

The Quaker City Philatelist.

VOL. I.

MAY, 1886.

No. 5.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

(For The Quaker City Philatelist.)

A PARODY.

BY YUM-YUM.

To collect, or not collect?—that is the question:
Whether to decide in our mind to study
The latest hobby of this progressive age;
Or waste time on dime novels, or tavern brawls
As many do!—To study,—to school the mind
In something becoming our civilization,—
'Tis a decision sincerely to be thought of;
For who would bear the business troubles of life,
The wrongs, boycotts, labor-strikes, and hundreds
Of other ills poor humanity endures,
Without some change and rest to the tired mind,
When he could with a bare nickle-pocket
Of rare stamps, become a great Philatelist;
Who, I say, would these trials bear, were it not
For fear of being stuck? Ah, there's the rub!
For in that pack what reprints, surcharges,
And counterfeits may be there contained,
Or stamps from that undiscovered country,
Not yet on the list! 'Tis this that bids us pause
And consider—this our first experience in
Collecting—determines us to persevere, and
Learn where genuine stamps in future may be had.
This science does make servants of us all,
Helps improve our knowledge of all countries
That use stamps; their histories, moneys,
Language, progress in art; a noble study!
Together with their rulers, statesmen, heraldry,
Engraving, printing. All, all of which are truly
Worthy to be known. So be not thou cast down,
Nor heed thou those who call it idle, useless, vain
And puerile. False critics in all ages have
Ever thus ridiculed what they nothing knew.

GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES.

BY ALF. FITLER HENKELS.

(Continued.)

What a great advantage the old collector had over him of the present day!

The old collector could obtain the stamps as they came out, at comparatively little expense to him, and many of them have become extremely rare, and some unobtainable. Among the rare stamps rank those of Malta (1 penny,

orange), Natal &c.; among the unobtainable are the early issues of British Guiana, Mauritius, India, Natal, and a long list of other British colonies of which I will speak further on. A person may have all the early issues and also those up to date in every variety of color, surcharge, type and edge, and still not be a philatelist, for as the worth of a rare book depends not on the magnificence of the binding, but on the solid worth of the printed matter it contains, the same is the case with the stamp collector; he may have a magnificent collection, and if he does not know why the various stamps were issued, by whom they were printed and the reason of their withdrawal, and their comparative value, if he does not know these points, in a word, if he is not booked thoroughly on all the chief and minor points regarding his collection, he is not a philatelist.

You often hear people who should know better, speak of a dealer as a philatelist, when he merely buys and sells stamps for the profit which he derives from them; but again a great many of our dealers are good philatelists, especially those who take one branch as a specialty and make a study of all the peculiarities of their special branch, and through research and inquiry bring out such information as will be of use to their brothers in the science. I will endeavor to class myself among the latter as far as the following articles are concerned, by directing attention to the stamps of Great Britain and her Colonies; so I will start with a description of the tree, as it were, and then follow with the branches. I will not attempt, however, to handle the subject of stamped envelopes, as there is a great diversity of opinion on

the subject of dates, as also the genuineness of some of those chronicled; so I think it advisable to wait until I receive more definite statistics, before volunteering any information regarding them; but I think I can find a wide enough field for exercising my limited capacities in the consideration of the adhesives only.

GREAT BRITAIN.

This is the first country that issued stamps under the supervision of the government, the idea of adhesives was first put into practical use in 1840, when a 1 penny black and 2 penny blue were put into use. They were engraved by Heath of London and are very beautifully gotten up. The design met with such general favor that they were issued successively until 1864. The first design had Maltese crosses in the two upper corners, but those issued in 1864 had letters in all the corners. In 1841 a 1 and 2 pence was issued similar to the 1840 issue, with the exception that the 1 penny was printed in red on bluish paper, and the 2 penny blue; had a white line above and below the head of the Queen. These were followed with the same varieties perforated as follows: 1 penny, red; 1 penny, red on blue; and 2 pence blue. In 1847 a 6 pence and 1 shilling, and in 1848 a 10 pence brown were issued of entirely different design from previous emissions, they were very pretty but too large, and consequently were not long in use.

It is not my intention to make a catalogue of these articles, so I will merely give the values and dates of the more recent issues. The following stamps were issued in the years annexed respectively: 4 d. 1855, 6 d. and 1 s. 1856, with plain corners, 2 d. 1858, 3, 4, 6 and 9 pence and 1 shilling 1862, 1 d. 1864 (this was of the same design as those of 1840, but had letters in all corners), $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and $1\frac{1}{2}$ penny 1870, those from 1858 to '70, had letters in all four corners. The following had large white letters in the corners, they were issued in 1865-'78, 3, 4, 6 (there are three varieties of the sixpence; they are lilac, brown and slate), 9 pence, 1 s., 2 s., 5 s., 10 s. and £1.

The next issue had large colored letters in the four corners. The values and years of issue are as follows: 1873, 3 d. and

1 s., 6 d. 1874, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -4 and 8 pence, 1876, 4 pence 1877, 10 s. and £1, 1878, 1- $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence, and 1 s., 1880, $\frac{1}{2}$, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2, 4 and 1 pence and 1 shilling, and £5. That of 1884 were $\frac{1}{2}$ d. There was also a 1 shilling of 1883. In 1883 there were two surcharged stamps, 3 pence and 6 pence, lilac and red.

In 1882-84, the following stamps were issued to be used both for postage and revenue, and were inscribed to that effect. The values were $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, $1\frac{1}{2}$, 2, $2\frac{1}{2}$, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 9 pence, 1 s., 2 s. 6d., 5 shillings, and 10 shillings. In 1882 the $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 6 pence, and 1 shilling, were surcharged "I. R. Official," for official use, as the surcharge indicates.

In 1881, the following revenue stamps were used for postal service 1 penny (small), 1 d. lilac, 1 d. blue, 1 d. brown (large). I have also heard of the 10 s. gray. Telegraph stamp used for postage. There was also a number of other revenue and telegraph stamps used postally.

(To be continued.)

(For The Quaker City Philatelist.)

OFFICIAL FRANKS.

BY CARRIER.

I think there seems to be an unusual prejudice against these stamps, but for some reason it cannot be explained, or at least I have never been able to hear an explanation, and I want to know the reason of it. They are ignored by nearly all collectors, and I think this prejudice is contagious, at least it seems so.

Now let us see what these franks really are. When the issuing of Department stamps was stopped, it was necessary to have something of the kind to use officially, and so these franks were instituted. So, then, in one sense, they are a second issue of Department stamps, are they not? Whether they are taken in this sense or not, they are used in the same way, by prepaying official business only. Surely there are enough varieties—the various colored envelopes and wrappers. Then we have official postal cards also. And it is a possible thing to get a complete collection, which is something to be thought of.

They are not so attractive-looking as the regular postage stamps, but I think a number of them, tastefully arranged in a book, will be worth looking over.

Then, too, your friends will take more interest in seeing them because there are the various offices of the Government represented.

You can make an album out of a blank book, by placing the franks on one page, and on the opposite page put the name of the Secretary of the Department and the head man of the office, represented by the frank. In this way frank collecting can be made very instructive and entertaining, and I hope many will try it.

THE RECENT SALE IN NEW YORK.

On April 12 and 13, about sixty persons gathered at Ortgeis & Co.'s, 853 Broadway, New York city, to attend the auction sale of Mr. Sanford's collection of unused stamps and entire envelopes.

At about 8 o'clock the sale began at A, and quickly reached the Bavarian stamps when Mr. Sterling put in his first fine work by buying the ten sheets of return letter stamps. (Was it to wrap up his later purchases?) When United States stamps were reached bidding became spirited, the St. Louis 5c die B bringing \$55. The 10c of die B and C, brought respectively \$31 and \$30. The New Haven reprint, with Mr. Mitchell's autograph, was sold at \$18. The highest price obtained during the sale was \$145 for the Brattleboro stamp. The Franklin carrier stamp, on original wrapper, with a 3c 1851 adjoining, brought only \$10, while the 30c 1869 with reversed colors was sold for \$35. While the \$5 State brought \$7.60, the \$10 only brought \$7. A set of War Department, canceled "mule rampant," was kicked off at \$2.86. Nearly all of the envelopes brought out lively bidding and commanded good prices, and, with many other U. S. stamps, went to Trenton.

In foreign stamps, the highest prices being for the old Bolivian, British Guiana and Hawaiian. The 12 pence Canada at \$50; the 1d blue Cape, wood-block, at \$56; the Athens, Ga., local, at \$18.50; the Baton Rouge 5c at \$50;

Charleston, S. C., at \$12.50; Goliad, Texas, at \$95; the 1 franc vermilion of France at \$10.25; the V. R. Great Britain essay at \$34; the Hawaii 13c "Hawaiian postage" at \$82; the 13c "H. I. and U. S. Postage" at \$90; the 3c Mexico 1865, at \$8.60; the Natal 1 shilling, first issue, \$17; Newfoundland 1 shilling scarlet, \$55; and several old Mauritius and New South Wales. The Peru 1858 1/2 peso orange at \$13; the 1/2 peso red at \$58, and the Roumania 1858 27 para at \$62, and the 54 paras at \$26 brought out very lively competition. The Spain 1851, 2 reales orange, \$35; 1852, 2 reales, \$18 were not considered too high.

One sarcastic individual started the bidding on an \$80 stamp at ten cents, thus drawing a look of pity from the auctioneer, who also begged to be informed "What's the matter with you?"

In all, some 1150 lots were sold. Nearly every lot brought good prices, but some real bargains were secured. It is very doubtful if such another lot of U. S. entire unused envelopes will be soon offered at auction—in foreign stamps it excelled many who are called advanced collectors.

Correspondents' Column.

[This column is open to all, and we hope you will take the opportunity to express yourself on any philatelic question. Those who want any information should send us their queries, which will be published in the following number.]

Editor "Quaker City Philatelist."

Can any one tell me about the Costa Rica stamps surcharged "official." I have always thought they were used for official service, like the India stamps surcharged on *H. M. S.*, but a friend of mine lately received a letter from Costa Rica with five 1c. stamps. They were all stamped official near the bottom of the stamp. However there are but *four* surcharges as one crosses two stamps. These five stamps are without any other mark of cancellation except this one word. Now, did a careless post-office clerk omit the cancellation, or is this *surchARGE* used for that purpose?

CHARLES E. HUTCHINSON.

—THE—

Quaker City Philatelist

Published Monthly,

IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELISTS.

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	One page,	\$5.00.	

20 per cent discount for standing advertisements 3 months or over.

Circulation never less than 1000 copies per month. Satisfactory evidence will be given regarding our circulation when desired.

All communications for the Editorial Department should be addressed to the Editors,

H. McALLISTER, 2045 Chestnut St.
E. R. DURBOROW, 25 N. 10th St.

Business Manager,

GEO. HENDERSON,
Box 111, Phila., Pa.

Advertisements for No. 6 should be in by May 29th.

THE increased possibilities of exercise and amusement out of doors in the season now at hand take much from the zeal of many collectors and not a few collections are laid to one side never to be taken up again. This is mainly the case with the youngest collectors, and is a great mistake, for such collections are nearly always composed of the cheapest stamps only, and these bring much less proportionately when sold than higher-priced and rare specimens.

The beginner is also likely to make his collection without much regard to torn or badly cancelled stamps, and this involves another loss. The more advanced a collector becomes the more he realizes the value of having only clean and nicely perforated stamps with no torn or clipped stamps in his collection, and he willingly pays much higher prices than at first, as he knows that his collection will be more appreciated by philatelists for the rarity and condition of a few choice specimens than for many common ones.

Stick to your collections, as each year

will show you more clearly what you should do to make your collection better and how to buy those stamps which will become rare more rapidly. Remember what you bought last year, and study the result, that you may know what to buy this year.

WE notice the advertisement in many journals of an enterprising Dutchman who acts as agent for any one for anything and sells nearly everything from newspapers up. He pays nothing for these advertisements, but agrees to act as agent for the paper for subscriptions and advertisements and for this his charge is 25 per cent on all he secures. He has quite a snap, and it does seem as if *all* the fools are not dead yet—for he gets lots of half-column ads for nix.

A NUMBER of dealers have written to us that they have been defrauded out of stamps by parties who have answered advertisements in the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST.

We regret this very much, and think it is time a step was taken to crush out these frauds, and we have decided upon the following plan:

To publish a *Black List* each month open only to those dealers who advertise in this paper, upon the following conditions, that the dealers shall have the right to publish the name and address of the parties and amounts due, and any one who shall collect the amount shall have one-half for the trouble and the other portion shall go to the dealer.

FOR years past the stamp dealers of this city have always complained of the dull times as spring approached, but since the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST came into existence they have had all they can do to keep up with the times.

WE recently received a long letter from Leedom Sharp, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, of this city, proposing that philatelists generally should raise a fund to prosecute the swindlers who make and sell counterfeits in this country. On trial among a few philatelists here we found quite a number who were willing to subscribe to the fund (we, in fact, received pledges to the amount of nearly \$50), and we believe the idea a good one, and hope before long to place the matter before you in some feasible manner. Skinner, Taylor and some others could then receive proper attention.

THE *better class* of philatelists will no doubt ably second Mr. Mekeel in his crusade against swindlers. Horace C. Jones, of Minneapolis, is the latest, and for barefaced and, fortunately, shortsighted swindling, his scheme may be placed high up on the list.

Collectors who have been swindled by any dealers in America will aid the cause by sending early information and proof, if you have any, to this paper. *Be assured* that we will not publish your name if you do not wish us to do so. That this is plainly a duty you owe to yourself and all other collectors, no one will doubt.

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST had quite a notice in the *Daily News* of this city. A correspondent of that paper devotes over a column to a pleasant review of our magazine, and makes some spicy remarks about the advertisers, and then goes on to say that he was once a collector.

MR. THEO. SIDDALL, of this city, has one of the finest collections of United States adhesive and envelope stamps that we have had the pleasure of seeing.

EXTRACT from Scott's Album, 1871 :

"We should strongly advise the rejection of the Hamburg Locals, as they are

unmitigated humbugs, and are only made to sell."

Extract from Scott's Album, 1881 :

"Counterfeits are a disgrace to any collection and also to its owner; in fact, nothing shows the ignorance of a collector in a worse light than to allow any of these *vermin* to remain to disgrace the pages of his collection; there is and can be no excuse for them. * * * *If you purchase your stamps of respectable dealers you will not be swindled.*"

In this Album were spaces for a set of over 100 Hamburg Locals!!! In the 1886 edition these spaces are omitted. At last Mr. Scott is convinced of the soundness and truth of his own argument.

THE philatelic serials which are now occupying valuable space in two leading journals may be very good stories of their kind, but of what value can such material be to true philatelists? We do not approve of the catalogue essays which occupy a large space in many papers, but think this kind of thing even worse. Possibly these papers hope to rival *Golden Days* or Harper's *Young Folks*, with visions of an active opposition to "Harper's" or Munroe's Dime Novels in the dim future.

MORELL'S PHILATELIC DIRECTORY is out and is all the publisher claims for it. It undoubtedly should be in the hands of all philatelists.

A LIMITED number of sample copies will be sent out each month, and as we have special facilities for obtaining new names, the lists will be changed quite frequently; so if you like the paper and wish to receive it, send at once *25 one cent stamps* to the manager and you will receive 12 numbers, or we will refund the money.

We do not use stamp collectors' directories to get names from to send sample copies. All of our names are received from dealers who are interested in the success of this paper. That is the reason why advertising in this paper pays. Our rates are low. Try an inch for 1 time. You will be convinced.

Q. C. P. S. Meetings.

MEETING HELD APRIL 10, 1886.

After the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting, the usual bill for room was received and ordered to be paid.

Mr. Sterling presented the Society with the last edition of his "Reference and Price-List of U. S. Adhesive and Envelope Stamps."

The President appointed as Essayists, Messrs. Henderson, Jeanes and Lynde. The Treasurer's report was received and read.

The balance of the evening was devoted to the sale of stamps, and adjourned.

MEETING HELD APRIL 22, 1886.

After the reading of the minutes, which were approved, several communications were received and disposed of.

A 12 cent, old issue, grilled, United States, mounted on card-board, rescued from the late wrecked steamship *Oregon*, was presented by Mr. Sterling.

An Essay on "Counterfeits" was read by Mr. Jeanes, and information of the new stamped envelopes soon to be issued was given by Mr. Henderson.

An active member was elected.

The sale of stamps was continued until a late hour, and adjourned to meet again May 8.

WM. E. SCARLETT, *Secretary*.

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Editors' Waste Basket.

We have received up to date the following papers. Publishers please accept thanks.

The Arizona Pride of Philately, The Empire State Philatelist, The Mohawk Standard, The Chemung Review, The Stamp World, Philatelic Monthly, The Toronto Philatelic Journal, The Philatelic World, The Philatelic News, Stamp and Coin Gazette, Capital City Philatelist, Youths' Gazette, Monthly Journal, Philatelic Herald, The Exchange, National Capital Philatelist.

A new paper called the *Keystone State Philatelist* is advertised to appear in this city on May 1st. We wish it all possible success.

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets the Second Saturday and Fourth Thursday of every month, at 1321 Arch Street (2d floor). Visitors to the city are cordially invited to attend. Meeting called to order at 7.45 P.M.

Corresponding members wanted.

Address for further particulars the Corresponding Secretary,
W. A. MACCALLA,
237 Dock Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

ATTENTION!

Every collector should send for one of my Unexcelled Approval Sheets of Foreign and U. S. Stamps at 25 per cent commission. They contain only genuine stamps at the lowest prices. Applications for sheets must be accompanied by first class reference or cash deposit, and must contain a 2 cent stamp for return postage. A fine album and 100 varieties for 40 cents. Address,

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IMPORTANT TO ADVERTISERS.

Is the following of any interest to dealers? It certainly is, and should convince them of the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST's advertising merits.

"Our ad. in your paper has paid us better than that in *any other paper*." WILLARD BROS.

"Judging from the way in which answers are coming in, I think your paper will prove a valuable advertising medium." F. L. PERRY.

"The Philadelphia trade I get from my ad. in your paper alone pays me handsomely, to say nothing of the outside orders I receive." C. F. ROTHFUCHS.

"I think your paper is a splendid adv't medium." W. B. SYMMERS.

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COMMON SENSE
ABOUT

Postage Stamps.

In these days when the majority of dealers are charging exorbitant prices, and sending out torn, badly soiled and imperfect stamps, it is certainly exercising one's common sense to trade with a dealer who makes it his prime object to sell only stamps in perfect condition, and at the LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

What more disgusting sight can there be to the true collector than an unused stamp from which the corner is missing, or a used specimen so badly clipped, that it is doubtful just what stamp you are looking at. Yet it is a fact that there is not one dealer in fifty who is particular in these matters. Such a thing is certainly dishonest, if nothing more.

And again, what collector has not found several, if not one half, of the stamps in a packet he has purchased, badly soiled. It is the favorite trick with the majority of dealers to "work off" their bad copies in packets.

The undersigned, appreciating the fact that intelligent collectors want good stamps for their money, makes it his specialty to sell only stamps which are in the best condition, and he solicits correspondents from all who would get an equivalent for their money.

In the matter of prices, mine will be found as low as those of any dealer, while in a large number of cases, they are very much lower. It is not my object to charge 25 cents for a stamp costing me 2 cents, neither do I wish to obtain \$10.00 for one costing 50 cents. This is the ratio of profit charged by more dealers than collectors are aware, and it is time we had a little old-fashioned honesty in the stamp business.

My Quarterly Price-List, the best in the country, sent free to any collector on application. Address,

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State where you saw this ad.

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