, 1890, 6d. violet	25	10
Macao, 1887, 5c. green and red	15	10
" 10c. " "	25	18
" 40c. " "	60	40
Set of 3 only		60

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Surcharged *official in black.*

	Cat. Price.	My Price.
1886, 1c. brown		\$0 10
2c. lake		10
5c. blue		10
10c. orange		10
20c. slate		15
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1887, 1c. green		10
2c. lake		10
5c. blue		10
80c. gray		60
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1885, 1c. blue (40)		20
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10c. orange (43)	I 00	40
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50c. green (44)	50	25
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1886-7, 1c. blue (45)	50	20
2c. bistre (46)	50	20
4c. brown (54)	35	20
10c. orange (48)		40
1 peso green (56)	I 25	50
1c. slate (52)	25	8
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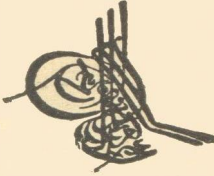
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