

If I did not succeed, however, in finding rare stamps, there were other things which were interesting. A portion of the first story of the barn was used for storing. There I came across an atlas of 1822, which was a welcome sight. The maps were bright. The map of the United States showed that Louisiana and Missouri were the farthest western states, while the Arkansas Territory was sandwiched between. The Northwest Territory comprised the present states of Wisconsin and Minnesota and a part of Michigan. The great Missouri Territory is now divided into eight or nine large states. And where now are seven or eight states, —California, Nevada, Texas, Colorado, Utah, etc.—was then under either Spanish or Mexican rule. Napoleon had been dead a year. General Sherman was three years old, and Generals Grant and Hayes were in their cradles.

I found letters written from Ohio to my father, who came to Yale College in 1824 by stage-coach and canal, before the time of railroads. There were no envelopes, the missives being stuck with wafers, and, in addition to the written dates, "Paid 25 cents" appeared. An old New England primer turned up, in which we are told that

In Adam's fall
We sinned all,

and there is a picture of the burning of John Rogers, a British minister, at the stake in Smithfield, England, in 1554, during Bloody Mary's reign; and his wife and ten young children are looking on.

In future I shall devote the space

allotted to me to matters philatelic, but will allude in closing, to a story I read in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for May 16. At a certain village, where there was a store connected with the post office, a particular family traded. On one occasion an order was given, but one article, a ham, was lacking. Inquiry was made as to the omission, and the proprietor said: "O, me and my wife read the postcard addressed to you, saying that the friends you expected to tea couldn't come. We thought you wouldn't want the ham, so we didn't send it." This reminds us of the curiosity of a certain post-mistress in the United States, who resigned her position after postal cards came into use. Her reason was that she couldn't find time to read all the postals and do all the other work, and she *wouldn't* miss any.

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