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The Postman's Knock.



"EXCELSIOR."

SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, August 1, 1866.

[For the Postman's Knock.]

A REFLECTION

On seeing a 15-cent U. S. Stamp.

Look at it tenderly, sadly;
List to the thoughts it brings, gladly;
For each is a first-watered gem,
That scintillates sparkles of glory,
(To lighten our dusky earth-story)
Like rays from a saint's diadem.

Rare thoughts of the hero whose combat
Is not with the sword and the shield.
Whose laurels and fame are not gathered
From deeds on a blood-reddened field;
Of brave hearts which struggle in silence—

Of courage both loyal and true—
Of hands ever honest and faithful,
And mighty in work they've "to do."
Such thoughts on the mind's pinions take us

Above the gross fetters of clay,
Where we glimpse a life-purpose immortal,

Just like the first gleaming of day.
As day brightens into the noon-tide
And then slowly sinks from our sight,
May glimpses grow into full vision,
To hallow the shadows of night.

Then gaze at it tenderly, sadly,
For one of Time's bravest is here;
'Tis wreathed o'er with green by a nation,
Though stamped with a hue from his [bier.
WAIF.

We understand that a new
Stamp paper is to be established at
Springfield, Mass.

EDITORIAL.

In our remarks on Armidillo's correspondence in our last issue, we stated that we had "no present intention of enlarging," and neither had we any such intention, but the number of new advertisements we have since received has compelled us to double our size. As we continue publishing without asking any subscription price, it is to be presumed that the timbrophilically inclined persons who are in monthly receipt of our publication will have no objections. As for ourselves, it is a matter of rejoicing to us that our unpretending sheet is sufficiently well appreciated to be deemed worthy of such honors.

One word to the Foreign Dealers. Is it just—is it honorable, to treat the American trade in the way you do?—You send out letters soliciting lots of Stamps for exchange at wholesale dealers' rates. Ever willing to oblige you, the New Brunswick fraternity have supplied you, and with what return do they meet? Five or six mails after you *could* have sent exchanges had you *liked*, your answers will come, and you will most probably say—"We send you the best exchange we can give; we can buy Colonials at one quarter of your rates, &c," the last part of which is as a general thing *false*. Another thing you are

The Postman's Knock.

in the habit of doing is, sending out Stamps in newspapers, which, strange to relate, never reach this country.— This would be all fair enough did you send them at your own risk, but this you never do; so we have the sweet consolation of paying for postals we never get. This state of things is radically wrong; something will have to be done to abate this nuisance, or timbrophilic pursuits will entirely die out. No dealer's business will sustain losses like these. We know of one gentleman who ordered and paid for 10,000 Stamps, of which he never received but 3,000—the others were either lost in the Post Office, or, as is more probable, never sent at all. We speak in all good nature and good feeling, but we must hope that better inducements will be offered American dealers, or they will be obliged to quit the trade at once and forever. Let there be a better feeling—do away with the exacting twopence-halfpenny spirit that pervades the present state of things, and all will be well; continue it, and ruin, timbrophically speaking, stares the Stamp business in the face. European dealers, heed our words and be warned in time, for if once the trade languishes and dies it can never be revived.

THE ENGLISH MAIL.

When the Steamer arrives at Halifax from England, the mails are sent ashore as expeditiously as possible; but this cannot always be done as easily as many suppose. It takes some time for the vessel to get close up to the wharf, and after that some time to get the bags landed. These mails are taken at once to the Post Office, where the bags are checked, and those for other places sent away. Those for New Brunswick are sent to the Railway Station, about a couple of miles distant, and those especially for St. John are sent *via* Windsor or Truro, according to circumstances, and whichever way they will reach the earliest. People are apt to judge of the time of departure of the mail from Halifax by the time of its arrival as announced in the telegraphic despatches, and not sufficient allowance is made for the boat getting to the wharf, the landing

of the mails, the checking of the bags, the time occupied at the Post Office, the time taken up in cartage to the Post Office, and from the Post Office to the Station. When the steamer arrives early in the morning, it often happens that the necessary detention prevents its getting to the cars in time to leave by the regular mail train for Truro; and in that case, or when it arrives during the forenoon, it is sent by the afternoon train, unless it suits to send it *via* Windsor. If the mail leaves Halifax by the morning train it reaches St. John by the cars on the afternoon of the next day; if it leaves Halifax by the afternoon train *via* Truro, it is sent by express from that place to the Bend, and from the Bend by express train to St. John. It generally takes about 3½ or 4 hours for an express train to reach St. John. When it arrives at St. John the whole force of the Post Office is engaged in opening and sorting it for delivery. If at night, when the office is closed, and there are no other mails to open or send away, it takes about two hours to get it ready for delivery; but if during the day, when there is considerable other work, it takes a longer time. The great bulk of the English letters and newspapers are sent by the Cunard steamers *via* Halifax once a fortnight. There is a mail *via* New York once every two weeks, and a mail every week *via* Quebec, but they contain only such letters and papers as are specially addressed by those routes.

J. W.

St. John, July 27, 1866.

We call attention to Mr. A. D. Robertson's advertisement of his Gift Enterprize. Persons wishing to buy tickets may rest assured that everything will be conducted in an honorable and above-board manner. What Mr. Robertson says he intends to fulfil and will fulfil. The chances are great and even if you draw nothing the loss is small as the tickets are marked at a very low figure.

A letter having the following superscription, was received at the Beverly Post Office a few days since:

"Bundle away to Beverly, Mass.,
And seek that radical rascal—
A glorious fellow you'll find him, too—
And his name is Garrie Haskell."

REVIEWS.

We have had laid upon our table Mr. A. D. Robertson's new Price List. It is a beautifully got up affair, finely printed by Messrs. Chubb & Co., on the best quality of paper, and the cover is tastefully illustrated with cuts of stamps. For full particulars see Mr. R.'s advertisement in another column.

We also have to notice the new Price List of the Excelsior Stamp Association, which is similar, in many respects, to the above. We are also requested to state that purchasers of this latter catalogue will find, on the cover a list of "the celebrated Excelsior Packets."

We have received a half sheet, printed on one side, purporting to be the "Introductory" to a new postal publication called "The Stamp Collector's Review," the first number of which is to be issued on Sept. 15th, at Boston, Mass, by Fred. H. King. We presume it is all "O. K.," but we think it is rather bad poney putting out an Introductory and asking subscriptions in advance, before subscribers can see the size, style of editing and tinprophilic weight of the affair. Mr. King is, as we understand, a very young person, and doubtless means well; but young persons should not be rash in a speculation of this kind. However, be that as it may, "he knows his own business best," and we wish him every success in his enterprise, and hope it may be a useful periodical in the philatelic field of literature.

An English stamp paper throws discredit on the 13 cent Sandwich Islands, which was lately issued or said to be issued. For once in our lives it does us good to agree with him. We believe them to be the bogus emanations of some New York "manufacturer;" in fact we can almost say we know it.—Also we have very great doubt of the authenticity of the 5c. provisional of the same Islands.

NEW STAMPS.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—This country has a new Stamp; value 5 cents, color blue, inscription "Eilima Keneta." This postal bears the effigy of King Kamehameha V., who has his hair parted in the middle.

FRANCE.—We notice engravings of envelope essays, which the stamp autocrats say will never be used, so it is of no use giving descriptions of them.

UNITED STATES.—There is about to be issued a new 10c. envelope—to be a companion to the adhesive of that value. It will have the head of Lincoln, in a circle, and will be printed in black.

The Rigi Kaltbad Stamp, about which there has been so much discussion, has had its genuineness proved by the S. C. Magazine, whose editor wrote to the Rigi Kaltbad hotel, and was told in reply:—

"As our establishment is situated on the mountain we are not in direct connection with the Federal Swiss Post Office, therefore we have to send the letters to the first station at the foot of the mountain, for which every body has to pay 15 cents per letter extra, for carriage.

Not only is it a postage stamp, but it is also for an advertising use. In the centre of the stamp is the well known Alpine rose, a symbol of the mountain."

We have received the following papers which we place on our exchange list:—The Collector's Circular; The Collector's Guide; The S. C. M. Gazette; The S. C. Record; Le Timbrophile; Briefmarken Sammler; The Monthly Intelligencer; The Chat; The Wolvule Acadian; The Digby Examiner; The Star Spangled Banner; and The Stamp Dealer's Advertiser.

To publishers of papers.—We will cheerfully exchange notices with you. Any person inserting our advertisement and sending the papers to us will have the favor reciprocated.

Price 10 Cents.

Second Edition.

JUST OUT.

Enlarged, Revised & Corrected.

18 Pages. 18 Pages.

CHEAPEST EVER ISSUED IN AMERICA.

Andrew D. Robertson's

Mammoth Descriptive Price Catalogue of
Foreign and Colonial Postage

S T A M P S

A splendid work of art,—beautifully printed on the finest quality of paper; gives description, color, shape and price of between two and three thousand varieties of Stamps; also a list of his unrivalled Packets, the cheapest on this Continent. All Stamps warranted genuine and satisfaction guaranteed. Old issue of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Canada, always on hand. Colonials bought, sold, and taken in exchange.

Address A. D. ROBERTSON,
Box 23, P. O., St. John, N. B.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S MONTHLY GAZETTE.

THE largest, cheapest best and only illustrated Stamp Magazine published in America, issued on the first day of every month. Terms, invariably in advance, 50 cents New Brunswick currency per annum; 75 cents U. S. currency per annum; for club rates see *Gazette* for March. Rates of advertising 5 cents per line, gold or equivalent. A magnificent original tale, entitled "Lost" was commenced in the April number; every collector should read it; back numbers supplied. Address prepaid.

GEORGE STEWART, JR.,
Box 67, P. O., St. John, N. B.

WESTERVELT'S POST,
CHESTER, ORANGE COUNTY N. Y.

Stamps by 100 or 1000.

CHAS. H. WESTERVELT,
Proprietor.

THE MONTHLY INTELLIGENCER,
GRAM FULL OF FUN.

Send for it. Only 20 cents per annum.
EDWIN FERNALD,
Rochester, N. H.

"The Postman's Knock"

IS a Monthly Stamp Circular owned by the Excelsior Stamp Association of Saint John, N. B., and Albert C. Killam, of Yarmouth Nova Scotia. It will be issued on the 1st of every month and mailed GRATIS to any collector sending as his address in a prepaid envelope. A few short advertisements inserted at 5c. gold or 7c. U. S. currency per line, each insertion payable always in advance. U. S. collectors are requested when sending their address to use the government embossed prepaid envelope in preference to adhesive stamps.

All communications to be prepaid and addressed EDITOR "POSTMAN'S KNOCK,"
Box 145, St. John, N. B.

The collector's guide,

A JOURNAL devoted to the interests of Collectors throughout the world. Published on the 15th of every month.

TERMS: 50 Cents per Annum, in advance.

Rates of Advertising

10 Cents per Line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month upon receipt of price of subscription in POSTAGE STAMP, (unused,) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

STEPHEN GOULD,
Eas. Marshfield, Mass. Editor and Prop.

For Sale.

ONE old 1 shilling stamp of Nova Scotia, used, but in splendid condition. Also, a few obsolete stamps of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. These stamps will be sold for cash only, to the highest bidder. All letters or communications must be postpaid, and in addition must enclose postage stamps for a reply, which will be by return mail.

Address "M,"
Post Office, Box No. 132,
Halifax, N. S.

SEND for the Excelsior Stamp Association's Price List, 16 pages and cover containing an accurate description of the Form, Color and Price of 2,000 varieties of Postage Stamps. Send for it. Price 10c., or 15c. with one genuine unused Stamp.

It is the best ever issued in America.

R. O. RICHARDS,

SING SING, N. Y.,

CHEAPEST DEALER IN STAMPS IN THE WORLD!

Try Him.

THE NORTH AMERICAN

S T A M P D E P O T.

ALBERT C. KILLAM,

YARMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

POSTAGE STAMPS OF ALL NATIONS.

STAMPS BOUGHT.

STAMPS SOLD.

STAMPS EXCHANGED.

Dealers supplied with BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN STAMPS on receipt of Cash or Foreign Stamps in exchange. Stamps sold on small commission. All communications and orders under \$1.00 must be prepaid and contain Stamps for reply.

ALBERT C. KILLAM,
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

“ONWARD TO VICTORY.”

EXCELSIOR STAMP ASSOCIATION.

PHILIBROPHILISTS, NUMISMATISTS AND ANTIQUARIANS.

Post Office Box 145, St. John, New Brunswick

Send for our NEW PRICE LIST, 16 pages and cover, beautifully printed on the best quality of paper, containing descriptions of over 2000 varieties of Stamps, with form, color and price of each specimen. Prices “CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST.” Send for it; it contains a list of those wonderful Packets issued only by us—

“The Celebrated Excelsior Packets,”

the packets that defy competition. Send for it, ONLY TEN CENTS A COPY, or fifteen cents with one unused stamp. *Send for it; it cannot fail to Please.*

ALL STAMPS WARRANTED GENUINE.

\$ 1 7 5 . 0 0 !

GRAND POSTAGE STAMP DISTRIBUTION.

Prizes Valued at One Hundred and Seventy five Dollars.

THE Subscriber intends distributing PRIZES to the above value (in collections of, unused sets of, and Old Colonial Postage Stamps)—among holders of Tickets for his GRAND DISTRIBUTION, which is to take place

ON OR ABOUT THE 1st DAY OF OCTOBER,
or sooner, if the Tickets be all sold

It will be in the hands of parties who have no interest in the distribution whatever, and will take place in the presence of Ticket-holders.

TICKETS ONLY 25 CENTS. PRIZES FIRST CLASS.

Number of Tickets Limited. Send in your Orders at once, and you will receive your Ticket per return of mail, certain.

List of Prizes :—

- 1st PRIZE—One Collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a Lallier (second edition) Album, containing 1000 varieties, including full sets Old Issue New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; full sets old and present issues unused Newfoundland, and present unused N. B., N. S., Canada and P. E. Island; full sets Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Old Mexican, &c. Value \$60.00
- 2nd PRIZE—One collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a similar Album, containing 750 varieties, including Old Colonials, South America &c. Value \$40.
- 3rd PRIZE—One collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a neat book, containing 500 varieties; many rare, unused, &c. Value \$25.
- 4th PRIZE—One collection of 350 varieties, unmounted, including old N. B. and N. S., many rare, &c. Value \$15.
- 5th PRIZE—Full sets old and present issues unused Newfoundland; full sets old and present issue unused United States; present unused New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Canada; 25 unused Stamps, all different, 3d and 6d N. S. obsolete.
- 6th PRIZE—Full set Nova Scotia (1d, 3d, 6d, and 1s,) obsolete issue, used; full set present, unused.
- 7th PRIZE—Full sets old and present issue unused United States; one full set Hamburg Boten, 116 Stamps, (Envelope &c.) 30 unused Stamps, all different; 25 obsolete Stamps.
- 8th PRIZE—One of A. D. Robertson's Five Dollar Packets.
- 9th PRIZE—1d, 3d, 6d N. S.; 3d, 6d N. B.; one \$1 Packet.
- 10th PRIZE—One \$2 Packet.
- 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th—each one of Robertson's unequalled \$1.00 Packets.

The above collections contain many very old, rare, and unused specimens. They were purchased at a bargain, and the Subscriber does not intend issuing Tickets to the full value of the Prizes.

To avoid mistakes, get your Tickets direct from me, as I have no connection with any other Dealer, Firm or Company of any kind.

TICKETS, 25 cents N. B. Currency; 5 for \$1. 40 cts U. S. cy.; 3 for \$1

Remember the Address,

ANDREW D. ROBERTSON,
Box 23, P. O., St. John, New Brunswick.

FOUND AT LAST!
THE CHEAPEST DEALER in the WORLD.

W. F. MOSES,

Of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia,

Having just received **LARGE IMPORTATIONS** from all **STAMP** issuing countries, is determined to sell them at a **CHEAPER RATE** than **ANY OTHER DEALER** in the World.

TRY HIS 'NE PLUS ULTRA' PACKETS.

They are truly the **BEST** ever issued in North America. They are issued at all prices, from 5 cents to \$50.00. They never fail to give **THE UTMOST SATISFACTION.**

All Stamps Warranted Genuine.

—ALWAYS IN STOCK—

OLD COLONIAL ISSUES, including—Nova Scotia 1d, 3d, 6d and 1s; New Brunswick 3d, 6d, and 1s; Canada ½d, 3d, 6d, 7½d, and 10d; and obsolete Newfoundland; also the celebrated Black-blue Nova Scotia 3d.

STAMPS Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.

Tremendous Discount from Retail Prices when Lots Upward of \$5 are Ordered at once.

"WHAT ARE THE WILD WAVES SAYING?"

Of course they are saying that **W. F. MOSES** is the cheapest Stamp Dealer in the world.

"HER BRIGHT SMILE HAUNTS ME STILL,"

But nevertheless I cannot forget that **W. F. MOSES'** celebrated "Ne Plus Ultra Packets" beat all creation.

"DEAR FATHER COME HOME WITH ME NOW,"

And see the splendid lot of Stamps I got from **W. F. MOSES**, all for \$5. He has sent me more than I could buy from any one else for \$10.

Hurry up! send your Orders right along! Remember, I always warrant Satisfaction in every case. Remember, I always answer all Letters by return post. Remember, I know my business and attend to it. Remember, my "Ne Plus Ultra Packets"; and remember to Address (prepaid)

W. F. MOSES,

P. O. Box 101, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

**THE
North American Stamp Depot!**

The subscriber wants all kinds of
used N. S., N. B., F. E. I.,
and Newfoundland

STAMPS.

Also, old issues of Canada in exchange for Foreign Stamps. Good prices will be allowed.

Persons wishing to dispose of Collections of Stamps cannot do better than to send them to the subscriber, who will sell them, charging a very small commission.

He will supply dealers wanting used

B. N. AMERICAN STAMPS,

on their sending him a list of the quantity they will want, with the cash or Foreign Stamps. A liberal discount made for all cash purchasers.

ALBERT C. KILLAM,
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.

THE NORTH AMERICAN STAMP DEPOT!

New Egyptian and Turkish local
for sale cheap.

EGYPT 5 paras, 8 cents; do. 10 paras, 10 cents; New Turkish local 5 paras, 6 cents; new Finland, 5 pen, 10 cents.

All communications and orders under \$1 must contain stamp for reply.

All communications must be prepaid or they will not be taken from the post office. Collectors in the United States will please remember that the postage to the British Provinces is 10 cents.

Collections for Sale!

ALBERT C. KILLAM offers for sale the following collections of Postage stamps: No. 1, consisting of about 1,400 varieties, in two morocco bound albums; No. 2, consisting of over 1000 varieties, in one of Lalier's Albums, rather worn; No. 3, consisting of about 350 varieties, in one of the new American Albums. For prices, &c., apply to
ALBERT C. KILLAM,
Yarmouth, N. S.

PRIZES! PRIZES! PRIZES!

Tickets only 20c. (gold,) Each.

THE Excelsior Stamp Association, having purchased a Dealer's stock, and wishing to sell it at half price, have determined to do so by a

GRAND GIFT DISTRIBUTION.

Every Collector should buy a Ticket, only 20 cents, gold, or 30 cents, U. S. currency, per Ticket. The Drawing will take place about Sept. 1st, in the presence of Ticket-holders; and entirely disinterested parties shall have charge of the distribution.

The following is the

LIST OF PRIZES:

1st Prize.—A collection of 500 varieties of Foreign Stamps, neatly arranged in one of Hill's \$3.00 Albums—every Stamp genuine (and in good condition, a great many being obsolete and unused, and including many very rare specimens. Valued at \$25.

2nd Prize.—A collection of 300 varieties arranged in a book. This collection also contains many rare, obsolete and unused specimens; every Stamp Genuine; valued at \$15 00.

3rd Prize.—A collection of 200 varieties, all Genuine, and also containing many rare, obsolete and unused; value \$10.00.

4th Prize.—A set of Nova Scotia stamps, consisting of 1d, 3d, 6d, and 1s, old issue, used, and the set of the present issue unused.

5th Prize.—An Excelsior \$5 packet, to be sent in any kind of Stamps which the winner may want.

6th Prize.—An Excelsior \$4 00 Packet.

7th do " do 3 00 do

8th do " do 2 00 do

9th do A Set Old Issue Newfoundland pence stamps, unused.

10th Prize.—Excelsior \$2 00 Packet.

11th do do 1 50 do

12th do do 1 25 do

13th do do 1 25 do

14th do do 1 25 do

15th do do 1 25 do

16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Prizes, each a \$1 00 Packet.

In all these Packets the winner can have any Stamps (to the value of their Prize,) they may want. The Drawing will take place sooner than Sept. 1st, if all the Tickets be sold.

1 Ticket 20c gold, or 30c. U. S. Cy. 6 do. \$1 gold, or \$1.50 U. S. cy. 12 do. \$2.00 gold, or \$3 00 U. S. cy. 25 do. \$4.00 gold, or \$6 00 U. S. cy.

Send your orders in at once, accompanied by the Cash, and you will receive the Tickets by return Mail. The Prizes can be seen on application.

Address, post-paid,

THE EXCELSIOR STAMP ASSOCIATION,
P. O. Box 145, St. John, N. B.

P. S.—Call, or write Collectors can procure Tickets from our Agent, J. Henry Applegate, junr., Esq., with A. Roman & Co., Book-sellers, Montgomery Street, San Francisco.