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jUhY, 1893.

VOL. Vi, No, 55,



## 1001111!i!!

# Jobilateligt 

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#  <br> fuBlished monthly 

IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING.

Vol. V.
PETERBOROUGH, JUIY, 1893.
No. 85

## CHRONICLES OF NEW ISSUES, ETC.

## Conducted by William C. Stone, Springfield, Mass.. to aikom all information respecting nerv issues, etc., slould be sent.

The figures in parenthesis after the names of the countries refer to the number of thus paper contaming the last previous notice. Colors in italics represent the colors of the surcharges. All envelopes unless otherwise stated are on white wove paper. All post cards uuless otherwise stated are on buff cardboard.

## ADHESIVES.

Argentine.-The $1 / 2$ centavo which we noted on pink paper, turns out to be what may be called a "soaker," being produced by private enterprise.

British Central Africa.-M. Moens says that the lately listed 4 shilling stamp surcharged on the 2s6p is a "fumistere."

Belgium.-The "anti Sunday delivery" stamps are actually being issued. Decrees issued the 15 th of May, announced their coming, and fixed June ist as the date for the issue of the 10 centimes, the rest being held back for a later date. The design is that of the 35 centimes, with French and Flemish inscriptions, an oblong label being added at the bottom, with "Ne pas livrer le dimanche-Niet bestellen op zondag" in two lines. The label is separated from the rest of the stamp by perforations, and it will be necessary to tear it off, if any one wishes their letters delivered on Sunday. io centimes, orange-brown. The decree gives the color of the 10 cent as red, but M. Moens says it is as above. The other values are to be as follows: $1,2,5,20,25,35,50$ centimes, 1,2 franc.

Bolivia.-There seems to be considerable doubt concerning the exact status of the journal stamps listed some time ago. Some of our exchanges report having seen them used on the original wrappers, but M. Moens claims to have official information that they are a private "spec," and that the used specimens are fraudulent. We awaii developments.

Brazil, United States of.-We find mention in Der Philatelist of three more of the new type of adhesives. to reis, blue. 20 reis, yellow-brown. 50 reis, green. The London Philatelist has seen a copy of the 100 reis 189 r , where the blue portion of tie stamp is entirely omitted. We suppose the next thing that will turn up will be the blue impression minus the red.

Bulgaria.- Le Timlire Poste is authority for the statement that the unpaid letter stamps have been re-engraved. The design is much clearer, the pearls better drawn, and the upper rosette does not encroach upon the cartouche. The inscription under the figure is larger, and the top of the figure is now curved. Perforate $111 / 2.5$ stotinki, orange-yellow.

Canada.-It is reported that an 8 cent stamp of the same type as the rest of the current set is soon to be issued, and that it will be printed in mauve. It is to be used for paying the registration fee and the postage, and it is said that the 5 cent registration stamp will be withdrawn.

Cashmere.-The Monthly Journal has seen the 8 annas of the current issue printed in pale blue on smooth thin white paper. 8 annas, pale blue.

Ecuador.-A few more of the provisional issues to chronicle. This time they are all telegraph stamps, postally used without being decapitated. 2 centavos, green and black. ro centavos, blue and carmine. 20 centavos, brown and black.

Egypt.-Le Courrier des Timbres Poste reporis that 69 stamps of the value of 2 milliemes, were recently found among a lot of stamps but instend of being in green were in sky blue. They were obliterated at Port Said and Suez in 1888 . This sort of thing is getting too common altogether.

Fernando Po.-L'Echo de la Timbologie reports the exhumation of a specimen of the 50 cent Cuba r876, with the upper inscription barred out and "Fernando Poo" surcharged in black capital letters. While it may be all right, we prefer to wait a little before listing it.

Fiji.-The London Philatelist says that the new stamps are to be somewhat modified. The foliage will be thinned out somewhat so as not to hide the word "Fiji," and the sky will be cleared. The stamps were designed by Leslie T. Walker, the postmaster at Suva.

Great Britain.-Recently several new varieties in'watermark and plate numbers have turned up among the back issues which are at last satisfactorily explained in the last number of the London Philatelist. It seems that when a plate was approved of by the Somerset House authorities, a warrant was issued for six sheets of the stamps, one of which was retained in the sample book and the rest put into stock and issued with the other stamps. Recently, the warrants have only been issued for a single sheet. The following list of varieties are given, which should be, or are in existence. As the stamps are printed in sheets of 240 (except the $5 /-$ which is only $\cdot 80$, there must have been some 1200 of each of these varieties issued to public and 400 of the $5 / . .21 / 2$ pence, claret, sm. anchor, $4,5.3$ pence, carmine, emblems, 3 (dot) (a). 3 pence, carmine, emblems, 5. 3 pence, carmine, spray, 21. 4 pence, vermillion, large garter 16. 4 pence green, large garter, 17.6 pence, purple, spray, ro. 6 pence, brown, spray, 12. 6 pence, pale yellow b'i., large garter, $\mathrm{I}_{3}$, (b). 6 pence, slate, large garter, i8. 8 pence, yellow, large garter, 2. 9 pence, bister, emblems, 3 (hair lines,) (c). 9 pence, bister, emblems, 5 , (d). Io pence, red-brown, emblems, r ,(e). io pence, red-brown, spray, 2 , (f). I shilling, green, emblems, 3 (No. 2 hair lines). I shilling, green, emblems, 5. r shilling, green, spray, 14. 2 shilling, blue, spray, 3. 5 shilling, rose, cross pate, 4. a. In the Tapling collection. b. Discovered in I8go. c. Known many years. • d In H. E. Wright's collection. e. Discovered 1892 by M. Anheisser. This is a genuine error, as the imprimatur sheet is on spray paper. $f$. Discovered 1893.

Haiti.-The 3 and 5 cents of the new type have made their appearance. Only the 20 cent now remains to be retouched. 3 cents, lilac-gray. 5 cents, orange.

Hawaii. -From the Weekly Stamp Neres we take the following list of the provisional stamps, red surcharge : $1866,5 \mathrm{c}$., blue. $187 \mathrm{I}, \mathrm{x}$ c., violet. 6 c ., green. $1875,2 \mathrm{c}$., brown. r2c., black. r882, 1c., blue. 5 c., ultramarine. Ioc., black. 1883, ic., green. 25 c., purple. 2c., violet. Black surcharge. 1864, 2 c ., vermillion. 1871, 18c., red. 1882, 2 c ., rose. 15c., brown. 1883, 50c., red. I dollar, vermillion. i 884 , roc., vermillion. i2c., mauve. i 886 , roc., red-brown. A few errors caused by double printing and broken type were discovered in the lot from which the above list was compiled by the Neies.

Liberia.-The 3 cent red which we recently listed, turns out to be a fraud. The postal officials say that it was only issued in black.

Newfoundland. - It is reported that a new set is to be issued, with the head of the Queen as represented on the new coins.

Niger Coast Protectorate.-The "Oil Rivers Protectorate" will in future be known by this name. Will the present stamps be surcharged a second time?

Shanghai.-Wc have another letter from Henry Sylva, dated May zoth, stating that they are still without stamps, the new issue being expected in about three weeks. Another. provisional was issued for a short time. The 2 cent brown was perforated through the middle, and each half surcharged "IC." There were only a few of them issucd, and those were in the outposts. A local for use in Hankow is said to have been issued, and Mr. Sylva promised further information about it in his next.

Victoria.-The Monthly Journal has seen a letter bearing a specimen of the rouletted registration stamps which was postmarked September, 1857, four years earlier than the date usually given to this stamp.

Western Australia.-The I penny on 3 pence listed recently is said to exist on both C. C. and C. A. paper.

## ENVELOPES.

Brazil, United States of.-Still another size of the roo reis is reported by $L c$ Timbre Poste. Wove paper. 100 reis, red. $160 \times 90 \mathrm{~min}$.

Great Britain.-A new compound value is reported by one of our French exchanges. $1 / 2 \times 3 \times 6$ pence, vermillion, carmine and lilac.

Levant. -The $21 / 2$ penny has been surcharged for the use of the Levant offices. 40 paras on $21 / 2$ pence, blue, black. ( $140 \times 1 \times 1 \mathrm{~mm}$.)

Monaco.-M. Moens reports the following with the new type of stamp. We have already listed the largest size of the 15 cent. 5 centimes, blue, $115 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$. 15 centimes, rose on green, $115 \times 75 \mathrm{~mm}$.

## WRAPPERS.

Shanghai.-The American Journal of Philately describes a wrapper inscribed in two lines, with "Local Post Newspaper Wrapper-Postage Paid $1 / 2$ Cent;" and cmbossed


## Fine Sheets of Canada Postage and Revenue, as well as Foreign Stamps, sent on approval at from $33_{3}^{1}$ to 50 per cent. commission.

No reference requred from C. P. A., A. P. A. and S. of P. Members. All others must give good reference. Send now

with the same seal as that used for the envelopes described last month. Size $117 \times 258 \mathrm{~mm}$. White wove paper. $1 / 2$ cent, black.

POST CARDS:
Bavaria.-We take the following from the Postal Card. Horizontal zig zag lines. 5 pfennig, green, 93. Vertical wavy lines. 3 pfennig, brown, 93.5 pfennig, green, 93.

German Empire. - We have rather neglected this country for some months, but we shall endeavor to catch up soon. We give below, the varieties of the current year, and will give a revised list of all that came out last year as soon as we can get time to compile it. 5 pfennig, green. 193, a, b, c, d, e, f, i, k, m. 293, a, b, c, f, g, i, k, l, m. 393, a, b, c, d, c, f, h, i, k, l, m. 493, a, k. $5 \times 5$ pfemig, green. 193, g, h, f. 293, f, g. 393, b, f, i. 493, f,

Hong Kong. There is a new reply card similar in design to the single one. ixi cent, green.

Mexico.-Some of the first issue (unstamped) cards of this country have recently appeared with the current 2 cent stamp, impressed in carmine. They were probably issucd "for revenue only." 2 centavos, carmine and blue on greenish bluc. 2 centavos, carmine and black on reddish buff. 2 centavos, carmine on lavender. 2 centavos, carmine and pink on sea-green. 2 centavos, carmine and pink on greenish bluc. 2 centavos, carmme and pink on lavander. 2 centavos, carmine and pink on creamy rose. 2 centavos, carmine and pink on pale yellow. 2 centavos, carmine aud pink on cream.

Monaco.- The single io cent card now comes on the same color card as that value of the current French issue. ro centimes, brown on green.

Servia.-L'Echo de la Timbrologie says that the five para card is now printed in light green on pale buff. 5 para, light green on pale buff.

Timor. - La Carte Postale says that the $30 \times 30$ reis card recently noted, is not surcharged in red but in black, and the word "Timor" is applied horizontally.

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2 SETS 28 CENTS.
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and 5 Cents Postage extra

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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1870/84. 1. 2. 5. 10. 30. 40, 50. 60. 1. 2. 5. 10.50. 100 | 11.12 | \$ 28 | $\stackrel{\$}{\$}$ | $\$ \$ 0$ | $\begin{gathered} \$ \\ 20.00 \end{gathered}$ |
| 1870/74. 1 cent to 10 lire . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | $12 \frac{1}{1}$ | . 14 | 1.25 | 5.50 | 10.00 |
| 1870/74. 1. 2. 5. 10 lire | 4 | 5 | . 40 | 1.75 | 3.00 |
| 1891. 10/2. 20/1. $30 / 2$ provis. |  | 7 | . 60 | 2.50 | 4.25 |
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## The Canadian 『bilatelic Essociation.

## Organized September, 1887.

President, ERNEST F. WURTELE,
P.O. Box 117, Quebec, Que.

Vicc-President, A. A. BARTLETT,
Charlottetown, P. E. I.
Secretary-Treasurer, T. S. CLARK,
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146 St. James St., Montreal, Que. Official Organ, THE DOMINI()N PHILATELIST. trustees:
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WALTER McMAHON,
${ }_{1300}$ Queen St., West, Toronto, Ont.

HANRY ADES FOWLER,
30 Shannon St., Toronto, Ont.

Quebec, 13 th $\mathcal{F} 4 l y$, I 893.
To Officers and Members, Canadian Plilatelic Association.
Gentlemen,-I take the present opportunity of again reminding you of the date selected for the Annual Convention, which will be held on the 23rd of August, in the City of Quebec, and at the same time to request all who are unable to be present, to communicate with any of the undermentioned members, residents of this city, with a view of having as large a representation of votes as possible. Messrs. C. C. Morency, Montefiore Joseph or the undersigned, will be pleased to receive the necessary power, and will act in accordance with the wishes of those entrusting the same to them.

Members are reminded that it is necessary for them to be in good standing with the Association, in order to permit of their votes being allowed, and it is hoped all such as are in arrears, will without further delay, remit the amount of their indebtedness.

Trusting that we may have a large number present,
I remain, gentlemen, yours very truly, Ernest F. Wurtele, President, Canadian Philatelic Association.

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT.

Belleville, July 20, 1893
To Menbers of the C. P. A.
Gentlemen,-I beg to submit the following report for July :
Applications for Membershif.-Clifford W. Kissinger, rozo Penn street, Reading, Pa. References: T. S. Clark, R. P. Ashcroft ; John J. Codville, Ottawa, Can. . References : M. Joseph, E. F. Wurtele; J. S. O'Meara, Quebec, Quc. References: E. F. Wurtele, M. Joseph.

## RECEIPTS.

Balance last statement - - - - - - - - $\$ 805$
expenditures.-Nil.
July 20, Balance on hand - . . . . . . . . $\$ 805$
r. S. Clark, Sec.-Treas,

## The $\boxplus$ ominion $\mathbb{P}$ bilatelíst



ADVERTISING RATES.


Small advertisements 15 cents per line each insertion. No discount off above rates. Advertisements for less than three months payable in advance-others payable every three months. It is always best to remit by money order if possible. Make money orders and checks payable to
H. F. Ketcheson, Peterborough, Ont.
H. F. Ketcheson, Esq., Belleville,

Toronto, Canada, Jute 20th, 1893.
Dear Sir.-At a meeting of the Toronto Philatelic Club held on June 6th, attention was drawn to an item in The Dominion Philatflist, to the effect that there was a lack of harmony among the members of the above Club, such being a gross falsehood. I have been instructed to write requesting that you retract said statement.

Awaiting your reply, I am,
Yours respectfully, Geo. A. Lowe,
Secretary, Toronto Philatelic Club.
[The item referred to was received by us from what we considered a reliable source, but as it is contradicted by the Secretary of the Society referred to, we must conclude that we were misinformed].-ED.

## Charlottetown, P. E. I., Canada, Y̌uly 17, 1893.

To the Editor " Dominion Plilatelist,"
Sir,-In the June number of your paper Mr. Ernest F. Wurtele does me the honor of nominating me for President of the Canadian Philatelic Association for 1893-4. Now I am not egotistical enough to imagine that because I am nominated I am going to be elected, and it is to prevent such a calamity from overtaking our Association that I am writing this letter. I fully appreciate the honour attached to such a position, and were I able to perform the duties incumbent on its occupant would be ever grateful to find myself at the head of such an organization, but geographically isolated and I am away off in the 'tight little Island of the Gulf," (for I may say there is no other collector on P. E. I. of any account) my usefulness would be reduced to a mininum, and it would be a grave error to elect me. The fact of my nomination having been made by the present President, and also the fact of my being quite friendly with several of the C. P. A. members, might give me sufficient votes to elect me, and

I can assure the members that this would be a consummation devoutly to be shunned. On the contrary, Mr. Editor, I would strongly endorse your own ticket as set out in the same paper, for I think we could not do better than have Mr . Wurtele for a second term.

Yours sincerely,
A. A. BARTLETT.

IMPORTANT TO C. P. A. MEMBERS.
THE Convention for the year opens in Quebec city, on August 23rd.
You want to get there in person if possible; if you cannot go be sure and send your proxy to either the President, C. C. Morency, or M. Joseph, all of Quebec.

Don't forget to fill out the ballot paper sent you as soon as possible and mail it to the Secretary, in the addressed envelope supplied for that purpose.

REMEMBER that your ballot will not be counted or your proxy voted upon unless your dues are paid in full.

Look at your last membership card and see to what date your dues are paid ${ }^{\circ}$ If you find you are in arrears, remit the amount to the Secretary. Treasurer at once, so as to be in good standing for the Convention.

On another page we published an article on the DeCoppet sale, which we think should be read by every auction buyer. While the sale'was the most noteworthy ever held, it seems too bad that it should have been conducted in such an unfair manner; collectors at a distance will be more cautious in future to whom they entrust their auction bids.

## I Buy Gollections

I desire to buy a few good collections for cash.

Write me before selling elsewhere, or send me your collection naming your lowest cash price. If I do not buy, will return same at my expense.
H. F. Ketcheson,

## C. P. A. NOMINATIONS.

The following is a complete list of nominations to fill the various offices of the C. P. A.

PRESIDENT,-Ernest F. Wurtele, Quebec, Que., A. A. Bartlett, Charlottetown, P.E.I.

Vice-President,-Donald A. King, Halifax, N.S.
Secretary-Treasurer,-T. S. Clark, Belleville, Ont.
Exchange Superintendent,-W. Kelsey Hall, Peterborough, Ont., C. C. Morency, Qucbec, Que.

Librakian,-A. E. Labelle, Montreal.
Countierfeit Detector,-H. Ades Fowler, Toronto, Ont.
Tieustees,-C. E. Cameron, M. D., L. Gibb, J. E. Schultze, all of Montreal.

## PHILATELY AT THE COLUMBIA EXHIBITION.

TIIE editor had the pleasure during the early part of this month of spending some time at the Columbian exhibition. Naturally, he took a special interest in exhibits Philatelic, and made a few mental notes which are here given. Most of the Philatelic exhibits are in the U.S. Government Building, and consist of the U. S. Government Exhibit and the American Philatelic Association Exhibit, and those of some private firms, both foreign and U.S. The U.S. Government have a very complete exhibit of the stamps of their own country, including envelopes

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Intervational Stamp Album, No. 1, bound in cloth and boards, Sl.je post-paid; No. 2, bound in cloth and kold $\$ 2.50$ post-paid.
The Pliflatelist, made to hold 2,000 stamps finely and stronsly bound, 25 cts, each, post-paid.

## AGENT FOR CANADA, FOR

Mckecl's Weckly Stamp News, the only weekly stamp paper published, $\$ 1$ per year.
The Philatclic Journal of America, $\$ 1.00$ per annum. I am also au horized to receive advettising for the above two journals.
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and revenues, and one can spend several hours with pleasure and profit in examining them, and the exceedingly fine collection of postal curiosities with which they are surrounded, including every imaginable kind of mail conveyance, ancient and modern, from the old mail coach to the modern postal car.

In a capacious gallery in the south-west corner of the same building is found the exhibit of the A. P. A., and although at the time of our visit only half of the cases were filled, a very creditable showing was made, and we especially desire to mention that of H. G. Deots, of Flemington, N. J., who has many beautiful and rare stamps there.

On our first visit to this exhibit we were pleasantly surprised by finding the President of the A. P. A., John K. Tiffany, of St. Louis, Mo.; V. Gurdji, Galveston, Texas ; P. M. Wolsieffer, T. R. Bradt and several others viewing the exhibit and assisting in the placing of new exhibits in addition to those already there

There is no doubt this exhibition together with the issuing of the Columbian stamps will give added impetus to stamp collecting and add many new recruits. We were told by a clerk in the World's Fair P. O., that many foreign visitors would purchase complete sets of the Columbian stamps, attach them to envelopes and desire to have them lightly cancelled. Altogether we were very much pleased with the Philatelic exhibit, and would recommend our readers visiting Chicago to give at least one day to this department of the great exhibition.

## PHILATELY THIRTY YEARS AGO.

The collecting of Postage Stamps is a fashion not confined to this country, or to a single class; for collections are frequently to be seen in the drawingrooms of of the luxurious, the study of the enlightened, and the locker of the school boy.

The fashion has been rediculed, as all fashions will be; but if postage stamps are properly studied, collected, and arranged there is no reason why they may not be quite as instructive and entertaining as the collection of birds, butterflies, shells, books, engravings, coins, or other objects.

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differences and likenesses which they present; and to interest the collector in the design or art shown in their creation or manufacture, and the history of the country which produces or uses the objects collected. The postage stamps afford good objects for all these branches of study, as they are sfficiently different to present broad outlnes for their classification, and yet some of the variations are so slight that they require minute examination and comparison to prevent them from being overlooked. The fact of obtaining stamps from so many countries suggests the inquiry, what were the circumstances that induced their adoption, the history of the countries which issue them, and the understanding why some countrics have considered it necessary, in so few years as have passed since they first came in use, to make so many changes in the form or design of the stamp used, while other countries like Holland, have never made the slightest change.

The changes referred to all mark some historical event of importance; such as the occasion of a new King, a change in the form of government, or the absorption of a smaller state into some larger one, a change in the currency, or some other resolution. Hence, a collection of postage stams may be considered, like a collection of coins, an epitome of the history of Europe and America for the last quarter of a century; and as they exhibit much variation in design and in cxecution, they may also be regarded as a collection of works of art on a small scale, showing the style of art of the countries that issuc them; while the size of the collection, and the manner in which they are arranged and kept, will show the industry, judgment, neatness, and taste of the collector, who should always bear in mind that every accessory that is showy and bright takes away from the appearance and interest of the stamps themselves.

The full use of the stamps in teaching geography and history, can only be obtained when they are arranged in systematic and chronological order. This has unfortunately not been seen by many compilers of catalogues and collectors, who place their stamps of the different countries alphabetically, thus separating the stamps of neighboring countries, of the same royal house, of the same language, or kind of money into different parts of their collection. Many of these compilers and collectors have not been consistent with themselves, and arranged their collections partly geographically and partly alphabetically; this is even less instructive, and more dfficult to consult, as it is not easy to recollect how the stamps follow each other.

## The Cumadian finmmal of ehilately.

Is the best Monthly Magazine published at the present day. It c ntains forty-cight payea monthly, and is contributed to by the world's most renowned Philatelic writers. Among the many features to be found in this Alagazine, and not in others, may be mentioned: A chronicle on new issues illustrated in colors; a fincly executed photo of a Philatelist; instructive and entertaining paper read before the leading societies of the world, and when necessary colored illustrations are given; an auction department and many of the articles necessary to make up the contents of a gond Magazine.

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The desire which some persons have to show stamps that are not in other collections has induced the dealer to produce pretended stamps, which have no real existence ; as, for example a French stamp with the portrait of the Republic, inscribed essai, 18858 , which is after the Empire was established; or Turkish stamps, inscribed 6 truze and 3 mara, the Turkish Government not having at that time issued any stamps. Some collectors show Chinese stamps which are only the impression of the seal of the mandarin who sent the letter. In the same manner, and for the same purpose, the colors of some stamps are artifically changed by soaking in water or some chemical fluid, or the stamps are covered over with a wash of colour, or the paper on which they are printed is stained. Some of the stamps that were used by the provisional government, that followed the outbreak in Europe of $1 \oint_{4} \mathcal{S}$, have been withdrawn from circulation and become rare, and therefore sell at a large prices; this has induced some French dealers in them to have them imitated or forged. They are known from the rea! stamps, as they are lithographed, while the originals were block-printed.

## THE De COPPET AUCTION SALE.

In the April number of this journal, we gave an account of this important auction, and launched into some criticism of the methods adopted in the conduct of the sale. Every collector present at any of the sessions of the auction, knows that our strictures were fully justified and that we served only as the mouthpiece for their opinions. We debated for some time the question whether we should pass the matter in silence or not, but we concluded that, in justice to the many persons who hold auctions on this side of the water, it was imperative that collectors living outside of New York be informed of the light in which the reprehensible methods were considered.

The "Monthly" Journal," in defence of the agents of its publishers, have scen fit to accuse us of petty motives in stating what we did and we must make some reply to their unjust remarks. We insert herewith a letter, that we have just received from a well known English collector, who figured as a bidder at the sale and who relates his experiences.

Wateringburv, Kent, England, $9 t h$, Fune 1893. To the Editor of the "American Journal of Philatcly:"

SIR,-I see by Stanley Gibbon's Monthly Fournal of May, that your comments on the management of the sale of the de Coppet collection in your issue of April, to the effect "that the catalogue was marred by a number of rank frauds and also a general tendency to exaggerate the condition of the stamps," are attributed to

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petty and trade jealousy. The inclusion of frauds is defended ou the ground that probably no $£ 5,000$ collection is without one or two doubtful stamps, and an explanation is given apparently, judging by what follows, in the words of M . Albrecht that Mr. de Coppet authorized Mr. Albrecht to buy in these lots for his account, and this was done in all doubtful cases." I would it were so, and I should not have hard things to say of either of these gentlemen.

In New York when an exceedingly reliable and exhaustive catalogue is now publishing every lot could casily have been verified, but I am sorry from my own experience to think that the excision of doubtful stamps was the last thing contemplated by the compilers of this delusive catalogue. My bids were solicited by Mr . Albrecht and he received them. On April 5th, when in London, I was informed by one of the largest dealers that he had been wired by Mr . Albrecht. that his bid for the 2 cent circular Guiana was no good, as he (another English dealer) had sent a bid of so much. Here was a breach of confidence.

Mr. Albrecht was employed by Mr. de Coppet and yet solicited bids from the public and then divulged them to other interested parties. Who wonld have sent Mr. Albrecht bids knowing this sort of thing was going on behind the scenes ?

Seventeen lots in all were sent me-of these one unused, was skinned at the back, but in the catalogue was described as beautiful, two were falsely described, and of course should not have been bought for me, one I did not commission for, one was a reprint, and two had forged perforations.

Mr. Albrecht, your readers may notice, advertises himself as a stamp expert. but he will have to prove himself much more expert than he advertises himself if he succecds in getting the money for these three last lots out of my pocket Perhaps his friend Mr. de Coppet will return Mr. Albrecht the many obligations he must owe him over this sale.

So much for Mr. de Coppet's solicitude for his good name, and so much for Mr. Albrecht's mode of buying on commission. Below I give extracts from the cataloguc of these three lots and my comments thereon.

I remain, sir, yours faithfully, W. W. Blest.

Lot $37 \mathrm{I}-\mathrm{l} 3$. Guiana I cent 1853 , I cent (value $121 / 2 \mathrm{~mm}$., long) pale vermillion unused, a beautiful stamp.
This is the ordinary reprint on thin paper worth perhaps three shillings, but they managed to work it up to \$12 for me.
Lot 530 1 -Canada 6d, on laid paper, perf. 12. Pcrforation on one side trimmed otherwise very fine specimen of this very rare stamp. Purchased of Pemberton, Wilson \& Co.
This is a very silly forgery, as the perforations looked as if they had been torn out with a pin-but they screwed their price up to $\$ 3 \mathrm{I}$.
Lot 533-3d Canada, perf. I4, used, perforations clipped in one corner. This perforation is very scarce.
Yes, I should hope so, the forger had not even taken the trouble to get the sides parallel. This choice thing was bought for me at $\$ 4.50$

Mr. Blest has shown clearly that every word that we have spoken was the absolute truth and that collectors ivere avorked for all that iuas in it. The very man who made colossal efforts to obtain bids for the sale was the agent of Mr . de Coppet in protecting his goods, and not being connected with the company whose name appeared in the catalogue, collectors supposed themselves safe in entrusting their bids to him.

The whole affair was so sclf evident that some of our best known collectors left the auction room in disgust and cancelled all bids that they had made.

## WHAT PHILATELY TEACHES.

by "OLD STAMI."

I have previously denoted a few of the things the pursuit of this science teaches. I now propose to go a little deeper into the subject and by giving detailed instances show that there is a very great deal to be learned from its study.

First.-History: The United States may be taken as one of the best cxamples under this heading. From the very first issue of postage stamps they have borne the likeness of the reigning president. These stamps have been changed both in design and likeness with every succeeding president, each one improving on the last in the design and quality of printing. Great Britain and her colonies are singularly deficient in the information under this heading derivable from her stamps. She has had the good fortune (from a philatelic point of view, a misfortune) to be reigned over continuously by one sovereign-our good Queen Victoria-and her likeness has appeared ever since on all English stamps, and on those of most of her colonies, ever since stamps were first introduced. There are, however, exceptions in the cases of some of her colonies, where different designs have been used. Take the case of Canada, Newfoundland, Cape of Good Hope, Western Australia, and many othes where the designs have varied from the stercotyped bust of the Queen. But these exceptions have each something to teach on their face. Spain is another example where the change of sovereign is noticeable. But almost the same thing may be said of all countries. To the non-collector this may appear of small importance, but to the enthusiastic collector they are a large source of information. He can tell the name of the sovereign at a glance, and can also tell you the year he was reigning in. Of late jears the well-known likeness of our Queen has been changed to one as she now appears in widow's weeds on some of the colonial stamps, but nearly all represent her as the youthful Queen she was at the commencement of the stamp era. France is another illustration. The general outline of the stamp was nearly the same for many years, with the difference of showing the changes from a republic to an empire, and vice versa, as these changes took place. First of all-in 1848 -the republican form of government was in force, and the stamps bore a $1: 1 \mathrm{i}$-iness in profile of the goddess of Liberty or Reason. After a few years a chaiige in the form of government took place and a Dictator was chosen. The stamp then showed the profile of a gentleman with a somewhat prominent nose, a heavy moustache, and small beard-a typical French face-but the form of government
remains nominally the same. The next issuc closely resembles the last, but the differcuce between them is one of great importance, for the word "Empire" is substituted tor "Republic"-the Dictator has become an Emperor. After this affairs go on smoothly for some years. In $1 \$ 63$ two additional values were added to the set of stamps, and these are noticeable by the addition of a wreath of laurels around the head, denoting that the Emperor has waged war and gained victories shortly before. Between this and 1867 more victories may be supposed to have been gained, for in this latter year a serics is issued with a laureated head. Shortly after this, owing to the France-German war, things scem to have been in confusion in the stamp line. Three of the old sets of stamps were reissued simultaneously about this time, but shortly afterwards a set was issued which has continued to the present time. My readers are all familiar with the stamp-it is a design showing a lady and gentleman rather scantily attired. apparently bidding one another farewell. To show what variety of opinion there is as to the real meaning of the design I will quote from a very readable article in the "stamp Collector's Annual," a prize essay by Major E. B. Evans, R. A. He writes :-" Pcrhaps they are Science and Art, and the gentleman has been too scientific for the lady, or the lady too artful for the gentleman. Perhaps they are Peace and Plenty, though barely clad for the latter. They might even be Mercy and Truth, the naked truth; or Cupid and Psyche-one of them looks very like Mercury; but they are said to be Peace and Commerce." Between these two figures stands an ornamental tombstone, bearing numerals, but they might mean anything, for they do not say what they stand for. But of course we know they represent centuries.

Second,-Geography: There is perhaps more to be learned under this heading than under any other. All the continents, all the larger countries and islands are familiar enough to the most uneducated, but to the large bulk of the people I venture to say there are islands and countries that they never heard the names of. Even if they had they probably knew just about as muci of their location. Besides giving us information of the present division of various countries, it is most iustructive in refreshing the memory relating to States which at one time had their postage stamps, but which, though still under the same power, now use a universal stamp. Perhaps there is no better instance in this direction than the German Empire. Thirty or forty years ago there existed the following States, each having their stamps;-Alsace and Lorraine (then belonging to France), Baden, Bergedorf, Hamburg, Hanover, Leipzig, Lubeck, Oldenburg, Brunswick, Macklenburg, Schleswig, Holstcin, Saxony, Thurn, and Taxis, besides others that I camot for the moment remember. These now nearly all use one common stamp, but nevertheless, though stamps of most of these States probably went out of use over 20 years ago, they are most of them to be had now at very low prices. In fact nearly all European stamps of many years back are to be had cheap, owing to the large accumulations in dealers hands, To the casual mind the extent of Russia is little realized. Who outside of the philatelic circle would dream that there are in Russia about 100 States or Provinces, each having their postage stamps. The stamps of Russia (including the various local ones I referred to) number many hundreds. Turn again to the West Indies, and ask yourself
how many of the islands there you ever heard the names of. To show the number there are I will name some of them. But it must be understood the list given includes those only which have their postage stamps. Here is the list:Cuba, Jamaica, Dominica, Bahamas, Turk's Island, Porto Rico, Virgin Islands, Santa Cruz, St. Christopher, Hayti, Guadeloupe, Antigua, Martinique, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Barbadoes, Grenada, Tobago, Trinidad and Curacoa. The majority of those belong to the English nation and their stamps of course bear the likeness of our Quecn.' The others belong to other nations. The neighbouring continent-South America-is most prolific in separate States. There are British, Dutch, and French Guiana, Venezuela, Equador, Peru, Brazll, Bolivia, Chili, Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentine Confederation, New Granada, and the newly formed States of Columbia. Then proceeding north through the narrow strip of land separating South and North America we find Costa Rica (immediately adjoining the isthmus of Panama), Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Salvador, and Mexico. Further north again and we come to the United States, but there is not much to be learned from these, as they all use the one stamp common to the States. India, again, is most prolific in small States or Provinces, but these are not so well known, neither is any knowledge respecting them of much value. They nearly all use the Indian stamps, and the various Provinces simply have the name of the Province printed on the face of the stamp. Formerly Sardinia had stamps of her own, now she uses the Italian stamp. Next to Russia, Spain has the largest number of stamps in the catalogue, and these, including all varicties and changes, very nearly approaching that of RussiaBesides geography there are various things to be learned from the study of stamps. On those of Newfoundland you will find various devices, a very conspicuous one being a picture of a cod, denoting that the neighbourhood of that country depends largely on cod flshing. In the neighbouring colony of Canada the picture of a beaver is shown on more than one stamp, likewise denoting that these animals exist in that country. Some of the States of South America show pictures of scenery relating to the particular places they represent. On the Egyptian stamps are representations of the pyramids and the sphynx. The stamps of Afghanistan, Persia, Turkey, and some other Eastern nations bear only the definition of the country and their value in the characters of the language respectively, and these are only known to collectors from their constantly seeirg and becoming acquairted with them. The present set of Guatemala stamps has a handsomely executed picture of a parrot in colours, denoting that the bird is an inhabitant of that country. The first issue of New South Wales stamps contain a view of Sydney-a very primitive one, it is true, but the printer's art was at that time not so highly developed as now. This same remark applies to nearly all countries. Some of the stamps of 40 years ago were wretched specimens of the art, and those of to-day compare most favourably in design and workmanship, in fact, each country seems to vie with the other in the beauty of its stamps. It seems, with few exceptions, that England and the colonies have been content to retain the portrait of her Queen from the very first issue down to the present time. The stamps of other countries contain pictures of an elephant, a tiger, and other devices showing the natural products or in some other way giving
information relative to the particular country they represent. But the seneral rule of most comintries is to give cither the portrait of the reignins suvereign or the arms of the nation on their stamps.

*     *         * 

Thmemare there candidutes fur the Presidency of the A. l'. A., J. K. Tiffany. C. H. Mekcel and H. E. Deats.

In our last number we commented on the fact that Mr. R. C. H. Brock's collection had beon placed fur sale with the Bugert \& Durbin Cu., of Philadelphia, and stated that Mr. Gilbert Harrison, of Yorkshire, England, had been advised that he would have an opportunity of a private selection from U. S. enveiopes before they were offered for sale. It seems this was true in case the collection was to have been sold at auction, but from the July number of Bugert \& Durbin circular we learn that the entire collection of $U$. S. envelopes, and the revenue stamps of the United States, which are divided in three sections, documents, match and medicine and tax stamps, also the collections of U. S. proofs have been sold in their entirety to our leading collector of American stamps, Mr. Hiram E. Deats, of Flemington, N. J. While this will undoubtedly be a disap. pointment to Mr. Gilbert Harrison, and perhaps other collectors who expected to get piekings from the collections, it is a matter of congratulation to American Philatelists that the collection should remain in this country and pass into the posisession of such an carnest Philatelist as Mr. Deats. The other portions of Mr. Brock's collection will be sold at public auction during the coming season.Plilatelic Fournal of America.

## GRILL VS. EMBOSSING.

There has been a tendency of late years amons philatelic cataloguers and writers to do away with the old familiar term "grill," and to use the word "embossing." to designate the small punctures on some of the U.S. and Peruvian stamps. We think it would be much betie- to stick to the old word as being distinctive and not liable to be misunderstood. An embossed stamp is one like the early Portugals or the U. S, envelope stamps, the same word should not be used to describe the entirely different features of a stamp known as a grill.Philatellc Monthly.

## A STAMP FRAUD.

Anchor Stamp Co. is a new name which C. E. Fuelscher, of St. Louis, is using. We have seen one of their price lists in which they advertise U. S. at about 50 per cent. below other dealers, for instance, the Executive set, \$12, Justice complete, $\$ 12$, etc., etc., and as they cannot supply them at this price we would advise our readers not to send money in advance in the opinion of catching a bargain, as you will be greatly disappointed if you should get the following answer: "Yours with $\$$-received, but we are sorry that we cannot supply the set of stamps you order, but we enclose a lot of approved sheets and trust that you can select the value for them."-Post Office.

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