

# The Quaker City Philatelist.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

VOL. II.

AUGUST, 1887.

No. 8.

## THE STAMPS OF PERU.

TRANSLATED FROM *Le Timbre Poste.*

THE Philatelic Society of Lima have published a volume of fifty-two pages in French on the stamps of Peru. It is very instructive, and should certainly be read and consulted. This Society has, in our opinion, conferred a great service on Philately, and we accordingly offer them our sincere congratulations. The work is not perfect, but who shall pretend to be able to produce a work absolutely perfect in every way.

We know by experience that many collectors, in place of encouraging authors and publishers, prefer to devote their money to the purchase of stamps. But in wishing to economize a little, by not purchasing a book which would enable them to prevent being swindled by counterfeits, it usually happens that one is defrauded for ten times the price of the book.

Let us review, then, the book for the benefit of those who economize in mistaken ways. Peru used as a trial, in 1857, stamps of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. We have catalogued one, value, 1 real. It appears now, from the work in question, that the 2 reales, red, was equally in use. The other stamps were never issued by the company; it is said, they were essays. We maintain, nevertheless, what we said in our work on the same subject. We have received these stamps from the office of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co. at Lima.

We claim as erroneous the date of January, 1859, for the second issue, as we possess these stamps canceled December, 1858, which we believe to be the true date of issue.

According to the Philatelic Society of Lima, all the surcharges like annexed cut are fantasies, and were made in 1882 by a well-known speculator.

Let us avow in all humility that we have allowed ourselves to be foolishly taken in, with all our confreres.

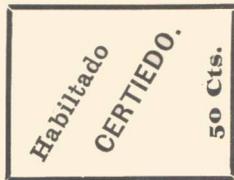
In June, 1858 (see page 32 of our work), the half peso useless value was suppressed. Then there existed surcharges on the one peseta of December, 1858. Let us erase from all our albums this Peruvian fantasy that certain collectors had paid for in good bills of £5 to £10, which they can from to-day credit to profit and loss.

From 1858 to 1880 everything is known. Apropos of the emission of January, 1880, behold what we learn from the Philatelic Society of Lima :

“For many years all Peruvian postage stamps were paid for in paper money until the 5th January, 1880, from which date, in virtue of a decree of the Post-office Bureau, it was ordered that stamps for franking foreign correspondence should be paid for in silver, and should carry the surcharge ‘Union Postal Universal—Peru—Plata’ (Circular 5, January, 1880).”

Again :

“As most of the post-offices on the Peruvian coast were plundered by the Chilians





Chilian arms in blue, on twenty centavos, carmine, horse-shoe.

“ “ red on fifty centavos, green, horse-shoe.

“ “ black on one sol., flesh, horse-shoe.

“ “ blue on one sol., “ “

on which the horse-shoe surcharge is also false.

As the counterfeits of Chilian arms have been made with different dies, imitating more or less well the genuine, it is not always easy to recognize the false, but to succeed one should take for a general rule the following indications :

“In the false surcharges, the star of the arms is smaller or better, the five projecting angles are shorter and less pointed than in the genuine; the shape and disposition of the feathers of some counterfeits are the same as the good, but they are entirely shaded, that is to say without any white within; others have the white within, but they are thinner and more prominent, that is to say the design makes the feathers less bent on the shield towards the end, higher on the left branch, and the bases of the shield are larger and the color of the ink blacker or the blue paler than in the originals.

“Nevertheless, the person who sold the true die and all those who have counterfeited it have also surcharged a great quantity of stamps with official colors on the corresponding values, and also considering that the official surcharges are sometimes badly made, so that the false bear a resemblance, it should be better in all cases to procure copies issued from the Post-office.

“All surcharges made with aniline inks, no matter what colors, should be put down as false, having never been officially used by Chilians. It is also useless to speak of other counterfeits of this kind in regard to stamps of which the issue has not been mentioned in this catalogue.

“N. B.—Some fiscal stamps surcharged with Chilian arms and with inscription *Caja Fiscal Lima* that are sometimes used by the post have not official postal character.”

### IN RE CHALMERS-HILL.

BERMUDA, June 13th, 1887.

DEAR SIR:—I must apologize for not having written sooner, to acknowledge a copy of the resolution passed by the Quaker City Philatelic Society in reference to the claims put forward by Mr. Patrick Chalmers on behalf of his father as the inventor or first proposer of adhesive postage stamps. I am very glad to see that at last an American Philatelic Society has taken up the other side of the question and has looked into the evidence, or so-called evidence, produced by Mr. Chalmers in support of his case.

It seems to me, however, to be unnecessary to go back to the posts established in Paris, in the 17th and 18th centuries; these had been entirely forgotten, and I do not suppose that any of the English postal reformers of the present century had ever heard of them; the argument at present is rather between the representatives of Mr. James Chalmers and Sir Rowland Hill, and my own opinion is that Mr. Patrick Chalmers, although he has had by far the most to say, has not in reality the best of it. This is merely my private opinion, and I do not ask any one to adopt it on that account, but I claim my right to give my opinion for what it is worth.

Mr. Patrick Chalmers' statements appear to consist partly of abuse of Sir Rowland Hill as an impostor, who palmed off other people's ideas as his own, and partly of letters and newspaper cuttings, showing that this party and that party have accepted his statements as correct. This is all very interesting, especially the abuse, but it is not argument and it is not evidence. It is very easy and safe to abuse a dead man, who cannot bring an action for libel; and it is very easy to get up a body of believers, if Mark is to believe simply because Matthew is convinced, and Luke and John, Peter and Paul are to follow suit for the same reason; and when doubting Thomas asks for proofs, he is simply referred to the long list of illustrious individuals and learned societies who have believed without seeing them.

The case lies in a nutshell: James Chalmers did claim to have been the first to pro-

pose adhesive stamps for postal use, and grounded his claim on the fact that he had made this proposition in November, 1837. Rowland Hill informed him that he had himself proposed adhesive postage stamps, as an alternative to stamped envelopes or letter-sheets, in February, 1837, and the published reports of the commission, before whom Rowland Hill gave evidence at that date, show that this was the case. James Chalmers therefore withdrew his claim. These are facts which Mr. Patrick Chalmers has never attempted to disprove, and in the face of these facts it is useless to bring forward persons who profess to remember that James Chalmers printed essays in 1833 or 1834. The date which he assigned to his proposal was November, 1837, and it is absurd on the face of it, for any one forty or fifty years later to attempt to put back that date three or four years, and raise a claim which was never made by the man himself.

The editor of the "American Philatelist" takes me to task in the April number. He states that, like myself, he has "read much on both sides of the case," but shows immediately afterwards that he has NOT read the only important statement on the Rowland Hill side that I have ever seen in print, namely that laid by Mr. Pearson Hill before the Philatelic Society of London, and published in the "Philatelic Record," for November, 1881. The letter of Mr. James Chalmers withdrawing his claim was laid before the Society, and the greater part of it is published in the "Philatelic Record." Nothing to refute this has ever been produced by Mr. Patrick Chalmers.

I am sorry to see that the editor of the "American Philatelist," in taking up Mr. P. Chalmers' case, thinks it necessary to adopt his style of argument also, not content with abusing Mr. Hill, about whose personal character I feel sure he knows nothing, except what he has gathered from Mr. P. Chalmers' books. He accuses me of being a partisan of the Hill side. I can assure him that I have no acquaintance with Mr. Pearson Hill, and have never either seen or corresponded with him; and that I am quite ready to accept and acknowledge any PROOFS of his case that Mr. Patrick Chalmers may produce, but I am not prepared to accept unsupported assertions from either side.

I shall be glad if you will lay this letter before the Quaker City Philatelic Society, and if you care to publish it you have my full permission to do so.

Yours faithfully,

EDW. B. EVANS.

WE give Mr. Voute, of Chicago, great credit for the stand he has taken in the Official Organship fight, but do not think he has sufficiently considered Mr. Bradt's letters if he still thinks them of no importance in this matter. A comparison of these letters with Mr. Tiffany's open letter and Mr. Bradt's communications with others, will demonstrate what sort of a man Mr. Bradt is, and that is just the point. If Mr. Bradt can be believed, *he is all right*; but if he cannot be believed, he is very muchly all wrong, and unfit to represent the association.

THROUGH the kindness of a Philadelphia Philatelist we are again enabled to chronicle a hitherto unknown Confederate Local, which was used at Greenwood Depot, Va., in 1862, and consists of the single word PAID in type, with Ten Cents written above and the signature of the Postmaster, I. Bruce, below, on heavy blue writing paper. No question can be raised as to the genuineness of these interesting relics, two of them having been shown us, together with a number of other well-known Confederates, which were unquestionably genuine.

W. S. KINZER, Wooster, O., announces a new publication, the first number to be issued August 1st. It will be known as the "Philatelic Journal of Ohio." Give it your support now when it will be of two-fold value to its proprietor.

THE "Texas Stamp" has gone the way of all good things, but in suspending announces that it will repay all unearned subscriptions, which is exactly what it should do, and for which its proprietors deserve every credit.

EDITORIAL.

It is not decided that the P. J. of A. shall represent the American Philatelic Association. The P. J. of A. carries more years on its shoulders and represents in a measure many of the older members of the association; and we feel that it should meet the issue squarely and give the A. P. A. as much for the privilege as any other journal. Our offer was unquestionably better for the members in many respects, and we again call your attention to its good points.

1st. Because of the regularity with which each number appears.

2d. Because we offered what we thought the privilege was worth to us, and did not offer \$25.00 as a charitable contribution, as some of our cotemporaries would have you believe.

3d. Because there can be no reason to doubt the financial success of the Q. C. P.—a matter of great importance.

For the *second* year of the A. P. A. we make a final offer, which we are confident will not be approached by other publications.

We now offer \$50.00 per year, 8 pp. more or less, free; one copy to each member per month free, and we will give any reasonable guarantee that this offer will be satisfactorily executed if accepted.

In sending your proxy to the Convention, especially name the QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST as your choice for the ensuing year.

HAVING tried to the utmost the patience of every member of the American Philatelic Association, the *Western Philatelist* now backs down and resigns the Official Organship, which it secured by unfair means and in willful disregard of the expressed wishes of the members.

Mr. Bradt now assails us with invective and abuse and charges insincerity and hypocrisy; but we feel that the utter groundlessness of these charges will cause them to fall to the ground; or, like chickens, “come home to roost.” A full reply will be made in our next edition, the forms having been kept waiting some hours for this matter.

LET every member have a representative at the Chicago Convention, unless personally able to go himself. Such representative should have full power, excepting upon those special matters in which the member feels that he can intelligently direct his representative, but we would recommend that such restrictions be placed upon the most important matters only.

A form of this kind may be used:

Location, date.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

GENTLEMEN:—Mr. . . . . . is hereby empowered to represent and vote for me at the Chicago Convention in August, 1888. I direct him to vote for Philadelphia as the location for the convention of 1889.

Name . . . . .

Address . . . . .

A. P. A. No. . . . .

## EDITORIAL NOTE.

It was 1 o'clock A. M., and in anxious conclave Messrs. S. B. Bradt, Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, S. B. Bradt, member of the Board of Officers of the American Philatelic Association, and S. B. Bradt, Editor of the *Western Philatelist*, and S. B. Bradt, proprietor of the *Western Philatelist*, had concluded the difficult and trying task, the deed was done! But how? That we may never know! Enough for the Philatelic world that S. B. Bradt, the editor, and S. B. Bradt, the proprietor, had convinced Messrs. S. B. Bradt, Secretary of the A. P. A., and S. B. Bradt, member of the Board of Officers of the A. P. A., that they severally and connectedly must vote for the *Western Philatelist*, or its death was assured. Passing lightly over its mushroom growth and the fact that its continued existence was more than doubtful, he assured them that if it could but get the enormous advertising patronage which the A. P. A. should give it, they would no longer be obliged to put their hands in their pockets and pull out \$20.00 per month to keep the *feeble* breath of life in its bones.

## OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

A new aspirant for Philatelic favor is the "International Collector," hailing from that land of bees and honey, California. The initial number is very good, and we wish our new brethren all manner of success.

We are also in receipt of a new Canadian curiosity collectors' paper. "Young Canada" by name. No. 1 is small, but good, and will improve with age.

What is the matter with our E. C. which pays three-quarters as much for one number as the capital stock of the Q. C. P. Co. We have not seen it since the May number. Are the expenses too great?

We notice a great improvement in the addition of four pages to our sturdy and reliable little cotemporary, the "Mohawk Standard."

"The Stamp Collectors' Figaro" is improving with every number, and we perceive that he also believes in airing any grievances that he may think right. Go ahead, brother.

Owing to having mislaid it, we failed last month to mention L. W. Durbin's seventh edition "Standard Catalogue of Postal Cards." Mr. Durbin, we believe, is the only dealer who publishes such a work, and it is like all his other publications, hard to beat. The cards are systematically arranged, and he who runs may read. All card collectors should have one. Price, 25 cents.

We have received the following papers; publishers please accept thanks: "Stamp Collectors' Figaro," Nos. 4 and 5; "Stamp," No. 5; "Western Philatelist," No. 7; "Philatelic Gazette," No. 36; "Philatelic Journal of America," No. 29; "Young Canada," Vol. I, No. 1; "Boys' Globe," No. 3; "Philatelic Fortnightly," No. 6; "Herdman's Miscellany," No. 4; "Gossip," Vol. II, Nos. 1 and 2; "Monitor," Vol. I, No. 1; "Bric-a-Brac," No. 5; "Philatelic Review," No. 4; "Philatelic World," No. 7; "International Philatelic Advertiser," No. 6; "Mohawk Standard," No. 4; "Useful Instructor," No. 2; "L'Union des Timbrophiles," Nos. 31 and 32; "Youths' Ledger," No. 20; "Plain Talk," No. 27; "Bay State Collector," No. 4; "International Collector," Vol. I, Nos. 1 and 2; "Common Sense," No. 5; "Collectors' Review," No. 9; "Curiosity World," Nos. 10 and 11; "Old Curiosity Shop," Vol. VI, No. 1; "Witch City Philatelist," Vol. I, No. 1; "American Exchange and Mart," No. 26; "Stanley Gibbons & Co.'s "Price-List," July, August, 1887; "General-Anzeiger für Philatelie," No. 5; "Le Courier du Timbrophile," Nos. 3 and 4; and "Philatelic Tribune," No. 22.

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