

Vol. II. SEPTEMBER, 1898. No. 1.

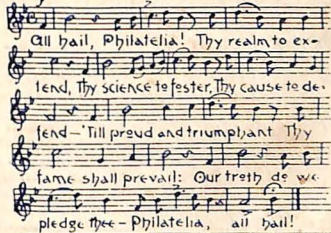
THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST



Words by
AUG DIETZ

ALL HAIL, PHILATELIA!

Music by
CHRIS. MUTTER



copy
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HAVING REARRANGED MY ENTIRE STOCK
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APPROVAL BOOK AND WANT-LIST TRADE.

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DESIRABLE FOREIGN.

* Indicates unused, all others lightly canceled.							
	cat.	p	my p		cat.	p	my p
*Br. Bechuanaland 1887, 1/2 verm.....	\$	06	\$ 03	*Nigre Coast 1893, 1p red.....	30	20	
* " " 1892-4, 1sh green.....	2	00	95	* " " " 1p light blue.....	20	14	
* " " " 1894, 2p bistre.....	18	08		* " " " 2p green.....	1	25	97
*Br. Cent. Africa '98, 1p on 3sh green..		75		* " " " 2 1/2p carmine.....	25	15	
*Br. Columbia 1866, 3p blue.....	60	29		* " " " 5p lilac.....	45	28	
*Br. Guiana 1889, \$1 green and black..	4	00	2 00	* " " " 1sh black.....	1	50	1 00
*Canada 1851, 6p violet, laid paper.....	6	50	3 15	* " " " 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 5p and			
* " " Registered, 8c blue.....	2	50	1 20	* " " " 1sh, 6 var.....	1	04	70
*Colombian Rep. 1890-1, 2c violet.....	1	00	45	*N. Borneo '93, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c, 9 var. 1	01	49	
*Congo 1894, 5 francs car. face value.....	1	00	1 17	* " " " 95 4c on 1d to 40c on 1d 5 com 1	75	90	
* " " postal packet 1893, 3frs 50c.....	1	50	95	*Norway 1877-78 1kr green.....	08	04	
*Costa Rica 1881-4, 10c on 2r scuriat.....	1	50	75	* " " " 1kr 50a blue.....	50	24	
* " " " 1889, 1 peso blue.....	20	09		* " " " 1877-95, assorted 18 varieties..	30	12	
*Cyprus 1880, 2 1/2p claret.....	05	03		*Nova Scotia 1851, 3p blue.....	1	50	75
* " " " 4p sea green.....	90	47		*Paraguay 1884, 1, 2 and 5c.....	22	10	
*Ecuador 1892-3, 5c on 50c maroon.....	15	06		* " " " 1895, 5c on 7c chocolate.....	10	04	
*Egypt (unpaid) 1888, 5 pi green.....	7	50	3 70	* " " " Official 1890 3c on 15c violet.....	30	15	
*Eritrea 1892, 5c to 1 toras com. 8 var. 1	58	97		* " " " " 5c on 15c red br....	50	24	
*France 1863-70, 5 francs violet.....	3	00	1 50	*Persian " " 1, 2, 5 and 10c.....	23	10	
*Gibraltar 1885, 1st 2p violet brown.....	2	00	99	*Philippine Is. 1863, 5c verm.....	1	50	75
* " " " 1st 2 1/2p blue.....	1	85	88	* " " " " 10c carmine.....	3	50	1 75
* " " " 1st 4p orange.....	3	00	1 50	*Sierra Leone '92, 1/2 on 1 1/2 violet CA..	1	00	20
* " " " 1st 6p violet.....	5	00	2 50	*Tobago 1879, 1p carmine.....	1	00	50
*Labuan 1897, 18c brown and black.....		09		* " " " 3p blue.....	3	00	1 50
*Lagos 1875, 2c blue.....	1	50	75	* " " " 6p orange.....	2	50	1 25
*Leeward Is. 1890, 4p or. and mauve.....	15	12		* " " " 1883-84, 1/2 brown lilac.....	50	25	
* " " " 7p slate and ".....	30	21		* " " " " 1p red brown.....	50	25	
* " " " 5sh blue " green.....	2	00	1 00	* " " " 1886 92, 1/2 on 2 1/2 ult.....	50	25	
*Niger Coast 1892, 2 1/2p lilac on blue....	35	17		*Tonga 1886, 1, 2, 6p and 1sh 4 var.....	55	25	
				*Turks Is. 1889, 1/2 on 2 1/2 red brn.....	50	25	

All stamps in perfect condition. Most all unused are in **mint state**. Used are lightly canceled. Postage 2c extra on orders less than 25c. Anything not entirely satisfactory may be returned, and I will refund amount paid, plus postage.

C. E. HUSSMAN, 4320 W. Belle Place, St. Louis, Missouri.

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International Philatelisten - Verein, Dresden,
(No. 1911.)

American Philatelic Association.

International Philatelic Union.

Societe Francaise de Timbrologie.

International Philatelen Kariteten Club, Munich.

Dominion Philatelic Association.

American Stamp Exchange, Boston.

Sociedad Filatelica Argentina.

Oesterricher Philatelisten Club, Vienna.

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Southern Philatelic Association.

Philatelic Sons of America, etc., etc.

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"Stamps."

Monthly Philatelic Journal.

If you have not yet seen a copy, send for a specimen at once. Acknowledged as one of the best stamp papers published. A splendid medium for advertisements. Give it a trial Dealers and Collectors.

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It is n't Nice. . . .

In such a publication as this (THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST) to say

The Columbian Philatelist

is the Best published; nor that

The Rocky Mountain Stamp

is the Prettiest; or that

The American Collector

has the widest circulation, but, when you can have the four monthly publications for one year for only **Half a Dollar** you can judge for yourself.

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WACO, TEXAS.

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Mention "The Handsomest Stamp Paper in America."

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

VOL. II.

RICHMOND, VA., SEPTEMBER, 1898.

No. 1.

Our Anniversary Stamp.

Friends, others, strangers, think not that we speak, we merely babble, yet but hear us out; we will be brief—impart to all the fact that this most sacred day we souvenir in just commemoration of our birth. Since 'tis but meet, and practised oft, that those whose life possessed an hour of great event should honor it in fit memorial on each recurring date.

LEADING governments, to commemorate some notable event in their political, industrial or traditional history, have in recent years prepared special pictorially symbolical postage stamps suitable to the occasion, more or less to the chagrin of our clan.

The rounding of the first volume of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST marks such an epoch in its history and, following the above mentioned precedents, we have determined to commemorate in a similar manner. While philatelists in general and the S. S. S. in particular, are opposed to special, speculative and unnecessary emissions of postage stamps, we trust our little "Jubilees" will escape the ban of that august body inasmuch as they are decidedly and emphatically *not* a speculative issue, intended to replenish our depleted coffers (by the way, we keep our few shekels in a wooden bag) but they are merely a greeting to philately—a love tribute to the science, with no aspirations to a space in Scott's, Senf's or Stanley Gibbons'.

But to the event we celebrate: in August, 1897, three enthusiastic collectors of Richmond, Va., put their heads together

to concoct a scheme by which to unite Virginia collectors into a State Association and publish a philatelic monthly. The three were Mess. Franklin L. Kerns, Franklin Stearns, Jr., and August Dietz. No time was wasted. A prospectus was issued, invitations extended to Virginia collectors, and in September of that year appeared the initial number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. Simultaneously was held the first meeting of The Virginia Philatelic Association, an organization effected and officers elected. The meteoric progress of both Association and official journal is philatelic history,

and to-day the projectors of the scheme may with pride look back upon a mission well accomplished. In November, 1897, Mr. Kerns, yielding to the pressure of other duties, severed his connection with The Virginia Philatelic Publishing Company, under which style the

present management continues to publish the Association's official organ.

It befits not well to over-indulge in egotistic flights, yet the many unsolicited tokens of appreciation and expressions of praise bestowed upon our philatelic periodical in the past twelve months could not but, as they have, afforded us a great measure of pleasurable pride, hence, in testimony of our appreciation, to these friends, and to philately in general, do we dedicate this, our Anniversary Souvenir Stamp, which bears the likeness of our business manager and editor.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUB. CO.,
Richmond, Va.





WITH this number Mr. John Paalzow assumes charge of the Review Department of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, and publishers are again requested to send one copy of their publications addressed to him at 1018 Park Avenue, Richmond, Va. The thoroughness with which this eminent philatelist conducts this department should make it a source of much valuable information to collectors.

WE would again call attention to our offer to bind Vol. I. of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST for our subscribers at the nominal cost of 75 cents.—The twelve numbers should be sent us *flat*, accompanied by the amount, and name and address of sender.

AN exceptionally fine array of bargains for the collector will be found in the advertisements of this our Anniversary number. Upon our suggestion special offers have been made by our patrons this month, and we trust the returns from their advertisements will demonstrate the "pulling qualities" of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and insure it their valued patronage throughout Vol. II.

WE HAVE printed an extra large edition of this number and are sending them to many new collectors who have never before received a copy of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. That this will prove of great benefit to our advertisers goes without saying. We have selected 1,000 names from *Derlam's Philatelic Directory*, besides our regular subscribers. We shall continue to do this. The wide-awake dealer will find it to his advantage to be represented in No. 2.

THE FAITHFUL few who braved the wind and rain showers to attend the August meeting of the Virginia Philatelic Association on the night of the 10th had the pleasure of meeting another of their "fighting members." Just as Corporal Weckert, who had been ordered back to Camp Cuba Libre, was bidding farewell to the boys, a bronzed Virginia volunteer stood at "salute" in the doorway—John Bunce, of the 2nd Regt. Va. Vols.—Securing a twenty days' furlough, like a true phil' reported at once to headquarters. John has been enjoying the best of health and entertained the boys 'till late with tales of camp life, hard-tack and hard drills.

JUST as we are about to close our forms we are greeted with No. 1. Vol. VII. of *The Lone Star State Philatelist*.

Truly friend Bradley has begun his new year auspiciously, and no Southern collector should be without *The Lone Star*.

We extend our warmest congratulations.

WE ARE indebted to our friend Mr. Archie G. Gibb, formerly of St. Johns, for a specimen of the new 3c. Newfoundland, orange.

The Duchess of York is the lady who has been honored in having her portrait on the denomination that has the largest circulation.

Mr. Gibb also writes that the infant son of the Duke and Duchess of York will appear on the ½c. value which will probably be on sale this month.

The 5c. is to appear about the first of next year.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and *The Perforator* (combined with *Pennsy*) for one year, only 30 cents—the handsomest and the most newsy.

Reminiscences of a Confederate Stamp Printer.

BY AUG. DIETZ.

JUST at this time, while a revival of interest in the stamps of the Confederacy is manifesting itself, and eminent philatelic students here and abroad are devoting their attention to the subject, it is to be expected that we of the South contribute our mite to this history of the Confederate stamps.

But it is not to a minute treatise of any special stamp of that historic series I shall devote this sketch; it is rather to the reminiscences of a veteran of the "late unpleasantness," who, during that stormy period, was detailed to Richmond to print stamps; and, I dare say, the philatelist seeking solutions of disputed points, or additional facts, may be disappointed; however—we shall see.

Perchance some of us have, at one time, passed a night in the country—in some *ante-bellum* Southern planter's man-

sion: Under the very couch upon which we slept was stored away a mouldy hair trunk, containing war time letters franked with Confederate locals representing a market value in excess of that needed to raise the mortgage on the farm—and we slept on, peacefully, unconscious of their proximity—perhaps—who knows?—

The parable is far fetched—yet quite applicable in this instance.

For years I worked beside the man who printed Confederate stamps. First as his apprentice, then as his employe, and now, proud to possess his friendship, I dedicate this sketch to him as an

humble evidence of my admiration and esteem.

Though an active stamp collector through all those years I was not aware of the part he had taken in the history of the Confederate stamp, and slept, as it were, unconscious of the treasure within my grasp.

By mere chance, a remark in conversation, I gained this information.

Intending to secure for philately such facts as my friend could recall, I arranged for an interview, and spent a most pleasant evening, listening to the reminiscences of a Confederate stamp printer.

FRANK BAPTIST.



Frank Baptist was born in Richmond, Va., Sept. 7th, 1845. At the early age of eleven years he was apprenticed to the printing trade, serving in *The Dispatch* (to this day Richmond's leading daily) "job room." The proprietors at that time were Messrs. Cowardin & Hammersley; James H. Love was foreman of the plant. In those days the "devil" was a "general" apprentice—initiated into the mysteries of both case and press. That he deserved the title in other respects I am not prepared to assert; however, in March, 1862, full of enthusiasm, and following the example of so many of his companions, he volunteered to serve in the Confederate States army, and enlisted in Parker's Light Artillery. Seven months instruction at "Camp Lee" served to prepare our young artilleryman for the front. He was with his battery at Stony Run in the Seven Days Fight around Richmond.

Very shortly after this, in the summer of '62, he was detailed by the Department to report to Archer & Daly, who had

been awarded the contract for printing stamps and had purchased a press from his old office, the *Dispatch*. He had been recommended to work it—being perfectly familiar with it and its capabilities.

Archer & Daly's office was then situated on the south side of Main, between 14th and 15th streets, over a store.

When our "detail" reported for duty he found his old friend the "Medium" Washington hand-press, and an electrotype plate of 400 stamps, subdivided into four squares of 100 each—(the five cent blue of 1862.)

Two pressmen were there on his arrival, one Mr. McQueen, a Scotchman, and the other Mr. Donaldson, of New York. These two gentlemen and our young friend constituted the "team" that manipulated the Washington hand-press when Archer & Daly first printed Confederate stamps, and this old press was the only one in the establishment at that time.

The plates, as we all know, were brought from England, and likewise the paper for the stamps, which ran the blockade packed securely in boxes lined with tin-foil. Some of the ink used in printing also dodged the blockade but the greater portion Archer & Daly's pressmen manufactured themselves, grinding the raw materials in a paint mill.

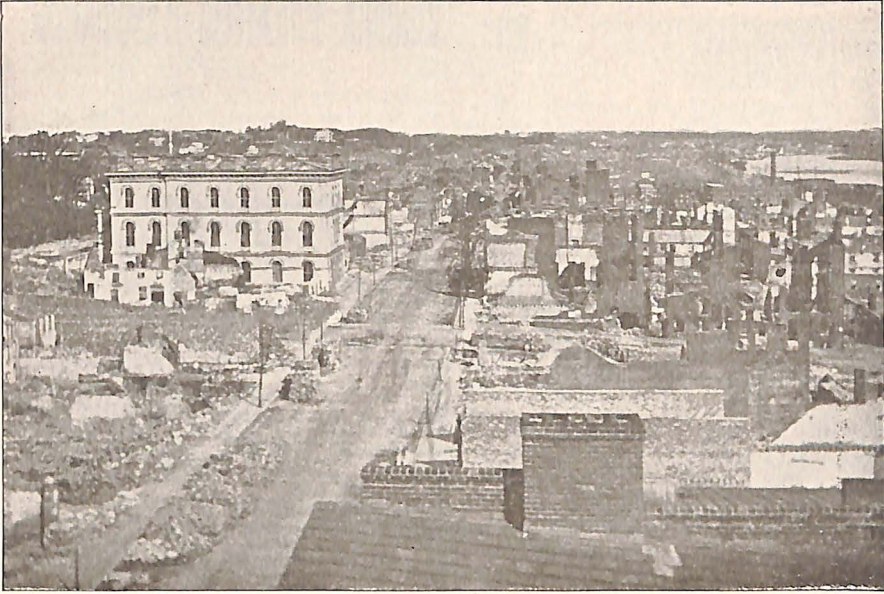
The speed of the press was from 1,000 to 1,200 sheets, of 400 stamps each, per day. This small output Mr. Baptist accounts for in the fact that the plates being of very fine workmanship and the ink oftentimes of very bad, "washing out" was frequently necessary to keep them from "filling up."

An incident may be related which will account for the marked difference in the appearance of some of the five-cent blues: On his arrival at Archer & Daly's Mr. Baptist found the two press-

men Donaldson and McQueen taxing their genius to its utmost to make the new plates "print clear." They tried parchment—they tried linen as a tympan for the press. Neither would render the desirable result, and all proofs submitted to the Department were rejected as unsatisfactory. The contract was in jeopardy. Our young soldier watched them patiently not daring nor caring to interfere in the labors of his seniors; but when at length both "gave it up," he ventured a timid request for permission to try a hand on his old press, and to prepare a tympan suitable for it, after a method taught him by a Mr. Forbes, from *Harper's*, New York, with whom Mr. Baptist once worked at the *Dispatch*. This was readily assented to, and our friend requested Mr. McQueen to stretch a *satén* tympan on the press, with hard "packing" behind, and to "build up," or level, the plate of stamps from the bottom, to secure a square impression. This being done, the first proof showed the efficiency of the young pressman. It was submitted to the Department and accepted at once.

The stamp printing went on lustily, Mr. Baptist alternately manipulating the press and "rolling up" the form. In this latter capacity he possessed a peculiar "knack"—taking especial pride in giving the form a perfect inking.

Shortly afterward Archer & Daly removed to the corner of Ninth and Main streets, the present site of our Chamber of Commerce, then Boscher's Hall. Here, in the fall of '62, they began steel plate printing. The staff of artists consisted of Mr. Halpin, a New Yorker (at a salary of \$8.00 per hour), his specialty being vignette engraving; Mr. Archer, whose salary was the same, excelled in lettering, occasionally executing some vignette work; Mr. Quinlin, who was also a fine letterer; and Daly who supplied the capital and secured the stamp,



Richmond Post Office and Main Street in 1865 after the Evacuation.
Cut from "Guide to Richmond," kindly loaned by J. L. Hill Printery Co., Richmond, Va.

and later on, other government contracts. The three first-named artists engraved all the steel-plate stamps printed by the firm. The transfer press was built by a Mr. Jasper Hall, a machinist of Richmond, after plans furnished by Mr. Archer.

Shortly after moving into the new plant Mr. G. A. Babcock, a New York Bank Note Co. steel plate printer, and a strong southern sympathizer, came to Richmond to enlist in the Confederate service. Passing Archer & Daly's he was surprised to find a Steel-plate Stamp Printery in Richmond and on entering was persuaded to remain. And so for some time he conducted the plant until it was in perfect working order, and then resigned to join Mosby's famous command.

Upon his departure, Mr. Baptist was given charge of the entire press department which had then in daily operation

thirty steel-plate presses, a boy and girl to each, besides eight girls and a lady foreman employed gumming and *perforating* stamps. There was one perforating machine only—worked by a treadle, and sheets were fed to it singly, to prevent the pin holes from clogging with gum. The perforating machine was quite primitive, the holes punched being little better than the punctures of a needle.

In the fall of '64 orders were received to remove the plant to Columbia, S. C. Evans & Cogswell's printery was its destination, and Mr. Baptist was in charge of the outfit during this period. He succeeded in getting the plant in working order in Columbia, remaining with it seven weeks, when his furlough expired. Not caring to await its renewal, he returned to his command, serving with it throughout the remainder of the war, and was on a forage for the battalion when Lee surrendered at Appomattox.

Hearing, upon his return, that the end had come, he surrendered to Capt. Pfeiffer, of Pennsylvania, at Liberty, (now Bedford City) Va.

After peace had been concluded Mr. Baptist returned to Richmond and found employment successively on *The Dispatch*, *Evening Journal*, and *The Enquirer*. Later he engaged in business with Messrs. Andrews and Clemmitt, under the title of Andrews, Baptist & Clemmitt—the well-known “A. B. & C.” art-printers of the South. The firm underwent several changes, Andrews & Baptist, Andrews, Baptist & Marquess, and then Baptist & Saunders.

Latterly Mr. Baptist has entirely withdrawn from the partnership.

Thus briefly have I related the reminiscences of a Confederate stamp printer. Limit of space, in this number, has precluded details—these I shall reserve for a future article.

Quite a number of Archer & Daly's as well as Hoyer & Ludwig's former employes reside in this city, and I shall, in company with my friend, Mr. Baptist, call on them, securing as many additional facts and data relative to these interesting stamps as I can, and present them to philately as an humble contribution from a Southern Stamp Collector.

The Stamp of Mourning.



We illustrate the new Spanish “war-tax stamp” issued July 1.

It is printed in sombre black—an emblem of mourning. This stamp of 5c. is required, in addition to the regular postage, on all domestic mail matter.

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,
Va., 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., Aug. 11, 1898.

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

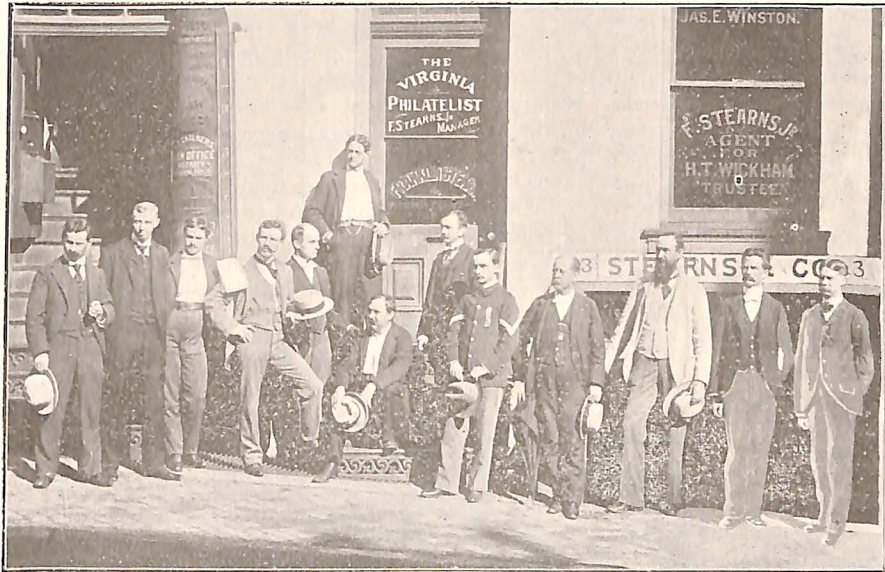
I herewith submit my report of 12th monthly meeting of our Association.

Members present:—Messrs. John Paalzow, Aug. Dietz, Corpl. J. C. Wecket, J. J. Bunce, Dr. M. W. Peyser, H. C. Scott Jr., C. F. W. Moser, J. H. Knotts, Maj. Jno. F. Mayer, V. E. A. Spott, W. H. Boschen, W. S. Ahern and F. Stearns Jr. Nominations for officers to be elected at the annual meeting September 10th 1898 being in order, the following gentlemen were duly nominated for the respective offices. For President, Maj. Jno. F. Mayer; Vice-President, Dr. Mark. W. Peyser; Secretary-Treasurer, Franklin Stearns Jr.; Exchange Manager, John Paalzow, and Counterfeit Detector, Messrs. C. F. W. Moser, Richmond, Va., and Wm. A. McDonnell, New York. There being no further business the meeting adjourned—to a “Dutch lunch” the evening being a warm one.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANKLIN STEARNS JR. Sec-Treas.

VOLUME I of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST handsomely bound, presents a beautiful appearance. Why not have your twelve numbers preserved thus? Send them to us with 75 cents and see how they will please you.



1 C. F. W. MOSER. 2 JOHN PAALZOW. 3 W. H. BOSCHEN. 4 AUGUST DIETZ. 5 FRANKLIN L. KERN. 6 FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR. 7 V. E. A. SPOTT. 8 J. H. KNOTTS. 9 JNO. C. WICKERT. 10 MAJ. JNO. F. MAYER. 11 THOS. CHRISTIAN. 12 CHAS. P. DAVIS. 13 HENRY C. SCOTT, JR.

The Virginia Philatelic Association.

ADDISON has said that a club is "a natural and necessary offshoot of men's gregarious and social nature" and Dr. Johnson defines such an organization as an "assembly of good fellows meeting under certain conditions." Here it may be added that a limited sodality is a banding of persons entertaining similar ideas on one certain subject and its collateral branches and, through love thereof, uniting for its fostering and the mutual entertainment derived from the exchange of thoughts pertaining thereto. In organizations having as their objective the fostering of concrete subjects, a prime feature of their existence is the collection and preservation of these subjects and, when their ownership is individual rather than

collective, the inter-exchange of specimens for mutual advancement towards completion of the several collections.

Such, theoretically, are the many philatelic societies scattered throughout the world, but, unfortunately, their practical operation has often been subverted to other and less noble purposes.

There is, however, one such association that yet holds strictly to the motives that underlay its organization and perverts not the etymological definition of the descriptive word in its title, supposed to have been derived from the two Greek words *philos*—loving, and *telos*—a tax; hence, *philatelic*, pertaining to the love of taxes or stamps, the latter being regarded as symbolical of taxes or tolls paid. Nor has there yet entered into this associa-

tion the discordant element of "politics" that has diverted from their proper aims many similar societies and changed them into mere instruments for the attainment of petty notoriety. Strikingly was this freedom illustrated in the recent nominations for officers to serve the second year of the Association's existence when there was noticeable a commendably courteous disinclination to receive nominations over the present incumbents. Again, there has not yet been reported a single act of dishonesty in connection with the exchange department, which has been conducted and of which the rules have been observed in a highly satisfactory manner—all books of stamps having been promptly forwarded by each recipient to the next member on the list and all accounts settled without unnecessary delay.

This is *The Virginia Philatelic Association* which is just entering upon the second year of its existence, having been organized by a mere handful of enthusiasts at the instance of the proprietors of *THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST* on Friday, September 3rd, 1897, and its first monthly meeting held on the eleventh of the following month. Although our roll of members is not a large one, a more enthusiastic number of philatelists have never yet associated for the advancement of the science, nor a more generous and cultured body of gentlemen. To

the Richmond members our monthly meetings have ever been a source of pride and profitable exchange and these they eagerly attend in anticipation of a pleasant evening, ever characterized by the most congenial social and philatelic intercourse. Our out-of-town members have found the exchange department a most excellent medium for purchasing and disposing of duplicates, since the department's rules are strictly enforced and the Association numbers among its members many most liberal buyers who, in turn, have excellent stamps to sell or to exchange.



OUR SINCTUM SANCTUM.

Accompanying this short sketch is a photograph of a few of the Richmond members taken in front of the office of their official organ, while another illustration shows the interior with the staff of *THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST*. In this

room are held the monthly meetings of the Association's local members and between them and the staff of "our magazine," as it is called by all, there exists the greatest harmony. Long may they both live to foster and advance the principles of philately and guard it against that sordidness which is ever knocking at its doors and threatening the destruction not only of the disinterested love lavished upon it, but of the alluring and educational pastime itself.

Vive la magazine! Vive l' Association!

F. STEARNS, JR.,



ANGRA, FUNCHAL, HORTA, and PONTA DELGADA have issued stamps as follows:

65 Reis slate blue on gray white	} Name and value in blk.
115 " red brown on rose	
130 " brown on buff	
180 " slate violet on lilac	

Printed on colored paper, perf. 4½.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—An additional provisional stamp has been issued here. The 3 pence stamp of Great Britain is surcharged BECHUANALAND *Protectorate*. 3 pence brown on yellow, black surcharge wmk. Crown, perf. 14.

BRITISH GUIANA.—The *Post Office* chronicles the following issue of Jubilee stamps announced to appear a year ago. wmk. Crown CC (?) perf. 14.

- 1c carmine and black.
- 2c blue and brown.
- 5c brown and green.
- 10c red and slate.
- 15c blue and terra cotta.

The 1c, 5c and 15c have a view of Mount Rovaima, the 2c and 10c a view of Kaieteur Falls.

GIBRALTAR.—For use of the British offices in Morocco the whole set of Gibraltar stamps have been surcharged in black.

MOROCCO AGENCIES.—A new issue of Gibraltar with a return to the value in English currency is looked for at an early day.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—The five cent value of this country comes now with perforation 13.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.—The handsome stamps of this Colony have been increased by two high values. They are of nearly the same shape as the Eng-

lish 2s 6d stamps, and are in Copper-plate print, wmk. Crown C C perforated 14½.

Half a crown, 2s 6d, dark blue.

Five shillings, brown red.

HAITI.—A new series has made its appearance here. The design is altered, although the palm tree, liberty cap and guns still form the leading features of the stamp, the border surrounding these has been altered.

- 1 cent ultramarine. 7 cent gray.
- 3 " dark lilac. 20 " orange.

GOLD COAST.—The De la Rue pattern stamps have been issued here for the lower values. Stamps are tri-colored wmk. Crown C. A. perf. 14.

- ½d lilac, name and value upon lined ground, green.
- 1d lilac, name and value upon lined ground, carmine.
- 2½d lilac, name and value upon lined ground, blue.
- 3d lilac, name and value upon white ground, yellow.
- 6d lilac, name and value upon white ground, violet.
- 1sh green, name and value upon lined ground, black.
- 2sh green, name and value upon lined ground, carmine.

MAURITIUS.—Here the supply of 4 cent stamps had become exhausted so a recourse had to be had to surcharging. 480,000 stamps were treated as follows:

4 cents black on 16 cents brown	50,000
4 " " " 18c lilac and gr.	300,000
4 " " " 25 cents olive	80,000
4 " " " 50 " orange	50,000

There were also surcharged 160,000 envelopes.

4 cents black on 18 cents blue	80,000
4 " " " 36 " brown	80,000

The wrappers also were surcharged number, however, not given.

4 cents black on 3 cents green.

NIGER COAST PROTECTORATE.—Three new values have been issued here. Copper-plate print, wmk. Crown C A perf. 15 irregularly.

Six pence yellow brown.

Two shilling and six pence brown olive.

Ten shillings dark violet.

PORTUGAL.—The depreciation of the currency has brought about new postal tariffs, to conform to which, new value stamps were needed. The new stamps issued are like the 1895 series printed in colors upon colored paper perforated 11½.

65 Reis slate blue on gray white.

115 " brick red on rose.

130 " gray brown on buff.

180 " slate violet on light lilac.

ROUMANIA.—The postage due stamps have appeared with the current watermark P R perforated 13.

2 bani, emerald. 30 bani, emerald.

5 " " 50 " "

10 " "

Soldiers' Letters.

WHEN the Post Office Department issued the order that letters from soldiers could be sent unpaid and the single fee of two cents collected at the point of destination no doubt most people thought that this was an entirely new thing. To show that this is not the case I will tell of a letter which came into my possession only a short time ago. Looking over a lot of Confederate letters in the hope to find some good stamps I found that some one else had preceded me and torn every stamp off the letters. While examining them, however, closely to see if some stray specimen might not have remained, my attention was attracted by a letter which bore no sign of ever having had a stamp on it and which bore the legend "Due 10". The letter was written by a

private of Letcher's Battery, evidently from the Ferguson Hospital at Lynchburg, dated Oct. 26, '63, and postmarked on the outside Lynchburg, Oct. 27, (no year in the dating stamp, the year appearing as a dash.) Besides the address the letter has written on top of the address side "Soldiers Letter" and in lower left hand corner the name of the writer, his rank and command are stamped upon it near the dating stamp Due 10.

While according to the old proverb, one swallow does not make a summer, an inquiry among fellow collectors here has failed to bring to light another such specimen, still I am led to believe that the Confederate P. O. Dept., recognizing, like the U. S. Dept. now, the inability of soldiers to procure stamps in camp and on the march, allowed them to send letters unpaid, collecting the postage at the place of destination.


Human nature is the same through all the ages. In this letter written in German nearly 35 years ago, the writer not having heard from the "girl he left behind him" writes to a mutual friend imploring him to let him know by return mail how she is and while he tries to hide his desire to hear about her, by calling it "curiosity to know" there seems to be weightier grounds for his anxiety and one cannot help but speculate in one's mind, as to whether he ever came back and after peace was declared married her for whom he enquired or whether he shed his blood for his country and his Pauline consoled herself in the affections of another.

JOHN PAALZOW.

CORPORAL Weckert has been ordered to report to his command at Camp Cuba Libre and left our city Sunday, Aug. 13. Weckert as well as Bunce express their disappointment at the prospect of serving in the army of occupation instead of seeing active service at the front.

The Stamps of Paraguay.

BY WM. A. MCDONNELL.

 F the many neglected yet interesting stamps of the South American republics, none should appeal more strongly to the philatelist than those of Paraguay, on account of the cleanliness of that country's emissions. Unlike other republics to the south of us, the government of Paraguay has not lowered its dignity by resorting to issues of speculative stamps to replenish its depleted treasury, although the public finances are habitually in that distressing condition.

Surcharged stamps issued in recent years have more or less been tainted with the speculative stigma, although, of course, this is not universally applicable, yet it is only too true that a greater proportion of them have had for their emissions no other object than the raising of revenue from gullible philatelists, and their existence is from no necessity or demand from purely postal duty.

It is true that some of the earlier Paraguayan stamps were surcharged, but in each instance their creation was due to some legitimate condition which moved the officials to their emission, the first being necessitated by a change of currency, and, at a later period, a delay in the receipt of a new set of stamps from the engravers compelled the authorities to provisionally surcharge the old values on hand. Speculation was not rife at this period and the clearly established fact of the legitimate motives underlying these emissions place them in the front ranks of provisionals and eligible to a place in any general collector's album.

Following I hope to present an instructive yet concise history of all Paraguayan stamps and other interesting data thereto pertaining.

Paraguay first began to issue stamps in the early part of 1870 and the entire issue comprised just three varieties, each of a different denomination. The currency at that time was in Reales (1 real equivalent to 7½c in United States money) as is shown on the stamps. They are imperforate and the colors are as follows: 1 real, rose; 2 reales, blue, and 3 reales, black. The workmanship is good and the paper white wove. I have seen a few copies which appear as if on yellow paper,—probably age has so turned them, as no authentic information is obtainable showing that the stamps were printed on other than white paper. The 1 real is scarcer in the canceled condition, but the other values are just as hard to procure, either canceled or uncanceled. Stamps on original covers are rarities. About five years later the adoption of "centavos" and "pesos" as the national currency necessitated a corresponding change on the stamps. The 2 reales and 3 reales were surcharged with a large "5." There are two distinct sizes of this surcharge, the larger being 15½ m. high and the smaller 10½ m. The surcharges are known to exist in either black or blue.

Until recently many claimed that the 1 real was also overprinted and this stamp was even recognized at that time by cataloguers and according to their estimation was worth less than the others. Later it was learned that this surcharge was never authorized and therefore was fraudulent. This may account for the lesser value attached to this fake, although its spuriousness was unknown at that time. Latterly the stamp has been dropped from the catalogues and at present very few are met with in the open market, no honest dealer daring to handle them, although many an old collection still contains such a stamp.

The 2 reales and 3 reales are also found with surcharge inverted and sideways, but these can be totally ignored by the

general collector, although they were made unintentionally. These are local surcharges and printing in that era was not by any means what it is today.

In the meantime new stamps were received, the design being somewhat similar to the previous issue. The border surrounding the lion in the center is perfectly square. In the background appear the rays of the sun, which are absent in the preceding types. The stamps are perforated 12½ and two values comprise the set. It was discovered when the stamps were finished that an error existed thereon—the value being in the old currency, thus: 5 reis orange, and 10 reis brown. These stamps were immediately superseded by two new stamps of the right value. The colors were also changed, appearing as follows: 5c brown and 10c green. There has always existed some doubt in regard to the issuance of the 10c value at the same time as the 5c stamp. Some fix the date 1881, others, 1879. The latter is undoubtedly the correct date, as it would be an impossibility for the public to depend on one stamp for postal duty, and then, again, it would seem strange that only the 5c stamp was issued, when a 10c was originally intended to be issued at the same time, as the errors 5 reis and 10 reis would indicate. The five and ten reis were reprinted to some extent and plates were not, as first supposed, destroyed. The reprints are perforated 11½. The authenticity of the originals has not as yet been established. Many authorities claim none of the originals were sold, that when the error was discovered, before the stamps were put on sale, the entire issue was destroyed, therefore, such stamps as were sold were simply reprints, and, as such, are considered by many worthless trash, to be excluded from the catalogue. Others claim that the whole original issue was sold in bulk, as remainders, and not destroyed

since they are perforated 12½, whereas the reprints are perforated 11½. The latter claim, in the writer's opinion, seems to be correct. According to the standard catalogue these two stamps, (5 R. and 10 R.), are priced at eight cents each. This alone is enough proof to show that the stamps are remainders. Two reis equal 15 cents of United States money and three reis, 22½ cents. The stamps are listed at 8 cents each, which forces us to the conclusion that the stamps must surely be remainders or they *never* could be sold at less than the face value. Furthermore, the stamps are not priced in canceled condition, and never will be, as not *one single copy* was allowed to be used for postage. The two stamps catalogued are simply remainders of an uncirculated issue. The 5 and 10 centavos are also said to exist in an imperforate condition, but as yet I have failed to see an unsevered pair.

About two years later, in 1881, three new values were added to this set, the design being somewhat similar to the first issue (1870) except the new value in the new currency. The denominations and colors are as follows: 1c blue, 2c vermilion, or rose, and 4c brown; various perforations from 12 to 14. The 4 centavos is quite a scarce stamp and not at all as common as the catalogue quotations would indicate. Some time later the supply of the 1 and 2 centavos became exhausted and a new supply was immediately ordered. In the meantime it became necessary to issue two new surcharges, the remainders of the 10c green 1879 issue being the stamps selected for the purpose, making the face value equivalent to 1 centavo and 2 centavos, the stamps being surcharged with large numerals in black. The scarcity of these stamps is well known, they having been on sale but a short time. When the long delayed supply at last arrived, these surcharged stamps were

dispensed with, destroyed and not sold as remainders, etc., as most governments would do to-day.

In 1884 Paraguay was admitted to the Postal Union and like most all the South American stamps, that inscription appeared upon her stamps. The then present issue could not be altered to conform with this vogue, so a new issue was decided upon. The same old trouble prevented the Government from receiving the new stamps as promptly as expected. The 1 centavo again became exhausted, but no other stamp was available for the surcharging. The supply of all values of the current issue were at low water mark, and it was an impossibility to use any of them, as the limited quantity available would last but three days if they were surcharged. Finally there was unearthed in the post-office a batch of the 1 real 1870 issue and these stamps were selected. The stamp was over-printed with a large "1" in black. No other surcharge appears on the stamp and to all appearances still has a face value of one *real* the printers neglecting to cancel "real" and in its place put "centavo." Nevertheless, this stamp passed as 1 "centavo." As no corrections were deemed advisable by the authorities, we cannot term this an error in the correct sense of the word. This is another instance where the Paraguayan officials did not stoop to speculate in their country's stamps. This surcharge helped the philatelic fraternity to some extent by getting rid of the remainders of the first issue of 1 real stamps and giving proof that none of these stamps can be expected to be "found" by some enterprising stamp dealer in the future.

The new issue at last arrived, the design being somewhat unlike former types. The printing is not such as could be called perfect: either the ink was too thick or the paper too thin,

somehow or other the stamps have a blurred appearance. Only three stamps comprise this issue, as follows: 1c green, 2c red and 5c blue, all perforated 12½. The 5c is said to exist as carmine-red, perforated 15. A few years later the necessity for higher values became apparent. As the officials decided to add four new denominations, an entire new set was considered desirable. The stamps appeared in 1887; seven values, as follows: 1c green, 2c carmine, 5c blue, 7c chocolate, or brown, 10c lilac or violet, 15c orange, and 20c pink. The stamps are perforated from 11½ to 13. In the foregoing I have given the 7c and 10c stamps in two shades as there is a difference of opinion existing among some authorities.

The 15 centavos of 1889 issue is a somewhat doubtful stamp. When surcharged "official" it is used for that purpose only, but the stamp in question was not surcharged and was used for ordinary mail matter. Probably by error this stamp was put in circulation, as later events would indicate. A desire of the population to have the "pictures" of their presidents and great men appear on the stamps was gratified in 1892 by the issuance of an entirely new set, of a neat and pretty design, in the center of each appearing the head of one of their distinguished citizens. Originally this issue comprised eight denominations as follows: 1c gray, 2c yellow, 5c violet, 10c violet-blue (with hole), 14c brown, 20c carmine and 30c light green. The 10c violet-blue was, until 1897, issued punched with a circular hole in order to prevent its being fraudulantly surcharged. The surcharge referred to above was a Jubilee stamp issued on the 12th of October, 1892, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. The surcharge was circular in shape, containing the following inscription: "1492" at the top, "1892" at

the bottom and "12 de Octobre" in the centre between the two dates. I have seen copies canceled on original cover with fake surcharge impressed with an ordinary rubberstamp, the color of the ink used being a deep shade of violet, could be correctly called purple. This counterfeit can easily be distinguished from the original by the blurred appearance of the entire surcharge.

In 1893, one year later, four higher values were added to the then present, 1892 issue, the type of the 1887 issue being used for the purpose. The denominations and colors are as follows: 40c dark or slate-blue, 60c yellow, 80c light blue and 1 peso olive or brown-green.

The year 1895 saw the birth of a new surcharge: 5c on 7c chocolate, of the 1887 type. The stamp was issued in such a large quantity it will never become scarce. In 1896 the error on the 1c gray was corrected from plural to singular, making the stamp appear 1 "centavo" instead of "centavos." Apropos of this correction, I may recall the speculation that occurred in 1892 when our speculating friends discovered this error, 1 "centavos." The stamps were bought right and left, in fact all the loose canceled copies were in the hands of speculators within thirty days from the first appearance of the issue. They were positive the stamps would be withdrawn and the error corrected, but such was not the case. Either the post-office officials of Paraguay wished to defeat the designs of these speculators or they were ignorant of the existence of such an error. The stamp was issued as first printed until 1896, four long years. The last issue of Paraguayan stamps appeared in 1897, although the stamp cannot be strictly termed a new issue. It is the 10c violet of 1892 issue minus the circular hole. This completes the regular adhesives.

We will now take up the officials,

they being a very interesting set of stamps, the early issues having designs of their own, entirely different from the postal adhesives. Outside of the very first issue, the imperforates, the stamps are within the reach of all; as only one stamp is priced above one dollar. As in the stamps of all countries, there are a few minor varieties, such as "inverted surcharges," "period after officiel" etc., but no philatelist is compelled to add them to his collection. The designs proper of the first and second issues are identical, but the differences lie in the colors, the type used for the surcharge "official" and in the first issue being imperforate and the second perforated. The first issue, 1886, is composed of seven denominations as follows: 1c orange, 2c violet, 7c green, 10c brown or maroon, 15c blue, and 20c carmine. All the stamps have wavy lines printed in orange on the reverse. These lines are called by many "control marks." The type used for the surcharges are of three varieties, as follows: long thick capitals on the 1c., script on the 2c and short thick capitals on the balance of the set. Naturally these stamps are scarce, having been current less than a year.

The second issue, 1887, were, as stated, in the same designs as first issue, but without the wavy lines on the reverse and were perforated 11½, the surcharge being in black. Seven values comprise the set, the colors and denominations being as follows: 1c blue-green or green, 2c carmine or red, 5c blue, 7c orange, 10c maroon or deep carmine, 15c brown and 20c blue. The surcharge is one style of type: long thin capitals. In 1890 the doubtful stamp of the 1889 issue of the regular adhesives was double surcharged, first as "oficial" and then with a numeral. There are four stamps of this issue, namely: imperforate, 3c on 15c violet, 5c on 15c red-brown, and perforated 11½, 1c on 15c red-violet or

lake and 2c on 15c red-violet or lake. In some instances I give two colors; this is caused by a difference of opinion entertained by some authorities. All the following officials are regular adhesives surcharged for official purposes. In the latter part of the same year, 1890, the regular stamps of the 1887 issue were over-printed "official" in medium-sized heavy-faced capitals. The entire set of seven values as follows:—1c green, 2c carmine, 5c blue, 7c brown, 10c lilac or violet, 15c orange and 20c pink. These were surcharged with violet or black ink, except the 7c value. It is claimed that the 7c does not even exist with the violet surcharge. I further learn that the 50c gray was also surcharged in black and that the entire set up to and including the 20c pink, has been seen over-printed in blue.

In 1892 these stamps appeared, including the seven centavos, surcharged diagonally with short thin capitals in black, the 50c, gray included, making a total of eight denominations in this issue. This completes the official emissions. Several times during the past two years it has been rumored that a new set of official stamps were in preparation but each time they have been declared false, as the Paraguayan postoffice officials on each occasion denied having given the matter a thought. (Seebeck, where art thou!)

On the envelopes and wrappers I will not dwell long, just mention that but four envelopes were issued, one being a Jubilee surcharge, and only one wrapper.

In the foregoing article I have, to the best of my ability, explained and described the entire postal emissions of Paraguay, adding any necessary comment I deemed interesting. The market value of this country's stamps do not by any means average high. I will give a few statistics or averages to prove my

assertion. Excluding minor varieties, shades, etc., we have a total of 46 regular adhesives and 33 official stamps that are priced by the 58th Standard Catalogue. First take the regular adhesives: the highest priced stamp is \$5.00. There are just eight priced at \$1.50 and upwards and the balance, 38, are priced at \$1.00 and under. The total average for the entire 46 stamps is about 68c per stamp and for those priced at \$1.00 and under, 38, the average price for each stamp is only a small fraction over 28c per piece. Now take the officials. Of the 33 issued, only seven are priced above a dollar. The total average for the 33 stamps is about 65½ cents each and the average for the 26 stamps priced at \$1.00 and under is about 26¼ cents each. These averages are based on catalogue quotations, but it is understood that many of these stamps can be purchased from various dealers at a discount of at least 25%; therefore the average would be just so much less in proportion.

In 1896 a series of two stamps were issued by *private* parties, being a telegraph stamp surcharged with a circle containing the words "Correos" (postage) and "Centavos" also a large open "5," as follows: 5c on 2c brown and 5c on 4c yellow. The stamps are blacklisted and put down as fraudulent, which they justly deserve. I have seen a few copies but do not believe the stamps were extensively printed.

The author of this article is neither a dealer nor a speculator, but a plain ordinary collector who studies his stamps and who wishes to disseminate to the philatelic public any information he may thereby gain. He considers the stamps of Paraguay neglected and as an almost complete collection can be purchased for a small outlay of money, he advises all genuine collectors to take time by the forelock and purchase these stamps while they are cheap.

Paraguay.

BY FRANKLIN STEARNS, JR.

AN insignificant blot upon the surface of the globe lies the Constitutional Republic of Paraguay in the basin of the Parana-Paraguay system, marshy along parts of the river courses and reaching its highest elevation of 2200 feet at the interior watershed that divides the tributaries of the above named rivers.

Insignificant not so much in area, which is 91,970 square miles, about that of the State of Wyoming, it yet presents a deplorable example of a country of great natural resources steeped in the stagnation of indigence and illiteracy resulting from misgovernment by selfish and domineering ambition that inflicted upon it an indebtedness exceeding 245 millions of dollars, a sum far more than representing the total value of property, real and personal, and drove to slaughter in foolish wars of attempted conquest such great numbers of men that the female population now represents about two thirds of the total, estimated to be 1,337,439.

The natural resources of Paraguay are almost entirely agricultural, although there is some mineral wealth in its copper, lime, salt and marbles. There are more than 60 varieties of industrial timber, including the lapacho and quebracho, whose durability is so well evidenced by the remarkable state of preservation of the woodwork of the early Jesuit churches. There are fifteen plants from which dyes are secured and half as many furnish excellent fibres, among them the caragatay, from which is manufactured the beautiful ñanduty or spider-web lace that decorates the native belles. Such tropical fruit trees as the cocoa palm, orange and banana flourish so luxuriantly that their fruits have a merely

nominal value, and the maté furnishes the country with a most staple export, Paraguayan tea, extensively used throughout South America and produced almost exclusively in the country from which its name is derived. Tobacco is also an important product, especially as it finds an extensive home market, being smoked continuously by the whole population, including women and children. Sugar cane is thoroughly adapted to the soil and climate, but is grown only for manufacture into rum and syrups, all refined sugar for domestic consumption being imported, chiefly from Brazil. The people wear exclusively cotton goods which are imported from England under a 40% duty, although the plant is indigenous and grows spontaneously. Cattle raising is becoming a prominent industry, although it received a severe check in the war with the allies, nearly all the stock having been then destroyed. Good fertile farming lands are cheap, Oh! *very* cheap, the prices at private sales ranging from 18 to 23 cents per acre, though the Government lands are rated at from \$1.00 to \$1.11 per acre.

The fertility of the land is such that under a careful and industrious system of management prosperity could not be driven away, yet indolence and ignorance are now casting aside opportunities of wealth—or holding them in trust, 'tis hoped, for the contemporaries of some near future regime that shall be not blind to the welfare of its charge or the enlightening advantages of a liberal free educational system that exists not alone on the statutes. In all the republic there is but one railroad and that only 50 miles in length and in operation only four days in a week. There is one telegraph line, also of 50 miles length.

The inhabitants of Paraguay are mostly half-breeds based on the original Guaraní stock, and are a peaceful, simple people, much given to love of flowers

and fêtes and trysting-places too, if we may judge from the statistical information that of all the births only 3 per cent are legitimate. What a paradise for the free-love idealist! This deplorable condition is due to the precept and example of Dr. Francia who never married but left several illegitimate children.

On the other hand, criminal offences are comparatively of rare occurrence and their frequency is constantly abating. As is so often characteristic of artless people, the half-breed Paraguayans are possessed of indomitable courage, which they so signally exhibited in the disastrous wars of Lopez II, as well as in the many conflicts to which they and their aboriginal contemporaries were forced in defence of the despotism of the Jesuits, by whom they were controlled.

The present government of Paraguay is, as stated, a constitutional republic. The term of office of the president and vice-president is as in the United States and an incumbent is ineligible for re-election until eight years from his retirement have elapsed. The legislative bodies consist of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies, both elected directly by the people. There are five Government departments and a supreme court presided over by three salaried judges. Education is supposed to be compulsory, but the 178 schools are poorly attended. The standing army nominally numbers about 2,000 men and the navy consists of one small steamer of 440 tons. The country possesses but one public library, containing only 3000 volumes. Trade is somewhat on the increase and as a matter of curiosity it may be mentioned that in 1881 there were exported 20,000,000 cigars valued each about an eighth of a cent. The total annual revenue is about \$4,000,000 and the national expenses exceed receipts about a quarter of a million dollars.

One of the earliest settlers of Paraguay

was Sebastian Cabot, who, in 1528, built the fort called Santo Espiritu. Asuncion the present capital, was founded in 1537 by Juan de Ayolas. The name Paraguay was at one time applied not only to the country between the Paraguay and Parana rivers and that north-east of the Pilcomayo, the present boundaries of the republic, but also to Uruguay and large parts of Brazil and the Argentine Republic. Paraguay proper was not separated from the other provinces until about 80 years after the founding of its capital. The history of the country to the beginning of the 19th century is associated mainly with the struggle between the Spanish and Portuguese for territorial expansion and the career of the Jesuits who formed and maintained for quite a while a despotism based on the religious subjection in which they held the natives. This despotism was antagonistic to the Government at Asuncion and with it the Jesuits had many wars. They were finally defeated about the middle of the 18th century by the combined armies of Spain and Portugal in a war which grew out of their resistance to the cession by Spain to Portugal of several districts which they considered theirs by right of religious "reduction." Though this territorial treaty with Portugal was revoked by Spain in 1761, the Jesuits never recovered their prestige and were finally expelled the country in 1767.

Paraguay declared its independence of Spain in 1811 and after four years of tentative government, the supreme power was seized by Dr. José Gaspar Rodríguez Francia whose despotism, absolute as it was, existed to his death in 1840. The reins of government then passed into the hands of the Doctor's nephew, Carlos Antonia Lopez, who was succeeded in 1862 by his son, Francisco Solano Lopez, whose foolish ambition for conquest almost totally destroyed the

Paraguayan nationality and plunged the country into a five years war with Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina that ended in his complete defeat and death at the battle of Aquidaban, March 1, 1870. The allies now exercised a quasi protectorate over the defeated country and a new constitution was adopted and a president, Jovellanos, appointed, the Brazilian army of occupation not being withdrawn until 1876, since which time Paraguay is supposed to have governed herself.

Pitiable indeed is a country whose very national existence yet depends upon the balance of power existing between its jealous neighbors when its natural resources should raise it to the position of an honored rival. Blessed by nature with a most fertile soil—smiled upon by a kindly temperature—endowed with ample water courses by pre-historic earth formation—free as any from dreaded plagues, save those resulting from shortened diet, it should produce enough for itself and to spare, that by exports to foreign climes the wealth of others might be attracted to its confines as by a magnet, through which, if rightly applied, its people, without fear of losing sight of the foremost, could raise their heads and point with pride to *their* position in the onward march of enlightened progress—now striding side by side, hand in hand, with the most advanced—no stigma of illiteracy, or, worse still, spurious offspring cursed by clouded origin, to render vulnerable their hearts to the rude jests and cruel sneers of the inconsiderate, or dampen the ardor of their righteous ambition or check their noble career by consciousness of their damning truth.

WILL you not favor us by mentioning THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST when answering the advertisements? Don't forget it.

A Beautiful Testimonial.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

IN the month of September, 1897, was launched upon the waves of time, THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, and since that date, it has steadily increased in artistic beauty, and has been supplied with the choicest of reading matter, while its managers have increased its circulation, until it reaches hundreds of collectors. And now it stands on the brink of another year, sparkling with beauty, the brightest "yearling" of them all. Its managers may look over its past life, and justly feel proud of their labors and exclaim, "Eureka," for they have, by the aid of their many subscribers and numerous dealers, who have patronized its columns so faithfully, made it the "Gem of Philately."

Many States of the Union may boast of several philatelic magazines, while Virginia of only one, but that one, "The Queen of All" and the "Pride of America" and Virginians and Americans in general, should and do feel proud that they have at least one philatelic magazine, which deserves its title.

Too much cannot be said for this noble paper and its noble cause. A glance at it will prove all I have said in its favor.

I sincerely hope that the day will soon come when this beautiful magazine will find its way into every philatelist's home in this great world, and shall be patronized by every up-to-date dealer in the United States.

Vive la VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

W. C. HARDY.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and *The Lone Star State Philatelist* the two representative papers of the South, and reaching the most Southern collectors one year for 30 cents.

Stamp Illustrating.

A Few Practical Hints by a Practical Engraver.

THE philatelic student is a close observer of detail. The study of stamps engenders this faculty, which, when diligently pursued, attains to a high state of perfection.

In reviewing the publications devoted to philately one will frequently note instances where stamp illustrating has been attempted, that the result has proved a dismal failure, and far from presenting a faithful reproduction of the chosen subject.

Undoubtedly the cause of this trouble may be found in the fact that, in most instances, publishers are not acquainted with the various modern processes of engraving at their command, and particularly *which* of these methods will render the best results when applied to the different stamps.

Still this does not justify these shortcomings, which are not alone misleading to the seeker after philatelic lore, but produce, in general, a detrimental effect, and unless we will employ the methods of today, stamp illustrating had better be abandoned.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." I shall therefore enumerate several cases coming under my observation quite recently, and then attempt to describe, briefly, the different processes of engraving, supplementing illustrations, and to assign to them such class of stamps as may be treated by each most advantageously.

The Newfoundland surcharges have been illustrated in nearly every American as well as foreign philatelic publication with more or less accuracy—in most cases with less. In two instances which I clearly have in mind, the printer (with whom necessity oft proves to be

the mother of invention) not having the corresponding "face" of type in his outfit, substituted the "next nearest to it," and today, I suppose, some readers of those papers are on the "still hunt" for that particular type. The false impression left in such cases is difficult to efface.

The most failures occur when attempts are made to illustrate the stamp proper. Some publishers employ (incredible as it may seem) the out-of-date method of wood-engraving, generally resulting in the most distorted presentation of a fine subject, and oftentimes in veritable caricatures.

Especially has this been the case with illustrations of the new Canadian and Newfoundland issues. Some of them baffle all description, and did not the accompanying meager information enlighten the reader to a certain extent, the cuts surely never would have done so.

Some were crudely executed in wood; others reproduced from free-hand pen-and-ink drawings, and in every instance signally failing to justly interpret these fair subjects.

FOUR METHODS OF ILLUSTRATING.

There are four methods adapted to illustrating a letter-press printed publication:

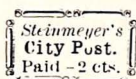
1. Type-set form.
2. Wood-cut.
3. Zinc etching—or line engraving.
4. Half-tone.

Of these but two—zinc etching and half-tone—should be employed.

Either one or the other of these two is adapted to the reproduction of *any* subject, be it a type-set, wood-cut-lithographed or engraved stamp.

I shall treat the methods separately, showing how, when, and where each process is best adapted to the subject.

TYPE-SET FORM.



ONE CENT
ONE CENT
ONE CENT

TYPE-SET.

The utility of type and printer's rule for illustrating purposes is limited to surcharges and early provisionals which were originally type-set. In reproducing, in such cases, the greatest care should be taken to conform strictly to the "face" of letter used on the original. The words or letters should be spaced identically with the spacing of the subject, and here, as in no other case the time-honored printer's rule is imperative: "Follow copy."

If a broken, inverted, or transposed letter occurs in the "copy," break, invert, or transpose the type to conform to it. Do not attempt to correct—you are illustrating—"follow copy." If you cannot secure the same type, *do not substitute another*—prefer not to illustrate at all. Philately will thank you for it.

WOOD CUTS.



Wood-cuts are produced by engraving a design on prepared, hard wood, type high, by means of tools similar to those used in engraving on metals. As for all letter-press printing the subject must be in relief, *i. e.* the design left while all surrounding wood is removed. The grade of work being entirely dependent upon the skill of the artisan, the result is more or less satisfactory. The fact remains that elaborate designs cannot receive just treatment in wood, and the process is practically limited to such stamps as the late issues of Gambia, New South Wales 2½d Jubilee, and a number of the so-called De la Rue styles. Steel and copper-plate printed stamps, as well as lithographed issues should not be attempted in wood.

ZINC ETCHINGS, OR LINE ENGRAVINGS.



ZINC ETCHING

This process seems to be the most favored for stamp illustrating, being to a great extent purely mechanical and chemical. The subject is transferred by means of photography to a prepared sheet of zinc. The design thus transferred is neutralized, *i. e.* "fortified," as it were, to resist the destructive acids. The plate is then immersed in a tray of acids. These acids "bite" away the zinc surrounding the "fortified" design, to a certain requisite depth, leaving, as a result, the subject in relief—raised. Imperfections are removed by means of a graver, and, finally, the plate is mounted on a wood base, corresponding in height, after being mounted, to type.

The fact, that by means of this process the slightest details of the subject may be preserved with perfect accuracy, as well as enlargements or reductions to any desired dimensions secured, commends it at once as one of the best methods to be employed in stamp illustrating.

Zinc etching, therefore, is best adapted to subjects in "line," no matter how sharp these lines be, so long as they are clear and distinct, and a white background is visible between them.



REDRAWN.

There are a few exceptions that do not permit of treatment by this process, such as the earlier stamps of Barbados, Trinidad, Mauritius, and the current St. Vincent. Yet even these may be satisfactorily prepared if the stamps are first enlarged by means of photography, a "blue-print"

prepared, and then "traced" by the artist in black water-proof India ink. After "fading" the blue-print the drawing is again reduced to the normal size and prepared as before described.

HALF-TONE.



HALF-TONE.

Half-tone illustrating is the most costly of the four processes, but vastly superior in a number of cases, in fact preferable, and if properly printed the effect is most pleasing,

for the half-tone is the printer's substitute for photography in illustrating.

Especially in instances where cancellations on stamps are to be shown, grilling, embossing, or where two-colored stamps are to be reproduced showing to some extent the different colors by a variation of shade and light in the print.

The half-tone process is adapted to such subjects as are furnished by the earlier Barbados, Trinidad, St. Vincent, Nova Scotia, in short, every stamp too close-lined for the zinc-etching process can be satisfactorily reproduced in half-tone.

Stamps to be treated by this process should be mounted on dull black cards, and to obtain the best results *enlarged* in the engraving—the more so, the better the result.

OTHER REQUISITES.

Finally, the chief requisites are, good paper, good ink, good presses, and a competent pressman, for with him rests the fate of an engraving.

Wood cuts *print* best; zinc-etchings require *little ink* but light, even impression, while the half-tone requires artistic treatment at his hands. It requires more ink than the zinc-etching, it requires a *hard*, even packing on the cylinder or

job press and it requires patience and skill in the "make-ready" to "bring out" the highlights and darken or grade the shades.

With these "pointers" stamp illustrating is commended to every philatelic publication as the most valuable adjunct to the advancement of "stamp science."

AUG. DIETZ.

The VIRGINIA'S Soliloquy.

An Asteroid that autumn date,
When first I life essayed;
A timid child that shunned the fate
Of critics' fusillade;
A friendless waif in this cold world,
I wandr'd o'er the land
And sought kind hearts that, when unfurled,
Would lend a helping hand.

I know not why nor to what end,
It is for them so say,
Yet many do their hands extend
On this, my natal day.
I promised much, I must confess;
Perhaps I've not kept all,
And yet, perchance, my outward dress
May've saved me from a fall.

But outward form and fashion's cloths
The mind do not appease,
Hence plans that made I must dispose
At once, my friends to please.
They leniently my errors bore,
For which I've gratitude,
So duty now to them before
A selfish attitude.

Although a single year, 'tis true,
Is all that I have known,
Yet in that time I've rambled through
This world from hut to throne.
To many others of my kind,
Who live with weal or woes,
I social visits pay and find
That they are friends,—not foes.

My future thus seems bright and clear,
I trust 'twill so remain
And that the end of this new year
Will prompt the same refrain.
And though I feel the burden vast,
That duty doth impose,
Yet will I strive to mend the past—
Give conscience sweet repose.

F. S., JR.



New York Correspondence.

LENNOD.

NEWS of a local nature was rather scarce the past month, therefore my notes are somewhat meager.

There is a noticeable increase in the adherents of United States Revenue stamps; the new revenues are accountable for this boom. Dealers find sales increasing for this stock, and one dealer in particular, intends in the future to devote the greater part of his trade to revenues.

We also notice many new faces around the stamp shops, and it is safe to venture that a large majority of these collectors joined our ranks through the courtesy of our liberal government, in issuing such beautiful and handsome revenue and Omaha Exposition stamps. The latter were originally to be printed in two different colors for each value, but when it became apparent that it would be impossible to adhere to this idea, a local collector wrote to the Post Office Authorities, and suggested, that for each value a different colored paper be employed; the stamps, would then appear, as if printed in two colors.

The rush of work at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, prevented this suggestion being tried, as the officials had in the meantime made complete arrangements for printing the stamps in one color; different for each denomination.

Turning our attention again to the new revenue stamps, we must not forget to state that the minor variety collector is having his hands full in discovering new varieties on these stamps. Here are a few: two sizes of surcharge; in-

verted surcharge; reversed surcharge; numerous shades; imperforated on one or more sides; no periods after I. R., and many more too numerous to mention. Before I drop revenues, I must mention that there is a dearth of the old issues part perforated and pin perforated in blocks and strips. This also applies to Match and Medicine stamps in similar conditions. Other stamps in demand, but rather scarce, are the one cent red Newfoundland and ten cent Canada, with maple leaves in all four corners.

As these notes are written several days before any of the conventions, I am unable to report the proceedings, but full report will probably be found elsewhere in THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST; but there are many minor occurrences that will happen, which will never be chronicled, or mentioned, in the philatelic press; for instance, each member attending the Empire State Philatelic Society's first annual meet will be presented with a handsome and expensive badge; this is really a beautiful souvenir and certainly to be appreciated by the fortunate recipients. The members' badges will be blue and the officers' red.

The Sons of Philatelia, by the way, ask fifteen cents for their convention badges.

As the U.S. government intends to keep or annex the Hawaiian Islands, Cuba, Porto Rico, and possibly the Philippine Islands, publishers of philatelic and other periodicals which have obtained second class rates, can now reduce their subscription prices to these islands, the same as the domestic rates. This ought to boom philately in these new territories as many specimen copies of the different philatelic magazines can be mailed at a small fraction of the former cost.

There are more philatelic speculators in this city than one could really imagine. The writer coming in contact with many of them in the course of business, is apt to learn of many stamps

that are "slyly" being bought up. A few I mention here, but next month I will submit a much larger list, if it can be procured.

Bavaria, No. 61, three pfennig, green. No. 58, two marks, orange.

Belgium, No.'s 12, 13 and 14, ten, twenty and forty centimes; No. 57, thirty-five centimes. (There are found many varieties on this stamp). Nos. 71, 72 and 73.

Brussels Exhibition, five and ten centimes, (two shades of the latter.)

British Central Africa, Nos. 41 to 45 inclusively. Crown and CA (very desirable).

Canada, No. 23, five cents (Beaver). No. 65, five cents. No. 73, 10 cents. Nos. 82 to 85, inclusive. No. 88, two cents Jubilee. No. 209, envelope two cents.

Cape of Good Hope, No. 5, four pence (triangle).

Chili, Nos. 12, 13 and 14 many varieties, both in engraving and watermark, are found of these stamps. They are rather scarce, especially the ten centavos blue, as any dealer will inform you.

Notes From the Lone Star State.

ROY B. BRADLEY.

Well, for a wonder, the writer had an outing last month. I ran down to Austin and New Braunfels, and saw quite a number of the "boys." In Austin I had the pleasure of meeting E. D. True and H. A. Herzog, whom I found to be earnest, active philatelists. After staying there a few days I took the train to New Braunfels ("Germany," the porter called it), and spent a couple of very pleasant days enjoying the hospitality of my friend Emil Gerlich. Well, we went fishing on Saturday. Nothing very remarkable about that, but there was in the size of our "catch." We caught—but I'll refrain, as I do not wish to give

you reason to doubt my veracity. Bob Kessler accompanied us on our fishing excursion, and—my, but he's loaded with the proverbial "fish story."

The *Lone Star State Philatelist* will be greatly improved commencing with the August issue. Printed on the finest of antique book paper, from new type, it will be typographically perfect. Several new cuts will adorn the cover and inside, the work of my friend Dietz; while such contributors as Miss Amy L. Swift, Emil Gerlich, August Dietz, H. Fenton, Frederic Noyes, E. R. Aldrich, G. A. Hunt, and myself will endeavor to fill its columns with choice reading matter on stamps. The standard of excellence will be placed high, but we hope to attain it.

I note in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* that Wm. S. Osgood, a philatelist of Massachusetts is now located at Sabine Pass, while M. C. Spears, formerly of Kentucky, is also located at Dallas. Gentlemen, we will be pleased to enroll you among the members of the Southern and Texas Philatelic Associations.

I would like very much to see the *American Journal of Philately* pay more attention to the stamps of the Confederate States. As yet, no reference to them appears in the "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors," now appearing in that magazine. I presume they will be included among the latter part of the "History of the Postage Stamps of the United States," now appearing in monthly instalments. By the way, the Scott Co., write me that it will be several months ere the "Advanced Catalogue" is completed.

Stamp news is quite scarce this month. I've been scratching my cranium for half an hour trying to think of more "news," but it's no go, so my readers will not be afflicted with any more notes this month, for which they ought to be grateful.

Boston Bits.

BY BOSTONIAN.

Your humble servant has been requested to put forth his best effort this month, in honor of the great Anniversary Number of *THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST*. And although he would state that he has complied with this wish, it does not say much for his ability, as he does not pose for a literary man to any great extent. But best is best, and that is all that is expected from anyone.

As regards stamp trade in general, Boston is at present convalescent, and the fall trade is already beginning to show itself at this early date. Thus far we have had a very short dull season, if such it could be called at all.

Our society members are all busy packing "duds" for the conventions which will take place the latter part of August, in New York City, and it is needless to state that the Hub will be well represented.

The New England Philatelic Association will hold their annual convention at Manchester, N. H. This is scheduled to come off also in August, and the trustees have prepared a very attractive programme.

The session will be held at the new hotel on Lake Massabesic, which abounds in magnificent scenery.

It is rumored here that Newfoundland has just issued a new ½c, 3c and 5c stamp. An invoice of these denominations is expected at any date, as the Postmaster-General informs one well-known firm that they have already been shipped.

Now that the ½c documentary revenue has been changed in color from yellow to slate, there has been a great rush for the former, which easily retails at about 3c. I have been told on good authority, that this is only the beginning of several changes, and that eventually the whole

issue is to appear in a perforated state instead of rouletted. If this be the case the stamps in use now will be good things to invest a little money in.

The post-offices in the vicinity of the Hub, have been decidedly short of certain values of the Omaha stamps, (doubtless on account of the Bureau printing enormous quantities of the new war tax stamps) and one of Boston's dealers was obliged to pay a fancy price for some, with which to fill his orders.

It is now apparent that our city will see fewer auction sales next fall, than in years past. One of the firms that do considerable in this line, state that they cannot promise one, and several others inform me that they will do decidedly less in auctions than usual.

For the past two weeks there has been a great demand here for the maple leaf set of Canada. Several denominations of this series are now obsolete, and cannot be obtained at many of the post-offices in the Dominion.

Edward L. Smiley of Milford, Mass., is spending his vacation at Sunapee, N. H. Mr. Ernest M. Carpenter of the New England Stamp Co. has returned from his trip to the West, after an absence of about four weeks. Mr. Ernest L. Farrin, assistant at Mr. F. P. Brown's office, is at North Woodstock, N. H., for ten days.

Several sets of used Newspaper stamps changed hands at the Hub this week at from \$35 to \$50 per set. This seems to be cheap for these much sought-for stamps, and every indication points to an early rise in price.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, *The Columbian Philatelist*, *The American Collector*, and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp* all for one year for only 50 cents.

You can't afford to miss all of these grand combinations so send in your subscriptions for one or more of them.

Canadian Notes.

BY CANADIAN.

Some dissatisfaction is expressed at the choice of the *Philatelic Advocate* as the official organ of the D. P. A. as it is believed that a better choice could have been made. However there is a difference of opinion on that point and the *Advocate* has the advantage of the difference.

Now that the Canadian stamps have numerals in the corners instead of the maple leaves there is a wild scramble for the stamps of the latter design and it is safe to predict a good advance in prices in the near future.

The Ontario Philatelist is typographically, *THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST* of Canada. Friend Widdicombe turns out a very neatly printed paper filled with readable matter.

We haven't seen the stamp paper that was to appear from Hamilton, Ontario, and will be more inclined to believe that it is a reality when we see Vol. I No. 1.

The number in attendance at the D. P. A. Convention was very good and shows the great interest taken in our only national philatelic society.

The by-law passed at the convention, requiring all officers to have been members of the society for at least six months, is a good one and will have the effect of keeping many office-seekers out.

Although the agitation for the release of John R. Hooper is still kept up we are not inclined to believe that his sentence will be shortened as the government has evidently passed its opinion on the case.

The new Anglo-Saxon private post-cards are becoming very popular and many merchants are using them to increase trade.

How many 6c Jubilees have you? They are a good thing to have.

Wanted: By Wm. Mulock a good pre-

text on which to issue a new set of stamps. Sealed proposals will be received by the above gentleman.

Since the London conference decided upon penny postage the government of Canada will at once put into operation the bill passed recently reducing postage from 3 to 2 cts. on first-class matter. A new issue is now in order to commemorate the change.

The prompt action of the D. P. A. trustees in expelling a member found guilty of larceny by confession, is to be commended.

Notwithstanding the apparently good showing made by the Dominion Philatelic Association we believe that the society as it is now conducted is but little more than an adjunct to the official organ.

The two-cent postage rate to all parts of Canada and Great Britain will become operative on and after November 1st, 1898. This is a great stride in the right direction.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and *The Montreal Philatelist*—the two "handsomest" of the U. S. and Canada, one year for 30 cents.

I'd like to meet the galoot in the Milwaukee P. O. who evidently cancels the letters with his feet, and probably uses a shovel to put ink on. He spoils a strip of three nice 8 cent Omaha stamps, the first I got.—*Montreal Philatelist*.

It is held that under the new U. S. war tax law, a doctor's certificate of a patient's death must bear a ten cent stamp. This is following a man a long way.—*Montreal Philatelist*.

Grenada has gone stamp jobbing too. A 3d. Jubilee stamp is out to commemorate Columbus' landing. Poor Kit, you've got to do for a pretext once more.—*Montreal Philatelist*.

My Stamp Hunt.

BY A. G. GIBB.

MEN in all ages have been hunters, and the desire to secure certain objects seems to be inherent to the human race.

From the days of Esau (of Biblical fame) up to the present time, men have been "on the hunt" for something or other.

Students of Scott's works (I do not refer to Scott of philatelic fame, but to the one and only "Great Scott"—Sir Walter) must remember how the old antiquarian used to spend his days hunting amongst the tombstones for inscriptions.

And in our own times we find many people who "collect things." Some collect old china, statuary, pictures or coins, others gather the flora and fauna from the face of nature, while still others (and what a mighty army they are!) are hunters of *stamps*!

All however, pursue their game with the same commendable ardor, and the more trouble they experience in securing a "find," the more they glory in it, and value it.

A short account of a memorable stamp hunt I recently had, may be of interest to the many readers of this wonderful Anniversary number of the popular VIRGINIAN. (*Vivat Floreat!*)

The scene of my hunt was in Newfoundland, where I had resided for a number of years, and where, as may be supposed, there is a good field for the philatelic sport.

I had been commissioned by a lady friend abroad to employ a carpenter to do certain repairs to a dwelling-house in which she was interested. The house had been unoccupied for some time, and considerable repairs had to be done. Among other improvements, my wife

suggested that the paper should be stripped off the walls, and new paper hung, and said she would send up the servant girl to do the stripping. On my return from business about 10 o'clock that night, my wife informed me that on stripping the paper off one of the rooms, the girl had disclosed a hole in the wall, stuffed with all sorts of "rubbish," and amongst it were a lot of old letters and newspapers.

Greatly interested, I called in the girl, and asked her if she had noticed any stamps amongst the papers, and she replied there were "lots of them," but she did not think they were any good, as *they had been all used!*

As it was too late to do anything that night, I went to bed, determined to be up "bright and early" in the morning.

That night I had a dream, or rather a series of dreams. All night long, visions of philatelic wealth appeared before my delighted eyes; and I fairly reveled in the early issues of Newfoundland. There were 1sh. scarlet vermilions, brown 5's; vermilion "star 3's," and other gems. In New Brunswick there were several "Connells," and many other rare B.N.A.'s.

What a feast I had! But alas!—Waking up early, I dressed hurriedly, and managed to reach the house just as the carpenters came along.

On entering I at once repaired to the room and found the floor covered with scraps of wall paper, old newspapers, etc. From the mess I fished out a few Canadian postals, but nothing of any value. Turning my attention then to the "hole in the wall" I off coat, and set to work.

First I pulled out a big bundle of newspapers with "nary a stamp" on them. Then I came across a few more post cards—American and Canadian. Scattered amongst the rubbish were a number of the common 1 and 2c U. S., of '79 and much to my disgust, *not a solitary N. F. in the whole jolly lot!*

OUR CO-WORKERS.

A COMPLIMENTARY SKETCH TO THE
STAFF-ASSISTANTS OF THE VIR-
GINIA PHILATELIST.

BY AUG. DIETZ.

IN CELEBRATING our Anniversary we deem it the most pleasant duty to present brief sketches of our faithful co-laborers, to whom, in a great measure, we attribute the success of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

Untiring in their efforts to contribute, monthly, the news philatelic—be it in the sparkling notes from New York, Boston, Texas, Canada, Newfoundland, and the far Antipodes; or in the meritorious articles on philatelic subjects which have appeared in our columns

from time to time, they have certainly won for themselves a place of honor in our Anniversary number.

J. G. GRIFFIN, AUSTRALIA.

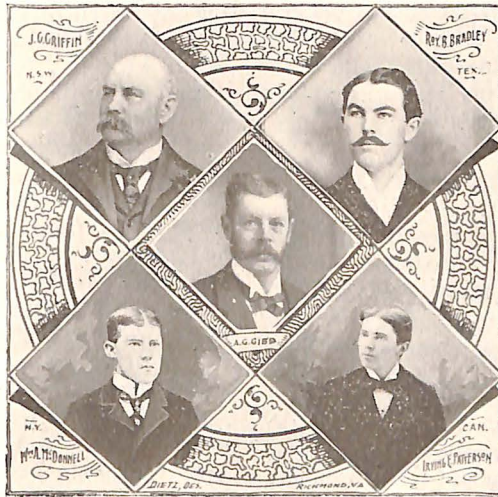
Undoubtedly our readers have perused with great interest the notes from far Australia contributed from time to time by Mr. J. G. Griffin of Sydney, New South Wales. A brief sketch of this eminent philatelist and gentleman will lend a new charm to his future philatelic letters:

Mr. Griffin was born at Richmond, a

suburb of Melbourne, in Victoria, Australia, March 4, 1846. At the early age of 10 he was sent, in company with his brother (who is now general manager of the Nitrate Railway and Mines at Iquique, Peru), in a bark of 600 tons, all the way from Victoria to London, England, to be educated. At the age of 15 he was articled as a Civil Engineer on the Great Western Railway in England. At the age of 19 he was sent as Assistant Engineer to Turkey in Europe and assisted in building the railways

from Varna, on the Black Sea, to Ruschuk, on the Danube; and thence from Guirgevo to Bukarest, the capital of Moldau - Wallachia. He was in Bukarest during the Revolution, when Prince Couza was "ousted" and the present King "brought in". Before returning to

England he spent two years on the Continent, visiting Vienna, Paris, etc. Then bidding Albion farewell, he returned to his native Australia. Here his career has been chequered and successful. He has been employed as railway engineer and government surveyor; he has taken great interest in public affairs, and was once Mayor of Manly (the chief marine suburb of Sydney), and is now for the third time Mayor of Hurstville. He is a J. P. for the Colony, and is now contesting a seat in the Free Trade interest for the Parliament of New South Wales.



Mr. Griffin is a keen philatelist and rejoices in old Australians. His collection numbers some 6,000 choice stamps as well as a large number of entires. Possessing most of the varieties of the rare "Sydney Views" and the other Australian Colonials, Mr. Griffin desires to complete his collection of U. S. and Confederates, and but few are yet wanting, which he hopes to secure in exchange.

Mr. Griffin is a member of the Sydney Philatelic Society, a Mason and a prominent writer for the press of his city. We are proud of his friendship, grateful for the interest he takes in our publication, and feel confident his kindness will gain for him many admirers among philatelists in our country.

ROYAL BENNETT BRADLEY, TEXAS.

Philately of America—and beyond our borders—needs no introduction to this eminent and enthusiastic laborer in its cause. His publication, *The Lone Star State Philatelist*, has carried his fame far and near and *The Lone Star* has become a household word to stampmen of the South and West.

Royal Bennett Bradley is a native of Indiana, a descendant of Virginians. He has resided in Texas since his eighth year. His first experience in publishing a stamp paper was the weekly *Lone Star State Philatelist*. This appeared uninterruptedly for 77 issues. It was then suspended for several months on account of ill health, during which time the "sub"-list was filled by Mr. Lowry's paper, *The Texan Philatelist*. In August, 1896, the *Lone Star* again appeared, as a monthly. In September was added, by purchase, *The Dixie Philatelist*.

Mr. Bradley is a versatile writer for the press, being business manager of *The People's Forum*, owned and edited by his father.

He possesses a collection of about 4,000 varieties of better class stamps free from Seebecks and like rubbish, as well as another of entires.

He has held various offices in the different philatelic societies; was among the organizers of the Anti-Seebeck Society that blazed the way for the "Four S's."; was secretary-treasurer of the S. P. A. and reorganized that society; is Vice-President of the Texas Association, also holding membership in 7 or 8 other societies. But it is in *The Lone Star State Philatelist* we come to appreciate the true merit of the man—one of the pioneers of philately in the South and West.

Ranking with the best monthlies of our country, its success must be attributed to the earnest labors of a sincere, enthusiastic stamp-collector, and the ability to understand and cater to the needs of collectors. No trivial subjects find reception in its columns—sterling philatelic articles—instructive to the seeker after philatelic lore, greet the reader from month to month, and serve to endear the *Lone Star* to its large constituency.

Mr. Bradley is a regular contributor to our columns and his notes from the *Lone Star State* have won for him new laurels in the Old Dominion.

WM. A. MAC DONNELL.

Another philatelist and writer requiring no introduction to stampdom, is our New York correspondent, Mr. Wm. A. MacDonnell, whose monthly letters, replete with news and valuable "pointers", have proven not only interesting but instructive and beneficial to the collector who strives to keep abreast of the times.

Mr. MacDonnell has contributed his notes to THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST since its infancy. Represented in No. 1, he has never failed to supply the cream

of the news every month, and his valuable services are again enlisted for the coming year.

Wm. A. MacDonnell was born in New York City, Nov. 1, 1875. He attended the public and private schools of that city, graduating with high honors at the age of 16; excelling especially in free-hand drawing, arithmetic and algebra. His intention to enter College was frustrated by a trouble with his eyesight, which compelled him to discontinue studies of any kind. In 1891 he commenced collecting stamps, occupying his many leisure hours in their study. Thrice he sold his collection, but two years ago began anew, devoting especial attention to the stamps of Uruguay, Paraguay and the Hawaiian Islands. His excellent article on the Stamps of Paraguay, appearing in this number, is an evidence of *how he collects stamps*, and studies them.

Mr. MacDonnell is an extensive writer, and contributes notes to many of the leading philatelic publications.

He is a member of the P. S. of A., S. P. A., D. P. A., N. P. A., C. P. S., auction manager of S. of P.; and secretary-treasurer of E. S. P. S., as well as member No. 49 of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

Mr. MacDonnell is a staunch friend of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, and has exerted every influence to raise it to its present position. We feel under many obligations to our faithful "Lennod."

IRVING E. PATTERSON.

The gentleman who contributes the interesting notes to our columns from "across the border" is Mr. Irving E. Patterson, and, like Bradley and MacDonnell, is well known to philately.

Mr. Patterson was born in 1878 at Wyandotte, Mich. He began collecting in 1891 and later on became a dealer.

Uninterrupted has been his devotion to our science—U. S. and Canada being his specialties.

He was one of the organizers of the Michigan Philatelic Association in 1895, holding the responsible offices of secretary-treasurer and chairman of trustees thereof. He was also a charter-member of the L. A. P., its first librarian and, later on, its secretary. Mr. Patterson, among his many offices, filled that of librarian of the Peninsula Philatelic Club of Detroit, and is a member of all the prominent societies.

In 1895 he removed to Guelph, Ontario, resigning all offices he then held in philatelic societies.

Shortly after his arrival in Canada, he was elected secretary-treasurer of the D. P. A., and Canadian vice-president of the L. A. P.

He succeeded in raising the D. P. A. from a society of *three* paid-up members to its present strength and prominence.

Mr. Patterson was a candidate for International secretary of the P. S. of A., and but for the cumulative ballot would have been elected by a large majority. Mr. Green, a presidential candidate, winning by a cumulative ballot.

In June, 1897, Mr. Patterson removed to Detroit where he now resides, but he keeps posted on Canadian stamp matters as well as any man across the border.

Patterson is a prolific writer for the philatelic press, and we are fortunate in securing his services for the coming year.

A careful student of stamps, his notes are ever brimful of matter to interest the collector.

ARCHIE G. GIBB, NEWFOUNDLAND.

From time to time philatelic articles have appeared in our columns from the pen of Mr. Archie G. Gibb, formerly of

St. Johns, Newfoundland, now of Roxbury, Mass. Prominent among them were the articles on the Newfoundland Surcharges and West Indian Fake Fiscals.

Mr. Gibb is an enthusiastic stamp collector, studies his treasures and our reader may look forward to some interesting sketches from his pen during the coming year.

Mr. Gibb is a native of Scotland. He was born at Dollar on the "clear-winding Devon" at the foot of the "heather-covered Ochils," and about 7 miles from the historic field of Bannockburn. Receiving a thorough education at the Academy of Dollar, he was afterwards apprenticed to a dry-goods merchant. In 1877 he sailed for Newfoundland. In 1886 he opened a large gents' furnishing and clothing house. When the great fire took place,—July 1892, which devastated about three-fourths of the entire city of St. John's, Mr. Gibbs' place of business was destroyed. Two months later he located in Boston, Mass., engaging first in the dry-goods, then in the music business. Another removal to Newfoundland preceded his final settling in Boston, where he intends to remain, permanently.

Mr. Gibb began collecting stamps as a boy in Scotland, but sold out before leaving school. There were many stamps in the old collection he would prize to-day. After years he began anew—saving all the Newfoundlands that came his way.—But alas,—these treasures fell a prey to the great conflagration. Our Columbians reawakened his interest in stamps and now his collection—though small, contains some 2,000 choice stamps.

Mr. Gibb is a Mason, being a member of Lodge Tasker, No. 454—a versatile writer, a musical genius and one of the most interesting correspondents, his letters sparkling with wit and congen-

iality. A staunch friend of our magazine, we are fortunate in enlisting his pen in our cause.

OUR BOSTON CORRESPONDENT.

We regret exceedingly our inability to present the likeness and sketch of our Boston correspondent, whose monthly letters have contained so much of interest to our readers and who has kept us posted throughout the year on the prices realized at the auction sales in Boston. Our friend seems to have an unconquerable antipathy to facing a camera, still, we may yet induce him to do so. In the meantime his bright notes from "the Hub" will speak for his ability as a philatelic writer.

WE ARE indebted to Mr. Geo. S. Dayenport, of Toronto, Ontario, for a specimen of the new one cent envelope of Canada.

The stamp is printed in olive green; the design is identical with the new 3c. envelope with the exception of the Queen's head, which in this stamp is the well-known youthful profile.

How readily a fair design may be spoilt is shown in this series, in the placing of the word "Canada," and why this was done we cannot understand, unless Canada intends loaning the original die (minus the word "Canada") to some of the other British Colonies. "Economy is the road, etc."

THE new Senf Catalogue for 1898-'99 is announced to be out of press.

OUR advertisers are offering, in this number, some of the best bargains that ever appeared in our columns, and our friends should not fail to avail themselves of these opportunities.



BY JOHN PAALZOW.

All Publishers are requested to send one copy direct to the Review Editor, at No. 1018 Park Ave., Richmond, Va., U. S. A.

Our Review closes on August 25th.

The following publications have come to hand during the past month :

	VOL.	NO.
American Collector, New Oxford, Pa.	4.	6.
Boston Stamp Book, Boston, Mass.	4.	3.
Columbian Philatelist, New Oxford, Pa.	5.	3.
Eastern Philatelist, New Market, N. H.	21.	6.
International Philatelist, St. Joseph, Mo.	8.	1.
Lone Star State Philatelist, Waco, Tex.	6.	6.
Metropolitan, New York,	9.	18-21
New York Philatelist, New York,	4.	5.
Perforator, Federalsburg, Md.,	2.	6.
Philatelic Bulletin, Salem, Mass.,	1.	11.
Philatelic Bulletin, Salem, Mass.,	1.	12.
Postal Card Bulletin, Springfield, Mass.	5.	5.
Weekly Philatelic Era, Portland, Me.,	12.	41-46
Youth's Realm, Boston Mass.,	4.	8.
Texan Philatelist, Abilene, Texas,	8.	6.
Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, St. Louis, Missouri,	12.	306-309
Post Office, New York,	8.	89.
Herald Exchange, New York,	6.	6.
Pennsylvania Philatelist, Reading, Pa.,	14.	3.
FROM CANADA.		
Montreal Philatelist, Montreal, Can.	1.	4.
Ontario Philatelist, St. Catharines, Ont.	2.	6.
Philatelic Advocate, Berlin, Ont.	5.	2.
Philatelic Messenger, Boiestown, N. B.	2.	7.
FROM ABROAD.		
Jornal Philatelico, St. Paulo, Brazil,	2.	7.
Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, Salisbury, England,	8.	91.
Stamps, Rushden, England,	2.	7.
Senf's Ill. Bfmarken Journal, Leipzig, Ger.	25.	14-15
Revue Postale, Geneva, Switzerland,	1.	8.
Monthly Advertiser, London, Eng.,		63.

The *American Collector* has a very good article entitled "The Philatelic Scarecrow," giving a portrait of the collector who is afraid to buy, to sell or to exchange, for fear of getting the worst of his bargain. That such men exist in every community is only too true, they really do more harm to our hobby than

low prices and the large discounts from catalogue prices.—In his "Chats on Confederates" Mr. Corbaley speaks of the issues of 1863.—He mentions the 10 cents blue with line between the stamps, but does not mention that the 20 cents green was similarly treated. Copies of which are however exceedingly rare; the writer having never seen more than one specimen.

The Lone Star State Philatelist opens with an article on Underpriced Medicine stamps which we have seen copied in other papers and which is certainly of interest to those collectors, who include Match and Medicines in their Revenues. The author makes a very good plea, why they should be more valuable.—Filled with good reading from beginning to end *The Lone Star State Philatelist* is one of the most welcome of our visitors.

The Lone Star State Philatelist for August, Vol. VII, No. 1, chronicles and illustrates the newly discovered Selma, Ala., local issued by Wm. H. Eagan. This stamp, sustained as it is by affidavits of two children of the late Mr. Eagan, is undoubtedly a genuine confederate local and nearly takes rank with the Emory Va., recently discovered by Mr. N. P. Strause of Henderson, N. C., and described and illustrated in a recent number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. The credit for the discovery of the Selma is due Mr. R. S. Nelson of Birmingham, Ala. *The Lone Star State Philatelist* deserves credit for securing the absolute evidence of the true nature of this provisional Envelope which undoubtedly shows that they were signed by Mr. Eagan and stamped "Paid 5" and sold over the country in that condition.

A new departure in stamp-dealing was made by the J. W. Scott Co., in their advertisement in the *Metropolitan* giving a list of 178 stamps naming a selling

and buying price for each, limiting however the number of any one stamp which they would purchase at the price named to 200. This test of the market was open for two weeks only and resulted as can be seen from this tabulated list:

Number of different stamps offered	168.
Value of stamps offered	\$462.91.
Total number of stamps sold	2,346.
Number of different stamps sold	123.
Value of stamps sold	\$547.09.
Number of stamps bought	4,215.
Number of different stamps bought	56.
Value of stamps bought	\$463.45.
Percentage between buying and selling price	20%
Cost of advertisement	\$40.00

The report then continues :

The above statement does not show all the business that might have been done as we had to return nearly one hundred dollars because the stamps had been all sold. Then again, we limited the buying to 200 specimens of any one stamp, and of nineteen stamps we bought the full limit and returned others. Many stamps had to be returned as the specimens sent were not up to the standard. Several times it happened that after an old stock was sold out, two letters would come by same mail, one ordering the stamp and the other supplying it. We had more U. S. stamps offered than foreign, perhaps because the time was not sufficient for foreign dealers to compete. Next time we prepare a list of this sort more time will be allowed, so that our foreign friends can reap some of the benefits of this style of trading. The list embraced 29 countries and selling prices ran from three cents to fifty dollars with corresponding buying prices of from two cents to fifty-five dollars. It must be borne in mind that the selling prices were in nearly every instance at least 50% off catalogue; the buying prices therefore naturally from 60 to 70% off Catalogue, showing again that in order to do business dealers have to go away below catalogue at least in the lower priced stamps. The average price

paid for those the Scott Co. bought was about 11c and of those sold by them about 25c, which average would indicate that not many high priced stamps changed hands.—Then again if this experiment was made to determine the relative selling and buying demand it would demonstrate that there were more sellers than buyers, there being nearly 2000 stamps more bought than sold. For this fact however, the scarcity of money may account.

To review in the short space allotted in a monthly magazine, four numbers of such a journal as *Mekeels Weekly Stamp News* is almost an impossibility for as ever the pages of the *weekly* are filled with information which every collector should have and the very best advice the writer can give to his fellow collectors is to do as he has done for years, subscribe to the *Weekly*, the cost of subscription being as nothing compared to the benefits and information received from a careful perusal of its well filled pages every week.

In the August number of *The Eastern Philatelist* the publisher announces that the paper has been sold to Mess. B. L. Drew & Co., of Boston, Mass., who will hereafter conduct the paper upon improved lines. We are glad to see that the "oldest stamp magazine in America" will remain still in the "ring" even though it is moved to the "hub."

The Philatelic Messenger, coming from its new home in Boiestown, N. B., is still a little behind in its appearance, it having gotten now as far as its June number. However it promises to have July and August follow in quick succession and then proposes to keep up with the procession regularly.

The August 20th number of the *Metropolitan* contains the programme for the thirteenth annual convention of the American Philatelic Association, and as far as the amusements laid down in it, it was certainly an enjoyable affair. During the session of the A. P. A., the *Metropolitan* printed a daily record of the proceedings entirely at its own expense and to make it entirely free it did not even charge for advertisements in the daily numbers. Surely such zeal should have been rewarded by electing the *Metropolitan* the official organ of the A. P. A. This same number of August 20th contains a picture gallery of 15 well known Philatelists with short biographical sketches of same. One of these makes us ask a question. The sketch we refer to is this:

"C. W. Kissinger, of Reading is the irrepressible representative of the younger element in the A. P. A. It certainly is not his fault if any benighted stamp collector has failed to hear of Clifford Washington and the *Pennsy*, and there are not many who failed to read of his marriage, while future events will doubtless be chronicled."—So far the *Metropolitan*. The question we want to ask is: Do coming events cast their shadows before?

The advice given by the *Perforator* in its leading article on Philatelic Helps is certainly one that should be heeded by a great many collectors who imagine the cost of subscription to one or more good philatelic publications as an expense which they cannot afford. How often can a year's subscription be saved by buying some of the many bargains advertised by enterprising dealers. Then again forgeries are told about and the collector warned not to invest his money in such worthless stuff. The story of a Famous Southern Coin copied from the *New York Tribune* is interesting read-

ing. We only regret that we are not in possession of one of the other three half dollars of the Confederacy whose whereabouts are unknown. Perhaps one of these days some stamp collector will send us one to pay for his subscription to THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

Senf's Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal warns against again appearing forgeries of high value State Department stamps. The printing of them is genuine, as they are manufactured out of cardboard proofs. The paper has been moistened and then split down to be of the required thickness and gummed and perforated. It is in the perforation that one can first detect the forgeries, for the genuine are perforated 12 while these are only 11½. Then again the paper has not the same feeling to the touch as the genuine stamps, being more like woolen cloth. If however, a doubt still remains, and it might easily be so, another test would show that one has only a proof, and that is, to moisten the stamp. The paper has remained like blotting paper and lets the moisture through at once.

The record of new issues shows among others pictures of the two very handsome stamps issued by the Falkland Islands of the value of 2sh 6d and 5sh respectively. Used specimens of these two stamps may be expected to rank among the rarities.

Niger Coast has also added to her issue stamps of the value of 6d, 2sh 6d, and 10sh, similar in design to those of the last emission.

Senf's, the standard German Catalogue for 1898 has just been issued, and in it a step in the right direction has been taken, viz: a reduction in the prices of over 8000 stamps. If our own Catalogue makers will follow in the footsteps of the Germans, we may hope in the future to hear less of discounts of 60 and 75%.

A Dealers' Special or Midsummer Trade Boomer is what the *Philatelic Bulletin* calls its July number, and it should not belie its name for some of the ads in it do certainly offer bargains and ought to boom trade. The Mistake of Publishers is well written and points out some of the rocks upon which so many stamp papers have stranded. Consolidated with the *Bulletin* is now the *California Stamp*, which has been purchased by the *Bulletin*, the owner of the *California Stamp* having heeded his country's call and gone to Manila. No doubt he is now specializing that country and studying the numberless surcharges.

Imperial Penny Postage is the first theme of *Stamps* for July. We can only devoutly wish that such a movement may be speedily inaugurated between Great Britain and her colonies (except Australia) and if found successful there, that it may be extended to the Universal Postal Union, for it would then do away with the so-called *necessity* to issue postage stamps of as high a value as \$5.00.

Fashion in stamps is treated in a very exhaustive manner, and the collectors advised to improve their collections in those countries which are at present unfashionable and therefore not unnecessarily inflated in price.

Stamps is an interesting paper to read and is well worth its subscription price to any collector.

The *Montreal Philatelist* leads off with a discussion of the so-called two cent Navy Error and makes out a very good case that it should really be called a State Error. It claims that the set of two cent State plates were mislaid and as two cent State stamps were needed, the two cent Navy plates were used, the stamps however being printed in the color of the State set. In the meantime

the two cent State plates had been found and a new supply printed from them, so those printed in green from the Navy plate were destroyed except a few sheets saved as a curiosity and these are the genuine error now in existence.

Mr. Bach announces in this number that he has changed his printers and the improved look of the magazine shows that he made a good selection. We are satisfied that continuing to improve as the *Montreal Philatelist* has, from its first number to date, Mr. Bach's claim to having the *best* stamp paper in Canada will be fully sustained. The German part of the magazine is quite a feature and should gain him many subscribers on the other side of the "frog-pond."

If one reads the figures given in the *Revue Postale* of the numbers issued and actually sold of the first issue of Moldavia one can easily understand that they are rarities of the first order. In all there were only 24,000 of the four values printed, distributed as follows:

of the 27 paras	6,000.
" 54 "	10,000.
" 81 "	2,000.
" 108 "	6,000.
	<hr/> 24,000.

The stamps were only in use three and a half months when supplanted by a new series and when withdrawn there remained in the P. O. unsold:

of the 27 paras	2,325.
" 54 "	5,244.
" 81 "	1,307.
" 108 "	3,432.

which shows that of the rarest of them, the 81 paras, only 693 were sold. How many of them were saved and how many destroyed? It is hard to tell, but the number seems to be exceedingly small, and it is no wonder that specimens are valued at from \$600 to \$700.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain contains a full report of the International Philatelic Exhibition held at Utrecht. In reading the description of the different exhibits one cannot help but be impressed with the idea of what a wide field most countries show for the specialist. We see mentioned among others an exhibit of the stamps of Buenos Ayres comprising over 600 specimens and being valued at 20,000 florins. The Catalogue quotes 23 numbers, but those of course do not include all the minor varieties, in which the specialist delights.

Very interesting to read is a translation of the first ordinance of Louis XI., King of France, establishing the Post-offices in France. This edict bears date of 19 June, 1464. It is too sad to think what the French missed in 1864 in not issuing a commemorative series.

Under the head of Forgeries it calls attention to the 1867 issue 6c stamp of Virgin Islands. The best point for the detection is the irregular perforation of the forgeries, whereas the originals are perforated regularly 12 or 15.

The Australian Philatelist for July 25th, Vol. IV, No. 12, clips from the *Brisbane Courier*, an account of an Australian Postmaster's Stamp issued at Bowen by a Mr. Day, its postmaster. This stamp was issued provisionally pending the arrival by steamer of a fresh supply and was made of small squares of paper with the Postmaster's name written across them. However, not one of these stamps has ever been seen. The issue is supposed to have been in the sixties. Several pages of this magazine are devoted to the 2d. and 3d. N. S. W., imperforated diadem frauds and the announcement is made that Mr. Fred Hazen has disposed of his interests in the periodical to Mr. Oscar Schulze, of 113 Pitt St., Sydney, N. S. W.

In *The Columbian Philatelist* the leading article treats of "Curiosities in U. S. Revenues and other items" which sets forth many minor varieties in color, etc., of the first issue of U. S. Revenues, perforated, and will well repay careful reading and subsequent looking over duplicates to see if any of the varieties are to be found there. U. S. Revenues are certainly very pretty stamps and it is a wonder why so many collectors exclude them from the pages of their albums.

The Philatelic Bulletin has as a leading article in its August number a very interesting and concise historical sketch of the Hawaiian Islands, recently annexed to the United States. Such articles as these are not at all foreign to philately, inasmuch as they greatly assist a collector in the study of his stamps and shed much light on their *raison d'être*, besides affording an instructive yet pleasing diversion. It is to be hoped that their frequent publication will be encouraged.

The Ontario Philatelist has in its Hamilton Notes a warning from Mr. Marris against a party in Italy, viz., E. Oneglia, Piazza bitoria Emanuele No. 14 Torino. It seems that in a registered letter received by Mr. M. from the Italian was a consignment of stamps for exchange for Canadian stamps. When examined it turned out that all the stamps sent were counterfeits, and to save other collectors from being duped by similar stuff a list of those sent is given:

Cape of Good Hope, Type A1. 1p rose.

" " " 4p blue.

United States, 90 cents blue.

Ionian Islands, Type A1. orange.

Spain, Type A13. brown and rose.

Brazil, Type A1. 90r. black.

" " A2. 30r. "

" " A3. 90r. "

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Canada, 1868, 12 1/2c blue, o. g.....	75
Ceylon, 1887, 1r 12c.....	25
Gold Coast, 1889, 10sh.....	65
Hawaiian Islands, 1891, 5c black blue unused off center cheap at.....	75
Newfoundland, 1866, 10c.....	75
" 1876, 2c.....	75
Nova Scotia, 1860-61, 5c fine o. g.....	3 00
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