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# The JOURNAL. 

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HENRY HECHLER, Plblisien and Phopilibtor, 184 Argyle Strect, HALIfax, N. S., Canida.
HALIFAX, N. S., APIRIIs 1884.
TO EDITORS OF PHILATE: IIC PAPERS, PRESIDENTS AND SECRETALIES OF PHILA. TEIIC SOCIETIES AND PRIVATE, PRACTICAL PHILATELISTS.
The name of this paper in itself explains the objects for the furtherance of which it is published. We would be obliged to the above to notify us, with their fall address, of the appcarance of anything new respecting the art-as new issues, sur-charges, types, prowisionals, etc., etc, as soon as may be possible. Their names and addresses will be recorded with us and we will notify each of any information received from any one of them. Our aim is to make our office a central Philatelic bureau of information with a view to bringing about a corresponding Union of correspondence throughout the world. In this manner we are convinced that much benefit both to individual Yhilatelists and to the art may be brought about. If this suggestion is favorably received as we believe it must be, we would recommend the name of the "Universal Philatelic Union" for the proposed General Society. Not only would correepondence result but, elso, probably, conferences more or less frequent on the interests of the science.

Enclose return postage if you wish a reply.

## THE ORIGIN OF THE POST-OFFICE.

The Post-Office is an example of the mode in which things change while names remain. It was originally the office which arranged the posts or places at which, on the great roads, relays of horses and men could be obtained for the rnpid forwarding of Governinent dispatches. There was a Chief Postmaster of England many years before any system of conveyance of private letters by the Crown wrs established. Such letters were conveyed either by carriers, who used the same horses throughout their whole journey, or by relays of horses maintained by private individuals, that is, by $p$ rivate post. The scheme of ca.rying the corre pondence of the public by means of the Crown messengers originated in connection with foreign trade. a post-office for letters to forcign parts was established "for the benefit of the English merchants" in the roign of James I., but the extension of the system to inland letters was left to the succeeding reign. Charles I., by a Proclamation commanded "his Postmaster of England for foreign parts to settle a running post ot two, to run night and day between Edinburgh and London, to go thither and come back again in six days, and to take all such letiers as shall be directed to any post-town on or near the road." Ncighoring towns such as Lincoln and Hull were to be linked on to this main route, and posts on similar principles were directed to be established on other great high roads, such as thoso to Chester and Holyhood, to Exeter and Flymouth. So far no monopoly was clained, but two years afterwards a second Proclamation forbade the carriage of any letters by messengers except those of the King's Postinaster-General, and thus the present system was inaugurated. The monopoly thus claimed, though no doubt devised by the King to enhance the royal power and to bring money into the Exchequer, was adopted by Cromwell and his parliament, one main advantage in their eyes being that the carriage of correspondence by the Government would afford the best means " to discover and prevent any wicked de-igns against the Comminnealth." The opportunity of an extensive violation of letters, especially iî 'ney proceeded from suspected royalists, was, no doub i, u attractive bait; and it is ratier amusing to notice how the tables were thus turned on the monarchical party by means of one of the sovereign's own acts of aggression. However, from one motive or another, royalistsand parliamentarians agreed in the establishment of a State Post, and the institution has come down without a break from the days of Charles I. to our own.

IT is rumored that the various English West Indian colonies will soon be grouped philatelically under one head, and that one seric; of stamps common to all of them will be issued.
U.S. Postal Notes.-The postal notes in the United States are proving much more popular than was ai jirst promised. During the second week in December 20,000 were paid at the New York Post Office. Despite the issue of these notes, however the decrease in money orders is only about 12 per cent. which shows that the notes are chiefly used for the small sums previously sent in postage statmps.

## THE POSTAGE ON NEIWSPAPERS.

Josoph Medill, editor of the Chicago Tribune, recently made an argument before the U.S. Senate Committee on post offices and pust roads in favor of the reduction of the present pound rates of poatage on newspap ${ }^{2}$ rs issued from the offices of publication. The present law was, he soid, the occasion of the laying of an oppressive tax upon publishers. It fixed the rate of postage issucd from the office of publication at two cents per pound, which rate it made prepayable at the office of publication. Before the enactment of this law the postage on this class of small matter was collected from the news agent, or whoever received the papers, the tax falling upon the purchaser, as it ought. But it was said that a good many papers were not taken out of the postoffice, and in order to stop this loss of revenue, the law requiring prepayment was enacted. The result has been that the publishers of the United States have been compelled to pay this tas amounting to about $\$ 1,500,000$ per annum during the past ton years. In the case of hundreds of newspapers, daily newspapers and some weeklies, that do not make any profits, the publishers have, as a matter of fact, to borrow the money to pay the postage. The postage at the present rates amounts on a single newspaper of the size of the Nev York Herald, Times, or Tribune, or the Chicago Tribune, to $\$ 1$ to 81.60 per year, according to the number of supplements that may be issucd. It is taken out of the pocket of the publisher, and in a majority of cases represents all the profit a paper unakes. It is also a severe tax on the agricultural and religious newspapers.
It is proper to remark in this connection the.t Canada, some two or three years since, abolished the postage on papers ani mrgazincs published monthly or oftner when mailed fro $n$ the office of publication to regular subscribers and advertisers.
It is thus that the improved facilities effected in one country react upon other countries, and the march of progress goes on and the public reaps the benefit.

The "Philatelic Referee" states that large quantities of Costa Rica stamps with spurious surcharges have been put upon the English markets. We have not seen any but would advise collectors to exercise great caution in, buying froun England.
A movement has been inaugurated in one of the leading cities of the Dominion to form a philatelic society. We are pleased to note signs of consolidation of interests among philatelists everywhere-especially in Canadaand think that the proposed society, if properly organized and managed, will be beneficial to the science generally.

Ir is estimated that the U.S. Government is annuelly defrauded to the extent of a million of dollars by postage stamps being washed and used a second time.

In England the mails are used for the transmission of nearly every species of merchandise. Fish, game, meat, butter, eggs, fruit, cream, and all other farm products are transmitted through the English parcels post at very cheap rates. In a word, the British post office really does the express business of the country.

We shell be happy to send a complete file of the Philateifc Courier to any publisher of a similar paper who will send us a file of his own publication in exchange．

Thimd Assistnnt Postmaster－General Hazen of the United States says that the two－cent postage is a success The demand for stamps has been enormous，the recipts from the sale of stainps in the last guarter of 1883 nearly equalling those of $a$ year ago．The deficit on account of the reduction will not exceed 10 per cent．

A question that has often occurred to many but has never been satisfactorily answered is why the govern－ ments of Great Britain and Canada should charge more than the face value for newstands and stamped course suggested．

Eleven thousand dollars worth of ink was used by the post－office department last year in stamping and cancelling letters．An economically－disposed person thinks that if the government would permit cancelled stamps to be re－issued，much of this expense might be saved．Sure enough；but the government never did go very strong ni economy．
Arsiy Telegraph Clerks．－A corps of fifty telegraph clerks is to be forthwith forred from the English Post－ office volunteers for service with the regular army．They are to enlist for six years as first－class Army Reserve men．They already possess as volunteers a fair military training，and some knowledge of camp duties；and as they will continue to be employed at the Post Offee until actually called out for service，they will be always fully acquainted with the latest improvements in tele－ graphy．The plan of incorporating specialists who are already good soldiers with the regular forces for the discharge of special duties is one that seems capable of considerable extension．

## YOST OFFFICE CROOKEDNESS．

That there is crookedness somewhere in the postal arrangements of this country or Canada is proven by the unfortunate experience of Daniel Baine，of this city．In May，two years ago，he sent a registered letter contain－ ing $\$ 50$ to his wife，who was then in West Branch， River John．N．S．The letter was nover delivered by the post office at its destination to Mrs．Bainc，nor has the husband been able to trace the same．$H_{t}$ is a poor man and not able to lose the money，yet he cas get no redress．Ho wishes to warn others against trusting to registered letters，as he sees no safety in them．We have taken some trouble to make enquiry at the post office here，and find that our postmaster holds the receipt for the letter from the exchange office at Boston，so it is more than likely that the letter was lost or stolen after after crossing the line．If grenter fees must be exacted for transmitting letters through the means of registra－ tion，then the government should be responsible for their safe delivery，and when lost should ruimburse the sender，but the U．S．law is not that way．You pay for registering the letter，but take your own risk，all the same．－［Wisconsin paper．
There is a great deal of discontent in Mexico over some nc：u legislacion regarding stamps，and some fears are entertained that it may result in a revolution．
The＂F．S．C．News，＂one of our liveliest and most en＇erprising exchanges，says：－
＂The sum paid for printing included in the current estimates for the public service for the Post Office depsitment for the past year amounts to the following：－ For postal cards，$£ 51,000$ ；adhesive stamps，$£ 35,000$ ； envelopes，$£ 6,500$ ；newspuper wrappers，$£ 34,000$ ；postal orders，$£ 7,350$ ；registered envelopes，$£ 3,500$ ．Total， £137，850．
Not High－Toned．－＂My dear，I am shocked that you should invite those young ladies to your party．＂
＂Why，mamma，how you talk！They have always been in society．Their father is the post－master．＂
＂Very true，my child，but you forget the clange which has recently occurred．＂
＂What change，mamma？＂
＂Why，the rates of postage have been reduced to two cents．Post－offices are not high－toned any more．＂
－


Foreign correspondence solicited．

## NEW ISSUES

## Of Adhesives, Post Cards, and Envelopes.

Antioqu品-A new stamp, 10 cents, grees, bas been introduced to uite. It besty tho boad of Luberty on lined ground in tho contro, surrounded by tho wurd "Correo" and bas "Do Antioquia" hetor it. Also "Dioz Ce." at tho aides and figures of value in the upper corners. Also a fire centavos, brown, reotangular, unperforated, of much tho samo disign as tho nboro. Two curved colored labels adorn tho uppor part of tho atamp, bcaring in white blook typo "Cloco" and "Conts" respeoifively, and the numoral 3 is bolireon ticm. Small blocks occupy tho lowes oornere, that on tho ion bearing "C," and that on the right " V ".
Tho general atylo of these stamps is very inartistic,
and the result is not caloulated to pleaso anyone. Two adbetires havc been resuoitated:-tbo al oontaros, palo greod, of 1878 , and the 10 contaros, bright violet, of 1875 . We aro informed that thero are nlso a 2 2 c. greon and a 10 c . violet wlth portrait of Porrio on laid paper bnt, uot harlag sosen speofmens of thom, cannot rouch for tho acoursay of the report.
Aroganibras.-The 1 abosy atamp of this country is printed on differenty colored piper-mbito blue, groenand yellow-greon. It is also announced that onvelopas laro lisued, some with one and others with two stampy.
Arozmynz Rxponlac.--Two provisionals aro used, vis:--Two centavos, greon, typo of Juno, 1877, with oblique surcharge; 8 contaros, red, tspe of September, 1850, with horizontal snicharge.
BLfiria.-The $3 x 3$ pf. reply card has an additional Ingeription difaring from these of the lato lssuo, to ribich mo rould direct tho attention of our phllatelio friends.
Bresil, -A new 20 rios atanp is in uso. Tho Value, 20 R on a lined ground, is encircled by a band boaring "Braxil" on the top and "Correio" belor. The rholo is of a bronze-green color and is zurrounded by an ornamental border.
Cafe of Gocd Mopl.-This colony uses its fincal stamps for postal parposes. We haso cirozdy secn of theso 2r 6d. green, 4s. lilac, and -1. viterma-ine thus emploged, and may oxpoct others
Carth:-Tho 10 c . fiseal stamp is now used for postal purposes.
Coba.- The "most luyal" colong has providor ut with a new atamp, 200. do peso, stodo cnor, and a prorisional-a diagonally-halred 30 .
marine, usod for 2 la, which bare ran short.
Condixamarca, -iaroo now prorisionale haro been introduoed, ris:- 30 O . blat on roso paper, 1 peso blaok on brown paper, and a cablorta 20 c bleok on greon papor.
Corta Rica. - This republic usoz two figeals-1 contaro rod, and 2 cantaros blue, -as postals.
Dencer Irdizs.-IVo aro informed that a nerr zet of envelopes will soon issuo for theso colonics. The stamp will haro tho bead of the King in a cirolo in the centre, with tho words "Yed. Indio" aboro and the valuo below.
Eicoapor.-A prorisional poat-card bas issucd. It hes at the top in lergo letters with flourishes tho rords "Tarjeta Postal." Also four dotted lises, tho grat precoded by "Sor.". In trolince in tho Ionerieft corner is the inseription "En osto Lado dobo oscribirso-unicarnente la direccion." Lado debe oscribirsounicarnento la direccion." tho right is circular and contains a largo 3, inscribed "Tres Centaros, 3 ," nad that on the len is oral and beers tho Arms of ÉEuador, 14 atars and tho words "Reppoblica del Ecurdor." All aro onclotod in a framo like a mared ribbon. In the jorar right cornor and outaldo of tho framo is tho inseription "Qaito. Imp. do la Niorchad." Tho card is whito and tho ingoriptions are all black, cand is whito and tho ins
whilo tho slamps aro litac.
Fimlaxd.- A Fhito ctrolope with green stamp, 20 p , has isscot.
GOADSLOUPE.-A nOW rarioty of post cands, 20 a, bleck on gray-brown, bas hesa itsued for thil colony.

Itatr. - Additions harc been mando to tho norle of unpald loltor statapa in those of 80 and 100 liras Luxrysura....Tho old sorles from 1 ooniltuo to 1 Mano haro beon surolarged with the lettorn " 8 . P." In itallo ceplitels.

Mexico...-Thla ropublio has issued a eomplote and ontirels notr ect. Thos le., 2c., Io., 50., 0. 10c., 12c., 20c., and 50c., greon. Alco 1 peso and 2 pesor, blue, of the samo type. Thero stamps aro unusually jarge. As the cent serics aro all of ono color, they must causo souch unnecessary trouble to tho postal omolals in sorting thole masle to dis tinguish thesn and be certain whethor or not lottor aro suficiontly prepaid. Wo aro, thorefore, inellned to think that a change in tho way of varicty of color must soon bo made.
New Catrionia... A provizional stamp...5c. on ise. canninc---bas beon ixaued.
Nkw south Wakes. -. The Id. and 2d. onvelopes aro surcharged "0. s." for omicial sorsico.
Nкw Zraland. -The following duty vtaups aro employed for postal purpotes:

Noarar. - Tho following post cards havo issued:

all on thite cardboard.
Tho tnitn of Drangacns has izsuod a uev 5 ore, blue on atrart, covelope.
P:RUU.-.-The 50 centavo unipial letter stamp, brown, is turoliarged "liata Limin" in a triangle. A 2te. statpp, bluc, is announced, Tho color of tho 1 sol has beon ohanged to purple. Tho follorting post eards aro in ciroulation:…a se. and $4 x 4 c$.
 Pouto Rico....Tho sct froms 108 mills has
changed in colors. Tho first two of the ect bave entirely changed and tho reat to a darker zhade.
Portcoal bas issucd a new 10 rois card. It las the inscription "Bilhote lostal" nbovo, the cont of arms and flags noxt, and belowr "Portugal e liespanha." Color of cand, buf. Stamp on uppor len hand cornorand circle no rigbt ir palo brown.
Porrciouess fxists. ... Tric provisionals hare been iosved.-. it reis in black on 40 blao and on 10 greon. The former of the issuc of 1876 and the latter of 1881.
MaspxEpla.‥-A vermillion starap, value 8 ancas, has beon addod to tho set of this State.
Hessia.-New athosives have been farnished for tho folloring dittricts respectirely: -
Borovichi, (Novogorod,) S Kiopecs, bronzo and Whitc.
Borgourouslan, (Eamara, 2 Kopecs, blaok on rose.
Dorgourouslen, (Samaza,) 2 Kopecs, black on roso, toto beche.
Griarorctz, (Fologda, 4 Kopess, carmino
Pcacslatr-Zalcski, (Vladimir,) 3 Kopecs, bloegreon.

Schatzk, (Tamboff) 3 K゙ppecs, blaok.
This empiro has also added to its ourrent serics a atamp of tho raluo of 2 kopecs, deep greed, an earelopn of 7 kopec , palo blue, and a jost card of 3 kopecs, carming Numerous nuditions to its locals haro appaned, of trich to havo sercired it. following:-
For Bosodornk, 3 valuos in 15 different colors
"Charkof, 1 raluo, no surcharge.

- Qaiarsovets, l ralue.
" Malngche, 1 value.
" Morschansk, 1 raluo.
" Echatzk, 1 ralue.
' Wolkehansk, I raluc.
How mensy more may bo in uso wo aro unablo to stato at tho present kriting. Collectors will not bo likcly to care to girothom a placo in their albame Sourn Acstailis. - .Tho stamp on tho 2 d . nery band has boen slightly okangod.
Sereta. - Tharco nor eards bero appoared-5 paras and $u 5$ paras, brown on rose, and 10 paras, brown on brif---designs tho same as the last issuc.
Saznt Vincent. - The Sd. and ld. Lilec, sarcharged "roreauc," baro becn usod for postal pariposce. The 2]d. on 1d. is in ciroulation. Tho

5e. stamp, if not aurchargod "rovonnto," wlll ecrvo for postage. Othorwino ascallg.
TabMania-For the supposed "bencfit" of oollcotore tho folloring atamps havo licon ropriuted.
1853.-1d, hluc, thlu papor, insyression blurret), and showing threo horizontal outs that moro mudo In the plato when it ras destroyed.
1853.-dd. yellor, thin pajoor, detign indistiuot. Lias tro rerlical outs as above.

1876.-Ad. jollor, thio paper.
1879. 8d. gray litac, on thla whito papor. Also the following fistals havo boce soprinted:


All the aboro are mithout water maike.
Tcaser.-Tho "ucapeakable Turk" abors hls intelligonec, contrasting Gooly rith Canads's lovo of "running in tho old cuts" in postal matters by desiding that "in futyre atamps of ono typuo only, which io to be changed eDery tro yeart, will bo ameployed for intornal and foroign postage." "
The ien paras adbesire, has beon changed in color fr. m biack and roso to black and grecn.
The 2 piastres, bluc and rose, tho 5 piastres, greed and bistre, and tho 25 piaztres, black and groy, though long promised havo not as rot mado their appearanec.
U. S. Ur Coloybia....The 2 centaro card printed in black on light bromn is in circulation.
Uucgust. -- A proribionsl stamp of 1 contaro, suroharged onl the 10c. "P. orjsorio, 1884"" zas boon used. A 2 c . stamy of 1882 igzue has beon similsils surcharged. A 50 . stamp of n nert dio is In circulation. Tho norr sot of stamps promised for Uruguay carly in the scar bevo dot as yet been Uragus
Vexezusta...-Of tho intcrior stampe only tho 5 , green. 25, orengo, 50 , bluc, and tho 1 holivar, rermillion, hare as yot como in circulation, and of tho exterior only the 25, broma.
Victusia. - Tho 2d. stumps are printed not in lilao instead of bromo. Nabe 6d. fireal is used for posiage.
West Aestralit. - A provisional atamp hasbeen created for this Colong by surobarging the ld. Fith id, in rod.
Wurtkxarso...-A normband resembliog thoso of tho German Empiro and of the value of 3pf., colos groen, has appeared.

Thanking our philatelic correspondents abroad for past favors in giving us early information of new issues, provisionals, etc., of their own and adjacent countries wo request that they will continue to maintain in the future the courtesy they have displayed in the past. Their attention in this respect will always be fully apprecioted and noted in these columns.


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