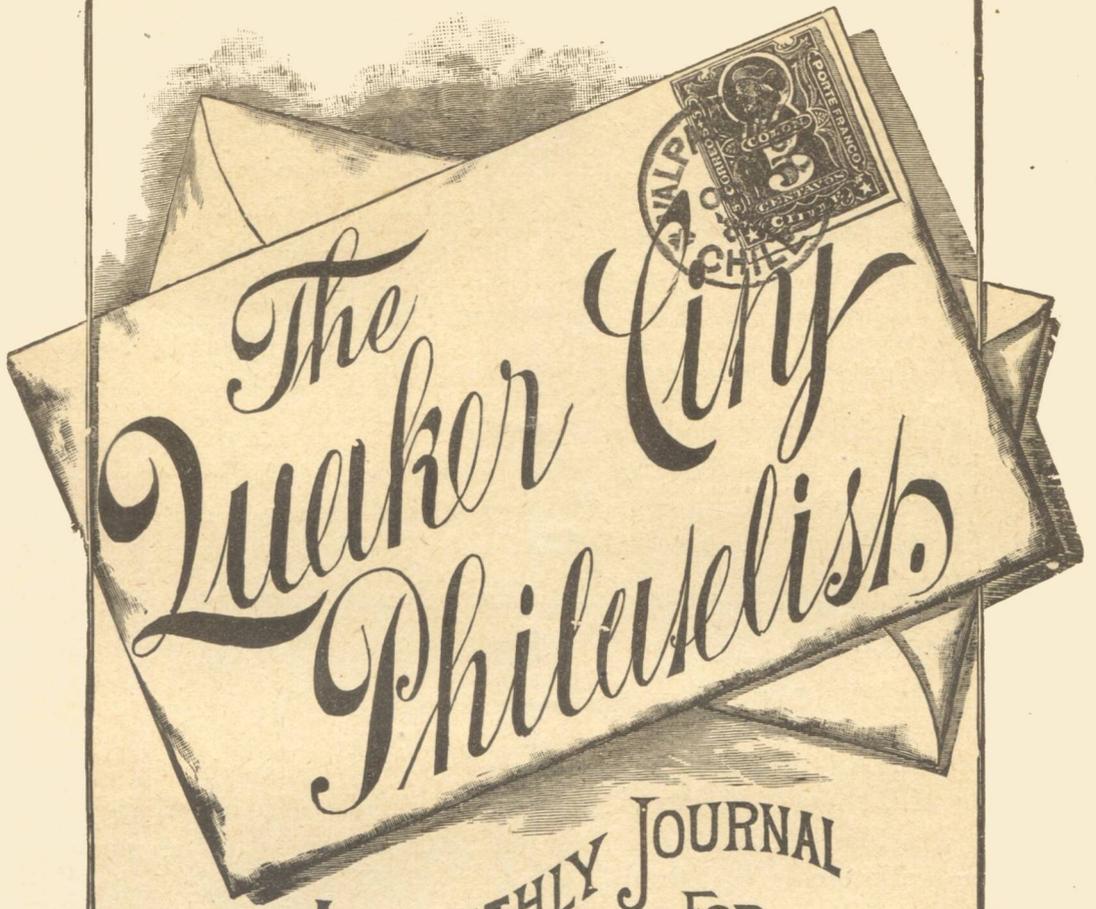


Vol. VIII.

APRIL, 1893.

No. 88.



A MONTHLY JOURNAL
FOR
STAMP COLLECTORS.



25 CENTS A YEAR.

PUBLISHED BY
THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO., Limited,
BOX 38, PHILADELPHIA.

Word Contest.

The Editor of *THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST* offers the following prizes :

To the person sending the largest list of words formed from the words **QUAKER CITY**, the sum of \$10 in gold will be given ; to the one sending the second largest list, \$5 in gold will be given ; to the one sending the third largest list, \$2.50 in cash will be given ; for the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth largest list \$1 each in cash will be given.

Contest to be governed by the following rules :

1. All words made up of the letters in " Quaker City " to be taken from the body of Webster or Worcester's Dictionary. Proper names, Scriptural and Geographical names do not count except those found in the body of either Dictionary.

2. Words to be plainly written and arranged in alphabetical order.

3. Words to be written on one side of the paper only.

4. All participating must send 25 cents for a subscription to *THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST*, subscription price of which is 25 cents per year, a monthly journal devoted to the interests of Stamp Collectors. Present subscribers are entitled to enter the contest free.

5. Contest will close May 1, 1893, and prizes will be awarded and announced in May number, issued about the 20th of the month, with the names of all competitors.

Sample copies of *THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST* can be obtained by addressing the Editor,

MILLARD F. WALTON,

BOX 38, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

VOL. VIII.

APRIL, 1893.

No. 4.

OUR YOUNG RECRUITS.

BY JOS. F. COURTNEY.

THERE is a portion of our ever-increasing philatelic army to which more attention will have to be paid than is generally accorded by those who are credited with the euphonious title of Philatelic Authors, and therefore whose duty is to consider themselves, more or less, as guardian angels over those who compose this most important branch of the vast army of philatelists. The portion I have reference to is the one that contains the latest converts to the shrine of Philatelia. It is composed of those collectors who are to have as their inheritance the positions in the philatelic ranks now occupied by philatelists who are designated by the title of advanced collectors.

These advanced collectors or philatelic oracles are but human, the same as the rest of mankind, and therefore cannot exist for eternity; they will sooner or later, as the will of Providence decrees it, be called to their eternal reward, to a place where the collecting of stamps, together with its troubles and cares, are things unknown. And who are there to fill the places made vacant by their retirement or decease? Who are the persons by whom the young collectors or converts to philately, of say, twenty years hence, are to be taught the first rudiments of stamp collecting? The persons who are to perform this duty, among numberless other minor ones which will fall to their lot at no very distant period, are the same persons to whom so very little attention is being paid at the present day by philatelic authors and editors in general.

A large majority of the magazines which compose the Philatelic Press of the United States are supposed to have for their foundation stone the welfare of the beginner. Ah! but how many live up to their professions? A very small percentage indeed.

They publish articles on the stamps of some colony which has nothing to boast of but its postal issues, not its Post-office, and the stamps of which the young collector will not behold for some time to come, except in catalogues.

In the majority of these papers, with the mere supposition of being issued for the benefit of the younger element, there is published a large chronicle of the postal issues, of the month preceding, of nations, minor nations, and countries that are not nations, the national issues being in a vast minority, while the issues of non-nations or colonies, whose new postal issues we hear of as often as we are informed of cyclones in Kansas, manage to occupy seven-eighths of the entire space devoted to the chronicle.

Could not the editors of our magazines "boil down" their chronicles, and set apart the space thus saved for the publication of some article which would be of some benefit to the beginners? For chronicles are not desirable reading matter. In fact the majority of collectors do not read them at all, or at least do not pay as much attention to their perusal as they would to a more interesting article.

Then again there is published a poem or two, composed by some unknown poetic genius, who, if he had his rights, ought to receive an annual pension from the philatelic public, as an inducement to put a permanent brake on his poetic outbursts.

In another portion of the majority of philatelic magazines, we will stray across a philatelic love story (!), enlightening our minds in regard to the manner in which the author became acquainted with an amiable young miss, when both were schoolmates and on their way along the rugged paths to the little schoolhouse, by the cross-roads,

equidistant from farmer Bralligan's potato patch and Signor Catolone's (sometimes lone cat) spaghetti manufactory, which friendship existed until the young man, in writing one of his regular soul-inspiring letters, being in a monstrous 'big hurry, without going through the established form of waiting until his hurry was over, accidentally placed the stamp on the wrong part of the envelope, and in the wrong position, the whole of which in the language of stamps meant, "No answer required." When this amiable young lady met this amiable young gentleman, there was an earthquake, but a reconciliation, followed by the necessary chapter of love stories in general, a marriage, brings to an end this excellent and instructive philatelic article.

Besides articles of the above character, we have placed before our gaze such interesting and knowledge-infusing subjects as Dreams, Finds, and others of the same calibre, always served with too lavishing hands.

Fiction is well enough to have in a philatelic magazine, when it is used sparingly, but when it comes to the point of having three-fourths of a paper fiction and one-fourth semi-instructive matter, instead of the reverse being the rule, it is time, I think, to make a protest.

There are seven magazines in which, in my estimation, fiction is made use of in about the right proportion, although I think the majority of them could spare another page or two for the instruction of the young collector.

The papers I have reference to are issued from the following cities and States, viz., Philadelphia, Pa., Portland, Mo., Newmarket, N. H., Charleston, S. C., New York, N. Y., Reading, Pa., and Florida.

What the young beginner needs in philatelic literature are articles of the following description: Information from older philatelists, who have gained it from practical experience, in regard to collecting. How the beginner is to proceed towards the formation of a collection, which when it comes near maturity, in after years, will be a credit to its possessor, and not one he will be ashamed to exhibit to his acquaintances, like a great number of collectors are at the present day, whose collections number four or five thousand varieties each.

In order that beginners may bring their collections to such a point, that it will be a pleasure for them to exhibit them to their friends, it is necessary that they should be constantly taught the way to proceed to form such collections. We can make use of such subjects as, how to collect; what to collect; what album to use; how to arrange your collection; the latest counterfeits with illustrations. But I hear some of my readers exclaim, Are not these subjects ancient, and have they not been published before? Yes, they are ancient, but the beginners, for the benefit of whom this article is extended, are not ancient, for while there are beginners in philately, such articles of information as the above will have to be published. Then again, they have been published before. But how many young collectors have access to volumes of philatelic literature published from one to five years ago? And how many on their entrance into philately are enabled to possess themselves of the back numbers of our periodicals containing these articles? In both cases a very few indeed. Therefore a young person entering philately at the present time is like a fish out of water, and without any information on the subject, manufactures ideas of his own, to the detriment of his collection, and which ideas, once they gain a foothold, it will be well-nigh impossible to entirely eradicate.

This is the result of our editors being fearful of publishing such subjects on account of the supposition that they have become hackneyed.

Editors, do not be deceived. Articles of the above calibre, that were the first in their class when published two or three years ago, would not answer the wants of the beginner of to-day, for nothing on earth has made such wonderful progress in so short a time as philately. The beginners of to-day are to be the John K. Tiffanys of the future.

Mr. C. S. McKee, of Peterboro, claims to have the 5-cent register stamp water-marked.

POSTAGE STAMPS AND THE UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE (VOLAPÜK).

Translated from the German.

IT is well-known and probably did not escape the notice of most philatelists, that among the various efforts to facilitate communication between the different nations of the earth a new acquisition has of late made its appearance, viz., the important invention of a universal language, called "Volapük" (from Vol = world, a = genitive, pük = language). Its introduction gave rise to numberless articles and lectures upon that subject given to the public by the literary men of all nations.

The postal department received this innovation with great interest, because it promised considerable assistance in their international service.

The "Postarchiv," in a supplement to the official gazette of the Imperial German Post-office, No. 17, published already in 1878 the universal alphabet.

In the postal department of Austria, Volapük must also have created considerable commotion, since it cannot fail eventually to be of great service in the eastern part of that dual monarchy known for its multiplicity of languages. Mr. B., of Beirut (Syria), Imperial Director of the Levant, who has written several pamphlets on this subject, follows with particular interest the progress of this language destined to be used by all.

For philately, to which political differences are no barrier, it may prove of considerable importance, not only because it promotes closer communication, but for various other reasons. If we take into consideration the great number of languages spoken by the vast army of collectors of the world, we may easily understand how important and useful an acquisition "Volapük" would be, if in course of time this language should be used on the stamps of this globe.

With the present system of inscribing the stamps in the language of each country, the danger is imminent that the inscription be not correctly understood everywhere. Some foreign nations, whose languages are little known by civilized countries, have therefore already adopted additional inscriptions. For instance upon the Turkish, Japanese, Chinese and Indian stamps we find in addition to their own, also French or English letters and numbers. Even though these modern inscriptions are by no means understood everywhere, they have been adopted because they are more widely known and are therefore an accommodation to many people. Great difficulties would no doubt be removed if both the "Volapük" and the vernacular were used the world over. It is true, that at the present day this universal language is by no means used in every country, still, from the progress made in that direction, there is good reason to believe that "Volapük," this most perfected of languages ever invented by man for international intercourse, will, on account of its exceedingly regular formation and construction of words and sentences, ere long be dominant in commercial as well as social relations.

It is a well-known fact, that at the present day correspondence is carried on in "Volapük" by many persons who are unable to understand each other without it.

It might be of interest to mention in "Volapük" a few of the short inscriptions found on stamps.

The words "Postage" and "Stamp" would be rendered respectively "Pot" and "mäk," understood equally well by Hottentot and Esquimaux, in the Archipelago of the South as in Canada and the United States.

The numbers are expressed as follows (and as a matter of course would be the same everywhere): 1 = bal, 2 = tel, 3 = kill, 4 = fol, 5 = lul, 6 = mäl, 7 = vel, 8 = jöl, 9 = zül, 10 = bals, 11 = balsebal, 12 = balsetel, 19 = balsezül, 20 = tels, 21 = telsebal, 30 = kills, etc., 100 = tum, 1000 = mil (1886 = mil jöl tum jölsemäl).

The geographical names also surpass on account of their easy comprehension and their surprising brevity and clearness, for instance: Bayän = Bavaria, Beljän = Belgium, Dan = Denmark, Deut = Germany, Flent = France, Glik = Greece, Nelij = England, Nugän = Hungary, Sax = Saxony, etc.

Though the rapid spreading of "Volapük" (it being now frequently and successfully used by merchants, private persons and missionaries) may not as yet be as ex-

tended as we should wish to see it, there is nevertheless no doubt that in course of time the world will acknowledge and adopt this useful innovation.

The introduction of Morse's telegraphic alphabet, understood wherever the wire was used, is a similar fact brought about spontaneously by the development of commerce and social intercourse. If the readers of this journal are anxious to know more about "Volapük" they need but purchase its grammar, which can be had in any large city both here and abroad.

The inventor of this surprisingly intellectual language is a prominent philologist, the Rev. John M. Schleyer, of Constanz, on the Bodensee, who outside of his calling devoted his whole life to the study of fifty-five different languages.

AN UNJUST ESTIMATE.

BY C. E. SEVERN.

THROUGH the medium of the columns of a philatelic paper, a kindly intentioned collector has made complaint against the manner in which many advanced collectors treat the philatelic novice who chances to apply to them for explanation of some puzzling detail connected with the hobby. He says that in many instances the inquirer is dismissed with scant ceremony and with a brusqueness of manner which plainly implies that the advanced collector thinks it time wasted or beneath his dignity to enlighten the youthful seeker after light on affairs philatelic.

With all respect to the complainant, it is thought that his protest cannot have tenable grounds for being presented, and surely, if his experience has unfortunately been such as to justify his words, his has been an exceptional case. Advanced collectors of the sort he mentions are the rare exception, not the rule, and his grievance being so widely published does the class of advanced collectors some injustice. Judging from our observation, we find that whenever one collector desires any information and questions one of his brethren asking that he explain some point, the one is always eager and willing to comply with the request.

In fact, it is a weakness of stamp collectors to incline to be verbose in airing their knowledge of philatelic matters, and whenever an opportunity offers they hasten to grasp it, as affording an excuse to show their learning on the subject. It makes but little difference in many cases whether or not respectful attention is granted the speaker; he, at least, is an attentive audience to himself, "as 'twere."

It is a common human trait to like to hear one's self talk, and the collector who is not ever ready to descant on philately is a rare specimen. In a congregation of collectors, let one of them voice a query and the avalanche of replies that follows betoken a readiness of tongue and a wealth of information. Often it is that the replies are not in strict conformity to the truth, but the authoritative manner in which they are delivered stamp them as being sincere. For instance, a small boy collector was once heard to ask a collector who represented the same genus how it was that some of the Spanish war stamps had circular holes punched in them. "Why, they're bullet holes; the holes were made by the bullets in the war that went clean through 'em," was the convincing reply of the young sage.

It is to be seen that the more real knowledge of philately a stamp collector is possessor of, the more sparing is he of parading the fact before other collectors, but we have never encountered one of this class who was not pleased to impart any of his lore to the one properly asking.

The collector whose philatelic learning is of a limited scope, is generally the one whose conversation is such as leads you to think he knows everything about it; but that is not a fault, simply a little shortcoming.

We have endeavored to disprove the assertion of our friend, whose complaint was entered undoubtedly in good faith, but whose experience cannot be taken as a criterion, by which all collectors should be judged.

NEW ISSUES.

BY R. R. BOGERT.

- Barbados.**—The 1d. envelope is surcharged $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in violet and black.
- Benin.**—The 40c., vermilion, and 1fr., olive, have received the surcharge in black, BENIN.
- Brazil.**—New tax stamps are reported; values, 10, 20, 50 and 100r.
- Br. Bechuanaland.**—The reply card, 1 + 1d., Cape of Good Hope, has been surcharged with name of this colony. It is also said that the 3d., lilac, has been surcharged "3d." in red.
- Br. East Africa.**—There is an envelope, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ a., yellow-green, on white, 141 x 78. Cards, $\frac{1}{2}$ a., brown on white, and 1a., black on white. The regular issue of adhesives also come imperforate.
- Br. Guiana.**—The 2 + 2 card has been issued, carmine.
- Bulgaria.**—The 50 bani is now green. There is a card, 10 + 10sto., carmine on white.
- Egypt.**—We have neglected to note the official. It is brown, of type of 1889 unpaid. In centre, oval; above is "Service de l'Etat;" below, Egyptian characters.
- Fiji.**—The 6d., rose, is surcharged "Five Pence" in two lines in black.
- France.**—The new unpaid letters will be of old type. Colors, 1c., black; 5c., blue; 10c., brown; 15c., green; 30c., rose; 50c., dark-red; 60c., bistre, and 1fr., violet.
- French Congo.**—The cards, 10 on buff, 10 on violet, and 10 + 10 on blue, and the letter cards, 15 and 25, are now surcharged "Congo Français."
- Gambia.**—The 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. card has the $\frac{1}{2}$ obliterated with red.
- Labuan.**—The 16c., blue-gray, has been surcharged "6 cents" and the 4c. card "3 cents" in two lines.
- Lagos.**—We have the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., blue, current type.
- Liberia.**—New envelopes and bands. The envelopes are 2c., light-brown, type of adhesive; 3c., chocolate, head of J. Ashman, first governor of Liberia, in oval, value below; 5c., carmine, ex-President Roberts in diamond with label on each side, value in each corner; 10c., President Cheesman in circle, label around, all black, with elaborate frame in orange. Bands 1c., type of adhesive, chocolate on white and buff.
- Luxembourg.**—The stamps 12 $\frac{1}{2}$, 20, 30, 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 50 with portrait of the Grand Duke went into use February 20.
- Mauritius.**—We have received the 16c., chocolate, surcharged "one cent," and a new stamp, the 2 cent printed in violet and overprinted "one cent."
- Monaco.**—A new card, 10 + 10c., brown on light-blue.
- Morocco.**—We have part of a new set that has been issued for use between Morocco and Mazaghan—sun rising over a pyramid: 5c., green; 10c., blue; 25c., rose; 50c., violet, and 1fr., orange.
- Portugal.**—There is an envelope with stamp of new type: 25r., green on buff. We have also the 15r., red-brown, with "Provisorio" in red.
- Reunion Is.**—We have seen the 50c. of the current issue with the word Reunion in same color as the stamp and the word printed a second time in blue. Only one sheet, it is said, was printed and all destroyed except 40 which were sold.
- Seychelles.**—Because of a change of postal rates several surcharges have been made. We have 3 on 4c., 12 on 16c., 15 on 16c., and 45 on 48c.
- Shanghai.**—We noted in February the present issue, failing to record the issue of August 1, 1892: 2c., dark bistre; 5c., rose; 10c., orange, with wmk. of Chinese characters.
- Sungei Ujong.**—The 5c., ultramarine, tiger, has appeared.
- Sier'a Leone.**—It is said the 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. has been surcharged half-penny in 2 lines, the original value obliterated by two or three lines.
- South Af. Rep.**—We have received the 6d., current issue, surcharged 1d., and 1s., surcharged 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. We have also both values with surcharge inverted. Our correspondent informs us that a new issue is expected soon.

Swaziland.—The Transvaal card, 1d., has been surcharged Swaziland in violet.

Surinam.—The 10, 12½ and 15c., head of Queen Wilhelmina, 2c., and 2½c., figure type, and 2½c., tax, new type, have appeared.

Tasmania.—The envelopes mentioned in February are ½d., 1d., ½ + ½d., 1 + ½d., 1 + 1d., ½ + 1 + 1d., ½ + ½ + 1d., in red on various papers and sizes. The 2d., green, has received the ½d., in red at the left.

Tunis.—On March 1 there went into use a new stamp of 10c., black on violet; also card, 5c., black on buff, and envelope, 10c., blue on blue.

THE RARE 1804 DOLLAR.

THE whole history of this coinage is shrouded in mystery. According to the Mint records 19,570 silver dollars were coined in 1804. This is the last authentic record of the mintage, and it is not known whether they were held in the Treasury and subsequently struck over into a later date or whether they were sent to Africa to pay off our sailors, as one story runs. The origin of this yarn is likewise shadowy, but it is given here for what it is worth, which, it is feared, is not as much as the face value of its subject. In 1804 the United States was engaged in a war up the Mediterranean with Tripoli, and it is said that the dollars coined that year were sent out to pay off our seamen. As the coins were new and bright the natives ashore took a great fancy to them when "Jack" would ring them down in payment for some jim-crack for his Nancy at home. The chiefs of the tribes, or beys, if that is a more correct term, as soon as they heard about these gleaming white dollars, coveted them for ornaments and tokens, and took measures to get possession of all they could. It appears from the scarcity of the dollars in this country that they were usually successful, and must have either robbed or tricked away the pay of about every man in the American fleet.

Another story about the specimens now in collections is not quite so romantic, but it is none the less interesting. It is that Captain Hail of the United States Secret Service in the West, who was accidentally shot in 1887, was at the time of his death investigating the counterfeiting of antiquated coins for collections of numismatics. His attention was first drawn to this subject by the sale of an 1804 dollar at an auction sale of a collection in Philadelphia. The captain examined the coin and at once questioned its genuineness, and on taking it to the Mint it was found to be a counterfeit. Under the action of acids which were applied slight traces of a lighter metal were discovered, marking a complete square at the base of the figure "4" of the "1804," and a further expert analysis disclosed the fact of its being a modified dollar of 1805, of which issue there are many; the "5" had been drilled out and the opening plugged with a "4" taken from some other issue. The coin had then been treated to corrosive acid to give it the old and worn look.

It is further stated by persons well posted on the subject that the dies for this mintage were out of the possession of the Mint for over a year and a half before they were destroyed, and it is believed that many of the specimens now held in collections were made at this time. This was in 1828, it is said. Such a procedure is, of course, a penal offense, and the story may be entirely without foundation, although it is credited by many students of numismatics. When the collection of H. R. Linderman, at one time Director of the Mints, was sold by auction in New York in 1888, a fine proof of the 1804 dollar brought \$470. The market value of the coin varies. One catalogue fixes it at \$200, while another offers \$600 for specimens. Collectors value their specimens at from \$1000 to \$2000.

This dollar has a flying eagle with thirteen stars upon the reverse, while the face bears the date and a head of the Goddess of Liberty with flowing hair.

THE Philatelic Society of Canada are after a certain St. John fellow who has been advertising stamps worth \$4 for \$1. Like the Pardoe affair he probably found many to bite at his tempting bait.

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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 BOX 38, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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

ADVERTISEMENTS—Terms, strictly cash in advance.

One inch75 cts.	20 per cent. discount on STANDING advertise-
Two inches	\$1 35	ments of three months.
One half column	2 10	Cash MUST accompany order.
One column	3 90	Advertisements can be changed quarterly.
One page	7 00	

Copy of advertisements for the May number must be in by May 1st.

Terms of Subscription } 25 CENTS PER YEAR. ABROAD 50 CTS.
 Postage 12 Cents Extra to Philadelphia Subscribers.

Subscriptions must begin with current number.

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

WORD CONTEST.

(See Advertisement.)

We have received so many answers to our "Word Contest," and complaints as to the time being too short, that we have decided to make the closing date **May 1**, and prizes will be awarded not later than **May 15**. The **May** number will contain the names of all successful competitors. As this contest will be decided strictly upon its merits, and all have an equal chance, we have no doubt the lengthening of the time will induce many to join in the contest who would otherwise not have done so. Remember it only costs the subscription price of this paper, 25 cents, to enter the contest, and if you are already a subscriber nothing at all.

SHE'S THE LARGEST OF HER CLASS.

A 472 POUND GIRL WANTS TO SELL STAMPS AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Third Assistant Postmaster General Hazen has received an application from a Kansas Postmaster for the employment by the Government of his daughter to sell postage stamps at the Columbian Exposition.

He states that she has had much experience in selling stamps, and mentions as one of her qualifications the fact that she is the largest postal clerk in the country, weighing 472 pounds. She is twenty-four years of age, and as an evidence of good faith the father encloses his daughter's photograph.—*N. Y. World.*

WHEN the lock was taken off the door of the old Episcopal Church at Rome, Ga., which has just been pulled down, it was found to contain a silver dime made in 1850. It is supposed the dime has been in the lock for many years, and a key was once broken in the lock on account of the dime closing its passage.—*Chicago Herald.*

THE new French catalogues are appearing and prove very interesting. Canada 6-pence, unperf., used, are quoted at \$6.50 each; 3d. wove, thick paper, at 75 cents, and the laid variety at \$1.50.

I NOTICE that G. B. Calman, the prominent New York wholesaler, advertises in *Printers' Ink*, thus following the example of E. T. Parker. As space in a publication of 50,000 circulation is an expensive luxury, I have been wondering how long the notice will continue.—CANADENSIS.

A PHILATELIC CLOUD.

BY JOS. F. COURTNEY.

ANY philatelist, who has the welfare of the science at whose shrine he worships at heart, and who is observant as to the many events which are following close upon one another in the history of the stamp world, can easily discern, in the philatelic horizon, the many clouds which are assembling, not with the ever-glorious object of diffusing philatelic knowledge, but with the purpose of sapping the strength of the foundation upon which philately is built, and of bringing ultimately upon the delightful pastime of stamp collecting almost sure destruction.

These ill-omened clouds might come close to annihilating the science of stamp collecting, but as for bringing it to total ruin, it is a hope of which they can never behold the realization, for the fire which burns in the true philatelist's breast, fed as it is with the love of stamp collecting, is a fire which is beyond human power to extinguish. It might be brought to such a point that its quenching seems inevitable, but, yet, it will smoulder for months, aye, years, and will then resolve itself into a flame whose present fierceness is not to be compared with its original condition.

By the clouds referred to above I mean the delusions by which collectors are suffering themselves to be misled. Anything whatsoever which has a tinge of originality on its surface is grasped at assiduously and persevered in until such time as some other object or subject is ushered into the philatelic ranks, with more glitter attending its introduction, and which offers better inducements to the young and inexperienced collector.

One of these delusions, and the one to which I am to enter into the discussion of in this article, which it takes practical experience to dispel, is that of philatelic publishing. Many a collector, looking over the pages of a philatelic magazine, has the idea forced into his head that he can compose better than any author who is represented by his writings in the paper, and that if he were to enter the field of philatelic journalism, he would be the peer of any editor in the universe, and that, therefore, the success of his magazine would be a foregone conclusion.

Alas! What a sad thing it is to have this would-be editor's delusion resolve itself into vapor with Vol. I, No. III, and he, himself, minus his cash and whatever little reputation he may have had as a philatelic author. But the experience is worth the price paid. This collector and ex-editor will now pay no more attention to his collection, he having almost forgotten that he had such a thing as a stamp collection during the short but disappointing period of his existence as an editor.

Would-be editors are indeed very ignorant who do not pay heed to the warnings of which they are being made the recipients monthly, by the suspension of the many experimental papers which were attempted by collectors who are now possessors of twice more wisdom, gained by the experience, than when they first possessed themselves of the editorial quill.

The sea of philatelic journalism is indeed a tempestuous one. Out of the many ships which are launched upon it, few indeed are those that have the good fortune to enable them to make a success of their voyage, although their movements may have been guided by tried and experienced hands. Not a small number have ended their first voyage prosperously, the one in which they have to do battle with that grand mogul, the Post-office Department, by obtaining second-class rates.

But when the time arrives for the second trip, the vessel is barely able to withstand the strain, its energy having been wasted on the first and successful attempt. There is a probability that the second voyage may also be made successfully, but with the third attempt the investor or subscriber is given notice that the further voyages are discontinued indefinitely.

Such is the ultimate end of the numerous attempts which are being made at the present time to publish philatelic magazines.

There are published at the present day too many indifferent magazines devoted to philately, without having further accessions. The mystery about some of them is how they continue to grind out each monthly number.

The few magazines we have, which are established, that is, those that have found their way into the hearts of stamp collectors, and have made themselves a necessity in the study of each and every philatelist, are well able to supply the demand for good and wholesome philatelic literature.

If philatelists would withhold their patronage from the class known as experimental magazines and extend that patronage to the established papers, we would have in this country within a short time as choice a lot of philatelic journals as there are published in the world.

FOREIGN MONEYS AND THEIR VALUES IN UNITED STATES MONEY.

COUNTRY.	MONETARY UNIT.	STANDARD.	VALUE IN U. S. MONEY.
Austria	Florin	Silver	.40.6
Belgium	* Franc	Gold and silver	.19.3
Bolivia	† Boliviano	Silver	.82.3
Brazil	Milreis of 1000 reis	Gold	.54.6
British America	Dollar	Gold	\$1.00
Chili	Peso	Gold and silver	.91.2
Cuba	Peso	Gold and silver	.93.2
Demark	§ Crown	Gold	.26.8
Ecuador	† Peso	Silver	.82.3
Egypt	Piaster	Gold	.04.9
France	* Franc	Gold and silver	.19.3
Great Britain	Pound sterling	Gold	4.86.6½
Greece	* Drachma	Gold and silver	.19.3
German Empire	Mark	Gold	.23.8
Hayti	Gourde	Gold and silver	.96.5
India	Rupee	Silver	.39
Italy	* Lira	Gold and silver	.19.3
Japan	Yen	Silver	.88.7
Liberia	Dollar	Gold	1.00
Mexico	Dollar	Silver	.89.4
Netherlands	Florin	Gold and silver	.40.2
Norway	§ Crown	Gold	.26.8
Peru	† Sol	Silver	.82.3
Portugal	Milreis	Gold	1.08
Russia	Rouble	Silver	.65.8
Sandwich Is.	Dollar	Gold	1.00
Spain	* Peseta	Gold and silver	.19.3
Sweden	§ Crown	Gold	.26.8
Switzerland	* Franc	Gold and silver	.19.3
Tripoli	Mahbub	Silver	.74.3
Turkey	Piaster	Gold	.04.4
U. S. Colombia	† Peso	Silver	.82.3
Venezuela	* Bolivar	Gold and silver	.19.3

The above rates, proclaimed by the Secretary of the Treasury, January 2, 1882, are used in estimating, for Custom House purposes, the values of all foreign merchandise made out in any of said currencies.

* The *franc* of France, Belgium, and Switzerland, the *peseta* of Spain, the *drachma* of Greece, the *lira* of Italy, and the *bolivar* of Venezuela, have the same value.

† The *peso* of Ecuador, and the United States of Colombia, the *boliviano* of Bolivia, and the *sol* of Peru have the same value.

§ The *crowns* of Norway, Sweden and Denmark have the same value.

THAT POSTAGE STAMP STORY.

A Correspondent writes to the Editor of *The Recorder* :

"My father, cashier of a certain bank, comes in contact with a good many canceled stamps, and a certain Miss F., knowing this, has requested him to save them for her. She sends them to a certain Mr. Hahn, at Gnadenfrei, Germany, who has taken up the work begun by some deceased person, who had at the time of his death raised over 1000 marks from the sale of American stamps for the benefit of Moravian missions; and a certain Mr. Bodelschwing, at Bielefeld, Westphalia, Germany, is the person at the particular Institute for Idiot Children and Epileptics (for the benefit of which she has been sending there a portion of the stamps) who had charge of this particular work.

"About fifteen or more years ago Mr. F. Hausen, in Gnadenfrei (a Moravian settlement in Silesia), collected canceled and uncanceled stamps and sold the same to collectors for the benefit of the Moravian missions. It was his desire to be able to contribute 1000 marks to this cause by his exertions. His endeavors were crowned with success and before his death, three years ago, he had been able to fulfill this desire. Since then Mr. A. F. Hahn, in Herrnhut, Saxony, has taken up the work, and pursues it with a like aim in view.

"In a farmhouse, twenty-five years ago, a philanthropist commenced an asylum and hospital for epileptics, near Bielefeld, Westphalia. Pastor Dr. F. Von Bodelschwing was appointed director. Since this humble beginning the buildings have increased to more than 100, and the number of patients last year was 1300. All branches of nervous diseases now receive treatment there, and wealthy people, as well as many hundreds of charity patients, go there for treatment and relief. In the treatment it is an important matter to give patients a great variety of employment. Taking off stamps and making collections is one of the many ways which help to give employment to the afflicted. These collections are sold for the benefit of the institution, and in that way add a mite towards defraying its expenses."—*N. Y. Recorder*.

BUREAU: CAPITOL, ALBANY, N. Y., February 4, 1893.

Upon January 14, last, the rules and regulations to govern the matter of awards at the World's Columbian Exposition were adopted. These rules provide among other things that each exhibit shall be examined by an individual judge, who must be so far as possible a competent expert and must formulate his opinion of an exhibit in writing and sign his name thereto, and that this report must receive the confirmation of the Departmental Committee of which he is a member. There are thirteen of these Departmental Committees, one of which is assigned to each of the thirteen great Departments of the Exposition, and these thirteen committees compose the Board of Judges. There will be foreign representation upon each of these thirteen committees, and also one or more women judges upon all committees authorized to award prizes for exhibits which may be produced in whole or in part by female labor.

It is the desire of the World's Columbian Commission to compensate judges, but this will depend upon the action of Congress, to which application has been made for an appropriation sufficient to defray all expenses connected with this subject of Awards. Should the appropriation be made, judges from the United States will receive \$600 each, and those from foreign countries \$1000 each. Their work should begin June 1 and last about two months.

The management of this whole matter is in the hands of the Executive Committee on Awards, which is receiving applications for appointments as judges at their temporary offices and address as above. After March 15 the office will be permanently established in the Administration Building of the World's Columbian Commission, at Jackson Park, Chicago. As the judges are to be so far as possible competent experts, and the duties of the position require efficiency and ability of a very high order, and as it is the desire of the Executive Committee to appoint only those absolutely qualified

for the place and, whenever possible, of national and international reputation, this Executive Committee considers it its duty to call the attention of the technical journals of the country to the facts in order that it may receive the assistance and coöperation of those who by their position and connections are best able to assist the Committee. It is not possible to make this announcement in the way of an advertisement, and the information is sent you in the belief that it is of sufficient interest to your readers to obtain some form of mention in your journal, and that you will suggest the name of such experts as you know to be of the capacity required.

JOHN BOYD THACHER,

Chairman Executive Committee on Awards.

WHAT is the matter with our U. S. authorities now? In a recent issue of a Philadelphia daily paper appeared full *facsimiles* of the entire series of Columbian postage stamps. If one of our prominent dealers only places in a circular or emblazons his letterhead with a portion, say the top label of a U. S. envelope stamp, his whole stock of stationery containing this presumably flagrant violation of the law is seized upon by the authorities, as was the case with the old firm of Durbin & Hanes, of our city. It does not seem at all justifiable.

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12. Bergedorf	5	15	66. Jamaica	8	10
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50. Greece	12	15	105. Switzerland	9	25
51. Guatemala, 1875	4	25	107. Uruguay	7	30
51a. " 1878	4	35	108. Venezuela	7	15
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