

catalogues was that by M. Potiquet, which contained about 43 pages and catalogue between 700 and 800 stamps. The first regular album for stamps was issued in the same year by Justin Lallier, who was a member of the French Society for the Preservation of Historical Monuments of the Archaeological Societies of Orleans and Sens. This album was published in English, French, German and Spanish editions, and must have been a bonanza to the collectors at that time.

Shortly after this it became quite a fashionable fad for collectors to gather in the parks and squares of Paris on Sunday afternoon, for the purpose of exchanging and purchasing stamps from one another, and in this was originated the celebrated Paris Stamp Exchange, which is held every Sunday afternoon in the Avenue Gabriel, Champs-Élysees.

This idea quickly spread to New York, and a number of dealers soon sprang up. John Bailey, who kept a candy and coin stand on the park railings, and Wm. P. Brown were among the first. The fashion was then to place the stamps on a board and keep them from blowing away by placing a tack through them.

I think the postage (or express) charges would soon ruin all our dealers if they sent out stamps on approval in that way now.

To J. W. Scott, the proprietor of the J. W. Scott Co., of New York, belongs the honor of being the first regular dealer in America. Perhaps the first price list ever issued on this side of the Atlantic was that of Thomas R. Jenkins, of Halifax, N.S., in July, 1863. There were six or seven other dealers at this time, but I do not know of any of them issuing lists.

The prices asked for stamps at this time would make an 1892 collector fairly groan. A dealer who would have asked more than \$1.00 for a stamp at that time would have been promptly locked up in a lunatic asylum as a positively dangerous case.

In 1868 Mr. W. P. Brown catalogued a Battleboro' at the exorbitant(?) price of \$1.00. Oh that I could put time back for twenty-five years and buy up a few hundred of them! But I digress.

Stamp collecting could now be said to be past its period of baby-hood and although its progress was through many a conflict, many a doubt, yet it was sure and steady.

There is an old saying that "there are tricks in all trades," and it did not take long for tricksters to get into Philately's ranks. Someone conceived the brilliant idea of counterfeiting rare stamps and selling them