

The Philatelic Messenger.

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Address all letters plainly to

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Notes.

On dit that the first postage album was published in 1863, by D. Appleton & Co. of New York.

Canada has six stamp papers besides the *Philatelic Messenger*. They are the Canadian Philatelic Magazine, Halifax Philatelic Magazine, Ontario Philatelist, Philatelic Advocate, Philatelic Canadian, and Stamp Lore. They are all good papers and seem to be flourishing.

The most complete collection of Tahiti stamps is said to be in San Francisco, and is worth \$1400.

It is said that a large joint stock company may be established in Toronto for the purpose of dealing in stamps and philatelic supplies.

We are sorry to note that the Mekeel Co., of St. Louis, has become involved in difficulties, and a receiver has been appointed. It is thought that all creditors will ultimately be paid in full.

The Weekly Stamp News will be continued by Mr. I. A. Mekeel. As an advertising medium it leads them all.

A double strike, similar to that in the 5c, 1859, has been discovered, it seems, in the Canada 3d imperforate.

Mr. B. S. Ross, of Chicago, has exchanged his stock of stamps for a hotel at Hurley, Wis.

We have received the February and March numbers of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, and it is the most interesting of the English papers. The Review of Reviews alone is well worth the subscription price.

The 1863 issue of France was a commemorative one. The laurel wreath was added to the head of Napoleon because of his victories in Italy.

The prominent part taken by Greece just now in European affairs has increased the interest of collectors in the beautiful stamps of that country. Some varieties can be picked up now at small cost which before long will be almost unobtainable.

The G. N. W. Company's stamp was not issued until 1890, and there are now six varieties, the 1890 stamp being blue, the 1891 carmine, the 1892 olive-green, the 1893 chocolate, the 1894 dark green and the 1895 pale violet. The design, not so elaborate as that of the C. P. R. Company's stamp, is the same throughout.

Some may have thought it strange that the memorial issue of Japan should consist of four stamps and only two portraits. The explanation has been ventured that the post office department did not wish to honor one prince above another by engraving his picture on a stamp of a higher denomination.

In 1837 letter postage in Canada was pretty high. It varied with the distance. To 50 miles, 4d; to 150, 8d; to 300, 10d; to 400, 1s; to 500, 1s 5d; over 500, 1s. 6d. The shilling equalled 20 cents.

A German classification of collectors regards as serious collectors those whose collections are worth from \$10,000 to \$25,000, while all between that mark and beginners are only average collectors.