

FEBRUARY, 1898.



THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

VOL
I

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE
INTERESTS OF PHILATELY IN VIRGINIA

No
6



VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.
RICHMOND, VA.

A. DINEEN, DEL.

RICHMOND, VA.

American * Souvenir * Cards!

"Never need an American look beyond his own country for the sublime and beautiful of natural scenery."—*Washington Irving.*

. . . We beg to announce that under the title of

American Souvenir Cards

there have been published sets of Pictorial Postal Cards for different localities in the United States, each set comprising twelve cards and each card giving one or more pictures of the notable sights in each place. Samples of these cards, which may be obtained free on application, will convince you of the artistic workmanship employed in producing the cards and which will be worth preserving.



Sets for New York, Washington, Baltimore, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Albany, San Francisco, Cincinnati, Rochester, New Orleans, Niagara Falls in Summer, Niagara Falls in Winter, and Alaska Views, have already been issued,

and similar sets are in preparation for Atlantic City, Brooklyn, Staten Island, Salem, St. Louis, Thousand Islands, Yellowstone Park, Catskills, Adirondacks, Hudson River, and Florida Winter Resorts, and will soon be ready for distribution.

. . . The trade-mark "PATRIOGRAPHIC," which we have adopted as a designation for the cards of our manufacture, sets forth our intention to give to the "PATRIOTIC" citizens of our country a "GRAPHIC" description of its memorable features at such a small cost that even the pocket-money of the school children need not be depleted to secure a collection of views which will prove a constant source of pleasure.

. . . If you subscribe for four sets of twelve each of these cards it will cost you \$1. You will always await with the greatest interest the arrival of each new set as it appears. When your subscription is exhausted we notify you and request its renewal for the next four sets.

. . . If you do not care to subscribe for four sets at one time, kindly order the sets as they appear at 25 cents each, and we will take pains to keep you informed as to those issued and in preparation.

. . . Within a short time we shall have ready, as suitable receptacles for our cards, Albums ranging in price from 25 cents to \$3.00, and with a capacity of from 100 to 1,000 cards. Such Albums displayed in your parlor will be admired by your friends; they will appreciate your patriotic sentiments, and when traveling, remember you by sending, as a souvenir, a set of these Patriographic Cards from each place where they may be obtained.

. . . We respectfully request your support for this new enterprise by inviting you to send your subscription for four different sets (\$1), or to order a sample set for 25 cents.

AMERICAN SOUVENIR CARD COMPANY,

HENRY CLOTZ, President. No. 127 Duane St., R. F. ALBRECHT, Manager.

NEW YORK.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

Vol. I.

RICHMOND, VA., FEBRUARY, 1898.

No. 6.

WILLIAM S. AHERN.

"Heart-whole and fancy free,"
'Til smitten by fair Philatelee; . . .
Now there's ne'er a more ardent devotee
Than he.—*Poetized by We.*

THIS is my maiden attempt at philatelic poetizing, and the herculean effort is presented with many apologies to the Muses, and especially to that philatelic poet-laureate "Keras." But the subject requires an exceptional exertion (besides a fresh bucket of ink), hence this flight on Pegasus.

The "subject" in this particular instance is my friend William S. Ahern, whose likeness adorns this number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

William S. Ahern is a Virginian. He was born at Hadensville, June 4, 1869. Removing to Richmond at an early age, he received a thorough schooling in the public and private institutions of this city.

Though his actual stamp-collecting career extends but over the brief space of a few years, his fondness for stamps or "philatelic inclinations," as he terms it, dates back to his early school days. Possessing a collection which, in point of numbers, is easily surpassed by that of any member of our Association; in beauty of specimens, neatness of arrangement, and general care, it is the peer of all.

Mr. Ahern is a general collector, though with a natural preference for United States and Confederates, but especially for the latter, attributable, I suppose, to the fact that he is the son of a valiant ex-Confederate, Mr. John Ahern, one of "Stonewall" Jackson's Men," who was among that Louisiana contingent which, responding to the call to arms, were among the first to come to Virginia and tender their services to the cause of the South. Stirred by the home fireside tales of the exploits of the famous "Tigers," it is but natural that the Confederate postal emissions should hold for him the greatest fascination.

Personally Mr. Ahern is a most charming associate. Sparkling and original wit, a characteristic of his Hibernian ancestry, pervades his every utterance, coupled with the chivalrous qualities of the Virginia gentleman.

Mr. Ahern is "ad"

writer for J. M. Fourqurean & Co, the leading dry goods house of Richmond, and one of the original members of our Association. He is also a most ardent disciple of Nimrod, and is never more in his element than when following a good pack of dogs, or watching in silent rapture for a chance at some frolicsome squirrel. Any vacation that comes his way is sure to be occupied in pursuance of the chase.

DIETZ.



WILLIAM S. AHERN.



OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF THE
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE

VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.,
Office, 13 N. Eleventh St.,

AUG. DIETZ, EDITOR.

900 W. Clay St., Station A, Richmond, Va.

FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR., Business Manager,
P. O. Box 6, Richmond, Va.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

United States, Canada and Mexico, per year, 30c.
All other Countries in the U. P. U., per year, 40c.

ADVERTISING.

SPACE.	1 Mo.	3 Mos.	6 Mos.	1 Year.
One Inch, . . .	\$.50	\$.1.25	\$.2.25	\$.4.00
Two Inches,90	2.25	4.00	7.00
Half-Column, . .	1.50	4.00	7.00	12.50
One Column, . .	2.75	7.00	12.50	22.50
One Page, . . .	5.00	12.50	22.50	40.00

Copy should reach us by the 15th of the preceding month to insure insertion. To change standing ads, copy must be in by the 20th.

We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS:

CANADA.

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

NEW YORK.

PARKE ADVERTISING AGENCY, 1616 Madison Ave.

Entered at the Post Office at Richmond, Va., for transmission through the mails at Second-class rates, Sept., 1897.

RICHMOND, VA., FEBRUARY, 1898.

Let the Collectors Speak.

A PROTEST, purporting to voice the sentiment of American collectors, addressed to the Hon. James A. Gary, Postmaster-General of the United States, appears in several of our esteemed contemporaries, and sets forth at length the derogatory effect a new issue of commemorative stamps for the Trans-Mississippi Exposition would have on philately in general.

These protests, we note, are signed by *dealers*, and, as we have yet to read the first protest from a *collector*, this statement, in the name of American philately, is entirely too officious and unwarranted, to say the least.

We are opposed, on general principles, to any and all speculative commemorative, Jubilee, and other "swindle" issues by a reputable government, but we do, as collectors, most emphatically protest and object to any dealer or dealers doing our thinking and talking for us.

If the aversion to these proposed new stamps is so general, as we are led to believe, why do we not hear from the various societies throughout the country? Let these express their views through the medium of the philatelic press, and, as it should be to the pecuniary interest of a dealer to adapt his views to those of his patron—the collector, we can soon ascertain whether this projected new issue, free from all the pernicious features that have brought the odium of philately upon similar emissions, is desirable or not.

Again, this case presents an excellent opportunity for both the dealer as well as the S. S. S. S.-sympathizing collector to demonstrate practically the sincerity of their professions. If this commemorative series is issued, and we have reason to believe it will be, let dealers refuse to catalogue or carry it in stock, and let collectors ignore its existence. As a natural result, the series will have no market value, and fall as flat as all the late Jubilee labels.

This suggested remedy will require a good dose of self-abnegation in some quarters, but the possible result would be worth the experiment.

However, we invite the opinions of American *collectors* in the premises.

It is reported that St. Vincent is to have an entire new series of stamps. Better lay in a set of the current issue.

A Flatter of Importance to All.

It is a well-known fact that Philatelia's Eden has long ago been invaded by the serpent, in the form of philatelic sharks, frauds, fakirs, thieves, and counterfeiters.

With the sincerest intentions to brand such reprobates, as well as to exclude their advertisements from the columns of a philatelic publication, it is impossible to be posted on the reputation of all dealers applying for advertising space, especially of those residing abroad—and in some cases even of parties in our own country.

From numerous letters received, our management has been painfully cognizant of the fact that advertisements of persons of doubtful integrity have been printed in our publication.

While we can but regret such an occurrence, we shall strive to guard against a repetition. To this end we shall require of all parties unknown to us cash in advance, with satisfactory references, to insure insertion.

We shall esteem it a favor if such of our friends who have been the victims of frauds, will furnish us a brief statement of facts over their signature, supplemented by the signature of a witness, to be printed conspicuously in our publication.

By adhering strictly to this course, we trust to be conferring a boon on our friends—both the collectors and honest dealers.

WE would call especial attention to the numerous bargains in desirable stamps offered in the advertisements of this number. We are personally availing ourselves of such among them as we require in our own collections, and can recommend from experience.

Read our Grand Combination Offer in this number—two papers at price of one.

ATTENTION is called to the illustrations of the Emory (Va.), locals, accompanied by a full description of these rarest of Confederate stamps appearing in this number. They are in the possession of Mr. N. P. Strause, of Henderson, N. C.

The history of these locals must still remain a matter of conjecture, and these two specimens are, at present, the only Emorys known. Nor has the most careful and diligent search brought to light another copy, though quite a number of envelopes cancelled "PAID 5, Emory, Va.," are in Mr. Strause's possession, all being of the original lot containing these two gems.

Mr. Strause is well aware of the value of his treasures, but in reply to an inquiry expressed a willingness to dispose of one of each—the adhesive and PAID 5—and we have no doubt will be pleased to answer all communications.

MR. JOHN PAALZOW, whose article on the Bergedorf Locals in our December number was so favorably commented on by the philatelic press, contributes "Philatelia to Aliens" for this number, which, we are confident, will delight every "old-timer."

DUE to a pressure of business and absence from the city, our Mr. Franklin Stearns, Jr., was unable to conclude the article on "The War Stamps of Germany" for this number. It will appear in our March number.

LIMIT of space in this number compels us to present only the conclusion of the First Paper on "Postal Issues of the Confederate States of America," by William D. Reed. Second Paper to follow.

MR. GRIFFIN of Sydney, N. S. W., contributes his interesting Australian Notes to this number.



An Australian Local.

We are indebted to our correspondent, Mr. J. G. Griffin, of Sydney, N. S. W., for copies of the Coolgardie Cycle Express stamp. This adhesive is the only Australian local ever issued, and was used to prepay, in addition to the regular postage, carriage to the Coolgardie Mining District in Western Australia by means of cycle, or later, by camel post. These stamps, now obsolete, were issued by the Coolgardie Cycle Express Company of Coolgardie, W. A., and consist of two values—1 sh. and 1 sh. 6d. Both stamps are of crude design, and printed in blue; perforated. These stamps, we venture to predict, will be quite valuable from the limited number in existence, especially in a used condition.

A Unique Cancellation.

BOSTON,
MASS.

Mr. F. Kerns, president of the Virginia Philatelic Association, has in his collection a present issue 2c stamp bearing *letter-press cancellation*. This stamp franked the 1898 calendar sent out by the *Youth's Companion* of Boston, Mass., and while Mr. Kerns has no positive information, he thinks the publishers, fearing injury to their handsome calendar from the hand-stamp at the post-office; or to accommodate the post-office, secured permission to cancel the stamps while in sheets before franking their packages.

As this is perhaps the first instance of letter-press cancellation, we give an illustration of the type-set form.

What has Major Evans to Say to This?

The Cochinchine surcharges of Mr. Georges Carion, of San Francisco, are given another airing in *Stanley Gibbon's Monthly Journal*, and Major Evans is very severe in his article, but there are a few questions this gentleman could perhaps answer, which we may be pardoned in propounding:

In the June number of the *Journal* the Major has seen a *red* surcharge; and then contradicts himself in the October issue.

Why did both secretaries of the French Association refuse to receive registered letters bearing full explanations, sent by Mr. Carion?

Was it possible that Major Evans, the recognized authority in matters philatelic, could not see that words were erased and changed in the alleged letter from the Minister of the Colonies, before the photo-engraving of it was prepared, as Mr. Carion claims?

Why does Major Evans not take into consideration the other sworn statement signed by three well-known philatelists of many years' standing?

And, by the way, how many members constitute this great *Société Française de Timbrologie*?

We are told only eight members were present at the meeting of July 21st; and at the next, October 6th, only the president and secretary are mentioned in the report.

Stamped covers of the Peru 1886 issue 50c. surcharged "Habilitado" were recently on sale at the Lima post-office.—*Era*.

The first Private Proprietary stamp issued was that of Dr. Herrick, the proprietor of Dr. Herrick's celebrated pills, value 1c., color red and white; perforated.—*International Philatelist*.

A Collector's Opinion of Scott's 58th.

BY ZOZODONT.

THE American Standard (?) Catalogue issued a few weeks ago, was my favorite book to read after the day's work was finished. The task of reading it has been completed, and naturally some criticism must follow.

The appearance as usual is attractive, and the Company's inscription on the buff cover, adds to the general good make up. The "Information" and "Hints" to collectors are well told, and a decided necessity in such a book.

Now the prices of the stamps which, according to many well-informed collectors and philatelic writers, are fixed with reference to the Scott Company's own stock and the stocks of other large stamp corporations, are flying considerably too high. This is conceded by nearly every collector, and is easily proven by the fact that dealers, "yes, every one of them," offer their stamps for sale at large discounts, ranging from 25 to 90 per cent. If a stamp is given its right catalogue value, the highest discount that could be allowed is 10 per cent. No dealer of household goods, merchandise, etc., can allow such enormous discounts on their wares, and neither could a dealer in stamps, if they were sold at their correct market value.

The catalogue lists abundant minor varieties, errors, etc. These are an eyesore to the general collector, whose aim it is to complete his collection with "true" varieties. Well, they being listed separate under the regular issues, and not being priced, they will not bother anybody to any great extent.

The S. S. S. S. has condemned the Canada Jubilee and New South Wales Hospital stamps, but these two sets occupy prominent positions under their respec-

tive countries. This action can be readily explained. The Scott's and other "*big ones*" are well stocked with the Jubilee and Hospital stamps, and to use a slang expression, are "out for the *stuf*f that's in it." Many other such issues are listed.

The prices throughout have advanced none or but little, and to tell the truth to give them their right market value, the prices must decrease greatly in the next edition.

THE DEALER'S WAIL.

Oh dear, Mr Gary, we read in the *Sun*,
That recently you have decided upon
An entire new series of stamps to produce
For the Trans-Mississipp' Exposish—what the
deuce!—

Beg pardon!—But let us suggest:
(You've just come in office, we think *we* know
best)—

Don't give us these stamps—we'll accept the good
will

For the deed. We've gotten our fill
Of Columbians; perhaps you'll recall,
We cornered that lot—we wanted it all—
We got it . . . and, sad to relate,
We're li'ble to *keep it*, unless you will wait
Until we dispose of "at any old price,"
These nest-eggs. Now, dear sir, be nice.
In the name of Philat'ly—(oh gad! what a bluff!)—
We protest!—We've had an abundance—enough;
Our pockets won't stand it—oh, dear sir, relax!
Until you decide we're reclining on tacks.

One Moment, Friend Dealer.

"We are very much pleased with your January issue. The typographical appearance of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and its general excellence of contents place it in the foremost ranks of philatelic publications. It is one of the best advertising mediums we have tried, which is saying considerable.

L. MERNER STAEBLER,
Mgr. Johnstown Stamp & Pub. Co."

It seems the Department has adopted the majority of the designs suggested by our Mr. Stearns for the Omaha series.

The Rarest Confederate Local.

"EMORY, VIRGINIA.—Mr. N. P. Strause has submitted two specimens of a new Confederate Local which bears every appearance of being genuine. They consist of the word 'PAID,' and '5' hand-stamped or printed in blue ink on the margins of sheets of the United States one cent blue, of the issue of 1857. One of the specimens shows the imprint of plate 8.

"Adhesive Stamp.—Perforated on three sides, 5c blue."

The above appeared in the *Chronicles of The American Journal of Philately*, Vol. X., No. 12, December, 1897, pages 536-537, thus recording briefly one of those rare "finds" that now and then arouse to a high degree the interest of the philatelic world, for these stamps stand without a peer among the rare Southern locals of the late Confederacy.

Mr. Strause is a prominent tobacco merchant of Henderson, N. C., and possesses the finest collection of U. S. and Confederate general issues and locals in the South. He is one of the original members of the Virginia Philatelic Association, and to his kindness we are indebted for the privilege of illustrating and describing his treasures. He has furnished all the information regarding the Emory stamps as has been possible to obtain.

The varying sizes of the original covers preclude an illustration of the entire. We, therefore, preserve the actual size of the adhesives and the cancellations, supplementing the dimensions.

As regards the genuineness of these stamps, Mr. Strause holds letters from the party of whom they were purchased, accompanied by the address and letters from the original finder, a nephew of Lieut. Ambrose W. Winston, who got them out of his uncle's correspondence. This letter states that these two stamps are the only ones he knows of; and, as a further proof of their genuineness, Mr. Strause has in his possession a dozen or

more letters of the same lot written in the same chirography. Subsequently, Mr. Strause secured of Lieutenant Winston's nephew the remainder of the letters and envelopes, which comprise the following:

Six 10c. rose (Confederate) on o. c., dated July 24th; August 6, 11, 23, 27, and October 3, 1862, addressed to Lieut. A. W. W., cancelled postally in blue color.

Seven envelopes, buff and white, large 5c. blue (Confederate), same address and handwriting, cancelled postally Emory, Va., from May, 1862, to April, 1863.

Six large 5c. green (Confederate) cancelled postally Emory, Va., in red. One envelope of this lot has no post-mark, but is stamped similar to illustration No. 3, but with the "D" of the word "PAID" cutting the circle surrounding the 5 from the left. Another envelope is post-marked "Abingdon, Va., June, 1861," with PAID above a large 5 minus surrounding circle. Also a number of others franked with general issue Confederates, all addressed to Lieut. A. W. W., save one which is addressed to *Capt.* A. W. Winston, Castle Craig, Campbell County, Va.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ILLUSTRATION.

No. 1 —Size of cover $3\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$; cancelled in pen script Emory, Va., July 22, 1861, on side; addressed to Mr. Ambrose W. Winston, Castle Craig, Campbell county, Va. The stamp on this cover bears the plate number 8 with partial letters on each side.

No. 2.—Size of cover $3\frac{1}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$; postally cancelled EMORY, VA., JULY 1st. This stamp shows in the S. W. corner a part of letter N, the V part only showing as the perforation cuts away the balance. This letter is addressed to Mr. Ambrose W. Winston, Castle Craig, Campbell County, Va. This cover also bears in pen script "June 8, 1861."

No. 1.

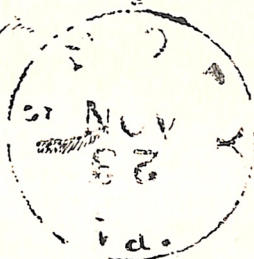
Emory, Va.
July 22 1861



No. 2.



No. 3.



Lieut. Ambrose W. Winston
Care of Col. Goode
58th Regt. Va. Vol.
Monterey
Highland Co., Va.

DIETZ, Del. '98

No. 3.—Size of cover $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$; is postally cancelled Emory, Va., November 23d, with the figures inverted thus: 23. This envelope bears no adhesive stamp, merely

the PAID with 5 in circle, and is addressed to Lieut. Ambrose W. Winston, Care of Col. Goode, 58th Regt, Va. Vol, Monterey, Highland Co., Va. DIETZ.

Philatelia to Aliens.

BY JOHN PAALZOW.

LIVES there a stamp collector who has not more than once been asked, "What is the good of your collecting those useless bits of paper, spending time and perhaps money to get them and when you have them, waste more time in placing them in albums, etc.?"

I know this question has been asked of me a good many times, not only when I was collecting as a school-boy, but also when in riper years, the old fascination of stamplore has taken hold of me again. It is hard to describe to an outsider, who cannot appreciate the pleasure a stamp collector derives from every new specimen he adds to his collection, in what this fascination consists, still it seems an established fact that when one once becomes thoroughly interested in the pursuit he never loses the taste for it; although there may come times in life when business or other cares force the stamps temporarily into the background. Of late years an element of speculation has entered the ranks of the fraternity, consisting of those who see in stamps of the rarer sort a good field for investment and who are using it as a means of money-making. With this feeling the genuine old-fashioned collector has nothing to do; he loves his stamps and collects them for the love of them and not the dollars they may bring. To him, a stamp hunted for in some garret or gotten in exchange from a kindred spirit, gives more pleasure and satisfaction than the speculator can ever derive, when he finds a stamp he may buy for a small price from some one who is ignorant of its value.

When you tell your scoffing friend that the study of your stamps teaches

you many things, he gazes upon you with a look of commiseration, and in his superior wisdom thinks surely the name of "stamp crank" is well applied. But I am sure there is not a boy collector who, if he is bright at all, does not improve in the study of geography at school, for when he looks through his collection and sees a specimen of the really artistic stamps of some such country as North Borneo or Congo Free State, he will naturally want to know from what part of the globe these stamps came, or if in his lesson he sees these countries mentioned, he remembers his stamps from that locality and fixes the position of the country of issue firmly in his mind. Then, again, he cannot have collected long ere he will find that other countries have different money standards, and he will want to compare the face value of his stamps, and so be compelled to look up the value of the different coins represented on his stamps. And right here I would like to say a word about the albums of the present day as compared with those of ten or fifteen years ago. Now there is nothing at the heading of the page but the name of the country and perhaps a space each side to put the ruler's portrait and the flag of the country. But the small geographical description as given in the earlier books is left off, as is also the standard coin of the country, making it more difficult for the beginner to understand the value of the different denominations. I think it very well to leave this off in the album intended for the advanced collector, but in the one intended for those who are young in the hobby these little points are often wonderfully helpful.

Another thing that must strike anyone who looks through an album moderately well filled, is, that even in our days governments are as unstable as they have been in all times preceding

ours. Take for instance, France: there you first find the Republic, pure and simple, when the head of Liberty adorned the stamp. A little later Napoleon's head appears upon it, but still the Republic retains its place in the headline of the stamp; then the *coup d'état*; and now the Republic is replaced by the Empire, which in its turn again must give place to the old head of Liberty and the Republic. Finally this effigy of Liberty makes room for the figures of Peace and Commerce clasping hands upon a globe. Commerce is represented by Mercury, who was the titular deity of the merchants and also the thieves. Surely, not an inappropriate figure to place upon the stamps of a country whose government has been stolen by first one party and then another. Then take the stamps of Spain, and its history of the last half-century is illustrated upon the postal issues of that country, beginning with Isabella and winding up, after a long list of changes, with the boy king. Another of the Continental divisions shows the history of our times in the withdrawal of all the issues of the individual German States and Territories and the issues first representing the North German Postal Union, and then, after the Franco-German war, the stamps of the once again united Empire. The one country in which the design has not changed for fifty years or more is Great Britain, on whose stamps the Queen is represented.

To the Southern collector hardly anything appeals more than a full collection of the stamps issued by the Confederacy, especially when they are on the original envelopes, the very paper out of which these covers were made telling its story of the hardships the people of the South suffered and the makeshifts they had to resort to. By my side, as I am writing, are among

others three envelopes which have done double duty, having been used first by the husband in the field to his wife far away in her mountain home, then by her careful fingers turned and gummed again and sent back with, no doubt, a missive of love and affection, and perhaps also telling of her struggles to keep matters in order at home while her protector was fighting for the cause of his country. How glad must have been that wife's heart when, after hearing that such and such bloody battle had been fought, in which her husband's regiment was engaged she first saw the familiar handwriting on this envelope which is now preserved on account of the little blue label pasted in one corner, and which in its day insured the safe delivery of the letter.

These, my scoffing friends, are some of the things our stamps teach us and some of the thoughts they give rise to in the mind of him who looks upon his stamps intelligently, and for my part, instead of feeling hurt at the term of intended derision, stamp crank, being applied to me, I feel proud of it, for I know that the hours I give, after my day's labor to my stamps, are not wasted, for they harm no one and afford me a great deal of pleasure.

Of the 1847 issue 3,712,500 of the 5 cent, and 891,000 of the 10 cent were used, though more were issued. Most of the unused ones were exchanged for the later issue when the single letter rate was reduced to three cents. — *International Philatelist*.

"THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and *The Perforator* are two of the finest and neatest papers on our list. Not only that, but they are full of the best quality of reading matter." — *International Philatelist*.

Thanks, friend Beardsley, thanks.



Australian Notes.

BY J. G. GRIFFIN.

BECAUSE New South Wales issued three new stamps at the time of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, it has been assumed by some that she intends to change the remainder of her postage issue. *Le Timbre Poste* states definitely that such will be the case. Enquiries at the general post-office in this city result in a contrary answer. There is no intention whatever of making any further change. By the bye, may I be permitted to congratulate you upon the excellent reproductions of these stamps which appeared in your first number. Those who have seen your journal in Australia are loud in praise of the faithfulness and beauty of your engravings.

The Cooks Islands, a dependency of New Zealand, are to issue a new postage stamp. It is to be of such a sort that it can be used for parcels, for revenue, and for ordinary postage purposes, but I have no further particulars regarding it at this writing.

Regarding the new Jubilee N. S. W. 2d. stamp, it is worth recording that the dark blue color, hitherto used, has been changed, since the 1st of the present month, to ultramarine. The reason for doing so being that the present dark color does not show the obliterating mark with sufficient distinctness.

The New Zealand new issue has been prepared and printed by Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, of London, and a six months' supply will shortly reach that Colony. After this lot is exhausted the local government will do the printing, special

machinery having been erected at the Government Printing Office, Wellington (the official capital), for that purpose. The designs are said to be very attractive, and so they should be for the Premier of the Colony, when in England lately, declared that New Zealand wished to have a set of stamps *superior to any in the world*. Let us hope this wish may be accomplished. But — (?)

New York Correspondence.

BY LENNOD.

Bogert & Durbin's 94th sale, held on Saturday afternoon, July 15th, was a most successful affair. Although the weather was bad, the attendance was larger than usual. Prices were good, and in a number of cases competition was exciting, but good nature prevailed throughout. I quote a few prices. The error on the British North Borneo stamps, viz.: Postal Revenue instead of Postage and Revenue—a block of four each of the 18c. and 24c. values unused fetched \$1.70 and \$2.20 respectively. The 50 kr. Persia 1894 issue found a ready buyer at \$4.50, the catalogue quotation is \$4. The 4 sk., 1863 issue of Norway, was sold for \$1.70; the stamp was unused without gum.

Although reported to the contrary, the one cent Cabot issue can still be purchased at the General Post-office, St. Johns, Newfoundland. A letter received a few days ago gives the information that *complete sets* are still on sale. From that I glean that to buy the one and two cent values, you must purchase the entire set (1c. to 60c.). This knocks in the head the assertion that the one-cent provisional is non-speculative. The post-office officials, or some one with like authority, formerly claimed that the one cent (Cabot) were all *sold*. Therefore the necessity of surcharging another

stamp, making it equivalent to a face value of one cent. How could the one cent (Cabot) be all gone, when they can still be procured at the post-office in sets? Can it be possible that a new printing of the one and two cent values (Cabot) has occurred since? It surely must be so, or the provisional is a rank fake, and made expressly for collectors or some "favored" one. The Canadian Jubilees are a hundred per cent. more preferable than these Cabot emissions. Of course circumstances alter cases, and my opinion may not be rightly formed according to some of my readers, but from what I have heard, seen, and read, I believe I am right in making the stand I do.

I have been shown several copies of the two cent Treasury Department on American Bank Note paper. Other varieties seen were several copies of Canada 2c. green and 6c. brown, 1888 issue imperforate; also Hawaiian 2c. rose, unsurcharged, and United States 1c. present issue Unpaid Letter stamp; both imperforate. All were fine copies with wide margins, showing parts of next stamps on two and three sides.

At the National Philatelic Society meeting held December 28th, Dr. L. M. Homburger, sales superintendent of the Empire State Philatelic Society, was elected secretary.

Entertainment for the evening was the exhibition of British Colonials. Many fine and rare stamps were shown, including strips, blocks, and entire sheets. The following gentlemen participated: J. M. Andreini, E. Boucher, J. W. George, and J. W. Luff.

At the last meeting of the Staten Island Philatelic Society (A. P. A. branch) the treasurer, Mr. Henry Clotz, who has held this office since the society was organized some fifteen years ago, was presented by the members with a handsome crystal cigar moistener, filled with the choice

brand Mr. Clotz usually indulges in. The moistener is in the shape of a jar, with a silver cover upon which is engraved a suitable inscription. Mr. Clotz was visibly effected by the appreciation shown him, and heartily thanked the members in a neat speech.

The demand for unpaid letter stamps of all values and issues, except one and two cent bright claret 1891 issue, is steadily increasing. The demand comes from Europe especially, Germany, France and Switzerland being the largest buyers. The wholesale dealers on this side of the pond have exported all they had, but the demand is greater than the supply at present, and will remain so for some time to come.

Boston Bits.

BY BOSTONIAN.

Among the new issues of stamps received in the West during the past month are the following: 4d Sierra Leone, 1, 2, 5, and 6-cent Canada permanent issue; 1 and 2-cent of the new issue of Newfoundland. The new 1-cent stamp having been received, there will doubtless be no more surcharges made, and in fact I have heard on good authority that there was no real need of the surcharged stamps appearing at all. Our Boston dealers seem to be well supplied with these stamps, and they are still pouring in in complete sheets, and it seems to me that there must be something "rotten" at the bottom of the business.

It is chronicled that the St. Vincent 1 sh. is now appearing in a salmon color, and also that the entire set will soon be changed in color.

Mr. A. W. Batchelder, of the New England Stamp Company, has recently returned from a business trip through New York State and Lower Canada, and he reports the trade in stamps as very brisk. He says the 6-cent Canada Jubilee

is considered to be the most desirable of the complete set, and the lowest price quoted on it was 75 cents each.

The leading dealers in this section have been discussing the idea of publishing a catalogue of postage stamps, in which all stamps will be priced at net value, as many of the collectors and dealers here are thoroughly disgusted, with the big discount business from catalogue value. This is an excellent scheme, and I trust it will be carried out, for if things keep on as they are at present, dealers will soon be forced to sell for from 75 to 90 per cent. discount.

The Old Colony Philatelic Society of Mansfield, Mass., has elected the following officers for 1898 :

President, David Smiley; Vice-President, Melvin O. Estey; Secretary, S. W. Shepard; Treasurer, Wilfred W. Skinner. A competent set of officers indeed, and one to be proud of.

Canadian Notes.

The advocates of preferential postage between Canada and Great Britain have received a decided set-back, and from present indications the plan will have to be abandoned. Mr. Mulock's plans were very good theoretically, but practically they were of small value.

The old issue of Canadian halves are still being held at five cents each by the majority of speculators, but buyers are few. We think two cents would be about the actual value of the stamp at the present time.

Prices on Canadian Jubilees have taken a slight fall during the past month.

The higher values of the new Canadian issue present a very pleasing appearance, and are a decided improvement over former issues.

Very few unused copies of the surcharged stamps of Newfoundland are in the hands of philatelists, and these few

will soon command fancy prices, as the post-office authorities have taken all possible precautions to prevent their getting out in an unused condition.

The holiday business done by the post-office department exceeded that of any previous year.

The highest values of the old Canadian issue are being eagerly sought for, and good prices are paid for them. The 50c especially should prove a good investment, as very few post-offices in Canada were supplied with them.

Philatelists who have been filling the columns of our papers with vehement remarks anent the Canadian Jubilee issue, can now turn their guns on the proposed issue to celebrate the Omaha Exposition.

Since the new decree allowing advertisements to be placed on the face of postal cards has gone into effect, some very novel designs may be expected.

CANADIAN.

One of the best benefits derived from a philatelic society is a good official journal published promptly each month.

The motto, "Up to Date" with some stamp papers means an issue dated three or four months behind time.

Some collectors labor under the impression that by joining all the philatelic societies they become immediately "prominent philatelists"

It is indeed a progressive stamp paper that publishes illustrations of philatelists and then sends them a bill for the half-tone.

An advertiser who pays in advance is worth two who promise to pay later.

When a society of over one thousand members holds a convention and but a few hundred members, take enough interest to vote, it is called a "harmonious convention."—PHILOS in *The Stamp Collector's Figaro*.



The number of exchanges received during the past month has been unusually large, and with few exceptions the publishers have succeeded in presenting especially fine "Holiday Editions." Our limited space prevents an exhaustive review of these festive numbers, but we trust their reward has been in proportion to their efforts.

The American Journal of Philately for January begins Vol. XI. of America's standard philatelic publication.

Stanley Gibbon's Monthly Journal, like the above, needs no comment. It is the British standard in matters philatelic.

The Perforator's New Year number tops the climax with twenty pages and cover in blue and brown.

The Home Worker for January has made another stride forward in appearance and popularity.

The Rocky Mountain Stamp, Columbian Philatelist and American Collector, J. "F-phenomena" Dodge's trio, are A1.

The Eastern Philatelist contains its usual array of select matter, with an article by Miss Swift in its deserved place.

The International Philatelist carries more advertisements than any philatelic paper in the country.—It's Beardsley's.

The Philatelic Bulletin seems an entirely new publication since Horn has charge. In appearance and contents—good.

The Weekly Era comes promptly and brings all the latest news. A truly philatelic paper.

The New York Philatelist has another article by the "Us-who-know-all-about-it-Veritas," but relegated to his proper place: Row No 2.

The Philatelic Monthly illustrates the new type Eagle Post, recently found in Philadelphia, and chronicles many new issues.

The Stampman is bearing his honors as official organ with grace. There's room for growth in size, but not in quality.

The Stamp Reporter from Ontario is as neat in appearance as any Canadian philatelic paper.

Philatelic Facts, in a five-colored cover for December, is a decided success in every branch. What does "Veritas" say to it?

Lone Star State Philatelist has a philatohistorical article on Cyprus, besides its usual quantity of interesting philatelic matter.

The Metropolitan Philatelist is neatness itself. Its contents are choice and instructive to the stamp collector.

The Herald Exchange, the only German-American stamp paper in the United States, issued a good New Year's number.

The Evergreen State Philatelist's evergreen cover enfolds a very ripe philatelic publication.

The Young Collector presents in its December number sufficient matter to attract an "old collector."

The National Stamp Collector's New Year number is quite a creditable paper.

Philatelic Facts and Fallacies has started a very commendable move of publishing the "Guard of Honor" (?)—philatelic frauds. Good for Sellschopp.

The California Stamp is redeeming its promises. Lowe and McDonnell are issuing an A1 publication.

The Texan Philatelist is as good as its predecessors.

Philatelic Literature, the literature collectors' encyclopedia, says our publication is "a peach." Thanks, thanks!

The Omaha Philatelist's January number has been welcomed to our *Sinctum Sanctum*. What's the matter with Sheppard and Lowe now?

The International Stamp can get more real stamp matter into three pages than some others into ten.

The Stamp Collector's Figaro, No. 2, is with us. Editor Duffy has a neat publication. Keep it up. We like it.

The Pensy has some good articles in its January number, especially do we agree with B. G. McFall.

The Philatelic Messenger for December is A1, but it prints the wrong font type in illustrating Type I Newfoundland surcharge.

The Philatelic Advocate, Ontario, tells its "inside history," and, fearing we would not find it, bound in our number, pages 5, 6, 7, 8, double.

Die Post and *Der Briefmarkenhändler*, two philatelic trade journals, from Germany, have been received.

The Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, Malta, has made its bow to the philatelic public. No. 1 has assured its future success. *Viva Melita!*

Le Timbrophile Gaulois illustrates the new Chinese and Italian Levant stamps besides its usual philatelic "phun."

Le Moniteur Philatélique is an elegant Belgian philatelic publication of the highest order.

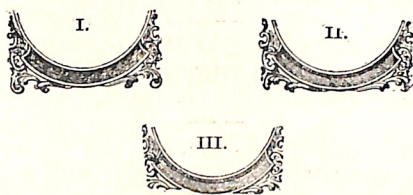
The Stamp Advertiser is announced by W. A. Turnbull, Ithaca, N. Y. "Always room for one more."

We have also received W. C. Proudfoot's price-list, St. Vincent; R. Farias' price-list, Mexico; Bartel's Reference List of Plate Numbers of U. S. Adhesives; Hub Stamp Company's Catalogue; A. F. Wicks' price-lists, London, Ontario. "The Famous Battleboro Stamp—A Dash of Reminiscence of the Old Days," from the postmaster.

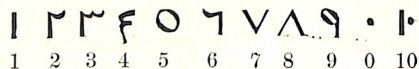
The following announcements of auction sales: Wolsieffer's, January 8th; The Walter S. Scott Stamp Company's, February 3d; and Albrecht's Catalogue No. 4, offering a magnificent collection at publisher's prices.

Points for the Young Collector.

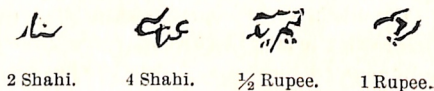
THE THREE TYPES OF THE 1851-'56 ONE CENT BLUE.



NUMERALS ON TURKISH AND AFGHAN POSTAGE STAMPS.



AFGHAN.





CANADA.—In addition to the denominations chronicled last month, we announce the following varieties of the new issue: 1c. green, 3c. red, 8c. orange, and 10c. brown. All of the same design.

We have received from Mr. R. C. Bach, of Montreal, a copy of the new Canadian postal card. Value, 1 cent. Stamp of same design as new adhesive; color green. Wording "Canada Postcard" in black.

GERMAN-CHINA.—*Die Post* illustrates the new German surcharges for use in the German postal agencies in China. The current 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, and 50 pfgr. have been surcharged, diagonally from S. W. to N. E., in black, in large type similar to this: **China**

UNITED STATES.—We have received from Mr. N. P. Strause, of Henderson, N. C., a strip of three of the new ONE CENT dark green. Plate No. 527.

Souvenir Card Collecting.

Collecting of Souvenir Postal Cards is a comparatively new branch of Philately in the United States, yet one which deserves every encouragement.

Next to a fine collection of stamps there is nothing so instructive and pleasing, even to the non-philatelist, than a collection of Souvenir Postal Cards, neatly arranged in a suitable album.

In nearly all European cities and places of historic interest such cards may be purchased by the tourist and sent to the friends at home. We are pleased to note the appearance of an American series prepared by the American Souvenir Card Co.



We have received during the past month numerous announcements of sales which take place subsequent to the mailing of this number. We are, therefore, unable to present our readers with the usual amount of information under this heading. Our Boston correspondent furnishes us the following:

The auction sale held by B. L. Drew & Co. on December 9th was largely attended. At this sale prices ran exceedingly low, and in many cases far below wholesale quotations. A few of the prices are as follows:

A fine copy of the 90c. 1869, used, sold for \$10; a 24c. Navy Department, unused P. O. State, went for \$2.90; a copy of the 90c. 1861, good condition, sold for \$1.75; 7c. Navy Department, fine, used, \$1.50; a Nova Scotia 6d., used copy, brought \$3. A large part of the sale consisted of combination lots taken from the stock of the Granite State Stamp Company of Newmarket, N. H.

Official Stamps of Jamaica Abolished.

From an esteemed correspondent resident in the island we learn that the official stamps of Jamaica have been abolished. From the commencement of the current year the old franking system has been reinstated. It was found that the keeping of the accounts entailed a good deal of trouble to the department and (adds our correspondent) "led to some abuses too." — *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

We will be pleased to send your friends a sample copy of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. A postal will bring it.

The Von Stephan Memorial Fund.

RECAPITULATION.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, in its initial number, proposed the project of erecting a monument to the late HEINRICH VON STEPHAN, founder of the Universal Postal Union, and originator of the postal card. To this end philatelists everywhere



HEINRICH VON STEPHAN.

are invited to donate to the VON STEPHAN MEMORIAL 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 at auction, and the proceeds, along with the autographs mounted in an album forwarded to the proper authorities for the purpose above stated. Ed.

DONATIONS.

W. G. Brockenbrough, Va. . pair 5c. blue Confeds
August Dueckhardt, Va. 10c. coin
L. T. Brodstone, Neb. pair 1c. Due, obsolete
Maeridi freres, Constantinople, pair 1¼ pl. German
Levant.
F. W. Coning, Tenn., pair 8c. Col., 2c. claret, 2c.
green.
Erwin L. Fischer, Ohio . 3 pf. Prussia 61-65, used
Rotthaus Bros., Ohio four 2c. Due, claret
P. den Outer, Jr., Holland, lot Netherlands, used
John J. Courtice, England, 6d. Cape of Good Hope
Felipe Naveda, Mexico . . lot of Mexican, used
Fred. P. Holt, Conn. pair 4c. Columbians
S. T. S. Doncyson, Chicago 2c. current
B. A. Gaines, Va. 5c. coin
A. W. Barrett, Mass. 10c. Columbian
Dr. Edith Eareckson, Md., 3c. Col., 3c. 1890, 3c. 1895
M. Tausig, N. Y. 6c. current
Irving E. Patterson, Mich. 5c. current
John Glossford, Canada . . block of 4 ½c., black

Virginia Philatelic Association

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

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., *January 10, 1898.*

To the Members of the V. P. A.:

I herewith submit to you my report of the fifth monthly meeting of our Association held January 10, 1898, at No. 13 north Eleventh street.

Members present: Messrs. John Paalzow, Henry C. Scott, Jr., E. P. Lyons, Jr., August Dietz, C. F. W. Moser, Thomas Christian, W. P. Shelton, F. Stearns, Jr., Rev. Dr. H. Carmichael, Major John F. Mayer, and W. S. Ahern, also Mr. John C. Weckert as guest.

Meeting presided over by Major John F. Mayer. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Messrs. Lyons and Dietz, of the Constitutional Committee, not being prepared to make a report, were instructed to do so at the next regular meeting.

Messrs. J. C. Weckert and J. C. Hagan, both of Richmond, Va., were then unanimously elected members of the Association.

Mr. John Paalzow read a letter from his father, Mr. Franz Paalzow, of Bergedorf, Germany, in which, in well chosen expressions, he conveyed to the Association his appreciation and thanks for his election as honorary member, and also for the copy of the December number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST especially prepared for presentation by the Association to Mr. Paalzow, Sr.

A motion to exclude stamp dealers from membership in the Association was carried.

Rev. Dr. Carmichael addressed the members on the subject of stamp exchanges, relating his many experiences along this line, and giving some sound advice for the conducting of our own Exchange Department.

On motion, the meeting adjourned, but the members indulged in "stamp talk" till quite late into the night.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Postal Issues of the Confederate States of America.

BY WM. D. REED.

First Paper.—The Lithographed Stamps.

(CONTINUED.)

There are a few varieties or shades of the 2c. green. Not so, however, of the 5c. blue. At the time of the issue of this stamp the demand for stamps for postage had become very great. The supply of green ink had become exhausted but no cessation of issues could be permitted. A large supply of blue and red ink had just safely crossed the line, and was immediately used in the issue of two new stamps, the 5c. blue and the 10c. rose. Like the 5c. blue, the 10c. rose also furnishes many shades. These stamps were not issued longer than six months, and are accordingly rare and very seldom found in good condition.

The 10c. stamp was reissued in blue on August 1, 1862. The red ink was very expensive. Typographed 5c. stamps were now being supplied by Thomas De La Rue & Co., from England. The issue of March 1, 1862, was supplanted by the new stamps from England, and the blue ink remaining on hand was sufficient for a reissue of the 10c. denomination.

Many collectors divide these two issues into two dies, A and B: Die B showing an attempt to correct the typographical error in the first issue. The first issue is printed in an entirely different blue from the second issue. The impressions of the latter are bleared, and show very poor workmanship.

These first lithographed issues of the Confederacy were used throughout the war in all the Southern States. Although the London firm and late Messrs. Archer & Daly soon succeeded Hoyer & Ludwig in the manufacture of the Confederate stamps, they often passed through the Southern post-offices side by side with the better-executed products of the later years.

This period in the postal history of the Confederacy is of the greatest historic and romantic interest, because of the intrigues, the engagements, the captures, and escapes that the custodians of the Southern Post-Office Department supplies underwent in transporting them within the Confederate lines—first in Kentucky, later in Maryland and Virginia, or through the Southern blockade.

Have you read THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST's Grand Combination Offer? See the ad.

Zero in Newfoundland!

I will sell a limited number of
Provisional Surcharge, 1 cent on 3 cents Slate,
Type I., @ \$1.00; II., @ \$2.50; III., @ \$7.50.
Special Set: ½ black, 1 green, 2 orange, 3 slate, 5 blue, 6 carmine, 10 black, 12 puce, 24 blue, set of nine, \$1, New.

CABOT SET, 1c. to 60c., complete, . . . \$2.50
Remit by P. O. order. Postage to N. F., ½-oz., 5c.

ARCH. G. GIBB, 297 Water St., St. Johns, N. F.

BARGAINS IN U. S.!

All in A1 Condition.

30c. brown, 1888,	\$.50
30c. black, 1879,	1.30
7c. Treasury	1.30
6c. State	1.30
24c Interior75

And many others. Also U. S. Plate Numbers.

HAMBLY BECK, 509 E St. N. W., Washington, D. C.

\$250.00 Given Away!

ON MAY 15TH, 1898, WE SHALL DISTRIBUTE

FIFTY VALUABLE PREMIUMS

Among our best agents and customers. These Premiums consist of large and valuable
STAMP ALBUMS, STAMP COLLECTIONS, THREE BICYCLES,
GOLD WATCHES, RIFLES, LAWN TENNIS SET, TOOL
SET, and Other Valuable and Useful Articles.

There Will Be FIFTY Premiums In All

Aggregating \$250 in Value,

And they will be distributed among those FIFTY of our Agents or customers who buy of or sell
for us the largest amount of stamps between FEBRUARY 1ST and MAY 15TH, 1898.

FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS SEND FOR FREE CIRCULARS, &c.

Names of the successful FIFTY will be published in all the stamp
papers after May 15th. Send for Circulars AT ONCE.

Those who Begin NOW will Have the Best Chance to Secure these Valuable Presents

ADDRESS . . .

Standard Stamp Co.

No. 4 Nicholson Place,

ST. LOUIS, MO., U. S. A

PREMIUMS!

February 1, 1898, I will give away three premiums
to parties who buy most of stamps from
me up to that date.

1st Premium, Scott's International Stamp Album
No. 2, Price, \$3.00.

2d Premium, Scott's International Stamp Album
No. 1, Price, \$1.50.

3d Premium, Scott's International Stamp Album
No. 11, Price, \$1.00.

And after that date I will give other Premiums.

On May 1, 1898, I will give away as
an extra grand premium, one Set of
Columbian Stamps, unused, from 1 cent up to \$5.00
to any party who has bought most stamps
from me, from now up to that date.

British Colonies, South and Central America,
Mexico, rare Europeans, etc., are on my approval
sheets at 50% discount.

I have U. S. Adhesives, Departments, Revenues,
etc., nearly complete, at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ to 50% discount.

Please send WANT LISTS of U. S. stamps and I
will send same on approval to responsible parties.
Scott's Albums and Catalogues at publishers'
prices.

Also good prices paid for U. S. and Br. Colonies
If you are in the band wagon, please let me know.

JOHN ARBTIN, Des Moines, Ia.

Scott's Standard Catalogue 58TH EDITION,

Appeared on November 24th.

PRICE, 58 CENTS, POST-FREE.

No collector can afford to be without it,
as it contains many new features, and most
of the prices have been rearranged, many
going down, and others being advanced.

AUCTION SALES.

Beginning in January, we shall, during
the coming season, sell a magnificent lot
of stamps at auction, comprising collec-
tions and parts of collections, and includ-
ing many of the rarest U. S. Rev. stamps.

*Catalogues of all our Sales will be sent
free to all who will send us their names
and addresses to be added to our present
mailing list.*

Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd.,

18 E. 23d St., NEW YORK, New York.

Ready!
THE AMERICAN STANDARD CATALOGUE
... OF THE ...
POSTAL CARDS
OF THE WORLD.

Thoroughly Revised, and Listing all Cards and
Letter-Cards Issued to January 1, 1898.
FULLY ILLUSTRATED.
Published by The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Ltd.
Price, 25c. post-paid.

FOR SALE BY
A. LOHMEYER,
922 N. Gilmor St., Baltimore, Md.

Look at This!

TWO LEADING MAGAZINES
AT THE PRICE OF
ONE!

The Virginia Philatelist,

THE HANDSOMEST MAGAZINE
IN AMERICA,

Together with any of the following Magazines, for one year,
for the Price opposite its name:

The Perforator . . . 30c	Home Worker . . . 25c
N. Y. Philatelist . . . 30c	California Stamp . . . 25c
Herald Exchange . . . 30c	Philatelic Facts . . . 30c
Lone Star State Philatelist, 25c.	

GRAND COMBINATION OFFERS!

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST
One Year with either

The Columbian Philatelist, The American Collector
or *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, 28c.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and either two, 39c

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and all three, . 50c

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and all three, to-
gether with *The Perforator*, 65c.

The Five Magazines and Scott's 58th Catalogue,
post-paid, \$1.10

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and Scott's 58th
Catalogue, post-paid, 60c.

FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR., Bus. M'g'r,
13 N. Eleventh St., P. O. Box 6. Richmond, Va., U. S. A

THE FAMOUS BRATTLEBORO STAMP.
A Perfect Fac-simile of the Little Gem Attached to
the Original Letter Sheet with Postmark.

In the year 1846, a full year before the Government issued its
first postage stamps, the deputy postmaster of Brattleboro, Vt.
among other improvements in his office issued the little private
stamp now so well known among collectors. Not over 500 of
these stamps were printed, and never a second edition. The
postmaster prepared the little sheets himself, applying the
gum with camel's hair pencil. The originals are now sold at
extraordinary prices. A PERFECT FAC-SIMILE of this little
stamp with letter-sheet and postmark, together with a history
of its origin and a sketch of the old postmaster himself, will
be sent to any address on receipt of **Twenty-five Cents.**
Address, **F. W. CHILDS, Brattleboro, Vermont.**



**Larger and More Interesting
than Ever**

THAT our Manual for 1898 is larger
than ever we know. That it will be
found more interesting than usual
we believe, because of the many new and
novel features with which it may fairly be
said to bristle. It is not a mere catalogue,
but a book of 200 pages, size 9x11 inches.
It contains over 500 engravings, mostly
new; these are supplemented by six full-
sized colored plates of the choicest novel-
ties of the season, all bound in a cover that
is both pleasing and original. It costs us
30 cents each to place a copy in your
hands, but to give it the widest possible
distribution we will send this magnificent
manual

FREE

To all who will send **10 cents** (in stamps)
to cover postage. To customers who
bought of us direct in either '96 or '97
it will be sent free without application,
before January 15.

OUR
"Souvenir" Seed Collection

will also be sent without charge to all
applicants sending 10 cents for the Cat-
alogue who will state where they saw
this advertisement.

Postal Card Applications Receive No Attention.

PETER HENDERSON & Co.
35 & 37 CORTLANDT ST. NEW YORK.

Say you saw this in THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

AUSTRALIAN & STAMPS!

"Antipodes" Packet

contains 120 different stamps of Australian Colonies. All picked specimens.

PRICE 1 DOLLAR.

Post-free and registered in official envelope.

6 PACKETS FOR 5 DOLLARS.

1,000 Mixed Australian, 30 Varieties, Post-free, . . \$1.00.

Remittances by Money Order preferred.

GOOD STAMPS EXCHANGED.

Established 1888.

SYDNEY STUART,

REDFERN, . NEW SOUTH WALES, . AUSTRALIA.

75% Off. For 1898. 75% Off.

On Page's fine sheets of both U. S. and Foreign, (U. S. Revenues also), sent on 10-days' approval to all honest collectors. *Cleanest, prettiest and cheapest* sheets on the market. You can buy 10c. worth or \$10 worth, *always 75 off.* Small buyers treated same as large buyers. *Write Us.* Page's "Rouletted" Hinges (fine) 10c. per 1,000.

PAGE PAPER PEOPLE,

Bishop's Silver Front, MUSCATINE, IOWA.

DEALERS AND COLLECTORS!

Send \$1.50 for our Packet of 1,000 mixed Stamps, catalogued at \$20.00.

YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU WANT IT.

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