

SEND BIDS.

(Continued from preceding page.)

or without reserve prices—10% commission, no charge if unsold.

Such lots as merit it and are received early enough, will be catalogued in the WEEKLY and by mail lists to out-of-town buyers.

We have a good cash market here in St. Louis, and fair value can be depended upon.

Cash advances made when required. Prompt settlements after sales.

THE STAMP EXCHANGE,

Rooms 604-605 Century Building, - - St. Louis, Mo.



All Kinds of Nice Clean Stamps AT EXCEEDINGLY LOW RATES.

Christmas money in their unsurpassed

APPROVAL SHEETS.

Request for them should be accompanied by first-class reference.

W. SELLSCHOPP & CO.
118 Stockton St., San Francisco, Cal.

1898 WAR REVENUES 1898

SET 14 PROPRIETARY.

1/4, 1/2 brown, 1/4 red brown, 3/8, 5/8, 1, 1 1/4 plum, 1 1/2 purple, 1 3/4, 2, 2 1/2, 3 1/4, 4 and 5c.

All unused, 37 cents.

SET 9 DOCUMENTARY.

1/2 orange, 1/2 gray, 1c. I. R., 2c. I. R., 1c. blue, 2c. pink, 3, 4 and 5c.

All unused, 29 cents.

POSTAGE EXTRA.

WILMAN IDLER, III S. High St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

RICHARD E. BROWN,
Wholesale Dealer in Postage Stamps.
KEYPORT, - - - NEW JERSEY.

CHICAGO NOTES.

(Continued from preceding page.)

In a wholesale drug house, an interesting spectacle was witnessed the other day. A typewriter was feeding sheet after sheet of five-cent and lower values proprietary into her machine and neatly cancelling each stamp with typewritten initials and date.

There is trouble ahead for the hopeful young man who gives his girl friend, who happens to be a stamp collector, a bottle of perfume as a Christmas gift and modestly tells her that it is the best that money can buy. Heretofore the deception may have worked successfully but this year the girl will wither him with a glance, after seeing a 5-cent proprietary on the bottle and calling her philatelic knowledge into play.

A man here told his wife that he was going to get a new stamp album. She said that it was foolish to do that, as the one he had was not "full" yet.

The following from the *Record* establishes a high-water mark for the price of the current two-cent unused:

Havana, Cuba, Dec. 15.—The New York *World* correspondent cables: The first American postoffice in Havana was opened to-day at 74 Lamparilla street. It will be a military mail station, but owing to the breakdown of the ordinary mail service in the city, letters for American and English residents will be handled.

Chief Clerk C. S. Beavers, formerly in the railway mail service, and G. S. Hunt, a financial clerk, took charge of the office at noon precisely, in the presence of a large number of Americans, and declared it open for business. Champagne was opened and the occasion was duly celebrated. There was spirited bidding for the first 2-cent stamp sold. It was knocked down to F. C. Wills, a postal official, for \$2.

The holiday trade here is very gratifying from the dealers' standpoint. Stamp albums are selling unusually well and the boys are besieging the stamp shops.

INQUIRY DEPARTMENT.

We shall be glad to give information in this column, upon request of our readers, that will be of general interest.

We cannot undertake, in any case, to give valuations or supply catalogue quotations.

Alleged discoveries, or unique varieties, will not be mentioned unless the stamps are submitted for our examination. In such cases postage must be sent for the return of the specimen or specimens submitted, together with registration.

This department will not undertake to pass on the genuineness of any stamp and reserves the right to reject any question not deemed worthy of publication. All communications requiring a reply by letter must contain the necessary postage for that purpose.

J. E. d'O., Montreal.—In answer to your request for a full list of the plate-numbers of the Canadian maple leaf and numeral sets, we append a list kindly furnished us by Charles Bailey, Toronto, president of the Dominion Philatelic Association. Mr. Bailey writes:

"I am pleased to submit the following list, which I have every reason to believe is correct." It is understood that the officials at Ottawa are averse to giving of their own accord plate-number information.

Maple Leaves. Denominations.	Plate-Number.
1/2c.....	1
1c.....	1-2-3-4.
2c.....	1-2.
3c.....	1-2-3-4-5-6.
5c.....	1
6c.....	1
8c.....	1
10c.....	1.

Numerals. Denominations.	Plate-Number.
1/2c.....	1
1c.....	1-2.
2c.....	1-2.
3c.....	1-2.
6c.....	1
8c.....	1.
10c.....	1.

The 5-cent numeral has not appeared at this writing.

F. G. J.—"I. R." and "Inter. Revenue" signify "Internal Revenue." Internal revenue is "Taxes, duties, customs, etc., which a nation or state collects and receives into the treasury for public use."

W. P. S., Camden.—You send a Great Britain, 1864, one penny red, that shows a printing on its face, as follows: The initials O U S between two parallel lines, two millimetres apart, in a color much the same as that of the stamp. The overprinting was done after the stamp had been printed and was probably ordered by some firm, with or without authority, to prevent the use of their stamps by unauthorized persons. The printing was intended, no doubt, to do the same service that the perforated initials in British stamps perform.

A. J. C., Alma Center.—In answer to your request for the most approved method of removing backing from stamps with least injury to them, the following is given from "Stamps and Stamp Collecting," by Major E. B. Evans, and published by the Stanley Gibbons' Co., London: "No stamps, any part of the design of which is embossed, should be soaked, and it is generally inadvisable to wet the face of any fine unused copies, as soaking is apt to injure the freshness of their appearance. Paper can be removed from the backs of all these by carefully wetting the backs only, with a brush, or by laying them face downwards and covering the backs with wet blotting-paper. I should add that in the case of unused stamps which have a small

piece of paper attached to them, and which still have their gum upon them, care should be taken to remove as little of the gum as possible, and only the small bit of paper should be wetted, not the whole back." (2) When a stamp is said to be on the original cover, it is implied that the envelope, letter-sheet, etc., is entire. "On part of cover" would designate a specimen that was on a piece of the envelope only, although there may be no hard and fast rule in regard to this matter.

H. A. C., Rocky Hill.—The following letter from Mr. C— is published in full because of its elements of interest:

"On page 269 of the Scott Standard Catalogue, at the commencement of the Hayti stamps, I read:

100 centimes—1 piastre.
I am unable to understand it. I believe the centime of Hayti is the French centime, equaling 1-5c of our money. In the coin table of the catalogue, I read that a Turkish piastre is 5 cents and a Moldavian piastre 6.80 cents. Before 1871 100 centimos in Spain and her colonies equalled 1 piastre, according to the catalogue, but that kind of a piastre would be equal to \$1.04. I am inclined to think that the 100 centimes of Hayti equals 1 franc, which might have been intended. If you will explain this in your inquiry department you will confer a favor. I notice that the new issue of Hayti has a 1 gourde stamp. Gourde is not mentioned in the Scott catalogue, but equals 4s sterling nearly, or 5 francs, 96.5c of our money. I was amused lately in reading the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* to read in its chronicle of new issues, that the President of Hayti is Simon Law. His name is Tiresias Augustin Simon Sam."

Commenting on this letter, we wish to say that while the monetary scales or standards of the leading nations fluctuate but little, those of the Latin-American countries change often. While the catalogue gives, as you say, "Hayti, 100 centimes—1 piastre," we are of the opinion that the piastre is not generally reckoned in the money scale of Hayti. You cannot be right in supposing that the 100 centimes of Hayti equals the French franc—19.3 cents. The monetary standard of Hayti shows 100 centimes to be equal to 1 gourde, or roughly, 100 cents in U. S. currency. According to the standard recognized by the Treasury Department, October 1, 1892, the gourde is valued at 96.5 cents. The gourde is peculiar to Hayti and was perhaps overlooked by the compilers of the coin-table in the catalogue.

B. H. W., Santa Cruz.—(1-3.) No doubt, many of the pronounced shades of different stamps are not listed in the catalogue; it is practically impossible to name all the color variations. The examples that you name are interesting and no doubt bona fide. (4) Manila amber is a brighter, yellower shade than the plain manila. Cream is something like the fawn paper that it succeeded. (5) Varieties, such as the present two-cent showing an imperforate top and bottom are usually open to the suspicion that they have been manufactured for the occasion. (6) The following descriptions for the distinguishing of the 1882 re-engraved issue, U. S. from the former emissions are taken from Stanley Gibbons': 1-cent,—The ornamental scrolls at top are shaded, and background heavily lined. 3-cent,—Shading under medalion reduced, and background touched up. 6-cent,—Shading deepened all over, especially in angles and on top and bottom labels. 10-cent,—Shading deepened, especially in angles; ball under "o" of postage reduced in size, and crescent omitted. (7) We do not re-

D. 7

Has somet
If you don't
make a frie
his or her al
buy, I want :

- 1865, No. 100
- 100
- 101
- 1875, 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 101
- 102
- 102
- 102
- 1879, 103
- 103
- 103
- 104
- 104
- 104
- 104
- 104
- 105
- 105
- 105
- 105
- 1895, 1c.
- Any of abo
acquainted w

1895, 1c.
Any of abo
acquainted w

STAN 1899

PART I, :
will be read
A spec
plete illu:
Britain, v
is now all
years.

PRICE,
Boge
722 Chestnut St.
PHILADELPHIA

call to mi
arette star
ship such

S. J. W
take to pl
postmarks
themselves
timental v
possible at
to dollars

NEW
Style of t
Temp

WASHINGTON
temporary us
days. Print
stamps are ou
distinguishing.
The denomi
cents. Across
"Cuba" are bl
near the low
but sufficient
The green on
de Peso" and
blue five as "
"10c de Peso."
The Post O
eration sever
only after col
tion made. A
bust of Gen
rejected beca
avoid giving
finally decid
either the pr
the well kn
Another deno
scene and an
One stamp
came mill w
another deno
merce." Th
clipper ship
stamp will be
one of the mo
this governm
Cuba, five ce
changed for t

DO YOU W
A
WEEK