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NOTES BY THE WAY

BY WHIRLS FARE.

Messrs R. F. Albrecht & Co. will hold their 17th auction sale on the 14th and 15th of December.

We are all anxiously awaiting Scott's new catalogue, whether it will appear this year is a matter of conjecture.

A good step among publishers to keep frauds from their papers is that of making their advertising rates strictly in advance. No reliable dealer should object to pay in this way.

The firm of W. Sellschopp & Co. has been dissolved, Mr. Gesvret retiring; Mr. Sellschopp will continue the business under the old firm name.

I hear that Mr. R. Bogert failed to sell the famous New Haven envelope, owing to the high price demanded by the owner.

The Philatelic Argosy, of Buffalo N.Y., has become the *People's Argosy*, and is now devoted to the interests of young people.

The foremost question among philatelists is at present, whether the Government will sell "specimen" sets of the Columbian issue, next year.

I noticed that a certain U. S. stamp paper is criticising the small dealers rather severely. "Despise not the day of small things."

Nassau St., New York, still retains its reputation of being the stamp centre of America. Two new firms have opened up there recently.

It looks as if the *Canadian Journal of Philately* had given up the ghost. Although a subscriber to that paper, I have received no number since July.

It is reported that the Columbian post cards are now selling at \$1.00 for ten cards. Those who visited the fair will remember that these cards could be had at 30 cents per set.

If ye scribe has made any wishes lately, his principal wish has been, that he might have attended the Martindale sale, recently held in Philadelphia. I believe that those who attended are none the poorer from the results of their purchases.

The well known Philatelic writer, Guy W. Greene, is again winning fame as an athlete at the second annual field day of the Stromsburg athletic club. Mr. Greene won first prize in eleven events, and came in second in two others.

It is said that at the coming session of the Canadian Parliament a bill will be introduced to lower the rate of postage to two cents. The general opinion is that nothing will result from it, as the Parliament has already rejected similar bills.

That bright little sheet the *Weekly Philatelist* has entered into its second volume. Notwithstanding this a certain "L. Louis Weekly" is still claiming to be the only weekly philatelic paper in the world. This should not be, it is nothing more or less than deception.

We see by the *Philatelic Era* that Mr. W. M. Campbell of Brooklyn, Ont., advertises a new Philatelic paper, the first number of which will have a circulation of 10,000 copies, in which advertisements will be free. I should judge that this would suit many of the small dealers.

Some collectors seem to object to the publishing of philatelic stories or tales. I can see nothing objectionable in these if they are not fairy tales and are within the limit of reason. A good tale well told adds flavor to a paper.

The new issue for the Hawaiian Islands, which will appear next year, will be an interesting one, such as these islands generally present us with (barring surcharges). The sets consist of five denominations: The one cent will be oblong in shape, yellow in color, and for design will have the Hawaiian coat of arms; the two cent is of the same shape, and illustrates the harbor of Honolulu, and is sepia in color; the five cent will be dark red in color, and about the same size as the current issue, and for design will have the Kamelameha Statue; the ten cent denomination will be green in color, and bears an illustration of palm trees, sugar cane, etc.; the twenty five cent is a little smaller than the previous denominations, and bears the head of President Dole in an oval. This last stamp is blue in color.

ALVAH DAVIDSON.

E take pleasure in presenting to our readers this month the portrait of Mr. Alvah Davidson, a prominent New York Philatelist. Mr. Davidson possesses a very fine collection, and takes a very keen interest in all matters pertaining to stamps. He has always taken an active interest in the American Philatelic

Association, and through his efforts to secure the amalgamation of the smaller societies with that body, he is well known to society members. He has, for some time past, occupied the editorial chair of the *Post Office*, which capacity he has ably filled. He is an occasional contributor to our philatelic papers. Our portrait of Mr. Davidson is not the latest, as we are informed that, during the last week or two, he has acquired what may be termed the beginning of a full-fledged beard.