

The Chronicle.

Vol. 1.

PHILA., JULY, 1885.

No. 1.

THE CHRONICLE,
 Published Monthly by
JAY GOOD,
 753 North 20th St.,
 PHILADELPHIA, PA.
 Subscription, 15 Cents per year.
 Original Contributions, Correspondence and notices of exchange are solicited.

U. S. Specimen Postage Stamps.
 W. A. K., in the *Empire State Philatelist*.

Among the average class of stamp collectors in the United States, the specimen postage stamp has long been an enigma; many considered them no better than counterfeits, and would never admit them to their collections, their prejudice making them deaf to any explanations which might be offered. However this is wearing off, and such philatelists are daily decreasing. I shall therefore only present a few facts, showing that they are really no worse than such stamps that have never passed through the mails.

When a new series of stamps are issued the preceding set becomes comparatively extinct to the mass of people, and are forgotten by all except those interested in philately.

In general a large surplus is left over on the hands of the government, which must be worked off in some way or other, and when the science of philately was comparatively young, so to speak, the excess of the former issue was sufficient to meet the private demands of stamp dealers; but as the mania for collecting grew, the system of reprinting was adopted—that is, making use of the old dies in the reproduction; and a printed circular was issued, which could be had on application from the third Assistant Postmaster-General

at Washington, which priced all the issues from 1857 at their face value, the distinctive peculiarity being that they were un gummed. So also newspaper stamps could be obtained.

The revenue from this practice was certainly very small, but nevertheless it paid the government to employ clerks, who were kept busy on this special branch alone.

It is allowable to use uncanceled specimens of old issues as far back as 1861, and accordingly the regular issues of reprints were only distinguished by their un gummed peculiarity, but with the department stamps it was a different matter, as a rule was in order to fine or imprison any outsider who used them as postage; and to guard against this the word "Specimen" was printed over the face of the stamp.

In August, 1884, the reprinting was entirely discontinued, and upon application for such, money sent was returned, with another printed paper, setting forth that the practice had been abolished, and signed by the 3d Asst. Postmaster-General or clerk. Later, it was announced that all reprints of department stamps, old issues, etc., had been burned. Whether this is true, I cannot say, but, at all events, the public sale is a thing of the past.

The specimen department stamps were the ones I referred to especially, at the beginning of this article, and I have endeavored to show to any such disbeliever in specimen stamps that the word "Specimen" is only to guard against the breaking of the established rule mentioned above, and a first-rate substitute for those without—the latter of course being preferable.

Cheap Stamps.

Alsace & Lorraine, 5 & 10c.	§ .05	Iceland, 16 sh 5 aur	.05
Bahamas, 1sh	.07	“ 10, 20 & 40 aur	.05
Barbados, 4 var	.05	Italy, Segna Tasse 12 var	.50
Belgium, 49, 10c.	.08	Japan 8 var	.10
Bosnia, 3 var	.10	Luxemburg 15 var	.25
Brazil, 1844 3 var	.25	Mexico, 74, 25c	.02
“ 15 “	.30	“ 74, 6 var inc. 100c.	.30
Br. Guiana, 1 & 2c	.01	“ 79 5 var	.20
“ “ 1860, 1&2c	.05	New Foundland 3c	.02
“ Honduras, 1 p	.05	New So. Wales, 8d	.10
Cape Good Hope, (triang.)	.15	Nicaragua, 3 var	.10
Ceylon, 3 var	.10	“ 1862, 12 & 5c pf	.10
“ Env. 4c	.03	“ 1877, 2 & 25c	.10
Chili, 5c, 2 var	.03	Peru, Unpaid 5 & 10c	.05
“ 5 var	.10	Prince Edw. I. 3d	.05
Corrientes 2 “	1.00	Sierra Leone 2d	.05
“ 1 real	2.50	Sweden, unpaid 10 var,	.18
Costa Rica 4 var	.20	“ official 10 var	.18
“ “ 1863 4 var	.50	Swiss, 1 & 5 fr unpaid	.10
Cuba, 10 asst.	.15	Tasmania 5 var	.05
Cyprus, 4 var	.15	U. S. Postage due 3 var	.01
Denmark, 53 57, 2sh	.05	“ “ “ 30 & 50	.10
“ 100 ore	.03	“ “ “ 10	.05
“ Official 5 var	.10	Agriculture Dept., 3c	.04
Egypt, 1867 20 paras	.20	“ “ 6c	.08
“ 6 var	.05	Interior “ 1 & 2c	.02
France unpaid 10, 15c	.03	Treasury “ 7 var	.10
“ “ 20, 30, 40c	.05	Unused Stamps.	
French Colonies, 4 var	.10	Alsace & Lorraine, 2c	.15
Gambia, 2d	.10	Argentine, 1862, 5c	.10
Gold Coast, ½ & 1d	.05	“ 1884 ½c	.10
Holland Unpaid, 10c	.05	“ provisional ½c	.15
Guatamala, 1, 2, & 5c	.03	Barbados, 2½ d	.15
Honduras, 1&2c	.03	Bolivia, 1867 5c green	.10
“ 2 r.	.15	“ 5 black	.05
Hong Kong, 5 var	.10	Brazil 1878 10 & 20 real	.03
“ “ 1862, 2, 4, 8 & 30	.02	British Columbia, 2c.	.25
“ “ 16 & 30c	.10	Brunswick, 1 gr	.01
“ “ Provisionals §2	.25	Corrientes, Blue & Red	1.00
“ “ “ §3	.50	Costa Rica 1852 ½ r	.10
		“ “ 2 r	.20
		France, Unpaid 1&2c	.02
		Gambia ½d	.03
		“ 1d	.05

Heligoland 1869 $\frac{1}{4}$ sh	.03
“ 1867 $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ sh	.10
“ Env. 10 pf	.05
Modena, 9c	.10
Peru Unpaid, 1 & 10c	.05
“ “ 5c	.15
“ “ triangle	.25
Porto Rico, 1882 $\frac{1}{4}$ m	.01
Salvador, 1879 1 & 2c	.05
Trinidad 1d	.05

Gummed paper per sheet 10c.

Stamp Albums.

Imperial Albums 75c regular price \$1.

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Youth's Companion Album at \$1 & \$2.

Merchant Flags of the World 25c.

Portraits of Rulers 50c

Coats of Arms 50c.

The Ten Cent Series.

Each packet contains 10 varieties. Price 10c or the 12 packets (120 var. stamps) for \$1.00 post free.

No. 11 contains stamps from Argentine, Br. Guiana, Ceylon, Dutch, Indies, Italy, (Newspaper).

No. 12 contains stamps from Barbados, Jamaica, Chili, Deccan & Wurtemberg.

No. 13 contains stamps from Costa Rica, Brazil, Interior, Cape Good Hope and Br. Guiana.

No. 14 contains stamps from Venezuela Victoria, Greece, Porto Rico and Finland.

No. 15 contains stamps from Post Office, Turkey, Sweden, Official and Portugal.

No. 16 contains stamps from Heligoland, Japan, Tasmania, Roumania, Mexico.

No. 17 contains stamps from Haiti, Italy (unpaid) Brazil, Russia and India.

No. 18 contains stamps from Sandwich I. Treasury, War, Prussia and Hanover.

No. 19 contains stamps from Ecuador, Portugal, Spain (war) and Norway.

No. 20 contains stamps from So. Australia, Hanover, Peru, Bosnia Victoria.

No. 21 contains stamps from Ceylon, Br. Guiana, Tasmania, France (unpaid) and Guatamala.

No. 22 contains stamps from Danish West Indies (unused) Hamburg, (unused) Spain, Husseys Local & Post Office.

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Low Prices and Good Work.

We do all kinds of Job Printing, in the latest and best styles, at bottom prices.

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Printed to order with Neatness and dispatch.

We make a specialty of printing papers devoted to Philately. This Paper is a specimen of our work.

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Five Cent Series.

Each Packet contains 10 varieties of stamps. Price 5c, or the 10 packets (100 different stamps) for 50c, post free.

No. 1 contains stamps from Chili, So. Australia, War, Spain, &c.

No. 2 contains stamps from Brazil, Servia, Portugal, Austria &c.

No. 3 contains 10 stamps from New Zeland, Romania, Interior, Italy &c.

No. 4 contains 10 stamps from Turkey, Post Office, New So. Wales, Hungary &c.

No. 5 contains 10 stamps from Queensland, Dutch Indies, Barbados, Holland.

No. 6 contains 10 stamps from Victoria, Cuba, Sweden, Canada &c.

No. 7 contains 10 stamps Cape of Good Hope, New Brunswick (unused), Egypt, Finland &c.

No. 8 contains 10 stamps from Italy (segnatasse) Luxemburg, Natal, Norway &c.

No. 9 contains 10 stamps from Porto Rico, So. Australia, Jamaica, &c.

No. 10 contains 10 stamps from Greece, Sweden, Official, Wurtemberg, &c.

THE BANNER SERIES.

This series is something new, and when purchasing any one of these packets you are sure of a bargain.

No. 23 contains many scarce, and obsolete 100 varieties. Price 10c.

No. 24 contains 200 stamps well mixed. Price 6 cents.

No. 25 contains 1000 finely assorted stamps. Price 25 cents.

No. 26 contains 50 stamps from Asia, Africa, America, Central America, only packet of the kind ever offered. Price 50 cents.

No. 27 contains 50 varieties rare stamps from the United States, including Newspaper, Gov't Locals, Official etc. Price \$1.00

No. 28 contains 50 varieties stamps from Australia, Asia and Africa. Price \$2.00.

No. 29 contains 100 varieties stamps from So. America, including Brazil 1843-44. Price \$5.00

No. 30 Contains 1,000 varieties including Alsace and Loiraine, Angola, Antigua, Argentine, Azores, Br. Honduras, Cape Good Hope, Triangular, all the nations of Central & South America, Africa and Asia. Price \$20.

Cheap Sets of Stamps.

All these sets are complete.

	New	Used
Bolivar, 1879, 4 var	\$2.00,	\$1.00
" 1880 6 "		2.00
Baden, "Land Post," 3 var.,	.10	
Bulgaria, 1883 7 var.,	1.00	.25
Denmark, 1864 5 var.,	.60	.10
Egypt, 1879 8 var.,		.13
France, 1870 9 var.,		.35
Guatamala, 1875 4 var.,	1.00	
" 1878 4 var.,	.50	
" 1881 5 var.,	1.00	.30
Heligoland, 1867 8 var.,	.30	.25
" wrapper 3 var.,	.15	.10
Honduras, 1866 2 var.,	.50	.50
Italy, Prov., 1878, 8 var.,	.35	.20
Mexico, 1866 4 var.,	1.50	
Norway, 1867 5 var.,		.08
Persia Service, 4 var.,	.75	
" 1876, 4 var.,	1.75	.30
" 1872 6 var.,	.60	.15
Roman States, 1868 7 var.,	.25	
Roumania, 1866 3 var.,	.12	
Salvador, 1867 4 var.,	.90	.65
Sweden, Unpaid 11 var.,	2.00	.20
Transaell, 1869 5 var.,	1.00	
Turkey, 1865 8 var.,	3.00	

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PHILA., JULY, 1886.

No. 3.

The United States Postal System.

BY WILL. M. CLEMENS.

The history of postage in the United States from the days of the colonial Government to 1847, when the first issue of United States postage stamps was made, is devoid of general interest. The growth of the service from this time forward was phenomenal. Benjamin Franklin, the first Post Master General was succeeded by Samuel Osgood of Massachusetts, who was a member of Washington's cabinet. Timothy Pickering was appointed Post Master General in 1791; Joseph Habersham in 1795; Gideon Granger in 1802; Return J. Meigs in 1814; John McLean in 1823; Amos Kendall in 1835; J. M. Niles in 1840; Francis Granger in 1841; Chas. A. Wickliffe the same year; Cave Johnson in 1845; Jacob Callamer in 1849; Nathan K. Hall in 1850; Samuel D. Hubbard in 1852; James Campbell in 1853; A. V. Brown in 1857; Joseph Holt in 1859; Horatio King in 1861; Wm. Dennison in 1864; A. W. Raymond in 1866; Jno. A. J. Creswell in 1869; J. W. Marshall and Marshall Jewell in 1874 and others in later years.

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1840, the postal receipts were \$4,543,521.92 and the postal expenditures \$4,788,235.64. During the ten years from 1840 to 1850 the aggregate postal expenditures were \$45,240,709.65, and the aggregate receipts \$43,905,811.80, showing a deficiency of \$1,334,897.85, or 2.9 per cent. of the expenditures. During the ten years from 1850 to 1860 the aggregate postal expenditures were \$105,179,891.54, and the aggregate receipts \$67,981,695.97, showing a deficiency of \$37,198,195.57, or 35.3 per cent. During the ten years from 1860 to 1870 the aggregate postal expenditures were \$167,400,969.10, and the aggregate receipts \$138,950,664.62, showing a deficiency of \$28,450,304.48, or 16.9 per cent. During the ten years from 1870 to 1880 the aggregate postal expenditures were \$316,778,563.73, and the aggregate receipts \$267,012,407.68, showing a deficiency of \$49,766,156.05, or 15.7 per cent.

Since the war the general tendency has been to decrease the percentage of

postal deficiency, and within the last few years the perfection of the system and the practice of economy has resulted in a balance of receipts over expenditures being shown.

On the 30th of June, 1860, there were in the service, among other employes, 28,498 postmasters, 474 route-agents, 1,649 mail messengers, 40 local agents and 68 railroad baggage-masters in charge of express mails. On the 30th of June, 1880, the number of postmasters in service was 42,989; of railway post-office clerks, 1,206; of route-agents, 1,252; of mail-route messengers, 338; and of local agents, 150.

In 1851, the postage rate on letters was reduced from five cents to three cents and a new series of stamps were issued in value from one to 24 cents. From 1860 the reduction of postage has been marked and steady. In 1860 the rate for domestic letters per half ounce was three cents to all points within a radius of 3000 miles, and ten cents to all points beyond that distance. On the 3d of March, 1863, the uniform rate was changed to three cents to all points, and in 1882, the uniform rate was reduced to two cents for each half ounce.

The introduction of the postal card in 1873 was a great step in the march of cheap postage, permitting as it does written matter to go through the mails at a postage charge of one cent. So highly have its advantages been appreciated that the issues increased from 91,079,000 for the first year to 272,550,500 for the year 1880, in which they constituted about 20 per cent. of all the articles of postal currency issued.

Up to 1860 the functions of the postal service had been confined to the carriage of written and printed matter; but since that year, by a series of acts, they have been enlarged by the introduction into the mails, at exceedingly low rates of postage, of nearly every known substance, of limited weight, "which is not in its form or nature liable to destroy, deface, or otherwise damage the contents of the mail-bag, or harm the person of any one engaged in the postal service." While this has been a great boon to the public, and particularly to persons in regions not reached by the usual modes of public conveyance, it has very largely increased the volume of mail-

matter transported without yielding a corresponding amount of postal revenue.
(TO BE CONTINUED.)

MIST, No. 2.

Original contributions solicited from all.

Answers to puzzles in *MIST* No. 1.

No 1. I O L A
O R E L
L E A P
A L P S

No. 2 Chicago—St. Louis.

No. 3 Scranton.

NEW PUZZLES.

No. 1. Characteristic Initials.
Constant Steady Patriot.

Boston.

Buzz.

No. 2. Numerical.

1, 2, 8, 3, 9, 10, 5, a table for the sale of goods.

5, 6, 7, a part of the body.

1, 2, 4, a small bed.

If you do the whole it will help *MIST*.
Louisville, Ky. HARRY.

No. 3. Letter Rebus.

S. T.
T. H.
M.

Philad'a.

AMERICA

Answers, and list of solvers will appear in next issue.

Send your answers in before July 15th.

SOLVERS.

A. D. T. Ralph Hayes, E. Cohen, Guessed, A. M. H., Fin, Will Harris and Bobby Koons.

PRIZE WINNERS.

No. 1. Not awarded.

No. 2. A. D. T., New York.

ACCEPTED.

Contributions from America, Buzz, Harry, and A. M. H. have been accepted.

Declined. Will Harris.

PRIZES.

For the first complete list of answers, this paper for one year.

For the best incomplete list, this paper for six months.

GOSSIP.

Every person sending in an answer to one, or more puzzles will receive the next copy of this paper free.

W. H. Your puzzle was too personal. Sorry.

What has become of the Puzzle Department of the *Mystic World*?

Exchanges.

Under this head we will insert reasonable notices for subscribers.

100 foreign stamps for every five cent piece of 1883 without the word "cents,".

50 foreign stamps for every large copper cent in good condition.

Jay Good, 753, No. 20th St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Correspondence.

H. Holden, Rochester N. Y. The International Postal cards were issued Dec. 1879.

P. H. New York. Will. M. Clemens' article on Reprints appeared in *THE CHRONICLE* No. 2. On receipt of a 2 cent stamp we will mail you same.

Solver, Portland, Me. The only way for you to learn, how to construct puzzles, is to examine the Puzzle Department carefully each month, and try to solve them. In that way you will familiarize yourself with their construction.

Fifty daily papers are taken at the White House.

Any one buying any of the Albums, or \$1.00 worth of stamps advertised on Page 4 will receive this paper one year free.

Montana's production of precious metals last year amounted to \$23,000,000, divided as follows: Gold \$5,000,000; Silver 9,000,000; Copper 9,000,000.

On June 17, 1776, the town of Palmer antedated the action of Congress, and issued a proclamation declaring itself free and independent of the mother country. The original document has been found, and now the committee on town history proposes to celebrate the 10th anniversary of this occasion by appropriate exercises at St. Paul's Church on the 17th of this month.

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—(PUBLISHED MONTHLY.)—

753 No. 20th St. - Philadelphia, Pa.

JULY, 1886.

Rates of Subscription.

One Year - - - - 15 cents.

Address all communications as above.

For the best article on Philately received within one month, we will pay \$2.00 cash.

We hope our readers will take an active interest in the puzzle department. Aside from furnishing a useful entertainment, puzzles are very instructive, and afford a pleasant recreation for the mind.

Our September number will consist of eight pages. Besides the Puzzle Department, Notices of Exchange, and the regular article on stamps by Mr. Clemens, it will contain interesting articles by other well known authors.

Commencing with the above number, we will also devote part of our paper to advertisements of reliable dealers. About two pages will be so occupied. The advertising rates will be published in our next number, or will be furnished upon application.

Paris has probably more stamp collectors than any other city of the world. There are no less than 150 merchants in that city, who deal in them exclusively.

Those receiving more than one copy of this paper, would confer a favor upon the publishers, by handing it to one of his friends.

Here and There.

U. S. Department stamps are booming.

A copper region has been discovered in Africa between Lualaba and Luapala.

The United States have an area of 440,000 square miles of coal fields.

There are over 1000 dead letters destroyed daily at the dead letter office in London.

The number of letters bearing special delivery stamps has fallen from 22,000 in November to 10,000 in March at the Philadelphia Post Office.

The cent was proposed in 1782 by Rob't Morris, the great financier of the Revolution, and was named by Thos. Jefferson two years later. It began to make its appearance from the mint in 1792.

The seven wonders of the ancient world were: Pyramids of Egypt, Walls of Babylon, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, the Temple of Diana at Ephesus, the Statue of Zenes of Olympia, the Mausoleum at Halikarnausus, and Colossus at Rhodes.

What is the difference between the Goddess of Liberty and a detective? One is always on the dollar, and one is always on the (s)cent.

A thorough washer-woman—Sal soda.

A GRIM BIT ABOUT GRANT: Grant was not a man to waste powder. When he received news of Sherman's capture of Atlanta, he was besieging Richmond. He at once telegraphed Sherman: "I have just received your despatch announcing the capture of Atlanta. In honor of your great victory I have ordered a salute of shotted guns to be fired from every battery bearing on the enemy. The salute will commence within an hour, amid great rejoicing."—*San Francisco Argonaut.*

Fate of a jilted butcher:

He tried in drink to drown his cares,

And there found no relief,

But daily grew more woe-begone,

You never *sausage* grief.

At last his weary soul found rest,

His sorrows now are o'er;

No fickle maid now troubles him:

Pork reacher he's no more.

American Packets.

Each Packet contains 10 different stamps. Price 5 cents.

No. 1 contains stamps from Greece, Sweden Official and Wurtemberg.

No. 2 contains stamps from India, Porto Rico, So. Australia & Norway.

No. 3 contains stamps from Chili, So. Australia, War Dept. and Spain.

No. 4. contains stamps from Turkey, Post Office, New South Wales and Hungary.

No. 5 contains stamps from Cape Good Hope, Interior, Sardinia and Italy.

No. 6 contains stamps from Jamaica, Treasury Dept., Egypt, Austria.

No. 7 contains stamps from Dutch Indies, Canada, New Foundland and Holland.

No. 9 contains stamps from Romania, Japan, U. S. Due, and Austria.

No. 10 contains stamps from Hong Kong, Ceylon and Denmark.

Stamp Albums.

Imperial Albums. Beautifully bound in cloth with elegantly bound cover in Gold and Black—Price \$1.00.

International. Boards, Half Cloth \$1.50, Cloth Magnificently Gilt \$2.50. Same with guards and blanks for future issues \$3.50.

Banner Packets.

No. 23 contains 100 varieties of rare stamps including India &c. Price 15 cents.

No. 24 75 varieties 10 cents.

No. 25 contains 1000 finest assorted stamps, 23 cent.

The American Album for beginners, contains 1320 spaces. Price only 20 cents.

Cheap Stamps.

When there is more than one stamp mentioned on a line, the price is per one stamp. When an assortment or a set is offered the price is for the entire number.

*Unused.

Alsace & Lorraine 5c., 10c	\$.05
Bardados, 4 var.	.05
*Brunswick 1 gr.	.02
Brazil, 6 asst.	.10
Br. Guiana 1c. 2c.	.01
Cape Good Hope (triang)	.15
“ “ “ set 10 var.	.25
Ceylon, 2c., 4.,	.02
Chilli 5c. 2 var.	.03
Cuba 1880 5c.	.02
“ 6 asst.	.10
Egypt 3 asst	.02
*France, unpaid 1c.	.02
“ 10 var.	.05
“ 15 asst	.05
Guatamala, 1, 2, & 5c.	.03
Hong Kong 2c., 10c.	.01
Japan 8 asst	.10
“ 4 var.	.03
Luxemburg 10 asst	.05
Mexico '74, 25c.	.02
New Zealand 10 asst	.05
*Porto Rico 82½ mil.	.01
Sandwich Islands 1c., 2c.	.02
“ “ “ 5 asst	.10
Spanish 25 asst	.10
* “ 1870 1 mil	.01
*Sardinia 1 & 15c.	.01
Turkey Newspaper Stamps	.02
U. S. Postage Due 2 var	.01
“ Agricultural 3c.	.05
“ Interior 2c.	.02
“ Treasury 3 & 6c.	.01
“ 1861 3c.	.01
“ War 12c.	.50

All stamps guaranteed genuine, in good condition. Orders filled the same day they are received.

American Stamp Co.,
753 No. 20th St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

This paper is printed by R. M. Rutison, Flushing, Mich. Send stamp for estimates.

