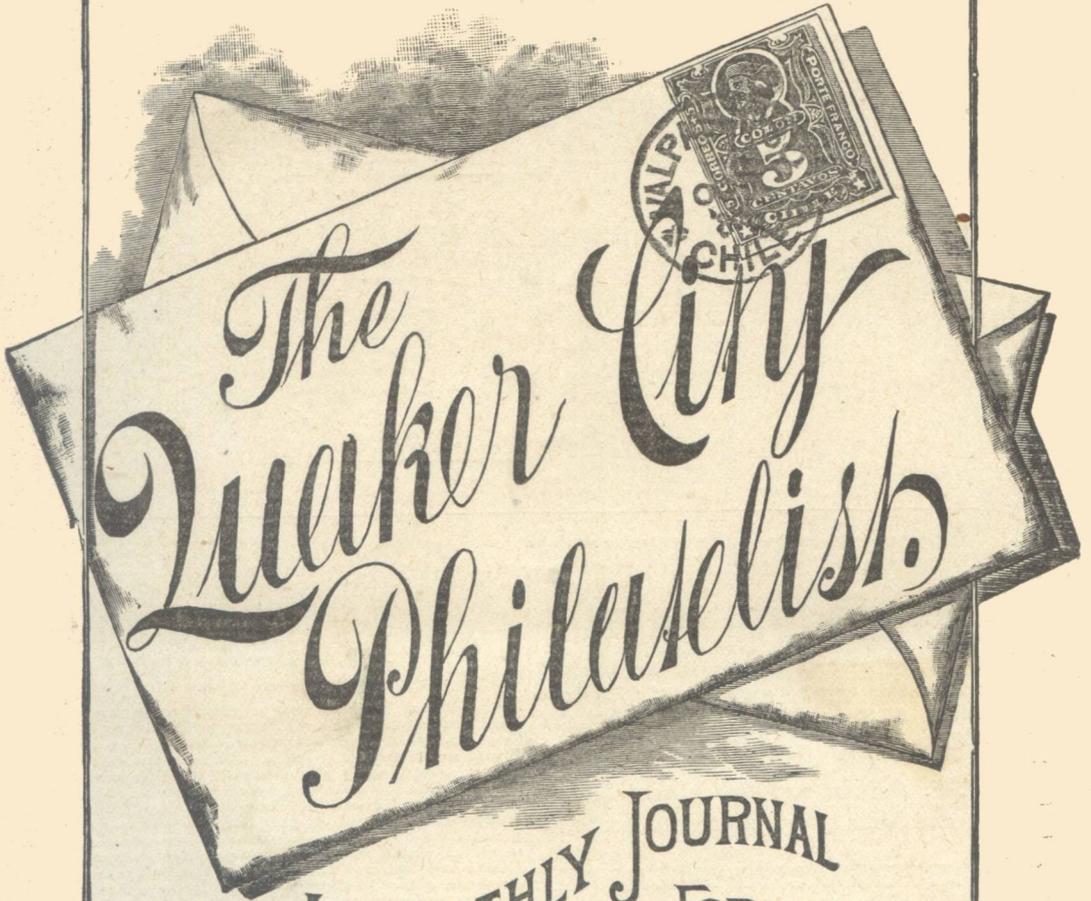


Vol. VI.

FEBRUARY, 1891.

No. 62.



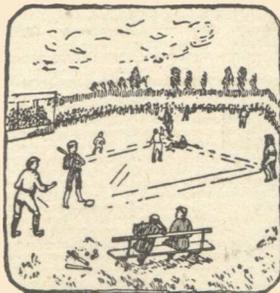
A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS.



15 CENTS A YEAR.

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

VOL. VI.

FEBRUARY, 1891.

No. 2.

THE FIRST CENTURY OF THE POSTAL SERVICE.

THIS year's operations begin the history of the second century of the American postal system. When the Post-office Department began its career in 1789, Congress seemed hardly willing to give it an organized existence. The act which authorized its creation—or, rather, which continued in operation the old establishment of the confederation—expressly provided that it should last “until the end of the next session of Congress, and no longer;” and this temporary measure was renewed year after year for several sessions, until in 1794 a permanent establishment was provided for.

One of the first aims of Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of the Treasury, after the Government of the Constitution had been fairly inaugurated, was to devise some means by which the postal establishment could be made to serve the public with the greatest attainable efficiency. In some parts of the country a regular system of arrivals and departures of the mails had never been established; stage-drivers and post-riders were permitted to carry and deliver letters, without any hindrance, for their own private emolument; almost all money transactions were in the currency not of the National Government, but of the several States, and this currency was of fluctuating value according to circumstances and localities; the rates of postage were very high and complex. They were, for example:

For every single letter not exceeding 30 miles, 6 cents.

For every single letter over 30 miles, and not exceeding 60 miles, 8 cents.

“	“	“	60	“	“	“	100	“	10	“
“	“	“	100	“	“	“	150	“	12½	“
“	“	“	150	“	“	“	200	“	15	“
“	“	“	200	“	“	“	250	“	17	“
“	“	“	250	“	“	“	350	“	20	“
“	“	“	350	“	“	“	450	“	22	“
“	“	“	450	“	25 cents.					

“ double letter, double the said rates.

“ triple letter, triple the said rates.

“ package weighing 1 ounce avoirdupois, to pay at the rate of four single letters for each ounce, and in that proportion for any greater weight.

Not a daily mail existed anywhere; the number of post-offices in the whole country did not exceed a hundred; the length of all mail-routes was about 2000 miles; and the entire annual revenue of the service was considerably less than \$50,000. Such was the condition of the postal establishment under Samuel Osgood, the first Postmaster-General under the Constitution.

HALF A CENTURY LATER.

Nearly half a century later, however—in 1835—when the locomotive began to replace the pony in the conveyance of the mails, the number of Post-offices in the United States had increased to more than 10,000, the gross amount of postal receipts

to nearly \$3,000,000 in one year, and the length of post-routes to 113,000 miles. The postal establishment was no longer insignificant, but the rates of postage were still excessive; the transmission of the mail was slow and infrequent; there probably were not more than twenty offices in all the land supplied by a daily mail. There had been little done to indicate that spirit of liberality and progress which should always be the animating principle of the postal service. The country during this period was in many places a wilderness, and the difficulties under which the mails had to be transported are almost ludicrous when we think of them now. In 1806, for illustration, Gideon Granger, then Postmaster-General, in a communication to the House of Representatives, makes the following queer recommendations concerning the transportation of the mails between Athens, Ga., and New Orleans, La.:

"This part of the route ought to be surveyed and marked out, and cleared of underbrush and trees four feet wide. It would be rather an injury than an advantage to clear wider than is necessary for a single horse, as it has been found to encourage a thick growth of bush.

"Dog River is 40 feet wide, and is too deep to ride whenever there is considerable rain. Two logs may be laid across it, so as to enable the rider to cross with the mails on his back, and swim his horse alongside.

"Pascagoula River is 250 yards wide. A family lives here and keeps a canoe, in which the rider with the mail should be crossed, the horse swimming alongside of the canoe."

This same Postmaster-General, in 1810, congratulates the House of Representatives upon the tremendous strides in the pathway of progress made by his Department. He says that at the beginning of the century—

"It required to write from Portland to Savannah and receive an answer forty days; now it requires twenty-seven. Then it required thirty-two days between Philadelphia and Lexington, Ky.; now it requires sixteen. Then it required forty-four days between Philadelphia and Nashville; now it requires thirty. Then it required between New York and Canandaigua twenty days; now twelve."

The illiberal spirit actuating the postal officers of that period is exemplified by the following extract from a letter addressed by R. J. Meigs, the Postmaster-General in 1823, to the Chairman of the Committee on the Post-office and Post Roads of the House of Representatives:

"It appears to me that no book ought ever to be sent by mail, even if letter or packet postage was paid on it. It is an article which is not, like letters and newspapers, valuable only for its quick conveyance, and may well be sent by the usual routes of many articles of merchandise.

* * * * *

"Some years ago the postmasters at many of the places where books were printed construed them as subject only to pamphlet postage. The consequence was that the mails were soon overloaded with novels and the lighter kinds of books of amusement; and I was under the necessity not only of correcting this misconception of the rates of postage, but to prohibit postmasters from sending books in any case through the mail.

* * * * *

"It would be useful to prohibit by law the transmission of books by mail. The Secretary of State has during the last summer sent a number of cart-loads of books in this manner. The consequence has been the mails have been overloaded, and it has occasioned demands probably of twice as much as it would have cost to send them by means of the booksellers through the ordinary channels, and many newspapers have been rubbed to pieces and lost, and letters damaged."

Twenty-five years later, in 1860, the number of post-offices had increased to over 28,000, the gross postal revenue had more than doubled, and the entire length of post-routes had grown to 240,000 miles. This period (from 1835 to 1860), one would

suppose, should have been the most prosperous in the history of the postal service; for during that time steam as a motive power had come to a wonderful degree of development, the country had increased greatly in population, wealth, and enlightenment, and the quick transmission of intelligence by means of the post had become one of the greatest public necessities. But there is nothing very brilliant in this page of postal history.

One instance alone of its mismanagement, the magnetic telegraph, which, though at one time actually under the control of the Post-office Department, brought into existence by means of public appropriations, with its inventor and all his collaborators employed as postal officers, was abandoned by the Government and suffered to be monopolized and enjoyed by private corporations.

THESE LAST THIRTY YEARS.

From 1860 to the close of the fiscal year lately ended—June 30, 1890—the progress of the postal establishment has been most marvelous. The number of post-offices has more than doubled, the aggregate now being 62,401; the total length of all the mail routes in the country, not including letter-carrier routes in the cities, has increased to about 428,000 miles, and the gross postal revenue has grown to a little less than \$61,000,000, representing an increase over the revenue of 1860 of more than 600 per cent. The free-delivery service, which now, in 454 cities of the country and by means of more than 9000 carriers, makes deliveries and collections of the mails, without extra tax, to the doors of the citizens, has been added. The great money-order system has been established, a system under which, at any one of 9382 post-offices, remittances, in sums from one cent to a hundred dollars, may be made to every part of the world with absolute safety, and which is used so largely by the people to-day that the amount of its annual business in the issue and payment of orders is nearly \$256,000,000.

Another great step in the progress of the postal service—the evolution, from an immature state, of the railway mail or traveling post-office system, by which, owing to minute distribution *en route* on railroads and steam-boats, and by means of immediate transfers to connecting lines, the mails are now carried with the utmost expedition from the places of mailing to those of delivery—was effected during the period under consideration.

Still another great stride in the march of the postal service was the passage of laws that created two great railways across the continent—the forerunners of several others—reducing the time of mail communication between New York and San Francisco or Portland from three weeks to six days, and through the naturally resulting establishment of mail service with China and Japan, opening up direct intercourse with all of Asia and the islands of the Pacific. The direct effect was rapidly to develop all the region west of the Mississippi river, forming populous and prosperous communities where before only the Indian and the buffalo had roamed. Their indirect effect has been, by linking America with Asia, and thus completing the chain of mail service around the earth, to show the practicability, if not to suggest the inauguration, of that splendid scheme of postal intercourse known now as the Universal Postal Union, whose purpose it is to unite in a sort of brotherhood all the nations of the world, making their countries a single territory, and subjecting them, so far as postal matters are concerned, to the operation of equal and exact laws.

The period we are considering, too, has been signalized by numerous reductions in the rates of postage on all classes of mail matter, so that instead of the varying and oppressive rates of former times, we have now, taking everything into consideration, perhaps a lower and simpler tariff of postage than any other country in the world; and by a great extension in the scope of the mails, which now take in books, all kinds of printed matter, and almost every variety of small merchandise. The registry system has been extended to furnish more than ordinary security.

Of minor importance, but still indicating enlightened advancement during the period in question, have been the introduction of the postal-note system, giving the people to

some extent the benefits of a fractional paper currency; the adoption of stamped newspaper wrappers and special request envelopes, the latter securing the direct return of a letter to its writer, if undelivered, without the delay of its passage through the Dead Letter Office; the universal use of stamps for the payment of postage on mail matter, both that which is due at the time of mailing and that due at the place of destination; and the special delivery system, by which for a moderate fee immediate delivery of mail matter is secured upon its arrival at any post-office.

The postal establishment of the United States has arisen from a condition of insignificance to be the largest of all the nations of the world. Instead of one little room, which in 1789 was sufficient to accommodate the entire central force of the Post-office Department, a building four stories high, and covering an entire block in Washington, is now inadequate, to say nothing of the great post-office structures all over the land. Instead of the post-boy on his lazy horse, coming and going at will between straggling villages along a single line of post-routes, with here and there a diversion to a cross-road, as was the way in Osgood's time, the mails are now transported almost with the speed of thought, according to fixed schedules of arrival and departure, over such innumerable routes as to make their aggregate journeys every working day equivalent to forty-one times the circuit of the earth. From a total business of perhaps a thousand letters a day, which is but a trifle less than the estimate of the Postmaster-General in 1789, letters and other pieces of mail matter are steadily dropping into the numberless receptacles of the postal system at the rate of nearly 8000 a minute. This marvelous system employs more than 150,000 agents.

CHRONICLE.

BY R. R. BOGERT.

BAVARIA.—Mr. Lohmeyer has kindly sent us the 3pf. band in brown on white, watermarked with horizontal waved lines.

BOLIVIA.—The 20c. is green, and the 50c. orange, both of the old type with eleven stars, and perforated 12.

BRAZIL.—We have a new 80 reis card, printed in red and blue on white card. The stamp has head of the Republic, and is printed in red. The imitation perforations, however, are blue, an unusual combination. At the left is a view of the entrance to the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, which is printed in blue. The inscriptions and dotted lines are red. This is the poorest-looking card we have seen for some time.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—Mr. Gremmel has shown us the 5c. and 10c., rouletted.

COSTA RICA.—Both the 5c. and 40c. have been found with "OFICAL" for "OFICIAL."

EGYPT.—To Mr. Gremmel we are indebted for a 5 mils card, surcharged 3 mils.

GREAT BRITAIN.—It is said the £1 will be printed in green, as the current stamp looks too much like a photograph.

HAYTI.—We learn from *Le Timbre Poste*, that new stamps have been prepared in Paris, and were to be issued January 1. They have the arms of Hayti, with palm tree surmounted by a Phrygian cap. At present only the 1c. rose, 2c. violet and 7c. blue, will be issued.

ITALY.—The same journal states that cards for the use of the deputies are surcharged "Camera dei Deputati" and arms of the government.

MAURITIUS.—The 8c. envelope is surcharged "50 CENTS" in black, and as a matter of precaution the Post-office seal is impressed at the left, with the postmaster's initials. Only 1000 of these were made.

MEXICO.—We have the following cards: 2c. carmine, 3c. vermilion, 5c. blue; all on white, inscriptions in green on the 2c. and 3c., and red on the 5c. There are two varieties of the 3c. and 5c., differing principally in the eagles and the ornaments, below "Servicio Postal Mexicano."

MOROCCO.—According to *Le Timbre Poste*, the French Post-office at Tangier now uses French stamps, surcharged 5 centimes carmine on 5 centimes, 25c. carmine on 25c., 50c. black on 50c., 1 peseta black on 1 franc.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. Barnum has shown us the 2½d. noted last month. The color is blue.

NICARAGUA.—We have seen only the 2c. red of the 1891 issue, but presume the values are all of the same design. The size is 21x29 mm. In central oval is a female with bee-hive, cornucopia, and arms of the Republic in triangular shield. At top "U. P. U. 1891," also "Correos" and "Republica de." Below the word "Nicaragua" and value.

NOSSI-BÉ.—Several new stamps are reported from this interesting colony. There are three types, each of 25c. on 20c.; 25c. on 75c.; 25c. on 1fc.

QUEENSLAND.—The new 2½d. stamp has the usual Queen's head in circle, with "Queensland" above; figures of value in lower corners with "Two-pence half-penny" between. Color red. There will also be a half-penny stamp, light green and oblong in shape, with Queen's head in oval.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The 4d. has been printed in green, and surcharged "2½d" in brown. The original value is canceled by a heavy line.

SWAZIELAND.—The 2sh. 6d., 5sh. and 10sh., are now surcharged in black.

SWEDEN.—We have two new envelopes; 4 öre, gray on white, and 5 öre, green on blue; they measure about 109x72 mm. The 4 öre does not seal, but has a tongued flap, which fits into a cut in the lower flap.

TASMANIA.—Mr. Gremmel has information that new 2½d. and 5d. stamps will be printed from the 10d. plate in different colors.

TRINIDAD.—The 2d. Registration envelope has a line of perforations running across the right hand side, through the flap and the two thicknesses of the envelope, and on the flap is printed in red, "To withdraw contents, cut away perforated portion of envelope," in two lines.

VICTORIA.—Postage Due stamps were issued November 1. An octagonal panel in blue in the centre has the value in large figures. The balance of the stamp is reddish brown. At the top in a curve "Postage Due," and below "Victoria," 1d., 2d., 4d., 5d., 6d., 10d., 1sh., 2sh., 5sh.

RANDOM NOTES.

THE Brooklyn Philatelic Club have postponed their annual spread for a few weeks.

MR. DUNCAN S. WYLIE will shortly reissue *Philately*, the paper started, I believe, by him and Mr. Holmes. It will appear in its old form.

ON Friday and Saturday, February 6 and 7, the J. W. Scott Co. will sell at auction the collection of George V. S. Camp. It consists of over 700 lots.

MR. E. F. GAMBS having declined a place on the Literary Board of the A. P. A., the position has been filled by the appointment of Charles A. Hobbs, Watertown, Mass.

THE writer moved from New Jersey over a year ago, but for the benefit of many publishers who still forward my papers there, I would state that my address is 176 Broadway, New York.

THE *Record and Review*, recently started by J. W. Scott and A. R. Rogers, is not dead—only sleeping. It will soon emerge from the printers resplendent with a photo of the business manager, Mr. J. W. Scott.

THE philatelic club room and library for New Yorkers, I fear, will die a natural death, owing to the cost of establishing such an institution in a central location. The rent alone would be an item of three hundred dollars a year, and with the furnishing and maintenance would make a total of large proportions.

It is rumored in New York that the Standard Stamp Co. must have a mortgage on the St. Louis Post-office, otherwise they would never get their paper through at second-class rates. Their February number, consisting of forty-eight pages, will make Bro. Mekeel stir his stumps to hold his hard-earned laurels.

MR. G. B. CALMAN has issued his wholesale list for 1891. He has departed from his usual pamphlet form, and this time made his list more convenient for the pocket, but extended to thirty pages. "Gus" Calman, as he is familiarly called in New York, makes an annual trip to Europe to replenish his stock, which is without doubt the largest in the country.

THE trouble which has been going on in New York over the rightful ownership of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* has at last been settled by the Board of Managers giving up the publication of their journal. This leaves Mr. J. W. Scott as sole owner, and the paper will hereafter be run with him as business manager, and Mr. Corwin as editor. Thus is peace again restored, and it is to be hoped that it will be a lasting one.

I HAVE heard some adverse comment on the typographical appearance of the new *American Philatelist*, but the paper, I think, is as near like the others as possible to get it. It is a difficult matter to match shades of paper, type, etc., and the present managers have evidently tried to reproduce the old paper. In the January number, I notice that No. 3 has been dropped, and as No. 1 left the Association long ago, Mr. S. B. Bradt now comes first, with the writer following. It is gratifying to see that even with eighty-seven members dropped, the membership is still over six hundred.

A NEW philatelic society was organized in New York city on Friday evening, January 23. Its name is The Philatelic Society of New York, and the officers chosen as follows: Charles B. Corwin, President; Frederick De Coppett, Vice-President; A. R. Rogers, Secretary; Henry Clotz, Treasurer, and as Executive or Managing Committee, Charles Gregory, William Thorne, R. F. Albrecht, J. W. Scott and August De Jonge. There were about twenty present at the meeting, and the object for which the society is organized, I understand, is for philately only. Its running affairs will be in the hands of the committee, and the meetings will be devoted entirely to the study of stamps in various ways. They have made an initiation fee of five dollars, and the yearly dues are the same, making a total of ten dollars for the first year. The society has about forty names on its roll, and is composed of the most prominent collectors in the metropolis. All dealers hereafter applying for admission will, I understand, find it harder to pass than to get through the eye of the traditional needle.

THE organization of the new society in New York makes a total of five in and around the city, and although the members of these societies are a class who never lose their interest in the pursuit, yet it is an open question whether so many societies can live and thrive in the same neighborhood. The combined membership would probably be about three hundred, but many of the men like Corwin, Scott, Gregory and others belong to three and possibly even more of these five societies, so the following is not so large as it would appear. It is considered a foregone conclusion that the advent of the new society will see a large falling off in the membership of some of the others.

ALVAH DAVISON.

THE post-office management of Berlin made the important discovery that ten million counterfeit ten-pfennig stamps are in circulation. The counterfeiters have now been detected in the persons of Bauer Brothers, in Hochst, and the faulty perforating machine has been found on the premises.

THE 1 centavo yellow, 1853, Chili, canceled postally by hand stamp, is worth about \$5.00. The ordinary cancellation is done with a pen and is worth about 15c. so canceled. It is said that the hand-stamp cancellation is rarely met with, hence the high value attached to it.

—THE—
 Western Philatelic Union.

—Organized April 15, 1889—

President, LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELO, Fort Davis, Tex.
 Vice-President, E. L. RAISH, Vermillion, South Dakota.
 Secretary and Treasurer, A. P. HOSMER, 44 Belleville Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Exchange Superintendent, FRANK KÖENIG, 127 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.

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.

OFFICIAL RESIGNATIONS.

TO THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION :

Gentlemen :—I hereby beg to tender my resignation as Superintendent of Exchange of the Western Philatelic Union, as my business will hereafter be such that I cannot give the requisite time to faithfully perform the work of that office.

Respectfully, K. BREWSTER COX, *W. P. U., No. 1.*

TO THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION :

Gentlemen :—Owing to ill health, I would respectfully tender my resignation as Secretary and Treasurer of the Western Philatelic Union, and would beg leave to name Mr. A. P. Hosmer, of Chicago, as my successor, *pro tem.*, subject to your approval.

Very truly yours, W. H. KANE, *W. P. U., No. 3.*

NEW MEMBERS.

- No. 51. J. E. White, Castalia, Ohio.
 No. 52. E. E. Lambert, Rougis, Wyo.

APPLICATIONS.

- J. E. Marsh, Pendleton, Oreg. References, Postmasters at Pendleton and Umatella, Oreg.
 C. M. Henrotin, 65 Bellevue place, Chicago, Ill. References, A. P. Hosmer, S. C. Stevens.
 W. H. Turner, 238 S. Halstead street, Chicago, Ill. References, A. P. Hosmer, S. C. Stevens.
 H. J. Crocker, 508 California street, San Francisco, Cal. References, F. Koenig, G. Folte.
 W. Sellschopp, 128 Eddy street, San Francisco, Cal. References, F. Koenig, G. Folte.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

- E. E. Lambert, Rougis, Wyo.
 W. H. Kane, 653 S. Hill street, Los Angeles, Cal.

The references of Mr. White, omitted in last month's applications, should have been H. C. Beardsley and W. H. Kane. Owing to the *Western Philatelist* being nearly four months behind time, the Board canceled its contract with it on January 20. Consequently the various reports for September, October and November will not appear by themselves, but the names of the new members, joining during that period, will be found in the list of members in the January number of the present Official Journal. It has been suggested that an independent Board, of four members, if possible in one locality, be elected at the coming election, as with the law as it now stands, the President, Vice-President and Secretary alone constitute that body. When the Union first was organized, it had comparatively so few members, that it seemed best to run it with as few officers as possible, but now our numbers have so largely increased, and there is every prospect of more than doubling our present membership before spring, it seems wiser that the government of the association should be placed in the control of a larger body. Again, this question has been asked: "Why do we now allow Eastern members to be placed in nomination for office, when at first it was understood that *only* Western members were eligible?"

In reply, I would beg to state that none of our so-called laws have ever been published or adopted, yet as over a third of our present members now reside in the East, would it be right to debar them all from office and yet force them to pay the same dues as we do?

There are many desirable philatelists still in that section that we would be glad to have join us, but they would surely not care to, if they did not stand on an equal footing with their Western brothers.

I would suggest that a portion of our Constitution and By-Laws, as they now stand, be published each month in our Official Journal, and that unless a majority of our members object to any clause therein, that they stand approved, and when the finances will amply allow of it that they be published in pamphlet form, with list of members and their official numbers.

JANUARY 24, 1891.

W. H. KANE, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF EXCHANGE.

Filled sheets to the value of \$202.49 have been received since my last report. Owing to the non-appearance of the *Western Philatelist* for September, October and November the reports of this department have not appeared for that quarter, consequently I will sum them up in the present report. Exchange Branch No. 1, of Chicago, was organized in November, with seven members; Mr. A. P. Hosmer being elected Manager. Filled sheets were received during the above-mentioned quarter valued at \$736.68. As this will be my last report to the members of the Union, I would beg leave to thank them most sincerely for the universal kindness and patience which they extended to me while serving in the capacity of Superintendent of Exchange, and am confident that my successor will most ably fill the position that I am forced to vacate. The path of a Superintendent of Exchange is not strewn with roses, and for the benefit of new members, allow me to say that the sale of stamps does not depend on him alone, but principally upon the quality of the specimens sent in and the prices placed thereon, by their owners, as the Superintendent cannot *make* stamps sell, especially if they are poor or common specimens and marked at full catalogue prices. Sheets whose value is not at least \$1.00, cannot be put on circuits, and *foreign* revenues find few buyers at any price.

If members who send in large quantities of stamps at one time would, as far as possible, place those of one country together, it would greatly facilitate comparing them with one's collection.

The Board have appointed Mr. Frank Koenig, of 122 Kearny street, San Francisco, to act in my stead, as Superintendent, *pro tem*.

JANUARY 24, 1891.

K. BREWSTER COX, *Superintendent*.

NOMINATIONS.

I take pleasure in nominating the following ticket, to be placed in the field at the April election :

President.

Lieut. J. M. T. Partello, Texas.

Secretary and Treasurer.

A. P. Hosmer, Illinois.

Vice-President.

William C. Skinner, Maine.

Superintendent of Exchange.

Frank Koenig, California.

Purchasing Agent.

G. Folte, California.

Official Board.

W. Sellschopp, California, C. H. Holden, California,

C. S. Stevens, Illinois, B. S. Ross, Illinois.

In renominating President Partello, I do so with the belief that to him, more than to any other individual member, is due the prosperity the Union has attained. Messrs. Skinner, Hosmer and Koenig deserve what recognition we can give them, not only for the valuable aid they have rendered the Union in acquiring many new members, but also for their excellent business qualities, which will guarantee the furthering the work of their offices with promptness and faithfulness.

Renominating Mr. Folte for Purchasing Agent, is simply replacing the right man in the right place, as all those who have made use of his office can amply testify. Regarding the Official Board, I do not think it could be placed in better hands.

K. BREWSTER COX, *W. P. U., No. 1.*

We, the undersigned members of the Western Philatelic Union, do this day nominate K. Brewster Cox, of Long Beach, Cal., for the office of Exchange Superintendent of the Western Philatelic Union aforesaid, to be elected at the biennial election of officers, in April, 1891.

A. P. HOSMER,
WILLIAM PEARSON.

CHICAGO BRANCH, No. 1.

During January, a local branch of the W. P. U. has been established with the following members: Ross, Dunn, Henrotin, Hosmer, Stevens, Turner and Pearson.

Two other collectors have signified their intention of joining, and it is more than probable that in a short time we shall have our membership materially increased.

Three lots of stamps have been received, priced at from twenty-five to forty per cent. below catalogue, and Chicago members have secured a number of bargains.

One of our principal features is our Exchange Department, which is unequalled, both as to quality and price; these two facts alone are a sufficient guarantee as to its excellence.

A few more local members are desired; those wishing to become members are requested to apply to the undersigned for application blanks.

A. P. HOSMER, *Local Manager.*

—THE—

Penna. Stamp Collectors' League.

—Organized October 18, 1888—

- President, R. S. ELLIOT, Germantown, Philadelphia, Penna.
 Vice-President, MILLARD F. WALTON, Lock Box 38, Philadelphia, Penna.
 Secretary, H. B. WILBER, White Gravel, McKean Co., Penna.
 Treasurer, W. J. DAY, 78 W. Spring St., Titusville, Penna.
 Exchange Superintendent, A. R. FREY, 499 Vernon Ave., Long Island City, N. Y.
 Librarian,
 Literature Exchange Superintendent,
 Board of Trustees: { L. K. SHELLINBERGER, Germantown.
 R. W. MCCLUNE, 57 Summer St., Bradford, Pa.
 R. M. MILLER, New Chester, Penna.

Official Correspondence and Reports.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

LIST OF MEMBERS, NO. 7.

31. Joseph Rechert, Hoboken, N. J.
32. R. R. Bogert, Tribune Building, New York, N. Y.
33. H. McAllister, 237 Dock St., Philadelphia.
34. W. A. MacCalla, 237 Dock St., Philadelphia.

The following is a complete list of the members of the League, with official number :

1. H. B. Wilber, White Gravel, Pa.
4. R. S. Elliot, Germantown, Pa.
7. E. O. Sidley, Ashtabula, O.
13. W. J. Day, 78 W. Spring St., Titusville, Pa.
16. M. F. Walton, Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.
17. C. D. Reimers, Rock Island, Ill.
18. T. R. Johnston, 49 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa.
19. L. R. Shellenberger, Germantown, Pa.
20. P. F. O'Keefe, Chartier's P. O., Pa.
21. J. K. Banks, Steubenville, O.
22. William Schaefer, Steubenville, O.
23. P. W. Kutsche, Hampton, Va.
24. Edw. W. Hevringer, 315 King William St., San Antonio, Tex.
25. H. R. Frey, 499 Vernon Ave., Long Island City, N. Y.
26. R. W. McClure, 57 Summer St., Bradford, Pa.
27. R. M. Miller, New Chester, Adams Co., Pa.
28. George H. Watson, 36 Broad St., New York City.
29. H. H. Brown, Old Bridge, N. J.
30. W. M. Johnstone, Hampton, Va.
31. Joseph Rechert, Hoboken, N. J.
32. R. R. Bogert, Tribune Building, New York City.
33. H. McAllister, 237 Dock St., Philadelphia.
34. W. A. MacCalla, 237 Dock St., Philadelphia.

The above is the *entire* list.

The League starts out very well for 1891, by admitting four of the most prominent philatelists in the United States. I hope it will keep on so doing.

We learn by the *Oil City Derrick* of January 10, that Archie K. Bates, formerly of Titusville, but later of Louisville, Ky., and one of our members, has very mysteriously disappeared from his home. It is feared something serious has happened him.

H. B. WILBER, *Secretary*.

WHITE GRAVEL, PA., February 1, 1891.

RETIRING EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

CR.

Paid for Printing Covers	\$2 00
“ Staples	5
“ Tissue Paper	5
“ Postage	3 67
	<hr/>
	\$5 77

DR.

Sold 65 sheets @ 5c. each	\$3 25
	<hr/>
	\$2 52
To two orders on Treasurer	2 52
	<hr/>

Respectfully submitted,

T. R. JOHNSTON.

PITTSBURGH, PA., January 20, 1891.

CHICAGO NOTES.

SINCE Mekeel has started his *Weekly Stamp News* it has become somewhat of a difficult task for a correspondent of a monthly journal to give many fresh news items. However, no one will be likely to complain, and Mekeel's great enterprise should be supported by every philatelist who desires to see the pursuit advertised and elevated. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of the *Weekly Stamp News* have been received at this writing and are well worth reading. The majority of collectors prefer short articles and notes, to a long chronicle of new issues and heavy articles written by an advanced philatelist.

THE sixteenth auction sale of the Chicago Philatelic Society, held on the evening of January 15, was well attended, bringing out twenty-five or more members. The competition on some lots offered was quite brisk. While good prices were realized in several instances, there were also a few that went at a very low figure. The seventeenth sale will take place on February 19, and the writer is informed that some choice stamps are to be offered. Members and collectors desiring to see a list can obtain one by applying to the Secretary.

MR. S. W. SCOTT, Dubuque, Iowa, was in town during the past week, and in company with Mr. Otto Scheible called on a number of the C.P.S. members. The firm of Scott and Scheible are hard at work perfecting their Philatelic Mercantile Agency and they report that they are very well satisfied with the encouragement received from all sides. Every stamp collector who has not already done so should send in his name at once and help make their Reference Address Book as complete in detail as possible.

The *American Philatelist* has no doubt been received by all A. P. A. members, and it is hoped has met with their approval. It certainly looks quite natural, the only difference being that the cover is a much lighter shade of blue. This is thought by some of the members to be an improvement, as the advertisements

show up to better advantage and can be more easily read. What a job friend Stone must have had to prepare that immense chronicle of new issues.

SOME of your readers are perhaps interested in the outcome of the recent election in the Philatelic Society of America. It appears that it resulted in no election on account of there being so many candidates and the refusal of several of them to serve. The time also was so short that the election notice reached the distant members too late to admit of their voting. I believe a new election is to be called at once, but cannot say when it is intended to close the vote.

MR. J. A. HECKELMAN, of Callum, Ill., was in town the week of the 18th, and was in attendance at the A. P. A. Branch meeting on the 22d. Mr. Heckelman is a passive member of the C. P. S. and takes quite an interest in its welfare.

The Stamp Collectors' Figaro for December, 1890, came out the third week in January, and a sorry-looking number it was. Massoth had a regular publisher's nightmare in getting it out at all. He was at one end of the line and the printer at the other, but the printer had the biggest end of the line and was master of the situation. Consequently, Massoth had to wait his convenience. It was a good move, however, for him to change the name to the *Stamp Collector* and get the backing and influence of the C. P. S., which has already proved of great benefit to him.

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST is getting to be quite an ancient paper. This number is Vol. vi, No. 61. How many papers reach this advanced age? Under its new management we hope to see it live many more years.

MR. PHIL. H. DILG, the genial Secretary of the Board of Trustees, is making a specialty of "Victoria" stamps. All collectors or dealers having any to dispose of either for cash or exchange will find it to their advantage to drop him a line on the subject. His address is 1530 Diversey street, Chicago.

ALFRED L. HOLMAN, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, is off on a trip through Colorado. One of our jokers says he went out there to discover the Denver League.

WOLSIEFFER says the *Stamp Collector*, for February, will not be out promptly on time, as the Board of Education are having their annual report printed at the same office, and they have all the available Brevier type in use on their immense report. This is one of the many distracting annoyances a publisher has to put up with, but is a very usual occurrence even in immense printing concerns.

THE handsome portrait of E. B. Hanes, in last month's QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST, was quite a treat for the Chicago boys. Mr. Hanes is a favorite with many of us and was our candidate at one time for Vice-President of the A. P. A., but declined. We hope to see him a candidate some time in the near future and then Chicago will take an active part in helping to elect him.

JANUARY 30, 1891.

DISPERSION.

THERE were sold during the year 1890, 228,258,242 postage stamps, 43,943,615 Government stamped envelopes, and 51,908,875 postal cards. The total weight of mails received and dispatched daily during 1890 was 332 tons. Foreign mails, both inward and outward, from New York city, frequently include as many as 800 bags, which require from one to ten two-horse trucks for their transportation.

COLLECTORS who desire a catalogue of the auction sale of the "J. R. Hooper Collection," can procure them from any New York dealer, who will execute bids for those wishing to place them.

WE are in receipt of Mr. Henry Gremmel's wholesale price-list, and dealers will do well in sending for one, as it contains many bargains. Send to Henry Gremmel, 80 Nassau street, New York, N. Y.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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

Box 38, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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

Editor and Manager, **MILLARD F. WALTON, P. O. Box 38.**

ADVERTISEMENTS—Terms, strictly cash in advance.

One inch	75 cts.
Two inches	\$1 35
One half column	2 10
One column	3 90
One page	7 00

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Cash MUST accompany order.

Advertisements can be changed quarterly.

Copy of advertisements for the March number must be in by Feb. 25th.

Terms of Subscription: 15 CENTS PER YEAR. ABROAD 30 CTS

Subscriptions must begin with current number.

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

Philatelic Directory.

A 2-line Card, \$1.00 per year.
A 3-line Card, \$1.50 per year.
Payable in advance.

BISHOP & SKINNER, 409 Prescott St., Toledo, O.
Good Stamps, Low Prices,
Big Discount.

KREIS, H. A., Cardington, O., Agents wanted to sell
from Approval sheets. 40 per cent. commission.

MULFORD, H. C., Dealer in U. S. and Foreign Postage
Stamps, 313 Lincoln Ave., Salem, O.

WALTON, MILLARD F., Approval sheets at 33½
per cent. Lock Box 38, Philadelphia, Pa.

WE HAVE AN IDEA!!

That you would like to own a copy of "DEALING IN POSTAGE STAMPS," a neat little 30-page pamphlet, by Alvah Davison. Every one contemplating entering the stamp business, as well as every young dealer, should have a copy. It contains many hints useful to every stamp dealer. Price by mail, post-paid, 15c. Stamps on approval to responsible parties. H. B. WILBER & CO., White Gravel, McKean county, Pa.

Special in U. S.

Packet No. 10 contains 10 var. of fine U. S. stamps, catalogued at \$5 by Scott. This packet contains no revenues, locals, torn or counterfeit stamps. Price, \$1, post-paid. Address

J. T. JELF,
ATCHISON, Kansas.

Philatelists, Attention.

We have established the Philatelic Mercantile Agency, Scott & Scheible, Proprietors, and on or about March 1, 1891, we shall have ready for delivery Vol. I, No. 1, of our Reference Book, containing the names of all collectors and dealers, philatelic publishers, approval sheet agents, FRAUDS, etc., CLASSIFIED, throughout the U. S. and Canada. If you desire to have your name inserted free, send it to us with your address, and we will mail you full particulars. It is important that you do this at once, as we shall give names of all persons in the U. S. and Canada interested in philately, a rating of credit.

The price of this book will be \$1, post-paid, including six months' subscription to our semi-monthly report sheets. This book will be an A No. 1 advertising medium, and an advertisement placed in it will be sure to pay. Rates upon application.

Be sure to send for full particulars of our agency, as it will be of BENEFIT TO YOU.

Philatelic Mercantile Agency,

SCOTT & SCHEIBLE, Proprietors.

GENERAL OFFICES:

Dubuque, Iowa, 1046 Iowa St., S. W. SCOTT, Manager. Chicago, Ill., P. O. Box 882, OTTO SCHEIBLE, Manager.



12 INDIAN ARROW POINTS of flint, pp. 25c. Archaeological Hand Book 331 illus., 10c. MERCER, Cincinnati, O.

 Mention this paper when ordering stamps.

HENRY GREMMEL,

DEALER IN

U. S. and Foreign Stamps, Albums, Etc., FOR COLLECTORS,

80 NASSAU STREET, New York.

*Our stock of Postage Stamps is one of the finest and best in the world.
Price-List of over 6000 different Stamps, priced from 1c. to \$30.*

This is the cheapest and best price-list ever issued. It is pocket size, and may be used as a want list. Every collector should send for one. 25 to 50 per cent will be saved by comparing the prices with other catalogues. **PRICE, 10 cts.**

GOOD AGENTS WANTED.

We want good agents all over the United States and Canada to sell our stamps off our 1, 2, 3, 5, 10 and 15 cent sheets. Our prices are the lowest, and stamps sell at sight. Good COMMISSION ALLOWED. Send good reference or deposit.

A \$1.50 Album given to the best Agent every month.

APPROVAL BOOKS AT NET PRICES.

These contain good stamps, only new issues, novelties, etc., etc. All collectors should give these a trial. The prices are as low as GENUINE STAMPS can be furnished.

A cash deposit or very good reference must be sent with the request. No notice taken of postal-card requests.

LARGE VARIETY OF PACKETS.

These packets are made up in our own office, and are not imported from Europe, and are far superior to the ones sold by most all other dealers. They contain postage stamps only, no revenues, etc.

250 varieties, marked value over \$5 00,	our price	\$1 25
500 " " " 12 00,	" " " " " " " " " " " "	3 50
1000 " " " 25 00,	" " " " " " " " " " " "	8 00
2000 " " " 75 00	" " " " " " " " " " " "	25 00

Price-list of over 400 sets and packets free.

J. W. Scott's Best Postage Stamp Album.

This album is brought up to the day of going to press, and has spaces for all the new issues of U. S., Argentine Republic, British East Africa, Seychelles, Leeward Islands, etc., etc. It has supplementary sheets for U. S. revenues.

	<i>Publ. Price.</i>	<i>My Price, Post-free.</i>
Strongly bound in boards	\$1 50	\$1 30
Elegantly bound in gilt cloth	2 50	2 20
Same, with extra leaves	3 50	3 20
Same, printed on one side only	5 00	4 40
Same, French Morocco	7 50	6 50
Same, interleaved half Morocco	12 00	11 00

WANTED.—Large and small stamp collections. In fact, all kinds of stamps in large and small quantities.

Specially Early Issues and Rare Stamps on Original Letters.

Highest cash prices paid. New wholesale list to dealers only.

I OFFER the following U. S. Revenues at auction to the highest bidders without reserve, subject to the following conditions: All bids must be sent by mail and must be so much for entire lot, and no bid will be accepted later than February 25.

No. 1. 1c. express, pp. (1), pair (2), unperf. (1), perf. (1); 1c. proprietary, perf. (1); 2c. blue bk. check, unperf. (352), perf. (60)	418	No. 19. 50c. surety bond, perf. (68); 60c. inland exchange, unperf. (2), perf. (5)	75
No. 2. 2c. bk. check, orange, double perf. (1), perf. (92); 2c. certificate, blue, pair (2), unperf. (8); 2c. express, blue, unperf. (9), perf. (4); 2c. express, orange, perf. (54); 2c. play cards, blue, perf. (12); 2c. proprietary, blue, unperf. (1), perf. (4); 2c. U.S.T.R., orange, unperf. (3), double perf. (3), perf. (66)	259	No. 20. 70c. foreign exchange, unperf. (2), perf. (1)	3
No. 3. 3c. foreign exchange, perf. (4); 3c. proprietary, unperf. (3), perf. (4); 3c. telegraph, unperf. (1), perf. (4)	16	No. 21. \$1 conveyance, unperf. (2), perf. (39)	41
No. 4. 4c. Inland exchange, perf. (4); 4c. proprietary, unperf. (1), perf. (1); 5c. agreement, perf. (33); 5c. certificate, pp. (7), unperf. (2), perf. (66); 5c. express, unperf. (2), perf. (37); 5c. gov. exchange, perf. (8); 5c. inland exchange, pp. (1), unperf. (10), perf. (58); 5c. play cards, perf. (2)	232	No. 22. \$1 entry of goods, unperf. (19)	19
No. 5. 6c. Inland exchange, perf. (3); 10c. bill of lading, unperf. (3), perf. (76); 10c. certificate, unperf. (2), perf. (16); 10c. contract, perf. (13); 10c. inland exchange, perf. (14); 10c. power of attorney, perf. (11); 15c. foreign exchange, perf. (3); 15c. inland exchange, unperf. (2), perf. (9)	152	No. 23. \$1 foreign exchange, unperf. (3), perf. (282)	285
No. 6. 20c. Inland exchange, unperf. (6), perf. (11); 20c. foreign exchange, unperf. (6)	23	No. 24. \$1 inland exchange, unperf. (16), perf. (62)	78
No. 7. 25c. bond, unperf. (33), perf. (24)	57	No. 25. \$1 lease, unperf. (15), perf. (3)	18
No. 8. 25c. certificate, unperf. (5), perf. (41); 25c. entry of goods, unperf. (2), perf. (3); 25c. insurance, unperf. (4), perf. (9); 25c. power of attorney, unperf. (10), perf. (68); 25c. power of attorney, double perforation (1)	142	No. 26. \$1 manifest, unperf. (15)	15
No. 9. 25c. protest, unperf. (7), perf. (5)	12	No. 27. \$1 mortgage, unperf. (15)	15
No. 10. 25c. warehouse receipt, unperf. (16)	16	No. 28. \$1 power of attorney, unperf. (2)	2
No. 11. 30c. foreign exchange, unperf. (3); 30c. inland exchange, unperf. (1), perf. (4); 40c. inland exchange, perf. (11)	19	No. 29. \$1 probate of will, unperf. (5), perf. (7)	12
No. 12. 50c. conveyance, pp. (1), unperf. (10), perf. (8); 50c. entry of goods, perf. (39); 50c. foreign exchange, unperf. (30), perf. (31)	119	No. 30. \$1.30 foreign exchange, perf. (2); \$1.50 inland exchange, unperf. (24), perf. (64); \$1.60 foreign exchange, perf. (8); \$1.90 foreign exchange, perf. (8)	106
No. 13. 50c. lease, pp. (5), unperf. (7); 50c. life insurance, perf. (111); 50c. mortgage, unperf. (9), perf. (36)	168	No. 31. \$2 conveyance, pp. (2), unperf. (5), perf. (202)	209
No. 14. 50c. original process, pp. (3), unperf. (43), perf. (88)	134	No. 32. \$2 mortgage, unperf. (14), perf. (223)	237
No. 15. 50c. passage ticket, unperf. (2), perf. (47)	49	No. 33. \$2 probate of will, perf. (1); \$2.50 inland exchange, perf. (13); \$3.50 inland exchange, perf. (6)	20
No. 16. 50c. probate of will, pp. (2)	2	No. 34. \$3 charter party, unperf. (19)	19
No. 17. " " " unperf. (10)	10	No. 35. \$3 manifest, unperf. (14), perf. (97)	111
No. 18. " " " perf. (20)	20	No. 36. \$5 charter party, unperf. (17), perf. (37)	54
		No. 37. \$5 conveyance, unperf. (11)	11
		No. 38. \$5 manifest, unperf. (21)	21
		No. 39. \$5 mortgage, unperf. (7)	7
		No. 40. \$5 probate of will, perf. (5); \$10 charter party, pp. (1), perf. (14)	20
		No. 41. \$10 mortgage, perf. (5); \$10 probate of will, perf. (1)	6
		No. 42. \$15 mortgage, unperf. (1), perf. (2)	3
		No. 43. \$20 conveyance, unperf. (3), perf. (14)	17
		No. 44. \$25 mortgage, perf. (1)	1
		No. 45. \$50 " perf. (1)	1
		No. 46. 2d issue, Washington in octagon, 1c. (4), 2c. (9), 3c. (5), 4c. (2), 5c. (13), 1c. (3), 10c. (14), 15c. (5), 20c. (7)	62
		No. 47. 2d issue, 25c. (18), 30c. (1), 50c. (21), \$1 (8), \$1.50 (10), \$2 (8), \$2.50 (3), \$3 (3), \$3.50 (1), \$5 (1)	74
		No. 48. 2d issue, \$1.30 (3), \$1.60 (4), \$1.90 (8)	15
		No. 49. " \$25 (1)	1
		No. 50. " \$1 inverted medallion	1
		No. 51. 3d issue, 1c. (2), 2c. (4), 4c. (2), 5c. (8), 6c. (3), 15c. (1), 30c. (3), 70c. (2), \$1 (41), \$2 (5), \$2.50 (4), \$3 (3), \$5 (2), 2c. blue (3)	83
		No. 52. 3d issue, \$20 (1)	1
		No. 53. Proprietary on violet and green papers, 1c. (13), 2c. (6), 3c. (4), 4c. (10), 6c. (2); 1878 issue, 1c. (11), 2c. (2), 3c. (7), 4c. (19), 4c. red brown (3), 5c. (2), Liberty Bank check (11)	90

MILLARD F. WALTON,

Lock Box 38.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP AND PUBLISHING CO. 1007-1009 AND 1011 LOCUST STREET

VOL. 1, No. 3

ST. LOUIS MO., JANUARY 21 1891

5 CENTS PER COPY
IN ADVANCE \$1.00 PER YEAR

THE WEEK

Our first number was prepared in the last part of the old year and the date 1890 was inserted in error. Singularly it was not noticed and remained the same in the second number.

A cash dividend of 10 per cent has been declared on the capital stock of the Philatelic Publishing Co.

The above company owns the *Philatelic Journal of America* and other copyrights that are handled by the publishers of this paper.

A difference in paper of the Colombian registration stamp has been noticed.



recently. The stamp now comes on a thin white tough paper the first specimens were on thick yellowish white paper.

The Boston Stamp Co., 48 Congress street, Boston, Mass., and the Columbia Stamp Co. Watertown, Mass., are the latest to embark in the stamp traffic in New England. According to their announcements they are engaged principally in the approval sheet business.



The above surcharges each appear on the following current French Colonial stamps, 20c, 75c and 1 franc making nice varieties in all, for use in the Nossé Bé.

It is only fair to give collectors due notice of our intention in regard to the mailing of this paper.

All subscriptions must commence with the number for the Wednesday preceding receipt of the subscription, and all numbers over one week will be sold while they last, at 10 cents a copy.

The following is an extract from a circular letter announcing the sale of Pemberton, Wilson & Co.'s business.

"We have much pleasure in informing you that we have purchased the entire stock and good will of the old established and well-known stamp dealers' business of Pemberton, Wilson & Co., which has been carried on for many years at Fairmount Road, Wood Green.

"Our purchase includes the remainder of the celebrated 'Caillibotte' collection, the well-known stock of stamps of Afghanistan, and the large number of rar-

ties which have been accumulated during eighteen years, together with the copyright of the *Philatelic Record* and other celebrated publications.

"All liabilities of Pemberton, Wilson & Co. will be paid by Mr A H Wilson, and all orders will be executed by us. We have decided to continue the *Philatelic Record* and the *Stamp News*, as separate publications, entirely independent of each other, and each will be published on the same lines as hitherto.

[Signed] THEODORE BUNL & Co



PHILIPP VON FERRARY

The above portrait is of the great stamp collector in the world, Mr Ferrary, a resident of Paris, France, although a member of a noble Austrian family. Notwithstanding the very absurd statements that have appeared about himself and his collection, it is of great value and wonderful in size. Our illustration was made from the photograph in *The Philatelic Record*, for December, 1889, which observes as follows:

"According to their usual custom the publishers of *The Philatelic Record* present the subscribers with a frontispiece to the annual volume. This year they are permitted to give a portrait of Herr Philipp von Ferrary, whose name is known to most of our readers as a great collector, and the 'master of many legions' of stamps. Although the entire collections of two Presidents of the Philatelic Society of London have passed into his hands, it must not be supposed that he has merely formed his large collection by wholesale purchases. It is now some five-and-twenty years since we first remember seeing him indefatigably ransacking the shops of all the Paris dealers, even to the stamp bourse, in hopes of finding additions to his then growing collection, and this spirit of earnest search has continued ever since with unflinching perseverance. He has not been a great contributor to philatelic literature, though what he has written has been very much to the purpose, but he has been, and still is, an enthusiastic collector, and has spared neither pains nor money to make his collection as complete as possible."

CINCINNATI LETTER

I recently received the January issue of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, and I read with regret the suggestion of its editor to name the weekly paper 'The Scandal-monger of the Mississippi Valley'. This indicates that the "large guns" east of us, who are of the minority, propose to vent their spleen in more ways than one. I believe every contributor to your weekly paper will take pride in having it a success, and consider himself personally responsible for its character, and will strive to elevate our cause by the tone of the articles or "gossip" in its columns. For one wish to see, and certainly expect to behold the "Weekly" grow in popularity, display its purity of purpose and so strengthen the bonds of Philatelic union that it will overtop its fellows, and by example, force the editor of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* to realize the beauty of its policy and change the character of his own sheet.

Very little of interest can be noted this week about philately in Cincinnati. The holidays just passed were fraught with such interesting experience of other nature, that stamps were relegated to the rear.

I wonder if any of your readers can give me the address of Mr. Frank P. Kellogg, formerly a prominent philatelist of Cincinnati, and for twenty-five years a student. The last I heard of him, he was with an engineering party in Oklahoma. He had his stamp fever then as violently as ever. I would like very much to renew my correspondence with him.

Some five months ago I became acquainted with Mr. P. C. Browne, who is a son of the man who had the local penny post in Cincinnati, and who issued the now very scarce Browne, 1c and 2c locals.

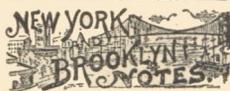
He had in his possession a pair of the 2c stamps and was kind enough to present me with one of them. He stated they were all that were left to remind him of the profitable business his father once had acting as postmaster for the community at 1 cent and 2 cents a post. I have a 1 cent on the original envelope—a splendid specimen that I found among some old papers in his house—which he turned over to me for all there might be in them. This was the only "find" there was.

A. N. SPENCER

Samples of this number go to some collectors who did not receive a sample of numbers 1 and 2. To such of these as mention the fact and subscribe for one year, we will their subscription commence from the start, and send them the first numbers.

We are obliged to crowd out several interesting notes and letters this week, and thank our correspondents for their kindness.

A new 1 centavo, Green Gum Republic of Colombia was received in the last mail, we shall illustrate it next week, the design is similar to the last—Arms, etc.



The board of managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* on the 9th inst sold the interest of the National Philatelic Society in that paper to J. W. Scott. Mr. Hogert opposed the deal, but he was over-ruled by the other members of the board. The consideration was purely nominal, being \$5, which one of the members of the board, R. F. Albrucht volunteered to pay in event of the board's declining to. The board excuses its action on the ground that it was done to promote harmony, but as its action was without the slightest authority it is by no means final.

The meeting at which the Staten Island Philatelic Society transferred its interest in the paper to Scott was attended by five members, three of whom voted to sell the paper, and only one of whom was a resident of Staten Island. Besides this the meeting was a special one, called to prevent a full vote turning out.

If the action of the board of managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* be endorsed by the National Philatelic Society it will probably issue a paper of its own without the assistance of the other societies. In fact, the sooner it cuts loose from them the better.

A meeting of the New York members of the Dresden Society has been called for to meet on Friday, January 23, at the office of Hy. Gremmel, for the purpose of forming a New York section.

A new society is to be formed in New York for advanced collectors. Mr. C. B. Corwin is at the head of it. Only collectors admitted—no dealers need apply.

The board of managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* at the last meeting of the National Philatelic Society advised the society to "sell" out its share to Mr. J. W. Scott, who had made a bid of \$5 for its share above all debts. This offer was accepted, so that Mr. Scott now owns the whole paper.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., JAN. 16 1891.
C. H. Mekeel, Editor WEEKLY STAMP NEWS.

DEAR SIR—I note the remarks made in your No. 2 on the Mexican revenues. I cannot agree with my friend De Jonge about the color of the Documenton stamp, 1883-84, of 10 pesos being ochre and black. The one in my collection is green and black, as given in your catalogue, and unless there were two varieties issued these colors are correct. The 25-cent of the same issue varies in shade from light yellow to deep red. Your catalogue gives only one color each for the centavo and peso issue of the Reza.

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Japan, 1877, 8, 15, 20, 50 sen.; 1888, 15, 20, 25, 50 sen., 8 var.	18c.
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Siam, 5 var.	20c.
Transvaal, 3 var.	5c.
Switzerland, 1862-74, 10 var., unused	15c.
Greece, 15 var.	18c.
Panama, 4 var., used	13c.
Spain, 25 var., used	12c.
New Brunswick, 6 var., unused	80c.
Prince Edward Island, 8 var., unused	40c.
Ecuador, 9 var., including 20c	22c.
U.S. Interior Dept., 10 var., used	80c.
U.S. Treasury Dept., 10 var., used	68c.

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A. R. ROGERS,
 75 MAIDEN LANE, New York.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

184 ARGYLE ST., HALIFAX, N.S.,
 10th January, 1891.

JOSEPH J. CASEY, Esq., 26 East 129th
 St., New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:—Having before me your Priced Catalogue of the twenty-sixth sale, and looking over it carefully, I note the admirable manner in which you have made your selection in cataloguing, and also that the prices realized as a whole are both favorable to the disposer and advantageous to the purchaser. I have decided to place my collection in your hands, and beg you to inform me at an early date as to when you can place the same on the market.

I remain, yours truly,
 HENRY HECHLER.

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