PITHY PHILATELIC POINTS (3):
SAYINGS AND ARTICLES OF NOTED WRITERS
CAREFULLY CONDENSED
BY GEO. W. STARNAMAN
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A very unique set of stamps, is the lottery stamps of Louisiana, being the only place in which a
tax was placed on “chance.” A full set consists of four stamps, two of 7½ cent and two 12½ cent value.
The earlier set shows the Masonic emblems for a design and the latter the state arms. – E.R. Aldrich.

The review columns of some of our philatelic magazines are one uninterrupted succession of
“very good number,” “nice paper,” “usual contents,” etc. This is no way to review a paper, as always
praising and never condemning, however much it may be needed, is not reviewing. – Gordon C.
Corbaley.

What is more aggravating to a collector than to receive a sample copy of a paper several months
old. Acting on the assumption that it is a late issue, the columns are eagerly perused, and the
advertisements scanned for bargains. Then the discovery that he has been reading stale news, and
advertisements from which the bargains have long been withdrawn, will truly raise his ire. – Ed. H.
Wilkinson.

There are many reasons why a single corporation is unqualified to regulate the market value of all
stamps. The holdings of a single company and the comparative demand for particular stamps held by that
company would essentially differ considerably from the supply of and the demand for stamps held by
other dealers. The catalogue is a useful guide in the study of stamps but it cannot be depended upon as
uniformly correct. – Edmund L. Smiley.

Specialists say “You cannot collect everything; or at least if you try to you will never approach
completion.” To this I say that neither can the specialist, unless his ambition is so small that he is content
with a very meagre group. Where are the rarities to come, unless, indeed, the specialist is a veritable
Cæsæus (?). – Joe F. Burnett.

Do not be afraid to ask for stamps, nor to ask for the privilege of looking over their old
correspondence for stamps and envelopes. It is in this manner that the greater number of rarities are
turned up, and added to the collectors’ stock of the world. – S.A.D. Cox.

Have you heard anything drop recently? (March 20th, 1898). I have. Nothing more or less than the
prices of Canadian half-cent jubilees, and what a disappointment it must seem like, to those holders who
have paid from 25 to 40 cents each for these stamps. The last quotation I noticed was 20 cents, but don’t
get anxious the price will go still lower. – Willard O. Wylie. (They are now advertised at 13 cents by
many dealers. – Ed.)