

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. C. K. *Yarmouth, N. S.*.—We received your letter with the stamps for one year's subscription to the "Gazette" for which you have our thanks.

G. A. *Fredericton, N. B.*.—Your enquiry not having any direct bearing on the Stamp question, we cannot answer it, our columns being devoted entirely to this subject.

J. M. Jr., *Kingston, K. C. N. B.*.—We cannot inform you which of our advertisers is the best one to deal with as they are all trustworthy and strictly honest. As to your second question "which is the cheapest?" we would say send to each for his price lists and then you will see for yourself.

S. P. F., *Wolverhampton, England*.—Thanks for your kind wishes and we will strive to make our magazine as acceptable as it ever has been. We have not yet appointed an agent at *Wolverhampton*, who can supply you with the "Gazette," but we will do so at an early day.

TYRONE.—Your ode to a Postage Stamp is respectfully declined. Try again and you might do better next time.

R. Y., *Charlottetown*.—Accept our thanks for the stamps sent by mail. They make a very pretty set.

G. E. S. and others.—We find that it is utterly impossible for us to answer all questions that may be asked us by letter, and that is the reason we have adopted this mode of replying to Correspondents. In some cases we cannot print our answers as it might cause offence to those parties who prefer a written answer. We would therefore say that all who desire a reply must send a stamp for return postage otherwise we shall reply to it through the columns of the "Gazette."

**Several letters stand over to be answered in our next

[FROM THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE.]

MEMOIRS OF A NOVA SCOTIAN POSTAGE STAMP.

[CONCLUDED.]

At last, he made up his mind to let a young Parisian have me for a franc and a half. I then visited the French capital. Many a time I crossed the Seine to go from the gardens of the Luxembourg to the gardens of the Tuilleries, and from the Tuilleries to the Luxembourg again—the great stamp exchangers of Paris. I wondered many times at the collectors of that city; every one wanted me, but I was still the property of the same owner. During all this time the stamp mania spread far and wide: it went on increasing, and strange to say, I lost value every day; for as fast as fresh collectors sprang up in Europe, fresh stamps came from America. Numbers of stamps were sent from Nova Scotia; and instead of being worth a franc and a half, I could scarcely be sold for fifty centimes.

My new owner turned me out for a new specimen, and I then found my way back to whence I came, that is to say, to Havre, where I now am, in a pretty good collection.

In the Havre collection where I was first located, I was on the same page as the elegant stamps of New Brunswick, which have this peculiarity, that two only of them bear a similar impression. You might tell me that those of Canada are much the same, since the five stamps are of five different designs; those of Naples and Rome, too, might be instanced as presenting still more variety. That is true; but in the Roman as well as the Neapolitan stamps it is

only the arrangement of the pattern of the stamp that differs; whilst amongst those of which I have been speaking, one represents a railway; another, Queen Victoria; a third, a steamer; the 17 cents, a youth in a Scotch dress. I know that there are likewise the private offices of America; but those impressions are so numerous and so varied that my master made a separate collection of them, and I very seldom saw them: however, they are well worth the trouble of collecting, for they are said to be very pretty.

At the ignorant Mons. Edw. R.—'s I once heard a remark from him that showed the man up famously. 'I think there are stamps from Tobago,' said one of his friends to him. 'What are you chattering about?' replied he quickly. 'Tobago! Tobago! Did you ever hear of a country called Tobago?' His reply had no need of comment, so his friend made no answer.

At the dealer's I saw a mean trick. He was a forger of false stamps, and I often saw him fabricating francs of the French Empire. This was his method; he took some specimens of the French empire 80 c. deep carmine, and some 1 francs of the republic; he cut off the value of those stamps, and pasted under the emperor's effigy the little band which he had taken from the bottom of the republic stamp. In this manner he had an individual with the effigy of Napoleon III., and having as indication of value, 1 franc. Unfortunately for him, he had not remarked that the value of the 1 franc of the republic is marked 1 FR., whilst that of the franc of the empire is indicated 1 F. It was from this circumstance that his fraud was discovered; for his francs of the empire possessed two r's too many, since the value is twice repeated.

In one of my journeys to Rouen I noticed a very whimsical prejudice. Some collectors will not admit a stamp whose place is not prepared in M. Lallier's album. They have probably never read his preface, and do not understand the meaning of the blank pages at the end of the book. They do not believe in new issues. However, in the album in question there is no place for the 2 centimes French: they can scarcely pronounce this stamp fictitious, as they can buy it themselves at the post-offices.

Mons. E. C.—, a young fellow of Havre, who comes sometimes to see the collection in which I am placed, and who has a fine one of his own—according to his own account, for no one has ever seen it—has a peculiar fancy, not less extraordinary than that of the Rouen collectors. He will not admit into his collection any of the rarer European stamps, nor any transmarine stamp, new, because he says that these stamps are all fictitious when they are new. This opinion could be easily refuted; but for my part I shall not give myself the trouble of doing it, and desire one thing only, which is, never to be turned out of the collection of LEON CHANDELLER.