

# THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST



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# Why Not Fill up Your U. S. Departments?

A comparison of prices given below will give you an idea how low I am selling stamps in fine condition. Money refunded if I fail to please you.

\* Indicates unused. All others lightly canceled.

*Agriculture 1c yellow, o. g.	\$2 00	*Post Office 12c black, o. g.	\$ 40
" " 2c " "	60	" " 15c " "	73
" " 3c " "	20	" " 24c " "	62
" " 6c " used	35	" " 30c " "	47
" " 10c " o. g.	3 60	" " 90c " "	1 12
" " 12c " "	4 90	*State 1c dark green, o. g.	1 65
" " 15c " "	1 75	" " 2c " "	3 29
" " 24c " "	2 35	" " 3c light green, o. g.	37
" " 30c " "	2 35	" " 6c " "	47
*Executive 1c carmine, " "	4 75	" " 7c dark green, o. g.	1 73
" " 2c " "	4 75	" " 10c light green, o. g.	1 70
" " 3c " used	3 50	" " 10c dark green, used	1 20
" " 6c " o. g.	9 50	" " 12c " o. g.	2 25
" " 10c " "	6 20	" " 15c " "	2 35
*Interior 1c vermilion, " "	12	" " 24c " "	5 00
" " 2c " "	01	" " 30c " "	4 25
" " 3c " "	02	" " 90c " used	6 75
" " 6c " o. g.	04	" \$2.00 black and green, 2 perfs. on corner missing	11 60
" " 10c " "	24	Treasury 1c brown, used	06
" " 12c " used	19	" " 2c " o. g.	15
" " 15c " o. g.	40	" " 3c " "	05
" " 24c " used	37	" " 3c " used	01 1/2
" " 30c " o. g.	48	" " 6c " "	03 1/2
" " 90c " "	1 40	" " 7c " "	65
*Justice 1c purple, o. g.	1 00	" " 10c " "	10
" " 2c " "	1 75	" " 12c " "	07
" " 3c bluish purple, o. g.	37	" " 15c " "	14
" " 6c " "	50	" " 24c " "	2 22
" " 6c purple, o. g.	1 10	" " 30c " "	17
" " 10c " "	1 63	" " 90c " "	40
" " 12c " "	1 60	*War 1c red, o. g.	02
" " 15c " used	3 00	" " 2c " "	02
" " 24c " o. g.	10 00	" " 3c " used	01
" " 30c " used	10 00	" " 6c " o. g.	02
" " 90c " "	23 75	" " 7c " "	1 25
*Navy 1c ultramarine o. g.	75	" " 10c " "	10
" " 2c " "	31	" " 12c " "	10
" " 3c " "	20	" " 15c " used	09
" " 6c " o. g.	27	" " 24c " o. g.	10
" " 7c " "	7 50	" " 30c " "	10
" " 10c " used	95	" " 90c " "	45
" " 12c " "	90		
" " 15c " "	1 40		
" " 24c " "	1 90		
" " 30c " "	1 45		
" " 90c " "	4 75		
Post Obitum. Officially Sealed, o. g.	2 00		
Post Office 1c black, new o. g. or use l.	17		
" " 2c " "	14		
" " 3c " o. g.	02		
" " 6c " "	11		
" " 10c " o. g.	1 00		

U. S. UNPAID LETTER STAMPS.	
1879 30c brown, used	45
1879 50c " "	1 10
1889 30c red brown, used	40
1889 50c " "	1 40
*1891-3 10c claret, o. g.	12
1891-3 30c " used	70
*1891-4 0c " o. g.	95
1895 3c deep claret, used	02
1895 30c " "	25

If you don't see what you want in above list, send me your want list, with commercial or bank references. Very fine selection of U. S. and Foreign on approval at 50% discount. If you order less than 50c from this ad send 2c stamp for postage. Price list free.

**C. E. HUSSMAN,**  
4320 W. BELLE PLACE,  
St. Louis, = = Missouri.



# THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

VOL. II.

RICHMOND, VA., JANUARY, 1899.

No. 5

## H. FENTON.

AS a New Year's greeting to the members of the Southern Philatelic Association—aye, to Philately at large—we take pride in presenting a brief sketch and likeness of the gentleman upon whom our leading Southern association has seen fit to bestow for the second term the honor of presidency. And well was the choice.

All too limited, indeed, is the space at our disposal—all too brief, perforce, must be this sketch of an active, successful life—of the years devoted to Philately in the South, and to the rich fruits of these labors in her cause.

To those who have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Fenton in Knoxville, or those who have been his faithful co-workers in the S. P. A., this humble tribute of my admiration will seem quite superfluous.

But to the greater majority of my brethren of the "Southern," who look forward to meeting Mr. Fenton in Richmond this fall, a few remarks may prove of interest.

Our president, Henry Fenton, who is now in his second year of office is an Englishman but has been in this country some twelve years and is now local manager for Mess. R. G. Dunn & Co. He first commenced collecting thirty years

ago but laid his collection of some 1800 varieties aside for many years. Fortunately he never sold it and when he crossed the pond it came with him and a chance view of another collection in 1891 caused him to again become a worshipper at the shrine of Philately, and a most ardent disciple he has been. He tried general collecting for a time, accumulated some 4000 varieties, when he found "the world too large" and decided

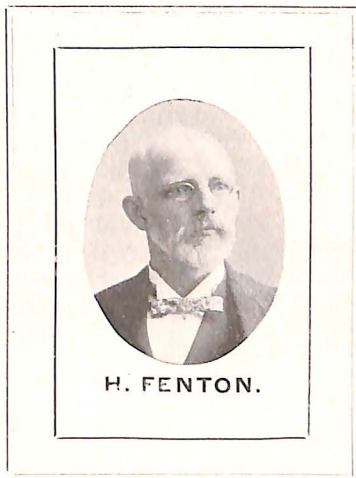
to collect only United States, Great Britain and British Colonies adhesives and United States entires.

His Great Britains are in one of L'Estrange Ewen's plate number albums and make a very respectable showing, page after page being completely filled, in fact the collection of plate numbers is complete with the exception of a few of the highest priced stamps which are beyond the

reach of collectors without plethoric pocket books.

He has but little use for the latter issues unless in a used condition considering that a stamp is only a high priced engraving until it has performed its duty of franking a letter.

He is always glad to meet a brother philatelist and talk "stamps" and hopes that the craft will not fail to give him a call when in East Tenn. though he will not promise them any snaps. DRETZ.





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AND THE  
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One Inch, . . .	\$ .50	\$ 1.25	\$ 2.25	\$ 4.00
Two Inches, . . .	.90	2.25	4.00	7.00
Half-Column, . .	1.50	4.00	7.00	12.50
One Column, . . .	2.75	7.00	12.50	22.50
One Page, . . .	5.00	12.50	22.50	40.00

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

We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

#### AUTHORIZED AGENTS:

FOR CHICAGO:

A. C. TRASK, 3748 LaSalle St.

FOR CANADA:

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RICHMOND, VA., JANUARY, 1899.

#### Happy New Year!

IN CROSSING the threshold of 1899, THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST extends its best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The closing months of 1898 must be noted as marking an epoch of renewed

philatelic activity—fit forerunners of a new year that dawns upon us quite auspiciously. It remains for us to support and carry onward this tide of philatelic enthusiasm.

Twenty years ago a “stamp collector” was an object of pity—*non compos mentis*. To-day Crawford Capen lectures on stamps before an intelligent audience at the Brooklyn Institute, and Philately is recognized as a *science*.

The boy of twenty years ago “collected” in secret, fearing the ridicule—perhaps punishment—of parent or tutor;—to-day the world caters to the wants of philatelists. Prominent pedagogues of Germany have recognized the virtues of stamp-collecting as a most valuable adjunct to school training.

The stamp-collecting boys of twenty years ago are to-day the bright lights of the sciences and arts.—From the hovel to the throne Philately has won her way.

Has the whole world become intoxicated—enchanted with Philatelia?

It would seem so.

With this past to encourage, let us look into the bright future—giving our best efforts to the cause—that we may raise our science to the highest plane.

#### Thanks, Friends, Thanks!

WE desire to thank the many friends of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST for the numerous Christmas and New Year greetings received. While individual replies are all but impossible, we take this means of expressing our appreciation.

FRANKLIN STEARNS, Bus. Mgr.  
AUG. DIETZ, Editor.

THERE NEVER were better bargains offered a buying collector than appear in this number. Our own experience with our advertisers warrant the highest recommendation.



### The Ladies.

ONE lives to learn. But we did not think we could collect stamps for some twenty odd years, right in this city too, and remain ignorant of the fact that there were many lady stamp collectors in Richmond—and we now suppose, many more in Virginia. We are wiser and gladder to-day; and while the laws of the Virginia Philatelic Association, not unlike the Koran, debar the fair sex from our philatelic "Walhalla," we would suggest that the ladies form an association of their own—or an auxiliary—so as to be represented when the S. P. A. delegates visit us with their ladies in the fall of this year.

WE DESIRE to correct an error which occurred in our Christmas number: In announcing the withdrawal of the current St. Vincent stamps our printer made us say "current issue will remain on sale until December 1899, etc." It should read: December 1898.

OUR FRIENDS have been very kind to us in sending us Canada's new stamp. Our thanks are due Mr. R. G. Widdicombe, St. Catharines, Ont., and the Naumkeag Stamp and Publishing Co., Salem, Mass., for specimens of this stamp.

WE HAVE been informed that, in all probability, Mr. John Paalzow's suggestion for a Postal Money-Order Card, will be adopted by the Department with slight alterations.

The article first appeared in THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

FROM the quality of the Exchange books sent out by Bro. Waring it appears to be a good thing to be a member of the S. P. A. Will you not join us?

### "Requiescat in—Pace" (?)

IN OUR Christmas number we took occasion to express ourselves on the United States of Central America. While that number was in press, and too late for alteration, we learned of the too early demise of this "Union."

While we are not at all surprised at this turn of events, we deeply regret two results that now follow: Each State will continue, as before, to deluge us with stamps, and—the chances of our friend Seebeck's fattening off U. S. of C. A. "governmental pap" are very slim—very slim—.

WE HAVE been fortunate in securing the services of that eminent Canadian philatelist Mr. R. G. Widdicombe, of St. Catharines, Ont., formerly publisher of *The Ontario Philatelist*, who will contribute monthly the news philatelic from across the border.

CANADA has two philatelic weeklies—one emanating from Berlin, Ont., the other from Toronto, Can. Both publishers claim first right to the title of "*The Canadian Philatelic Weekly*," and they're spilling lots of acrimonious ink over space fit for better matter.

THE FIRST illustration of Canada's "Penny Postage" stamp appeared in *Meekel's Weekly*, but ye artist has either caught the Anglo-American friendship fever or is a Briton himself, for, besides indicating many European and African countries as British possessions he has shown nearly all of North America (including our own States) as under the British crown.

We haven't come to that yet, friend.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, Mr. and Mrs. Stowell!

### Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Lecky.

WE acknowledge receipt of an announcement of the nuptials of Miss Ella D. Woodroof and Mr. Wm. Ralston Lecky, which were celebrated at Lynchburg, Va., on Dec. 5th, 1898.

Mr. Lecky is a prominent young business man of Richmond, and a stamp collector, and we trust he will now find it possible to take upon himself the additional responsibilities of membership in the V. P. A.

Accept our best wishes.

*The Eastern Philatelist*—presumably commenting on a recent editorial of ours—prints the following vague enigma:

"Someone thinks someone is making I. R. surcharges, because the 2c is falling in price. The same someone might think the same someone is printing the 1c which is not. Anyone knows that anyone would find it difficult to imitate the clear impression from Uncle Sam's powerful power presses."

It is but another evidence how little posted some writers are on subjects pertaining to stamp printing.

"Uncle Sam's powerful power presses" can in no wise produce a clearer or sharper surcharge impressions than any ordinary job or hand press—and Uncle Sam's presses do not differ from any other printer's perfected presses.

A permit to go through Uncle Sam's printing plant, with an intelligent printer guide would greatly benefit the writer of the quoted paragraph, and dispel such illusions.

MR. LILLY's recent suggestion in the *Era* to print the new U. S. envelopes in the U. P. U. colors (to correspond with our adhesives) seems to have met with the approval of the Department, for it is stated definitely that this course will be pursued.

We also glean from the *Evergreen State Philatelist* that the effigies of Washington, Franklin, Lincoln and Grant will grace the new set.

### Collect German Colonials!

STAMPS of the German Colonies are said to be gaining in favor, especially in England. In the Fatherland they have always been regarded with a sort of preference,—and German collectors—whether from pure patriotism, or foreseeing the future demand—have been steadily gathering these surcharges from East Africa, Togo, Kamerun, New Guinea, South West Africa, Marshall Islands, China, etc.

Germany is in the colonizing business in earnest—a goodly slice of China will probably fall to her share, and possibly a set of Colonial stamps will some day appear. Withal, it is good policy to secure, if possible, regularly postmarked sets of her Colonies.

*THE Perforator*, in its "Perforations" tells us that, "according to *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, Lewis Robie has received a necktie from a lady in Oregon for which she wishes in exchange a copy of 'Stamp Hunting,'" and judges from that that times are hard in Oregon.

We are sorry that neither of our contemporaries state of what material this necktie is made, and so we express the hope that it is not of *Manila hemp*, half inch in diameter, six feet long, with a noose at the end; for we want Bro. Robie among us for a long time to come, teaching us how to "hustle" for stamps, revenues and others—yes, mostly others, of the long, green variety, with denominations well up.

OUR popular vice-president, Dr. Mark W. Peysor, has been re-elected for the fourth term secretary of the Richmond Academy of Medicine and Surgery.

THE FIRST 10c U. S. in the new color—brown, was sent us by Mr. C. E. Hussman, St. Louis, Mo.



**Will You Join Us?**

WILL YOU not join the Southern Philatelic Association?—Whether residing North or South, honest, enthusiastic philatelists are welcome to our ranks. Come with us, and come to the Richmond convention.—Get a taste of Southern hospitality.—Forget your business cares for a few days and “talk stamps” with us.

Will you join?

OUR FRIENDS John J. Bunce and Jno. Weckert were members of the 2d Virginia Regiment, mustered out of service last month. Mr. Bunce has accepted a lucrative position in Patterson, N. J., but will not give up stamps nor sever his relations with the V. P. A., and has assured us that he will attend our grand meet.

We know Bro. Bunce will succeed wherever he goes, and our best wishes go with him.

POSTAL card collectors should take advantage of Mr. Paalzow's exchange offer. A rare opportunity is presented to secure quite a “good thing,” as Mr. P. has been lucky in finding a number of the *rarest* U. S. postals.

WE HAVE “booked” Bro. Seibert of the *Norfolk Dispatch* for an address at our Convention, and unless the years that intervened “since you and I were boys, John” have left their impress and served to dampen the ardor of that spirit that often roused to a high pitch of enthusiasm “the boys” of long ago, we may anticipate a rare pleasure at the meet.

WE HAVE received from Mr. H. B. Vesey, Norfolk, Va., a copy of the *Directory of Virginia Philatelists*. It should be in the hands of every dealer. Price only 10 cents.

**Drop Us a Postal.**

WE WOULD request every reader of this New Year number of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST to drop us a postal, stating his or her specialty in stamps—whether preferring U. S., Confederates, British Colonies, South American, European or general collecting.

Add to this your full name and address. We want to post our dealer friends on what to send you.

AS A RULE non-philatelic exchanges are not reviewed in our publication, but we are forced from admiration, to make an exception in one instance. Nos. 1 and 2 of Vol. I of *Ambition*, accompanied by a copy of *The Cuyler Sun*, both edited by Clyde Allen Dickinson, and hailing from Chicago, lie before us—examples of energy, vim and pluck—ideals also of typography and presswork.

It will succeed. It must!

WE DESIRE to call especial attention to the fine bargains offered in the half-page ad of the Dominion Stamp Co., of Montreal, Canada. Collectors of British North American issues will be sure to find some bargains.

MR. IRVING E. PATTERSON our former Canadian correspondent, will probably return to Detroit this month. We're sorry to lose Patterson—sorry he didn't locate in our city instead of Max Meadows.

WE ARE forced, much to our regret, to defer, indefinitely, a continuation of “The Reminiscences of a Confederate Stamp Printer,” owing to the serious illness of our friend Mr. Frank Baptist.

JOIN the Southern Philatelic Association now! Send for an application blank.



### Newfoundland.

OUR Newfoundland correspondent under date of Dec. 8, '93, informs us as follows:



The 2c orange is just out. The P. O. authorities are issuing some of the "2c fish" until Christmas day, when the new color 2c will be placed on sale. This color is not quite as ordered, viz: carmine; but rather a deep salmon red, if you can conceive such a color.

### New Issues of Peru Unpaid.

MESSRS. WILLIAMS & Co., philatelists, Casilla 989, Lima, Peru, send us the following announcement of new issue Peruvian Unpaid stamps, wrappers and postcards:

Unpaid.—5 soles, light green; 10 soles, lilac.

Wrappers.—1c green, old type.

Postcards.—1c violet, 2c red, 3c greenish gray, 4c brown. The cards bear each a view. There are 40 varieties in all.

### New Discoveries.

MR. WM. S. F. PIERCE, Camden, N. J., writes us of discovering a pair Tasmania 1d, 1871, *pin perforated*. Also an unsevered pair 2d Queensland, one watermark-ed with large, broad pointed star, the other with a small, sharp pointed star.

### American Stamps for Cuba.

#### A Limited Number to be Marked "Cuba," with Value in Spanish Currency.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The Bureau of Engraving and Printing will begin on Monday to turn out postage stamps for temporary use in Cuba.

The new stamps are our own one, two, five and ten cent stamps. Across the faces will be printed the word "Cuba" in black ink, with the amount in pesos near the lower edge. The latter will be small but sufficiently distinct to prevent mistakes. The green one-cent stamps will be known as "1c de peso," and red twos as "2½c de peso," the blue fives as "5c de peso," and the brown tens as "10c de peso."

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is now at work preparing designs for the permanent stamps.

One stamp will contain a representation of a cane mill, with a cane field in the rear. For another denomination the subject will be "Commerce." The design will show a full-rigged clipper ship on the water, and in appearance the stamp will be similar to the 12-cent issue of 1839, one of the most attractive stamps ever used by this Government.

The rate of letter postage in Cuba, 5 cents for half an ounce, will not be changed for the present.

Acting Postmaster-General Heath today received the following cablegram from Major-Gen. Greene, at Havana:

"Military post office established and ready for business. Can handle all the mail for the troops in the provinces of Havana and Pinar del Rio, and when the Spanish evacuate Matanzas can handle everything east as far as the terminus of the railroad at Santa Clara."—*N. Y. World*.

SEE Mekeel's page ad.



**Stanley Gibbons Ltd. 1899 Catalogue.**

As we are about to close our forms we receive from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., 391 Strand, London, England, Part I. of their 1899 catalogue, comprising the stamps of the British Empire. Price, post free 2/3.

Lack of space and time precludes a thorough review of Great Britain's standard catalogue; still even a hurried perusal of its contents is sufficient to convince one of its merits—not to speak of the many improvements made over former issues.

We cannot refrain from briefly alluding to two items in the "Introduction" which struck us most favorably:

"A special feature in Part I. is the full and complete illustration of the stamps of Great Britain, which, under the new regulations, we are now able to use for the first time for many years. . . ."

Referring to the prices, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., state:

"The important feature of the PRICES has received our most careful attention, and we fully believe that the present catalogue reflects the current market values as we go to press. . . ."

The stamps are priced exceedingly low, and the illustrations, though we do not approve of the half-tone process generally employed in this catalogue (we think etchings on zinc would be far preferable in most cases) are quite well done.

But, we reserve the privilege of further comment on this excellent work in a later number.

**Turks Islands In It.**

OUR correspondent in Turks Islands writes us as follows:

"In my letter dated Sept. 12, I informed you that, in regard to the attitude of our post office toward the recent Penny Postal proposition, the impression of the Postmaster was, that it would not be adopted here; since which, however, the authorities have announced their

decision to agree to the reduced letter rate. The change is to take effect on and after Christmas day. There seems to be every likelihood that the 2d stamp will be issued, but that the 2½d will be continued for use in connection with such countries as have not entered into the Penny Postage System."

**Revenue Varieties.**

*To the Editor VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.*

DEAR SIR:—As the Dr. K. & Co., provisional proprietary stamps are being considerably talked of, it may interest some of your readers if I tell them of some of the varieties I have found in the limited number of stamps that have come under my notice.

1 cent. Small I. R. 7-7-98. (The type was mixed and the second 7 is printed in heavy type.)

2 cent. Large I. R. No period after Co.

3 cent. Large I. R. I have seen several inverted surcharge and they are all imperforated on the east side. No period after Co.

Small I. R. 7-6-93. The tail of the 7 is cut off, probably due to use of an imperfect type but I have seen several copies, all showing exactly the same imperfection.

As I have said I have only had a few specimens before me, so that it is probable that any one with a full set of all the dates will find on careful examination a large number of varieties (so called).

Yours very truly,

BRITON.

CANADA'S Domestic Postal rate was reduced from 3c to 2c on New Years day. The 2c stamp will be red, and 3c abolished. Registration stamp 7c, and a 4c stamp are in preparation. I. P. S. 2c is now being printed with green background.

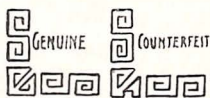
## The Postage Stamps of Japan.

LACUS VIRIDIS.

### II.

AS to the perforation, Japan has been singularly unsuccessful in getting any kind of system into it. It would almost seem as though the perforating machine had been re-set for each batch to be perforated, not alone in this issue, but in all following ones.

Of Nos. 6 and 7 there are reprints, made for government purposes; they do not occur in the ordinary channels of stamp trade. Of these two issues there are some highly dangerous forgeries. The Greek border usually furnishes the best clues for their detection; compare for instance these two (much enlarged of course):



Notice the corner ornament and the one next above it.

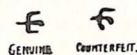
Of course these are

not mathematically exact, but only intended to give an idea of the differences. The tails of the dragons are too small and thin in the forgeries and the inscriptions are too thin and indistinct. Of the 5 sen there is a forgery which can be distinguished by the absence of the dragon's tentacle, which in the genuine crosses the upper claw of the left-hand dragon. In counterfeits of the perforated issue the perforation is usually defective, more like a pin perforation. The Japanese government permits the manufacture and sale of counterfeits of its obsolete stamps, provided they bear the characters "San-Ko"—*fac-simile*. Counterfeits of the later issues with this mark will be noticed in their place. Those of these first two issues bear these characters



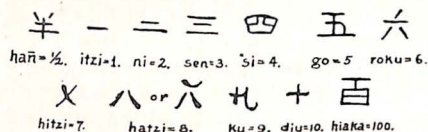
in minute size, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. square, above the inscription of value, also printed in black, "San" to the right,

"Ko" on the left. The stamps of corresponding colors seem to have been printed from the same plates, so that the tests here given answer for both sets. Of the *brown* stamps the counterfeits show long single hairs in the tails of the dragons, instead of rounded bushy tails; the center of the dragons' backs is bare in the originals, but covered with fine hair in the counterfeits. The *blue* counterfeits can be told by the lower claw of the left dragon, which is deficient in the



lowest toe. The head of the left dragon in the *red* counterfeits is too flat. The *green* forgeries can best be distinguished by their deep green color as compared with the bluish or yellowish green of the originals. The counterfeit perforated stamps of this issue have too much margin between the impression and the perforation.

In this place it may not be amiss to give the names of the figures of value occurring on Japanese stamps.



In the latter part of 1872 Japan introduced English characters into the design of her stamps, presumably to facilitate postal intercourse with foreign countries. ISSUE 1872-74. A. 1872 AUGUST TO OCT.



A2

I. Upright rectangle (19 $\frac{1}{2}$  x 22mm.); in the centre at the top a rosette, divided into 16 parts, below this at the sides two branches, Chrysanthemum at right, Paulownia at left, crossing their stems below, between them inscription in Japanese characters: "Juben-Kit-te" (postage stamp). Surrounding these a double rectangular frame with rosettes in the corners; within this frame tablets containing at the sides the



indication of value in Japanese characters, at top and bottom in English characters and Arabic figures. Wood engraving, colored impression, white paper, various perforations:  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , 11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , 12,  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , possibly others.

$\frac{1}{2}$  sen brown.

Error  $\frac{1}{2}$  sen brown

1 sen blue.

a. ultramarine

2 sen vermilion.

a. rosy vermilion.

b. brick red.



A3

II. Similar design, but larger (23x25 mm.), the two branches replaced by two dragons, same impressions, etc., as before.

10 sen green.

a. yellowish green.

b. bluish green.

c. dark blue green.



A4

III. Similar design, but larger (25x28 mm.), the branches replaced by an ornamental circle with three Paulownia leaves below; same impression, etc., as before.

20 sen lilac (designated by various authorities as violet, mauve, purple.)



A5

IV. Similar design, but larger (27x31 mm.), at the sides branches, the whole design surrounded by a Greek border; same impressions, etc., as before.

30 sen gray.

B. 1873. APRIL.

Design similar to Nos. 9, 10 and 11; same impressions, etc., as before.

4 sen rose.

a. pale rose.

2 sen yellow (change of color.)

a. orange yellow.



A6

Having enumerated the values composing this issue, I will now enumerate the varieties of paper on which they occur. Beginning with this

issue the old, thin, hand-made paper was replaced by thin, machine-made paper, heavier cotton laid paper, a firm fibrous cotton paper, and finally modern wove paper. These distinctions are better shown than described and the gradations are slight, so that it is often none too easy to place a specimen under any one of these varieties.

#### a. VERY THIN WOVE PAPER.

- |                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 9. $\frac{1}{2}$ sen brown. | 13. 20 sen lilac. |
| 10. 1 " blue.               | 14. 30 " gray.    |
| 11. 2 " vermilion.          | 15. 2 " yellow.   |
| 12. 10 " green.             | 16. 4 " rose.     |

#### b. THIN LAID PAPER.

- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 17. $\frac{1}{2}$ sen brown. | 20. 10 sen green. |
| 18. 1 " blue.                | 21. 2 " yellow.   |
| 19. 2 " vermilion.           | 22. 4 " rose.     |

#### c. THICK WOVE PAPER.

- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 23. $\frac{1}{2}$ sen brown. | 26. 2 sen yellow. |
| 24. 1 " blue.                | 27. 4 " rose.     |
| 25. 30 " gray.               |                   |

This latter paper is the same as that used for the next issue, the one with syllabic plate-numbers; it differs not only in thickness, but also in texture from the thin wove paper designated above as *a*. The 2 sen vermilion was changed to yellow before the adoption of this machine-paper, so that it is not found on the latter; the 10 and 20 sen probably were in less demand and the supply of these two on the thin laid and wove paper lasted until new supplies were printed from the altered plates.


The error of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  sen is in the left-hand Japanese numeral, where the two diagonal strokes are missing. This error occurs in the third stamp from above of the seventh vertical row on the third plate of this value. All the plates of this issue show 40 varieties. The type-varieties are particularly prominent as indicated in the following:

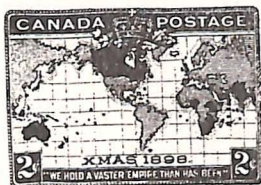
$\frac{1}{2}$  sen: the distances of the Japanese lettering in the centre vary; the stems of the two branches sometimes consist of only one line, sometimes of two. There were three plates of this value—120 varieties.

(To be Continued.)

## Canada's "Penny Postage" Stamp.

BY THE EDITOR.

 R. RUDOLPH C. BACH, editor of *The Montreal Philatelist* favored us with the first specimen of Canada's "Penny Postage" stamp, illustrated below.



The design is quite unique. A well executed map of the world on "Mercator's Projection" occupies the greater part of the space, with all British possessions printed in solid red. CANADA and POSTAGE in well formed "Gothic" letters appear at the top on either side of the suspended British crown, from which extends a spray of oak and maple, symbolical of the union of Canada and the motherland. Below the map, in the Antarctic Ocean, appear the words XMAS, 1898. In the lower corners the value, 2c, and a panel bearing this quotation from a Canadian poet "We Hold a Vaster Empire than Has Been."

The stamp is tri-colored: Black, red and a blue tint, which distinguishes *aqua* from *terra firma*.

Considering the limited latitude allowed the artist for ornamentation, the design is a success—well balanced, unique, pleasing to the eye, and the workmanship is good. All credit to Mr. Muloch, (beg pardon, Sir William Muloch), who is said to be the originator of the design.

But there's one thing we, as loyal "United Statesers," most emphatically protest against. On the stamp we have before us Canada has encroached about 45 miles (we will not kick on a few feet

more or less) on our territory. We care little how "red" Britannia "paints" the rest of the earth (and, by the way, the hue is quite suggestive of her course in the "Dark Continent"), but the thing grows serious when we're concerned. Of all our laws there's one we enforce most rigidly: "Keep off the Grass."

But to the design.—We think the earth presented in two hemispheres would have been an improvement, besides allowing the artist greater scope for design. And again, the "Mercator's Projection" map is misleading: "It represents the earth's surface expanded as it would have to be to coincide with the interior surface of a hollow cylinder, enveloping the globe and touching it at every point of the equator," and hence Canada appears distorted and exaggerated in area.

However, it's Canada's best effort—and there are none, so far, to compare with it.

We congratulate you, Sir Muloch!

## Our Paper's Pull.

MR. BUNCE advertised for a copy of Vol. I. No. 1 of our publication in the December number. Within *three* days *twenty-five* cards and letters had been received offering copies at prices ranging from 15c to \$1.00. One of our readers forwarded a copy gratis—for which Mr. Bunce is very grateful.

*Suppose you try an ad.*

OUR OLD friend and former Manchester, Va., stamp dealer, Mr. R. Hamilton, has located in York, Pa., 543 So. Duke St. Our dealings with Mr. H. have always been most pleasant, and we commend him to our readers.

*The Perforator* and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST—two of the "leaders" for one year at the price of one.—See our combination offers.



### An Annual Discrepancy.

WM. A. M'DONNELL.

At a casual glance, to the ordinary collector, the prices of canceled current stamps of the world are uniform, or in other words, priced on a basis of equalization, but an extended research, will greatly diminish such opinions as formed.

At the instance of a few fellow collectors who were having an animated discussion in reference to the many discrepancies to be found in the Standard Catalogue, I was tempted, after much persuasion, to pen a few lines in regard to the most important of these flagrant mistakes; the one selected, which we agreed to unanimously, was the annual discrepancy of pricing the canceled stamps (if current) of other countries much lower than the same stamps of this country.

The presumption made, that the receipts of the United States Post Office Department, are much greater than any other country, is regarded as genuine; England can with ease claim second place; therefore, it is self-evident that the stamps of this country should be much more circulated or purchased to a larger extent than any other country's, and that this country's stamps should be found in the canceled condition unquestionably more numerous. When I mention England, or more proper Great Britain, it should be understood to imply England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, exclusive of all British Colonies.

In smaller countries, or independentcies, where the civilized and luxurious portion of the population is comparatively small, the sale of stamps is limited, that is, stamps canceled at the Post Office, (and not purchased in an unused state, simply for collections). In comparison, the stamps should certainly be more difficult to procure in

canceled condition, provided the stamp is priced below face value in the catalogue.

Before continuing, I desire it to be understood, that this article is written in behalf of the canceled stamp only. My opinion is that the current stamps of the United States are priced entirely too high. This may seem a rather hasty conclusion to adopt, but an extensive and careful study of this subject will, in all probability, instantly cause the investigator to approach the same termination, which he formally regarded as presumable.

To illustrate my version and to prove my assertion, consult the catalogue price of the one dollar (black) stamp, current issue, United States, for instance. We discover it is figured to be worth sixty cents; now concentrate your attention on the pages of Cape of Good Hope, look carefully until you note the five shillings orange, watermarked anchor. You are well aware the face value is just about \$1.25, but—the stamp is priced at the insignificant figure of twenty-five cents; hardly too good to be true. Peruse further, note the price annexed to the five shillings of the 1896 issue,—a paltry twelve cents, an incontestable discrepancy.

Such instances as these are innumerable, and the mention of a few noteworthy discrepancies, will be sufficient to thoroughly explain the conclusiveness of my object.

To proceed, with a few more comparisons: Great Britain, one pound green, which catalogues at \$1.25. Can a United States stamp that has a face value equivalent to five dollars, be pointed out that *was* or *is* catalogued as low?

Observe the prices quoted for the five shillings and ten shillings stamps of the 1884 issue,—ten and twenty-five cents respectively. Can you discover any United States postage stamps, of any

issue of such equivalence that catalogues *thrice these prices?*

Still another surprise. Behold! the prices conceded to be just, attached to the Commemorative issue of the stamps of New South Wales. Don't fail to carefully scrutinize the prices of the 1 shilling brown, brown violet, light brown, cocoa brown, or any other shade considered correct or proper to suit the most fastidious. The catalogue quotation on this stamp is not a penny more than three cents. Is it possible that this stamp is really so common as to be valued at this inconceivable figure? Why, our current fifteen cent stamps are priced at the same figure (three cents) but the face value is forty per cent. less—almost half. Again, direct your gaze upon the pages of New South Wales; the five shillings denomination; color violet; and a very handsome stamp, (an acquaintance nicknames it the geographical stamp) particularly the well selected design. It is well understood, that when the issuance of any stamp is declared obsolete, or in other words, the discontinuance of a stamp for postal duties; the market value of such stamps is expected to increase; the supply is permanently stopped and the demand is incessantly growing larger.

In my opinion, the five shillings stamp is priced entirely too low, for two reasons. The first: no United States stamp, of any issue or denomination can equally be compared to this stamp, the catalogue valuation being only fifty cents; and my second reason is that the stamp is *obsolete*, and has been so for over a year.

To continue in this phase grows a bit monotonous, therefore I will desist with a few words of explanation.

I could fill innumerable pages of such discrepancies and comparisons, but what has been cited, I believe will serve as a fitting illustration.

If the prices on United States stamps

were to act as a standard of judging, or in other words, a criterion, then it is needless to state that many other stamps are decidedly under-priced.

In writing this article, the author wishes it to be clearly understood that no attempt is made to establish the market value of any stamp. His only object was to point out certain discrepancies, which came under his observation, after a careful and informal inquiry into the matter, preceded by undisputed arguments.

It is essential that the prices of current canceled stamps, should be undeviating the world over; taking under consideration, the approximate amount of mail transactions carried on; the number of stamps of each denomination issued, and the total business population—if same is procurable.

The United States stamps should certainly be more common than the stamps of any one other country, if we can rely upon Post Office yearly reports, but according to my comparisons, they are certainly overestimated or the few foreign stamps noted are decidedly under-rated, and there are many such instances which the lack of space prevents mention of.

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### It's in the "Weekly."

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THE SEVERE sentence imposed on Wolle, the stamp fraud, should be a warning to all characters inclining to like pursuits.

We were offered a full report of the trial, but learning that *Mekeel's Weekly* would publish a stenographic report of the proceedings, and knowing that every collector reads the *Weekly* we decided to decline the offer.

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THERE'S a live magazine in Canada—*The Montreal Philatelist*. It and this for only 30c. Want them?



## Exchanging Stamps.

BY THE EDITOR.

**F**REQUENTLY, in glancing over philatelic publications, we read advertisements of collectors who desire exchange on the basis of Scott, Senf, or Stanley Gibbons. It appears to be the most simple and practicable mode of securing from foreign collectors stamps of their countries in exchange for our duplicates. In many cases it has been the means of adding good and rare stamps to our collections without actual expenditure of cash, save the postage fees.

The practice is a good one, I dare say, and from my own experience, covering a period of many years, I can heartily commend it.

But, as all other things of like nature, foreign exchange has its *pros* and *cons*—its glad surprises, and its sad disappointments.

Disappointments, though, have been rare occurrences in my experience, and I have found my foreign correspondents, almost to a man, gentlemen, and their transactions not alone marked by honesty but by great courtesy, liberality and generosity.

But it is of the disappointments I would write—how they occur, and how they may be avoided.

We are disappointed in receiving a selection of common, poorly centered, torn, or heavily canceled stamps in exchange for a clean, good selection we sent, from which, we are laconically informed, so-and-so much has been retained.

The best policy would be to “grin and bear it,” and make a mental note of it.

Frequently one is tempted to resort to a “scorching letter”. Don’t do that. While the U. P. U. unconsciously con-

veys your irate effusion at the rate of five cents per gush—there’s no satisfaction in it to you. Far better hie thyself to some secluded niche and—kick thyself severely—thrice. *Caramba!*

But there’s a way of providing against these disappointments, which, perhaps, *you* sometimes bring to others.

Exchanging is not buying, and wherever there is a risk, a certain degree of faith and confidence is a prerequisite.

First, exchange want lists and state what you have to offer. *Do not misrepresent your stamps*—the party at the “other end” may be just as well—if not better—versed in stamp lore than you are. Provide, that, unless stamps are as represented, no deal.

If everything appears satisfactory to you, send on your stamps. *Register them*; and it will not accrue to your loss if you include one or two “complimentary stamps”. List your stamps according to the catalogue agreed upon, and state that fact at the top of your sheet.

If your first transaction has been satisfactory, repeat it; send better class stamps; always try to do your best—to show your confidence. In nearly every case you will touch a responsive chord. Real stamp collectors are gentlemen—remember that.

Oblige your correspondent in every way you can. If he wants the current issue of your country, unused, and sends the cash, or its equivalent, in payment, secure them for him, well centered, good specimens; and do not charge him “10% over face”—it looks so “small”—don’t do that. You may wish the same favor in return some day.

These are the rules that should govern you—with these rules I have but in one instance met with disappointment.

C. E. HUSSMAN has removed to Rooms 420 and 421 Fullerton Building, 7th and Pine Streets, St. Louis, Mo.



## New York Correspondence.

LENNOD.

STAMP affairs were rather quiet the few weeks preceding Christmas, the call being for albums, catalogues, packets, *et cetera*. New issues sell rapidly, preference being given to British Colonials in the unused condition. The flood of new stamps from our northerly neighbor is getting rather monotonous. The latest, the tricolored "Map" stamp, is a failure, from an artistic point. In my opinion I would consider it more proper to have the "water" in black or just plain white and the "alien" countries in light blue. From a casual glance, one would think the blue color designates the land. According to the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, "we have further information that the colors of this stamp are to be changed, and that it will be printed hereafter in black, red and green. We are also informed of an error in the map which will necessitate new plates."

The supplement to the 53th edition of the Standard Catalogue appeared the latter part of November, at ten cents a copy. Some one is coining money. One peculiar discrepancy I note, is that *all* the speculative emissions are included under regular issues, and some are priced. This is a severe blow to the S. S. S. S.

In addition to the two new sizes of perforations on 2½ pence New South Wales stamps, credited to me in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, I have discovered the following, in over two hundred copies, viz: 12x11½, 12x11, 11½x12. Previously noted 12x12, 11½x11 in December 10th *M. P.* These remarks apply to

dark purple colored variety; the stamp appears now in deep blue, and it is rumored that a permanent issue will appear shortly, the present being sort of a Jubilee issue.

The article on the stamps of Japan commenced in the December number of the *VIRGINIA PHILATELIST* is both timely and interesting. At the present moment, the market is so flooded with numerous forgeries and *facsimiles* of Japanese stamps, that an exhaustive treatise dealing with this subject is a long felt want, and will act as a godsend to many discouraged collectors.

While conversing with a fellow collector, our conversation drifted toward the clever idea of issuing colored maps with the albums. He (like myself), not possessing one of the new-fangled affairs, and not having any intention of transferring his collection to such an album, suggested that the publishers of the standard catalogue could do nothing better than issue a set of colored maps, in reduced size with the 59th edition. The additional cost (if there was any) he considered would be cheerfully paid, (say; about ten cents), and the inconvenience abated and the standing and permanent information gained, would be suitable compensation for the small outlay. I heartily endorse these views *in toto*.

Large Insurance and Trust Companies find much cause for complaint at the absence of revenue stamps of higher denominations than fifty dollars. A few weeks ago a corporation filed a mortgage, the tax on which required five thousand dollars. It became necessary to affix one hundred fifty-dollar stamps. Such instances are rare, but nevertheless Uncle Sam, or the proper authorities, should always be able to take care of such emergencies, and not compel our staid business men of religious inclinations, to become blasphemers temporarily, to the delight of the office boy, and permanent



insanity of the "lady typewriterist."

At a sale, held recently in London, England, the following are some of the prices obtained: Spain.—Madrid, 1852, two reales, orange, \$100.00 (\$200.00); 1852, two reales, red, about \$55.00 (\$125); 1853, two reales, scarlet, about \$45.00 (\$70.00); Lagos, 10 shilling, brown violet, in mint state, about \$55.00 (\$100.00); Newfoundland, 6½ pence, scarlet vermilion, no gum, about \$57.00 (\$80.00); Nevis, six pence, green \$25.00 (\$55.00); and a two pence brown on red of the first issue of Western Australia realized about \$27.00 (\$50.00). Figures in parentheses were added by yours truly and designate 58th catalogue quotations. All stamps were unused.

Philatelic exhibitions are little thought of in this country, but in Europe such exhibitions are held yearly in the larger cities. The Manchester (England) Philatelic Society will hold an International Philatelic Exhibition next July; also preparations are almost completed for the largest philatelic exhibition ever contemplated. The latter will be held in Paris while the "World's Fair" is in progress. The date selected for the grand opening is August, 1900—twenty months hence.

"St. Vincent Crown Agents intend to discontinue the issuance of all stamps of the present type and adopt the De la Rue design," is a phrase I've heard at least—well, never mind how many times, enough to satisfy the most hungry passion for sensational "news." I've become so hardened that little things of such a nature, are casually perused, but when I noted that the news came direct from St. Vincent, I was quick to take the hint to fill up my unused, which I did, at about 25% over face. Another colony that has had to bear the brunt of much speculation as to the supposed changes of its stamps, is Turk's Islands. The rumored change, which was universally

accepted as authentic about three years ago, caused a general scramble for these stamps, but the change never came, although the stamps that appeared later on, were called by many as re-issues, (as it seems that some change was contemplated); the colors were a darker shade, poor ink being used; the gum is of the "cracknel" sort; careless handling is apt to destroy the stamp for collection purposes. The one shilling value is catalogued and priced in 58th catalogue. As I say, some change was certainly meditated as the four pence lilac and blue and the five pence green and carmine of 1894 95 issue, De la Rue design would indicate. Why the other values were never brought out in this type I am unable to comprehend. The five pence denomination was understood to dispose of the six pence, therefore the speculation in this stamp. Dealers procured large stocks and the late Heary Gremmel held one of the largest in the world, but since the information has been obtained, that no other changes were to be made, dealers were eager to unload. Many of the stamps were on the market up to a year ago, but since the Scott Co. has catalogued the one shilling in two shades, dealers have curtailed their selling prices, or refuse to sell the six pence, or any of the other re-issued stamps, until it has been decided what the catalogue makers intend to do with these shades. At the present moment it is rumored that this colony intends to reduce the sea-going rate of postage to two pence; it will then become necessary to issue a stamp of that denomination. It may possibly strike the fancy of the Crown Agents, to adopt the change that was contemplated several years ago, and issue the entire set in the same design as the 4 and 5 pence.

It would be exceedingly improper to close my letter without wishing my readers a Happy New Year.

### Canadian Notes.

BY R. G. WIDDICOMBE.

ON ACCOUNT of the regular correspondent of this paper having removed to Virginia, the publishers have requested me to act as Canadian contributor. I will endeavor to keep the readers of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST posted on matters philatelic in Canada.

The new "Penny Postage" rate went into effect on Christmas Day. The first letters sent to England bearing the new stamp were from the Governor General to Her Majesty the Queen, and from the Postmaster-General of Canada to the Postmaster-General of England. In like manner the first letter from England posted on Christmas was from the Queen of England to the Governor-General and the administrators of all colonies who are in the ocean postage scheme. Of course, all such letters are in ordinary cases franked and free, but the paying by stamp was adopted for these particular letters in order to commemorate the inauguration of "Penny Postage" on both sides of the Atlantic. All these commemoration letters were posted at midnight on the 24th.

The following is an official list of the places, other than Great Britain, to which letters can be sent for two cents on and after Christmas Day:—Aden, Bahamas, British Central Africa, British East Africa, British India, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Natal, Newfoundland, Niger Coast Protectorate, St. Helena, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, Trinidad, Tobago, Turk's Islands, Uganda, and Windward Islands. But the Canadian farmer, who very seldom, if ever has occasion to send a letter to these far-off lands, when he

wants to communicate with any one in a near-by town, must pay three cents. What sense is there in such a discrimination against Canadians? Why should we pay two cents for a long distance, and three cents for a short one?

Mr. R. S. Mason, one of Hamilton's well-known "stamp fiends" has opened up a stamp office down town, and with the large number of collectors that Hamilton has, should do a good business.

It is rumored that a number of Toronto capitalists of philatelic persuasion may publish a stampic monthly *a la* VIRGINIA PHILATELIST. If it reaches that level, it won't be far from the line of perfection.

The last of the "maple leaf" issues—the 10 cent value—has now given way to the "numeral" issue. It is a rather difficult matter to tell when the higher denominations will appear, as there seems to be a considerable supply of the old stamps on hand.

Plate Number 3 of the 1 cent green "numeral" issue has just made its appearance.

The post-offices in many Canadian cities still have the 20 and 50 cent jubilees on sale.

*The Allegheny Philatelist* says:—"Canada is said to harbor one, an artistic genius, who, by a chemical process, converts the color of the 2 cent Navy Department from blue to green, thus making a counterfeit of the rare error." Now, I'm looking for news. Who is he? Why not bring him before the postal authorities, that he may be, if the above item be true, compelled to cease his nefarious practices. Canadian justice is, as a rule, speedy and sure.

*The Philatelic Messenger* is making a brave attempt to catch up with Father Time, but as yet Mr. Knight has not proved himself equal to the occasion.



### Our Australian Letter.

SYDNEY, N. S. W., AUSTRALIA.  
AUG. DIETZ, *Richmond Va.*

MY DEAR MR. DIETZ :

The mail last night brought your *wonderful* anniversary number for September last, and I hasten to write and thank you for it and to express my admiration for everything in it. The "get up" is admirable, the reading matter and illustrations are excellent, the paper, the printing, even the very advertisements *stamp* it as being a *chef-d'œuvre*. Pray accept my heartiest congratulations and compliments.

The Sydney Philatelic Club held a quarterly meeting about the middle of last month, the president, Surgeon Colonel Williams, being in the chair, when Mr. Himmelhoch exhibited some plates of New South Wales laureates and Mr. Montgomerie Hamilton showed some old Victoria registration rarities. Mr. A. F. Basset-Hull, the oldest and best of Australian philatelists, has invented a movable frame for exhibiting stamps at meetings and the club were delighted with its ingenuity.

I suppose you have seen all the varieties of the New Zealand new issue and have admired them. The views are really very good and the aspect of much of New Zealand life and scenery is faithfully depicted. At the same time when these stamps, and many others of like character from other countries, are compared with some of the earlier examples of philatelic work the result is disappointing.

When dealing with this subject, some time back, a master of our craft wrote : "How grandly those dignified steel engravings held their graceful positions in our album, and oh ! how pitifully cheap the surface prints looked beneath them ! When will another Humphrey create again such masterpieces as the St. Vin-

cents, the square New South Wales, the first Queensland and all those other classically simple and eminently beautiful British Colonials ?"

I have seen copies of the 4d yellow and 2½d red of Queensland altered so that the figures 4d and 2½d appear in all four corners. The stamps are also in "Cameo," so far as the Queen's head is concerned. I don't think much of them.

Of course Australian philatelists look forward to the consummation of Australian Federation as an opportunity, unique in the world's history, for the purpose of issuing a new set of postage stamps. For, unlike Canada, we shall start perfectly formed into a nation. There will be no Newfoundland to disturb the rounded *contours* of the perfect Australian Commonwealth. Let us hope that some real effort will be made to put forth a truly characteristic set of postage stamps, engraved designs of the people's history and aspirations !

### Canadian Comment.

Two weeklies for a country the size of Canada is doing very well, too well to last, in fact.

Since the introduction of the cheap postal notes in Canada one of the great disadvantages of the mail order business has been swept away. There is a law in the Dominion making it a criminal offense to buy stamps from anyone but a legally authorized stamp vendor, and such licenses are very hard to obtain. So that people doing a mail order business ran a certain risk in disposing of surplus stamps. This will now be done away with as nine-tenths of the people will use the new postal notes.

The design of the new stamp for the Imperial Penny Postage is to our mind, a far better one than any in use during the past few years.

I. L. P.

**Boston Bits.**

— — —  
 BY BOSTONIAN.  
 — — —

I dislike to disappoint anyone, much less the readers of the VIRGINIA PHILATELIST; but this month I am afraid I shall have to, for the marked copy of B. L. Drew & Co's auction catalogue, containing the prices realized at their sale of November 30th has been mislaid and is utterly *lost*. I can assure you, one and all, that this is as much of a disappointment to me as it is to you, and if it does not lead me to take my life, it will be because I am watched. If I was blessed with the memory of some philatelists, (who have the whole of Scott's catalogue down by heart) I should not mind it so much, but, as it is, I can only recall the fact that the collection offered, which appeared to be the centre of interest, and which catalogued somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1,400, was finally knocked down at \$316.00. On an average the Columbian Republic stamps offered, of which there was a fine lot, brought about 40% of catalogue, one of which went for 20c over catalogue quotation. It brought \$3.20 and was listed at \$3.00. The wholesale lots of revenues, (U. S.) brought from 25 to 30% of catalogue and on the whole I should think that the sale was a "howling success."

Among the new issues to appear this month at the Hub, was the new, 6d, 2sh 6d and 10sh Niger Coast. They are very attractive stamps, especially the latter, which is printed in a bright purple color, and a handsomer stamp has not shown up in some time. Other new issues, are the 10c Canadian, with numerals in lower corners; 2c Imperial Postage stamps, printed in three colors and very handsome, and three values of the new issue from British South Africa, being the 1d carmine, 6d mauve, and 1sh in light olive brown.

Scott's new supplementary catalogue, is on deck, listing all new issues up to October 15, 1898. It is being eagerly sought for, and a large sale is assured. Robie's much-talked-of and advertised "Stamp Hunting," has also been received, and is meeting with approval on all sides.

The rush for the new revenues, has somewhat abated, presumably on account of the large quantities which are being used. There is still a good demand for the three high values of Omahas used, the other values are to be had in large quantities.

The new International postage stamp album for 1899, seems to be a decided improvement over all former editions, as large sales, which it is already having, would indicate. All the new U. S. revenues for 1898 are included in this volume, and another improvement is the blank pages left for Afghanistan and the native Indian States, for who cares to see page after page of blank pages, as one turns the leaves of his or her album?

**English Items.**

— — —  
 BY W. F. TREGO.  
 — — —

ON DECEMBER 1st a Parcel Post service to the Territories of the Royal Niger Company, commonly known as Nigeria, came into operation.

The Governments of France and Great Britain have concluded an agreement, by which parcels can be delivered at the addresses of receivers in either country duty paid, provided that sufficient funds have been deposited by the senders.

Arrangements have been made by the Canadian Government by which stamps of the Dominion, values from half to fifty cents; can be obtained at the Office of the High Commissioner, 17 Victoria St., London, S. W.

According to the *Daily Mail* the Post



Office officials have decided not to issue any souvenir of the institution of "Imperial Penny Postage," as it would serve no useful purpose, and the distribution of the stamps to the various post-offices would involve an enormous amount of extra work.—[Thank gracious!—E.D.]

Sir J. Henniker Heaton, M. P., to whom we are indebted for this scheme, has reason to believe that the Australian colonies will join, he having received an official statement from the Postmaster-General of Queensland to the effect that this colony will do so.

A Philatelic Exhibition, to which H. R. H. the Duke of York has given his patronage, will be held at Manchester next year. It will be opened on June 29th, and will remain open for a week. I shall be able to give further particulars next month.

Railway letter-fee stamps are attracting considerable attention amongst collectors at present. Although they only came into use in 1891 several varieties are almost unobtainable, the railways which issued them having been amalgamated with other larger companies.

January 10th is the 59th anniversary of the introduction of penny postage.

A pair of Mauritius 1d red, on original wrapper, which were discovered in a Bombay office, are being offered for sale at the price of £2000.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. wish to draw the attention of collectors of French stamps to a dangerous forgery of the 1 franc, orange, (Second Republic) which is being placed on the market. The color has been very successfully imitated, but the paper is thicker and coarser than that of the original, and is more gray in tone.

A copy of the 1d "Govt. Parcels" with the surcharge inverted has been discovered.

Try an ad in February!

## VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

MAJ. JNO. F. MAYER, President.  
DR. MARK W. PEYSER, Vice President.  
WM. S. AHERN, 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., Dec. 10, 1898.

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

The sixteenth meeting of the Association occurred on Saturday and this, together with the absence from town of several members, was responsible for the attendance, which was not large. Dr. M. W. Peyser presided and Mr. R. J. Redford acted as secretary. Messrs. Emil Gerlich and Robert Kessler were unanimously elected to membership. Application for membership: Geo. C. Hartung, Chicago, Ill. Age 21, Occupation Clerk and Florist, Specialties U. S. and B. C. References, Richard Halm, Chicago, Franklin Stearns, Virginia. Mr. Dietz gave some interesting points, and there was a general and animated discussion as to the best means of entertaining our convention of '99. The evening's business being concluded the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

R. J. REDFORD, Sec. *pro tem*.

*The American Journal of Philately* chronicles the following U. S. in the new colors:

10c light brown.

15c olive green.

Watermarked U. S. P. S., perforated 12.

YOU cannot afford to overlook the bargains in Mekeel's page ad.

# Southern Philatelic Association.

H. FENTON, President.  
 AUG. DIETZ, Vice-President.  
 W. C. LOWRY, Sec'y-Treas., Abilene, Texas.  
 CHARLES WARING, Sales Superintendent.  
 D. E. HAZEN, International Secretary.  
 CHARLES P. GALYON, Librarian.  
 F. NOVES, Counterfeit Detector.  
 EMIL GERLICH, ROBERT KESSLER, Board of Trustees.  
 THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, Official Organ.

## Secretary's Report.

### NEW MEMBERS.

126 S. P. Lev, P. O. Box 65, Harriman, Tenn.  
 127 Benj. Cohen, 164 E. 109th-st., New York City.  
 128 Hezekiah Weed, 38 Summer-st, Stamford, Conn.  
 129 F. G. Blandeth, Yuma, Ariz.  
 130 Walter Rummell, San Antonio, Texas.  
 131 L. P. Head, Hickman, Ky.  
 132 W. Melrose, Richfield, N. J.

### APPLICATIONS.

Bruce, W. H., Hartford, Conn. Age 38, Notary Public. Refs., Chas. Waring, Edw. Cook, Walter C. Lowry.  
 Du Bose, Chas. N., 701 N. 5th-st., Waco, Texas. Age 14, Office boy. Refs., M. B. Davis, Jr., Richard S. Rodgers, Roy B. Bradley.  
 Howard, J. P., care Christie Browne & Co., Toronto, Ont. Can. Age 16, Clerk. Refs., H. Fenton, Wm. Myers, W. C. Lowry.  
 Bach, Rudolph C., 451 Sanguinet-st., Montreal, Canada. Age 20, Stamp Dealer and publisher Montreal Philatelist. Refs., F. Stearns, Aug. Dietz, W. C. Lowry.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

J. H. Conley from Lakeland to Tampa, Fla.  
 Lewis Horner from Madisonville to Montgomery, Texas.  
 W. Russell Brown from Port Arthur, Ont., to Box 198, Winnipeg, Manitoba.  
 CORRECTION IN ADDRESS.  
 John H. Mueller, 212 E. 33rd-st., Chicago, Ill.

### FINANCES.

Balance.....\$7.69  
 Received from members..... .85

Balance.....\$ 8.54

Respectfully,

WALTER C. LOWRY, Sec-Treas.

## Librarian's Report.

I wish to submit the following report:

In cataloguing and arranging a library I find it rather a hard task and one that consumes a great deal of time. Up to the present I have arranged papers which were donated by Fenton, Boyd, Waring and myself and a portion of the old K. P. S. library, from which I have gotten the following complete volumes and files.

American Collector II	Mekeel's Weekly V, VI,
Amer. Phil. Magazie III	VII, VIII, IX, X, XI
Bay State Philatelist I	N. Y. Philatelist I, II
Can. Phil. Magazine III	Omaha Phil I, II, III, IV, V
Columbian Philatelist	Post Office VII, VIII
I, II, III, IV, V	Phil Californian I, III
Evergreen State Phil.	" Era VIII, IX
III, VI, VII, VIII	" Facts I
Eastern Philatelist XIV,	" Puck I
XV, XVI, XVII, XIX, XX	" Advocate I, II, III
Filatelie Facts and Fal-	" Messenger II
lacies V	" Literature I
Home Worker (old se-	Penn. Phil. VI, VIII
ries) I	Recreation Echo I, II
Home Worker (new se-	Rocky Mount'n Stamp I
ries) III, IV, V	Stamp, The (N.Y.) II, III
Herald Exchange I, II, III	Southern Phil V, VI
International Phil IV-VI	Spy Glass I
" Stamp I, II	Stampman I, II
Kentucky Philatelist I	Trans-Miss. Stamp I
Tennessee Philatelist I	

It is my intention to give an installment of complete volumes in each succeeding issue of the official organ until the whole library is catalogued. Also, I shall give a partial want list in next issue.

Have recently received donations from H. Fenton, Chas. Waring and R. S. Nelson. I have received a box of papers from Miss Steele of New Orleans, a portion of the S. P. A. library, most of which were in bad condition, which I will attend to later on.

I think there is some mistake on the part of the Board of Trustees claiming that I had the papers which Miss Steele shipped me in my possession *seven weeks before* reporting same to them. I do not know the exact date they were shipped me, but it was three or four



weeks after I was notified of their shipment before I received them, and after I did receive them I did not open them for some four or five days after which I notified the Board of Trustees.

I hope all the members will do what they can towards assisting me in making our library a good one.

Yours for the good of the S. P. A.

CHAS. P. GALYON, Librarian.

### SALES DEPARTMENT.

SOUTHERN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

Chas. Waring, Supt. of Sales,

Box 292, KNOXVILLE, TENN.

### Report of Sales Supt., S. P. A.

33 books on hand at last report, Oct. 18.....	\$483.40
24 books received since last report.....	253.07
15 books returned, value (from which have sold \$49.18).....	199.44
42 books now in circulation, value.....	537.03
Insurance fund.....	26.13

Members who have duplicates of U. S. and Revenues and Spanish Colonies will do well to send them in now. I cannot supply the demand for this grade. Unused British Cols. of recent date are also in demand and of these there are many new issues. Yours truly,

CHARLES WARING.

### Two Pretty Publications.

"THE Nebraska Philatelic Blue Book" (Wm. B. Hopson, publisher, Omaha.—Price 10c) is a neat, well-printed directory of over 1100 Nebraska collectors. It should be in the hands of every dealer and publisher.

"BURTON'S Auction Catalogue" (Judson N. Burton, Madison, N. Y.—gratis.) comes to us in a holiday dress, and contains, besides a good list of stamps, a frontispiece with a half-tone of Mr. Burton and his compliments of the season.

### Is the O'Connell an Essay?

SOME discussion has been going on in transatlantic contemporaries as to whether the famous O'Connell stamp of New Brunswick can correctly be called a real postage stamp, or only an essay. The history of this stamp can be briefly repeated. In 1831 the Hon. Charles Connell (or O'Connell?) was made Postmaster General of New Brunswick. Acting in his official capacity he ordered a supply of stamps from the American Bank Note Company, from designs which he himself prepared. The 1c with a steam engine, his own portrait on the 3c, that of the Queen on the 10c, and a steamboat on the 12½c, and the Prince's portrait on the 17c. About the time of the arrival of these stamps from the Bank Note Company, Mr. O'Connell gave a banquet, and in the course of the evening each of the 200 guests was presented with a copy of the 5c bearing their host's portrait. Some of these were used next day, and duly passed through the mails. However a political opponent set to work to make the appearance of this sign of the Postmaster General's self-esteem the occasion for a disturbance. A mass meeting was called, and O'Connell was requested to resign. Upon his resignation the obnoxious stamp was destroyed.

We fail to understand why there can be two opinions on the matter, for if the stamp did duty for postage, and was authorized by he who was the proper authority at the time, it must have been a legal issue. A writer in the *International Philatelist* says, "I have thoroughly investigated the subject and have arrived at the decision that not a single specimen was ever used for postage," but we think he is wrong. Used copies that could be well authenticated have been heard of and are to be found in many old collections.—*Stamps*.



THE stamp market is exceedingly active. The season is in full blast. Prices realized are above the average. Withal this healthful state argues well for the condition of philately in our country.

The following extracts from a recent auction sale of Messrs. Bogert & Durbin Co., will interest our readers.

UNITED STATES.—Providence 5c, unused, \$3.20; 1847 10c, nice copy, \$2.50; 1847 5, 10c, \$1.60; 1847 10c, used on original cover, \$1.60; 1851 3c, unused, o. g., 70c; 1851 10c, unused, o. g., very scarce, \$5.00; 1851 10c, an unused o. g. pair, very fine, rare, \$18.00; 1851 1, 2c (2), 10, 12c, 1857 10c (new), Eagle and Franklin Carriers, \$1.70; 1851 1, 3, 10, 12c, a strip of three, 10c (fine), Eagle and Franklin Carriers, \$2.20; 1857 1c, reprint of 1875, unused, fine, \$2.00; 1857 3c, outer line, unused, o. g., off center, but fine example of the outer line, \$3.00; 1857 5c, no projections, unused, no perfs. at left, fine color, \$2.00; 1857 5c, no projections, one slightly damaged, \$1.10; 1857 5c, with and without projections, former slightly damaged, \$1.50; 1860 24c gray-lilac, unused, o. g., \$3.50; 1860 24c, fine used copy, red cancellation, \$1.80; 1860 24c, fine used copy, blue cancellation, \$1.90; 1860 30c, unused, o. g., slightly off center, \$3.00; 1860 30c, pen canceled, slightly damaged, \$2.10; 1860 90c, unused, o. g., fine, \$18.00; 1857-60 1c (2), 3c (2), 5, 10, 12, 24c (damaged), \$1.00; 1861 3c pink, used on original cover, \$2.50; 1861 5c yellow, no perfs. at top or bottom, used with a 10c on piece of original cover, very desirable, \$4.25; 1861 5c chocolate, unused, o. g., off center, \$4.80; 1861 1c (3), 2c (2), 3c (4), 10c (2), all unused, some o. g., 80c; 1868, 9x13, 1c (poor), 2c, 3c

(2), 10, 12, 15, 90c (badly off center), \$2.10; 1861 1c (2), 2c (2), 3c (4), 5c (2 shades), 10, 12, 15, 24c (2 shades), 30c, desirable lot, \$2.00; 1869 12c, unused, o. g., nice copy, \$2.60; 1869 24c, off center, but fine color, \$2.70; 1869 30c, bright color, \$1.50; 1869 30c, good copy, \$1.50; 1869 30c, very lightly canceled, \$2.00; 1869 90c, desirable copy, \$9.25; 1869 90c, rather heavily canceled, \$7.50; 1869 1, 2c (2), 3c (2), 6, 10, 12, 15c, \$1.50; 1869 1, 2c (2), 3c (2), 6, 10c (2, 1 dam.), 12, 15c, \$1.50; 1869 1, 2c (3), 3c (3), 6c (poor), 10, 12, 15c (2), \$1.50; 1869 1c, reissue 1880, o. g., \$1.10; 1869 2c, reissue, o. g., nice copy, \$3.00; 1869 2c, well centered, \$1.20; 1869 3c, reissue, fine color, slightly canceled; 1869 6c, reissue, off center, \$3.80; 1869 10c, reissue, fine color, \$4.90; 1869 12c, reissue, nice copy, \$3.90; 1869 reissue 15c, beautiful copy, \$5.00; 1869, reissue 24c, splendid copy, \$5.00; 1869, reissue 30c, magnificent copy, \$9.00; 1869, reissue 90c, fine color, \$12.50; 1870 1c, unused, badly off center, grill, 10c; 1870 6c, off center, scarce, grill, \$1.00; 1890 12c, unused, o. g., not good color, but scarce, \$1.90; 1870 7, 12, 30, 90c, 1888 90c, \$1.20; 1890 7, 12, 30, 90c, 1888 90c, \$1.20; 1870, another similar lot, \$1.30; 1870 24c, unused, o. g., wide margin at left, \$4.00; 1870 24c, 50c; 1870 24c, fine copy, 90c; 1870 24c, 60c; 1893 \$1, fine copy, \$1.70; 1870-93, including 24c, (67) some duplicates, 60c; Unpaid brown, claret and 1894 complete except 5c, \$1.60; Periodicals, 1875 24c, off center, 50c; Agriculture, 1873 1c, o. g., fine, \$2.00; Agriculture, 1873 2, 3, 6c, all o. g., \$1.00; Agriculture, 1873 2, 3, 6, 15c, all o. g., fine, \$3.00; Agriculture, 1873 10c, unused, o. g., one perf. has a minute ink spot, \$3.00; Agriculture, 12c, unused, o. g., well centered, \$6.00; Agriculture, 1873 12c, a fine unused o. g. pair, \$1.60; Agriculture, 1873 12c, nice copy, \$2.50; Agriculture, 1873 24c, unused, o. g., \$3.00.





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 December 24th, 1898.

The following papers were received since our last list :

	VOL.	No.
Alleghany Philatelist, Alleghany, Pa.	3.	6.
Boston Stamp Book, Boston, Mass.	4.	6.
Columbian Philatelist, New Oxford, Pa.	5.	6.
Eastern Philatelist, Boston, Mass.	22.	3.
Evergreen State Phil., Hartland, Wash.	10.	58.
Filatelie Facts & Fallacies, San Francisco,	7.	2.
Weekly Phil. Era, Portland, Me.,	13.	7-8-10-11.
Herald Exchange, New York,	5.	4.
International Philatelist, St. Joseph, Mo.	8.	4.
Metropolitan Magazine, Omaha, Neb.	2.	12.
Lone Star State Philatelist, Waco, Texas,	7.	3.
Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, St. Louis, Missouri,	12.	21-26.
Metropolitan, Philatelist, New York,	10.	11.
New York Philatelist, New York	5.	3.
Perforator, Federalsburg, Md.	2.	9.
Philatelic West, Superior, Nebraska,	8.	1.
Postal Card Reporter, Baltimore, Md.	1.	3.
Post Office, New York,	8.	92.
Stamp Talk, Kansas City, Mo.	1.	1.
Wisconsin Philatelist, De Pere, Wis.	1.	1.
Texan Philatelist, Abeline, Texas.	9.	3.
Janasch Want List of U. S. Rev. Stamps.		
Burton & Burtons 1899 Catalogue of Postage and Rev. Stamps.		
Bogert & Durbins 118 Auction Sale List for January 7, '99.		
Judson N. Burtons 41st Auction Sale List for January 7, '99.		

## FROM CANADA.

The All Around Stamp Advertiser, Montreal, Canada,	2.	7.
Canadian Philatelic Weekly, Toronto, Can.	1.	3.
" " " " Berlin, Ont.	3.	1.
Philatelic Advocate, Berlin, Ont.	5.	5-6
Montreal Philatelist, Montreal, Can.	1.	7.
Philatelic Messenger, Boiestown, N. B.	3.	1.
Stamp Reporter, St. Catharines, Ont.	2.	3.

## FROM ABROAD.

Phil. Chronicle and Ad. Birmingham, Eng.	8.	2.
Stamps, Rushden, England,	2.	11.
H. Hashworth's Price List, Manchester, England,		
Australian Philatelist, Sydney, N. S. W.	5.	3.

Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal, Leipzig, Germany,	25.	21.
Briefmarken-Händler, Charlottenburg, Germany,	3.	6-7.
Revue Postale, Geneva, Switzerland,	1.	10.
Le Timbrophile Gaulois, Movenmontier Fr.	3.	23.
Revista Postal, Buenos Ayres,	1.	4.
Filatelía Romana, Berlad, Roumania,	1.	2.
Melita Phila. Chronicle and Adv. Malta,	1.	11.

In *The Alleghany Philatelist*, Phil A. Telist gives his views about exchanging stamps, and while of course many of the evils urged against stamp exchanges are true, still they do a vast amount of good also. The advice given at the end of the article rather suggests the idea that the writer is a dealer and shows that the various stamp exchanges have proved thorns in the dealers' sides. The notes and editorials are interesting.

In *The Boston Stamp Book* the third and last instalment of Stamps Worth Full Catalogue is given, but in this case it is made up of lists sent to Mr. Wylie by dealers in different parts of the country and as taken from the East, the West and Canada gives the views of people in the different sections.—From the criticisms we see in different papers, we think Mr. Wylie has stirred up quite a hornets nest with his articles.

The list of new issues gives them in a compact form and as it covers a period of three months is a great help as a reference sheet.

*The Eastern Philatelist* presents to us the Model Stamp Dealer. We do not agree with Mr. Kennedy in saying that if there were no stamp dealers collecting would be "haphazard and unsatisfactory." The older collectors remember well the day when there were no dealers and when *stamp collecting* was not *stamp buying*, and I for one can assure Mr. K. that in those days it was not impossible to procure a pretty full collection by merely swapping duplicates

among collectors. As for the enjoyment derived from collecting in that way, I think it was far greater than it is today where nearly every stamp added to one's collection represents so much cash. But the times have changed; we have the dealers with us and so of course one can only wish to have them all "models" just as we wish for all honest collectors. Mr. K's description of what he considers a model dealer is very good until he says "he must be an earnest promoter of the welfare of his local society" and adds that he should not be obtrusive at the meetings, especially with endeavors to sell. Until he discovers this paragon for us a good many stamp societies may with profit copy the by-laws of the Virginia Philatelic Association, excluding dealers from membership.

In *The Philatelic West* the Rev. H. Wendt continues his history of the stamps of Schleswig-Holstein. The author in describing the stamps especially at the end of the present article where he enumerates the stamps issued in 1864 for Holstein, ought, we think, have explained why there were different valuations expressed upon one stamp. If we remember right it was done because of the different coins in circulation in the country at that time. There passed current in both Duchies as well as in the adjacent countries a variety of monies such as the Hamburg and Lübeck schilling with its multiples of 4 and 8 schilling pieces and the rarer 1, 2, and 3 mark pieces. The Prussian Thaler also passed current being equal to 40 schillings and the Danish Rigsbankdaler equal to 96 Danish skillings or 30 schillings courant, a smaller Danish coin viz: the 16 skilling piece equal to 5 schillings courant, being very common. So when these stamps were issued the same value was expressed upon them

which had represented the single rate for prepaid letters under the Danish *regime* viz: 4 skilling Rigs Münze equal to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  schillings courant. The second stamp for Holstein was also to be used in Lauenburg hence the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  schilling Landes Münze which was the official designation of the currency of that Duchy. It looks to us if the author would explain these things it would add very materially to the value of his interesting article.

Mr. Lowe's explanation of the so-called Connell Essay of New Brunswick shows how this stamp came to be printed and how a few copies were postally used. In an unused condition it is represented in at least two collections in Richmond.

*The Philatelic Bulletin* finishes in this number its article on "Cuba Libre." In its "Advice" a list of stamps is given which the "one who knows" says are a good investment; predicting that they never will be priced lower. He names  $\frac{1}{2}$ c orange documentary,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  plum,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  purple, 1c I. R. surcharge in block or small type, 1 and 2c I. R. inverted, \$5.00 Newspaper surcharged Documentary and nearly all the Hawaiian Islands' stamps including the official set. He also considers that any of the South and Central American stamps *postally used* are good things. In the "Notes of Interest" we see the U. S. credited with being the second in the rank of having postal facilities for the public with only Switzerland ahead. The latter has a Postoffice for every 845 inhabitants; the U. S. a close second with one for every 887. Then Germany for every 1376. Great Britain for every 1913 and France for every 4782.

*The Texan Philatelist* comes in a larger shape than usual and promises for its December number 33 pages inside of cover and a circulation of 5000. A good thing for advertisers.



*Filatelie Facts and Fallacies* continues in its present issue Causes and Reasons, which impart in condensed form many things really worth knowing and it is surprising to find how comparatively few collectors know much about the countries whose stamps they collect. We hope that Mr. Ludwig will continue his article through the whole of the catalog.

The numbers of the stamps issued for the former Spanish Colonies of the different values of the 1898 to 1899 set is given as follows:

	Cuba.	Puerto Rico.	Philippines.
1 milésima	1,000,000	800,000	900,000
2 "	800,000	600,000	700,000
3 "	500,000	400,000	400,000
4 "	50,000	30,000	50,000
5 "	1,000,000	400,000	600,000
1 centavo	1,000,000	300,000	500,000
2 "	800,000	400,000	500,000
3 "	7,000,000	3,000,000	4,000,000
4 "	20,000	20,000	20,000
5 "	300,000	200,000	200,000
6 "	1,000,000	400,000	100,000
8 "	150,000	100,000	500,000
10 "	200,000	100,000	100,000
15 "	150,000	100,000	100,000
20 "	200,000	100,000	100,000
40 "	80,000	40,000	60,000
60 "	60,000	30,000	50,000
80 "	40,000	20,000	40,000
1 peso	20,000	10,000	50,000
2 pesos	10,000	5,000	20,000

It will be easy to estimate the comparative philatelic value of the different denominations, and it is quite evident that some of them, especially the 4m and 4c, and a few of the higher ones, will soon become exceedingly scarce; in fact they are so already, provided of course, that the Spanish Government does not print a second and more liberal supply.

With its December number *The American Journal of Philately* completes Vol. XI. The subscription to this leading American philatelic publication is but 50 cents. Every advanced collector should have it.

*The Herald Exchange* tells of the sale of an Austrian Newspaper stamp of the Mercury head variety which sold recently in London for over one thousand dollars. It realized that price because it was on the original newspaper and had, through being packed away, retained its color fresh and beautiful. Not a bad find for the person who discovered it.

*The Lone Star State Philatelist* for October continues the notes taken from the reports of Postmaster-General Reagan to the President of the Confederate States. These notes each collector interested in the issues of the Confederacy should preserve for future reference, for many points that were not clear before, become so when reading these notes.

This issue contains the cut of a stamp of Emory, Va. which the then postmaster Mr. I. C. Fowler says he carved himself and of which several sheets were printed. As far as we know not one of these specimens has been preserved, at least we have not heard of a single one chronicled anywhere and should one turn up it would be a rarity indeed.

We see in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* that there is to be a set of surcharged stamps for use in Cuba and that the current 1c green, 2c red, 5c blue and 10c brown are to be surcharged "Cuba" and the value in cent. de peso.—These stamps are however only to be in temporary use, and for a permanent set, various designs are under consideration by the department.

The new envelope contract also goes into effect on January 1st and hereafter we shall be enabled to purchase stamped envelopes even cheaper than now.

*The New York Philatelist* contains among its advertisements the catalogue of a unique collection of West Indian

stamps and it looks like a pity for a collection as complete as this seems to be, to be broken up and dispersed to the four corners of the earth, for to the collector who accumulates stamps for the pleasure they give him, and not as a money-making scheme, it looks almost like a sacrilege to take one stamp away from what he has treasured up in his collection, much less to break up the whole.

In the *Perforator* Miss Swift has a very interesting article on "Imperial Postage, New and Old," and gives an account of the first *penny* post established in England which however only took in London and was inaugurated in 1630. The pioneer in this line must have been an enterprising man for he established from 400 to 500 receiving offices and boxes in London and made from four to ten deliveries per day in the city and its suburbs. Surely in even our day there are not many more deliveries made than that.

The *Postal Card Reporter* for December gives a thorough description of the Congo Free State and also of its issue of Postal Cards. The balance of the *Reporter* is taken up with advertisements of cards by Mr. Lohmeyer which is of course permissible as the *Postal Card Reporter* is sent free to all who apply for it.

A very neat paper comes to us this month from Kansas City under the name of *Stamp Talk*. It is well gotten up and handsomely printed and we wish it success.

Another new candidate for philatelic success is the *Wisconsin Philatelist* which issued its first number in November. It also is well printed on good paper, a very marked improvement over

first issues of stamp papers a few years ago. We also wish this paper success, and hope that it may increase in size and grow to be one of the supports of our hobby.

The *Texan Philatelist* has on its cover the "What-is-it" climbing the tree on the 15 centimes stamp of the Congo Free State. Its contents include "Notes on Recent Revenues" also an article on "Stamps and Geography" in which the stamps are mentioned which contain pictorial scenes portraying the geography of various countries such as the Isthmus of Panama, the Pyramids of Egypt, and so forth.

It seems to be a very questionable thing for a reputable journal like the *Montreal Philatelist* to admit to its columns an advertisement offering forgeries not even under the threadbare guise of "reprints" but as "imitations" i. e. forgeries pure and simple. To admit such an ad at a time when the whole fraternity tries to get rid of the black sheep in the fold seems to us doubly wrong and the only redeeming feature of the whole thing is, that the editor did not translate the ad but gave it in the tongue in which it was written. The Christmas number did not contain the 60 pages it was advertised to have but came in 32 pages and cover. Philatelic news is rather scarce in this number for while the description of St. Helena is good but to pass over the surcharges of the stamps of a country which for years used only one plate and made her other values by surcharging this plate, with the remark that "surcharges are a nuisance anyway" does hardly show much philatelic ardor or research. The fiscals of the old Native Duchies are described and there is also a piece of fiction in "the Romance of a 2 pence Canada." The paper contains beside its English



text a German page, a French page and a funny page. We might suggest that if more padding is needed there could still be added a Spanish page and a Puzzle page and as the first puzzle we offer the question: Why was the murderer described in the above romance never brought to justice and who heard those beautiful conversations which ended in the murder?

In *The Philatelic Messenger* Mr. McDonnell gives his views on Philatelic Societies, and he is right when he urges collectors to combine and form societies. There are many followers of our hobby who are very retiring and do not let even their friends know that they collect stamps, to such to be enabled to meet kindred spirits and talk stamps is a joy and recreation from which they would be debarred but for the local society. In his "Monthly Chat" the publisher expresses his views about the real and fictitious values of the late Canadian issues and backs up his judgment by offers to either buy or sell at the prices he quotes as a just valuation.

Under the "Postman's Knock" in *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* (Birmingham, England) we find that the new Governor of New Zealand is an ardent philatelist. This being the case we hope he will keep the present issue in use for a long time and even cause a new edition of the 2<sup>d</sup> error, so that there may be enough of them and to spare for all collectors.—The same paper warns against a set of 60 varieties of forgeries which have just been issued in an edition of 5000 sets. Too bad that the different stamps are not enumerated.

WE ARE pleased to note that our esteemed contemporary—*The Philatelic Bulletin* has been granted second-class mailing rates.—Deserved 'em long ago.

*Burton & Burtons 1899 Catalogue of Postage and Revenue Stamps* is a neatly prepared list offering many desirable stamps at very reasonable figures and parties interested would do well to send to Lake Geneva, Michigan, for it.

*Bogert & Durbins 115th Auction Sale Catalogue* contains the offers of 530 lots to be sold on January 7th at their office in New York.

Two *Canadian Philatelic Weeklies* one from Berlin, Ontario, and the other from Toronto, Canada. Which is which? and how are we to distinguish them. Surely names for papers are not so scarce in Canada that two papers have to bear the same. Both however seem to be good, but as weeklies have not the size in which the monthlies appear.

The *Philatelic Advocate* continues to be a very readable paper indeed. It imparts a good deal of philatelic information in its short notes and articles and its advertising columns have always many good things to offer.

*Jannasch Want List of U. S. Revenue Stamps* is a neatly gotten up list of the Revenue stamps issued by the U. S., including the "Remember the Maine" series. It is sold for ten cents by Roy B. Bradley, Waco, Texas, and is fully worth the amount of money asked for it.

In *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, Mr. Cox calls upon someone among collectors or dealers to get up a catalogue of "Errors, Oddities, Minor Varieties and Uncatalogued Varieties." No doubt such a price list would be of great help to many, for there is hardly a stamp collector who has not something in either one of the above named classes and of which he would like to know at least approxi-

mately the value. To speak of only one instance in which at least "Oddities" are enumerated and priced in foreign catalogues are the envelope stamps of different countries cut out and used as adhesives, as for instance those of Russia which are by Senf's catalogue quoted at right respectable figures. Our postal authorities do not permit the use of envelope stamps cut out, still once in a while one will slip through unnoticed, and if falling into the hands of a stamp collector is prized highly. The greater part of the *Stamp* is taken up by an announcement and price list of Williams & Co. of Lima, Peru. This enterprising firm must surely be making barrels of money out of the stamp business to judge from the elaborate advertising they do, not only in all the papers in this country but abroad just as well, and in seeing this the thought will come: Is this another South Sea Bubble that will some day burst and leave nothing behind to tell of its existence. However, at least the various philatelic publishers must feel safe or else they would not insert these large ads so freely. The notes on Prussian stamps by the same parties are interesting reading.

In the *Philatelic Advocate*, Observer tells "How Some Collectors Collect," speaking of those who try to get along without any stamp literature, thinking the small amount spent for two or three good papers a waste of money, and points out how often such collectors lose a great deal more by not being posted on current events in stampdom, besides losing the pleasure derived from reading about things pertaining to our hobby. Pithy Philatelic Points contain "Sayings and Articles of Noted Writers Carefully Condensed" and are well selected.

*The Perforator* and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, both for one year for 30 cents. Newsy and instructive.

*Stamps* is the British Journal which speaks out in no uncertain tones about philatelic frauds, not being afraid to call a spade a spade, and when we read the first article in its September number we wondered what will be *Stamps'* comment when finding out that the person mentioned there has been elected an officer of one of the prominent philatelic societies of the U. S. The thought that came into our mind was the old proverb about setting a certain kind of man to catch one of his kind, but politics in societies are rather queer things. The above is however not the only party placed upon the black-list, but "there are others" unfortunately for the unwary, and *Stamps* deserves great credit in showing them up. The "Helping Hints for the Rising Generation of Philatelists" contains good advice, and if followed, will save the novice from loss and annoyance. In the Revenue Department the catalogue of the revenue stamps of Ceylon is continued.

Both Numbers 5 and 6 of the *Montreal Philatelist* are keeping up to the standard Mr. Bach has set himself for his paper. The latter number contains three cuts of revenue stamps from the South African Republic, Mauritius, and of the Indian State Berar. A good deal of space is devoted in the *M. P.* to Revenues and they certainly deserve much larger recognition than they ordinarily receive. Too many collectors exclude revenues and while of course there is no accounting for taste, still it seems to us that they lose a great deal of pleasure in not, at least, collecting the revenue stamps of their own country. The German page of this number has diminished to two paragraphs, one of which promises German readers eight or ten pages in the Christmas Number.

MEKEEL'S ad of bargains will be found on inside back cover—read it.



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Given Free With Every Packet

1 Japan, 1 Italian, 1 old Indian and 1 rare English Post Cards, all entire and worth 20c. Order quick. Price only 35c, postage 3c extra. I prepay all orders with 1/2c stamps. Canadian collectors will please return the compliment.

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Baden, 9 var.....	27
Bahamas, 3 var.....	07
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British Guiana, 9 var.....	60
"    Honduras, 4 var.....	22
Canada Jubilee, 1/2 to 50 inclusive.....	1 75
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Ceylon, 6 var.....	14
Chili, 14 var.....	22
Cyprus, 5 var.....	16
Grenada, 3 var.....	36
Hong Kong, 14 var.....	1 05
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Dominica, Scott's No. 7, extra fine.....	59
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# MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS

Vol. XIII No. 1

January 5, 1899.

Whole No. 418.



Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News has been published regularly every week since January 1, 1891. It is devoted exclusively to the interest of **Stamp Collectors**, and publishes the best philatelic information obtainable; also keeping its readers well supplied with the stamp news of the day. The paper is of great help to the active collector, and an agreeable companion to anybody who has had the slightest interest in stamp collecting. Latest news from the large cities, including **London, New York, Boston, Chicago and Washington**. Published by **I. A. MEKEEL**. Edited by **C. E. SEVERN** and **S. B. HOPKINS**. Above is an illustration of our New Year's Number, a copy of which will be sent **FREE**, together with one of our regular issues, upon request. Send your name and address on a postal card. Subscription price, **50 cents a year** (less than 1c a copy).

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* Bulgaria 1896, 5s red.....	.02
* Soudan 1898, 1m red.....	.03
* Salvador 1895, 2c red, unpaid.....	.02
* " 1896, 4c brown.....	.02
* Falkland Is. 1892, 1/2p green.....	.02
* Peru 1891, 10c surch.....	.01
* Mexico envelope, 25c blue, cat. \$1.30, surch. Habilitado.....	.50

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* " 1898, 1, 2c, surch. 1, R.....	.05
* " 1898, Prop. Rev. 1/2c 4c, 10 var.....	.19
* " 1898, Doc. Rev. 1/2r 10c, 6 var.....	.20
* Azores, Vasco de Gama, 2 1/2, 5, 10s.....	.08
* Canada 1898, 1/2, 1, 2, 3c, both types, 8 var.....	.04
* Mexico Officially Sealed, large stamps, 2 var.....	.03
" 1890, 1, 2, 5, 10c, all new but 2c.....	.04
Jamaica Official, 1/2, 1, 2p.....	.03

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The best value for the money ever given. Every stamp a picked copy, some unused, and all in perfect condition.

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