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# THE <br> STAMP REPORTER, 

A Monthly Magazine devoted to the Interests of Stamp Collecting.

## Geo. Bradley, Publisher,

No. 13 Centre Street, - - - St. Catharines, Ontario.

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One inch trial advertise-
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of desirable Stamps. All bids must be in on or before May ist.
No, of Lot,

1. 3002 C Green Canada, last issue.
2. 100 5c Green Register.
3. Ioc,--\$2 Canada Red Law, complete set II varieties.
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5. 200 2c Rose Hawaii, 1883 .
6. Nozambique Co., 1892 , complete set, surcharged, 9 varieties.
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8. Porto Rico, 4 varieties unused,'9S,'99.
9. United States, '55 \& '60 issue, Ioc. green on cover, cat $50 c$.
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12. Canada '69, ic yellow, 2 on cover.
13. Canada '68, ic red on cover.

14 Canada '59, I pink, 10 on cover.
TERMS.-Fiery successful bidder will be notiticd that his bid has been accepted, and stamps will be sent on receipt of cash.
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A besutiful specimen of Japanoso art, also a valarble addition to any stampeollection. consisting of 20 varicties of raro Japancse stamps and 4 varieties of post carde, all nrtisticelly monnted in a benutifully decorated blbum of natiyo paper. Price 40 cents, post paid.

HENRY H HALL, Box 422, Hurtforal, Comn. \& N N. B. U. N. Strmps at low prices are our specinlty. New list seat frec.

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Thesu Stamns will be pat. up in crivelopes of onc erch; and upon receipt of 35 cts , one of these envelopes will bo sent

Whon sendiag ask for a namber. from 1 to 1,000. Send in at least 12 numbers, so thi ion will bo sure to receive a packst.

Escryone has theramochance.
Send in silver. wonby onder or regletered letter. No stamps takan.

This Gffersloses Misy 15th.
WM. E. NTOHOLSOR,
St. Cattabings, Ont.

# The Stamp Reporter. 

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS

VoL. 1.
APRIL.
No. 8.

How to Photograph Stamps Without a Camera.
by herbert gite.
The idea is prevalent among stamp collectors and amateur photographers that it is a difficult thing to obtain a good photograph of a stamp.

The following way, which gives satisfactory result, is especially good because of its being so simple. The only aiticles needed are the printing frame and a plain sheet of glass to put in the printing frame instead of the regular negative.

A few words of advice might be useful to the ordinary amatuer. In photographing a group of stamps it is well to select stamps of veity nearly the same thickness. This would not, of course, apply to the photographing of a single stamp.

The dirictions, which are very simple, are: Place the stamp face up in the printing frame (so that thie face of the stamp and the sensitized side of the paper are touching each other). Then print to good strength after which tone and then dry. This will give the picture of the stamp printed backwards. Now take this print and place in the frame over which place another sheet of printing paper so that the face of each shieet will come together.

Now put the frame in a very strong light (Sunlight preferied) and print to desired color.

The length of time taken to print the last picture is variable, as it all depends on the thickness of the paper used, a thin paper is the best as the time in printing is materially shortened. The picture, taken in this manner will have a white background.
If any one, after closely following the above, does not obtain good results would confer a favor on the writer if they state their case plainly after doing which I could probably remove the trouble.

## Souvenir Card Collecting.

by stamp coliector.
Lately there has been started a new idea, that of collecting Souvenier Postal Cards. These cards are printed by a publishing company in sets of eight. The object of the proprietors is to introduce them as a branch of philately.

Speaking from a stamp collector's view of the subject I say they should be let alone. Why should these cards, which are really only a scheme by which some people hope to make some money, be collected? Surely there are enough stamps
without having these added. Young stamp collectors may give up the stamps for these picture cards and we do not want this to happen.

There will be no object in collecting them. They will never become scarce nor valuable. The number is not limited and besides any person can print them. The country will soon be flooded with them if they receive encouragement. They are useless as postal cards às full letter rate is charged and also because there is hardly any space upon which to write.

Taken all around these cards are only worthless bits of paper with pictures on the back which will do more injury than good. Stamp collectors especially should give them a wide berth. People may as well begin to collect advertising cards.

## Forged Stamps.

FROM FAMIIX IIERALD.
One of the greatest troubles in collecting is the great number of forged stamps which are to be met with, a great part of which are made on the Continent of Europe. They present a danger which must be guarded against, as they threaten to deter and prevent fresh adherents to our hobby. Reprints, when fraudulent, are of course akin to forgeries, and with the streams of information, which can now be had so cheaply, in the shape of weekly and monthly publications devoted entirely to stamps, beginners should not be long in finding the assistance and material required
to cope with either dangea. Any one commencing a collection, who is willing to learn and continues quietly, without expecting to form one in a week or two, will derive amusement, information and pleasant companionship during a long year, and will, in addition, discover that his hobby has not only aided him intellectually, but also regarded from a financial standpoint, will have turned out by no means unsatisfactory. The toast given by a blacksmith might unfortunately have been taken as giving advice to those inclined to the evils we are describing; it was "Success to forgery," and has been followed to a very large extent for years. A well known London dealer (F. W. Palmer) has one of his rooms papered with over seventy thousand forged stamps, which, if genuine and unused, would be worth over five millions of dollars, and they include such stamps as all values of Great Britain from one penny up to five pounds, the penny black and the Mulready, beside other rare and unique forgeries.

Things got so bad that laws have been made in several countries against these practices, The one in the States says: "Any person who shall forge, or counterfeit, or knowingly utter, any forged or counterfeited foreign postage stamps of any government shall be punished by imprisonment att hard labor of not less than two or more than ten years." This goes to prove how some people try to defraud the postal authorities out of the revenue which accrues from the sale of these most useful pieces of gummed paper.

## Stamp Frauds.

FROM FANIISY HERAID.
Here is a specimen taken from a Swiss paper. The postal authorities of Switzerland have to thank the Lausame Philatelic Society for the stoppage of a serious misappropriation of its revenue. In 1890 a member of the society sent several large packages to the same destination, with the request that the stamps on the cover might be returned. When these arrived he discovered that the stamps were all in pieces, but joined together; he showed them to the head of the parcel's offle, who could find no clue to the torn stamps. A considerable time after he sent several packages to his son, who wanted to keep the stamps, but when taking them off the wrappers found them all in small pieces, joined together and stuck to the parcels. This he reported to his father, who, after his first experience, had kept a lookout, and, on reporting the matter again, a suspected postal clerk was watched for eight days, during which time the addresses on the fifty packages were kept, and the recipient requ sted to return the covers, which, on examination, were found to have been treated in a similar manner to the others.

The man had collected a quantity of cancelled stamps, of all values, and by cutting off those portions which had escaped cancellation, he was enabled to make apparently perfect specimens, which he heavily cancelled, and appropriated the postage paid to his own use, He had been in the service twenty-three

## 'STAMP COLLECTORS' DIRECTORY.

Stamp publications and dealers will please send sample copies and price-lists to the addresses below.

Herbert Gile, 33 Howard St., Melrose, Mass.
Thos. J. Renand, Box 1290, New Orleans, La.
Rufus Gent, 1139 Pierce Ave., Niagara Falls, N. Y.
Wm. Magness, Jr., St. Catharines, Ont.
John Nelson, Box 709, St. Catharines, Ont.
Iester Coggins, Sharon, Mass.
C. T. Kirby, Box 325, Winnip2g, Man.
P. A. Oswald, St. Catharines, Ont.
T. C. Wainwright, 6 ro Wood St., Pittsbnrg, Pa.
Wir. Beatty, Box 87, St. Catharines, Ont.
years at a salary of three thousand three hundred francs, and denied the charges laid against him. He had bought the estates for seventy-one thousand francs, upon which he had borrowed sixiy-five thousand francs, of which he had repaid five thousand, so that these estates brought him in an additional income of sixteen hundred francs, after payment of interest. The report of the police tribunal proved conclusively the exact mode of operation of the thief, and a sentence of six months' imprisonment, four hundred francs due, and twenty years' deprivation of civil rights, was passed. This is one good point in favor of stamp collecting, and many more instances could be given if space permitted.

[^0]
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GEO. BRADLEY, editor and publisher, St. Catharines, Ont., Canada.

## Editorial.

With this number we assume our originall size. We liope and think the next change will be an increase of pages. You can help us by sending in your suoscription or ad.

Advertisers will please notice that our advertising columns do not contain our ads. If you place an ad. with us you get the full benefit. Please remember that rates are the lowest and they pay.

We are offering this paper and the Perforator for 25 cents.

Read the Johnstown Stamp and Publishing Co's. ad. on last page of cover.

Betternotice Grank P. Brown's ad. before you forget.

We want good active agent's. Write for terms.

The publisher of the $O, P$. is beginning to set his mind on being elected as official organ for the $D, P$. A.

How Best to Advertise.
Careful consideration seems to be entirely lacking among certain classes of stamp dealers. Some places their advertisements without regard to character or circulation. For a stamp paper to claim a large circulation is enough to indnce some dealers, who ought to be more careful, to rush in their advertisements, But why not examine the merits of the paper before doing so? It costs cold cash to advertise. There are dealers who complain if they do not receive a pile of answers to their one-inch ad. Perhaps the notice was not properly worded, perhaps it was the wrong kind of an advertisemrnt in the wrong medium. Very likely it was both. A stamp journal filled with dealers' advertisements will not give so good returns if only half the space was utilized. It is very probable that your ad. would not pay you unless it contained some extraordinary bargain.

It pays a dealer much more to place a well written, correctly worded, catchy advertisement in a paper not overflowing with competitors' advertising. In a paper not crowded with advertisements you do not have so many competitors and therefore stand a better chance of catching the buyer.
In writing up an advertisement care should be taken to tell only the truth. Then, if your stamps are in demand at your price, your advertisement will pay well.

## PRESS REVIEW.

Readers will notice in the April Number of the Advocate a unique scheme the publishers have of showing the popularity of their paper. It is a slip of six coupons which have on each "use one of these when answering an advertisement." "Saw your ad. in Advocate." The paper itself is improving,

The March Perforator keeps up the record. The portrait of Mr. Jos. F. Beard adorns the cover while the principal article is "The Empire State Philatelic Society" by H. A. C. The notes are good as usual,

The Philatelic West comes first into our sanctum with the March Number. On the front cover is a cut of the Fine Arts Building of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition. The paper has been appointed official organ of the Nebraska Philatelic Society.

The March Texan Philatelist contains an article entitled "Our Special Delivery Service" by H. H. H., and another, "New issue from Netherland" by Norcross, these with the notes make up the paper.

The Evergreen Philatelist for April is good as usual. The Critic on a Mekeel's Ordinary is the principal article.

The Philatelic Bulletin.

[^1]Local Items.
Our city now boasts of two stamp papers.

What is the matter with starting a branch of the D.P.A. here? Many would be in favor of it.

Mr. Oswald is one of the latest to join the dealers' ranks. He has an ad in another place. Read it.

The new issue is being much sought after just at present and naturally many are beginning to collect. This is the beauty of issues.
I. S. Graham of Merritton, Secretary of the D. P. A., will leave shortly for British Columbia. He has resigned his office as Secretary.

Mr. R. G. Widdicombe, publisher of the Ontario Philatelist, was in Buffalo for a few days the other week. He says business is fair.

A Toronto local newspaper states that a stamp collector there has purchased two rare Canadian stamps for the sum of $\$ 600$. He claims that this is a bargain price. We doubt.

Nothing has been heard of the Philatelic Messenger since January. It is to be hoped the publisher has not given up in despair.

Later-[We learn that the Philatelist Messenger has secured mailing rates and will appear again shortly. Well done! Mr. Knight, equal rights at last.

Patronize Walker, the People's Druggist.

## Massachusetts Items.

BX HER13IER'N GILT.
At present stamp matters are very quiet in Mass.
Mr. A. Krassa has taken the New York agency of the American Souvenir Co. of Boston, who are publishing a series of souvenir cards. It is feared that the younger element will give up collecting stamps in order that they may collect these cards. This is just what has happened in Germany where it is the fad at present.

Local collectors desire the stamps of Gold Coast and Sierre Leone at present. Small dealers report that the stamps of Iceland are in demand.

It is rumored that many firms which have sent out large postal cards have been notified that this will no longer be allowed.

A local druggist says, "I am nearly pestered to death by people who wish to look over my old bottles for stamps."

The big Barbados Jubilee stamps are at present quite common, especially the half-penny denomination.

The New Hebrides Company has issued a set of stamps,

We think that Mekeel's Weekly holds the record as to its advertising qualities. Just think! 594 answers for a single line ad.

Where is the All-around stamp Advertiser lately? It has failed to show up for several months.

Mr. Bradley is to be complimented on the neat appearance and typography of The Stamp Reporter.
The new 5c blue has arrived in St. Louis. This is the third time that the color has been
changed from brown to blne. The new stamp is quite attractive.

## Ohio Notes.

by J. enward sohn, jr,
We regret very much the loss of Mr. Edwin Fisher from Philatelia. He was Vice-President of the W. P. A. He will leave for Siberia next October. He vars not decided by which route 1. soing to go. He intends to write for the daily papers in the large cities about his experience, while he is over there. He has resigned from the P. S. of A. and W. P. A. Mr. Fisher has several relatives in Vladivostock, Siberia. If war should occur with China, he intends to go there as correspondent. I am to succeed Mr. Fisher as Vice-President of the W. P, A.

Some of our most prominent collectors of the State are against the issue of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition stamps. The Exposition will be held at Omaha in 1898. The stamps are going to be issued all over the world,

Ohio collectors regret very much the death of G. B. Calman, the largest wholesale dealer in the world, He died Jan, 25th at New York City, He was also President of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.
Ohio Philatelic Association at last has an official organ, "The Stamp Collectors' Figaro", that is published at Wellington, Ohio, Mr. C, B, Duffy, the Exclange Superintendent of the O . P. W., is editor of it.

The new one cent postal cards of U.S. have been put on sale at the Cincinnati Post Office.

Superb Monthly, Subseription 2ikets, Sample Copies Free, Tho increased demand for toreign stamps proves the fact that

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