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EDITORIAL.

Vol. III. We start our third volume with this is ue, and with excellent prospects, as we have an excellent past to look back upon. We cannot complain in any way of the liberal support the philatelic public have given us,—far beyond our greatest expectations,—for which we thank our patrons heartily. We must admit we have not had the magazine up to the desired standard in the past, but henceforth we lay claim to the honor of being the best 25 cent philatelic paper published, and shall amply verify our claims, and the opinions of our patrons we believe will support us. A few words as to our intentions. We do not believe in asking \$3 a year for a magazine, and illustrating the stamps in original colors; we deem it better to use plain black ink, pure and simple; charge 25 cents for our paper, and give equally as good reading matter as is given by some journals whose subscription prices are much in excess of our own. The leading feature of this magazine during the next twelve months will be our work on "The Postage Stamps of the U.S.," which will contain superior half-tone illustrations of all varieties of

U. S. postage stamps. We had expected these cuts for this issue, and held it back in consequence, but failed to get them in time for this month's paper. The first installment will appear next month, and thereafter regularly till completion. The portraits of prominent dealers and collectors will appear monthly. The series of papers on Counterfeit Stamps will be continued monthly. Besides this, we have a first-class assortment of articles on various subjects by the best writers. We will, during the present volume, give our readers the best class of reading matter ever given by a publication at our subscription price. If you are not a subscriber, we feel confident we can please you.

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California Philatelic Press Club. Some aspiring philatelists of the Pacific slope recently met in San Francisco, and formed what is known as the California Philatelic Press

Club, their main object being to elevate the standard of philatelic literature—to purify it, as it were. We do hope they will not fall short of their aim,—for should they be able to do away with many of these small, worthless papers, we would admit their career had not been in vain. The Club is, however, not content to endeavor to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of our papers, but, on the other hand, seem determined to increase the quantity. They now announce that *The Philatelic Californian* will appear on October 1st, and will fill a long felt want. We all know that! The business manager is Mr. O. L. Blackman, 2520 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal. While from the announcement we gather the information that it will be a high-class magazine; yet we believe if the Press Club would use their talent and influence in improving the magazines we already have, it might be productive of more good. The fact of the matter is, there are far too many papers at present, no one denies that, and if fewer philatelists would take this method of accruing (?) fortune and fame, it would be the means of giving more support to the publishers of our older journals, and enable them to raise their standard to such an extent that we could not view them without feelings of pride.

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Regarding Mr. Hooper. Our readers are all doubtless aware of the grave charge that has been brought against Mr. J. R. Hooper, the President of the P. S. of C., and one of the leading Canadian collectors. His portrait and biography appeared in *The Canadian Philatelist* of Feb., 1892. Mr. Hooper declares his innocence of the serious charge, and expects to be fully and honorably acquitted. We sincerely trust that such may be the case. As yet the government have secured no direct evidence to the end that he was responsible for his wife's death.