

only one specimen of a stamp preserved; the fact is, that any mention of space is absurd, for when a person intends to collect stamps on an extended plan, he certainly must not restrict himself in the size of his album. The only real reason then, for collecting out envelopes is the cost, and almost impossibility of obtaining the obsolete issues, such as Hanover, Thurn and Taxis, the first emissions of Prussia, Saxony etc, entire. As in some instances we have to be content with cut envelopes, and in the cases of the "Bestellgeld frei" Hanover and the Mulready envelopes, we are obliged to collect them entire, a compromise had better be effected, collecting the uncut with the cut, but giving the preference to the former. Although we are inclined in favor of whole envelopes, we would advise our readers to avoid such folly, as collecting every variety of flap ornament, size or shape; this is what a recent writer not inappropriately styles "a collection of stationery."

For our plan of an album, which will contain adhesives, envelopes, and post-cards, we are indebted to an article, by Mr. J. K. Tiffany which appeared in "*The American Stamp Mercury*," of March 1871; we reproduce the portion relating to the album as we could not express ourselves clearer than does Mr. Tiffany:

"The great merit of our album is the peculiar construction of the several pages, which consist each of two sheets of cardboard of the desired size (eleven inches by fourteen is the size we have adopted) the upper sheet is slightly tinted and cut out like the mat of a photograph, and pasted to the under one, which is white, so as to form a contrasted raised border to it, about two inches wide. The name of the country is printed above on this border, and on the sides may be indicated the peculiarities of the stamps on the page. This page is then attached to a narrow strip about half an inch wide, as thick as the two sheets forming the page, with a cloth hinge, much as photograph albums are sometimes made. In these strips are inserted eyelets, through which the cords pass which fasten the pages together. Our pages, so prepared are strung together in their order in one of Emerson's patent binders as a cover. By this plan we can add a new page when and where

we please with little trouble, and when the album is shut, the edges come close together, keeping out all dust, and preventing any rubbing or compression of the stamps by the opposite pages. When the fancy takes us we can arrange our whole collection anew, geographically to-day, alphabetically to-morrow, and chronologically when we please.

Our envelopes when entire, we arrange on similar pages, which are, however, composed of three sheets of card board the upper and lower like those described, but the middle one cut into four bands, with five narrow slips about half an inch wide cut out. The flap of the envelope is slipped under one of these slips, and the bottom of the envelope under the next lower one, which keeps them in place, and makes it easy to remove them, when desired, for examination. By this arrangement we can have three rows on a page."

We would recommend all collectors to procure an album of this description, where they can put in what varieties they choose, and not be tied down to another's ideas, as is always the case when a printed album is used.

Post-cards should be hinged on the pages by means of strips of tissue paper, so that both sides can be examined, as they often have directions on the reverse, as well as on the front.

In conclusion let us warn collectors who will still persist in cutting their envelopes, against mutilating rare specimens, which by some chance they have obtained entire, for, to quote Mr. Atlee "as the pecuniary value of an envelope is decreased one half at least, after the application of the scissors, such a course always seems to us as foolish as clipping sovereigns and throwing away the dust."

Our Programme.

In presenting for the suffrages of stamp collectors the second series of the *Canadian Philatelist* we hope to meet with that support which was so freely given to our predecessor, and will promise not to leave a stone unturned in our endeavours to merit it. We have made arrangements to give our readers monthly, the following:—An