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Historical Stamps.

BY LEON V. CASS.

Probably nearly every country's postal issues if studied well, will teach the philatelic student considerable concerning the history of the country in which the stamps were used. For example, take the Columbian issue of the United States or the Jubilee issue of the Dominion of Canada. Do these stamps not teach us history? But the stamps that appeal to the writer as the greatest history teachers, are those which were issued by governments now overthrown.

There are quite a few of these countries more than anyone unacquainted with the affairs of the world for the past forty or fifty years, would suppose.

Probably the most widely known, to the non-philatelic public in America at least, are the stamps of the Confederate States. These stamps are mementoes of one of the greatest events in the history of the United States. Among the European countries or states the stamps of Poland are a good example. The stamps of these countries are not in much demand, as many philatelists are unable to make a good showing in them, on account of the prices being somewhat high, but unlike the high prices at which many stamps are marked, they are worth the prices asked by most dealers. I wish to urge collectors to fill up the blank spaces in these countries as soon as possible

as I believe they will be much sought after in the near future. Collectors should be careful when purchasing these stamps as many of the scarcer varieties have been counterfeited.

Philatelic Notes.

BY G. A. HUNT.

An interesting minor variety is found in the 1 cent Omaha. In the word "Marquette" the two t's are connected in the majority of the stamps I have examined, frequently, however, I find one with the 2 letters separate. TT, T T.

I recently saw a fine copy of the 6 cent Prop. orange, which I was informed by the owner only cost 15 cents. Upon examination I found it was only a 6 cent Inland Exchange Revenue, with the words "Inland Ex." erased, and the word "Proprietary" painted on its place, it was a clever piece of work and would deceive most collectors.

I am informed on good authority that but 65,000 \$2.00 Omaha's were issued, and that during the year 1898 they were on sale at only a limited number of postoffices.

The 5 cent Prop. is a hard stamp to find used unless cancelled to order. It is found on an article that retails for \$2.00

I recently procured two 4 cent Prop. from a wholesale box "Adams" chewing gum but have failed to see a 5 cent used on the original package as yet.

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