

Concerning the Providence R. I. 5 and 10 cents



stamps, we have a few words to say. In our paper for June and July 1865 we, in noticing these stamps said that they were issued by "authority of the United States" this is incorrect.

They were printed in 1846-7, and used for pre-paying any postage at 5 or 10 cents. Our authority for the above is the Postmaster of Providence R. I. He says they were not issued by authority of the United States. Then by whom and by what "authority" were they issued? The P. M. says they were used for paying postage of their respective values both local and otherwise. Now if such was the case there must have been some "authority" for their issue; else how could they have been officially used? The case assumes rather a puzzling attitude; will some of our subscribers in "Little Rhody" please enlighten us? Our reason for reproducing our engraving, is, that as we do not stereotype the *Gazette*, and owing to the great rush for back numbers which has entirely used up our early edition, hundreds of our new subscribers who have never seen the stamp itself, or even heard of it, would scarcely understand thoroughly a mere verbal description, we have concluded to give once more our illustration of it.

Postal Chat-Chat.

THE amount of Money Orders drawn at the St. John Post Office in May, was \$2283.57, or 1091.47 more than the corresponding month last year; and the amount of orders paid was \$16121.02, or \$5478.06 more than was paid in May 1865.

"OFF SHE goes!" said Mr. Brown to his spouse, as they started by the railway. "You are wrong," said Mrs. Brown, "for this is the *Mail train*."

A would-be gentleman, the other day, called at the post office, and displayed his ignorance of natural history or the French language, or both, by requesting to be supplied with a stamped *antelope*!

How can a person who has not seen the Queen judging from her head as seen on the postage vignettes, know that she is of a very affectionate disposition? Because the "adhesiveness" at the back of her head is so remarkable, that even a person ignorant of phrenology cannot fail to be struck with it.

GENERAL GRANT took Vicksburg and General Wolfe took Quebec, but the only Generals taken account of by Stamp Dealers is a General Assortment.—*Postman's Knock*.

Most of the Stamp Dealers seem to prefer General Public.

POST OFFICE YARN.—A letter was recently put into a letter box, the appearance of which denoted that the writer was unaccustomed to the use of stamps, and had failed to make one stick at all. He had tried, and vainly tried, but the inveterate portrait of her Majesty would curl up; at last, in despair he pinned it to the envelope, and wrote under it "paid providing the pin doesn't come out."

THE "CONVICT" STAMPS.—A Western Australian correspondent in *M. Moens'* magazine informs him that the so-called convict stamps are really used for official purposes. Swan River being a crown colony is governed direct from England, and all the official communications between the mother country and the resident staff are franked by the ordinary stamp of the colony, with a perforation in the centre, which is made after they are obtained from the post office; and which, by distinguishing them from the rest, prevents the possibility of their being used to prepay the private correspondence of any of the officials, without detection.

A member of the French senate proposed, in the present session of the chamber, that the effigy on the postage stamps should be replaced by the emblematic figure on the imperial receipt, and other labels; his reasons being that it was not consistent with the respect and admiration due to the emperor that his portrait should be defaced every minute of the day, and by millions throughout France, by the strokes of the obliterating stamp! How deficient in loyalty, and in gallantry too, have English legislators shown themselves in permitting the likeness of our lady, the Queen to be subject to the same annihilating process for upwards of a quarter of a century, without once moving that Britannia or St. George and the Dragon should be substituted.—*Exchange*.

✓ Mr. Connell—of New Brunswick stamp notoriety—and his honourable friend of the French Senate no doubt entertain precisely the same views as to whether the heads of royalty should adorn the stamps or not. Mr. C. who, with all his faults was just about the best P. M. G. we ever had in this province, was not so far wrong after all, in having his "own honest countenance" delineated on our postage stamps. His hard grim visage could bear the punches made upon it by the post office clerk much better than could that of Her most Gracious Majesty, the Queen. What does the Hon. member for Carleton County say to this?

✓ THE MANCHESTER MAIL TO LONDON IN 1721.—The following announcement from the postmaster of Manchester, as given in a bill in 1721, contrasts strangely with the latitude allowed now. "The post goes out to London," says he, "on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at nine o'clock in the morning. It will be best to bring the letters the night, before the going out of the post, because the accounts and bags are