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THE CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, DECEMBER, 1896.

NO. 6.

The Canada Stamp and Coin Journal,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

in the interests of Philately and Numismatics.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

25 cents per year to any part of Canada, Newfoundland, United Kingdom, or United States.
35 cents to all other countries.

—ADVERTISING RATES—

	1 mo.	3 mos.	6 mos.	12 mos.
One inch.....	\$0.30	\$1.17	\$2.34	\$4.59
Two inches.....	0.20	0.79	1.58	3.25
Three inches.....	1.30	3.50	6.25	11.00
Five inches.....	2.30	6.35	10.75	20.00
One column.....	3.00	7.35	14.25	27.00
One page.....	5.00	12.75	24.00	45.00

Estimate advertisements, 5 cents per line, without discount.

—REMITTANCES—

In making a remittance it is always best to obtain a Post Office Money Order. We will, however, accept Canada, United States, and English Bank Notes and Gold; also, Postage Stamps of any Country for small amounts.

AGENTS,

THE MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA:

THE MARITIME PRINTING CO.,

PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.

THE APPROACH OF CHRISTMAS.

{L'Echo de la Timbrologie}

It was the calm and silent night!
 Seven hundred years and fifty three
 Had Rome been growing up to night,
 And now was queen of land and sea!
 No sound was heard of clashing wars,
 Peace brooded o'er the hushed domain;
 Apollo, Pallas, Jove and Mars
 Held undisturbed their ancient reign,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago.

'Twas in the calm and silent night!
 The Senator of haughty Rome
 Impatient urged his chariot's flight,
 From lordly revel rolling home!
 Triumphant arches, gleaming, swell
 His breast with thoughts of bound'ess sway;
 What reeked the Roman what befel
 A paltry province far away,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago?

Within that province far away,
 Went plodding home a weary door;
 A streak of light before him lay,
 Fallen through a half-shut stable-door,
 Across his path. He paused, for naught
 Told what was going on within:
 How keen the stars! his only thought;
 The air how calm, and cold, and thin,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago!

Oh, strange indifference!—low and high
 Drowned over common joys and cares;
 The earth was still, but knew not why;
 The world was listening—unawares!
 How calm a moment may precede
 One that shall thrill the world forever!
 To that still moment none would heed,
 Man's doom was linked, no more to sever,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago!

Is is the calm and silent night!
 A thousand bells ring out, and throw
 Their joyous peals abroad, and smite
 The darkness— charmed and holy now!
 The night that erst no shame had worn,
 To it a happier name is given;
 For in the stable lay, new-born,
 The peaceful Prince of earth and heaven,
 In the solemn midnight
 Centuries ago!

Organ of the "Societe Francaise de la Timbrologie,"
 the best informed on new issues, and the most impor-
 tant Philatelic Journal published in France. Large size

CIRCULATION 6000 COPIES PER MONTH.

Subscription per year.....	\$ 30
Advertisements.—1 page.....	4 00
".....	2 40
".....	1 40
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Proprietor and Manager,
 ED. FREMY, FILS,
 DOUAI, (Nord), France.

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GOOD AGENTS

—to sell stamps from my sheets, which are marked—
 —as low, and lower, than others, 33% per cent—
 —commission. Also sheets for beginners, selling for—
 —1 to 3 cents each, at same commission. Reference—
 —required. We also have —
 —**RARETIES OF** —
 —U. S. Rev., D. C., and also Foreign. Advanced—
 —collectors send list of wants. —
 —GENUINE STAMPS SOLD AT —
 —reasonable rate. Price list and catalogue free. —
 —Send for the Hoosier Naturalist; subscription free. —

F. N. Massoth, Hanover Centre, Ind.

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1000 rare Foreign as sorted, including Mexico, Italy, Brazil, Australia, etc. Also, unused, etc. Sent postpaid for only 2½ cents.

1000 fine United States, assorted, including 2 1872 6c. and others. Also embossed of 1862 and 1870. Sent, postpaid for only 35 cents.

100 fine varieties Foreign for 8 cents.
 50 fine varieties United States, including many rare, worth one dollar—price only 50 cents.

AND HUNDREDS OF SUCH BARGAINS. SEND FOR FREE PRICE LISTS. BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE TO ALL.

F. N. MASSOTH JR.,
 HANOVER CENTRE, INDIANA.

Nederland Tydschrift v Postzegelkunde
 (HOLLAND JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.)

Circulates the largest in Holland, Dutch Indies, Guacoo, Suriname, and Flemish Provinces of Belgium

PUBLISHED ONCE A MONTH.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 to 3 lines.....	15c.
Additional lines, each.....	3c.
Special rates for electrotypes.	
Discount for continued and year advertisements.	
Editor's address,	

SPENSTRAAT, 171,
AMSTERDAM,
HOLLAND.

This above is taken from the
 holiday issue of the new pub-
 lication,
 The Reciter's Companion.
 At this office, and all newsdealers; price five cents.

ADVERTISEMENTS—XII.

The Canada Stamp and Coin Journal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

In the Interests of Philately and Numismatics.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—

25 cents per year to any part of Canada, Newfoundland, United Kingdom, or United States.
35 cents to all other countries.

—ADVERTISING RATES.—

	1 mo.	3 mos.	6 mos.	12 mos.
One inch.....	\$0 50	\$ 1 27	\$ 2 40	\$ 4 50
Two inches.....	0 90	2 29	4 32	8 35
Three inches.....	1 30	3 30	6 24	11 70
Five inches.....	2 10	5 35	10 71	20 16
One column.....	3 00	7 05	14 40	27 00
One page.....	5 00	12 75	24 00	45 00

Small advertisements, 5 cents per line, without discount

—REMITTANCES.—

In making a remittance it is always best to obtain a Post Office Money Order. We will, however, accept Canada, United States, and English Bank Notes and Gold; also, Postage Stamps of Any Country for small amounts.

ADDRESS,

THE MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

When you answer advertisements, please name this Journal, every time,

10 FOREIGN COINS

EACH FROM A DIFFERENT COUNTRY, 25 CTS.
List Free. ORIENTAL CURIOSITY CO, (12) STAPLETON, N. Y.

**DECALCOMANIE
OR TRANSFER PICTURES.**

WE HAVE A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF THESE USEFUL ORNAMENTS. PACKAGES AT 10, 15, 25, 50, 75 CENTS, AND 1 DOLLAR. ALWAYS STATE WHAT THE PICTURES ARE TO BE USED FOR, THAT WE MAY SELECT A SUITABLE ASSORTMENT. ADDRESS :

**The Maritime Printing Co.,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.**

DO YOU what a silver dime will do?

KNOW IT WILL PAY FOR
THE OHIO PHILATELIST

a monthly, 8 page collectors' paper, one year, and your name inserted in a philatelic directory. The above is the cheapest offer ever made in this paper, and is good for thirty days only.
H. W. KELLER, CARROLL, OHIO, U. S. A.

—3D. YEAR.—

THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST.

Has never missed an issue; is always on time.
Subscription price, 15 cts.
Special premiums to subscribers; send for a sample copy, free. Address:

Quaker City Philatelic Publishing Co.,
Box 1153, Philadelphia, Penn.

BACK NUMBERS OF

THE PHILATELIC HERALD

To Complete Your Files—

Vol. 1—Out of print. Vol. 3—Complete, 50 cts.
Vol. 2—Complete, 40 cts. Vol. 4— " 35 "
Prices of single numbers: Vol. 2—No. 11, 20c.; No. 12, 10c. Vol. 3—No. 1, 15c.; No. 3, 25c.; No. 4, 5c.
Vol. 4—No. 1, 15c. All other numbers 3 cts. each.

Address: W. W. JEWETT,
504 Congress St., Portland, Maine.

NOTICE

We will issue, on December 1st, the 500th number of a new periodical, the

RECITER'S**

****COMPANION**

which will be, as its name implies, devoted to
ELOCUTIONISTS,
and all branches of
SPEAKING & RECITING.

The first number will bear date of January, 1889, and will be devoted to readings and recitations suitable for the

**HOLIDAY
SEASON.**

The second, February issue, will be entirely COMIC; the third, March issue, MISCELLANEOUS; the fourth April issue, devoted, principally to EASTERN; and so on through the volume, taking in the various Seasons, interspersed with comic, sentimental, pathetic, tragic, and miscellaneous selections; making

A VALUABLE COLLECTION

at the end of the year.

SUBSCRIPTION, PER ANNUM, 50 CENTS.

Advertisements inserted at the same rate as per schedule for CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL, given above.

Advertisements run in both journals, 20 % discount from the combined price for both.

**Maritime Printing Company,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA**

PRINTING !

—OF EVERY DESCRIPTION—

Promptly and Neatly Executed by

THE MARITIME PRINTING CO.,

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANADA.

SEND A STAMP FOR ESTIMATES.

* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL. *

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, DECEMBER, 1888.

NO. 6.

ODDLY-ADDRESSED LETTERS.

COLLECTED BY THE EDITOR.

MY first instalment of oddly-addressed letters was received with such favor, I present a second supply; and I feel assured that such light reading will be far more appreciated, at this festive season, than the strictly philatelic and dry part of our study.

Among the letters recently received at the Halifax post-office, was one addressed

"TO MR. SANTA CLAUS."

As the gentleman's address could not be ascertained, the Postmaster opened the envelope and disclosed the following:

"Dear Mr. Santa Claus.

Please bring me a pair of wooden skates and bring Bokins a rocking horse."

How many of us there are who would like to be back once more in those days when we had such faith in old Nicholas!

The Detroit Free Press says: "The following address on a letter sent to United States recruiting Officer, Capt. John S. Loud, was conveyed by the mail service without postage, no stamp being affixed:

Postmaster please deliver to said adress for i
havent his Nam.

Ahvertiser for young men
for the Army of U. S.
at 61 Wca. Congress St
Detroit Mich.

The writer wished to become a soldier at 'onc't."

A direction so defective as to send a missive from one post office to another within the same State by the way of St. Petersburg, Russia, is open to criticism. The Washington Post gives an amusing ac-

count of the wanderings of a postal card, which found its way to the dead letter office of that city. The address was as follows:

"Mr. Koerster, North of New Oberlin, Russia."

"It was mailed in an Ohio town, the postmaster of which pitched it into the foreign mail-bag, and sent it across the sea. It arrived promptly in St. Petersburg, all right, was duly examined, marked, in pigeon English, "unsuffic'ent address," and returned to this city, where it was taken in hand by the ladies of the dead letter office. They inferred that, as it was posted in Ohio, it was intended for the adjoining town of Russia, so they added 'O' to the card, and sent it West. The important message which this card had borne upon its back across the ocean to Muscovy and back again was this:

"When you come in, please to bring me half bushel of potatoes."

THE CONSUMPTION OF STAMPS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—

From two to three tons of stamps are despatched daily from Somerset House; at certain seasons, such as Christmas and other exceptionally busy periods of the year, the weight removed in a single day by the post office vans reaches as much as eight tons. This enormous quantity of stamps is daily distributed throughout the area of the United Kingdom without the loss of a single penny stamp.

—Herdman's Miscellany.

It is reported that Mr. Ketcheson will shortly issue a new philatelic paper,

Continued from last month.

HISTORY OF THE DOLLAR.

BY ALBERT WINNSLOW PAINE.

THAT the term was not used in the Danish coinage under King Hans, and did not come into use at any time previous to 1524, is indicated by a coinage order contained in the register of King Frederick's Orders. The order is dated 1524, and directs the Master of the Mint to coin the following pieces: Rincinsh gylders, in gold; the mark, half mark, two mark, four skilling, four-white-skillling pieces, in silver. No mention is made of the "daler." Had it been previously coined and adopted as the money unit, we should expect to find some allusion to it in this order. So far as our researches have extended, the priority in the use of the word rests with the Germans.

In 1541, Charles V., as Emperor of Germany, issued a coin designated as "thaler." This is probably the earliest use of the word in national coinage. There can be but little doubt that this coin took its name from the coins previously issued by the Counts of Schlick. It is the first coin mentioned in the books with the distinctive name of thaler. That its use was general throughout the German Empire is shown from the fact that, in the next century, we find it adopted as the unit of coinage for nearly all the German states and principalities which arose out of the empire.

How came it in the English language? This question may be answered by reference to the commercial history of the sixteenth century. During that century the league of German cities, called the Hanza, had monopolized nearly all the commerce of Europe. England had not yet become a great commercial nation, nor even a manufacturing nation. Raw materials were sold to the German cities to be manufactured and brought back to England. Antwerp was the principal commercial mart of the world. The money in use there was the German and Spanish coin. All business was transacted with these coins as a basis. If other money was used, it passed through the hands of

the money-changers first, and not without serious loss to the buyer. The coinage of England in 1549, under the reign of Edward VI., the successor of Henry VIII., was reduced to mere token money. Men high in authority managed the coinage for their own pecuniary profit. A pound weight of silver was coined £7 4s., out of which the Crown retained £4 for seigniorage and cost of minting, paying the merchant only £3 3s. for his silver. "The coins were so tampered with," says Lindsay, in his "History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce" (1874), "that they became mere tokens, convenient enough for home trade, but of no value abroad beyond that of the amount of silver they contained," which was only about 50 per cent.

Such currency could not serve them in their foreign trade, but we may well suppose that the German thaler came into general use for this purpose. As early as 1600 we find the word dollar in use in England to express value. Shakspeare uses it once in "Measure for Measure," and "Macbeth." In the former play the scene is laid in Vienna, where German thalers were in use, and it may have been introduced as a foreign word to correspond with the scene. In the latter play it is used by a nobleman, who is supposed to have lived in the time of Macbeth, about A. D. 1000. This would be plainly an anachronism if the word was used with any reference to the period represented, and we must therefore suppose that it was not uncommon at the time he wrote. If he did not find it in use he left it so, for his use of the word has given it a standing in the language. In Richardson's dictionary several quotations are given of the use of the word to express value—one as far back as Edward VI. It is there spelled "daler," the Danish form of the word; another, in Ben Jonson's "Alchemist," spelled "dollar." In MacPherson's "History of Commerce" the word is used in respect to the money transactions of King James I. In 1620 he borrowed 200,000 imperial "dollars" of his brother-in-law, King Christian IV., of Denmark, for the succor of the Palatinate, for which he was to pay the usual and legal interest of six per cent, being 12,600 "dollars." The next

year he obtained from him another loan of 100,000 "dollars" at what is called the low interest of six per cent.

About the year 1700 there was a Scottish coin called dollar, worth about 4s. 6d., English. These coins, according to Sir Isaac Newton, were put away in the North of England for 5s., and at this price began to flow into England. In Sir Isaac's report upon the coinage (1707), he says, "I gave notice to the Lords of the Treasury, and they ordered the collector of taxes to forbear taking them, and thereby put a stop to the mischief."

In Reis, "Cyclopaedia" (1802-19) we find the following: "Dollar, or daller, a silver coin nearly of the value of the Spanish piece of eight or French crown. Dollars are coined in divers parts of Germany and Holland, and have their diminutions as semi-dollars, quarter dollars, &c.

[To be continued.]

MR. KETCHESON is now Canadian Agent for Mekeel's albums and publications.

THE "Stamp Collectors' Gazette" has appeared from Liverpool, G. B. Mr. Geo. Birtwhistle, Editor.

OUR LITTLE FOLKS VISITOR, of Basil, Ohio, has added a Philatelic Department to its already overflowing columns. Support it.

We claim that the article on the Coins of Nova Scotia, in the Nov. "Old Curiosity Shop" is a plagiarism on those in the first two numbers of this paper.

PLAIN TALK, under its new management, is a decided improvement over the old paper. This is especially noticeable in the Philatelic Department, which is now conducted by Mr. Alvah Davison,

THE "Old Curiosity Shop" is now owned by Mr. E. M. Haight, Riverside, California. It presents a neat appearance, is well edited, and has readable contents. We hope its wanderings have ceased.

THE Editor of the "Stamp Collector" will please mind his own business, which is as much as any man can attend to, and do it well. Confine your time and brains to the improvement of your paper,—especially to proof-reading—and don't bother about us.

It is a pity that Mr. Goodrich was unable to continue the "Eastern Philatelist" in the excellent form in which the first issue of the new volume appeared; but he did right to return to the old style, when he did not receive the prompt support of collectors.

MR. W. S. McLEAN, formerly of Englishtown, Cape Breton, now of 11 Church St., Boston, announces a new venture in the philatelic line, the "Stamp Collectors' Guide." It will contain a directory of stamp collectors, papers, and societies; philatelic doings of 1888, statistics, choice articles, etc. Write him. 1 will cost 30 cents, paper; 55 cents, cloth.

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

MR. J. R. HOOPER requests us to state that he has been appointed Canadian Agent for L'Echo de la Timbrologie.

THE address of the "Nederland Tydschrift voor Postzegelkunde" is now "Nieuwendyk, 114," and not Spensstraat, 171, as given in our advertising columns.

TIFFANY'S "Library Companion" is now advertised for issue in January. It is to be hoped that no further delay will occur. It will include all papers that have appeared up to December 31st.

THE number of persons contributing "Canadian Notes" to the American philatelic press, is rapidly increasing. Who they all are, is the question. Who is "Mo see?" If you find him, shoot him.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

.....

The second auction catalogue of the American Philatelic Co., is a fair sample of the enterprise of that well-known firm.

.....

We wish to thank Mr. H. Copley for copies of the "Universal Annual," "Hints to Amateurs Authors," and "Secrets Worth Knowing."

.....

To OUR EXCHANGES.—We are making a new exchange book for the New Year. In it we shall place all papers that have hitherto exchanged regularly. We wish to exchange with all papers that are either wholly or partially devoted to Philately or Numismatics, provided such papers are sent regularly. If you receive a copy of this issue, with this notice marked, you will understand that your paper is not on our new list, and should you wish it placed there, it is necessary that you at once forward a copy of your December issue, with an X marked on the wrapper.

.....

The annual report of the Postmaster General contains many items of interest to the philatelist. During the past year there were 127 new post-offices established, making a grand total of 7,671. An additional 1,478 miles of mail route has been added. About 82,000,000 letters; 16,586,000 postcards; 3,680,000 registered letters passed through the mails within the year. The postal revenue amounted to \$2,960,397; expenditure \$3,633,397. The report of the Dead Letter Office shows that 700,000 letters were returned from Canadian offices; 113,000 from United States offices, and 9,000 from offices in Great Britain. 200,000 were destroyed. 95,000 were returned to foreign countries. 9,500 registered letters were returned to the writers. 3,000 letters of value are still on hand, awaiting claimants. 3,844 letters contained money; 61, bills of exchange; 599, money orders; 435, cheques; 309, drafts, 788, receipts; 378, promissory notes; 17, stock certificates, etc. Every description of merchandise was also represented, of which 100,000 packages are still awaiting claimants.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange notices are inserted free, for subscribers. Limit, 50 words.

.....

We will give other good stamps for United States 1871 issue, 7c, 24c, 90c, and 12c. 1869 issue, 1, 10 and 15 cents.

L. E. SMITH & Co.,
13 Victoria Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Fifty stamps for every philatelic paper sent; duplicates taken. No sample copies.

J. L. PENDER, Portsmouth, N. H.

For every stamp paper sent me I will give in exchange two or three foreign post cards, according to value.

F. D. CROSBY, Ohio, Yarmouth Co., N. S.

I will exchange two hundred latest story books, by prominent authors, in lots to suit, for any useful articles. Send stamp for list of books,

W. H. H. JACKSON.

186 Gottingen St, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I will give good exchange for volume 1 entire, and volume 2, numbers 2 and 6, of Quaker City Philatelist. Also, for first volume of The Stamp.

J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

I wish to exchange stamps for same, with collectors in all parts of the world. I want sample copies of philatelic papers,

P. H. DAHL, Bleicherstrasse 41,
Uhlenhorst, Hamburg, Germany.

A bracket saw outfit philatelic papers. Write, giving lists, to

C. W. Green, Portsmouth, N. H.

Wanted, by the editor of this paper, J. R. Findlay, the following back issues:

American Philatelist—all vol 1; nos 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, vol 2.

Philatelic Journal of America—nos 1 to 23, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 38, 41 to 45.

Mann & Kendig's Gazette—first three volumes.

Toronto Philatelic Journal—all first volume.

Philatelic World—volumes 1 & 2

Wanted, a fair collection of stamps, from 500 to 1000 varieties; we will give good exchange in the following—White Farthings, Books, Printing Press.

L. E. SMITH & Co.,

13, Victoria Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia

.....

The name of the post-office at Gorman, Md., has been changed to Euclid. Now the first problem of Euclid is, Who will get the office?..[Philadelphia Press.

STRANGE COINS.

Tokens of Value Collected from Far Corners of the Earth.

[From the Halifax "Mail."]

IN a bag lie various uncoined symbols of value. Here are the silver lumps, bullet shaped, called "tekal" current in Siam; and the white cowrie shells used in Africa; and the rings of gold and silver which are common currency of Nubia; and the pieces of iron named "hashhash," like semicircular knives, used in Oordofan; and bits of coarse cotton, called "frelgat," which are equivalent to 60 pieces of "hashhash;" and the beads and blocks of salt used in Abyssinia; and the fish-hook money, made of pieces of silver wire, still current in China.

"Don't overlook this tenpenny bank token," says Mr. Avery. "It is Irish." The Irish coins mostly resemble the English. Those of Henry VIII. have the arms of England and the Irish harp crowned between the initials of Henry and his queen. Then comes the Ormonde money, having its weight stamped in Irish numerals. But the most remarkable Irish coins are the pieces named "gun money," struck out of cannon melted down by James II. before the last struggle for his forfeited throne. There is also a crown in white metal with the king on horse back. This last is scarce, but the specimens of the "gun money" are common.

"Here," continues Mr. Avery, "is a specimen of the constitutional currency of France. It is a sou of 1792, showing the head of Louis XVI., with the inscription, 'La loi, le roi, la nation.'"

It is of bell metal, made during the revolution from the bells of the demolished churches. It jingles out of the bag with a 5 franc piece of "Napoleon, Empereur" and "Dieu protege la France" on the edge, and a piece of 5 lire marked "Napoleone imperatore e re," with "Dio protegge l'Italia" on the edge. The Italian coin shows the conque or in the flush of his conquests; the French coin brings him under the shadow of Waterloo. In the one he is serene and proud; in the other his face is full of care.

Then Mr. Avery opens another bag. The coins that tumble out are "joes" and "half joes" of Brazil, Bo-

vian dollars, with the bust of Bolivar and the motto "Libre par la Constitution," doubloons of the Argentine Republic from the mint of Rioja, reales celebrating the independence of Chili in 1817, Spanish dollars cut into "bits" for use in the West Indies, copper coins of Petion, Loyer and other rulers of Hayti, a 10-livres piece from Mauritius, the home of Paul and Virginia, a coin of the American Colonization society or Liberia showing a negro welcoming the arrival of a vessel, Arabic coins marked with the date of the hegira (A. D. 587) and of the Sultan's reign, macutas from Guinea, a pistareon of Ferdinand of Spain, siege pieces or necessity money struck during the incursion of Napoleon into Spain, guilfers from Zealand, stivers from Holland, crowns from Belgium, a brass counter from China with a square hole in the centre, a scudo of Pope Pius VII., a bajocco of Pope Pius IX., a gold mohur from Calcutta, a pagoda of the East India Co., a Turkish piastre, a Bank of England dollar, a Tuscan florin, a Russian ruble.

.....O.....

—There being 3000 women in charge of postoffices in this country, the serious question arises whether to call them postmasters or postmistresses. The former, by all means. It is the proper mail appellation.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

—Jules Verne beaten. The performance of Jules Verne's here, who went round the world in eighty days, has been surpassed by an English post card which has just returned from its interesting travels.

It was mailed by a gentleman on October 10th to a friend in Hong Kong, by way of the United States and Yokohama, and reached Hong Kong on November 23rd., when it was re-directed to London by way of Brindisi. It was despatched on November 25th. and reached the original owner on Monday morning—that is, within seventy-five days from the start.—London Telegram, Dec. 20th

NEW STAMPS.

ARGENTINE.—The 1 centavo (Dr. Sarsfield), and 20 centavos (Ex-President Roca) are announced as nearly ready for issue. A new contract has been made with the South American Bank Note Co of Buenos Ayres, and they have produced a stamp, probably an essay, which is far superior to those of the lithographed set. It has the head of President Celman in an oval, inscribed "Republica Argentina." Numerals in circles in upper corners, "Tres centavos" on scroll below. It has been seen in blue, carmine and green—Am. Ph.

BELGIUM.—Says the P. W.: The 1c has returned to its former color, olive green, and the 10c letter card in gray-blue (both sides.)

COLOMBIA.—The A. J. P. notes the 10c map printed in lilac by error.

DE FRENCH EAST INDIES.—A new envelope has appeared in place of the surcharge 15c. The design is the same as the 10c; color bistre.

FRENCH COLONIES.—Le T. P. notes a 75c of 1881, surcharged "30" and postmarked "Pondichery, 9 Avril, 1884.

GOLD COAST.—The P. W. quotes a new 1d Registry Envelope of the usual style.

GUANACASTE.—The current 5 centavos Costa Rica, says the Am. Ph., has received a new surcharge, of which there are two varieties. Both are purple and black; one 16x4mm., the other 14x3mm.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have the 1½d, 1887 with surcharge of "Govt Parcels."

GUATEMALA.—Mr. Bogert says: We have received new 1c and 5c stamps said to have been made by a different company. The 1c is an exact copy of the last issue, but is cc 24 instead of cc 51. The 5c has an entirely different figure 5, which is broader and has a horizontal standard below to correspond with the letters of the word "Centavos." The color is a little darker than cc 61.

ITALY.—We notice that the 30c and 50c unpaid letter stamps have been seen with inverted centre.

JAPAN.—The 1 sen green, 2 sen red, 4 sen green, 5

sen blue, 8 sen purple, 10 sen blue, 15 sen green, 20 sen blue, have been seen perforated 13 instead of 10.

MEXICO.—Le T. P. chronicles 10c envelope, red, and Der. Ph. the 5c adhesive, brown. The P. W. says; A local for Chalco, used in 1867, has been discovered. It consists of an octagonal frame containing "Correos —2Ns—De Chalco." Black on green.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Phil. R. mentions the 3d laureated stamp with watermark double line figure "2"; the new 1d adhesive surcharged "O. S." in black; and a 1d envelope, with the new stamp, violet on white laid paper.

NICARAGUA.—The P. J. of A. notes a new value of the current type, 50c, lilac. There is also a 10c on blue, and 5c on white envelope.

NORWAY.—New card, 5 ore green on white, no frame.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Surcharge, 2 4-Sc on 1c, carmine on green.

POUNTCU.—According to Mr. Bogert, there is a new set in back for official use.

RUSSIA.—"Tichoin" (Novgorod). Numeral in oval inscribed "Seis-koi—Gotchi Marka, 5 kopecs, blue."

ST. HELENA.—The 1d is now C. A. watermark.

ST. VINCENT.—The 6d is lilac, with C. A. watermark

TOLIMA.—The are three new cubiertas, inscribed "Republica de Colombia—Correos del Departamento del Tolima" 5c bistre, 10c vermillion, 50c blue, all on white paper,

TUNIS.—The 1fr noted last month is of a new design. The inscription and figures are different and the back ground instead of being plain is dotted. A whole series has been or will be issued of the new type including cards and envelopes. The 1fr of the first type, it is said, does not exist. P. W.

.....

.. We ask such of our readers who are in a position to do so, to forward early information respecting new emissions, or proposed new emissions of stamps. If specimens are sent, we will pay face value; and in all cases we guarantee to refund the expenses incurred in sending the information.

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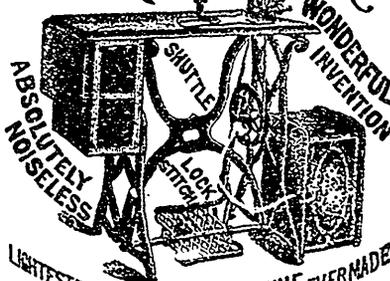


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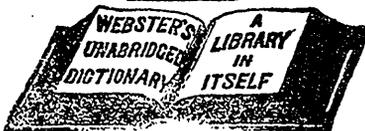
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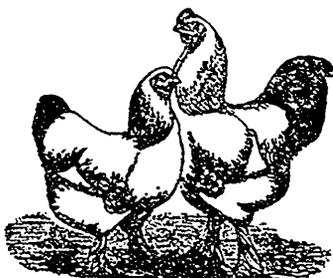
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"God is with us !"—Hark, hark the sound
Proclaiming Christ's celestial birth ;
While chorus angels, hovering round,
Swell the full strain of "Peace on earth."

"God is with US !" Bowed down in awe,
The chosen shepherds heard and saw.

"Go, quit your flocks upon the world ;
Leave the young sheep beside his dam :
This night a child is born ;—behold,
He is the Shepherd and the Lamb !
Arise, and go !" And swift as day
The choral voices died away.

Not so the Herald-Angel fled ;

But vanished slow, till faint and far
Upporne where fields of ether spread,
Diminished to a single star
The heavenly guest stood, radiant-bright,
To Bethlehem's walls the guiding light !

While kingly Herod quailed with fear,
Nor saw the angel in the beam,
The Wise Men gazed, and, drawing near,
Beheld fulfilled the prophet's dream :
In yon low shed, by catt'le trod,
The wondering sages owned their God.

His office done, with lessening ray
To heaven the Herald-Angel rose ;
But One still points the God-ward way
In these our days, as erst in those ;
From midst the starry heavens' old
He calls us to his Father's fold.

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