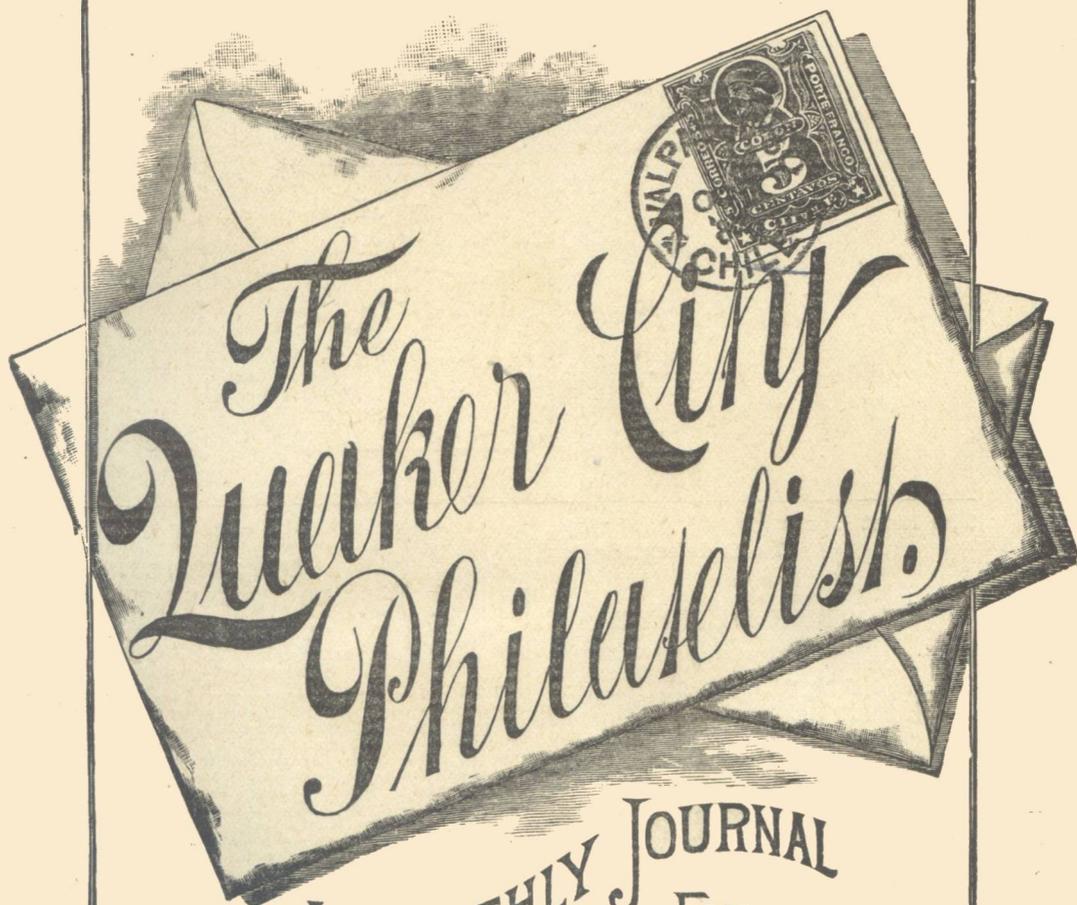


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MARCH, 1891.

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A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS.



15 CENTS A YEAR.

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E. T. PARKER'S
MONTHLY
PRICED-LIST
 OF
POSTAGE STAMPS,
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GUSTAV C. F. HELM, JR.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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

VOL. VI.

MARCH, 1891.

No. 3.

GUSTAV C. F. HELM, JR.

THIS month we present to our readers an excellent portrait of Mr. Gustav C. F. Helm, Jr., one of the rising collectors of Philadelphia.

Mr. Helm is a Philadelphian by birth, and was born in the year 1864, and is therefore in his twenty-seventh year. His parents are natives of Germany, from which country they emigrated in the middle of the fifties, and have made Philadelphia their home ever since.

Mr. Helm entered the public school, from which he was put to attend German school, and after reaching the limit of the course, and being naturally bright, he was transferred to the Jefferson Grammar School, which he attended until he entered as an errand boy in the drug business, of which Mr. Dilg (the present Secretary of the Board of Trustees A. P. A.) was manager, and to whom he owes in a great measure, through his careful business training, his rise and present position.

He afterwards attended the lectures at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, from which he graduated with honors, in 1883, and being the youngest student in a class of 153.

After clerking in various stores, he accepted the position as manager of Jिंगmann's Branch Drug Store, 220 Vine street, which position he still holds, discharging his duties with fidelity and trust. Mr. Helm is an enthusiastic collector, and is at present the manager of the Philadelphia Branch of the A. P. A., and also member of the C. P. S., N. P. A., and I. P. V. of Dresden, being also Exchange Manager of the Philadelphia Branch of the A. P. A. Sales Department, which position he is making a great success of.

His first collection was started in 1879, and after collecting for several years he disposed of the same, but his old love for the little bits of paper reasserted itself and he started another in 1885, which at present numbers over 4000 varieties, containing some very rare and valuable stamps.

His collection is remarkable from the fact that all his stamps are in fine condition.

He is quite an enthusiast on watermarks. Mr. Helm is the discoverer of the Harris local, an illustration and account of which appeared in the November number of the *American Journal of Philately*. This stamp is on the original paper and is unique, and he prizes it very highly, and has also some very fine Blood and other locals in his collection.

Mr. FRED. HAGEN, Vice-President of the Sydney Philatelic Club, N. S. W., has two unknown hand stamps. One is a large triangular stamp; the two top letters, P.D., are printed in red, and then follows an inscription stating that this stamp was prepared about 1870 for the purpose of stamping letters, when postage stamps were not available. The other is a round stamp. The inscription reads, *Postes*, on top; *Article 46*, in the middle, and 10c. below; all in black. This was used to frank documents from certain departments, under Article 46 of the Postal Law, being at a less rate than the usual postage.

THE VALUES OF THE CIRCULAR STAMPS OF JUMMOO.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ Anna.

1 Anna.

 $\frac{1}{4}$ Rupee.

For several years authorities have differed as to the values of the circular stamps of Jummoo, and for reasons which we shall state we have always maintained that they were as indicated under the illustrations given above.

Until four years ago these attributions were accepted by all as the proper ones, and Major E. B. Evans was the first to attack the old system in the *Philatelic Record* of September, 1887. Major Evans, by very clever arguments, arrives at the conclusion that the single stroke represents $\frac{1}{4}$ rupee, and the stroke within the crescent 1 anna. His arguments were all based on Mr. Rodet's article on notation in India, but strangely the latter arrives at entirely different conclusions. Mr. Rodet is acknowledged one of the best Indian scholars in Europe, and as long as there remained a shadow of reason for retaining the old system we felt disinclined to accept the new. In support of our position we found that Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons & Co., who had accepted Major Evans' values, asked more for every stamp that they called 1 anna than for those which they sold as $\frac{1}{4}$ rupee. It appeared unlikely that they should have so large a stock of the highest value and such a small one of the lower.

However, it appears that our arguments were faulty and Major Evans has the satisfaction of being the first to correct an error which obtained for many years.

It is well known that reissues of these stamps have been made at various periods, and in a lot which we received from India recently we find the stamps with a stroke within a crescent marked 1 anna and consider this sufficient proof to make us adopt the new system.

Dealers and collectors in India, knowing that the majority of European dealers and collectors are not familiar with Indian valuation, have acquired the habit of marking the native values on many of the stamps which they send out, and there is very little likelihood that they should be in error.—*American Journal of Philately*.

[Written expressly for this Journal.]

THE FIRST CANADIAN COLLECTORS.

BY CANADENSIS.

In my collection I have two Nova Scotia stamps preserved on the entire original letter. The stamps in themselves are of no great curiosity, being simply the 5c. blue 1860 issue, but the letters are of exceeding interest. I preserve these simply to show that I have the records of the earliest stamp collectors, as far as known, in Canada. If any one can, by either writing or print, prove that there were earlier collectors in the field than I now show, I am sure it will be accepted with great interest. The first letter is as follows:

“YARMOUTH, June 27, 1863.

“MR. FREDERICK H———,
“Charlottetown, P. E. I.:

“Dear Sir:—I received your favor of the 1st with the stamps enclosed, for which accept my thanks, and I was glad to hear that I had contributed some little to your collection, as I feared you may have had the most of those I sent you. I have an order from Liverpool, England, for two full sets of N. B., P. E. I., and N. S. stamps, and

will trouble you to send me say two full sets of P. E. Island stamps (unused ones) and I will pay the amount for same over to your father in St. John. I am rather out of the way here in getting them. If you have a New Zealand 1 shil., I should like one. I have not had time to attend to them lately. I enclose an Antigua 1d., Prussia 1 silb. gr., Switzerland 40 rappens. If you have anything I have not bear me in mind.

"I am, yours truly,

J. W. M——."

The second letter is directed to the same person at Charlottetown, P. E. Island:

"YARMOUTH, N. S., July 17, 1863.

"*My Dear Sir* :—I have to own your regarded favor of 6th inst., with two sets P. E. Island stamps, amount 3s. 6d., Island currency, with the Victoria and N. S. Wales stamp, for which you have my thanks. I have written Mr. D. J. S—— to pay your father 3s. 6d., Island currency, for the above, which appears to be the only way of remitting to you, and which I trust will answer you. You have succeeded very well in your collection. When I come across the N. S. 1 shil., I will bear you in mind. I enclose you Spain 2 reales, Canada 3d., Denmark 4s., Switzerland 1 franc, Hamburg 7, Denmark 2s., Portugal 5 reis, Nova Scotia 2 cts. (new, just issued), and hope these may add to your collection. Should you come across any you think I may not have, send them along if you have duplicates.

I am, dear sir, yours very truly,

J. W. M——."

There are two or three points worthy of notice in the last letter. One is the scarcity of the N. S. shilling, even at that time; another is the corroboration of the issue of the N. S. 2c. stamp in July, 1863, and lastly, the difficulty of sending small amounts from one province to another in 1863. I do not give the full names as I had not authority to do such, but the letters intact are to be sold with the "J. R. Hooper collection" at auction in New York early in March, where every one will have a chance to see them.

POST CARDS.

IN compliance with your request to write an article on Post Cards, I send the following, hoping it will not only interest some of your readers, but be the means of starting a few to collect cards.

Post Cards, as nearly every one knows, were first issued to the public by Austria-Hungary; this was in 1869, but they were talked of and proposed by Germany before this, but never put into use. During the war between France and Germany in 1870, the latter government sold cards to their soldiers and to the families of the soldiers for a mere song; this opened up the usefulness of the card to a great extent. A soldier could carry several cards in his pocket or knapsack with little or no trouble; it did away with having to bother with envelope, paper and stamp, and if exposed to the elements there was no gum to stick, as is the case with stamps and envelopes. It was so easy to drop a line to the dear ones at home, whenever a halt was ordered, and the many cheery words that a card brought to a happy home were ever to be remembered, still, to look on the other side of the picture, I dare say, many a card brought with it sorrow and remorse.

The cards sent to the soldiers at the front from those at home had spaces marked on them to show which regiment, battalion, company, etc., they were attached to, because it was impossible to locate a company for two days at a time, they being so constantly on the move.

All the German States followed the lead of Austria, and many other European countries, seeing the great advantages of cards, also issued them, so that within a year or two there was hardly a country in Europe that did not issue cards.

With the United States it was a different story. For some unexplained reason cards were not issued to us until 1873 or nearly three and half years after Austria had given them to her people. I have heard it said that a country can be judged by its stamps. I hope this is not the case with cards, for since we first began to issue them our one-cent

cards have been about as poor specimens as it was possible to make them; our two-cent cards are a little better.

Cards have been issued from no less than one hundred and forty-seven different countries, States, provinces and colonies.

In Europe, Austria-Hungary was first.

In Asia, Ceylon.

In Africa, Cape of Good Hope.

In North America, Canada.

In South America, Uruguay.

In Australia, Victoria.

In the West Indies, Jamaica.

Cards were issued in Alsace and Lorraine and in Baden in 1870, but after the war with France were discontinued and cards of the German Empire were used instead.

Most all the French colonies at first issued cards for their respective colonies; but now one set of cards and letter cards do for all.

The colonies of Great Britain have until recently issued cards for each colony, but I see that the islands of Antigua, Dominica, Nevis, Montserrat, St. Christopher and the Virgin Islands now issue one set of cards under the name of the Leeward Islands. It is not at all unlikely that other colonies will be bunched together under one head.

The cards of India are used in the different States of the Empire, being surcharged with the name and arms of the State in which they are sold.

Austria, when she issues cards, has them printed in the languages of her various provinces, so that a change of design necessitates no less than eight different cards of 2kr. and eight of the reply 2x2kr. One set for Austria proper and one set for each of the following provinces of the Empire: Bohemian, Illyrian, Italian, Polish, Roumanian, Ruthenian and Slavenian, besides a 5kr. single and reply card for the Postal Union, and a single and reply card for the Levant.

Germany dates her cards every month. Italy dates hers for every year, and Switzerland is, I believe, about to do the same. Madeira up to the year 1880 surcharged the cards of Portugal; she now uses the cards of the mother country unsurcharged. Azores used the Portuguese cards surcharged until the 31st of December last; she now uses them unsurcharged.

Among the rarest cards may be mentioned the first issue of Japan, frame of different color than stamp; some of the provisional cards of Jamaica; the Jubilee card of Great Britain; the first issue of Luxembourg on brown and red-brown card; first issue of Roumania, blue stamp on white card; provisional issue of Trinidad; first issue of Grenada; surcharged cards of Turkey, without stamp. Some of the first issues of France are not easy to obtain; the same can be said of some of the varieties of the early issues of Germany, Bavaria, Wurtemberg and Mauritius.

The 5pfg. card of Bavaria, 1876 issue, green on buff, with numerals in all four corners of the stamp, is another scarce card.

Great caution should be taken in buying the surcharged cards of Ceylon, as all surcharges are not genuine; they appear to have been surcharged wholesale. To show you to what extent this business has reached, I will inform you, that about two years ago I was offered by a dealer, a collection of about 100 Ceylon cards, all surcharged, no two alike, for the modest sum of \$500. It is unnecessary for me to say, I did not jump at this offer. These cards were for sale in Europe by an individual who was connected with the post-office in Ceylon, and all were *guaranteed genuine*.

If collectors who have never gone into cards, would only take a moment away from their stamps and envelopes and look at these beautiful specimens of the engraver's art, I am sure they would become as infatuated with cards as I am. Advanced card collectors have the same pleasure that advanced stamp collectors have. We have the various perforations and rouletting on reply cards, thick and thin cards, watermarked and unwatermarked paper and cards, and all the shades of color one can wish for.

There is only one way to collect cards, and that is entire; never cut the stamp from

the card, for in doing that you ruin all. A collection of unused cards makes a very handsome appearance when neatly mounted, but a collection of used cards is really more attractive, for it shows the different languages, and some of the foreign cards that have passed through my hands have the most amusing reading on them. Among the handsomest cards lately issued are those from Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Italy, Siam, British North Borneo, Mexico, Sandwich Islands, Austria and Servia. The cards of the British Colonies are all of the same design; very plain and neat. There are one or two other points on cards that I would like to touch upon, but as I have already written you far more than I intended to I will close, and hope to see many new names enrolled under the banner of Collectors of Post Cards.

G. H. W.

CHRONICLE.

BY R. R. BOGERT.

BAVARIA.—Mr. Lohmeyer has sent us two stamped telephone tickets, 10pf. and 25pf., both black on white paper watermarked with perpendicular wavy lines.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—The 5c. card has been surcharged "CENTS" in black.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA CO.—*Mekel's Weekly* illustrates the design of the new stamps that have been expected for some time. A shield in the centre is surmounted by a lion and supported by two unicorns. Above in two lines "British—South Africa Company," and below the motto "Justice—Freedom—Commerce," and the value. 1d. black, 6d. blue, 1s. brown.

CANADA.—The 6c. has a decided reddish tinge.

GRENADA.—The 2sh. fiscal stamp, green and orange, is now surcharged 1d. in black.

GUADELOUPE.—The 1fc. has been surcharged $\frac{50}{GPE}$ in black.

HONG KONG.—The 10c. green has been surcharged in two lines "7 cents." There will probably be a 7c. stamp issued, as this is a new postal rate.

INDIA.—Another surcharge is before us. $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas on 4a. 6d. Black on green.

LAGOS.—The 3d. is printed now in lilac and brown.

LEEWARD ISLANDS.—There is a 1d. envelope and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. wrappers.

MARTINIQUE.—*Le Timbre Poste* notes the 10c., 20c. and 25c., surcharged $\frac{05c.}{05c.}$ and $\frac{15c.}{15c.}$.

MAURITIUS.—It seems that both of the 8c. envelopes have been surcharged "50 CENTS."

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The 1c. and 2c. cards are now white instead of buff.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—From *Mekel's Weekly* we learn that the 1d. is printed in gray, and surcharged "Half-penny;" the 6d. is printed in brown and surcharged "Seven-pence half-penny;" the 1s. is printed in red and surcharged "Twelve-pence half-penny." The postage due stamps are a poor copy of those of the United States they are printed in a sickly green, values 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 5s., 10s., 20s.

NICARAGUA.—The new stamps described last month are 1c. brown, 2c. red, 5c. blue, 10c. gray, 20c. maroon, 50c. violet, 1p. brown, 2p. green, 5p. lake, 10p. orange. The full set has also been printed in green and surcharged in red "FRANQUEO—OFICIAL" in two lines. The post cards have the same stamp in the upper right corner and a map of Nicaragua covering the centre of the card. 2c. and 2x2c. dark green on rose card with blue groundwork. 3c. and 3x3c. dark blue on buff card with orange groundwork. The envelopes have the same stamp; 5c. blue on white, 153x90 mm.; 5c. blue on amber, 159x91 mm.; 10c. gray on white, 159x91 mm.; 20c. carmine on amber, 195x94 mm.; 30c. brown on amber, 240x103 mm.; 50c. lilac on amber, 240x103 mm. Wrappers, 1c., 2c. and 4c. green on manila, 170x280 mm.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—The 4d. blue has lately been surcharged 1d. in black.

SALVADOR.—The 1891 stamps have a volcano and locomotive in a circle. "Correos del Salvador" above, value and date below, and figures of value at sides. 1c.

vermillion, 2c. green, 3c. lilac, 5c. red, 10c. blue, 11c. lilac, 20c. green, 25c. brown, 50c. blue, 1p. brown. The cards have stamp resembling adhesive in upper right corner. Arms in left corner and seated figure of Justice in the centre with rayed ground-work. Black impression and green ground on various colored card as follows: 1c. on blue, 2c. and 2x2c. on buff, 3c. and 3x3c. on rose. The envelopes and wrappers have the usual large oval stamp with design in centre resembling the adhesives. Envelopes, 1c. violet on red, 150x85 mm.; 2c. vermillion on white, 150x85 mm.; 5c. brown on buff, 159x91 mm.; 10c. green on blue, 159x91 mm.; 11c. orange on red, 159x91 mm.; 20c. carmine on buff, 159x91 mm.; 22c. dark brown on buff, 159x91 mm. Wrappers, 2c., 3c., 6c., 12½c., dark brown on red paper, 208x267 mm.

SIAM.—The 3 att. green and blue is surcharged 2 att. in black.

TUNIS.—*Le Timbre Poste* says some of the stamps are surcharged "A Percevoir" instead of having the letter "T" perforated.

VICTORIA.—*Mekeel's Weekly* illustrates the new 2½ and 5d. stamps; the former, sepia on yellow, has the Queen's head at the right and the Southern Cross at the left; the 5d. has head in oval with branches at sides, and is brown on white. Both have "Victoria" above and value below. There is a ½d. postage due stamp.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—*The Philatelic Record* surprises us by the information that at least one sheet of the 1sh. 1867 with single outer line of color must have been printed without the Virgin.

THE LEEWARD STAMPS.

BY CANADENSIS.

A GOOD deal of talk has been going on as to what constitute the Leeward Islands, and the stamps lately issued for them. There were six different sets of stamps used, but really only five colonial governments, as follows:

1. Antigua and Barbado.
2. Dominica, or Dominique.
3. Montserrat.
4. St. Christopher and Nevis (St. Kitts), and Anguilla.
5. Virgin Islands and Tortola.

The seats of the various governments were situated respectively at St. Johns, Roseau, Plymouth, Basseterre, and Roadtown. At present the central government is situated at St. Johns, Antigua, where the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands, Sir William F. Haines-Smith, C. M. G., resides. The total population of the Leeward Islands in 1881, at the last census, was 126,050, but a new census, to be taken in July of this year, is expected to put in somewhere near 160,000 for the group.

The central government has ordered all the remainders of the old issues of stamps to be returned by the various island commissioners, and it is thought that the whole lot bulked will be disposed of by tender. Dealers are anxiously scanning the official papers from Antigua, and whoever gets them will practically have a monopoly of these desirable colonial stamps. No other islands will be included in this union, because these six colonies were always, for all fiscal purposes, under one government at St. Johns heretofore. The growth of the colonies, the inter-island trade, the simplification of accounts and various other causes all led to the withdrawal of the many issues where one would suffice. The inhabitants of the islands are glad of the change, and I presume stamp collectors are also glad, for they can now draw a double parallel line under the old islands and write after all the surcharges and provisionals the mystic word "Finis."

THE *Stamp News* is authority for the following: "It is not generally known that Cuba stamps of 1857 and 1864 were used in San Domingo. We have recently received several letters, posted at San Domingo from 1862 to 1864, franked with various values of these issues."

SOME NEW ZEALAND NOVELTIES.

THE first is an unused specimen of the 3d., first type, on pelure paper. This stamp has never before been chronicled and is probably of the greatest rarity.

The specimen is printed in the peculiar brown-lilac shade of the locally-printed imperforate stamps on the star watermarked paper. Doubtless those in bright violet were printed by Perkins, Bacon & Co., and sent out with the plate, and the stamp under review was printed along with the other values on pelure paper in 1863; and the fact that the English printed stock was not exhausted at the time of the arrival of the fresh supply of star-watermarked paper will account for its rarity. The discovery of this variety is strong proof of the field of research yet open to our New Zealand friends. Mr. Knowles knows of another specimen which is also unused.

The next specimens submitted are frank stamps "On Public Trust Office Business." These are type set, and the design consists of a crown enclosed in a single-lined circle in the centre, with the above inscription extending round the two sides and top, in an arch. The word "Free" is placed below the centre ornament, and the whole is enclosed in a single-lined frame. Screwheads fill in the upper spandrels. There are two settings of the type, one is roughly perforated, and the other is cut from an envelope. Printed in black, on white paper. The latter has been chronicled before, but we have not seen any notice of the perforated stamps.

Following these are two "Officially Sealed" labels, also type set, of which the design is as follows:

"New Zealand"
V. (arms) R.
"Found Open."

Above, a double-lined oval with inscription, "The officer closing this must sign his name in the centre," and double dotted lines in the centre for signature. Beneath the oval is "Officially Sealed." Large size, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches square, perf., printed in black on blue and on buff. The blue was the earlier issue, and very few were used before the color was changed. The blue is post-marked "Hawera, 9 July, '89."

Last, but not least, is a beautiful proof on card of a stamp intended for the "Law Courts," but which was never issued. It is engraved in *taille douce*, and is evidently the work of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. The design consists of a full-faced portrait of the Queen, similar to that appearing on the 24c. Newfoundland, in an oval inscribed "Law Courts" above, and "New Zealand" below. The figure "1" enclosed in small circles breaks the oval at each side. Below is an oblong label bearing the value "One Shilling" in white block letters on an ornamental ground. The stamp is a large rectangle, is printed in Prussian blue, and is altogether extremely handsome.—*Federal Australian Philatelist.*

MAJ. HENRY HECHLER, formerly President of the Canadian Philatelic Association, is as favorably known in the United States as an earnest and advanced student of philately as he is in the Dominion, and while his friends will regret that he has come to the conclusion to place his magnificent collection under the hammer, philatelists generally will rejoice at the opportunity to fill up the many vacant spaces in their albums.

Maj. Hechler collected on broad lines, perforation, watermark, and the other characteristics of the scientific painstaking collector, and so one may look for good things. It will be expected that in the stamps of the Dominion, the Hechler collection will be rich. That expectation will be realized.

The collection will be prepared for the auction room as speedily as possible, and due notice of the date will be given, so that collectors interested may take the necessary steps to prepare themselves for the lively competition which will ensue when the stamps shall be offered.

Of the surcharged 5c. on 1fr., New Caledonia, unperforated, only one sheet of fifty was issued to the public.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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THE third number of THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST, under the new management, presents to you an additional number of advertisers who have appreciated our efforts to give subscribers a first-class journal at a low subscription rate, and our largely increased subscription list indicates that the thousands of sample copies sent out the last two months have been appreciated by those who have received them and new subscribers are being added to our already large list at every incoming mail. It does not take long to convince a man that fifteen cents is a low price to pay for a paper well worth fifty cents, and we do not intend to allow our paper to decrease in size, but will most probably make the size larger than smaller and shall endeavor to keep up the high standard attained by our initial number.

ADVERTISERS, ATTENTION—WE CIRCULATE 2000 COPIES.

WE do not guarantee that every issue of this paper shall be 5000, 10,000, or 15,000 copies, but we do guarantee that a class of collectors will receive THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST that are scarcely ever reached by any other journal. Our list of names for sample copies contains buyers and live collectors, and advertisers may well expect big returns from any patronage they may extend to the columns of this paper. Try a small advertisement if you do not wish to advertise largely and see if what we say is not true.

One advertiser in the January number writes: "My ad. in your paper pays me better in its returns than any other paper I have published it in." A word to the wise is sufficient. If you wish to extend your business you must let people know what you have to sell, and *advertise* you must. The only matter to concern your mind about is where it will pay you the best to advertise your goods. Try THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST and see if your advertisement will not be the best investment you ever made in advertising.

WE call especial attention to the announcement of A. & F. Cretau in this issue. They are dealers especially in North, South and Central American Stamps. Collectors will find it to their advantage to patronize them if they want any of these stamps.

MILLARD F. WALTON, Esq.—*Dear Sir:* THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST breaks the record for promptness, and can certainly be classed with the first in the land, now that you are at the helm. Very truly, yours,
K. BREWSTER COX.

—THE—
 Western Philatelic Union.

—Organized April 15, 1889—

President, LIEUT. J. M. T. PARTELLO, Fort Davis, Tex.
 Vice-President, E. L. RAISH, Vermillion, South Dakota.
 Secretary and Treasurer, A. P. HOSMER, 44 Bellevue Place, Chicago, Ill.
 Exchange Superintendent, FRANK KÖENIG, 122 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.

NEW MEMBERS.

- No. 53. J. E. Marsh, Pendleton, Oreg.
 No. 54. C. M. Henrotin, 65 Bellevue Place, Chicago, Ill.
 No. 55. W. H. Turner, 238 S. Halstead street, Chicago, Ill.
 No. 56. H. J. Crocker, 508 California street, San Francisco, Cal.
 No. 57. W. Sellschopp, 128 Eddy street, San Francisco, Cal.

APPLICATIONS.

George W. Frank, San Francisco, Cal. References, Frank Koenig, G. Folte.
 Fred. S. Kordt, 928½ Broadway, San Francisco, Cal. References, Pacific Philatelic Society, Wm. E. Loy.
 T. R. Ferris, 86 N. Clark street, Chicago, Ill. References, A. P. Hosmer, S. C. Stevens.

RESIGNATION.

C. B. Corwin, New York.

Having been appointed Secretary and Treasurer by the Official Board, I would kindly ask the coöperation of all members in securing new material for the Society. Let each member secure one, and our membership will be doubled in a very short time.

I note with pleasure the efforts of our members in San Francisco, and the fact that a local branch will soon be started in that city shows they have the interest of the Society at heart.

As the election of officers takes place in April, printed tickets containing names of candidates for each office will be sent members in due season.

All ballots, however, must be mailed to the Secretary prior to April 15, on which date the votes will be counted, and the result declared by the Election Committee.

In answer to a number of requests for the Constitution and By-Laws, I will say that the Constitution is at present being revised, and as soon as it is gotten into shape will be printed and mailed to all members.

FEBRUARY 27, 1891.

A. P. HOSMER, *Secretary and Treasurer*.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF EXCHANGE.

Filled sheets to the value of \$504.97 have been received since Mr. Cox's last report (January 24).

In addition to the remarks made in said report, I will state that several members paste their stamps very carelessly on the sheets, giving much trouble and annoyance to the circuits on which they are sent. I would kindly ask our members to be more careful hereafter.

I am glad to inform our members that in the near future San Francisco will have a branch with twelve members to begin with, and I hope that before long New York, St. Louis, and Southern California will also have branches working as well as Chicago Branch, No. 1.

SAN FRANCISCO, February 24, 1891.

FRANK KOENIG,
Superintendent pro tem.

REPORT OF THE PURCHASING AGENT.

TO THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE WESTERN PHILATELIC UNION:

Gentlemen:—Since my last report I have received and distributed the following postage stamps:

	Cost in San Francisco.
British Guiana Prov., 1c. on \$1, \$2, \$3, \$4.....	\$0 40
“ “ “ 1c. and 8c.....	25
“ “ “ new issue, entire set (10).....	2 82
Western Australia, 1d., 2d., 4d., 1s.....	40
New Zealand Railways, newspaper, ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d.....	} 40
“ “ “ postage, 2½d., blue.....	}

As our Society has at the present status attained a larger membership than ever before, I desire to call the attention of our members to the beneficial usefulness of patronizing this department. The stamps obtained by the Purchasing Department at a cost but a trifle above their face value are certainly more preferable to take their places in the albums of the members than the ill-used and blotted specimens after they pass through the mails, which often cost much more than the unused stamps. Often rarities are obtained at their face value, which afterwards cannot be had for love or money. In order to assist the Western Union in its growth it is necessary that every member should help the different departments, which are the vital points in the organization, by joining them, and it will not be long before the Western Philatelic Union will have every collector of stamps on this side the Rocky Mountains in its fold. In joining the Purchasing Department it is not necessary to take all stamps; every one can have his choice; some collect Europe, some America, some certain countries only; all will have proper attention, and the deposit from \$5 upward, according to what values of stamps wanted, is but a small amount considering the advantages received thereby. I sincerely trust that the members of our Society will soon assist my department by their membership.

The membership now consists of—

Mr. J. Frank Reed, Providence, R. I.

Mr. K. Brewster Cox, Long Beach, Colo.

Mr. H. J. Crocker, San Francisco.

Very truly yours,

G. FOLTE, *Purchasing Agent.*

CHICAGO BRANCH, No. 1.

The local branch will hold its first auction sale in the near future, and collectors will have a chance to secure some bargains.

The nomination of Messrs. Stevens and Ross for the Official Board is meeting with general approval, and is without doubt a wise selection.

Branch No. 1, having been successfully started, the matter of securing a room where regular meetings can be held is being considered. Several plans are pro-

posed, and a committee will be appointed to take the matter in charge and act on as they see fit.

Non-resident members are cordially invited to stop-over while passing through Chicago, and "Branch 1" will see that they are well taken care of, both in a philatelic way and otherwise.

A. P. HOSMER, *Local Manager.*

NOMINATIONS.

I hereby take pleasure in placing the name of K. Brewster Cox in nomination for Vice-President at our election in April, and I feel positive that *all* our members will give him their votes, for I think if that honor belongs to any one, it is to Mr. Cox, and we should elect him unanimously as a token of our appreciation for his gentlemanly and business-like ways of having managed the difficult task of Exchange Superintendent in the infancy of our Union.

FRANK KÖNIG, *W. P. U., No. 25.*

LONG BEACH, CAL., February 24, 1891.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE W. P. U. :

Seeing in the February number of THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST, that Messrs. Hosmer and Pearson have done me the honor to place my name in nomination for Superintendent of Exchange, I beg to say, that I will have to decline to enter the field for that office, for the reasons given in my resignation, published in the same number of the Official Journal. Very truly yours,

K. BREWSTER COX, No. 1.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY.

LONG BEACH, CAL.

Dear Sir :—In sending you this circular we do so with the hope that after carefully perusing the same, you will decide to join us. Why? Because as a brother philatelist we want you in our ranks, believing that it will be to our mutual advantage. We are not a *prospective* society, but have been in working order for over a year and giving general satisfaction to our forty odd members. Up to the present time we have made no special effort to increase our membership, but now intend to do so, being duly careful whom we admit, as our motto is "*Quality, not quantity.*" The principal advantage in joining our Union is the use of the Exchange Department, through which you can dispose of your duplicate stamps, and at the same time proportionately increase your collection by the duplicates of others. You receive a monthly philatelic journal free, and as a member of the W. P. U., you become better known to the philatelic world at large, and are always welcomed wherever you may be as one of our fraternity. Our annual dues are \$2.00, which are far more than saved by those who patronize the Exchange Department. All members are entitled to vote, irrespective of age. You may possibly already be a member of another philatelic association, but in joining us you open up a new field for the disposal of your duplicates, and you will have to pay but 5 per cent. on sales, instead of 10 per cent., as charged by other leading societies. Drop a postal to this office and receive an application blank. Yours truly,

A. P. HOSMER, *Secretary and Treasurer.*

IN MEMORIAM.

It has become my sad duty to announce to the members of the Western Philatelic Union, the death of their late Secretary and Treasurer, William Henry Kane, who died of consumption, at his home in Los Angeles, California, on February 12, 1891, aged 31 years. Mr. Kane was No. 344 in the American Philatelic Association, and No. 3 in the W. P. U., being one of the founders of the latter society, which owes its present prosperity largely to his untiring efforts in its behalf.

He had only been an active collector for the last five years, but took a deep interest in all that concerned philately, and in that time he had amassed a very creditable collection of the postal issues of the British Colonies and the United States, of which countries he made a specialty, his collection being specially strong in early Mauritius and "Sidney Views." Mr. Kane came to California from Brooklyn, N. Y., and was of the same family as Dr. Kane, the Arctic explorer.

Those who were privileged to know him will ever remember his invariable kindness, his cheerful smile and quiet courage in facing the steady inroads of the dread disease that took him from us.

K. B. C.

JOTTINGS.

THE NEW ZEALAND OCEAN POSTAGE STAMP.—The color first chosen for this stamp was red, but after about twenty sheets had been struck off the Government Printer reported that the color did not come out well, and the Postmaster-General was advised to alter it to "celestial blue," in which shade the stamps are now being printed ready for issue on the 1st proximo.

The sheets printed in red (with two exceptions) will be destroyed before an officer of the Audit Department in accordance with the usual custom.

A 5d. stamp is in course of preparation. The designer, being also a skilled engraver, was entrusted with the engraving of the die, but as he unfortunately did not adhere to his own design, his die will not be used, and his design has been handed over to Mr. Cousins to engrave the die from. The 5d. will not, therefore, be ready for issue on the 1st proximo as was intended.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The 2½d. stamp made its appearance on December 23. It has more the appearance of a caricature than anything else, being wretchedly engraved and printed in a most unsuitable color. We consider it the ugliest stamp at present in circulation anywhere, and cannot consider it as a fair specimen of the work of our Government Printing Office. The new postage due stamps were issued on the 2d of January, and are quite as disappointing from an artistic point of view as the 2½d. stamp, being but a very poor copy of the neat United States postage due series. It is really to be regretted that Mr. Potter, the inspector of stamps, does not insist upon our stamps being better engraved, as we feel sure that much better work could be turned out. And, again, our stamps are all printed on wretched paper (the 5s. excepted). If the paper was of a stouter and better quality, the perforating would be cleaner, and the general appearance much better than at present. The new unpaid stamps are all printed in a sickly green, and consist of nine values: 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6., 8d., 5s., 10s., and 20s.—*Vindin's Philatelic Monthly*.

THE sale of the J. R. Hooper collection will take place March 18 and 19, and is the only sale during St. Patrick's week. Collectors should make it a point to be there. The provisionals and shillings of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, as well as the Canada pence issues are the strongest ever seen at one sale.

MESSRS. H. E. DEATS and E. B. Sterling, who recently purchased from the United States Government the entire remainders of the revenue stamps, amounting to hundreds of tons, have associated themselves in the stamp trade under the firm name of Deats & Sterling. The circulars and announcements of this firm are a novelty, they being printed on the backs of revenue stamps and then distributed, the sizes of these unique circulars varying from the smallest to the very large size stamps.

APROPOS of these remainders, it seems to me a strange thing that the Government would dispose of them to stamp dealers in the face of there being a law against having any such stamps in any one's possession. This law no doubt is a dead letter, and is allowed to remain in obscurity.

—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.

NEW APPLICATION.

Gustav C. F. Helm, Jr., 220 Vine street, Philadelphia, Pa. References: Millard F. Walton, W. A. MacCalla.

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.



12 INDIAN ARROW POINTS of flint, pp. 25c. Archaeological Hand Book 33 illus., 10c. **MERCER**, Cincinnati, O.

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

THE P. G. A. RICE ADVERTISING AGENCY, 1122 Putnam Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. Special rates on all papers.

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

JAMES H. HOUSTON,
 RARE HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND PAPERS,
 Department Stamps,
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 461 MO. AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

INDIA POSTAGE STAMPS.

A cheap set of 20 varieties, including an entire post card and envelope. Post-free to any part of the world for only 75c.

P. CLIFFORD,
 Dealer in Indian and Foreign Stamps,
 2 GIRGAM, BOMBAY, India.

SEND FOR OUR
Approval Sheets at 50 per cent discount off Scott's prices.

North, South and Central American stamps a specialty. References required. Mention this paper.

A. & F. A. CRETAU,
 29 ST. FELIX ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

"BEST ALBUM."

The J. W. Scott best Album contains spaces for all the late issues up to 1891; has supplementary sheets for U. S. revenues.

Prices! Sent post-free:

\$1 50 edition, boards	\$1 25
2 50 edition gilt, cloth	2 25
5 00 edition printed on one side of paper	4 25
Scott's Challenge Album, paper	12
" " cloth	22

Send for new 12-page circular of packets, sets, albums, etc. Free to all who apply for it.

APPROVAL SHEETS.—33½ to 40 per cent com. I buy all kinds and sizes of collections and pay best prices. Send 5c. for 12-page book showing prices for U. S. Stamps. 1000 assorted foreign, including Mexico, Japan, etc., 20c. Best hinges at 8c. per 1000. **F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,** Stamp Importer, HANOVER CENTRE, Ind.

"ESSEX COUNTY PHILATELIST."

We will give to every person who, from now till April 15, 1891, sends us 25 cents for a year's subscription and 1c. to pay postage, a superior RUBBER STAMP with your name. Designate plain or script type.

Send at once. Sample copy, free.

Essex County Philatelic Pub. Co.,
 Box 274. LAWRENCE, Mass.

☞ 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.

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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.

MILLARD F. WALTON,

PHILADELPHIA,

AGENT FOR THE SALE OF THE

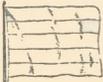
J. W. SCOTT CO.

BEST ALBUMS.

Do you
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good stamps
Try my
sheets at 50¢
per cent.
Agents
wanted.

Do you
want
rare
stamps.
Send me
your list
of
wants.

NICARAGUA.
One of the Five Central American Republics.





Population, 276,000.

SERIES OF 1862-71.

	1 C. BROWN (2c.)	2 C. BLUE (5c.)	3 C. BLACK (5c.)	10 C. VERMILION (5c.)	25 C. GREEN (10c.)
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SERIES OF 1878.

	1 C. BROWN (2c.)	2 C. BLUE (5c.)	3 C. BLACK (5c.)	10 C. VERMILION (5c.)	25 C. GREEN (10c.)
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SERIES OF 1881.

	1 C. GREEN (2c.)	2 C. BLUE (5c.)	3 C. SLATE (5c.)	10 C. YELLOW (10c.)	25 C. SLATE (10c.)	50 C. VIOLET (15c.)
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SERIES OF 1890.

	1 C. BROWN (2c.)	2 C. BLUE (5c.)	10 C. SLATE (10c.)	25 C. RED (15c.)	50 C. VIOLET (15c.)	1 P. DARK VIOLET (25c.)
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	1 P. GREEN (5c.)	2 P. ROSE (1c.)	10 P. ORANGE (5c.)
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Copyright, 1890, by J. W. Scott.

- BOARDS, CLOTH BACK \$1 50
- CLOTH, handsomely gilt 2 50
- “ interleaved and guarded 3 50
- “ printed on one side of paper 5 00
- French morocco, full gilt edges 7 50

The “Challenge Album” for beginners I also have on sale—paper sides, 15c.; boards, 25c.; cloth, 50c.

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 Columbia registration stamp has been noticed.



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 nine varieties in all, for use in the No. 104.

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 Palmerston 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 BUNT & Co.



PHILIPP R. 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 I 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 leasury 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 experiences 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 mention the fact and subscribe for one year. We will let their subscriptions 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. Bogert 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. Albrcht, volunteered to pay in event of Scott'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 DeJonge about the color of the Documentos 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 Rents

You can't afford to be without the *only* weekly Stamp Newspaper published. Single copy 5 cents, \$1.00 a year. Subscriptions received at same rate for 3 or 6 months.

C. H. MEKEEL, 1007-1011 Locust Street, St. Louis, Mo.

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.

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