Vol. VIII. DECEMBER, $1893 . \quad$ No. 96.


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MILLARD F. WALTON, Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.

# The Quaker City Philatelist. 

VOL. VIII.
DECEMBER, 1893.
No. 1.2 .

HISTORICAL AND PHILATELIC MATTERS OF THE FREE CITY OF LUBECK.

BY PH. HEINSBERGER, NEW YORK.

IT is necessary, and besides this interesting, for American stamp collectors to recite the commercial side and the philatelic side of old Lubeck, because both are things of the past. The former importance as well as the postage stamps of Lubeck are no more. On October 12, 1893, the free city of Lubeck (Germany) celebrated the 750 th jubilee of her foundation. But it is not the age, but her former importance as a city and independent State, which makes Lubeck of fame, and on account of her glorious past, as she was called "Queen," or "Venice of the North."

Lubeck was founded in the year 1143, by the German "Counts of HolsteinSchaumburg." She is the yourgest child of the Triumvirate, "Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck" (Der Hansa-Bund). Lubeck soon became important, as her citizens were sailors as well as warriors. Her neighbor across the water, Denmark, was jealous of the importance of Lubeck, and tried to annex the city in the twelfth century; but Lubeck's citizens sailed at once for the Danish coast, attacked the Danish fleet on open sea, and defeated Denmark and dictated to her enemy the conditions of peace. This glorious victory of the arms of Lubeck over her most powerful enemy;" Denmark, became Lubeck's fame, as the bloody battle of "Bornhoved" brought Denmark to terms. Lubeck had made her début, and was weicomed by her sister free cities, Hamburg and Bremen. Those three cities entered into a commercial-political union, called in German "Hansa-Bund," and Lubeck became the leader. During two centuries His Honor the "Mayor of Lubeck" had more power than emperors and kings of our present time. In the City Hall at Lubeck, the Mayor and Senate of Lubeck "appointed the kings of Sweden, Norway and Denmark." And death and destruction was the fate of those Scandinavian people (Lubeck's enemies unto death) if they refused to accept their kings made by the grace of Lubeck. The vessels of Lubeck sailed all over the world, and the arms of Lubeck were feared by all people. Russia, England, Poland, Spain, Sweden and Denmark had learned to respect the victorious arms of Lubeck. The world-known Fair of Nischnei-Nowgorod (in Russia) was dictated by Lubeck's power. The money market at London (England) was ruled by Lubeck's influence. You "Englishmen" remember that the name of your money value "Pound Sterling" was given to you by Lubeck; in German the name was "Pfund sterling." From the middle of the thirteenth up to the middle of the fifteenth century the Free City of Lubeck was mightier and had more power, as Venice the world-known (at that time) Republic in Italy was under the leadership of her "Doge" (Prince). The flag of Lubeck was seen in all ports on earth, and she was in her zenith of importance and world fame under the reign of Mayor "Jurgen Wullenwever," the statesman and warrior of Lubeck. But Wullenwever had enemies (all powerful men have enemies) among the aristocrats (rich citizens) of Lubeck, and was accused of conspiring against the State of Lubeck (history tells us that he was innocent). Mayor Jurgen Wullenwever, the true patriot, was beheaded at the City of Wolfenbuttel (in Brunswick Duchy). But his death was the ruin of Lubeck. His aristo-
cratic successors could not lead the State ship, and soon that powerful Lubeck, the conqueror over many people, a city for which in the fifteenth century, England, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Denmark, Poland were trembling, this world-famed Lubeck sank down into decay, and became a simple provincial city. Of course, Lubeck remained and is at the present time an independent State and free city, but without importance. You reader of this article, if one of you happens in his life to wander through the streets of Lubeck, and if you look at the old-time marble palaces, and old venerable-looking houses, you can judge for yourself what a "History" Lubeck has had. But Tempora meetantur et homines mutant in illis (Times change and people too).

Now I come to the philatelic part of Lubeck. In the year 1859, the first issue of postage stamps appeared, and the denominations are $\frac{1}{2}$ shilling lilac, I shilling yellow, 2 shilling carmine, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ shilling rose, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ shilling (error) brown, 4 shilling green, and in 186I were issued $\frac{1}{2}$ shilling lilac, I shilling orange. The description on all stamps is: On top "Lubeck," amid " Double Eagle" arms of Lubeck, below " Post Marke," on the left. side is the "value" in letters, on the right side is the word "Shilling," and inside the four corners of the stamp is the value in numerals. In 1863, appeared $\frac{1}{2}$ shilling green, 1 shilling orange, 2 shilling rose, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ shilling blue, 4 shilling brown; and in 1864 , $1 \frac{1}{4}$ shilling brown, all perforated. On top, in a scroll, "Lubeck," amid the "Double Eagle" below, in a scroll, the word "Shilling," and on the lett and right side is the value in numerals.

Lubeck has issued also stamped envelopes. In 1863, inscription to left, $\frac{1}{2}$ shilling green, 1 shilling orange, 2 shilling rose, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ shilling blue, 4 shilling brown. In 1864, were issued, inscription to right, $\frac{1}{2}$ shilling green, 1 shilling orange, 2 shilling rose, $2 \frac{1}{2}$ shilling blue, 4 shilling brown. Description the same as preceding issue. In 1865 the last envelope stamp was issued, value, $\mathrm{I} \frac{1}{2}$ shilling lilac. Description, same as previous issue. In the year 1866, during the war of Austria and Prussia, the independent State of Lubeck sided with Austria, and, as the Prussian troops were victorious, Lubeck had to suffer, as the "Postal Service" was surrendered to the new-organized "North German Confederation," and the independent City of Lubeck (as Free State) became a member of the North German Confederation, which in 1871, in consequence of the glorious German-Franco War, became the "German Empire." I mention yet, that Lubeek as Free City was joint partner and part owner of the independent town of "Bergedorf," as the arms of Bergedorf have amid to left the part of an "Eagle "(Lubeck's arms), and to right "Towers" (arms of Hamburg). Of importance to philatelists is the fact that, as the postage stamps of Lubeck have circulated only six years, and a very small government supply was made, the stamps of Lubeck have been "reprinted" to supply the demand, and, therefore, the majority of the stamp collectors on earth must buy reprints of Lubeck, as money cannot buy sufficient genuine used or genuine unused specimens.

## NEW ISSUES.

BY R. R. BOGERT.
Austria.-A set of unpaid letter stamps is in preparation, with effigy of the Emperor. They will all be in brown, and inscribed "K. K. Oesterr. Porto-marke." Values, 1, 3, 5, 10, 20, 50 Kr .

Bermuda.-The $1 \frac{1}{2} \times 1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. cards have been surcharged, as well as the $1 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. Also a few of the 1880 issue that remained on hand.

Bhopal.-The 8 anna, green, has been re-engraved. The letters in the corners are somewhat larger.

Bolivia.-The 9 star type has lately been used on the envelopes of 5 and 10 centavos.

Ceylon.-We have received a new stamp of the value of 300 . It is of the same type as the current 3 c. except that the value is on white ground. Printed in lilac, with value red brown.

Chefoo.-The Pb. F. of G. B. informs us that stamps have been prepared for the Local Post of this town, $\frac{1}{2}, 1,2,5,10 c$.

Colombia.-The 5 c. Railway Postal Service envelope is now red on white paper, and the $A$. 7 . P. notes the 30 and $40 c$. Cubiertas of the 1892 type.

Great Britain.-We have seen the new registry envelopes. The stamp on the flap is reduced in size and the flar now folds over onto the face of the envelope.

India.-Messrs. De La Rue \& Co. áre preparing designs for stamps of 2, 3 and 5 rupees. They will probably be bicolored and of the same size as the 5 sh . stamp of England.
Liberia.-We have received the six cent green, surcharged " Five Cent" across the bottom in two lines, and with figure " 5 " in each of the upper corners. The surcharge is black and the letters large. This is strictly a provisional, triangular stamps of this value being in preparation. We have the official similarly surcharged.

Montenegro.-Cards of 5 novtch and $5+5$ were issued October I. They are inscribed "Principauté de Monténégro-Union Postale Universelle." Black on blue. There are also newspaper bands on blue laid paper, 2 n . yellow and 3 n . green.

New South Wales.-The Id. card, view of Sydney, is now white instead of buff.
Norway.-There is a new unpaid letter stamp, 4 öre, violet.
Peru.-The 5c. card has been surcharged "Habilitado por 2 centavos" in three lines instead of four.

Porto Rico.-Mons. Maury informs us that this Colony contemplates issuing a Christopher Columbus stamp, with caravel, etc. The value will be three centavos, but the color is not mentioned.

Somalis (Côte des).-The "Gazette Timbrologique" says special stamps are to be issued for use in this Protectorate at Djibouti . The values will be from ic. to 50 francs. There will be three types: 1. Diamond shaped with landscape in centre. 2. An equilateral triangle with steamer. 3. A rectangle, with view of a city in the centre. The 25 and 50 francs will be of the first type, the 5 francs of the second and the 1 c. to 2 francs of the third. They are all dated " $1893-1894$." As our contemporary well says, if this issue does not serve any great purpose, at least it will give to collectors the first notions of geometry.

South African Republic.-There is a $2 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. violet of the current type.
St. Vincent.-There are registration envelopes of ad. blue.
Tasmania.-We have the Id. card with an embossed stamp of $\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$. in vermilion below the Id. stamp.

Timor.-Le Timbre Poste says the 300 reis orange, of Macao, is surcharged "Timor" at the top, and " 30 " in each of the lower corners. This same stamp has been placed on each half of the $10+10$ reis card.

Tobago.-There is a 3 d . stamp, violet, with value in black. This may be a fiscal.

720 tons of cardboard are utilized every year in the shape of postal cards.
When one receives a letter stamped "Due 2 " it is due to the other fellow's carelessness.

The republic of Uruguay has ordered two million dollars worth of a new stamp of an English firm.

## USED vs. UNUSED.

BY LEWIS G. QUACKENBUSH.

IBELIEVE it was the once famous 'Joseph J. Casey, whose philatelic articles in Harper's Young People were my first text-book on the science, who originally instilled in my mind the maxim that the collecting of both used and unused stamps is injudicious. "Let there be consistency in your collection," he wrote, "confine yourself either wholly to canceled stamps or wholly to uncanceled. Never mingle the two indiscriminately in the same collection."

But there's the rub. Both roads look promising, and we are in somewhat of a quandary which to take. Shall we fill our albums with bright, fresh, uncanceled specimens, to be procured only by great expense and trouble, or shall we be content with used stamps, more easily procurable and less expensive, but also less pleasing to the eye? In many albums, used and unused specimens are to be found side by side, but such a method of collecting is unsatisfactory and usually only a makeshift until the collector can decide which class he prefers. By all means let your stamps be all used or all unused.

I have lately read quite a number of essays on this subject, and was surprised to notice that the authors, almost without exception, advocated the collection of canceled stamps in preference to those uncanceled. I emphatically dissent from their conclusions. I believe that stamps should be collected in their original condition, before they are defaced by any cancellation mark, and in this essay I intend to briefly present my reasons for so believing.

It is an undoubted fact that stamps are mainly collected because of their beauty ot design and coloring. It was the brilliant colors and the handsome designs to be found on many postage stamps which first aroused interest in them, and even to-day the artistic side of philately is its most attractive feature. A cancellation mark renders a stamp less perfect, and practically spoils its beauty. The significance of the design, which in an unused stamp can be seen at a glance, is often made very obscure by a cancellation mark. A page of uncanceled stamps looks ten times more artistic than a page on which the specimens are smeared, almost beyond recognition, by canceling ink. True, the used stamp is much cheaper, but why should it not be, for it is much less desirable. It is an imperfect stamp, and as such cannot, of course, command the price of a perfect specimen.

The believer in used stamps argues that the collector of canceled specimens only runs much less risk of purchasing forgeries than the collector of unused stamps. If this were so, it would be an excellent argument; but I can find no basis for such a conclusion. Forgeries are often canceled, perhaps as often as they are left uncanceled. The average cancellation mark is not intricate, and its imitation is not a difficult task. Hence the fake maker finds it an easy matter to deceive those to whom the cancellation mark is an absolute guarantee of authenticity by adding that disfigurement to such of his wares as are not sufficiently perfect to otherwise pass muster.

A forgery is much more easily detected when uncanceled than when it has received a cancellation, for the forger is often cunning enough to cover up those imperfect parts of the design which would be likely to reveal its spurious character ; and, I believe that, as a rule, fewer counterfeits are to be found in unused collections than in used ones. Another objection raised to the collecting of unused stamps is that reprints are likely to figure quite largely in such a collection, unknown to the owner. However, this danger is greatly exaggerated. Nearly every reprint has some feature wherein it differs from the original, by which it can easily be distinguished; and the many valuable handbooks on the subject have placed the requisite information for detecting them within the reach of all.

A collection of unused stamps has its limitations. There are certain great rarities
which it is practically impossible to secure unused, but that fact need not worry us at all, for many stamps of lesser note are sufficiently rare in an unused condition to monopolize the attention of the most enthusiastic philatelist. Few of us will ever be troubled over the fact that there are no unused specimens of the Brattleboro afloat. The finest collections in the world are those composed of unused specimens only. Are we not safe in following the lead of the greatest philatelists on the globe?

The cost is the greatest objection which has been urged to the collecting of unused stamps. It is true that a stamp uncanceled is, as a rule, sold at a higher price than the same stamp canceled, but a slight difference in price should not frighten us.

Anything really desirable always fetches a good price, in any line of trade, and we should not begrudge paying a trifle more for a clean and perfect specimen than would be asked for a disfigured one. The difference in price is not so great as might be imagined, and the immense difference in the general appearance of the albums, one containing used and the other unused specimens, is very strongly marked. It seems to me better to possess one or two unused stamps out of a set than to have the entire set in a used condition. There are some cases in which a stamp is priced lower in an unused condition than when used. This is usually caused by a large remainder of some particular stamp being sold to a dealer, who, having a great quantity of these stamps, probably secured at a small fraction of the actual value, is enabled to sell them at a lower price unused than the used specimens generally command.

The Seebeck issues, and others of that ilk, form another class of stamps in which the used specimens command a higher price than the unused. Thus we see that unused stamps are not always more costly than used ones. And, if they be, on an average, a trifle more costly, I maintain that there is far greater satisfaction to be derived from them than from a collection of used stamps. They are more admired by non-philatelists. They are more susceptible to artistic arrangement. They form a handsomer page. What if our collection of unused specimens cannot become as large as one of used stamps! Quality and not quantity is the true philatelist's aim. Five hundred perfect specimens carefully chosen from every corner of the earth are better for purposes of study than five times that number of poor specimens, collected haphazard.

## FOR POSTAL RELIEF.

over a million dollars added to the general fund from the money-order surflus.

BY a stroke of his pen Postmaster-General Bissell has just placed to the credit of the general fund for the support of the postal service $\$ 1,250,000$. He has not conjured this money out of nothing, and the taxpayers of the United States are not burdened to the extent of a penny for it. In a general sense the operation was merely a transfer-an act of bookkeeping ; but nevertheless, if the Postmaster-General had not drawn this big check, the postal service would not have had this large sum of money to draw upon for meeting its general expenses.

The money-order business of the Post-office Department was established in 1864. As was to be expected, a great many persons, through carelessness, have lost or mislaid or destroyed their money orders, and orders have sometimes been stolen by thieves who have not dared present them at the paying office and run the risk of arrest. In this manner the United States government has acquired a few million dollars whose owners cannot be found. Once in a great while some person will present himself at a post-office with a money-order of long past date, but these cases are so rare as to be hardly worth considering.

Ten years ago Congress became convinced that the department was losing the use of a good deal of money which might be turned to valuable account, and it accordingly
passed a law authorizing the Sixth Auditor-who is the Treasury's representative at the Post-office Department-to cover into the Treasury yearly all of the unclaimed balance on account of the money-order system except what might have accumulated during the seven years immediately previous, and have it added to the general fund for the support of the postal service. The Auditor then in office was given a force of ten extra clerks to do the additional work thus thrown upon him ; but for some reason-probably because he did not lay hold of it in the right way-he made no progress, and abandoned the whole job, dispersing his extra clerical force and finally going out of office himself.

The law became a dead letter. Auditor after Auditor has had his attention called to it, but the growth of the money-order system has been so rapid, and its accumulation of documents and accounts has swelled to such dimensions that each Auditor was discouraged before attacking the task. The present Sixth Auditor, Mr. Brawley, made up his mind that the department ought not to be losing the use of so much money at a time when the purse-strings of the Government generally are drawn so tight, when the appropriations for the Post-office Department are particularly insufficient. He has had conferences, therefore, with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General, which have resulted in a decison to fix upon an approximate amount and set that aside now, leaving the detailed verification to come later.

The money-order accounts are made up periodically from the reports of Postmasters, and are presumptively correct. Every year the totals of money-orders issued and of money-orders paid appear in the report of the money-order division of the Postoffice Department. There is always a bare chance that here and there a Postmaster may have made a mistake of a few dollars in rendering his report ; hence the only assurance of absolute exactness would be derived from a comparison, item by item, of the canceled orders themselves with the figures given in the books. The chances of any considerable error, however, are not great, since each Postmaster, for his own protection from loss, would probably supervise his accounts with care, especially as errors are so liable to be detected in the comparison of reports from the issuing offices and the paying offices. It is therefore considered reasonably safe to make an approximate estimate by deducting, year by year, the total of orders paid from the total of orders issued. On this basis one and a quarter million dollars was fixed upon as a fair sum to transfer from the money-order fund to the fund for the support of the general service, as representing the accumulation from unpaid money-orders during the period from 1864 to 1886. This sum will probably be considerably increased when it is possible to make a more careful examination of the accounts.

The process of transfer was very simple. At the New York Sub.Treasury there is a fund amounting to some three millions of dollars to the credit of the money-order system, representing the accumulations from money-orders, the working capital of the money-order service, etc. Postmaster General Bissell simply drew his official check for nearly one-half of this amount and deposited it to the credit of the general fund for the support of the postal service. For practical purposes, however, this is as good as a windfall, and will make it much easier for the department to get through the current year on its origirial appropriation.

Unfortunately no part of this money is available for the extension of the free-delivery service, as that service is appropriated for specifically.

The most industrious of stamp clerks is seldom anxious to get in two licks to any. body else's one.

There are no stamps for sale at the Post-office except Columbian stamps. These are the imitation art gallery pictures which get a man so into the habit of licking that he feels like licking the postal authorities. A little of it wouldn't be amiss for printing the things. One good licking deserves another.

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A proposition is now before Congress to facilitate the transmittal of small sums. Under this bill, on and after the 1st of January, 1894, the issue of postal notes will cease, and in their stead there is to be issued a postal fractional currency in denominations of five, ten, twenty-five, fifty, and seventy-five cents. This issue is to be a legal tender for sums of less than $\$ 1$ and redeemable in lawful money at any Post-office to the amount of $\$ 1$, at any money order office of the fourth class to the amount of $\$ 5$, and any money order office of the first, second, or third class to an amount not exceeding \$10 in any one payment to any individual on the same day. This currency is to be furnished the public on payment of the face value in lawful money without other cost.

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No. 18 contains 25 stamps from Danish West Indies, Greece, Norway, Prussia, Sweden (unpaid letter), etc.
No. Ig contains 25 stamps from Newfoundland, Natal, New Zealand, Sweden (official), Spain, etc.
No. 20 contains 25 stamps from New South Wales, Peru, Portugal, Servia, Roumania, etc.
No. $2 I$ contains 25 stamps from Porto Rico, Queensland, Sandwich Islands, Western Australia, Würtemberg, etc.
No. 22 contains 25 stamps from Cuba, South Australia, St. Christopher, Tasmania, Turkey, etc.

The above named twenty-two Packets ( 370 stamps, all different) will be sent by packet post for $\$ 2.50$, postage paid, in a sealed envelope for $\$ 2.54$, or by registered mail for $\$ 2.63$.

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