

Vol. II. FEBRUARY, 1899. No. 6

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST



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THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

VOL. II.

RICHMOND, VA., FEBRUARY, 1899.

No. 6.

J. H. KNOTTS.

“ONCE a collector—always a collector” is a true maxim, especially when applied to the “old timers,” and particularly adapted to the subject of our sketch this month. Divers reasons may cause a lagging of interest for a time—but only for a time—for “once a collector—always a collector.”

Such an “old timer” it is our pleasure to present in the person of Mr. J. H. Knotts, member No. 33 of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

J. H. Knotts was born in Richmond, Va., August 3, 1865. Attending the public schools of this city, he completed his education in Maryland.

His philatelic career began in 1874, and his first stamp was the small $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Great Britain, which little souvenir, though of no value, is still cherished in his collection.

Slow, indeed, was his progress, until in 1874, an English lady friend, returning to England, sent him a nice collection of several hundred stamps, lending a strong impetus to his ardor, and forming the nucleus of his present fine collection of some 4,500 varieties.

This present consisted chiefly of old British Colonials, which, to-day, would represent a snug little sum if converted into cash.

Mr. Knotts is a general collector, though, like all of us, he has a preference for special countries. In his case these are the United States, Confederate States and South America, excepting “Seebeck countries.”

Among his better foreign stamps are a number of genuine Bergedorf's, *used*. These he secured from our friend Mr. John Paalzow, himself a native of Bergedorf. His Confederate general issues are complete, including nearly every known shade and variety, on and off cover, used and unused. Among these a 10c and a 20c *perforated*, postmarked on original covers.

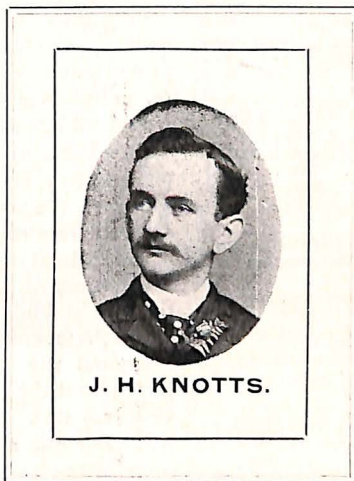
He is now aiming to complete his collection of the issues of Canada and Newfoundland and has some good stamps to exchange for such as his collection yet requires.

Mr. Knotts is engaged in the jobbing grocery line, and doing a flourishing business

at 1111 E. Cary Street.

He is Past Archon in the Heptasophs; officer in the Jr. O. U. A. M.; member of I. O. O. F., and of Good Templars. He served four years in the volunteer cavalry of Virginia as member of the Stuart Horse Guards, Troop “A,” and, the writer remembers, though the chevrons were tendered him, he preferred to serve on as “high private in the rear ranks.”

DIETZ.





OFFICIAL ORGAN
OF THE
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.
AND THE
SOUTHERN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.,
Office, 13 N. Eleventh St.,

AUG. DIETZ, EDITOR.
900 W. Clay St., Station A, Richmond, Va.

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

JOHN PAALZOW, REVIEW EDITOR,
1018 Park Avenue, Richmond, Va.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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

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

We will exchange one or two copies with philatelic publications.

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FOR CHICAGO:

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FOR CANADA:

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FOR NEW YORK:

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

RICHMOND, VA., FEBRUARY, 1899.

A Candid Statement.

WE ARE not given to the practice of devoting the greater portion of space in our publication to the lauding of its virtues as an advertising medium, and hence a few candid statements along this line will not be amiss.

In preparing THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST we have striven, primarily, to publish a *stamp magazine*—one replete with matter the best within our province to secure. We feel sure of our efforts' carrying their own interpretation—ultimately finding their merited reward. We were equally confident of securing the patronage of the dealer as soon as he would see his interest in our columns.

Our earnest endeavors have been signally successful. Without resorting to the "blowing of our own horn" to any great extent, others have kindly done this for us, and quite a liberal share of patronage has fallen to our lot.

And yet, we are inclined to the belief that the sphere of our publication presents a great mart for the reputable dealer who, as yet, has not been represented in our columns—that *the South, especially*, promises a rich harvest to him who would till her philatelic soil.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST is the representative stamp publication of this section. We assert this advisedly.

Aside from the fact that our magazine is the official organ of the two leading associations of the South, our subscription list extends far beyond the confines of the membership of these organizations—beyond the section we represent—throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

Among our advertisers may be found some of the leading dealers of this country, and their continued patronage argues most forcibly for the merits of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

While we invite you to our columns—to a share of the stamp business of the South—we are, at all times, prepared to submit our methods to your closest scrutiny and the virtues of our publication as an advertising medium to your most thorough investigation.

Correspondence and enquires are solicited. Let us hear from you.

Well Said, Mr. Severn.

AMONG the many well-thought and briefly-put points on advertising that Mr. C. E. Severn is giving the readers of *Mekeel's Weekly*, we find the following:

"Mediums that are a success themselves are the ones that can make the advertising that they carry, successful."

We have read articles on advertising of many pages' length that contained less sound, common-sense truth than this short paragraph. Paste it on your desk, friend dealer, and write "C. E. Severn" under it in red ink.

THE *Boston Stamp Book*, one of the best philatelic monthlies in this country has suspended publication. *The Eastern Philatelist* will fill its unexpired sublist, besides retaining many members of its able staff, as well as inaugurate several minor changes for the better.

We are grieved to learn of this event—the world of philately was brighter for the time of its existence and its publisher may look back upon a mission well accomplished.

We are confident the combined talent of both publications can produce in the new union one magazine *par excellence*.

THERE are many, many bargains among the ads of this issue—you cannot afford to overlook a single one. Read every ad—even the $\frac{1}{2}$ inch and inch ads contain something for someone. It's interesting reading—try it.

BEGINNING with our March issue we shall present some views of Richmond, Virginia, the Convention Seat of the Southern Philatelic Association this fall, supplemented by brief descriptions.

We want a large attendance at this great Southern convention and guarantee a warm Southern welcome and hospitality to every S. P. A. member.

Will you not join us and come?

Last of the Omahas.

THE printing of the "Omaha" series of U. S. commemorative stamps has been discontinued. 148 plates are said to have been in use for the series, of which only one plate each was used for the 50c, \$1.00 and \$2.00 values. Some of the plates lately prepared were never used.

THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR of *The New York Philatelist* suggests more flights on Pegasus by philatelic writers.

Oh, let's *please* don't! The times are too prosaic and poetry has become so common since it rhymes (generally that's its only merit), that we have endured mental agonies and gripings of conscience oft and again because, recently, we heartlessly burdened the old, decrepit steed with a McClellan and curb bit and forced him to bear us to those ethereal heights where Walt Whitman was wont to hie himself, to breathe purer air and—as Ingersoll said—take much of the *mud* of this earth up with him.

In lieu thereof let's write *prose*—about stamps—for *stamp* publications.

SPEAKING of philatelic poetry—recently an effusion consisting of sixteen spasms (more or less) was sent us with the price set at \$1.50. (Cheap at half price.)

For the elevation of our readers we give one spasm from memory, taking the liberty of interspersing a few remarks, with apologies to the author:

"I love my stamps"

(All right, son, marry 'em.)

"Not for their beauty"

(What are they—Seebecks and Canadians?)

"But 'cause they've did"

(Did they?—Well, we declare!)

"Some special duty."

(So has a "matrimonial locomotive" we possess.)

In deference to the feelings of our readers we'll desist. But every time we get a thing like that we bite ourselves in three places.

An Error.

UNFORTUNATELY a slight error occurred in the second instalment of "The Postage Stamps of Japan" in our January number.

The last cut on page 101, "A6" (with syllabic character, *should be* "A 2" *the same as on page 100.*

THE EDITOR of *The Philatelic Advocate* tells us he has forty (?) pages more of reading matter which he was unable to get into his big Xmas number.

It would be too bad to discard so much good matter (already in type too), and we expect to find the "forty pages" in the January issue.

WITH its December number *Stamps* of Rushden, R. S. O., England completes Vol. II.

Characterized by a spirit of dash and enterprise that cannot fail to elicit the admiration and approval of every stamp collector, *Stamps*, by daring to venture along new paths heretofore scrupulously avoided by our English contemporaries has inaugurated a new era in British philatelic literature.

We are confident Vol. III will surpass (if that be possible) its predecessors, and be all—and more—than its publisher promises for it.

GEO. J. CARTER has not only gained prominence by his liberal advertising, but chiefly by the fine bargains he offers. Have you ever tried him? Do so now.

THE special attention of authorities on Confederate locals is called to the illustrations and description of the Franklin local envelope, appearing in this number, and their opinions on the subject are invited.

A 3c. Surcharged for Cuba.

LATER advises from Washington announce the surcharging of our current 3c for use in Cuba in addition to the values published last month.

PHILATELY in Kentucky is said to be very active of late, and a State organization has been formed.

Good for "Ole Kaintuck"!—Now come in and join the Southern Philatelic Association, brethren. Retain your individuality as a State organization, but become a *branch* of the representative Association of the South.—Follow "Ole Virginny."

MR. R. G. WIDDICOMBE, our regular Canadian correspondent, contributes an interesting and timely paper on The Future of the Canadian "Maple Leaf" Issue.

HUSSMAN'S ad's are strewn about promiscuously in this number, and each one is a jewel—a bargain.

The New 2c Red Envelope.

WE HAVE been shown a copy of the new U. S. 2c red envelope.

The design of the die is similar to the (now obsolete) 2c green. The most marked differences being a slight protraction of the oval in width; a greater separation of the lines forming the "band"—thus decreasing the space which bears a reduced profile of Washington. Watermarked U S P O D '99—the P O D crossing the U S.

Altogether the effect is pleasing, the work is good, and we predict the 2c red will find favor with the public.

Stamps, England's up-to-date stamp monthly, and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST one year for 2sh. 7d.—or 65c.



Sale of an Envelope Company.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Jan. 13.—The Plimpton-Morgan envelope combination, which has the contract for making the government stamped envelopes for the next four years, has sold out to a new concern—the Hartford Manufacturing Company. The old company must remain in existence until the contract with the government has been carried out, but the plant has been sold to the new company, and is to be occupied by the old company as a tenant.

The new company is capitalized at \$300,000 and does a business of more than \$500,000 a year.

The new company is in the hands of men who are prominently associated with the United States Envelope Company.—*Commercial Advertiser*.

THE post office department is now surcharging postal cards for Cuba, both 1c and 2c ones. They received the cards in sheets uncut and they are being surcharged here in this city by the National Capital Publishing Company.—*Era*.

The Perforator (combined with the *Penny*) and this magazine, one year, for only 30c. A good combination, indeed.

UNCLE Sam printed a few postage stamps during 1898. The total number of all denominations amounted to 3,500,000,000; of this number 2,500,000,000 were of the 2c denomination.—*Era*.

A LETTER to our soldiers in Cuba requires only 2c. postage, while other letters require 5c. per half ounce.

Tasmania Pin Perforated.

MISS AMY L. SWIFT, an authority on Tasmania stamps, referring to an article which appeared in our January number, writes :

“I notice in the January VIRGINIA PHILATELIST that a N. J. collector reports having found a pair of 1d Tasmania 1871, *pin perforated*. Tasmania is my delight, and has long been accorded my best attention, so perhaps it will be of interest to state that the pin perforated have been noticed some time, although I do not believe they have yet been chronicled. I have one in my collection, and mentioned it in an *Eastern Philatelist* article but inadvertently gave it the colonial designation of ‘punched’ or ‘rough’ perforation instead of ‘pin.’”

WE WOULD call the attention of all collectors interested in Confederate stamps, to Mr. Deitrick’s ad in this number. Mr. D. has a large stock of these stamps, and our friends will find his prices very low.

LIST of stamps furnished for Cuba is as follows:

1st shipment, 1c, 1,000,000; 2½c, 2,000,000; 5c, 4,000,000; 10c, 400,000.

2d shipment, 2c, 1,000,000.

3d shipment, 2c, 3,000,000; 3c, 4,000,000.—*Era*.

It is not probable that the Cuban surcharge will be very scarce—and there need be no “rush to the bargain counter.”

THE 10c. Cuban surcharge, we suppose would be the best to invest a few dollars in, as a less number of this value were printed than of the others.

MR. G. J. CARTER, is with us again with his page of bargains. Read them—and write to him.

The New Stamp for Crete.

CLIPPING from the *London Illustrated News* of Jan. 7, 1899, we present below the new stamp prepared at Athens for use on the island of Crete.



The value is ten parades, or quarter piastre. The new stamp was introduced on Prince George's (of Greece) arrival on the island.

Though the inscription is Greek, and reads "Turkish Post" the new principality is semi-independent—under the nominal suzerainty of the Sultan of Turkey.

The placing of the Greek prince as governor over Crete by the Powers, is said to have been done upon the instigation of the Czar, whom "Sailor George" once saved from the blade of the assassin by felling him *a la* "John L.," and getting a dose of the steel in his own anatomy, and now Nicholas carves for him a new State, and, in turn, for us—a new stamp.

The "Penny Postage" in a New Color.

NOT unlike the waters of the Atlantic, the colors of the "water" on the new Canadian "Penny Postage" stamps present varied hues. When the skies are clear, the ocean appears a crystal-clear blue-green—thus was Canada's new stamp in its recent infancy. When a storm gathers the hue changes rapidly to a very dark slate, and then, it would seem, to black.—The Penny Postage has nearly reached the slate color stage—now look out for the typhoon!

The Surcharge for Cuba.

CUBA MR. WM. S. AHERN was the first Richmond collector to secure a specimen of the new surcharged U. S. stamps

5 c.

for Cuba.

de PESO. We illustrate a reduced *fac-simile* of the surcharge. The type used is either Long Primer, or 10-point "Clarendon" while our illustration appears in Brevier or 8-point "Clarendon" from which the reader can gain a correct idea of the style of type employed.

Canada's Reduced Letter Rates.

WE are indebted to Mr. Chas. Applegath, Hamilton, Ont., for the prompt notice of Canada's reduced inland postage rate, which appeared in our New Year's number. Later advices state that the rate of postage to the United States has likewise been reduced to two cents.

WE WOULD call attention to the many fine bargains offered by a new patron of our columns Mr. J. C. Brassington, Hart, Mich. A careful perusal of his ads. will not fail to prove profitable to every collector.

Those Cuban Surcharges.

AS STATED last week there are no 4c de peso stamps, as chronicled in *Mekeel's Weekly*. The three cents stamps recently sent to the island are surcharged 3c de peso and not 2½c de peso. It appears to be the intention of the Director of Posts to sell out the entire supply of 2½c stamps at the rate of 2c each, before placing any of the 2c or 3c stamps on sale.—*Metropolitan Philatelist*.

READ Mr. John Paalzow's liberal offer to postal card collectors. A veritable "snap" is offered.

The Postage Stamps of Japan.

LACUS VIRIDIS.

III.

- 1 sen : 1 SEN heavy or light lettering ; the left branch sometimes touches the upper rosette ; the distance of the branches from the inner corner ornaments varies. There were nine plates of this value—360 varieties.
- 2 sen : The lettering of the upper tablet varies, also the size of the little scrolls at right and left. There were three plates of this value—120 varieties.
- 10 sen : The hair of the dragons' tails shows marked variations ; the upper S is often smaller than the EN. Only one plate.
- 20 sen : The figure 2 is sometimes straight, sometimes mis-shapen ; the center lettering shows varieties. Only one plate.
- 30 sen : The ends of the tablets at left and right are sometimes round, sometimes sharp cornered. Only one plate.
- 2 sen : The branches show much variety. Three plates of this value—120 varieties.
- 4 sen : The English lettering varies in thickness ; the S is often inverted S ; the left branch sometimes touches the rosette ; the stems (consisting of two lines) sometimes end squarely, sometimes on the bias. There were seven plates of this value—280 varieties.

The remarks made above as to the lack of system in perforation apply here also. The ruling gauge for this issue is $11\frac{1}{2}$, the others given above occurring less frequently.

The 1 and 2 sen were issued in August, 1872; the $\frac{1}{2}$, 10, 20, and 30 sen in Octo-

ber of the same year; the 2 sen yellow and the 4 sen in April, 1873.

Following the example of Great Britain the Japanese Government introduced special marks for the designation of each plate employed in printing stamps by Decree No. 96 of the Department of Communications dated 1874. The first stamps with the new marks were issued in January, 1874, the last in February, 1875; the decree was definitely revoked in 1876. The control-marks are taken from the Japanese syllabic alphabet. It contains 48 characters, but on the adhesives only 23 are employed. I give their pronunciation, referring to them by the numbers given them in Scott's catalogue, that being easily accessible.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
I.	Ro.	Ha.	Ni.	Ho.	He.	To.	Chi.	Ri.	Nu.	Ru.	O.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
Wa.	Ka.	Yo.	To.	Re.	Jo.	Tsu.	Ne.	Na.	Ra.	Mu.	

As they are engraved so microscopically, some of them are sometimes hard to distinguish. Nos. 8 and 21 and Nos. 10 and 16 are easily mistaken for each other, also Nos. 13 and 19.

ISSUE 1874.



A7

Upright rectangle (22x25 mm.); oval ribbon, interlaced below and a large buckle towards the right ; on the ribbon above and below value in English ; in the center rosette and at its sides Japanese inscription : "Ju-ben-Kit-ta" (postage stamp) ; in the ribbon at the sides value in Japanese ; an outer rectangular frame of a thick and a thin line, spandrels filled with ornaments ; plate number (syllabic character) to the left of the buckle and below it ; wood engraving, colored impression, white paper, perforated 11, $11\frac{1}{2}$, 12, $12\frac{1}{2}$, perhaps others.

28. 6 sen violet brown.

This was issued in January, 1874. It was issued at first on the thin laid paper

of the previous issue; plate numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 are found on this thin paper.



A6

Same design as before, but plate numbers added; on the 2 sen in a small rectangle at the intersection of the branches; on the 20 sen below and to the left of the left-hand leaf at the bottom of the circle; on the 30 sen in an oval at the intersection of the branches; same impression, etc., as before.

- 29. 2 sen yellow.
- 29a. orange yellow.
- 30. 20 sen lilac.
- 30a. red violet.
- 31. 30 sen gray.

These were issued in February, 1874, on the same thin laid paper as the 6 sen (No. 17). As the new wove paper came into use about the end of the same month, these stamps had a very limited life and are accordingly scarce. Of the 2 sen there are found on this paper plate numbers 1 and 16 (how this high number came to be printed on this early paper, I am at a loss to explain); of the 20 sen plate numbers 1, 2, 3; of the 30 sen plate number 1.

The 6 sen is also chronicled on thin *wove* paper; (see what is said above in regard to the invisibility of laid lines.) This stamp was also printed 40 to the sheet, as were the 2, 20 and 30 sen. Type varieties are especially prominent as follows:

- 6 sen: Ornaments in the spandrels vary; there are differences in the position of the two lower strokes of the Japanese figure of value; the E of SEN is thick or thin.
- 2 sen: The stars in the corners have six or seven rays; the tablets at the left and right and the two strokes of the Japanese figure of value vary in length.

20 sen: Observe the lower part of the S in SEN.

30 sen: The ends of the tablets at left and right are sometimes round, sometimes sharp-cornered; notice also the upper 3.

Of course there are 40 varieties for each plate used, so that a stamp used in 23 plates would exhibit 920 varieties.

Same design as before, but SCOTT'S plate-numbers added; on the TYPE $\frac{1}{2}$, 1 and 4 sen in a rectangle at A6 the intersection of the branches, on the 10 sen without frame under the tails of the dragons, on the 2, 20 and 30 sen as before; same impression, etc., as before.

- 32. $\frac{1}{2}$ sen brown.
- 32a. pale brown.
- 33. 1 sen blue.
- 33a. pale blue.
- 34. 2 sen yellow.
- 35. 4 sen rose.
- 35a. claret.
- 36. 10 sen green.
- 36a. bluish green.
- 36b. yellowish green.
- 37. 20 sen lilac.
- 37a. mauve.
- 38. 30 sen gray.
- 39. 9 sen violet-brown.

The distinguishing feature of this set is the introduction of a thick wove paper, greatly differing from any former paper. On this paper the following plate-numbers are found: Of the $\frac{1}{2}$ sen plates 1 and 2; of the 1 sen plates 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12; of the 2 sen plates 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23; of the 4 sen plate 1; of the 10 sen plates 1, 2, 3; of the 20 sen plates 4 and 5 (I find plates 1, 2, 3 chronicled as on this paper, but have not seen them); of the 30 sen plate 1; of the 6 sen plates 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 (plate 12 was not employed; plates 20 and 21 have also been chronicled, but probably in error.)

(To be Continued.)

A Rare Local Discovered.

BY THE EDITOR.

RIGHT into the midst of an animated discussion on the claims of certain Confederate local envelopes, now indulged in by prominent philatelic writers both North and South, comes a new aspirant for recognition.

It is the Franklin, North Carolina, local envelope, a crude illustration of which is here presented :



This stamp was sent to Richmond by a well-known collector of North Carolina, and purchased by a gentleman of this city.

A thorough search into its history has been instituted, the result of which will subsequently appear in these columns. In the meantime a minute description of this envelope will interest our readers—particularly those whose means permit them to indulge in this specialty.

It is singularly strange that the *very evidence* sought for most Confederate local envelopes, and upon which seems to depend their fate, *should be indubitably impressed upon the face of this Franklin local envelope*, confirmed, as it were, by the canceling postmark of the North Carolina post-office.

There is absolutely no room for doubt regarding the *method of use* of this envelope. The stamp is *type-set* and printed on a printing press—the impression showing that clearness and evenness of inking which distinguishes a press-print from a hand-stamp print.

Crude though the typography may appear to the printer of today, at the time of its issue it was quite an effort—evidently the work of a compositor with an artistic bend; and, considering the limited stock of type styles and brass rules at the printer's command, nearly forty years ago, I may justly assert that the Franklin stamp is one of the most artistic type-set provisionals extant.

The envelope upon which the impression is made is of buff wove paper.

The stamp design consists of a square frame size 1 in. x 1 in. and set up with printers' brass rule similar to this (—). Within this frame are two circles, likewise formed of rule of the "wavy" pattern, similar to this (—). Within this double circle appear the words, L. F. SILER, P. M. at the top, and FRANKLIN, N. C. below. The center contains the words PAID and 5, divided by a dash. The whole is printed in poor quality blue ink in the right-hand upper corner.

The cancelation, which we also illustrate is the usual hand-stamp, in black, bearing the words FRANKLIN N C and "Jan 21", the latter written with pen and ink.



The entire envelope is in a comparatively good state of preservation, and as the party to whom it was addressed is still living, further facts regarding the method of its issue will probably be obtained in the near future.

In the matter of Confederate local envelopes, it seems to be generally con-

ceded by authorities that the requisite fact to establish the claim of a local envelope to recognition, consists in the proof that such envelope was held in stock by the postmaster, *ready printed*, and sold to the public on demand.

This Franklin envelope bears upon its face the most conclusive evidence of this fact—it being *printed* and *not hand-stamped*, and there is no reasonable argument that can be advanced against this evidence.

The Texan Philatelist, and THE VIRGINIA for only 25c for twelve months.

Philatelic Exhibition.

BROOKLYN INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

AS WE go to press we receive a handsome prospectus from the above institution, setting forth the details of an exhibition of stamps by the Section on Philately (incorporated as one of its Departments since the recognition of Philately as a science by this school).

We regret exceedingly our inability to print, this month, a paper which accompanied this prospectus, entitled "Philately as a Science"—one of the ablest ever written on the subject.

A clipping from the prospectus will interest our readers:

"The Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences has decided to invite Philatelists to join with it in commemorating the recognition, by the Institute, of Philately as a Science, by giving an exhibition of Postage and Revenue Stamps, including adhesives and envelope stamps, post cards and reprints, and to that end offers for competition various medals and awards.

The exhibition will be formally opened March 18th, 1899, at 8 p. m., and will be open free to the public Sundays, from 2 p. m. until 6 p. m., and week-days from 10 a. m. to 10 p. m. from Sunday, March 19th, to Friday, March 31st inclusive, at the Art Rooms of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, 171 Montague Street, Brooklyn, New York."

The Future of the Canadian "Maple Leaf" Issue.

BY R. G. WIDDICOMBE.

ALTHOUGH a great deal is heard about these stamps to-day, on account of their popularity, as yet I have seen no article with the above heading, and I take the liberty of initiating it. While I might also say something regarding the "numeral" issue, which is just now coming into use, I will not, but confine my article to my subject as closely as possible.

As everyone knows, these stamps were in use but a short time, and it is perfectly reasonable to believe that in a very short time every denomination issued will be good stock, especially the higher values. Even now, though they can scarcely be yet called obsolete, for there is no value that cannot be secured at some post-office, the demand for them is very great—in fact it might be said to be even greater than the supply. No Canadian issue has ever been so much sought after as these; indeed more dealers are inquiring for these than were for Jubilees. Nor is the demand confined to dealers only, for persons who are in the truest sense of the word only collectors, make every effort to secure as great a number as is possible.

Every dealers in Canada, and from present indications, large numbers in the United States, Great Britain, and other foreign countries, believe in the future of this short-lived issue. The demand is not confined to any one value as it is with some stamps, but on the contrary, all values are desired. Of course, it is natural for all to be desirous of getting the scarce values, under which head we might put the 6c and 10c stamps. These two seem to be very seldom used, and consequently very difficult to secure. Next come those values which are somewhat oftener used, which we might call

good, viz.: the $\frac{1}{2}$, 2, 5 and 8 cent stamps. This allows but the 1 and 3 cent stamps to be called common, though at the prices they are bringing at present, they can hardly be called really common.

To give a somewhat better idea of what these stamps are really worth, I annex below a list of the highest and lowest prices for what I have known these stamps to have sold, which is as follows:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cent,	per 100	\$ 20	\$ 75
1 "	"	12	25
2 "	"	20	40
3 "	"	04 $\frac{1}{2}$	20
5 "	"	75	2 00
6 "	"	2 50	5 00
8 "	"	75	3 00
10 "	"	3 00	6 25

It will be noticed that there is quite a difference in the quotations of the different denominations, though at present, I believe the latter figures to be, in nearly every instance, about correct. They may seem high to some, but it shows just how these stamps are going, and I believe they are a good thing. In conclusion, I would advise every collector to get at least one set, for they are destined to become quite scarce.

1c AND 2c postal cards have been surcharged Cuba 1c and 2c de peso respectively, for use on the island, by a private firm of printers in this city.—*J. M. Bartels, in Metropolitan Philatelist.*

WE HAVE been shown several specimens of the current U. S. 2c stamps printed in a shade of red very near vermilion.

THOUSANDS of collectors will herald with joy the decision of the P. O. Department in regard to the Periodical stamps. It has been practically decided to sell the complete set at \$5.—*Metropolitan.*

Philippine Postal Matters.

THE FOLLOWING letter, received from Assistant Supt. R. M. S., Frank W. Vaille, at the Manila Military Postal Station, in response to enquiries, will probably interest our readers.

MANILA, P. I., 12, 17, '98.

Aug. Dietz, Esq.,

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your favor of October 31st, I will state.

1st.—There are two stations now established in the Philippines, No. 1 at Manila and No. 2 at Cavite, across the bay.

2nd.—As yet we have had only denominations up to 10c, but there is urgent need for the larger denominations up to \$1.00, on account of Asiatic and European business.

3rd.—Stamps are not surcharged. Regular issues used the same as at home.

4th.—Only U. S. postage is recognized as valid on matters originating here. By special agreement with the Spanish governor at Iloilo, I recognize Philippine stamps on matters received from provinces still under control of Spain or Spanish forces, and letters sent from Manila by me with U. S. postage, are delivered in these provinces, without additional postage, being collected.

Very truly,

FRANK W. VAILLE,
Asst. Supt. R. M. S.

The Lone Star State Philatelist and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST—the two representative Southern stamp publications for 30c per year.

YOU 'LL find Hussman's ads distributed among the other good ones in this number. Seek them—each one will be a new surprise.



New York Correspondence.

LENNOD.

I AM happy to inform the readers of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST that business has improved to such an extent that dealers are in a state of joyfulness. One dealer tells me he has done more business the first two weeks of 1899, than within any corresponding time the last two years. While present in his office I witnessed sales aggregating over twenty dollars net. The sale of albums is unprecedented, and the call for the cheapest album does not by any means predominate. Many collectors have been taught a lesson, that it is best to purchase a good strongly bound and durable album with numerous surplus (blank) pages in the back, than to buy the unbound book (board covers).

The demand for the United States Revenues (Civil War issues) still continues brisk, the odd values of the second and third issues having the most call for; there is also a perceptible demand for early Brazil stamps. "There'll come a time some day," when you will regret the chances now offered to procure early issues of South American stamps at extremely low prices, and which are given now only a passing glance.

Omaha stamps in canceled condition are rapidly advancing in price. The eight-cent denomination is now quoted at from three to three dollars and fifty cents a hundred, fours, fives and tens fetch about the same figures, from a dollar to a dollar and a half a hundred. The price paid for the twos is slightly lower, but the price on the ones has advanced as high as twenty cents a hundred. The European demand is tremendous, and

dealers find it impossible to fill standing orders. Dealers are short on sets from one cent to ten cents, and it is not unlikely that the price on these will be raised considerably in the course of a few weeks.

The demand for Stanley Gibbons' 1899 Catalogue is steadily increasing, the demand being occasioned by the absence of Scott's 59th edition during the proper season. The prices are said to be lowered to a certain extent, in some cases very low; we can now judge what course dealers and collectors will pursue in allowing and requesting discounts from these prices. Stamps that no discount can be allowed on, will instantly represent what are considered to be worth catalogue quotations. Then the Scott Co., when preparing for the make-up of the 59th edition, can have some basis to work on, taking these prices as a criterion.

A dealer who has gained some prominence lately, and who prides himself on the superb condition and the large variety of his stock of stamps is Mr. G. J. Carter, of Brooklyn, N. Y. His recent purchase of \$10,000, worth of United States Revenue stamps is the talk of the town. Mr. Carter is commended upon his foresight in purchasing a class of stamps, which have been a drug on the market for some time; whereas just at the present moment a noticeable demand for these stamps has appeared; the new revenues of Uncle Sam's can easily account for this renewed activity in this direction.

Boston Scraps.

BY BEAN-EATER.

THE disposition of the Periodical remainders, by the postal officials has been a prominent subject for conversation by dealers and collectors during the past

month at the Hub. As near as can be ascertained by personal inquiry, the larger dealers are bitterly opposed to the movement. Mr. A. W. Batchelder of the New England Stamp Co., thinks it a stupendous mistake, and asserts that the department had better use the whole "bunch" for fuel.

Mr. F. P. Brown, also says "burn them."

Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs considers it a weakening of our government to place them upon the market for disposal for less than face, unless each stamp be surcharged "Specimen." He also thinks that the government prospect of a sale of 100,000 sets in one year, at \$5.00 per set, is very slight, and trusts that our government will not descend to the poverty stricken level of selling a \$187.93 set of stamps for \$5.00, a discount of about 97 per cent.

Messrs. B. L. Drew & Co., seem to think that "Uncle Sam is nobody's fool," and that all the stamps will be marked "Specimen", if a decision to dispose of them is reached, otherwise we may expect to see a flood of the \$5 denomination, surcharged and used as revenues in fraud of the government. This, I think, is a point that has thus far been overlooked, and should have much bearing upon the final decision.

It is with sincere regret, that I have to announce the suspension of the *Boston Stamp Book*. It is stated upon good authority that the publication has been run, during the past year, at a decided loss to its publisher, and was at last compelled to yield to the inevitable. *The Eastern Philatelist* has been chosen to fill out the list of unexpired subscriptions. This fact may lessen the grief to some extent.

The Canadian "map" stamp has appeared in no less than three shadings of the water portion. The first printing (plate I) was a lavender, the second light

blue and the last light "robin's egg blue" The first print brings 10 cents per copy at present.

Boston has recently received a large supply of the 2c Newfoundland in carmine. There has evidently been a great demand in Newfoundland, among speculators, for the 2c orange, and they have all been sold. They are selling here at \$3.00 per sheet of 100.

The new U. S. 15 cent stamp has been on sale at some of the small offices for a number of weeks past. The main office received them but recently. Plate No. 264, 15c olive.

Canadian Notes.

BY R. G. WIDDICOMBE.

IT IS reported that one of our *Canadian Philatelic Weekly's*—the Toronto variety—has joined the silent majority.

The Canadian stamps with numeral in the corners have all appeared, with the exception of the 5 cent.

Suddenly, though I cannot say altogether unexpectedly, came the news from the Post Office Department on the last day of December, that on and after January 1st, 1899, the letter rate to Canada and the United States, which had all along been 3 cents, would be reduced to 2 cents. This change is hailed with delight by business men and others who have a large correspondence, and is one that has been rather looked for for some time past.

The new 2 cent Canadian envelope has made its appearance, and will no doubt be used quite extensively now, on account of the reduction in postal rates. It is the same in design as the new 3 cent envelope which was recently placed on sale, is purple in color, and printed on a good quality of paper.

A problem that is now confronting many people, and one which seems

rather difficult to solve is "how to dispose of the large quantity of 3 cent stamps on hand." As I understand it, the Government will not exchange them for lower values, and no one would care to put a 3 cent stamp on their letters when the rate is only 2 cents. How the question will be settled remains to be seen.

There has been a large increase of mail matter since the new rate went into effect.

Upwards of 2000 letters bearing the new Imperial Penny Postage stamp were despatched from the Toronto post office on Monday Dec. 25th, 1898. Large numbers of letters were also sent from other cities and towns to the various British Colonies who are within the scope of the new rate.

The Philatelic Advocate for January has 60 pages and cover, which is the largest paper I have seen from Canada for some time—if ever.

It is announced that Mr. W. A. Lydiatt, of Toronto, will shortly publish a monthly to take the place of the defunct *Canadian Philatelic Weekly*. It seems to me it's about time this gentleman was trying his hand at something else besides philatelic publishing.

A Toronto collector says that he believes there are over 5000 persons directly or indirectly interested in collecting stamps in that city. That is about 1-40 of the population. I haven't the least doubt that the same could be said of many other cities and towns in Canada.

The first few hundred of the new 2c envelopes were printed in purple, but, in deference to the general agreement among the nations belonging to the Postal Union, the issue is now being struck off in red. The envelope is entirely the work of the Printing Bureau. The purple envelope will now be a scarce article.

English Items.

BY W. F. TREGO.

I HAVE received a copy of the prospectus of the forthcoming Manchester Philatelic Exhibition. The Exhibition will be held in the City Art Gallery, and will be open to the public for a week.

The following scheme of competition has been adopted by the committee:—

- Class I.—Special collections of Postal Adhesives of Great Britain.
- Class II.—Special collections of Postal Adhesives of various countries or combinations of countries.
- Class III.—Collections (small) of rare stamps.
- Class IV.—General Collections of Postal Adhesives, with or without envelopes, post-cards, etc., in albums or volumes.
- Class V.—Collections of entire envelopes and Wrappers.
- Class VI.—Collections of entire postcards and letter cards.
- Class VII.—Exhibits by stamp engravers and manufacturers of postage and telegraph stamps.
- Class VIII.—Philatelic literature and works.
- Class IX.—Albums, etc.
- Class X.—Accessories and philatelic appliances for the use of collectors.
- Class XI.—Special arrangements of stamps, stamps on original letter sheets and envelopes, proofs, essays, and objects of interest in connection with philately and the postal service (including engravings).

Numerous medals are offered for the best exhibit in each of the above classes, but it is impossible to give all the details here; readers had best write for prospectuses, which can be obtained of the Hon. Sec. Mr. G. Fred. H. Gibson, Philatelic Exhibition Committee Rooms, 2, Cooper St., Manchester, England.

At a recent sale by Messrs. Ventom Bull & Cooper, the following prices were realized (prices converted into dollars at 4sh to the dollar):—Gibraltar, first issue, unused, \$22.00.; collection of Portugal \$200.00.; Spain, Madrid, 3 cuartos, unused \$70.00.; Ceylon, 1sh 9p green, imperforate, \$17.50.; ditto, perf. \$18.12.;

India Service, 2 annas, unused, \$12.75.; ditto 4 annas, unused, \$21.87.; ditto 8 annas, unused, \$65.00.; Guine, first issue 25r rose \$26.25.; Canada 10p blue, unused, \$32.50.; United States, 1851, 5c brown, unused \$30.00.; ditto 1853, 90c blue, an unused pair, \$32.50.; ditto 1868, 90c unused, with grille, \$21.25.; Bahamas 4p no watermark, rose, unused, \$14.37.; Cuba, an unused collection, \$23.75.; Dominican Republic, 1rl, black on green \$14.00.; Nevis, 1sh blue-green, unused, \$14.37.; St. Lucia, black and orange, 1sh unused, \$18.75.; St. Vincent, rose, 1sh, unused, \$14.37.; Trinidad, litho, 1p blue, on card, \$25.00.; Queensland, 2p blue, imperforate, \$14.37.

The collection of the late Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia was sold on December 14, the highest prices realized being Moscow envelopes 1845-6, five kopecs, red, used and entire, £21; another £22.

The official notice of Imperial Penny Postage was issued on December 20, and the Treasury warrant for same appeared in the *London Gazette* of December 23.

The freedom of Canterbury is to be conferred on Mr. J. Henniker Heaton, author of the scheme, and M. P. for that city.

One hundred and twenty seven silver pennies are to be struck by the Royal Mint and presented to the 127 M.P.'s who voted for the motion which provided for Imperial Penny Postage.

Cape Colony is unable to join at present, owing to absence of agreement with the home government regarding the ocean mail contract.

Christmas was a record at the Post Office. Over 1½ million parcels passed through the Chief Sorting-Office in London during the week, 1650 extra vehicles had to be hired by the authorities to convey them to the various sub-offices, etc. Amongst the extra vehicles hired at Birmingham was an undertaker's van,

but this was withdrawn after being used a little while.

At Liverpool £16,000 was paid for postage during the week, being double the ordinary amount.

New York is said to have sent over a record mail, including 20,000 registered packets.

The French *Official Gazette* of December 23 publishes a decree reducing the postage on parcels sent from France, Corsica, and Algeria to Canada, Newfoundland, Bahamas, Br. W. Indies, (not including Jamaica), the Falkland Islands and various British Colonies. The *Gazette* of December 23 publishes a series of decrees promulgating the Universal Postal Convention of Washington and various other conventions signed at Washington.

On and after January 1st the transmission of letters and valuables, declared at the post-office, is authorized between France and her colonies on the one side and Gt. Britain on the other. The worth of such valuables must not exceed 3000 francs.

A philatelic exhibition was held at Birmingham on December 7, 8 and 9th.

The ½p newswrappers are now issued without the instruction.

Mr. Pearson Hill, only son of the late Sir Rowland Hill, died in London on December 13th, at the age of 63. He invented an improvement in the apparatus for exchanging mail bags at stations at which mail trains do not stop, and also a machine for postmarking letters. At the end of 1858 or beginning of 1859 he was sent to Mauritius to re-organize the postal service of that colony.

Derlam's Philatelic Directory (the best ever published in America) and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST for only 65 cents. This Directory sold for \$1.00 a few months ago.

Australian Letter.

IT WAS only quite recently that the 6d red of New South Wales was changed to a delicate green tint. This was done to avoid confusion with the 1d red. Now, it has been decided to again change the color of the 6d to *orange*, and the fresh stamps will be issued about the middle of January. As I think you know that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d is to be changed to green, and the $\frac{2}{3}$ d to blue, I need not dilate upon them. I fancy all the green 6d stamps will become of value, for they have not been in use for any length of time, although upon enquiry at the General Post Office I was told a good many had been issued.

Regarding the new stamps from your side, those of us who have seen the fiscal with the ill-fated "Maine" upon it are much touched by the beauty of the design and execution, and by the memories it induces. For you know we are here altogether on your side, "brothers all"—especially brothers with you in your fighting for right, freedom and justice! The large Omaha issue is not much admired. I like them, but some people have not hesitated to call them "jam-pot labels." What impudence!

The new Canadian issue is, on the other hand very much appreciated. For my own part I think it is the best representation of the Queen I have ever seen on a stamp of recent issue. It does not come up to the old Queensland engraved stamps as a work of art, but it is not far short of it. We shall never again, I fear, have as good stamps as the old ones.

I observe in "Lennod's" letter from New York in your November number a reference to the New South Wales large square rose one shilling stamp (No. 70, of Scott). I have made enquiries from dealers in Sydney and find that Scott's price is rather under the retail price here. I mention this as your esteemed correspondent seemed to consider that

Scott's was a low price for such a beautiful example of the engraver's art and such an early stamp as No. 70. It is, however, just possible that Lennod's stamp is perf. 12 and not $12\frac{1}{2}$, 13. The first named is worth 10 shillings, or say \$2.50.

Lennod also points out that No. 112 (Scott) N. S. W. 1 shillings brown-violet, Kangaroo is a good "speculation" (not speculative!) stamp. Possibly it *is* at three cents, but there is no doubt whatever about No. 118, to which he also refers, 5sh. violet at 50c. used. He could not buy that stamp in Sydney for the money now. It is out of issue and will, without doubt, be catalogued at a dollar at least in the new edition of Scott's to be published about the middle of next year.

Let me conclude these poor notes with the best compliments of the season to your numerous, increasingly numerous, readers and to your VIRGINIA PHILATELIST staff. J. G. GRIFFIN.

The Herald Exchange—the only German-American stamp paper in the U. S. and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST both for one year for 30 cents.

Quantities of Omaha Issue.

FROM an authoritative source we have received figures giving the exact numbers of the stamps delivered by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to the Post Office Department:

1 cent,	70,304,200
2 cents,	159,453,300
4 "	4,918,200
5 "	7,690,780
8 "	2,923,900
10 "	4,624,300
50 "	530,180
1 dollar,	56,790
2 dollars,	56,080
Total,	259,554,700

—Post Office.

Southern Philatelic Association.

President—H. Fenton, P.O. Box 8, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Vice-President.—Aug. Dietz, Box 6, Richmond, Va.
 Sec'y-Treas.—W. C. Lowry, Abilene, Texas.
 Int'l. Secretary—D. E. Hazen, Thonotosassa, Fla.
 Sales Supt.—Chas. Waring, Box 293, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Librarian—Chas. P. Galyon, Knoxville, Tenn.
 Counterfeit Detector—F. Noyes, Alice, Texas.
 Trustees—H. Fenton, Chairman Ex-Officio, Knoxville, Tenn., Emil Gerlich and Robert Kessler, New Braunfels, Texas.
 Official Organ—THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

President's Address.

Southern Philatelic Association.

BROTHER MEMBERS:—Another year has opened and I am pleased to say that the indications are strong that our Association will show a healthy growth before it closes. I have received several letters approving of the change in Official Organ and you will admit that THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST is the "queen of the monthlies," and always out on time.

Unfortunately *la grippe* has been busy this month and laid violent hands on several of our officers, and it is more than likely that some of them will not be able to get their monthly reports in on time.

The Exchange Department is in full swing and as one of our members is disposing of a collection worth \$1000 through the Department, it is an excellent opportunity for members to obtain good specimens, such indeed as are seldom found on the books of a small society, at a reasonable cost. Stir up your philatelic friends and induce them to join us, and if you are not receiving circuits notify the Exchange Superintendent at once.

All philatelic authorities agree that the bottom of the market has been reached and the tendency everywhere is decidedly upward. There is a larger demand and better prices for all kinds of stamps.

Personally, I think that collectors will devote themselves to a few countries, each making his own selection and specializing therein and the result will be beneficial to the craft. A general collector, unless he has unlimited capital, views with dismay the prospect of ever accumulating a full collection of all the countries on the globe, and eventually decides that he would prefer having a fairly representative collection of a few countries than a number of blank pages in his album.

I greatly appreciate the honor done me by our worthy vice-president and hope to make the personal acquaintance of every one of our members who visit East Tennessee. H. FENTON, Pres.

Secretary's Report.

NEW MEMBERS.

133 W. H. Bruce, Hartford, Conn.
 134 Chas. N. Du Bose, 701 N. 5th-st., Waco, Texas.
 135 J. P. Howard, care Christie Brown & Co., Toronto, Ontario, Can.

APPLICATIONS.

Williams, O. H., 35 E. 17th-st., N. Y. City. Age 29, Stenographer. Refs., Wm. A. McDonnell, W. C. Lowry, R. B. Bradley.
 Ahern, W. S., 112 E. Broad-st., Richmond, Va. Age 29, Ad. writer. Refs., August Dietz Franklin Stearns.
 Redford, R. J., 1417 W. Leigh-st., Richmond, Va. Age 25, Clerk. Refs., August Dietz, Franklin Stearns.
 Knotts, J. H., 1903 W. Main-st., Richmond, Va. Age 34, Merchant. Refs., August Dietz, Franklin Stearns.
 Scott, Jr., W. C., 403 E. Grace-st., Richmond, Va. Age 37, Sec.-Treas. E. W. Co. Refs., August Dietz, Franklin Stearns.
 Kerns, F. L., Box 299, Richmond, Va. Age 42. Occupation, Journalist. Refs., F. Stearns, A. Dietz and W. C. Lowry.

RESIGNATIONS RECEIVED.

John W. Edwards, Huguenot, Ga.
 H. A. Chapman, Rocky Hill, Conn.

FINANCES.

RECEIPTS.

Balance.....	\$8.54
Received from members.....	2.20
Total	\$10.74

EXPENDITURES.

Dec. 15 to Sec. postage.....	\$1.27
Dec. 6 ptg ballots, proxies, envs., etc.	1.50
Dec. 7 VIRGINIA. PHIL. for Dec.....	1.11
Dec. to R. B. Bradley for copies of off. organ for July, Aug., Sept..	3.12
Total.....	\$7.00
Balance on hand.....	\$3.74

Dues for 1899 are now payable. Be sure that you send yours in to the Secretary at once. Dues are 25c.

Respectfully,

WALTER C. LOWRY, Sec-Treas.
Abilene, Texas, 1-13, 1899.

Report of Board of Trustees.

In reply to the report of the Librarian published in last issue, in which he claims that the Board of Trustees are mistaken in claiming that the S. P. A. library was in his possession seven weeks before it was reported to them, we must say that they were *not* mistaken, as will be seen by a postal which is published herewith.

Under date of October 31st he wrote to the above of the undersigned as follows :

" Received the S. P. A. Library from Miss Steele about Sept. 10th. It was an oversight on my part of notifying you sooner.

(Signed) C. P. GALYON.

Thus it will be seen that *it was* in his possession about 7 weeks before it was reported to us. Promptness is a great factor in our philatelic societies and we hope that some of our officers will be a little more prompt in the future. Attention is herewith again called to the prompt payment of dues. All those who have not paid their dues by March 15th will be dropped from membership list.

Yours for the S. P. A.

EMIL GERLICH,
ROBERT KESSLER,
Board of Trustees.

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., Jan. 10, 1899.

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

THERE was a goodly attendance at the 17th meeting of the V. P. A. The President being absent Corp'l Weckert took the chair and called the meeting to order at 8.30 o'clock. The routine business was spiritedly disposed of.

The application of Mr. J. A. Devine was received with Messrs. Stearns and Dietz as references, and Mr. Geo. A. Hartung was unanimously elected. Mr. Dietz gave many weighty reasons in support of his motion to the effect that the Virginia Philatelic Association advises its members to join the Southern Philatelic Association before the Richmond convention. The motion was unanimously carried and many present filled out applications.

The discussion of current stamp topics followed 'till the adjournment at 10.30.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. AHERN, Secretary.

The Evergreen State Philatelist and this magazine for 25c per year.

THE sale of the new Cuban stamps has been something phenomenal, nearly five thousand sets have been disposed of in the United States during the past ten days.—*Metropolitan*.



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.

Review closes on January 17th, 1899.

The following papers were received:

	Vol. No.
Alleghany Philatelist Alleghany, Pa.	4. 1.
Eastern Philatelist, Boston, Mass.	22. 4.
Weekly Phil. Era, Portland, Me.,	13. 14.
Evergreen State Phil., Hartland, Wash.	2. 1.
International Philatelist, St. Joseph, Mo.	9. 1.
Lone Star State Philatelist, Waco, Texas,	7. 4.
Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, St. Louis, Missouri,	13. 1-2.
Metropolitan Philatelist, New York,	10. 16-17.
Philatelic Bulletin, Salem, Mass.	2. 4.
Philatelic West and Camera News, Superior, Nebraska,	8. 2.
Rocky Mountain Stamp, New Oxford, Pa.	4. 2.
Stamp Tribune, Harriman, Tennessee,	1. 1.
Tri Monthly Collector, New Oxford, Pa.	1. 1.
Youth's Realm, Boston, Mass.	4. 12.
FROM CANADA.	
Philatelic Messenger, Boiestown, N. B.	3. 2.
Philatelic Advocate, Berlin, Ont.	6. 1.
FROM ABROAD.	
Stamps, Rushden, England,	2. 12.
Phil. Journal of G't Br., Salisbury, Eng.	8. 96.
Philatelic Almanac, Bournemouth, Eng.	
Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal, Leipzig, Germany,	25. 21.
L'Announce Philatelique, Geneva, Switzerl'd.	4. 45.
La Revue Postale, Geneva, Switzerland,	1. 12.
Revue Philatelique Francaise, Amiens, Fr.	9. 97.
Moniteur Philatelique, Gand, Belgium,	2. 11.
Il Francobollo, Milano, Italy,	6. 75.
La Cartalina Postale Illustrata, Milano, Italy	
Melita Phila. Chronicle and Adv. Malta,	1. 12.
Revista de la Sociedad Filatelica, Buenos Ayres, Argentine,	4. 10.
Australian Philatelist, Sydney, N. S. W.	5. 4.

The New Year's number of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* is indeed a handsomely gotten up one, not only as far as the cover is concerned but also in regard to the contents. Mr. Severn's article on Stamped Paper opens a subject which to

the writer has long since seemed to call for more attention than has been given it and he has for some time laid aside at least such older specimens of it as came into his hands. Mr. Severn speaks of the two-cent stamped paper which was used most commonly for checks. It was also used largely for receipts. Firms using many of them having the stamp impressed on both note and letter sheets, and banks and bankers had them on sheets acknowledging remittances. A use to which this impression is put at present, and of which the writer has seen no mention so far, is upon the seat or berth check given by the Pullman Car conductors. The whole ticket bears the two-cent stamp impression and when torn into of course cancels the stamp very effectively. The same number contains the "Counterfeit Presentments" of the publisher, editors and correspondents and short biographical sketches of some of them. The advertisements are large and varied and go to show that different dealers value their wares quite different, one stamp advertised by four men varies in the advertised price from \$8.00 to \$13, while its catalogue value is given at \$17.50.

The *Weekly* in its January 12th number gives cuts and descriptions of the provisional Coamo, Puerto Rico, stamp issued under authority of the mayor and council of that town. There are four types of this production and as but few were issued and perhaps fewer used they may become quite a rarity if listed in the "Standard" Catalogue.

The Philatelic West has added to its name and also to its size, if the present number is to be a criterion for future issues. It has added "*and Camera News*" to its title and devotes a much larger space than formerly to the "camera fiends." While its stamp news does not contain anything startling, it is

all readable. In "Collecting Things" the author calls upon parents to foster in their children the inborn tendencies to "collect," be it even in earliest infancy only pebbles. This trait once developed will stay with the child for life and be of use to him in many ways.

Not being interested in photography, the writer cannot review the contents of that part of the magazine.

The Philatelic Bulletin comes in holiday dress as a Xmas number indeed, bearing date of issue December 25, 1898. We are glad to see that this paper has been granted second class matter rates at last. No doubt "everlastingly keeping at it" did it. "Standard Prices" is its leading article and in it the over-priced catalogue comes in for its share of attention. While we hope for it, we fear we will never see a catalogue which will quote strictly net prices. Editorials, Notes, Letters from various points make up the balance of this interesting number.

The Christmas number of *The Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* completes the first year of its existence, and from its size and liberal advertising patronage we should think the paper has prospered. It begins in this number an article on "The Stamps of Malta" which seems to establish the fact that the first half-penny stamp was not put into use until 1861. The relative rarity of that issue on either white or blueish paper is also discussed, and we see that Senf's Catalogue quotes them as the author thinks they should be quoted, viz: the one on bluish four times the value of the one on white. Editorials, Correspondence and a good many advertisements fill the rest of this interesting number.

In *La Revue Postale* is a list of the 100 rarest stamps in existence and the author

of it tells that he consulted ten different catalogues to arrive at the conclusion. Non-collecting friends often ask the question, which is the rarest stamp in existence, and while perhaps nine collectors out of every ten would name the Post-Office Mauritius they would be puzzled to which stamps to award the palm of being the next rarest. In this list the 2d Mauritius either used or unused is given first rank; the 1d of same next, and then the 1856 British Guiana black on red; the Hawaii 1851, two cents blue, used, and so on. Only two U. S. stamps are in this list, the five dollars State in unused condition occupying the fortieth place and used the fifty-seventh, the ten dollar State either used or unused occupies the eighty-eighth place. Nine stamps of British Guiana are among the list, seven of Ceylon, seven also of the old Switzerland. The author claims that he spent a great deal of time comparing catalogues and that the list as he gives it is absolutely correct.

The Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal contains an account of the conviction of a stamp dealer in Berlin for attempted fraud in trying to dispose of stamps with forged cancelations. Part of these cancelations could be so plainly seen that it is a wonder any one should even attempt to market such wares. This dealer was warned by the International Stamp Dealers' Association to stop offering these stamps and when he persisted in doing so he was brought into court on seven different charges of attempt to defraud. In six cases the testimony was not sufficient to convict, but in the seventh case the accused was found guilty and sentenced to pay either, a fine of seventy-five dollars or go to jail for sixty days. If all attempts to defraud met with such justice there would soon be fewer rascals among dealers and collectors.

The *Bf. Journal* which, by the way, closes with this number the twenty-fifth

year of its existence, reports also upon the strength of investigations in Moritzburg that the 5sh Natal stamp water-marked Cr. C. A. is not in existence, all the specimens in the possession of the main postoffice of the colony being w.m. Cr. C. C. and the recollections of the P. M. were that he had never seen the stamp with Cr. C. A.

The *Youth's Realm*, though not strictly speaking a philatelic publication, contains a good many stamp advertisements and also good reading for small boys and girls as well as those of larger growth. At the low price of 35 cents for a year's subscription it ought to be in the hands of every boy or girl who is fond of reading.

The *Tri-Monthly Collector* (we wonder who will get off the old "gag" about the "try") comes from New Oxford, Pa., being a consolidation of *The Columbian Philatelist*, *The American Collector* and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*. The first number comes in a rather small size and contains 16 pages but Mr. Dodge explains why the three papers were merged into one. He says he has not had any assistance in his office since the death of his little daughter in November, and working until the small hours every night, brought on nervous prostration, and when feeling well enough to sit at his desk once more with an immense amount of correspondence in front of him, and three monthly magazines late in issue, each with its own book-keeping, he determined to simplify matters to the extent of combining the three issues in one. Even though late we hope Mr. Dodge will accept the expression of our sympathy in his great sorrow.

The Stamp Tribune is the name of a new monthly issued at Harriman, Tenn., by S. P. Lev, as Publisher and Editor, and Wm. M. Verbeck, of Ballston Spa, N. Y. as Associate Editor. The paper is

neatly gotten up, printed on good paper and contains more than the ordinary amount of philatelic articles for a first number, and we are glad to see the editor show his pluck by announcing that "*The Stamp Tribune* has come to stay, and to stay at, or at least very near the very top of the ladder." We wish the paper success and hope that it, like others in the South will gather all the stamplore it can about the issues of our particular section during the days of the Confederacy. One of the "Odds and Ends" related by Stamps or rather "Spmats," as he calls himself, is rather amusing and sounds as if some one was juggling with truth to a certain extent. To find among a lot of U. S. stamps sent in by a boy for exchange, five rarities like 3c rose embossed all over, 15c black 11x13, '75 6c dull pink ribbed, '70-71 10c brown National print, '75 10c brown ribbed paper, is of course possible, but hardly probable. If the writer had been content to let it go at the first two mentioned it might have passed, but all the others.—Try again brother, and better luck next time.

In its November number *The Lone Star State Philatelist* continues the "Philatelic Notes from the Official reports of the Postmaster-General of the Confederate States." In this instalment an insight is given into the troubles the Department had to encounter to get a supply of stamps and the delays which occurred until a source of supply could be opened up which would come anywhere near filling the demand.

In its Texas notes it tells of a find by some small boys of several hundred sheets of ten and twenty cents Confederate stamps in the place used as P. O. in Confederate days in New Braunfels, and adds that they, not knowing their value, disposed of them for a song. Wonder if there were any "ten's" among the lot?

PUBLISHER'S PAGE OF ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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Vol. I, No. 1, Out of print	Vol. I, No. 8.....	\$0.25
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THE HANDSOMEST MAGAZINE
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Together with any of the following Magazines, for one year, for the price opposite its name:

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I will exchange 5 copies of the rarest U. S. Postal. The 1c black of 1875 on the "watermarked" paper of the 1873 issue. Against equal catalogue value of stamps, no stamp however to catalogue less than 50c. Will exchange one or all 5.

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**DERLAM'S INTERNATIONAL
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Containing over 9500 addresses of
ACTIVE COLLECTORS
As advertised in this magazine and
A Year's Subscription to
THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST

FOR ONLY
SIXTY-FIVE CENTS.

The publisher's price for this directory alone, which we have examined and found as advertised, is 60c, so send to us and get both it and this magazine for one year for nearly the price of one. Remit in currency, unused 2c stamps or by P. O. order. Registration 8c extra.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUB. CO.,

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DESIGNS FOR STAMP MAGAZINE COVERS!



EDITOR
THE VIRGINIA
PHILATELIST

RICHMOND, VA.

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- No. 1. In King William Co., Va. 4 miles from railway. Navigable river $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from house, with 9 feet draft. Three and a half hours drive from Richmond, Va. 2500 acres sandy loam land about 1800 acres cleared, rest original growth timber. Artesian well at house. Extensive marl beds underlie whole farm.
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JOHN C. BRASSINGTON

Philatelic Publisher and Dealer,

HART, = = MICHIGAN.



Kindly let me have your ATTENTION for a few minutes, as I want to tell you a few facts about myself. In fact I want to tell you what a great man I am, but I want to tell you also what a large stock of Postage Stamps I have and that I also sell cheaper than any dealer of any importance. If you don't believe what I say look over the bargains I offer this month. I can sell at from 25 to 75% off Scotts and then make a profit.

REMEMBER==I do not lose any money on any stamp I sell.

I have the stocks of three prominent Michigan dealers, and I think I can back any statement I have ever made. I make a specialty of filling want lists of all countries. My specialty being U.S. Postage and Revenues, Canada, Peru, Mexico, Japan, Newfoundland, Hawaii, Hayti, etc. If you find nothing mentioned here that interests you

WRITE > FOR > IT.

TERMS==CASH WITH ORDER FOR ANYTHING OFFERED BELOW.

I cannot send any of these on approval to anybody, but I will fill your want list providing it is over \$5.00.

I offer the following stamps at these cheap prices:

1847 5c, used.....	\$ 40	1869 90c, unused, block of 4.....	\$125 00
10c, "	2 00	90c "	25 00
1868 1c, "	50	90c " strip of 3.....	75 00
1869 1c, "	40		
6c, "	35	1893 COLUMBIANS. Unused.	
10c, "	40	\$1.00, fine	2 00
12c, "	35	2.00, "	2 25
24c, " fine	3 00	3.00, "	3 25
30c, " "	1 50	4.00, "	4 25
90c, " good.....	5 00	5.00, "	5 25
90c, " fine	6 00		

If any of the above prove unsatisfactory they can be returned and full amount will be returned, providing you notify me 3 days after receipt.

I also have a large assortment of Canadian revenues. Selection sent on approval. Give reference. **GIVE ME A TRIAL.**

Yours Very Truly,

JOHN C. BRASSINGTON.

Have You Seen
Stanley Gibbons'

1899 CAT. PART I.

Prices have been raised on a few stamps only. Probably you are lacking the very ones, too. Fortunately I have one or two copies of each of these in stock which you had better procure now, before you'll face Scott's.

REGARDING MY APPROVAL DEPT.

If you desire a selection on approval at NET prices or at 50 to 60% discount, remember my stock is large and I am ready to serve you.

Good reference indispensable.

Have you any good duplicates you wish to sell? Will buy them outright or sell them for you on commission which is mainly my business in the stamp-line.

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WANTED.—Old Coins, Confederate Money, Stamps, Curios, 24 page Buying List. 10c silver or stamps taken. AMERICUS STAMP & CURIO Co., 309 Lamar-st., Americus, Ga.

I HAVE A FRIEND IN YURRUP.
WE VAS CHUMPS TOGEDDER.
HE IS A STAMP COLLECTOR,
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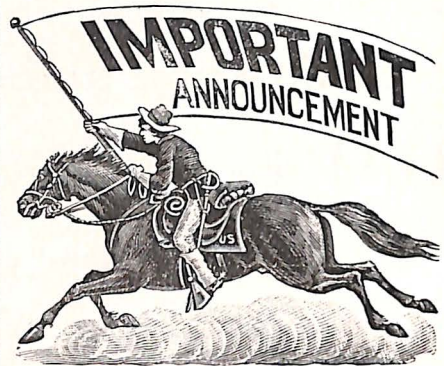
I offer 6 varieties used foreign postal cards in good condition for 15c or 12 for 40c.
 12 varieties adhesive stamps (foreign) on original cover for 15c; 25 for 50c.

All in good condition and some of these stamps are good ones.

Look through the advertising pages of your stamp journals and see how many advertisements of cards and stamps on original covers you find. This is the coming fad, get in line. A 4x4 photo of 2 pages of my postal card album showing how my collection of cards is mounted, with every order for cards.

A Canada 2c Christmas stamp UNUSED free with every order for which remittance is made by Express order or P. O. order.

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PURCHASE FROM US DIRECT.

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We are giving fine premiums to all handling our approval sheets and remitting more than 25 cents at a time.

The discount is 50%, and covers all kinds, revenues, postage, match and medicine.

A good reference will bring you our descriptive circular and a good selection on approval by return mail. State class of stamps desired.

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CANADIAN REVENUES pretty, cheap and popular, in exchange for your duplicates. Fine exchange for match and medicine and used Omahas. Canada 3d, Beaver, for 4 each 4, 5, 8, 10c Omahas, good used copies. W. Kelsey Hall, Peterboro, Ontario, Canada.

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I Pay Cash for Omahas.

1c, per 100.....\$.15	10c, per 100.....\$1.05
2c, per 100......05	50c, each......25
4c, per 100......105	\$1.00 each......50
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Must be perfect copies. Small lots of 10 and upwards accepted.

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NOTE—The contents and price—

125 VARIETIES 125.

Cheapest Christmas Packet Ever Sold

Price 35c. Post, 3c extra.

Among the contents of this great packet will be found Newfoundland 1/2c new and old issue, 3c; Canada, 5c Reg. and 5c Beaver, Jubilee 1-2-3c, Maple Leaf same; Canada Post Card 1st issue entire; 3 var. Turkey; 10 var. Austria; 6 Argentine; 5 Brazil; 6 Cuba; 4 Chili; 3 Ecuador; 3 Dutch Indies; 5 India; 5 Queensland; 10 Australia; 15 var. old U. S. previous to 1885; 10 var. rare Canada Rev., cat. 60c; U. S. War Stamps; and a great many other good stamps. Also

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.

Good Agents Wanted.

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100 varieties of stamps, Newfoundland, British Colonies, etc., 9 cents.
Wholesale price list free.

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FOR SALE!

*Mexico 1887, 10c scarlet, perf. 6,.....not given	35c
*Mexico Habilitado 1882, 10c green.....	75c 35c
*Spain 1857, 4c rose.....	60c 25c
*British Guiana 1889, surcharged, 2c mauve and black.....	45c 20c
British N. Borneo 1887, 50c violet.....	35c 15c
*Costa Rica 1889, 1p blue.....	20c 10c
Ecuador Letter Card used for Postage 5c blue (rose).....	20c 10c
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The eight Stamps for \$1.50.

Hampden Stamp Co.,

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1903 W. Main St., RICHMOND, VA.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY.

When I advertise I guarantee satisfaction. What can I do for you?

1000 mixed stamps, over 80 varieties, suitable for cheap packets or sheets.

Fine lot, 1000 postpaid.....\$ 23

1000 hinges 10c, 3000 25c, postpaid,

VARIETY PACKETS.

100 all different, catalogue value over \$1.00. My price, postpaid..... 10

150 all different, catalogue value over \$1.50. My price, postpaid..... 15

200 all different, catalogue price over \$2.50. My price, postpaid..... 25

300 all different, catalogue value over \$4.00. My price, postpaid..... 50

500 all different, catalogue value over \$10.00. My price, postpaid..... 1 75

1000 all different, catalogue value over \$35.00. My price, postpaid..... 6 25

All stamps in above packets are picked specimens and guaranteed. They **DO NOT** contain cut cards or revenues.

My 1898-9 Price List is sent free.

G. E. HUSSMAN, Rooms 420-21 Fullerton Bldg., **ST. LOUIS, MO**
P. S.—Call and see me when in town.

Something for Nothing.

In order to increase the membership of the progressive Southern Philatelic Association, I will present free to every collector applying to me for an application blank, and enclosing reply postage, an unused copy of the Two Cent Orange Newfoundland (1898 issue) stamp, which is now obsolete. I have just thirty copies to distribute in this manner. Address

WM. A. McDONNELL,

1646 Madison Ave., N. Y. City.



...Collect... Confederates!

The Most Rare and Interesting Stamps of our Country.

To start you, I will send a 2c pink for **only 10 cents**.

I can supply any Confederate stamp of the General Issue, and have a few good locals, many U. S. and Revenues, Confederate Money, etc., etc. Write me.

R. L. DEITRICK,
Lorraine, Virginia.

Reference: Editor and Bus. Mgr. THE VA. PHIL.

Murphy's Hotel,
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Most centrally located for business, sightseeing and pleasure.

JOHN MURPHY, PROPRIETOR.

Established 1896.

I HAVE STAMPS YOU PROBABLY WANT!

Shall be glad to send you my Approval Books on receipt of two satisfactory references. My stamps are right and my prices are right. Agts. wanted.

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2c Unused.....\$ 04

1851 U. S. 3c, used.....	Cat. 2c.....	\$ 01
1855 " 1c, ".....	" 15c.....	07
" " 1c, unused.....	" 50c.....	20
" " 10c, used.....	" 50c.....	22
1869 " 2c, ".....	" 15c.....	66
1875 " 5c, ".....	" 10c.....	04
1882 " 10c, re-engraved, unused..	" 50c.....	20
1879 " 15c orange, unused.....	" \$2 00.....	50
1888 " 4c, used.....	" 5c.....	02
1898 " 10c Omaha.....	" 4c.....	02

The Lot for \$1.25 Post Paid.



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Can't hold a candle to the extraordinary opportunity offered prospective buyers to actually purchase stamps at their own figures. To take advantage of this liberal offer, it is only necessary to procure my circular, etc., and act accordingly. Same to be had gratis. Address,

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SCARGE FOREIGN STAMPS CHEAP.

*Unused: all others lightly canceled.

*No. 73, Barbados, 1/2p on 4p.....	\$ 09
*No. 36, Hayti, 2 on 3c, blue.....	08
*No. 30, Hawaii, 1c violet.....	12
*Nos. 8 and 9, Gibraltar, 5 and 10c.....	12
*No. 16, Gibraltar, 10c on 1p rose.....	10
*No. 17, Gibraltar, 25c on 2p violet.....	25
*No. 18, Gibraltar, 25c on 2p blue.....	15
*No. 115, Philippine Islands, 1c green.....	25
*No. 155, Porto Rico, 1m brown, sur. 1898-9.....	10
*No. 156e, Peru, 20c orange, Commem.....	25
*No. 156b, Peru, 50c blue, Commemorative.....	48
*No. 41, Sierra Leone, 6p red-violet.....	25
*No. 58, Queensland, 2p blue.....	08
No. 125, South African Rep., 5sh dark blue.....	25
No. 144, South African Rep., 6p blue.....	17
*No. 31, Costa Rica, 1 peso, blue.....	10
No. 146, Uruguay, 20c black and green.....	20
No. 35, Ecuador, 5c on 50c maroon.....	07

Numbers to the left are according to 58th edition catalogue. 1898-9 Price List Free.

I will give one each of the above 19 picked copies for \$2.75. Money order or unused stamps.

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Rooms 420-421 Fullerton Bldg., **ST. LOUIS, MO.**
P. S.—Call on me when in town.

FROM
THE POSTAL CARD REPORTER NO. 3
 Beginners' Packets.

- A 4. 12 used Cards from Canada, Cape G. H., Ceylon, Chili, Costa Rica and Cyprus. Catalogue value 78c.....for \$ 35
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- B 23. 10 unused Cuba, Alphonso XIII. Catalogue value 78c.....for 55
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- And 61 other packets, almost given away.
 All prepaid with Omaha Stamps.

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Vol. XIII No. 1

January 5, 1899.

Whole No. 418.



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