

The Quaker City Philatelist.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA
INTERNATIONALER PHILATELISTEN VEREIN.

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No. 3.

M. DE VELAYER'S POST.

M. DE VELAYER is the inventor of the postage stamp, and in its organization he proceeded on exactly the same lines as did Sir Rowland Hill nearly two hundred years later, with this difference, that he experienced the indifference of the public, whereas Hill, profiting by an overwhelming opinion in its favor, directed it to a successful end. M. de Velayer, in 1653, obtained a special decree from Louis XIV to create a postal system for Paris.

M. de Velayer placed numerous boxes in all parts of Paris, which were emptied three times a day.

He announced that in order to save time his carriers must not receive money, but that the letters should be accompanied by "*a postage paid stamp*" attached to said letter.

The service of this post began on the 8th of August, 1653. The decree is too long for us to give in full, but we herewith cite the most important parts:

"INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO COMMUNICATE FROM ONE PART OF PARIS to another, and to receive a reply two or three times a day, without having to send any one.—This can be done by means of the establishment, that his Majesty has allowed to be founded by special letters patent, for the use of the public and the expedition of business.

"The public is notified that those who wish to write from one quarter of Paris to another can have their letters or packages delivered to the designated address, and shall receive a prompt reply, *provided* they shall place on their letters a *prepaid postage stamp*.

"Any one is hereby notified that no letter nor reply shall be carried unless carrying a prepaid postage stamp, filled in with day of month.

"The *General Post-Office*, which will be at the Palais, will sell the *prepaid postage stamps* to those who desire them.

"The prime object of this postage stamp is to supply prompt reply to any communication, which would be impossible if the carriers of the letters were obliged to wait at the houses addressed for the payment of them.

"The second reason is, as one writes more about his own business than about others, it is only just that he should pay for the carriage of his letter to its address, and if he desires reply he can place another stamp in his letter, and the person addressed will more willingly reply when he sees it will cost him nothing.

"There shall be sufficient carriers for each to empty the boxes of his district three times a day, at six in the morning, at eleven and at three, and shall carry them to the office, which is in the Court of the Palais, and he shall then receive all those destined for his district, where he will carry letters from 7 to 10 A.M., and from noon to 3 P.M., and until the letters are all delivered, which can easily and promptly be done on account of not having to wait at the houses for payment of carriage.

"No one has to use this post but those who have no valets, who are sick, who need something for their house, those who wish to save themselves trouble, those who do not know the streets, those who are lazy, and those who love, the merchant who

cannot leave his shop for fear of losing a sale—all these will find our way of very great use.

“Also, those who are in service, and all servants who have not the liberty of going out.

“Those who are prevented by their health or by their creditors, those who are in prison, in religious institutions, in colleges, who have no valets, etc., etc., we repeat, shall be very much helped by our prepaid postage stamp.”

The post of M. de Velayer had a great success at the first, owing to curiosity, but, like many other excellent inventions, it came before its time; and, besides the public indifference, it was the butt of willful maliciousness, the boxes were broken, rats, mice, bats, etc., were placed in them, and the system was discontinued in the following year. Pilisson mentions and describes this post.

The reason of the rarity of this first postage stamp is that it was removed at the post-office and destroyed.

AUSTRALIAN NOVELTIES OF 1889.

THE Post-office Amendment Act, 1888, passed on the 24th of October of that year, repealed Clause 5 of the Post-office Act, 1881, which had authorized the carriage of all newspapers free of postage, and imposed a postage upon certain classes of newspapers, viz., those posted in the colony seven days after date of publication, ½d. each, and those addressed to any place other than the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, ¾d. each.

As it was necessary to provide a stamp of the value of one-half penny, and there being insufficient time between the passing of the Act and the date of its coming into operation (1st January, 1889), to procure a supply from England, the Secretary of the post-office placed himself in communication with the Victorian Government with a view to ascertain whether a plate could be prepared by their engraver which would meet the case. A satisfactory answer was received, and the work commenced. However, late in December, it was evident that the plate could not be completed in time to provide stamps for the 1st January, so, as a temporary expedient, recourse was had to surcharging. The one-penny carmine rose of De la Rue's manufacture was overprinted with the word “Half-penny” in ordinary type in black ink in a straight line across the original value. The printing was done by the printer attached to the Post-office Department (Mr. John O'Brien), who set up a form composed of 120 repetitions of the new value to be surcharged, printed 60,000 stamps (500 sheets of 120), and then locked up the form in case it should again be required. The delay in furnishing the Victorian plate still continuing, it was found necessary to print a further supply of the provisional half-penny stamp. O'Brien proceeded to strike off a supply, but without first inspecting his form. After having printed a few sheets he discovered that in the surcharge on the eighth stamp of the top row, the letters “al” had been displaced, and read thus “H ½f-penny.” He at once corrected the type and completed the printing of another 60,000 stamps. This is the only error found among the surcharges, and not more than a dozen can have been printed before the mistake was discovered. Many surcharges may be found showing broken or incomplete letters, but this is probably merely the result of imperfect inking. The one-penny stamp used for this provisional was electro No. 3.

A supply of one-penny stamps had been ordered from Messrs. Da la Rue some months before this overprinting took place, but, by mistake, these were forwarded by a sailing vessel, instead of a steamer. This delay, and the number of one-penny stamps used for the provisional half-penny, caused a temporary exhaustion of the former value. The old plate of 1870 was therefore resuscitated, and a supply of 120,000 stamps printed therefrom at the Government Printing Office. The paper used was the surfaced variety with the second type of watermark T.A.S. The color produced was a

bright vermilion, shading into brick red, some of the shades so closely resembling the well-known vermilion stamp of 1873, that they can only be distinguished from that stamp by the difference of watermark, the 1873 stamp being watermarked with Type I of TAS. The perforation was 11½.

The last stamp on this plate has a wedge-shaped defect showing white in the printing, and there are several smaller defects in other stamps on the plate. These provisionals were issued on the 14th February, and continued in use till all were exhausted; the English printed stamps arrived in March and now reign again.

In the meantime the half-penny plate had arrived from Melbourne, and the Government Printer set to work and printed 1869 sheets of 120 stamps on the glazed paper with the second type of the TAS watermark. The color used was orange, varying very much in shade, and the perforation 11½. The new stamp was first issued to the public 8th March, 1889. Another printing took place in August last, but the color of the four-pence, a pale yellow, was used in error; 1000 sheets had been printed before the mistake was discovered, but they were all destroyed and another 1000 sheets printed in the proper shade (or rather shades) of orange. The watermark is found in two positions, from left to right and *vice versa*, showing that the printer was indifferent as to the way in which he placed his sheets for printing. The different shades are found on the same sheet, and may be accounted for from the fact that the plate has become partly detached from its wooden bed, owing to a screw giving way; the pressure is thus less on some parts of the plate than on others.

In February a supply of the ten shillings (St. George and Dragon type) was printed on the old paper, watermarked with a double-lined figure 1, in a redder shade of salmon than formerly. The watermark is found both normal and inverted, and the perforation is both 11½ and 12.

The sombre old ten-pence, watermark 10, was also perforated 12 in October; this is the only variation it has indulged in since its birth in 1870.

A number of post-cards were locally printed in vermilion and issued in January as a temporary supply, owing to the exhaustion consequent on the non-arrival of an English order, delayed through the same cause as the one-penny adhesive stamps. These cards vary considerably in shade.—*The Federal Australian Philatelist*.

THE Tasmanian postal note system came into force January 1. The design of the "Poundage" stamp is as follows: Head of Queen to left on lined ground within pearled rectangular border, which is surrounded by an ornamental circular band inscribed "TASMANIAN POSTAL NOTE" in white capitals on colored ground. The word "POUNDAGE" in white capitals on a colored label breaks the circular band at the base, and the value is inserted in small colored capitals within an oblong Greek border placed beneath the circle. The Poundage stamp, spaces for stamps of issuing and paying offices, and central groundwork are printed in blue; the rest of the note is type printed in black, and enclosed in a type-set frame composed of square ornaments. Printed at the Government Printing Office, Hobart, on the paper formerly used for the Van Diemen's Land stamps of 1857-70, watermarked with large double-lined figures of value. The values of notes and poundage are:

Notes.	Poundage.
1s., 1s. 6d.	½d.
2s., 2s. 6d., 3s., 3s. 6d., 4s., 4s. 6d.	1d.
5s., 7s. 6d.	2d.
10s., 10s. 6d., 15s., 20s.	3d.

THE *Progressive Philatelist*, circulation (first number) 10,000, arrived in February. Its principal article of five pages on the "United States Mint" from *Demorest's Monthly* probably interested philatelists highly.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

Published by The Quaker City Philatelic Publishing Co., Limited.

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P. O. BOX 33, Philadelphia, Pa.

Entered at Philadelphia Post-Office as Second-class Matter.

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A Cross opposite this Notice signifies that your Subscription has expired.

ONE more effort from Mr. Chalmers, but so far no action on his part to sue Mr. Pearson Hill for libel. Is it that he dare not accept the challenge? Certainly not the want of money, as his expenditures in the pamphlet line are very considerable and largely valueless, being a reiteration of old matters. Let him prove conclusively that Sir Rowland Hill did not propose a uniform penny postage, for on Mr. Chalmers rests a very heavy burden of proof, as his father failed to do so and as until after the death of Sir Rowland Hill, he himself failed to do so. His flimsy excuse that he was abroad, and did not know the importance until *after* the death of Sir Rowland Hill, should be strong reason for disbelief on the part of just reasoners. Take up Mr. Pearson Hill's challenge, prove your case if you can, or stand aside now and for all.

THE American Philatelic Association exchange sheets received in Philadelphia lately contained a large number of very desirable rarities, and the takings were consequently considerable. We believe that the new exchange system will ultimately attract many members to use it.

The old complaint of being obliged to pay for stamps removed, while sheets had been in circulation many months, has almost entirely been done away with and constant improvement is noticeable.

One sheet which we have recently seen is valued at nearly \$1000. It contains many unique and extremely scarce specimens.

JOTTINGS.

IN the case of the English libel suit, *Bluett versus Pemberton, Wilson & Co. and Stanley Gibbons & Co.*, a decision was rendered in favor of Bluett, and damages to the amount of £250 awarded him.

* * *

ENGLISH auction sales are getting to be quite a success. At the one held January 18, a fine lot of Sydney views were disposed of, bringing good prices. A Great Britain 1d., black, V. R., brought \$55; a N. S. W. 3d., green, imperforated, Diadem issue, brought over \$75; a complete set of U. S. newspaper, 2c. to \$60, sold for \$105. At the sale held January 4, the gem of the collection was a Connell, unused, bringing \$80.

* * *

J. W. SCOTT, in the *Progressive Philatelist*, advises us to shun surcharges. He states that of 250 new issues for 1888 over eighty-eight were simply surcharges. The crop for 1889 is, we think, much larger. By stop buying these oddities, the price and consequently the supply will gradually grow less and less.

* * *

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, at their annual election, elected Mr. C. B. Corwin President. The New Yorkers now expect a boom. The *Metropolitan Philatelist*, shortly to be issued from New York, under the management of Messrs Corwin, Scott and others, is expected to be something great—Perhaps!

* * *

VICTORIA used 22,873,412 1d. post cards from 1876 to 1888 inclusive. This includes private cards.

* * *

THE *Philatelic Gazette* has finally suspended. The *C. P. S. Bulletin* will fill out its list. Chicago must be represented somehow. We suppose, since they have the World's Fair, the *Bulletin* will expand to the size of the *Century*.

* * *

THE *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, England, states that there are but few really good collections in America, the great majority simply collecting according to some dealer's catalogue. We venture to say that our English brother would be surprised at the number of really fine collections in the United States.

* * *

FROM the *Stamp Collectors' Journal* we take the following, giving the dates when English postage stamps were first issued:

One-penny, May 6, 1840; two-pence, May or June, 1840; one shilling, September 13, 1847; ten-pence, November 6, 1848; six-pence, March 1, 1854; nine-pence, January 15, 1862; three-pence, May 1, 1862; Two shillings, July 1, 1862; five shillings, July 1, 1867; three half-pence, October 1, 1870; half-penny, October 1, 1870; two-pence half-penny, July 1, 1875; eight-pence, September 1, 1876; ten shillings, one pound, September 25, 1878; five-pence, March 15, 1881.

* * *

THE world's fair at Chicago, in 1892, means the American Philatelic Association Convention at Chicago, in 1892, of course. Then, why not Niagara in 1891?

AN APPEAL.

To the Stamp Collectors of Pennsylvania :

THE Pennsylvania Stamp Collectors' League has been organized now nearly a year and a half and there are numbers of you not upon its rolls. Why not? Hadn't heard of it? Well, now that is no excuse. Afraid it wouldn't survive? Well, you see it has. In fact, we have quite a Society. Among our offices we have the Stamp Exchange Department, Literary Exchange Department and a Library.

By the use of these you will be more than repaid for the small amount of dues. But perhaps you don't understand how it is about joining. Below is Article II, Sec. 1, of our Constitution :

“ARTICLE II.—MEMBERSHIP.

“*Section 1.*—Any stamp collector may become a member of this League by applying to the Secretary; such application shall be signed by at least two references, one of which must be a member of the League. The Secretary shall thereupon cause the name and address of the applicant and his references to be published in the next number of the official journal, and if no objection shall be received by the Secretary within one month after publication, the applicant shall be considered elected and entitled to receive the membership card of the League on payment of dues. In case any member shall object to an applicant the application shall be submitted to the Trustees. The Secretary shall notify the objecting member that he must submit his reasons for the objection and proofs to substantiate them. The applicant shall be notified of the reasons for the objection and of the proofs offered, and may submit his defense. The Trustees shall consider the matter and shall accept or reject the applicant.”

The dues are fifty cents per year, payable annually. All members are entitled to vote. All members will receive the League's publications and the official organ free.

Now what are you waiting for? Send at once and get an application blank and see that it is filled out and sent to the Secretary, H. B. Wilben, 14 Main street, Cambridgeboro, Pa.

MILLARD F. WALTON,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

FOREIGN & UNITED STATES POSTAGE STAMPS FOR COLLECTIONS.

My stock of foreign stamps is unsurpassed. I can supply you with all kinds of U. S. postage stamps on or off envelope. Have letter sheets used before the existence of postage stamps. Have in stock Match, Medicine, Revenues, Perforated and Unperforated. California and Maryland State Revenues and other rarities. Confederate States on and off Envelopes, Locals and most everything in the Philatelic line.

I will pay good prices for U. S. stamps on or off Envelope, Locals, Unperforated Revenues, Confederates on Envelopes, or anything good in the stamp line.

Collections bought and sold. Send for my buying prices of U. S. stamps.

Correspondence with dealers and collectors all over the world solicited.

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MILLARD F. WALTON,

LOCK BOX 38.

PHILADELPHIA, PA

The Standard Stamp Co.,

H. FLACHSKAMM, Manager,

No. 1115 S. Ninth St.,  ST. LOUIS, MO.,

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All Kinds of U.S. and Foreign Postage Stamps FOR COLLECTIONS.

FREE! FREE!! FREE!!!

Our new large Price-list of Sets, Packets, Albums, etc., **cheapest** list of **genuine** Stamps ever published in the United States. **Every collector** should send for the same.

We offer a few **Special Packets** which we can recommend for their **very superior quality** and **cheapness**.

Standard Packet, No. 29, Contains 100 very fine rare varieties of Stamps, including **MANY RARE**, such as: Peru, *envelopes* (valued at 15c. each); Van Diemensland, 1858-60; rare Shanghai, 20 cash gray, valued at 10c. each; rare Siam, Bosnia, Servia, Salvador; Spain, 1879, rare 4 and 10 pesetas (valued at 10 and 25c. each); Mexico issues, 1868-'88, many valued at 10 to 20c. each; Greece ('88 issue), Azore Islands, Guatemala, Egypt, 5 pia., Cyprus, Costa Rica, 2 reals, and many other rare stamps.

Price only 50 Cents, valued by Scott's 50th ed. Catalogue at over \$3.

Standard Packet, No. 30, Contains 25 varieties of **UNUSED** Stamps, including many **RARE**, such as Chamba envelope (valued at 8c. each); rare Moldavia 6p. (valued at 10c. each); old Livonia (valued at 10c. each); Portuguese Colonies, Thurn and Taxis, Sweden unpaid, Swiss 1862, 1 franc gold, Greece '88 issue, Monaco, Costa Rica (old) and many others of equal value.

Price only 25 Cents (Scott's price over \$1).

33 $\frac{1}{3}$ Per Cent Commission.

We will allow 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent commission on stamps sold from our **fine approval sheets**. Besides that a **RARE STAMP** will be given **FREE** to each person remitting \$1.00 or more at one time.

Now is the time to secure bargains! Our prices are **lower** than any others. Apply at once.

Wholesale Selections—

Sent on approval to dealers furnishing cash deposit of \$2 to \$5, or good references. Please state which kind of stamps are wanted.

Rare Stamps on **APPROVAL** at a **LARGE DISCOUNT**. **REFERENCE REQUIRED**.

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PHILATELIC DIRECTORY

A 2-Line Card under this head,
\$1.00 per year, in advance.

BALTO. STAMP CO., 506 E. Lombard St., Balto.,
Md., Agents wanted. 1*

BEAMISH, CHAS., JR., 1424 Marshall St., Philad'a,
Pa. Agents wanted, 30 per cent com. 1

KEYSTONE STAMP CO., 217 E. King St., Lan-
caster, Pa. Cheapest
Stamps out. Ag'ts wanted, 33½ p.c. com. 8

MILLER, D. H., 1309 Pine St., Phila. Agents wanted
at 25 per cent commission. Ref. 12

PADDOCK, B. C., JR., Box 2612, N. Y. C. Send for
price-lists. Agents wanted. 1

P. NIESSEN, Rue d'Allemagne, 96B, Brussels, Bel-
gium, Stamps. Exchange wanted. 8

CASH PRIZES!

Ten dollars will be given to agents making largest sales from my fine approval sheets, on December 25, 1889, besides a com. of 33½ per cent. Scott's \$2.50 album, seventh ed., in splendid condition, containing a fine collection of 500 stamps, all dif., with flags, coats of arms and photos of rulers, only \$5; Japan, 1888, 15s., purple, 25s., green, 12c. each, or the two for 20c. Packet of 58 var. only 19c., Newfoundland, Trinidad, etc. Price-list free. Mail trade only. R. P. SPOONER, 37 W. 32D St., New York City. A.P.A. 669.

Fine South, Central American and West Indian

Stamps on approval, 33¼ per cent discount.

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Cloth and gold 25c.

Stiff paper 10c.

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Box 33, Philadelphia.

A NOVEL SCHEME.

—See Here a Moment—

Since August I have been disposing of my stock of stamps in small lots to quit the business. Lately I have made several attempts to dispose of my entire stock in a lump, but have not been successful, and now I propose to offer my stock to collectors at LESS than WHOLESALE prices and see if by so doing I can close up. In round numbers my stock invoices (lowest wholesale prices) as follows:

8000 unused U. S. and foreign	\$119 50
1750 used U.S. postage	34 00
26,000 used foreign	64 50
1500 used and unused U.S. and foreign in sheets	36 90
37.250	\$254 90

These will be sold at the rate of 70c. per 100, or \$1 for 150, \$6 per 1000. Special price given on lots of 5000 or 10,000.

I wish to clear up my stamp business as soon as possible and would rather sell RIGHT NOW at a little under cost than to putter along all spring and summer. I have a very few of the pence issue, Newfoundland, Peru and Persia unused envelopes, and unused 5d. green New South Wales, one of which I will put in with every \$1 worth ordered, as far as they will go.

These stamps are worth from 25c. to 50c. each.

7c. U. S. entire env., catalogue, 50c., 40c.

Besides these stamps I have about 45,000 common U. S. to offer at a bargain.

Write me. Order now.

CHAS. A. TOWNSEND

173 SOUTH HOWARD St.,

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After having disposed of my stock of stamps I shall have for sale my cabinet at an extremely low price.

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LOCK BOX 38.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WHILE THEY LAST

We offer Mexico '86, 25c.; lilac '88, 25c.; red, 8c. each; '84 50c. green, 5c.; 25 var. 21c.; Japan '77 15s., 20s., '88 15s., 25s., 7c. each; 10 var. 8c.; 4 Guianacaste, 15c.; 5 Peru, 7c.; 4 Egypt, 6c. OUR SPECIALTY!—a fine grade of Stamps from 3c. to 50c. sent on approval. A GLANCE at the prices insures your trade. Com. 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. Lists Free. R. P. SPOONER, 37 W. 32d St., New York. A. P. A., 669.

Spring Styles in Prices.

Mexico, 2 reales, blue, unused '64, 10c; Argentine Rep., '73, 60c., 12c.; Italy, Segna Tasse, 5 and 10 lires, blue, 12c. each; Italy, '79, 2 lires, red, 3c.; Great Britain, 5s., rose, 12c.; U.S., '66, 24c. mauve, 12c., a bargain. Sets, unused, Mexico, '74, 5c. to 100c., comp., 5 var., 28c.; Samoa, unused, '77 and '82, 8 var. comp., 20c. Orders under 25 cents must contain return postage. A set of unused Heligoland wrappers to all sending a 2c. stamp for one of my unexcelled approval sheets. Reference or deposit required. A. A. SMITH, No. 23 Oak St., Auburn, Me.

50 Per Cent Commission.

Agents wanted to sell my stamps at 25 and 50 per cent com.

Stamps at 1, 2 and 3 cents each, 50 per cent com.

Stamps from 4 cents up 25 per cent com.

Send for a sheet.

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U.S. and Foreign Stamps, 1309 Pine St., Phila., Pa.

A. P. A. 451.

PACKET No. 1,

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Cyclopædia of Philately, 64 pages, full of valuable information.

Cloth and gold 25c.

Stiff paper 10c.

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 Mention this paper when ordering stamps.