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THE

Stamp Collector's Chronicle.

VOL. 1.

ST. JOHN, N. B., DEC. 1872.

NO. 2.

THE "BANCROFT LOCAL."

Although considerable has been said and written in reference to this stamp, and although its spurious character has been fully written up in the "Stamp Collector's Monthly Gazette" published in this city some years ago, yet as we have up to the present time advocated its collection, we now willingly give space to the following from the pen of an able subscriber: — About the year 1865 a couple of gentlemen identified with stamp collecting in the city of Montreal, called upon Mr. Bancroft the owner of an Express, which bore his name, in Great St. James' St. and obtained permission from that gentlemen to use his name in connection with a forthcoming local stamp; which they were about to issue. The furore for "locals" was then at its height, and the collection which did not contain at least 300 or 400 United States Locals, passed for hardly any account at all. The "Bancroft" was a *real* stamp in no proper sense of the word. It was a purely manufactured article, made to sell only, and had no real existence as a legitimate "local" in anyway. Like the famous New Brunswick Local "Baldwin's Railroad Postage two-pence," and the equally infamous "Fenian Stamp," it was the coinage of the brain of an over-ute sharp stamp dealer. Mr. Bancroft must not be held in any way responsible for the dodge, for dodge it certainly was, and the only object aimed at in its

existence at all; was the one desiderative to fleece Philatelists, and in this humane desire the manufacturers were only partly successful. The stamp was in existence but a short time, never in use, and one day the Government stepped in and forbade its issue. Those on hand were destroyed, by order; but as is usually the case, some were held over, and these no doubt are the ones that are in the market. They are spurious stamps, fit only to be preserved as curiosities of their publicity.

The November number of the "Curiosity Hunter" is on our table. This little paper began its life very humbly, coming out in 4 pages in September last. The October number appeared enlarged to 8 pages, and now the November number comes to hand, in a neat and handsome cover, and containing many interesting and well written articles interesting alike to coin collectors and timbrophilists. Most heartily we tender its gentlemanly editor our sincere congratulations upon the success with which it has met.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of Ulexes' Catalogue of Postage Stamps issued in Hamburg, it is probably the handsomest published on the Continent, but as it is printed in German, with which language we are not conversant, we cannot more than notice its handsome appearance and general magnificent "get up."

The Stamp Collector's Chronicle.

DECEMBER, 1872.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
FOREIGN STAMP DEPOT,
ST. JOHN, N. B.

Terms—50 cents per year. Postage Paid.

Advertisements, 50 cts. per inch, each insertion.

A GENUINE
OBSOLETE
ROUMANIA STAMP
Presented with
THE DECEMBER NUMBER
OF
The Stamp Collector's
Chronicle.

In presenting *gratis* to our patrons last month, the first number of the Stamp Collector's Chronicle, we intended it only as an occasional publication, issued as a means to advertise our stock, whenever we should deem it necessary. But flattering congratulations on its fine appearance, and promises of support should we issue it monthly, have come to hand so rapidly and in such numbers, that we have not the least hesitation in announcing to our friends that we shall issue it monthly, and shall look to them that they tender their promised support. We shall make no promises whatever in regard to our little sheet, but shall use our utmost endeavours to advance and aid the science set forth in its pages, and to make it what its name indicates—a Chronicle of Postage Stamps, including New Emissions, Rare and Obsolete Stamps, Counterfeits, &c.

We have set 50 cents per annum as the subscription for the Chronicle, and those who wish to receive it regularly for twelve months, will please remit that amount at once, with full address. We shall give a good genuine stamp away, with each number of the magazine every month, and with our Christmas number, (Issued Jan. 1st), we shall give a hand-

some Crest to all subscribers whose subscriptions are received before the first of January. Our friends will place us under obligation by forwarding us any items of interest to Philatelist; for which we shall give a good price.

NEW AND EXPECTED ISSUE.

CHILI.

From the *Stamp Collector* we take the following list of new issues by that Government.

POST CARDS.

2 centavos	- - - - -	Brown.
5 " "	- - - - -	Purple.

ENVELOPES.

2 centavos	- - - - -	Brown.
5 " "	- - - - -	Purple.
10 " "	- - - - -	Blue.
15 " "	- - - - -	Pink.
20 " "	- - - - -	Bronze-Green.

DUTCH INDIES.

The new set of stamps consist of the following values on various tints of paper:—

10 reits	- - - - -	Black.
20 " "	- - - - -	Carmine.
40 " "	- - - - -	Blue.
100 " "	- - - - -	Emerald-Green.
200 " "	- - - - -	Yellow.
300 " "	- - - - -	Violet.
600 " "	- - - - -	Mauve.
900 " "	- - - - -	Violet.

FRANCE.

We are in receipt of a curiosity from this Republic per last English mail in the shape of a letter from a correspondent at La Rochelle bearing a stamp of the 1869 issue, head Napoleon. The mystery about this adhesive is that across the lower end, immediately above the value, and extending full across the stamp, is the word "Specimen" in large, clear, black letters. Whether it was struck as a specimen of the '69 issue while they were in contemplation, and before their presentation to the public, or whether it is a bogus affair, we are not prepared to say, although the fact of its being allowed to pass through the French Post in lieu of the present issue, and at its face value, would seem to suggest the former as the most probable theory. We have written our correspondent for information, and in the

STAMP COLLECTOR'S CHRONICLE.

meantime we shall be happy to forward the stamp to any of our more learned contemporaries who may desire it for examination.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A system of sixpenny postal telegrams is soon to be established in this Kingdom.

JAMAICA.

To the *Philatelist* (English) belongs the honor of first heralding a new half-penny stamp for this Island. The color is Carmine on White.

MAURITIUS.

The *Canadian Philatelist* announces two new envelopes for the Mauritius 10d. rose, and 1s. 8d. blue; also a 19d. adhesive in "Morocco color and Gold."

PERSIA.



The annexed cut represents the new set of stamps recently struck for this Government, from a die prepared some seven years ago, but not used until the present.

NEW ZEALAND.

A new set of stamps are in preparation and will consist of the following values. 1d. 2d. 3d. 4d. 6d. and 1s. The colors are not yet definitely known.

RUSSIA.—Locals.

A Local stamp for the district of Boguchar has just come to hand from our St. Petersburg correspondent. The value is 6 kop, black on white. In reference to this local the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* says, "As a postmark it would pass muster but as a stamp it is nowhere."

Local envelopes for Fatejh have also made their appearance, of the following denominations,—4 kop deep blue, and 6 kop carmine.

SWEDEN.

New envelopes and post-cards of the value of 10 ore, are soon to be issued. The two values—9 and 17 ore—wanted to complete the set of adhesives, are announced.

TRINIDAD.

We are in receipt of the 1 shilling stamp of this Island struck in Yellow.

UNITED STATES.

We clip the following telegram from a St. John daily:—

NEW YORK, NOV. 18.

A Washington despatch states that the Postmaster-General will recommend the postal telegraph system, the abolition of the franking privilege, and consolidation of the New York and Brooklyn Post Offices.

THE POSTAGE STAMP TRADE.—It has been generally supposed, by Philatelists at least, that since the demise of the "Stamp Collector's Gazette" and the retirement of its editor, Geo. Stewart, Jr., Esq., from the trade, that stamp collecting in the Maritime Provinces had completely died out. This is a grand mistake however, as the large trade at present done by the Foreign Stamp Co, will amply prove. Mr. W. H. Bruce, correspondent of the company, has shown us an order received this week from a German firm amounting to \$110.00 gold. The business done by this firm for the month of October amounts in the aggregate to over \$200. — *St. John Telegraph, Nov. 20.*

THE FRANCO-AMERICAN POSTAL TREATY.—In regard to this treaty a new difficulty has arisen, and one which like all the rest, arises from French 'red-tapeism,' and the difficulty of getting through the Circumlocution Office. In Cabinet council M. Thiers acknowledged the very large deficits in the postal revenue, and reluctantly confessed that there had to be a change. M. de Remusat has favoured a treaty with the United States, and a large reduction of the present rates, on the broad ground of modern progress, and M. Thiers finally came to the same view, on the ground of the importance of the Commercial interests between the two countries. Anything tending to increase the means of intercommunication would tend to increase the general revenue arising from taxes on commerce.— *Paris Correspondence New York Times.*

