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e	. 25 00	
e	. 30 00	(Watermark, Star.)
e	. 40 00	1871-73-id. green,
	. 4 50	
	. 3 25	
red	. 4 00	
· · · · · · · · · · · ·	. 5 00	6d. vermillion 1 25
	. 25	1d. on right half of 5/- pink 40 00
e	. 25	1d. on left half of 5/- pink 50 00
1863, per 10	. 5 00	NEVIS.
1876, " 10	. 3 75	
1876, " 10	. 7 00	(Grayish Paper.)
1876, " 10	. 10 00	1861-1d. rose lake 4 00
1876, " 10	. 4 25	6d. lilac gray 7 00
1863, " 10	. 3 75	(Watermark, Crown C C.)
1876 " 10	. 2 00	1879–1d. violet
1876, " 10	. 1 25	<u>21</u> d. brown
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101 Regent Street, GEORGETOWN, BRITISH GUIANA.



VOL. I.

No. 5.

#### FRANKLIN L. KERNS.

S a New Year's Greeting to THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIA-TION, we present an excellent half-tone of Mr. Franklin L. Kerps, the President thereof.

Born in Georgetown, Pa., April 28, 1856, Mr. Kerns is now in his forty-second year, but an active life distinguished by unfailing devotion to his many duties has

not yet robbed his countenance of its youthful expression or stolen from his heart that geniality which so distinctly characterizes his association with his many friends.

Mr. Kerns at an early age moved to Virginia, and on starting out in life he chose printing as his vocation. His present exhaustive knowledge of the business is an evidence of the assiduity with which he acquired the mastery of its various branches. In 1874 he

became associated with the *Richmond Ohristian Advocate*, and his position now on that paper is one of great responsibility

In his official capacity of secretary and treasurer of the Rosebuds, Mr. Kerns is probably one of the most widely known of Virginians. These offices entail much foreign correspondence, and it was the attractiveness of the many beautiful stamps that franked his daily mail that first induced him to begin collecting. Early in his philatelic career he had the unusual good fortune to purchase for a trifle an exceptionally fine abandoned collection of rare old stamps, and this windfall has made his collection one of the most attractive in the State, though his number of varieties does not much exceed 4,000. His collection of South American and Mexican stamps is exceedingly fine. Of the U.S. adhesives



and revenues he can indeed boast, but his greatest pride is his magnificent accumulation of Confederates. Of these every conceivable variety of the general issues adorns his well - arranged pages, and in addition he possesses some fine locals, also many philatelic curios, which recount in silent eloquence the hardships of that stormy period. Among his adhesives are two which are oddities. They are similar to the 1861-62 TEN CENT de-

nomination, but in color are *brown*. Being on the original cover and having been presented by the original holder, a personal friend, their genuineness is incontestable.

Mr. Kerns was one of the founders of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, but finding it impossible to devote much of his valuable time to the new enterprise, he voluntarily withdrew from the partnership. F. S., JR.



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We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

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JNO. EDWARDS, 58 Rivard St., Box 379, Montreal.

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RICHMOND, VA., JANUARY, 1898.

#### The Outlook for 1898.

An exceedingly encouraging aspect, from a philatelic point of view, greets the advent of the new year. Advices from the leading stamp centers tell of increased activity among collectors as well as dealers: thus the season bids fair to become the best experienced in many years.

The mission assigned the philatelic press is to stimulate and foster this enthusiasm for our most fascinating science, by presenting well-selected, instructive, purely philatelic matter, calculated to aid in the intelligent pursuit of philately; *and*, by offering such inducements as will place it within the reach of each and every adherent of Philatelia.

Cognizant of these facts, the management of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, in order to extend its sphere of usefulness, has decided to offer this magazine for one year, with either *The Perforator*, *The New York Philatelist*, *The Home Worker*, or *The California Stamp*, at the actual subscription price of one. (See rates on inside back cover.)

New departments conducive to the progress of philately will be added during the year, as well as general improvements made, as circumstances may require.

Generous contemporaries have ap plied to our publication the flattering distinction of being "the handsomest stamp magazine in North America." It shall be our aim in 1898 to merit this and the additional title for our magazine of being "the best."

To this end we solicit the co-operation of our friends and patrons, wishing for them, one and all,

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR !

THE management of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST will esteem it a favor to be informed of any fraudulent transactions of foreign dealers. It is proposed to keep this publication clear—as far as possible-of advertisements of parties of doubtful repute. Such information, substantiated by proofs, will place the offender on the Black List and cause the advertisement to be removed. Claims placed with our management will, if practicable, and if the amount justifies the action, be prosecuted through the proper legal channels, or reports obtained from our country's consuls abroad.

WE cannot refrain from expressing ourselves on a subject which came under our observation last month. Among our exchanges we found a publication containing an exact reproduction of an engraving carried in our own magazine, designed and engraved expressly for THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

We thought it unnecessary to protect our cuts by copyright, and have no objections at all to their being reproduced, but when it comes to duplicating the cuts and then carefully cutting away our imprint, in a vain attempt at hiding the act, why, the case savors very much of plagiarism. What a pity our secret mark was not known. A stroke of the graver would have destroyed all identity.

WE have recently heard a number of complaints from collectors who have had valuable stamps removed from envelopes addressed to them while in transit through the mails. Several days ago a Richmond collector received a number of letters from Newfoundland, franked with the late surcharged stamps. Nearly every one had been torn off—several being deliberately mutilated when the vandals found they could not be "peeled off."

Is there no redress for this ?

ANOTHER philato-historical article on the Stamps of Alsace-Lorraine appears in this number from the pen of the author of "The Coup d' État" and "The Natural History of Stamps," Mr. Franklin Stearns, Jr.

JUDGING from all reports, the Germans have established themselves permanently at Kiao-tschou, in China; and, as it is not Hohenzollern policy to relinquish territory once acquired, we may expect, in the near future, an additional series of surcharged German Colonials. THE attention of the members of the Virginia Philatelic Association is directed to the announcement of the Sales Manager, Mr. John Paalzow, printed under the Association report in this number. This department is now thoroughly prepared for operation, and members are invited to avail themselves of its service. The rules governing the transactions are published, and Mr. Paalzow requests that they be preserved for future • reference.

WE present in this number the first instalment of "Postal Issues of the Confederate States of America," by Wm. D. Reed. The author's research regarding facts and data has been a thorough one, and we trust the article will have the dual tendency of instruction as well as endearing these historic stamps to every collector.

WHAT'S the matter with Norfolk? Are our friends contemplating sending our Association a New Year's greeting in the shape of a batch of applications for membership? What did we hear friend Seibert say?

THE extensive, systematical advertising of the Standard Stamp Company, which we notice in all our exchanges, should return this reputable concern a rich harvest during the present boom season.

WE are pleased to note an increased interest in postal card collecting manifesting itself in this country. Our friends on the other side of the pond have paid more attention to this less expensive branch of philately.

#### BLACK LIST.

J. W. Crawford, proprietor Crawford's Antiquarian Book-Store and dealer in postage stamps. 702 Main street, Lynchburg, Va.



The Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps, popularly known as the S. S. S. S., has been entirely re-The subscription-fee has organized. been reduced to 2s. 6d. (60 cents) per annum, and the Special Committee of the Philatelic Society, London, has been entrusted with the work of considering all unnecessary and speculative issues. A circular has been published under date of November, 1897. in which the Canada Jubilee set, Newfoundland Cabot issue, New South Wales Hospital stamps, Victoria Hospital stamps, Leeward Islands "Centenary," Mauritius (proposed Jubilee issue), Uruguay "Paz" issue, and the announced "commemorative" British South African stamps, are condemned as speculative, and in publishing the above opinion, the S. S. S. S. recommends collectors to refuse to purchase them.

The objections to the Olympian Games stamps, previously published by the Society, no longer apply, as this series has become a permanent issue.

#### A New Set of U. S. Commemorative Stamps!

A series of postage stamps in commemoration of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition to be held at Omaha next summer will be issued by the Post-Office Department. The designs and colors have not yet been determined, but the denominations will be 1 cent, 5 cent, 10 cent, and \$1. The issue of the present series of stamps will not be suspended, as was the case with the Columbian designs, but the new series will be furnished on demand.—New York Paper.

#### Five Types of the N. F. Surcharges.

N a letter just received from a prom-"inent stamp collector of St. Johns, Newfoundland, 'we were furnished "some very interesting information regarding these surcharged One Cent on 3c. mauve, of the 1890-'95 issue of Newfoundland, two types of which were chronicled in our December number.

The total issue of the surcharges is a little over 39,000. Each sheet of fifty contains three varieties of type. Of Type I. there were printed about 31,000; of Type II., 6,400, and of Type III. only 1,600.

The clerk superintending the surcharging was not aware of a variety of types until his attention was called to the fact by our correspondent.

Besides these three now well-known types, there are two additional varieties, which bid fair to rank with the "Post-office" Mauritiuses (?): One is a red surcharge, of which there were but 10 printed; the other is a double surcharge, black and red, of which there were only 35 or 40 printed.

Bre'r Chapman, of The Perforator, bids fair to become a second Darwin. For some time he has been advertising, among the stamps of his famous "Quintet Packet," one as follows : "Congo, 1896, 15 centimes (Monkey climbing a tree)." In his December Perforator that monkey has gone through all the stages of continuous development and "survival of the fittest," and is now advertised as "Man climbing a tree." As it is the same stamp, the same "climber," and the same tree, here's a chance for our congenial friend to go down to posterity if he will just explain where that "link" is. If he cannot, perhaps those "fellers" under the tree, who seem to be watching events very closely, saw it drop. Come now, Bre'r Chapman, tell us; we'll keep it in the family.

#### The War Stamps of Germany.

#### FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR.



ITH the exception of the stamps of the Southern Confederacy, no postal emission surpasses in historic interest or is more

suggestive of important political and military events than the so-called "Alsace and Lorraine" stamps issued by the German authorities for use in those parts of France occupied by them during the Franco-Prussian war of

1870-71, which terminated, at Sedan, the career of Louis Napoleon, whose early life and meteoric and ambitious progress from the prison of Ham to the Imperial Palace was described in the articles on the short-lived stamps of the Napoleonic Republic, published in the November and De cember numbers of THE VIRGINIA PHI-LATELIST under the title, "The Coup d'État of December 2, 1851."



spicuously in this historic and, to France, fatal war; who directed all the movements—political, diplomatic, and military—and whose sterling qualities stood forth in effulgent contrast with the then decayed character of Napoleon III, debauched by the excesses of his profligate court and urged to precipitation by the deeply rooted German-hater, the Empress Eugénie.

First, in rank, was William I., King of Prussia and, later, Emperor of Germany. He was the second son of Frederick William II, King of Prussia, and Louisa,

> a princess of Mecklenburg - Strelitz. and was born in Berlin, March 22, 1797; the name given him being Wilhelm Friedrich Ludwig. At an early age he entered the army and took part in the later Napoleonic wars. At the age of twenty-one he was made a majorgeneral, and on June 11, 1829, was married to Augusta, of Saxe - Weimar. At the time

However interesting and absorbing the events which led to this special emission of stamps by one government for use in the territory then belonging to another, a precedent I believe as yet unfollowed, lack of space precludes even a slight degree of prolixity and I must be brief, but before describing the causes of the war and the war itself, it would be well, as a key to the complete and unparallelled success of the German arms and diplomacy, to give some short account of the three men who figured most conof the revolution of 1848 he was the best hated man in Germany, the people believing him to be a vehement supporter of an absolutist and reactionary policy. So intense was this hatred that it was considered necessary for him to leave the Kingdom, and on the King's so entreating him he went to England, where he formed many intimate personal relations with prominent men of that country. Returning from this exile, which was of short duration, he took active part in military operations and his advancement was rapid, being finally made a field-marshal in 1854. On October 7, 1858, he assumed the regency, the King, his brother, having been attacked with disease of the brain, and on the latter's death without heirs, on January 2, 1861, William succeeded to the throne.

The brilliant achievements of his army in the Austrian war, which grew out of the Schleswig-Holstein question, or rather which was used as a pretext for Austrian expulsion by Bismarck, had the effect of changing the popular opinion of the King, convincing the people that his aims had not been so unwise, and their hatred was turned into veneration, exalting him thereafter to a position in their hearts paternal rather than regal, so that, on the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war, all Germany rallied around his standard.

William was proclaimed emperor of United Germany during the seige of Paris, January 1, 1871, at his headquarters in the palace of Versailles, and thereafter the affairs of the Empire were almost entirely placed in the hands of Bismarck.

The first German Emperor, who in his youth was cordially and intensely hated by all the German people, died December 3, 1888, revered by all as a father; loved as one of the founders of the first nation of Europe; worshipped as the benefactor of his people. Inferior in intellect to Bismarck, he possessed great insight into human character and worth, and one of the greatest praises that can be accorded him is his early recognition of the genius of two of the greatest men of modern Europe, Bismarck and Moltke, avd the implicit trust he constantly placed in their abilities and loyalty.

His daily life was characterized by manliness and absolute uprightness, and like all great men, by perfect simplicity. He was succeeded on the throne by his son, Frederick William, the "Unser Fritz" of the soldiers, the idol of the Prime in army, who lived only a few months, leaving the imperial throne in the possession of the present youthful Emperor.

Next in rank, but first in worth, is Prince von Bismarck-Schönhausen, the man of "Blood and Iron." Born at Schönhausen April 1, 1815, and educated at Göttingen, Berlin, and Greifswald, he first chose the army as his profession in life, but such mental capacity as his quickly soared above the limits of the restricted military field, and in 1847 he entered political life, becoming successively member of the General Diet, embassador to Austria, Russia, and France, and in 1862 Minister of the King's House and Foreign Affairs in Prussia. He was created a Count in 1865, and in 1871, having achieved the greatest aim of his life, the coronation of his King as Emperor of United Germany, he became Chancellor of the Empire, which office he retained until 1890, retiring in that year on account of the noncoincidence of his views with those of William II.

Never has the world seen a greater example of the intellectual giant or a more complete revolution of public opinion. No man was more unpopular, none more hated than he in his earlier career. His every aim, his every policy was violently and stubbornly opposed. His every action tended but to intensify the antagonism and condemnation of his people. His every act criticised, his every motive scrutinized by the German people, he was understood by but two and-theirs was an implicit confidence. His King, William I, was one-the other, Moltke. Together in perfect harmony did these three shape for good the destiny of the Teutonic race.

To this trio, Austria in the Confederation was a thorn in the Germanic side. The chief aims of Bismarck's active life were—First. To eject Austria from the German Confederation, clearly foreseeing that, though estrangement would necessarily and immediately follow, it would be only temporary, and eventually she must become United Germany's permanent ally—not only to eject her, but to relegate her to a position in the East, that she might never return to contest his beloved Prussia's leadership of the German States.

His second great aim, his greatest, his dearly cherished aim, was to firmly bind all Germany in lasting political unity under the lendership of Prussia, bestowing upon that kingdom the royal prerogative as uncurtailed as circumstances would allow, which condition could never have existed in a unity including the non-German sympathising Austrians, who would have ever fought for supremacy in the confederation.

In the light of history we know how well Bismarck accomplished his desires, so well indeed, that from being the best hated man in all the Fatherland, he is now beloved by every German—honored by the world as the grandest, most towering statesman of the age; the preserver of European peace, though assured by war; the amalgamater of a grand Christian empire, the foremost in Europe, which he has placed on the upward road to perfection.

Hellmuth Karl Bernhart von Moltke, one of the most remarkable men of the nineteenth century, was born at Parchim, Mecklenburg, October 26, 1800. He at one time served in the Danish army, but at an early date entered that of Prussia and steadily rose in his profession, being in 1859, after achieving promotion after promotion, appointed chief of the Staff of the Crown Prince Frederick. Although Moltke was ever laborious in the acquisition of all knowledge pertaining to military affairs, it is a noticeable fact that his achievements did not begin to attract the eye of the world until he was old in

years, being sixty-five before the world recognized it had another Napoleon. Ever slow, cautious, and careful in forming his plans, following strictly his favorite maxim, Erst wägen, dann wagen (first weigh, then venture), his execution was bold-almost reckless. Always calm. quiet, and silent, grave and stern, nothing seemed to disturb his equilibrium, and even in the midst of battle, at the moments of the greatest crisis in the greatest war, he sat upon his great black horse and calmly surveyed, telescope in hand, as if he were but a statue, the movements and conduct of his troops. Like most great men his habits of life were extremely simple, and particularly free from all ostentation. He was an expert at chess and whist, the latter of which games he rarely missed playing after dinner, even when at the seat of war.

One of the most prolific writers of his day, with a style that is graphic and laconic, he would have gained distinction as an author had not his military successes almost entirely eclipsed his literary abilities This dual combination of talents suggests a marked comparison to Cæsar, but with a difference—Cæsar wrote of himself—Moltke, of others and their works.

On his death, April 24, 1891, he left behind a name that will ever be a synonym of all that constitutes the ideal commander—the perfect man, beloved by civilians, worshipped by his soldiers, who reverently called him their "Father Moltke."

To these three men, the grandest trio of the age, working together in the perfect harmony of mutual confidence and esteem, were due the complete success of German arms, the brilliant triumph of German diplomacy, and the grand consolidation of the German States, which I will now endeavor to recount.

[ To be Continued.]



Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal for October, which arrived too late for review in our December number, contains, besides its general sterling philatelic matter, an article on "The Cochinchina Curiosities of Mr. Carion," continued from Volume VII. The author briefly reviews the case, quoting the results of the investigations by the Société Française de Timbrologie, obtained upon the highest official authority, as follows: "The statements made by the postmasters (of the two places in Cochinchine) had reference to stamps not bearing the surcharged 'Cochinchine,'" and that "the office in Cochinchine has never surcharged any Unpaid Letter Stamps with the name of that colony." The attack on the San Francisco dealer is very severe.

An article on "The Surcharge ' $Y_4$ ' of Cuba," also appears in this number. Various explanations of the meaning of this surcharge have been put forward in the past, but this article seems, in all probability, to give the correct one, namely:  $Y_4$  translated, means "and  $\frac{1}{4}$ ," an addition of  $\frac{1}{4}$  real, not to the value of the stamp upon which the surcharge was impressed, but to the ordinary rate of postage.

In its November number, just to hand, the editor of the *Journal* records "A Nice Little Find" made recently. A nearly entire sheet (less two stamps) of the one shilling triangular *emerald green* Cape of Good Hope has turned up, and is in the possession of a friend of the editor. Considering that the total number of sheets of the emerald green supplied the Colony in 1863 was 158, we rather think this "find" a good thing to have in the family.

"Old Sol," i. e., The Perforator, for December, came to hand promptly (never did otherwise), and Br'er Chapman has been exceedingly kind to us. Thanks, awfully, Br'ers Chapman and Chapson. We feit so inflat-beg pardon ! elated-while reading the "stories of our beautiful young lives," that in our excitement we kicked over our bucket of ink, thereby forever and eternally disfiguring the countenance of Abraham Lincoln on a dozen or more entire sheets of 1869 90 cents, o.g., we had laying around in our Sinctum, Sanctum. Sanctorium. We have ordered 2.000 copies of this number which we shall frame in gilt and send them to all the ruling heads of this and the other world-and we have framed Bre'rs Chapman in our hearts-imperforate.

The Omaha Philatelist for December, from Nebraska, is advocating Western secession. Be calm, ye of the East, 'tis only philatelic secession from the P.S. of A. The idea seems to have struck a responsive chord in the hearts of collectors west of the Mississippi. We would regret seeing this strong organization divided, but if it be to the interest of the Western members, why, we, as a neutral power, say, grind your tomahawk and put on your paint; but if matters can be amicably adjusted by arbitration or "any other old way," do it, remembering "in Union there's-" well, a lot of things. As we were referees in the late unpleasantness between President Paul Krüger and Her Brittanic Majesty, re the Jameson Raid, as well as stake-holders in the Japan-China match, we would be pleased to tender our services in this case for soand-so much per serve.

The Rocky Mountain Stamp for November, appears for the first time from its new home, New Oxford, Pa., under the management of the phenomenal triune editor, J. F. Dodge, and is up to the high standard of its predecessors, full of spicy items philatelic. and the usual notes from stamp centers. In his Canadian Notes "Waldo" still harps on the Canadian Jubilees; F. C. Hammond contributes an article on "Confederate States Stamps," which "we down South" will read with special interest. There *is* too little attention paid these souvenirs of a historic period. There are but few varieties, comparatively speaking, and, by the way, they are one of the very best investments.

The Home Worker, with its chapter IV. of "A Romance of Philately," by "B. L. J.," put in its appearance for December. Gregory is surely having a time of it. The second instalment of "Postalic History of the Native Indian State Charkhari" appears, and will be continued. The January number will begin Volume V. Our congratulations, Mr. Fenton. The Philatelic Press Reviews of this magazine are a fine feature This department is conducted by Miss Swift, with a commendable fearless impartiality.

Le Timbrophile Gaulois (France) for October, illustrates the new 2 bolivares stamp of Bolivia, the set of Tonga, and the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  anna Zanzibar surcharged. Le T. G. is a philatelo-humorous publication, combining, happily, Fun with "Filately."

Talk about your "Filatelic Fiction," but *The Herald Exchange* tops the climax in its December number, and we "bit," oh, how we *did* bite! But we enjoyed it hugely—immensely! *Herr Tausig das war gut gemacht. Donnerwetter!* We know the readers of *The H. E.* have enjoyed "Counterfeiters Brought to Justice."

The November number of The Eastern Philatelist, styled "Holiday Number," is as good as its title, if good things are synominous with holidays. The leading article on "Some German Cancellations," by Gordon C. Corbalev, is but another evidence of the anthor's thorough familiarity with the subjects on which he writes. Hobart Clark contributes "How to Improve a Collection of Postage Stamps," an article every old-timer will enjoy. It is instructive, encouraging, and, withal, fit for a holiday number. Louis G. Quackenbush writes on "Philatelic Advertising"; and the second instalment of "A Few Experiences of a Stamp Dealer Abroad," by Franklin E. Smith, was especially enjoyed by us, narrating, as it does, the experiences of a journey along a route we have followed ourselves some years ago, in the "Vaterland" Apropos, we would like to ask Mr. Smith, while in Frankfurt-on-the-Main, was he so engrossed in "stamps" as to neglect crossing the old Main bridge and sampling the famous "Apfelwein" of Sachsenhausen ?- at least, he did not mention the fact. "Prosit !"

No. 2 of *The California Stamp* has put in its appearance. "Monaco and Its Stamps," by Webster, is the leading article, and though brief, is quite interesting. This smallest independent country in the world, with an area of about six square miles and 12,000 population, issued its first set of stamps in 1885. The author advises collectors to secure the complete sets, obtainable at small cost at present, for there are only five stamps, four adhesives and one envelope, catalogueing above one dollar.

The following pages of No. 2 are of just such matter as Lowe and McDonnell can prepare, and we predict success for *The* C, S.

Filatelic Facts and Fallacies (Sellschopp, San Francisco,) for November is brimful of interesting matter. Karl Ludwig writes on "A Serious Danger to Philatelia." in which he traces the effect of new stamps-especially of speculative emmissions-on stamp-collecting in general. He states very truly, that new sets of especially beautiful stamps from far away countries have a tendency to arouse new enthusiasm in the beginner, and act as a recruiting agency to our ranks. The danger lies, says K. L., not in the new issue, but in the finding out that it was not created for genuine postal requirements, but simply to fleece the unwary and untutored beginner. Mr. K. L. asserts that all the societies in the world combined cannot prevent such issues, but they can make them a failure. And if one of these issues proves a failure, others contemplating a like experiment will most likely abandon the idea.

A scheme to foster philately has been concocted by the leading San Francisco dealers, by which they will furnish Newton Brothers 250,000 stamps gratis, to be distributed with their gums, accompanied by the advertisements of the donors. How's that for Western grit?

The late Henry Gremmel's *Post-Office* appears for November, with Crawford Capen as editor, We wish this well- and favorably known publication a continuation of success under the new—but able —management.

The weekly *Era* comes to hand promptly, full of prime quality of philatelic matter. In its Press Review flattering mention is made of the article in our December number on the Bergedorf Locals by our popular Sales Manager, Mr. Paalzow. "The Recrudescence of Philatelic Literature," by "Veritas," begun in *The New York Philatelist* for November, with some promise of merit, has turned out to be nothing but a tirade of abuse, of less benefit to philately than the "philatelic fiction of a well-known Southern paper," selected the especial target of this rude attack. While we have our own views as to the "use" of fiction in stamp publications, we venture the assertion that it has done more toward recruiting the ranks of philately than all the "learned" essays of "Veritas" put together.

This effusion, if read at all by a true stamp collector, will create a feeling of disgust at the extent to which the author has permitted himself to drift into this little-relished strain. Happily it is concluded and will make room for matter of real philatelic value in this neat publication.

The Lone Star State Philatelist for November has an interesting article by "F. P.," entitled "Historical and Postal Statistics About the New Hebrides." The New Hebrides are a neutral group of Islands under English and French sovereignty in the Pacific Ocean. The New Hebrides Company, founded in 1887, forwards mail matter and has issued stamps for this service, consisting of 1 penny, lilac and black, and 2 pence, brown and blue. They are printed on two colors of heavy vellum paper; surrounding a view of the city of Port Vila, H. I., is a long scroll bearing the inscription, "Australasian-New Hebrides Company, Limited"; above and below the words "Port Vila," and the letters of value.

Mr. Bradley relates his "Impressions by the Way" of his Nashville trip, which he seems to have enjoyed; and A. D. Schoch contributes an array of "Facts for Philatelic Learners." Altogether a good number. The International Stamp for November, contains several excellent articles. Corbaly contributes the continuation of his "The 1861 Issue," in which he chronicles the stamps of August 14, 1861 (National Bank Note Company print)—*Premieres Gravures*—as follows: On very thin, brittle, wove paper; perforated 12; 1c., indigo; 2c., brown-red; 5c., brown; 10c., dark yellow-green; 12c., gray-black; 24c., violet; 30c., redorange; 90c., dull-blue.

A well-written article by E. R. Aldrich, on "Prussian Envelopes," and another by L. Townsend Reckard, "Anent Counterfeits," coupled with crisp editorials, numerous advertisements, and neat printing, go toward making an A1 publication.

Editor Dodge's fine publication, The Columbian Philatelist for November, contains, among the general run of sterling matter, an article by "The Ohio Observer," from which we reproduce an extract, interesting to collectors generally, particularly to those having correspondence abroad. It gives the approximate time of mail transit from New York to important places of the world, as follows: Amsterdam, 10 days 6 hours; Bahamas, 3 days 15 hours; Barbadoes, 14 days 3 hours ; Berlin, 10 days 2 hours; Bermuda, 2 days 20 hours; Bremen, 9 days 16 hours; Brisbane (via 'Frisco), 35 days; British Columbia, 8 days; Brussels, 10 days; Cairo, 25 days 11 hours; Calcutta, 40 days 11 hours; Cape Town, 28 days 11 hours; Congo, 52 days; Constantinople, 14 days.

We have received a Price-List of United States and foreign stamps from C. E. Hussman, St. Louis, Mo. The prices, from a cursory glance, seem O. K. The following philatelic publications have also been received :

The Philatelic Messenger, St. Stephen, N. B., for November; The International Philatelist for November, St. Joseph, Mo.; The Philatelic Advocate for December, from Berlin, Ontario: The Stampman for December, from Pueblo, Col.; The Stamp Reporter for November, from Ontario, Canada; The Boston Stamp Book for November; Philatelic Monthly and World for December; Scott Stamp Company's January, 1898, Price List; The Evergreen State Philatelist for December, from The Dalles, Ore.

The Ontario Philatelic Directory (second edition), compiled and published by R. G. Widdicombe, St. Catharines, Ont., Can. Price, 15 cents. Neat and complete.

The Stamp Collector's Handbook, by Chas. W. Egan and Clifford W. Kissinger, Reading, Pa A Lexicon of Terms and Practical Hints to Philatelists. This publication is to be highly recommended to all classes of stamp collectors.

We have received the *Postal Card Reporter*, published by A. Lohmeyer, 922 north Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. It is a necessity for all card collectors.

We have received from Mr. Rudolph C. Bach, of Montreal, Canada, a sample packet of his mixed stamps. The sample sent is well worth the price asked— 15 cents. He also favored us with copies of the new Canadian 2c. and 6c, for which we tender him our thanks.

"Uh!" groaned Mr. Landsman, on his first sea trip, as he leaned over the rail in a vain effort to turn himself inside out. "There goes my 'Interior Department!""—Rocky Mountain Stamp.



New York Correspondence.

#### BY LENNOD.

USINESS shows a marked increase since the appearance of 58th Catalogue. The demand for foreign still continues, and the majority of dealers find it impossible to keep stocks of stamps priced at 15 cents and upwards. There is also a large demand for British East Africa stamps, including all surcharges. In cancelled condition especially desired. Unused British African Colonies, and, in fact, all British Colonies that have not as yet adopted the De la Rue design, are being purchased in large quantities at from 15 to These latter 20 per cent. over face. stamps can still be purchased at the post-offices of the respective countries. The dishonesty of some officials connected with the post offices has led many to purchase their stamps from dealers, finding in the end that it is much cheaper, and better specimens procurable. The writer, several years ago, had an occasion to send five dollars to Tobago for some stamps. When the stamps were received over two dollars' worth were missing. Being unable to obtain any satisfaction, I came to the conclusion that it was much cheaper to purchase at home than direct from the post-offices.

The auction sale held at the Collectors' Club Wednesday evening, December 16th, was a huge success in every respect. The sale was composed of the better class of stamps, and in many instances high prices were obtained. The most notable was \$116.00 for a \$2.00 State Department. Mr. C. N. Bowen, of Providence, was the purchaser. A \$10.00 and \$20.00 State Department sold for \$56.00 and 45.00 respectively. In British Colonies a beautiful copy of the one shilling orange Newfoundland found a ready purchaser at \$89.50; a one shilling scarlet of the same country fetched \$75.00. Mr. Wm. A. Smith, Jr., a stock broker of this city, was the purchaser of the latter stamp.

Mr. Henry A. Chapman, of Hartford, Conn., was in town a few days. He had his magnificent collection of blocks and strips with him, this being his specialty. It is his endeavor now to collect stamps only in sheets. We hope he succeeds.

The Stamp Exhibition scheme spoken of in these notes last month is meeting with approval on all sides. Mr Truiillio has received communications from several well-known philatelists, who write that they approve of his suggestions and will co-operate with Mr. Trujillio. Every collector and dealer should make it his duty that the project is successful. No doubt plenty of help could be secured, but cash is the main object the Exhibition depends upon. Let us hope that by next month some definite steps have been taken to put the proposed Exhibition on a firm basis.

Your correspondent was examining some cheap United States stamps, when his eye spied a 1c. premiere gravure. The copy was a good specimen but not extralightly cancelled. The description in the catalogue is rather meager. The engraving of the entire stamp is much poorer than the common variety. The period after U in U. S Postage, is almost diamond-shaped instead of being perfectly round. There are other minor defects, but what I mentioned can be discerned with the naked eye. It would be a waste of time and space to describe each defect or difference.

Scott's 58th Catalogue was put on

sale November 24th. The announcement of its appearance has been heralded throughout the world ere this. At a casual glance I notice that no prices are put on the high values of Periodical stamps. From a foot-note I learn that until the decision of the pending suit instituted by the United States Government for the confiscation of Periodical stamps, we shall be compelled to decline all orders for them. This is a pretty how-do-you-do; we always thought that this Catalogue contained the market price of stamps, not what the Scott Company dictates.

The show-case of Ch. Moreau, on Nassau street, was broken open and an entire sheet of one hundred 2c. Newfoundland (Cabot issue) stamps were stolen. No clue to the identity of the burglars has as yet been discovered.

R. F. Albrecht & Co. have removed to Duane street. They will in the future devote a large part of their time to the sale and manufacture of souvenir cards. Their stamp business will still be continued as heretofore.

#### **Boston Bits.**

#### BY BOSTONIAN.

Since the appearance of the new Canadian  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. black stamp, there has been a great demand for the  $\frac{1}{2}$ c. of 1890 issue. They are bringing five cents each at the Hub, and although there were thousands of them struck off when current, and it is said that there are enough in the dealers' stocks to supply the demand for years to come, the average collector cannot resist the temptation to lay a few copies aside for future use.

At a recent auction sale here, held by the Colonial Stamp Company, each person present was handed a copy of the new ½c. Canada stamp, hinged on a card and printed with their compliments, all of which was enclosed in an onion-skin paper envelope. It was not a costly gift, but it made a good impression upon those present.

The Newfoundland Provisionals have arrived in Boston and are now selling for 50 and 75 cents each, but there is a belief that these prices will drop in a few weeks, so many collectors are "holding off." as it were; but some of the knowing ones say they are a good thing at the present price. However, time will tell.

The stock of the Granite State Stamp Company is to be sold at auction in the early part of December by the B. L. Drew Company. Mr. Pinkham, the manager, informs us that hereafter he will devote his entire attention to his stamp publication, *The Eastern Philatelist*.

The local philatelic societies have decided that hereafter each meeting will include an entertainment, in the manner of reading papers on interesting topics in the stamp line etc. This move, which indeed is an excellent one, has been agreed upon with the expectation of arousing a greater interest at our philatelic meets, and each society has appointed an entertainment committee.

Mr. George M. Frame, ex-Exchange Superintendent of the N. E. P. A., has sold his stock-in-trade to the Chase Brothers, of Haverhill. Mass. Mr. Frame has been appointed to officiate as treasurer of the Sons of Philatelia, therefore this change.

It is current that the Bank of Montreal has succeeded in cornering the 1c. denomination of the Newfoundland Jubilee stamps. This will undoubtedly cause an immediate rise in the price of the stamp, and it is now reported that 2, 3, and 4c. values are also exhausted; but as the S. S. S. S. have condemned the complete issue as well as the Jubilee stamps of Canada, we need have no fear of any rapid rises in these "labels."





E have received priced catalogues of Wolsieffer's auction sale of rare stamps, held on November 27th, Great North-

ern Hotel Club Rooms, Chicago; and of Bogert & Durbin Co.'s Ninety-third Auction Sale of Stamps, held on December 11th, Tribune Building, New York.

The total amount realized at the Wolsieffer sale was \$1,929.35; that of the Bogert & Durbin sale, \$1,115 85.

We print prices realized on some specimens which will interest our readers :

WOLSIEFFER'S SALE.

The total amount realized on philatelic literature included in this sale) was \$41.05.

Omitting entire U.S. Envelopes, Match and Medicine stamps disposed of at this sale, some of the unused as well as used U.S. adhesives sold as follows:

UNUSED.

- Providence 10c, no gum, otherwise fine copy (cat. \$40.00), \$15.00.
- 1855-'60 90c., blue, o. g., perf. touch design at right and bottom (cat. \$27.50), \$11.05.
- Officially Sealed "Post Obitum," no gum, \$1 30.
- Justice, 24c. (slightly off center), part gum (cat. \$20.00), \$10 00.
- Justice, 30c., full gum (cat. \$25.00), \$11 50.

#### USED STAMPS.

- 1851-'56, 5c., brown, wide margins on three sides, but cut to design at left (cat. \$13.50). \$6 75.
- 1855-'60, 5c., red-brown, very rich color (cat. \$7.00), \$3 45.
- 1861, 5c., yellow, on part cover, showing post-mark (cat. \$8.50), \$4.00.
- 1861, 90c., blue, well-centered but slightly creased (cat. \$4.00, \$1.55.

- 1867, 3c., rose, not exactly centered, very strong grill (cat \$8 00), \$2.90.
- 1867, 24c., lilac, fine (cat. \$6.00), \$3.00.
- 1869, 15c., "no diamond," very fair copy (cat. \$4.50), \$3.05.
- 1869, 30c. (cat. \$3.50), \$1.85.
- 1869, 90c., evenly centered, but torn atbottom (cat. \$20.00), \$8.00.
  - BOGERT & DURBIN'S SALE.
- New York, 1845, 5c., black, vertical unsevered pair, \$6.00.
- Providence, 1846, 5c., black, unused, fine, \$3.00.
- Eagle Carrier, original, fine block of six, o. g., \$1.60.
- 1847, 5c., pair, used, on cover, \$1.00.
- 1851, 12c., pair on piece of cover, \$2.00.
- 1860, 90c., marginal stamp, rare, \$11.00.
- 1861, August, 10c., fine copy, rare, \$4.25.
- 1861, Perfectly-centered, magnificent, unused, o. g. copy, 5c., yellow, difficult to duplicate at the catalogue price (\$50 00), sold at \$29.00.
- 1861, Reissue, 30c., brown-orange, unused, magnificent copy, a little close at right (cat. \$50.00), sold at \$23.00.
- 1861, Reissue, 90c., beautiful unused copy, rich color (cat. \$50.00), \$25.25.
- 1869, 1, 2 (2), 3, 10, 12, 30c., the 1 and 30c. off center, 7 stamps, \$3.10.
- 1869, 24c., evenly-centered, fine copy, \$3.20.
- 1880, 12c., reissue of 1873, blackish pur-
- ple, unused, very rare, off center as general run of these stamps (cat. \$50.00), \$25.50.
- 1880, 24c., unused, reissue of 1873, dark violet, little off center, very scarce (cat. \$50.00), \$26.50.
- CONFEDERATE STATES.—1863, 2c., green, unused, o g., fine unsevered pair, scarce, \$1.10.
- FOREIGN.—Barbadoes, 1873, 1 sh., pink, unused, o. g., very scarce, \$14.75.
- Brunswick, •1853, 1 silb. gr., unused (cat. \$18.00), \$1.50.
- Ceylon, 1857, 9d., imp., lightly cancelled (cat. \$20.00), \$11.00.



CANADA.—We have received copies of the New Canada 2c., 5c., and 6c. stamps same design as ½c. illustrated in our December number.

2c. purple. 5c. blue. 6c. brown.

We are indebted to Mr. A. Norton Buell, Brockville, Ontario, for a variety of the new issue Half Cent black, illustrated last month. The frame is about 1-36 inch smaller vertically, though in width it corresponds to the first. The gum on this new stamp is white, and in general appearance the stamp is lighter, which may be due to the inking of the plate. This is cleary a distinct variety, and may be chronicled as Type II.

NEWFOUNDLAND — We are indebted to Mr. A. G. Gibb, of St. Johns, for a specimen of type III. of the surcharged One Cent on 3c., which we illustrate.

#### ONE CENT

Type III. of the surcharge. (Another similar rule cancels the values at top.) In addition we chronicle:

One Cent on 3c. mauve, Type (?) in red.

One Cent on 3c. mauve Type (?) in red and black.



We have also received the new permanent 1c. and 2c., illustrated above: 1c. red, 2c. orange.



VICTORIA.—We have received from Mr. R. E. Johns, of Victoria, and Mr. J. G. Griffin, of New South Wales, specimens of the new permanent issue

Three Balfpence green, here illustrated.

# The Von Stephan Qemorial Annd.

#### RECAPITULATION.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, in its initial number, proposed the project of crecting a monument to the late HEINRICH VON STEPHAN, founder of the Diversal Postal Union, and originator of the are invited to donate to the VON STEPHAN MEMO-RIAL FUND One Unused Stamp of their respective country's issue, accompanied by the autograph signature of the donor. Such donations will be credited in these columns; the stamps sold atauction, and the proceeds, along with the autographs mounted in an album, forwarded to the proper authorities for the purpose above stated.—ED.

#### DONATIONS.

#### One of Many.

#### Virginia Philatelic Pub. Co.:

Gentlemen,—I purpose taking two inches for three months, as my first "ad" in your paper, which appeared in the December number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, has paid me *extremely* well. Yours truly,

R. C. BACH, Montreal, Can.

## Virginia Philatelic Association

FRANKLIN L. KERNS, President. FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR, Sec'y-Treas. JOHN PAALZOW, Sales Manager. C. F. W. MOSER, Counterfeit Detecter.

Official Organ : THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

Association meets on the 10th of every month, at 8 o'clock p. m.. at 13 N. Eleventh St., Richmond, Virginia.

#### RICHMOND, VA., December 10, 1897.

#### Fellow-Members of the V. P. A.:

I herewith submit to you my report of the fourth monthly meeting of our Association:

Members present: Messrs. E. P. Lyons, Jr., John Paalzow, C. F. W. Moser, Aug Dietz, Thomas Christian, J. J. Bunce, Major John F. Mayer, W. S. Ahern, and F. Stearns, Jr. Also Messrs. F. B. Jacobs, Ivan Stephens, and John T. Anderson, Jr., as guests.

Major John F. Mayer presided in absence of president, Mr. Kerns.

Messrs. Dietz and Lyons, of the constitutional committee appointed by the Secretary to draw up a constitution and by-laws for the Association, reported in favor of adopting the rules of the Sydney Philatelic Club of N. S. W. Said rules were read to meeeing and each clause discussed, and necessary corrections made. The committee was then instructed to prepare constitution and present same at meeting of Association on January 10, 1898.

The following applicants were then elected members of the Association: Messrs. F. Boykin Jacobs, J. H. Knotts, and Dr. Henry Froehling, all of Richmond, Va.

The following application is now on file: Mr. J. C. Hagan, 718 west Main street, Richmond, Va., endorsed by Mr. F. B. Jacobs and Major John F. Mayer.

Moved by Mr. Dietz and seconded by Mr. Lyons, that no bond be required of the Sales Manager. Motion carried unanimously.

The thanks of the Association were tendered Mr. Aug. Dietz for the handsome hand-painted cover on a copy of the December number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, executed by him free of cost for presentation by the Association to Mr. Franz Paalzow, our honorary member in Bergedorf, Germany. Besides a suitable inscription in German, said cover was illuminated with a beautiful painting of the arms of Bergedorf.

Mr. Dietz also offered to furnish the Association at cost all approved books needed in its Sales Department. Offer accepted.

Moved by Mr. Christian and seconded by Mr. Paalzow, that the Association purchase annually the Catalogues of Scott, Senf, and Stanley Gibbons. Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned, and stamp-trading was indulged in for a couple of hours.

> FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR, Secretary-Treasurer V. P. A.

#### RICHMOND, VA, December 17, 1897. To the Members of the V. P. A.:

The Sales Department of our Association is now ready for operation. The rules governing the same are printed below. Please inform the Sales Manager if you want to be placed upon the list to receive selections, and also state what kind of stamps you prefer to receive, whether U. S. (unused or used), Revenues, British Colonials, or foreign, so that those sheets may be sent you which contain stamps most interesting to you.

As our Association is composed of active collectors, good results may be expected of sheets containing good stamps at reasonable prices, and it is earnestly desired that each member will participate in the use of the Sales Department by sending in sheets of stamps and receiving selections.

Members are requested to communicate with Sales Manager at their earliest convenience.

#### JOHN PAALZOW, Sales Manager, 1018 Park Avenue.

#### RULES.

Blank sheets for the use of the Exchange Department will be furnished by the Superintendent at 15 cents a dozen.

All paper must be removed from the stamps before placing them on the sheets, except when it is desirable to show post mark, etc.

Catalogue numbers, notes or description of any stamp may be written in the space provided for the stamp and not on the edges of the sheet.

The net price of each stamp must be plainly marked in the space provided below the stamps. It is not necessary that all spaces should be filled. All stamps must be securely placed on the sheets with hinges. Stamp- must not overlap

one another nor shall the price be covered by them.

Members having sheets ready for circulation should send them, prepaid, to the Superin-tendent, who will make them into books and place them in circulation with as little delay as possible. It is advisable for each member to at least three sheets at one time. A circuit shall consist of eight members. It is advisable for each member to send

The As to the list shall return to the Superintendent, who will check those sold and start on another circuit. This will continue as long as there ap-pears a reasonable chance of disposing of any of the stamps remaining on the sheets.

Each member on receiving an exchange lot shall stamp or plainly write, in ink, his name in all spaces from which he removes stamps; he shall forward to the Superintendent a statement of the value of stamps removed from each book in the lot and state date of receipt and of for-warding to next in the circuit. He shall also write name, date, and amount on the account sheet at the back of each book. Should blank spaces be found unaccounted for it is the mem-her's duy to notify the one precedure him and ber's duty to notify the one preceding him and adjust the matter with him. Failure to do this will render the last member preceding accountable for the amount.

Members will be allowed to keep lots three days; if kept longer than three days a fine of ten cents a day will be imposed. This rule will be rigidly enforced.

In forwarding lots prepayment must be made in all cases.

Exchange lots will be sent to all members requesting them until the Superintendent is notified to cease sending them. All members are at libberty to place stamps in exchange whether they receive lots or not.

Statements of account will be rendered monthly and must be settled within the fendered monthly and must be settled within the nearliest possible date thereafter, the Superintendent deducting 10 per cent commission. The fact of a member having sheets in circulation does not exempt him from paying for storme, removed from cheats from paying for stamps removed from sheets, when statement is rendered. Due credit will be given and settlement made when his sheets have completed a circuit.

Do not soil the sheets, use a blotter. It is desirable to keep the stamps of the United States, Revenues, and British Colonials on separate sheets, as many collectors make a specialty of them

Members are required to forward post-card (at same time of mailing sheets to party following them on the circuit, to the Sales Manager. Mr. JNO, PAALZOW, 1018 Park avenue Richmond, Va., as follows:

Circuit No. Book No. --. Value. Stampsto

Date. -189-(Signed)

#### Commemorative Issues.

O we are to have another commemorative issue, this on the occasion of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, to be held this year

at Omaha, Nebraska, at which, by the way, it is hoped there will be a creditable philatelic exhibition, and will be, if the present efforts of those most interested are to be considered in any sense an indication.

We are far from decrying these special emissions—in fact, we heartily advocate them, if issued in the proper spirit of enlightment and free from the pernicious ultra-speculative features that so signally and transcendently characterized the recent Canadian Jubilees. New issues of stamps, especially if beautiful in design, are often the means of re-awakening in the ranks of philately that waning enthusiasm which so frequently overtakes even a few of its most ardent devotees, thereby instilling into their hearts new love for the tiny bits. new interest, new energy, insuring the perpetuation of our most fascinating and, to the true philatelist, most instructive of mental diversions.

Furthermore, Government designers should always grasp the true spirit of the commemoration, as was so aptly done with our Columbian series and the recent Newfoundland Cabot issue, the former depicting without exception historical scenes recalling the grand discovery, the latter (with the exception of the one cert denomination, on which appeared the effigy of the English Queen) presenting portraits and historical scenes associated with the discovery of the Island, and actual and allegorical designs representing the resources and attractions of the Colony.

In view of these desired results of a properly-emitted series of commemorative stamps, we would suggest to American philatelists that they urge the importance of a series for the proposed new issue that will be beautiful and instructive in design, actual or allegorical, and that will not be issued with any of the disgustingly petty speculative features that have led philatelists everywhere to so unanimously denounce such stamps as Canada recently imposed upon the philatelic world. As to the various designs, we herewith present our suggestions, and trust that our various philatelic associations will urge the importance of some such instructive illustrations :

First, let there not be ignored the honored calling of agriculture, the bulwark of a nation's greatness, the lasting resource of the West, but let us have in green on the first denomination a view of a Western pasture grazed by a herd of a noted breed.

On the two-cent stamp, what more befitting design, in copper-red, than a portrait of the American Indian, the erstwhile nomad of the Western plains —not the fanciful depiction of the "penny" warrior, but the portrait of a noted chief, that there might be handed down to philatelic posterity a faithful representation of our aboriginal fated to a not far distant extinction.

The three-cent stamp might well depict in sombre hue the mines of the rocky West, whose wealth first made for the world roads over the trackless plains and incidentally opened to civilization an empire yet unknown.

Let the five-cent denomination, which must be blue, recall that social condition not known elsewhere in the world and now fated to form part of the historic past—scenes from the life of the American cowboy, who was the skirmish line of advancing civilization. Surely his memory is worthy of perpetuation, for it was his reckless bravery that bore for years the shock of barbaric contact and shielded so faithfully the vanguard of less enduring enlightenment.

The ten-cent stamp might well serve to illustrate one of the many valuable Western resources, the lumber interests of the North, the vast wheat fields of the plains, or the fruit culture of the Pacific Coast, nor might there be overlooked the salmon industry of the far Northwest; but whatever design is selected, let it be attractive in appearance.

No more fitting illustration could appear on the one dollar denomination than an allegorical representation in gold of that "Westward, Ho!" period of American development, when, with his canvas-covered "prairie-schooner," loaded with family and belongings, the emigrant left his Eastern home to seek discomfort and the "Almighty Dollar."

These designs seem to us eminently appropriate—certainly they would be beautiful and instructive and aptly commemorative of those historic features of the early development of our vast western territory, whose present resources will be so amply represented at the coming exposition. May the authorities at Washington issue an equally or more interesting and instructive series. F. S., JR.

Stamp collecting without a stamp paper is like sailing without a compass. See our offer—top ad, inside cover page two leading monthlies at the price of one.

#### Postal Issues of the Confederate States of America.

#### BY WM. D. REED.

#### First Paper - The Lithographed Stamps.

HE story of the great struggle of the Southern Confederacy has now passed into history. As Freeman says: "History is past politics and politics are present history." To the philatelist, however, history is told by past postal issues, and stamps are present history.

In common with many American philatelists, I first studied the history of the Confederacy in the Civil War by becoming acquainted with its postal issues. This study and my subsequent research as an enthusiastic collector of the Confederate stamps is my only excuse for this article.

The first Confederate Congress, assembled at Montgomery, Alabama, February, 1861, at once entered into negotiations with a New York bank note company for the supply of all stamps, bonds, and bank notes for the new government. The first bombarding gun directed on Fort Sumter precipitately shattered the commercial transactions of the New York company with the Confederacy, and the company's representative hurried back to the Northern metropolis.

Ultimately, the Confederate Government, by a contract with Mr. Joel White, of New York, received a large supply of paper and envelopes across the Confederate lines in Kentucky. This supply of paper was taken to Richmond when the seat of government was removed thither, upon May 20, 1861, and was used in the manufacture of all the lithographed stamps and some of the engraved stamps. The ink was secured in the North, and was smuggled over the lines at Baltimore. Later on, blockade runners skirted the coast until a chance opening permitted an unobserved landing in a Southern port. One of the blockade runners was captured by a Northern captain and the materials for the Southern presses were confiscated. The supplies were therefore received at very irregular intervals.

The first instalment of material having been received at the seat of the new government in Richmond, the lithographing of the first issue of postage stamps began. The work was executed by Hoyer & Ludwig, of Richmond, Va.

The issues were as follows: 5c., green, October 18, 1861; 10c., dark blue, December 1, 1861; 2c., green, January 1, 1862; 5c., blue, March 1, 1862; 10c., rose, April 1, 1862; 10c, blue (reissue), August 1, 1862.

The first postage stamps of the Confederate States of America were eagerly bought up.

It has always been the policy of the United States to place upon its stamps, coins, and bills the effigies of her past great men. But the new Confederacy rejected this policy and fittingly represented upon its first stamp its first statesman and President.

The 5c. green, therefore, bears the portrait of Jefferson Davis. There are a vast number of shades of this stamp. The execution is poor. For example, notice the irregularity of "on," and the "p" in the word "CONFEDERATE."

The portrait on the 10c. blue is an absurd representation of James Madison, of Virginia, President of the United States from 1809 to 1817.

A typographical error appears in the \*inversion of the "A" in "STATES."

[To be Continued.]

<sup>\*</sup> We have examined a number of the blue 10c. referred to, but have not been able to locate a specimen showing the *inverted* A.—*Ed*.



Incorporated Capital Stock, \$25,000 PAID UP. ESTABLISHED 1885.

H. FLACHSKAMM, Manager, ST. LOUIS, MO.

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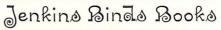
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