

THE WEEKLY PHILATELIC ERA.

PUBLISHED + EVERY + SATURDAY
IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. XIII. No. 32.

PORTLAND, ME., SATURDAY, MAY 6, 1899.

WHOLE No. 312.

Philatelic Press Review.

By WM. C. STONE.

Anales de la Sociedad Filatelica Santiago, Vol. IV. No. 6, Vol. V. No. 1.
Coleccionador de Sellos, Vol. IV. No. 3, March.
Ewen's Weekly Circular (72,73).
Madrid Filatelico, Vol. III. (28).
Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, Vol. XIII. No. 18 (435).
Metropolitan Philatelist, Vol. XI. No. 5.
Perforator, Vol. III. No. 2.
Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, Vol. IX. (100).
Philatelist, Vol. XX. No. 4 (253).
Post Office, Vol. IX. (97).
Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, Vol. V. (119).
Stamps, (N. Y.) Vol. III. No. 4.
Tri-Monthly Collector, Vol. I. Nos. 10, 11.

The two numbers of the Chilean society's *Anales* complete the fourth and commence the fifth volume of that valuable periodical. The volume just closed is very much larger than any that have preceded it. The leading article in the number before me is one by M. de Lara concerning the frank stamps etc. used by postal officials in the Bolivian littoral between 1872-1879. There are numerous illustrations including several entire covers. The first number of the new volume contains some valuable notes and documents concerning the stamps issued in Peru by Colonel Seminario in March 1895.

The prospectus of the Manchester exhibition is getting to be about as much of a chestnut as certain articles on French colonial stamps that have been going the rounds of late years. The latest paper to publish the prospectus is our Brazilian contemporary *O Coleccionador de Sellos*. The exhibition is getting plenty of advertising and it certainly deserves it. May it have a prosperous season.

Madrid Filatelico presents a half tone plate of an entire sheet of the 1897 Philippine surcharges on the 25c de peso. It contains 100 stamps divided as follows: 20 centavos, 58; same, inverted surcharge 12; 15 centavos, 10; 5 centavos, 10; for telegrams, 10 stamps. The sheet is said to be unique.

Louis M. Mier contributes an article on plating English stamps to *Mekeel's Weekly* and corrects the error made in a previous issue of attempting to arrange by upper letters. The two columns which the article occupies are packed full of solid information which if not entirely new to many of us is well worth publishing. I trust we shall hear from Mr. Mier often if he can write such articles as that.

Mr. Bartels gives considerable information in his last letter in the *Metropolitan*. The quantities of the stamps ordered for the Philippines, the designs for the new Cubans, definite information concerning the provisional Cuban envelopes and the new Venezuelas.

I saw recently in some paper the statement that the *Perforator* was getting Kissengerized. Well that was just what I thought myself, and now comes the announcement that commencing with the May number C. W. K. will take sole charge of the paper.

Under the management of Mr. Chapman the *Perforator* was a dignified, able magazine, full of both news and philatelic matter. Since he parted with it, it has rather deteriorated in respect to its contents and the amount of stamp matter has been growing less and less each month. I wish it could regain its former high rank.

The most entertaining part of the *Philatelic Journal of Gt. Britain* this month is the part devoted to reviews, which is "plum full" of meaty extracts from the leading journals of the world. I am especially glad to see the translation of the article on the stamps of Holland which is running in *Le Timbre Poste*. It is well worth reading with care.

Der Philatelist illustrates the new U. S. envelopes and I do not wonder the authorities are dissatisfied with the 4 and 5 cent values. They are simply awful. They ought to be terribly rare!

We have recently seen frequent mention of the fact that this or that change was to be made in certain stamps to conform to the Postal Union regulations. While the regulation was not compulsory it has been agreed to by many nations and Eustace B. Power has compiled for the *Post Office* a

list of those countries which have adopted these regulation colors, and also another list showing what stamps and countries do not. The list of these latter is a long one and includes many prominent countries. Should they all fall into line it will mean many new issues.

An interesting article by Harry Hilckes is given in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* on the provisional stamps used in the island of Crete. Illustrations are given of four entires showing the different stamps, seals etc. used.

The minor varieties illustrated this month in *Stamps* are surcharges, and about all the possible kinds are shown in the plate. It is an interesting and valuable study. The plate of novelties shows the recent British Guiana surcharges including the TWO GEN'S error, and the recently discovered part perforated Haiti.

The *Tri-Monthly Collector* is getting behind and as a consequence the last number is only eight pages. The paper is far below the grade of those which it supplants.

Re. Canadian Postal Issues.

Mr. A. H. O'Brien kindly favored us with a copy of the unrevised edition of "House of Commons Debates" of Canada, from which we print below excerpts which we think contain points of some interest to our readers.—ED.

ISSUE OF STAMPED ENVELOPES.

Mr. Hughes asked: 1. When will the present 2-cent purple stamped envelope cease to be issued and the red issued in its place? 2. How many 2-cent purple envelopes were issued, and how many distributed? At what offices were they distributed, how many at each office, are there any more to be distributed, and if so, where will they be distributed? 3. Is it the intention of the Government to issue an entire new set of stamped envelopes to replace those at present in use? If so, when? 4. Is it the intention of the Government to issue a 4-cent and 7-cent stamp?

The Postmaster General (Mr. Mulock): The issue of 2-cent purple-stamp envelopes ceased when the supply thereof in the department became exhausted, the last issue having been made on the 7th January,