

APRIL, 1898.



THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO THE
INTERESTS OF PHILATELY IN VIRGINIA

VOLE
I

NO
8



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RICHMOND, VA.

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THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

VOL. I.

RICHMOND, VA., APRIL, 1898.

No. 8.

WILLIAM PENICK SHELTON.

AMONG the members of the flourishing Virginia Philatelic Association there is not a more enthusiastic disciple of Philatelia, not a more congenial spirit than Mr. William Penick Shelton, an excellent likeness of whom THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST takes pride and pleasure in presenting to its readers this month.

Penick Shelton, as we familiarly call him, is a Virginian. He was born in Halifax county, March 12, 1871 and is now in his twenty-eighth year. He received a thorough education in the public schools of Richmond, Davis School of N. C., Richmond College, and University of Virginia. Besides standing high in his studies, as friend Stearns, his classmate at the latter institution, informs me, he excelled, especially, in athletics.

Mr. Shelton holds a fine position in one of our leading Banks, in fact he has been in the banking business since his twenty-first year in various capacities, with the exception of a brief period with a railroad company.

His stamp-collecting career began well-nigh eighteen years ago, when a school-boy of 10. With that persistence and fidelity characteristic of him, he has never forsaken our interesting hobby, but during these years has accumulated a collection of stamps of which he may

justly feel proud. Upward of 4,000 choice specimens elicit admiration from all who have the pleasure of inspecting his album of treasures.

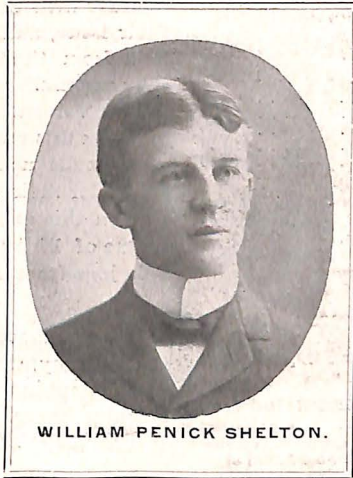
Mr. Shelton is a general collector, and a collector for pleasure only. He is a "reference book" on British Colonials and the stamps of Oceanica in particular, which, by the way, are his favorites, and the subjects of his philatelic devotion and study. And, truly, a finer array of these beautiful stamps in a single collection could not be found in our city. While these are his special hobby it must not be inferred that the others are neglected. His collection of U. S. and Confederates will "pass muster" as well as his great variety of South and Central Americans.

One of the first to enlist in the Virginia Philatelic Association, his enthusiasm and

regular attendance at its meetings, have added a goodly share to its progress, as well as made him a general favorite.

Penick is always willing to "talk stamps," and may never be caught without his "little book of duplicates." Ever ready to share his "surplus" with the less fortunate, ever ready to purchase a good stamp, he is truly one of that scarce species of "stamp collectors" destined to enthuse others to the perpetuation of our most interesting hobby.

Such is "Member No. 42," one of the most popular of the V. P. A. DIETZ.



WILLIAM PENICK SHELTON.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF THE
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

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Copy should reach us by the 13th of the preceding month to insure insertion. To change standing ads, copy must be in the 15th.

We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

AUTHORIZED AGENTS :

FOR CANADA.

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

FOR 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., APRIL, 1898.

Confederate Locals.

SINCE the appearance of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, and the prominence we have accorded the postal emissions of the Confederate States of America, we have received letters from both North and South heartily endorsing our course and lending new inspiration for continued efforts along these lines.

The general issues of the Confederacy

have received some attention in the various philatelic publications, it is true, but there still remains a rich field for the plough-share of philatelic research.

Confederate Locals, especially—from the facts, not alone of their scarcity and market value, but short-lived as was their career and peculiarly interesting as were the circumstances to which they owe their existence—deserve more attention than has heretofore been accorded them.

It is the *duty* of *Southern* collectors, while yet they can, to gather the facts and statistics relating to these historic stamps and to bequeath to future philately a true history of the Confederate Locals.

Many of our veteran collectors are familiar with the exigencies that led to their issue, and they should not withhold from the student the knowledge they possess.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, desiring to attain this end to the benefit of philately, calls upon the "old-timers" to surrender their vast treasures of information on this subject, and to place at the shrine of Philatelia these, the choicest offerings from the South.

HAVE you ever tried the Trojan Stamp Co., of Troy, Ohio? They are offering some genuine bargains this month. Reliable house. Write 'em.

THE concluding chapter of "The War Stamps of Germany," by our Mr. Franklin Stearns, Jr., appears in this number. There is little to be told regarding these stamps beyond such information as every catalogue gives, and the intention of our author was to narrate the causes necessitating this emission and thereby arouse the interest among our readers that these stamps merit.

WENDELIN WEBER, the old reliable, is offering you some stamps this month at prices to suit your purse.

A Record Breaker.

ON March 14th twenty-one new paid-up subscribers were enrolled on the books of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. A single day's record to be proud of, and an additional encouragement to place our publication in the front ranks of American philatelic literature.

E. E. PARKER, of Beaver Dam, makes a request of you. Favor him with compliance.

"GILCHRIST" contributes for this number an article on "West Indian Fake Fiscals." The finished style of the author—a talented son of proud "Caledonia stern and wild"—and the sound advice given on the subject will alone commend it to our readers.

LOHMEYER, the postal-card man, is the father of this branch of philately in America. He offers some excellent bargains this month. See his ad.

"Dame Rumor hath it that in the future the U. S. government will consult Mr. Franklin Stearns, of Richmond, Va., whenever designs for new issues are wanted." "H. M." in *E. S. P.*

Got about an inch ad space for this effort, eh, "H. M.?"

HENRY P. DAY, of Peoria, is advertising some bargains this month. Perhaps some of your wants are among them.

OUR friend Mr. Paalzow has just returned from his professional trip to Florida, as we go to press. He has signified his intention to prepare, for our next number, his final statement in the Berge-dorf-Locals matter, in reply to the article in Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*.

And this from Editor of "Stamps," England:

"We have received a copy of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST which though No. 5, is entirely new to us. If the issue before us is a type of its regular turnout it is certainly a useful magazine and one that will appeal to English readers more forcibly than the average American publication, as its editor seems to keep clear of the personal and local tittle-tattle that is the failing of so many of its contemporaries over there. We read with more than ordinary interest an article on the 'War Stamps of Germany' by Mr. Franklin Stearns, Jr. It is a clever review of the events that led to the issue of the Alsace-Lorraine stamps. * * * * The article * * * gives tone to the whole magazine * * * ."

"GOOD ONES CHEAP" heads an ad in this number you should read carefully.

VIRGINIA collectors and dealers are requested to send their names and addresses for the Virginia Philatelic Directory, which will be prepared in the near future. They are also requested to add names and addresses of all Virginia collectors and dealers known to them.

THE Johnstown ad will be found in the same old place.

BI-MONTHLY inspection of the "Guard of Honor" in next month's number. Send in your reports, with proper attests, in time.

A. F. WICKS is offering an unparalleled bargain. Have you read his ads?

AND the howl and kick against the Omaha stamps continues—so does the work on the plates at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing at Washington.



The *Oesterreichische Briefmarkenzei-
tung* describes the quite common counter-
feits of Ionian Islands stamps.

For the benefit of our readers we trans-
late from the article.

The color of the counterfeit is
deceiving—the stamp seems to have
been subject to exposure; design and
inscriptions appear, at a glance, to be
correct but a close scrutiny will develop
the following differences: The end of
the garter is shaded while the genuine is
not; the end of the hair cue is halfway
between neck and oval, and perpendicular
to the right bottom of bust on the
original; on the counterfeit the cue is
nearer the neck, and consequently
diagonal to the bottom of bust. The lips
are parted in the original, but closed in
the counterfeit. The chin is sharp in
the counterfeit, oval in the genuine
stamp. Both letters K show a decided
variation from those in the original. In
the counterfeit both bars of the K begin
at the horizontal heavy bar; thus: K.
In the genuine stamp the right hand
heavy down stroke starts from the upper
thin bar, thus: K.

THE Michigan Stamp Co. has some-
thing interesting to say to our readers on
the back cover page of this number.

Malta, we glean from the *Melita Phil-
atelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, is to
have three new stamps in the near
future, of the following values: 4½d.,
2sh. 6d., and 10sh. The colors are not
given.

NEED any Departments cheap? Write
Chas. A. Townsend, Akron, Ohio.

It is rumored that quite a number of
spurious Newfoundland surcharges are
being offered for sale, some having
found their way into Richmond collec-
tions. Investigations are being made,
and should the result prove the suspicion
true, there will be some sensational dis-
closures in the near future.

AND there's the Starr Stamp Co., of
Coldwater, Mich., offering you \$3.35
worth for one dollar. But see for your-
self.

"We do not see the need of an 'Ideal
Philatelic Magazine' as long as we have
THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST to inform,
instruct and enlighten the philatelic
portion of the brain."—*Philatelic Bulle-
tin*.

WHERE'S there a collector who doesn't
know Scott? Well, become better ac-
quainted by reading his ad.

The *Philatelic Courier* has gone to the
great majority, having issued but one
number.

IF you're beginning; if you've begun;
if you're advanced in collecting, E. J.
Kirby still has something you need.

AND don't forget "Lindsey—the Ex-
change Man." His ad will interest you.

It is stated that Germany is to add a 2
pfennig stamp to its current series.

Advices just received from Stanley,
Falkland Islands, state that there is a
rumor of a change to occur in the stamps
of this Colony in the near future.

West Indian Fake Fiscals.

BY GILCHRIST.

STAMP-COLLECTING, which at one time was chiefly indulged in by school-boys, and a few so-called "cranks," is now one of the favorite hobbies of thousands of devoted enthusiasts in all parts of the known world.

There is a fascination about the tiny squares of "gum labels" that can scarcely be equaled by any other collecting fad; and the larger a collection one accumulates, the more eager he becomes to complete "just another thousand."

Such being the case, it is scarcely to be wondered at, that dishonest people recognizing how the craze has spread, see opportunities of exercising their misdirected talents; and many are the expedients resorted to by these frauds to victimize the unwary philatelist.

One of the simplest of these methods is in the manufacturing of imitations of some of the rarer and high-priced stamps, and passing them off as genuine. Were they to confine their operations to the mere counterfeiting of well-known stamps, that are easily detected, no great harm would be done; but when they employ their talents in counterfeiting watermarks, perforations and postal cancellations, one requires to keep a sharp lookout in purchasing stamps.

In this article, I propose giving a brief account of an experience I lately had with some West Indian stamps, that may be a warning to beginners, and others who do not take the trouble to study each stamp, they add to their collection.

A short time ago, I received from a party "down South" a sheet containing a number of stamps, chiefly of the Leeward Islands. Amongst them were several, purporting to be postally-used revenues. Of these I selected two; one a 1d Nevis (Scott's 25) catalogued at \$3.50,

and a St. Kitts (Scott's 25) valued at \$3.00, both of which appeared to have a genuine cancellation. Showing them to a philatelic friend, however, he, after examining them through a glass expressed his doubts as to the genuineness of the cancellations.

On scrutinizing them carefully through the glass, I could distinctly see penmarks *behind* the postal cancellation on the Nevis, and on the St. Kitts, a purplish cancellation evidently done by a *rubber* stamp.

To make "assurance doubly sure," I mailed the stamps to a friend in New York (a well-known stamp expert) asking his opinion of them. The reply was that they were undoubtedly *fakes*. Both stamps, he said, had evidently been first used as fiscals, and afterwards "cancelled to order" at the Postoffice. He further informed me that there were gangs of boys in the West Indies, who made money by "washing" fiscals, and then getting them smuggled through the Postoffice, afterwards selling them to guileless collectors on the original cover, as genuine postal fiscals.

Realizing that I had been victimized, I at once wrote to the party from whom I had the stamps, informing him of the developments regarding his so-called postally-used fiscals. In justice to him, I must say, he replied promptly, returning the stamps I had sent in exchange, repudiating all knowledge of the true character of his stamps.

His explanation of the double cancellation was, that in the West Indian villages the postmaster had no cancellation stamps, and generally used pen cancellations, not of any particular design, but any kind of a mark, it might be initials, or a cross, or, in fact, anything that came into their heads, and when the letters reach the Capitol the stamps were again canceled, with the regular cancellation mark.

To prove his assertion, he sent me an

entire envelope, mailed in one of the villages, and showing the two cancellations.

In replying to him, I pointed out to him, that while his explanation might apply to regular postals, it did not explain why postally-used *fiscals* should show the purple marks of a rubber stamp (which is never used in a postoffice.) I also called his attention to the fact that on the double-canceled stamps he sent me, that the regular postal cancellation was almost *invariably planted right on top* of the former cancellation, so as to obliterate it as much as possible.

In a subsequent letter from my New York friend, he says that it is altogether unlikely that the explanation of the double-cancellation is correct, as, taking Nevis as an example, it is only an island of some 6000 inhabitants, and even if there are village postoffices (which is doubtful) that the postmasters would in all probability be colored people who were unable to write.

On the same sheet from which I selected the stamps, was a nice specimen of the Ip Montserrat fiscal (catalogued at \$25.00) but this stamp had also a suspicious look, as, besides the well-known West Indian cancellation was a round post (?) mark of Montserrat. In returning the sheet, I called the owners attention to this stamp, suggesting that the round cancellation might be a "bank" or "department" cancellation.

Before closing this article, I must, in fairness, say that the party from whom I had the stamps, appeared to be innocent of any intention to palm off bogus stamps on me, as he says in his letter that he bought the stamps as genuine, and although he was aware of the double-cancellations, had been assured by postmasters in the islands, that (as already mentioned) the one was a "village cancellation." Perhaps some reader of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST can throw more light on the subject.

VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

FRANKLIN L. KERNS, President.
 MAJ. JNO. F. MAYER, Vice President.
 FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR., Sec'y-Treas.
 JOHN PAALZOW, 1018 Park Ave., Richmond,
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 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., *March 12, 1898.*

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

I herewith submit to you my report of the seventh monthly meeting of our Association. Members present: Messrs. J. H. Knotts, Aug. Dietz, W. P. Shelton, C. F. W. Moser, John C. Weckert, E. P. Lyons, Jr., Thos. Christian, Henry C. Scott, Jr., Jno. F. Mayer, W. S. Ahern and Franklin Stearns, Jr., also Messrs. Edward Mercer and Fritz Will as guests.

Meeting presided over by Maj. Jno. F. Mayer. The following new members were then elected: Messrs. Robt. J. Farrer, age 53, farmer, Orange C. H., Va. and J. E. Allemong, age 28, att'y at law, Salem, Va. In pursuance of the constitution newly adopted, the nomination and election of a vice-president was then proceeded with, which resulted in the nomination and unanimous election of Maj. Jno. F. Mayer. There being no further business before the meeting, it was then declared adjourned but the members remained until a late hour, indulging in jokes, stamp gossip and swapping.

Respectfully submitted,

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

THE STANDARD STAMP CO. has chosen a good title. "Standard" goods, "Standard" prices, and a "Standard" concern.

The War Stamps of Germany.

BY FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR.

II.

ON the pages of European history must be boldly inscribed, as the cause of the Franco-Prussian war, French envy of Prussian prestige and the tottering condition of Imperial France. Jealous of Prussia's success against the Danes, fearing the results of her triumph over Austria and the South German States, Napoleon needed but a pretext for war to humble his dangerous neighbor and strengthen his falling empire by diversion of the public mind from the debauchery of his profligate court, the rotten core of the Gallic apple of state.

The pretext was not wanting. There had been a long series of disturbances in Spain, and the people, having banished their Queen, were looking for another sovereign. To Leopold, Prince of Hohenzollern, a cousin to William I. of Prussia, they offered the Spanish crown. To his acceptance Napoleon immediately objected both through his representative in Berlin and to the German Ambassador in Paris. To avert war, Leopold at once renounced all intention of accepting the Spanish tender, but this was not to Napoleon's taste, a successful trial of strength with Prussia and the extension of his boundaries to the Rhine alone would re-establish his throne on the basis of 1852, so war there must be.

Benedetti, the French representative, meeting in the public promenade the Prussian King, who was taking the waters at Ems, demanded of him a pledge that under no circumstances should Leopold of Hohenzollern accept the crown of Spain. King William not condescending to answer a demand so made and in such a place, France declared that she had been insulted through her ambassador and war was at once declared.

Then was seen the effects of the magnificent German military system and the Laconian patriotism of the Teutons. Those in foreign lands renounced every personal interest and hurried to the defence of their country, many abandoned forever high positions of trust and profit. Those at home, who were of the reserves, abandoned every civil vocation and on the appointed day reported at the arsenal of their district. Uncouth, ungainly, unmilitary seemed the peasant in his citizen's garb, but in the dark blue of the Prussian uniform he was every inch a soldier and his many battles and arduous marches in the campaign that followed showed him possessed of unflinching devotion to duty and wellnigh unlimited powers of endurance.

The German advance at the commencement of hostilities was characterized by a perfect state of readiness and strict conformity to carefully pre-arranged plans, and an apparent, though only apparent, slowness in mobilization, hence, the French, who had rushed into the war, although quite unready for it, gained a slight victory over an inferior force of Germans at Saarbrück on August 2, 1870, which was not followed up, as probably might have been done, owing, undoubtedly, to their army not being in a condition to advance into an enemy's country. However, as it was, their occupation of Saarbrück was only temporary, for four days after was fought the severe battle of Spichern, many Germans having then reached the front, many more only arriving during the progress of the battle. Many a Westphalian lost his life that day in the stubborn but vain attempt to storm the Spichern Berg, which in places could only be surmounted with scaling ladders, but doggedly, stubbornly, characteristically, they held the ground they had gained, sheltering themselves behind the projecting rocks on the precipitous hill-

side, till the French were finally driven from the heights after terrible fighting in repeated charges of freshly arrived Germans up a less precipitous side of the Berg.

Now commenced in earnest the German invasion of France. Battle after battle followed each other in rapid succession. On August 14 was fought that of Courcelles, or Borny as many call it, by which the Germans frustrated the plan of Bazaine, the commander of the French "Army of the Rhine," to form a junction with McMahon, with whom was Napoleon himself. In this battle the German loss was between 2000 and 3000 men, and over 4000 French were taken prisoners. Their total loss, as in all the battles of this war, is unknown. Vionville on the 16th of August was one of the most stubborn and bloody battles of the war. There can be imputed no inequality of personal bravery on this day. It was simply a question of endurance and the sturdy Teutons had the better of it, though of 80,000 of their troops engaged, 18,000 were rendered *hors de combat*. It was in this battle that Bredow's 12th Brigade, composed of three regiments, the 7th Cuirassiers, 14th Uhlans and 13th Dragoons, made the famous charge against a French battery that at least equaled the famous charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava.

Next, on the 18th of August, was fought the strategic battle of Gravelotte, from which the French "Army of the Rhine" was forced to retire on Metz, where it was immediately surrounded by the armies of Prince Frederick Charles and Steinmetz to which it was surrendered after a protracted siege, the monotony of which was only relieved by frequent futile sallies of the French. The date of the capitulation of Metz is October 23, 1870 and with it were surrendered valuable munitions of war and 173,000 men.

After the battle of Gravelotte, the

whole of the German forces, except the two armies besieging Metz, marched to meet the French under McMahon and Napoleon, whom they defeated in the famous battle near Sedan, September 1, 1870. McMahon was severely wounded and the Emperor surrendered with about 70,000 men. The terms of capitulation were agreed upon the next day and signed in the dining hall of the Chateau Bellevue. This ended the career of Louis Napoleon and would have ended the war, had not the plans of the Prussian King, who desired to this time only the abdication of Napoleon, been frustrated by the action of the new French Provisional Government, which forced a continuance of the war which ended so disastrously in the complete defeat of the French, the fall of their capital and the loss of the rich Rhenish provinces, Alsace and Lorraine, which have ever and will in all probability continue to be a serious bone of contention between France and Germany and a perpetual menace to the peace of Europe and the world.

It was never the intention in this article to describe the "War Stamps of Germany" or to give the history of their designing and engraving--that is left to the future investigations of philatelists more advanced than the author, but simply to give a short historical sketch of those events which threw under the control of Germany many fair provinces of France and led to this provisional issue for use in the territory occupied by the victorious German army, all of which was returned to the French Republic except the two Rhenish provinces from which these stamps derive their name.

The End.

1,000 stamps for \$1.56! See the Hampden Stamp Co.'s ad.



New York Correspondence.

BY LENNOD.

UNDOUBTEDLY many collectors imagine that from the present outlook the stamp business is at a standstill, but I am pleased to inform them that such is not the case. Business is very good considering the times, and steadily increasing as the weeks go quickly by. Many are the calls for South Americans, especially Brazil, Chili, Uruguay and Paraguay stamps. The demand for unused British Colonies continues and the same can be said of United States Match, Medicine and Playing Card stamps. Canadian Revenues find very little favor here, but perhaps later we will get the fever, and make up for lost time, by paying double for the stamps.

Mr. J. W. Scott has decided to issue the *Metropolitan Philatelist* hereafter as a weekly. Whether this change proves a success remains to be seen.

The Philatelic Courier mentioned in my correspondence last month, has discontinued publication after issuing but one number. Whether we can call this an unnecessary or a speculative issue, is hard to define, but we'll pass it, to let some future generation take hold of it. The only other new wrinkle in the philatelic publishing line, is the proposed issue of a hand-book of the Empire State Philatelic Society. It is all foolishness to publish the constitution of any society in the official journal, and a separate volumn containing such and other information pertaining to the society is much more preferable. The chances are that such a book for the E.

S. P. S. could be successfully published, if the right parties take hold.

From a private source I learn that the first few hundred sheets of one and two cent Columbians were printed on ribbed paper. Although this is quite a few stamps to be issued on this quality of paper, they are not at all common at present. Being the values most used for the prepayment of postage, nearly all were sold to the public who knew nothing of their philatelic value. A travelling philatelist was lucky enough to pick up a block of forty copies at a Southern post office, and a few other copies were found in various parts of the country, but none in sufficient quantities to count for much. Cancelled copies are a scare article also, and are very seldom met with.

Dealers take extra precaution to detect the so-called "counter thieves." This class of philatelists (although not entitled to this distinction) are most feared by dealers. Their methods are simple, but nevertheless they manage to ply this dishonest business, without a shadow of suspicion. They watch the opportunity and generally call on the dealer, when other customers are present, or they either travel in pairs. The "counter thief" explains he wishes to purchase stamps from an album (all dealers have such generally called collections) and selects a few stamps from the first few pages. He scrutinizes each page of the album, until a whole page is reached, containing a high priced or a specially desired stamp. He turns the page over quickly, but lets his left hand rest underneath, and continues to turn over the pages, until the dealer's attention is desired by the other customers present, but this is the opportunity this thief was waiting for, and quicker than you can wink, he withdraws his left hand from under the pages, and with the right hand closes the book; while doing the latter he reaches with his left hand (in which the coveted stamps is held) for his wallet in the in-

side pocket of his under coat. The stamp is dropped in the pocket and the wallet taken out, asking the dealer at the same time the amount of his indebtedness, (generally about fifty cents) pays for same, and departs to play the same trick on some other dealer. The chances are the theft is never discovered, of course nearly all dealers have a clerk, but he (or she) generally have other employment, hinging stamps, making up packets, etc. The dealer is in despair, when four or five collectors are examining his books at one time. Although the stamps taken are not rarities, as all such are never hinged in these albums, nevertheless these albums contain many a desirable stamp, and the dealer's yearly loss from this source is no small sum. A couple of years ago, two boys were detected working this game, one dealer losing a beautiful unused copy of the 90c Navy Department. Whatever became of these boys, and whether they were ever prosecuted, I am unable to say.

Boston Bits.

BY BOSTONIAN.

THE editor of your paper informs me that the auction sale reports in past notes have been very acceptable, and as much as I should like to give the readers of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST as long list of prices realized at the Hub this month, it is impossible for me to do so, inasmuch as no sales have taken place since my last letter. The next sale to take place here is to be held by B. L. Drew & Co., on the evening of March 23rd and it is listed as their 24th.

I may say that Mr. Drew appears to have the monopoly on auction sales this year, as about all that we have been favored with, have been under the auspices of this company, and without them

Boston would have indeed been minus. Last season we were favored by several fine sales by the New England Stamp Co. and Woodward, but this year, these firms seem to have kept in the background as regards these kinds of sales, for what reason I know not, unless there is more in their increasing retail trade.

Mr. A. W. Batchelder of the New England Stamp Co., has returned from his recent tour of the States. He succeeded in placing a goodly number of rare stamps on this trip, and he expresses himself as thoroughly satisfied, and has nothing but words of praise concerning his treatment at the hands of collectors throughout the States visited.

Mr. Gardner R. Kennedy late with Frank P. Brown, Boston, intends to retire from the stamp business actively, though not from philatelic things entirely. He is at present situated in Worcester, Mass. and will doubtless take up some line of local business. Boston loses in Mr. Kennedy, one of its most popular philatelists, as well as a writer of no small reputation.

At present the stamps of British African colonies, seem to find ready sale at the Hub, and they appear to be being "boomed" for all they are worth. Rhodesia and Zululand are coming in for the "glad hand."

The demand for the surcharged Newfoundland seems to have somewhat abated. What seems strange to me is that all dealers here seem to be well supplied and every week sees more sheets come into the Hub, and it is said that a business firm in St. Johns offers to furnish them to dealers by the sheets at a fancy price.

Willard O. Wylie, is now business manager of the *Boston Stamp Book*. Mr. Kilbon found it necessary to make this change to be relieved of some of his numerous business cares, as the strain was fast telling on him. Mr. Wylie has

had considerable experience in journalistic work, and in the future we shall not fear for the contents of the *Boston Stamp Book*.

Canadian Notes.

BY CANADIAN.

If the proposed dollar values of the new Canadian issue do materialize it will be because there is a legitimate use for them.

It is altogether probable that in the near future newspapers will be compelled to pay postage on their subscription lists as well as sample copies and as there are no newspaper stamps issued in Canada, the dollar values would supply the deficiency.

A great many dealers seem to be getting into line on Canadian revenues as may be seen by looking at the advertisements in any of our philatelic papers.

Mr. Edgar Nelton has returned to the United States after a two months' tour through Canada. Mr. Nelton's magnificent collection was exhibited in various places and attracted much attention, being favorably commented on by many of the leading papers of Canada. Mr. Nelton visited Winnipeg, Montreal, Toronto, London, Berlin, Guelph and other places while in the Dominion and left a very favorable impression with all whom he came in contact with.

Mr. C. N. Robertson of Ottawa has branched out as a full-fledged stamp dealer. Mr. Robertson has a stock that is equalled by few in Canada and should do a good business.

We have received some very unique Canadian postcards with ad on part of face. We believe this a good step and will lead to a large increase in the amount of cards used.

Canadian Plate Numbers have but few

seekers and we have often wondered why more philatelists did not collect them. They are not popular but by buying now we may save a great deal over those who wait until they become fashionable.

L. M. Staebler's latest paper, *The Revenue Philatelist*, is a good one and recalls to our memory the time when friend Staebler was publishing the old *Canadian Philatelist* and *The Canadian Philatelic Weekly*. And, by the way, the latter paper was, in our humble estimation, the best with one exception, that has ever been published.

Now that the philatelists of the mother country may illustrate their stamps by cuts in albums, etc., it is time that Canadian Philatelists were commencing to agitate along the same lines. We think that a large number of personal letters to M. P.'s who are of the grit persuasion might accomplish something in this direction.

If the proposed Canadian revenue album is issued it will supply a long felt want, providing it is a good one. We know of any amount of collectors who are pasting their Canadian revenues in the back of their albums and wishing they had a good Revenue album for them.

Mr. Mulock, Canada's enterprising Postmaster General, is largely involved in the recent failure of the Farmers Loan Co., and has offered \$200,000, for a release from all the Company's obligations.

The Philatelic Messenger is having a hard fight for second class rates. As Mr. Knight was engaged in the stamp business up to a short time ago the department doubtless regard this as sufficient grounds for refusing second class rates to this publication.

Try the Western Stamp Co.'s approval sheets—and tell them where you saw their ad.



What Stamps Bring At London Auction Sales.

WE clip from the *Stamp Auction Reporter* (London), some prices realized on desirable stamps at recent auctions held in London.

For the convenience of our American readers we have converted the English prices into dollars and cents per the following table: £1, \$5.00; 1 shilling, 25 cents; and 1 penny, 2 cents.

Sale of Messrs. Ventum, Bull & Cooper, January 14, 1898:

Bahamas, 6d. gray lilac, no wmk., fine \$3.75; 1d. scarlet C. A. *, fine, \$7.50; Barbados, 5sh. rose, slight tear \$6.50; British Guiana, 1860, 12c lilac, mint state \$20.62; 1863, 6c blue, mint state \$16.25; 1876, 96c drab, mint state, \$15.75; the same, fine, \$6.00; Canada. 6d. pale lilac, fine, \$5.00; 7½d. green, \$9.50; the same, fair, \$6.50; 10d. blue, very fine, but small hole, thick paper, \$4.25; the same, thin paper, fine, \$4.00; ½d. rose, perf., good color, \$5.00; Newfoundland, 4d. carmine vermilion, very fine color, \$33.12; 2d. orange vermilion, slightly oxidized, \$3.50; 4d. orange vermilion, very fine, \$11.87; New South Wales (Sydney) 2d. blue, plate 1, tear, medium, \$8.00; Nova Scotia, 6d. light green and half 3d. used together on piece, fair, \$6.50; St. Vincent 1sh. claret, mint state, \$13.12; ½d. in red on half 6d. light green, \$6.00; 1d. in red on half 6d. deep green, fine, \$17.50; 6d. pale green, C A 12, mint pair, \$14.37; 2½d. on 4d. brown, mint block of four, \$23.25; 5d. on 4d. brown, mint block of six, \$7.50; United States: New York 1c yellow on cover, small margins, pen and pencil cancel., \$10.50, New York 1c black on rose, on

cover, small margins, ink cancel., \$7.50; Carrier stamp, blue on pink, \$3.50; 1869 90c, fine, \$8.50; Justice 90c, ink cancel., \$33.75.

Sale of Messrs. Cheveley & Co., January 15, 1898:

British Columbia, 1 dol., mint state. two perf's off at bottom, \$12.50; British Guiana, 1882, 1c magenta, sheet of twelve, good specimens, \$7.50; Colombia 1862, 20c red, \$16.87; Gambia, 1sh. green, mint state \$8.50; Gibraltar, 1 peseta bistre, block of twelve, mint state, \$9.50; Heligoland, ¼sh., rouletted * \$1.50; Hong Kong, 5 doll. on 10 doll., brown on red, on cover, \$3.75; Lübeck, 1sch. orange * part gum, \$5.00; New South Wales, 1860, 5sh. purple, \$6.25; Russia, 3½ roubles, first type, without thunderbolts, fine, \$3.25; United States, 1861, 5c mustard, slight crease, \$3.25; 1869, 30c *, good specimen, \$5.50; 1855, 5c red brown, fine color, \$3.00.

Sale of Mr. W. Hadlow, January 17th, 1898:

Barbados, ½d. green *, \$7.50; Cape of Good Hope, "Woodblock" 4d. light blue, \$6.00; Dominica, 6d. orange C A, mint block of four with plate No., \$6.50; Great Britain, Mulready cover, 2d. blue, used, \$6.00; United States, 1869, 15c \$3.75; 1855, 30c * \$2.50; 2 dollar Columbian, mint state block of four, \$7.50; 1851 5c red brown, \$3.00.

Sale of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, January 18th, 1898:

Ionian Islands, (1d.) blue, mint sheet of 120, \$65.00; (2d.) carmine, similar sheet, \$30.00; Luxemburg, 1st issue, 1sgr. rose, mint, \$5.50; Mauritius, 2d. dark blue, Post paid, deep color, \$55.00; Switzerland (Basle) 2½ rap., on entire, tiny tear, bright colors, \$25.00; (Geneva) right half of double stamp, \$12.50; (Neuchatel) 5c, superb, on entire, \$17.50.

Sale of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, January 19, 1898:

Grenada, 2½d. claret, mint pair, \$53.75; St. Vincent, 5sh lake, wmk. star. \$70.00.

At Bogert & Durbin Co.'s 97th Auction Sale of Postage Stamps, the following prices were realized on some desirable stamps:

United States, 1847 10c, cancelled in red \$1.75; 1851 1c vertical strip of three, unused, not fine, 50c; 1855 10c unused, 80c; 1857 1c reprint, rare, \$1.00; another \$1.00; 5c red brown, unused, \$2.30; 5c and 12c, \$1.30; 1861 1c (3 shades unused,) 3c (3, one unused), 5c (2), 10c (4, two unused), 12c, 24c (2), 30c, 90c, all together, \$5.80; 3c laid paper, scarce, \$2.10; 1861 5c unused, \$1.05; 5c unused yellow brown, two very small ink spots, had been re-perforated at bottom, \$3.10; 90c, \$1.50. 1868 30c, \$2.10; 30c, no perforations at left, 60c; 90c torn, \$4.00; 1869 15c diamond, unused, \$2.50; 15c no diamond, used \$1.50; 24c, \$3.00; 1873 7c unused, fine color, \$2.10; 1870, 12c, 90c; 24c unused, 90c; 1890 90c, strip of ten, with plate number and imprint, unused, \$10.00. Agriculture, 1c unused, original gum, \$2.50; 12c unused, original gum, \$6.25; 15c unused, original gum, \$2.50; 24c unused, original gum, \$2.50; 30c unused, original gum, \$2.75. "Post Obitum," fine, unused, \$2.60. Envelopes, 1853, K die, buff, cut, 50c.

Foreign stamps: Barbados, 1878 3d, unused block of four, \$4.75; 1873 5sh, \$10.25; a lot of 148 Bavaria, Belgium, Brazil and Bolivia (30 unused), \$2.10; Cape of Good Hope, 1853 6d violet, unused \$2.50; 1863 1sh emerald, 1.60; 1861 4d woodblock, \$5.00; 1868 4d on 6d unused, \$2.00; 1878 1d on 6d, unused, rare, \$3.00; Great Britain 1882 5 pounds, fine, \$8.10; Hawaii, "Hawaiian Postage," both sides, 5c unused, \$3.00; "Hawaiian Postage" at left, 1c black on white, "Interisland" at left 1, 2c blue on white, unused, three stamps, \$4.25; 10c black, 15c red brown, unused, \$2.00; 50c used, \$2.50; Newfoundland 1857, 4d orange, used, \$10.00; 1871 1c, 1876 5c unused, \$1.20; 1868 5c black, unused, \$3.25;

1897 1c on 3c, unused block of four, \$2.00 (which type?—*Ed.*)

The total amount realized at this sale was \$1,090.10.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and *The Only Perforator*, the two handsomest philatelic magazines extant, will be mailed you for one year for only 30 cents. If you are an active collector you cannot afford to be without them. They are up-to-date—and will keep the moss from growing on your stamps.

Acrostiche.

A Sir Rowland Hill
le createur du Timbre Poste

Salut à toi, Rowland, salut à ta mémoire,
Illustre parmi tous, tu recueillis la gloire.
Regarde l'univers, adoptant ton projet,

Réaliser ton rêve et le rendre parfait !
On te décerne, mort, des honneurs mag-
nifiques :

Westminster te conserve en ses arceaux
antiques,

Londres a voulu voir ton portrait se dres-
ser

Au dedans de ses murs pour te récom-
penser.

Nous salouons ainsi ta création sublime ;
D'autres, plus fort que moi, maniant
mieux la rime,

Habilement, diront les résultats fameux.
Ici, je parle au nom des timbreurs si
nombreux :

L'un te dira Merci car il y voit l'utile,
L'autre, car il y trouve un plaisir bien
facile ! ! !

BULL MEN SUEL.



The February number of "*Stamps*" was the first to reach us this month from England. The number before us is as good as its worthy predecessors.

Grant R. Francis continues his interesting article entitled "Philately as an Investment." He relates instances which proved the "soundness" of stamps as an investment, among them the purchase, in 1891, by Mr. T. H. Thompson, now of Kilburn, of the remainders of stamps and postcards of Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher and Virgin Islands, which had been superseded the previous year by the present bi-colored issue of the Leeward-Islands. The face value of these stamps was £4,788. Even at that time these stamps were catalogued close upon £30,000. With the foresight of a born speculator Mr. Thompson saw prospects of a very large profit. He decided to allow a good margin on the stamps, and made an offer of £5,800. His tender was accepted by the Crown Agents. . . Mr. Thompson justly points out that from the very fact that he could afford to treat his purchase less as an *investment* than a *speculation*, his margin of profit has considerably suffered, and prices to-day are not nearly so high as otherwise would have been the case had he held the stamps. Though a profitable investment as it was, it would have been so to a greater degree had he not been obliged to realize a large proportion of his capital very soon after completing the purchase.

An especially commendable feature in this *fin de siecle* publication is the department headed "'Stamps' Junior, Helping Hints for the Rising Generation of Philatelists," in fact "*Stamps*" from cover to cover is brimful of philatelic lore.

The American Journal of Philately for March comes to us with 48 pages and cover—a volume of philatelic lore in itself.

There's an interesting article headed "Newfoundland Items," which shows up this Colony of recent philatelic prominence in quite a bad light. It is stated that during the process of changing from one issue to another Newfoundland seems to have indulged in a little philatelic speculating. It appears they had on hand a considerable quantity of all but the lower values of the issue which preceded the Cabots, and in order to make them more salable they hit upon the scheme of reprinting a sufficient number of ½, 1 and 2c. stamps to make up complete sets from ½ to 24c., the stamps then to be disposed of in sets only.

It is stated that 100,000 of each of these three values were printed and the stamps are now offered for sale in sets. The difference between the reprints and those issued in 1887 and 1890 is scarcely perceptible, consisting in a slight difference in the texture of the paper and likewise in the shade, in which particular, however, they are said to match some former printings.

Another article, entitled "Philatelic Postage Stamps" by Lewis H. Benton, illustrated, amused us very much. But we wonder what those cronies, who kick on everything not entirely "philatelic-scientific" will say to this humorous satirical essay.

Even editor Calman seems to appreciate a subject in a lighter vein now and then.

DERLAM wants your name and address.
—Little trouble. Drop him a postal.

H. J. LAWALL can furnish you anything in U. S. stamps. Good reference will bring them on approval.

The New York Philatelist for February brings quite an array of excellent articles. George M'Kearin defends the Standard Catalogue under the title "Minor Varieties." It is ably written and good argument. Webster writes on "Revenues and Postage Stamps," and "Mack" under the heading of "The Tempter" warns against the first step of the approval sheet fraud.—Altogether a creditable issue.

The Montreal Philatelist is announced to appear from that city, under the management of Mr. Rudolph C. Bach, a prominent philatelist and until recently a dealer in stamps. We are confident Mr. Bach will make a success of this venture and tender our best wishes to that end.

We have received a neat price list of United States Postage and Revenue stamps from the J. T. Starr Stamp Co., of Coldwater, Mich. The prices are net, and what is more they represent as near the actual value of the stamps as is possible to do. This firm is too well and favorably known to need further comment. A written request will fetch a copy—don't miss it.

We acknowledge receipt of the following publications during the month.

The Perforator, Philatelic Bulletin, Era, Home Worker, New York Philatelist, Evergreen State Philatelist, Allegheny Philatelist, Columbian Philatelist, Stamp Collector's Figaro, Rocky Mountain Stamp, Philatelic West, Metropolitan Philatelist, Stampman, Penny and Herald Exchange. From Canada: *Boys Own Philatelist, Philatelic Advocate* and *Philatelic Messenger.* From France: *Bulletin Mensuel.* From England: "*Stamps*" and *Stamp Auction*

Reporter. From Austria: *Oesterreichische Briefmarkenzeitung.* From Brazil: *Jornal Philatelico.* From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico.* From Italy: "*Il Francobollo.*" From Belgium: *Le Philatelite.*

In addition: Catalogue of Albrecht's 44th Auction Sale Mar. 29 and 30th., *The Jerseyman,* H. E. Deats, publisher; Walter Scott's 12th Auction Sale Catalogue, March 23rd.

As we go to press we receive the following: *Texan Philatelist, Philatelic Facts, American Collector, Filatelic Facts and Fallacies, Philatelic Review, Lone Star State Philatelist, Boston Stamp Book, Tennessee Philatelist,* Vol. I., No. 1, and *Stamp Reporter,* Canada.

The Mutual Stamp Exchange.

ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY.

REPORT FOR MONTH ENDING

MARCH 10, 1898.

The following members have been admitted:

17 W. E. Boughton. 20 W. B. Hartman.
18 E. J. Kirby. 21 D. H. Eaton.
19 A. Herrmann. 22 H. E. Heath.

MONTH'S FIGURES.

Value of stamps in circulation	
last report.....	\$562 25
Stamps disposed of... 207 14	
Stamps returned..... 336 38	
* Books retired last month.....	543 52
	18 73
Books received last month.....	662 48
Total in circulation.....	\$681 21

Blank books to hold 100 stamps are furnished by the Exchange, 3 for 10c.

New circulars, giving full particulars, sent free upon application.

H. B. BARTHOLOMEW, *Manager.*



The new U. S. 5 cent blue has put in its appearance.

The American Journal of Philately chronicles, among others:

BAVARIA.—Wrapper, size 52x350 mm., 3 pfg. brown on yellow.

CANADA.—Postal card. 1c carmine and black.

CHINA.—Adhesive stamp. Perforated 11½, 50c dark green, error.

PANAMA.—Registration stamp. Provisional issue, perforated 12, 10c orange, black surcharge.

GAMBIA.—A new set in the Seychelles type. Watermarked Crown and CA. Perforated 14. Adhesive: ½p gray green; 1p carmine; 2p brown orange, value in blue lilac; 2½p ultramarine; 3p red lilac; 4p brown; 6p olive green, value in carmine; 1sh blue lilac, value in green.

HONG KONG.—Provisional issue. Adhesives. Watermarked Crown CC. \$1 on \$2 light green; \$1 on 96c slate.

HUNGARY.—Adhesive stamps, perforated: 2kr red violet and black; 3kr green and black.

PERSIA.—Adhesive stamp perforated 12½x12 1kr ultramarine.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS. — Adhesive stamps. Perforated 14. Regular issue: 1m, 2m, 3m, 4m and 5m, orange brown; 1c black; 2c dark blue green; 3 dark brown; 4c orange; 5c carmine, 6c dark blue; 8c gray brown; 10c vermilion; 15c slate green; 20c maroon; 40c dark lilac; 60c black; 80c red brown; 1p yellow green; 2p slate blue. Provisional issue 15c on 15c carmine, black surcharge, inverted; 20c on 20c brown, blue surcharge, inverted; 20c on 20c violet brown, black surcharge, inverted; 15c on 15c red brown, blue surcharge.

SAMOA.—Adhesive stamp. Perforated 11. Watermarked N. Z. and Star: 6p maroon.

SARAWAK.—Adhesive stamp. Perforated 14, 16c gray green and orange.

New Publisher for The Perforator.

Mr. H. A. Chapman has disposed of *The Perforator* to J. W. Stowell, Federalsburg, Md., who will publish it beginning with the April number. Mr. Chapman will still conduct some department of the paper. The leading feature of the *Perforator* is that it will be edited by a lady making it more of a lady's paper than ever.

MR. N. OHMAN, a stamp dealer of St. Johns, N. F., is the latest to start for Klondyke among the stamp cranks.

Standard Stamp Co.

Incorporated Capital Stock, \$25,000.

PAID UP.

ESTABLISHED 1885.

H. FLACHSKAMM,

Manager.

No. 4 Nicholson Place,

ST. LOUIS, MO.

WE DEAL In all kinds of Stamps and Albums at reasonable prices, and solicit correspondence from all earnest collectors.....

WE OFFER A SPLENDID COLLECTION

Of 250 varieties of GOOD stamps (no reprints or rubbish of any kind), including many scarce and desirable stamps, such as Iceland, Hawaii, Japan, Peru 1896, Uruguay, Colombia, Venezuela, Chili, Jamaica, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Brazil 1850, Greece (Olympian Games), Turkey 1892, Victoria envelopes, U. S. 1851 up to date, including Interior, Treasury, War, Post Office Departments, and many others. This lot with a

No. 3 Album, 100 pages, Full Cloth, Gilt, Retail 75c each.

For Only \$1.00 Post Free.

OUR NEW PRICE-LIST of 60 pages is FREE, quotes LOW prices on United States stamps, over 100 DIFFERENT STANDARD PACKETS, Etc.

APPROVAL SHEET DEPARTMENT.—We are prepared to send out to responsible parties splendid lots of Approval Sheets at 50% discount. References from strangers required.

EVERY BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER of prominence in the United States and Canada sells STANDARD PACKETS AND SETS. Ask your Newsdealer for them.

RARE STAMPS, listed at from \$1.00 each, upward to \$100.00 and over. We frequently come into possession of rarities through acquisition of old collections, and solicit correspondence from advanced collectors.

WE BUY STAMPS and old collections, for which we **PAY LIBERAL PRICES.**

STANDARD STAMP CO., ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

NOTICE! NOTICE!

We beg to announce that we will publish No. 1 of the **Montreal Philatelist** on April 15th 1898. Subscription 25c per annum to Canada and U. S.; other countries 40c. Sample copy free.

To the 1st and every 25th subscription received in answer to this advertisement we will give **FREE** 9 rare postage stamps, catalogued over \$1.50. The only condition is that you mention **THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.**

ADVERTISING.

Advertisements will be received till April 8th 1898. Rates 1 inch 40c, 2 inches 75c, $\frac{1}{2}$ column \$1.25, column \$2.25, 1 page \$4.00. Send for contract blank.

To the 1st and every 25th ad received we will also give **FREE** a rare postage stamp catalogued over \$1.50. Address

RUDOLPH C. BACH,

Sec'y The Montreal Philatelic Pub. Co.,

451 Sanguinet Street,

MONTREAL, CAN.

JOHNSTOWN STAMP AND PUBLISHING CO.,

JOHNSTOWN,

PENNSYLVANIA.

THE BEST INTRODUCTION

No. 15. Contains 25 varieties of U. S. revenue stamps catalogued over 90 cents. Price 25 cents.

No. 35. Contains 35 varieties of postage stamps from Asia including Ceylon, Persia, India and Straits Settlements. Price 25 cents.

No. 36. Contains 60 varieties of Asia, including Macao, Perak, China, Ceylon, Cashmeer, Puttialla, Persia, Holkar, Chamba, etc. Price \$1.00.

No. 37. Contains 60 varieties of postage stamps from Oceania including Hawaii, Fiji, Western Australia and Labuan. Price \$1.00.

No. 38. Contains 100 varieties of postage stamps from Asia and Africa only, including India, old and new, Shanghai, Cape of Good Hope, Natal provisional, Sierra Leone, Transvaal, Tunis and Morocco. Price \$1.75.

No. 39. Contains 200 varieties of stamps from Asia and Africa only, including in addition to those in No. 38 Siam, Congo Free State, Sarawak, British East Africa, British Bechuanaaland, Faridkot, Deccan, Straits Settlements, Angola, Timor, French Madagascar, Portuguese Congo, Egyptian Soudan, Obock, German East Africa, Zululand and Liberia. An unusually fine packet. Price \$5.00.

No. 40. Contains 70 stamps from Africa including Mozambique, St. Helena, Eritrea, Congo Free State, and South African Republic. Price \$1.00.

No. 41. Contains 100 varieties of postage stamps from the West India Islands including St. Vincent, Grenada, Leeward Islands, Curacao Dominican Republic, etc. Price \$1.25.

No. 42. Contains 15 varieties of South American postage stamps including Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Chili. Price 10 cents.

No. 43. Contains 35 varieties of South American postage stamps including British Guiana, Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. Price 25 cents.

No. 44. Contains 100 varieties of postage stamps from South America including Columbian Republic, Bogota, Ecuador, Surinam and Paraguay. Price \$1.00.

No. 45. Contains 35 varieties of postage stamps from Australasia including Samoa, Victoria, New Zealand and Dutch Indies. Price 25 cents.

No. 46. Contains 35 varieties of African postage stamps including Ivory coast, Lorenzo, Marquay, Congo and Natal. Price 25 cents.

No. 47. Contains 35 varieties of postage stamps from Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine Islands. Price 25 cents.

No. 48. Contains 30 varieties of postage stamps from Japan, Chinese Treaty Ports, and the Native Indian States. Price 25 cents.

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