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MONTHLY

GAZETTE.

VOL. 1. NO. 4.]

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, SEPTEMBER 1, 1865.

[PRICE 5 CTS.]

Rare and Obsolete Stamps.

NO. 1.

IN order to make our paper still more attractive and valuable to the collector, we intend continuing monthly a series of articles on rare and obsolete stamps. As our space is more confined this issue than it usually has been, we are compelled to make this article much shorter than we originally intended. But perhaps next month we may have more room—for the present, however, our readers must accept this apology, as it is the best we can do under the circumstances. We will at once proceed to our task, and note first:

THE 12D. CANADA.

This stamp, as some of our readers are aware, was in use but a short time; so short, that many persons—even those residing in Canada—know nothing about it. One gentleman living in Quebec, to whom we had written on the subject some time ago, informed us that we must have been labouring under some mistake when we asked him for some particulars about it. He told us that no such stamp was ever issued; but a subsequent letter from him told a totally different tale, (as we expected.) He gave us a few facts, and that was all we wanted. It was at first intended for postage to England, and was actually used for a time. The postage was afterwards reduced, and the 10d. stamp took the place of the 12d. The latter is now (the genuine) one of the rarest in existence, and very readily obtains such prices as \$4.00, and even \$5.00 for one specimen. Proofs are often offered for sale on India paper, with the word *specimen* printed at the side. Amateur collectors must content themselves with this last, for it is utterly impossible to obtain the real Simon Pure article for less than the sums we name; and even then it is doubtful whether it can be had at that price or not. The color of the genuine stamp is black. It is an adhesive, and contains a portrait of Queen Victoria in an inscribed oval, with figures 12 at corners. The Canadian stamps were first issued in the year 1851, and not in 1856 or 1857 as stated in several catalogues.

COLLECTORS will do well to send for Messrs. G. W. Winterburn & Co.'s Catalogue, before purchasing elsewhere. Price only 15 cents.

Postal Chit-Chat.

WHY is a letter posted to a friend like a small American coin? Because it is one sent, (one cent.)

WHY is a naughty school boy like a postage stamp? Because he needs to be licked and put in the corner to make him stick to his letters.

PLINY MILES, a gentleman well known in the United States from his efforts in behalf of cheap postage, died recently at the Island of Malta; He was a native of Watertown, New York.—*Cincinnati Daily Gazette.*

Courteous Georgia Postmaster has paid over to the Post Office Department, in greenbacks, the value of the postage stamps he had on hand at the breaking out of the war. This is the only case of the kind which has come to the knowledge of the department.

THE Tribunal of Justice at Paris has condemned M. Marion to pay the sum of 5000 francs for advertising and selling the current French stamps above their facial value.

THE French Colonial stamps are now used in the Isle of Reunion.

AN exchange paper contains the following:—Nicaragua is so called after the name of an Indian King who ruled that country previous to the discovery by the Spaniards. The country is in a very insecure condition at present and it is not safe to enclose money in letters.

NEW STAMPED ENVELOPES.—The Post Office Department has shown a desire to meet the wants of the business public by an issue of two new varieties of stamped envelopes, viz.: the ordinary letter size with the double rate of six cent stamps, and the official size bearing the single rate of three cent stamps. Heretofore in sending letters weighing half an ounce or more in letter size Government envelopes, it has been necessary to use an adhesive stamp to pay the excess of postage, thus disfiguring the appearance of the envelope and causing an increase of work in the labor of cancellation. So in regard to the official size, with an inclosure of less weight than half an ounce, the use of stamped envelopes is necessitated of one rate postage. Both these inconveniences are obviated by the issue of the new envelope, which will soon be for sale at the principal offices, throughout the

country. The envelopes are of a neat appearance, having embossed stamps in the usual form, the color on the letter size being purple, and that on the official size chocolate.—*Boston Daily Evening Voice.*

A NEW Post Office has been established in the town of O-tego, U. S., on the railroad, by the name of Doylestown, and Mr. Doyle appointed postmaster.

A communication has appeared in one of our cotemporaries stating "that the Bancroft's stamp is not in use, and is of no value." We would say that Mr. Bancroft is still in business at the usual place.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS, "Poetry," "Forged Stamps," &c., crowded out; will appear in our next.

Newly Issued Stamps.

HONDURAS.—Central America is divided into five States, only two of which have used postage stamps, viz.: Costa Rica and Nicaragua.—Honduras has now issued a 2 reals stamp, of which we subjoin an engraving. The impression is very nearly square, and is printed in black on colored paper. There are two colors of them, pink and green. One color only will be issued at first, and as soon as that is exhausted, another color will be substituted, and so on. Each edition will be different in color. A further description is unnecessary, as our readers can see for themselves what it looks like.



SPAIN.—All stamps of the last issue are now perforated.

BELGIUM.—We understand that stamps pre-paying matter by the railroad are about to be issued; also a postage stamp, value 5c., pre-paying a letter to places situated within a circle of 30 miles from each other.

BRUNSWICK.—The new stamps of Brunswick are now in general circulation.

MECKLENBURG SCHWERIN.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling is now perforated, as are also the $\frac{1}{2}$ silbergroschen of Brunswick, and the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling of Hamburg.

SAXONY.—A new envelope stamp for Saxony has just been issued, the value of which is $\frac{1}{2}$ neu-groschen, and the color orange. It is octagon instead of oval, as its predecessors are. Altogether it presents to the eye a very beautiful and neat appearance. It is the lowest envelope stamp that has as yet appeared in that country.

WURTEMBERG ENVELOPES.—The inscriptions on the 3 kr., rose, is now printed in black letters; on the 6 kr., blue, it is yellow; and on the 9 kr., brown, it is green, as formerly.

ON reference to *Postal Chat*, our readers

will find a tolerably good description of the new 3c. and 6c. envelope, United States, which is taken from the *Daily Evening Voice.*

[WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE "GAZETTE."]

LAWRENCE DANTON, THE MAN OF FEELING.

BY W.

THE clock on old Trinity Church had struck ten as I was wending my way home from the residence of an old friend. We had passed the evening together; and he, an old class-mate, had entertained me with some lively descriptions of scenes connected with the Academy where he had read and studied; of the associations he had formed, and of the friends in whose society, as he assured me, some of the happiest moments of his life were spent. I had come away from his room quite exhilarated in spirits, and in the most possible good humour with myself and all mankind, and at the same time fully impressed with the idea that there is no pleasure so great as that to be derived from college life, more especially when one is thrown into the society of those calculated to inspire us with those peculiar emotions which call forth often all that is most noble in our nature. It was but the old theme, love, the divine Eros, that brought forth all the eloquence of my friend, the chaste smile, the glowing metaphor, and revealed to me the range of his varied acquirements. In truth, Lawrence Danton was no ordinary person; gifted in mind, well educated, and possessed of an ardent, generous, and susceptible heart. He ran through a brilliant college course, both at home and abroad, and stood deservedly high in the reputation of all. He was about to engage in the practice of law at the time of our meeting, having passed through a successful examination, and was enjoying the midsummer holidays at the city prior to engaging in the duties of his profession. Life was all before him; young, ardent, and accomplished, how could he but succeed, having no vicious propensities to gratify, nor habits that would tend to sink one into indolence or supineness. Action and its toils was what he longed for; to mix with the bustle and excitement of life, and to strive for its honours and rewards. But, alas! to the young who enter too early into society, satiety creeps in and deadens the feelings of the heart, enervates the intellect, and destroys all hope of immediate action. A sense of weariness and *ennui* numbs all sensibility; the unhappy victim of his own misery becomes cold and misanthropical, and is driven by his feelings of restlessness, to seek the pleasure of indulging in his own thoughts in solitude, and not the fascinations and allurements of society. But my friend Danton was too philosophical to become weary of life, (not by constitution disposed to be melancholy,) and possessed too generous and noble a character to

become a luxurious epicure, or a dissatisfied recluse. Born in the town of F——, he had escaped the temptations and allurements which in large societies invite the followers of pleasure to her temple, feeding them with fruit, which, like the Dead Sea apples, turn to ashes on the lips. I arrived home at a seasonable hour, smoked a cigar, and read a few of the brilliant pages of Eothen, a book that I think has not had many readers, although it is one of the most delightful sketches of foreign travel published in the language. The *dolce far niente* had no charm for me, though the full-moon, shining in a pure and cloudless sky, and the sweet perfume of the midsummer air realized to my mind some pleasurable recollections of a more favoured clime. But I felt wearied, and to a weary man there is no charm so soothing as that of sleep, and no dream like the dream of repose.

On the next day the hotel at which I resided was all bustle and excitement. A great many visitors had arrived in the American boat on the previous evening, and quite a clatter of voices was to be heard in the entry-room. In a few minutes, however, after innumerable trunks and valises had been carried out to the coaches stationed near the door, the guests departed, and the hotel sunk once more into its quiescent state. As I was making my way through the crowd, amid the obsequious voices of the coachmen, and the orders of waiters, the following note was placed into my hand. It ran as follows:—

MON AMI.—Can you find it convenient to pay me a visit this evening. We had some new arrivals last evening, and the house is crowded with fashionable visitors. Apropos. There is an American lady I observed at the breakfast-table this morning, who is quite an authority on all matters relating to what is antique, Medals, gems, and postage stamps have quite an interest in her eyes. Call and see me and he at once introduced. As your purpose visiting F——, we can all go up together. Yours,
LAWRENCE DANTON.

P. S.—I forgot to mention, my dear George, that Miss —— is decidedly youthful, intelligent, and lovely.

I was never more surprised in my life than when I read this singular note, evidently written in a hasty manner, from the carelessness of the style, and when the writer must have been in an excited state of mind. I read it over and over again; each time perplexed and troubled in regard to its contents. A lady—youthful, intelligent, and lovely; with a passion for medals, gems, and postage stamps. What construction was I to place on this? What did it affect me? Nothing at all. I was not a collector of postage stamps, and couldn't tell a Connell stamp from one of Russia. And all this taste for novelty, antiquity, and art, allied with beauty and intelligence. Certainly, if my friend was an adept in these matters, the situation was a charming one.

I saw however, at last, after some reflection that he was again the dupe of that feeling which had so long ruled him, and determined in my mind to visit him that evening. The feelings excited in his mind by the advent of

th's lady, who seems to have made an impression on my friend, fully explained to me the reasons for penning that foolish note. I went to business that morning with strange feelings that I will not attempt to describe; and in my abstracted state, as I walked along, came near knocking down an apple stand which stood near the corner of the street where I attempted to cross. Visions of hope rose before me, of scenes of travel and adventure, love or despair, which my friend and I in part would play. Time alone can tell in this world what the future doth disclose.

(To be continued.)

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