

PUBLISHED FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 1903



The Virginia Philatelist

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All post free. The above do not contain anything but genuine foreign stamps, *no U. S.* They are absolutely unexcelled.

16 varieties Hawaii,	..	\$.60
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These five packets are very good value and are guaranteed to catalogue more than twice the price asked.

PLEASE REMEMBER that we guarantee entire satisfaction or we will refund your money.

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- 3000 " " "20
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Send us your name and address on a postal card and we will send you our new price-list which will be out shortly. It's free to all. Send us your want list.

Richmond Stamp Co., Richmond, Va.

The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 1.

RICHMOND, VA., JULY, 1903.

Whole No. 61.

The Virginia's Past and Future

ROY B. BRADLEY

THIS number of THE VIRGINIA is the sixty-first number to be issued, and as it is the first number of the sixth volume to appear, the writer believes that it will not be amiss to state a bit of the past history of our paper.

THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST made its first appearance in September, 1897, under the guidance of Messrs. Franklin Stearns, August Dietz and Frank L. Kerns, but owing to press of business Mr. Kerns soon retired, and THE VIRGINIA was conducted by Mr. Dietz as editor and Mr. Stearns as business manager. This division of the work was continued until the third volume, when the writer removed from Texas, the Lone Star State, to Richmond and consolidated his paper, the *Lone Star State Philatelist*, with this publication, and acting in the capacity of associate editor, editing each alternate issue. This arrangement existed for one year, or until the close of the third volume, when Messrs. Stearns and Dietz both retired from the Virginia Philatelic Publishing Company, Mr. Bradley then assuming entire ownership of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, and acting as editor and publisher until the present issue.

With the first issue the publication at once took rank with the leading publications of the world. The articles appearing in its columns have always been of a high grade, and it has always been the aim to equal the high ideal first established. How well this has been done is for our friends to judge.

In typographical appearance this paper has always taken first rank, and set the pace for others to follow. "As pretty as

THE VIRGINIA" became the ambition of our contemporaries. The appearance of the publication was much improved by the clever designs of Mr. Dietz.

As a financial success the paper has never been on a sound basis, probably owing to the peculiar habits of the mass of collectors who blindly stand in their own light by neglecting to properly support the philatelic press. On the other hand the writer has many pleasant recollections of happy events, and of many dear friends, loyal and true, who have been formed through the influences of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST.

Editorially the paper has and always will be a free and independent paper, published by and for the benefit of stamp collectors. Its policy is well summed up in the trite quotation:

"Unfettered and free;
Servant only to the truth."

And what of the future?

The writer takes great pleasure in announcing that he has been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Wallace Gordon Rice, an enthusiastic stamp man of this city. Mr. Rice will be the business manager of THE VIRGINIA. He will also attend to the subscription list and the mailing of the paper. If your name is not on our list, why—*subscribe!*

We desire to express our sincere gratitude to our many kind advertisers and patrons for their loyal support during the past years, and hope to merit a continuance of the same in the years to come, as the leading Southern "Exponent of Philately."



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

Published Monthly by the

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P. O. Box 124, RICHMOND, VA.

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One column, ..	2.00	5.00	8.75	15.75
One Page,.....	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., JULY, 1903.

GOOD morning. How do you like the appearance of Volume VI?

IF you are not a subscriber to THE VIRGINIA we will be pleased to enter your name upon our books. We promise you value for your money.

VOLUME SIX. We take up the work of the sixth volume with experience derived from former volumes, and the paper will pursue the same policy as in the past. We ask for the hearty co-operation of the philatelic press.

MR. Dealer, have you placed your advertising contracts for 1903? Do you not think an advertisement in this paper will pay you? It is the only one in the Southern States. We will be glad to send you any information you may desire.

IF you have frequent fainting spells, accompanied by chills, cramps, bunions,

chilblains, epilepsy and jaundice, it is a sure sign you are liable to shuffle off this life at any time and you should have a clear conscience by subscribing for THE VIRGINIA for about two years and paying in advance.

OUR advertising columns are clean and select. We prefer a few pages of advertisements from reliable dealers than a conglomerate assortment of questionable dealers of evil respect. If by accident any such gain admittance to our columns he is dropped as soon as his character is discovered.

THE *Era* well states the point that the selection of a paper as official organ of any society should be for a longer period than one year, as the changes in the mailing lists entails considerable work; then the publisher has the feeling that the benefit of any especial efforts made to build up the Association may be taken away and given to another. The above remarks are only too true, and have our hearty approval. It is quite true that many a publisher who has devoted time and money to the upbuilding of a society is given scant consideration by professed friends. Let the contract be made for at least three years — or more.

THE Post Office Department is again giving trouble to the philatelic press. Some years ago second-class rates were removed from several publications, while others were refused. Now we understand that the Department has denied the *New York Philatelist* and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* the second-class rating. The *Philatelic World* has never been able to secure the desired rates.

In order that our readers may understand the expense thus forced upon the publishers we will state that second-class matter is prepaid in bulk at the rate of one cent per pound. When denied rates the increased expense in mailing will be increased about ten-fold.

Clipped and Original

The current 2 pence New South Wales exists imperforate.

It is reported that we are to have a series of Louisiana Purchase Exposition commemoratives.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing prints the Cuban stamps, and is paid therefor 9c per 1,000.

The Raynor Hubbell Stamp Company, of Buffalo, has been incorporated with a capitalization of \$10,000.

The publishers of the Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue announce its appearance for November 10th, 1903.

The *New York Philatelist* has been sold to Mr. Brodstone of the *West*. One by one the old papers are departing.

The New England Philatelic Association will hold its annual meeting at Bass Point, Nahant, Mass., August 1st, 1903.

The 5c sage green shade of large 5c Confederate stamps is quite scarce, and worth several times the price of other shades.

The Weekly Philatelic Era announces that it is not a candidate for the position of official journal of the American Philatelic Association.

There are fifteen philatelic journals published in the United States and Canada. Not many years ago their number was sixty-two.

Mr. William Thorne has shown the *A. J. of P.* a horizontal pair of the ten drachmae of the 1901 issue of Greece without perforation between.

It is announced that Sweden has a five krona stamp in preparation, which is to

show a picture of the new Central Post-office at Stockholm.

The stamps of the first issue of Peru were borrowed from the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and were in use about three months.

The Postmaster-General of the Commonwealth of Australia has in contemplation the issue of a Federal design for the Commonwealth.

Insufficiently paid mail matter in transit from one U. P. U. country to another is marked with a big T; the same symbol is found on the Porte-de-Mar stamps of Mexico.

The genuine cancellation on the Hamburg stamps consists of a series of parallel bars stretched wide apart. The reprints are frequently found with false cancellations.

There are three types of the $\frac{1}{2}$ Neugroschen stamp of the 1850 issue of Saxony. In type I the $\frac{1}{2}$ in the lower label is perfectly straight; in the type II it leans to the left, and in type III it leans to the right.

An excellent forgery of the 5 francs, 1885 issue of Congo has appeared in Europe. The design of the forgery is an excellent one, but the lines are slightly heavier than in the genuine. The perforation is not correct, which should be exactly 15.

The J. M. Bartels Co. have purchased the entire stock of envelopes and the good will of the Chas. H. Stone Co. who have been so long prominent in this line. Mr. J. M. Berthold, the well known envelope expert, is in charge of this department. A new list of envelopes will be published in the near future.

The Rabid Collector

Mekeel's Stamp Collector

MAN, as a collecting animal, has no equal. Bees collect honey, dogs collect bones, squirrels collect nuts, but man collects everything collectible, from knowledge to souvenir spoons. The bibliomaniac collects books, the historian collects facts, the author collects rejection slips, not because he wants them, but because, like greatness, they are so often thrust upon him. Bottles, butterflies, tea-pots, coins, minerals, stuffed birds, bird's eggs, Indian relics, prints, book-plates, autographs, and biscuits from which famous persons have taken bites are among the things most sought for by the rabid collector. What is the millionaire but a collector of dollars?

Of all collectors, however, the stamp fiend is the most infatuated with his chosen pursuit. To him the world is a world of stamps. Everything in the universe suggests the coveted bits of paper. The green grass of the early Spring sets him to longing for high-priced stamps of verdant hue; the blue of the Summer skies makes him yearn for rare ultramarine specimens as far beyond his purse as are the skies beyond his reach; even the crimson radishes on the tea table remind him forcibly of blank spaces that only carmine stamps can fill.

The relative he loves best, regardless of disposition, is the one with the largest store of old letters; next in his estimation, comes the one with the most extensive foreign correspondence. Old documents are interesting only to the extent to which they are plastered with revenue stamps. When, in his reading, he comes across the name of a foreign country, does he think of its politics, its morals, its religion, or its attitude toward his own country? Not a bit of it.

He thinks of its postage stamps, and how to make them his own.

He may have forgotten the year of the Crusade, or of his own birth or marriage; but he can be trusted to give without hesitation the exact date of any issue of postage stamps authorized by any government, no matter how obscure. For him the history of the world began in England with the issue, 1840, of the first adhesive postage stamp.

He may forget to lock his front door, shake down the furnace or to mail feminine letters; may lose his glasses, absent-mindedly tie up the dog with his suspenders, or fail to keep an eye on the baby, but he is prepared to place his finger at any moment of the day or night upon any given specimen of his stamp collection. In case of fire or flood, his stamps are his first consideration.

When his nearest and dearest goes abroad for an indefinite period, does he think of their perils by land or sea? Not that any one can discover. He thinks only of the precious foreign stamps that will carry their letters to him, and he urges them to write often. Does he miss his absent friends? Not half as much as he misses the stamps when their letters go astray.

The only type of feminine beauty that finds favor in the stamp collector's eye is the type like that of Victoria on the early "Queen's-head" stamps. The only society he really enjoys is that of other stamp fiends. His castles in Spain all have garrets, and in these garrets are chests filled, not with gold, but with old letters fairly plastered with stamps—not all Spanish.

Yet, with all his eccentricities, the stamp collector is not without virtue. He is the happiest of morals, always

amiable, and always optimistic. He is never a domestic tyrant. What are domestic problems compared with stamps? His treasures before him, he is lost to the world and all its troubles. He cares not what he eats, nor when he eats, nor whether the roast is right or wrong side up on the platter. With his mind in Abyssinia or Zanzibar, and his best

friend in South Africa, mere physical discomforts have no power over him. The club has no charms for him, stamp collecting has crowded every other vice, and as a domestic animal, he is perfect. As a husband he may be safely recommended—but only maids with Victorian profiles need apply.

"O. L." Monaco Stamps

Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News

LATELY unused Monaco stamps with the overprint "O. L." in a circle formed by dots have been offered by dealers in full sets as rarities. They were said to be "Provisionals," but no indication of the meaning of the mystic letters could be obtained.

The history of this overprint is as follows: On the frontier of France and Monaco, called "Monte-Carlo Supérieur," there is a letter-box on French territory. Letters franked with either French or Monaco stamps can be posted there, and, although on French territory, letters franked with Monaco stamps are not surcharged as being unpaid. The nearest post-office is at "La Turbie," about 1½ hours from the letter-box, while it is only five minutes to the post-office at Monte Carlo. In consequence of an arrangement with the French authorities at La Turbie this letter-box is cleared from the post-office at Monte Carlo owing

to its being the nearest. Every letter found in this letter-box and franked with Monaco stamps receives the O. L. impress, which is said to mean "Orgine Locale." At first this impress was put on the stamps and they were afterward regularly obliterated; but now the overprint is not put on the stamp themselves, but is put on the envelopes.

It is therefore quite evident that unused stamps with this impress cannot legitimately exist; in fact no such stamps are to be bought at any post-office; consequently all those offered are the work of some obliging official and are more bogus than anything else. Even used stamps having this impress do not seem to be worthy of collection except by the believer in postmarks.

A letter-box has now been fixed on Monaco territory on the frontier so that letters, stamped in France, must bear French stamps.

"On to Clayton"

The Adhesive

THE great philatelic event of 1903, the assemblage of the annual convention of the American Philatelic Association at Clayton, N. Y., is near at hand, and undoubtedly every member who possibly can will be there to enjoy the scenery of the Thousand Islands and to renew philatelic acquaintanceship. That this year's

trip will be especially pleasant seems assured for those who were at the former meet held there in 1895. If you are a member, pack up your grip and hie to St. Lawrence Valley, and if not, and you can go just the same, you'll be welcome, and you can sign an application blank there as well as at home.

Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Australian Commonwealth.—Two new Postage Due stamps are chronicled by the *Australian Philatelist*.

Adhesives.

4p emerald green
5sh " "

British Central Africa.—*The Metropolitan Philatelist* chronicles the appearance of a new set of King's head stamps.

Adhesives.

1d carmine, head in drab
2d mauve, head in lilac
4d dark gray, head in green
6d buff, head in gray
2sh 6d green
4sh purple, head in lilac
10sh black, head in green
£1 carmine, head in gray
£10 blue, head in gray

Canada.—A new series was placed on sale Dominion Day, being a handsome portrait of King Edward. Other values are to appear.

Adhesives.

1c green
2c carmine
5c blue
7c olive yellow
10c brown violet

Ceylon.—*The Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* chronicles the 4, 6 and 30 cents of the King Edward type.

Colombian Republic.—A host of new issues and provisionals, including registration, registration return receipt and too late stamps have appeared for Baranquilla, Bogota, Bolivar, Boyaca and Canada. The *A. J. of P.* humorously remarks: "The latest device for creating new issues seems to be to secure a variety of colors of paper and of a liberal supply of inks and make as many combinations as possible of the two."

Danish West Indies.—A 2c stamp has appeared, type of 1902.

Adhesive.

2c carmine

Elobey, Annobon, and Corisco.—The *A. J. of P.* chronicles a set of the regular Spanish colonial type.

Adhesives.

¼c carmine
½c dark violet
1c black
2c red orange
3c dark green
4c dark blue green
5c violet
10c rose lake
15c buff
25c dark blue
50c red brown
75c black brown
1p orange
2p chocolate
3p olive gray
4p claret
5p blue green
10p gray blue

Gibraltar.—(Morocco Agencies.) *Mekeel's Weekly* lists the series formerly described as overprinted "Morocco Agencies," the values in pence and shillings being replaced by centimos and pesetas.

Adhesives.

5c gray green and green
10c lilac on red
20c green and carmine
25c lilac and black on blue
50c lilac and violet
1p black and carmine
2p black and ultramarine

Hong Kong.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* has been shown the following:

Adhesives.

30c grey-green and black
50c grey-green and magenta
£1 lilac and sage-green
£2 grey-black and vermilion

India.—An 8 anna King's head has appeared, and the 3 and 10 annas and 1½ rupees are expected shortly.

Liberia.—*Der Philatelist* states that the 16c, 1894 official has been surcharged "ORDINARY."

Adhesive.

16c lilac O. S., surch. "ORDINARY."

Roumania.—A set of commemoratives have appeared, of large oblong, rectangular stamps.

Adhesives.

- 1 ban olive brown
- 3 bani brown lilac
- 5 bani pale green
- 10 bani rose
- 25 bani black (two designs)
- 25 bani dark blue (two designs)
- 40 bani dull dark green (two designs)
- 50 bani orange yellow (two designs)
- 11 sepia
- 21 red
- 51 dark violet

St. Helena.—The *Era* has been shown a set of pictorial stamps for this island, consisting of two types, the $\frac{1}{2}$, 2 and 1sh are in type I, showing a view of the Government House, and the 1d, 8d, and 2sh show the wharf at St. Helena. Both values have a head of King Edward in the oval above.

Adhesives.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d green and brown
- 1d carmine and black
- 2d sage green and black
- 8d brown and black
- 1sh yellow buff and brown
- 2sh violet and black

St. Kitts-Nevis.—The complete series of King's head stamps for this colony has now appeared as follows:

Adhesives.

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| $\frac{1}{2}$ d green, mauve | centre. |
| 1d carmine, black | " |
| 2d brown, mauve | " |
| $\frac{2}{2}$ d blue, black | " |
| 3d brown, green | " |
| 6d purple, grey-black | " |
| 1sh brown, green | " |
| 2sh black, green | " |
| 2sh 6p violet, grey | " |
| 5sh sage-green, purple | " |

Sudan.—According to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* the current set has been surcharged "O. G. O. S." for official use.

Adhesives.

- 2 millimes, green and brown
- 3 " mauve and green
- 6 " carmine and black
- 1 piastre, black and red
- 2 " black and blue
- 5 " brown and green
- 10 " brown and mauve

Seychelles.—*Mekeel's Weekly* states that the new set was placed on sale on June 5, and consisted of the following values.

Adhesives.

- 2c brown and green
- 3c green
- 6c rose
- 12c olive brown and green
- 15c ultramarine
- 18c green and carmine
- 30c violet and green
- 45c brown and carmine
- 75c yellow and violet
- 1.50r black and carmine
- 2.25r violet and green

Salvador.—The official set has appeared, containing the words "Franqueo Oficial" engraved diagonally across the plate.

Adhesives.

- 1c dark green
- 2c red
- 3c orange
- 5c dark blue
- 10c dull lilac
- 12c slate
- 13c red brown
- 24c red
- 26c yellow brown
- 50c yellow
- 100c light blue

Spanish Guinea.—A series of stamps, the values being the same but the colors different, as announced for Elobey has appeared.

Spanish Morocco.—The current issue of Spain has been surcharged for use in Morocco.

Straits Settlements.—Two provisionals have appeared, the 4c being surcharged "3 cents" and the 4c "8 cents;" both in black.

Adhesives.

- "3 cents" on 4c yellow and red
- "8 cents" on 4c green and rose

Suriname.—Mr. C. Witt has shown the *A. J. of P.* a 5 cent, of the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent type of the 1902 issue.

Adhesive.

- 5c red

Victoria.—The *Australian Philatelist* reports the issue of the 1sh orange, in re-engraved type. The main difference

between the original and the re-engraved types is that "they are much whiter looking owing to the engine turning at the sides being in broader white lines. The word 'Postage' at the sides is also larger."

West Australia.—The *A. J. of P.* has

received the new four pence stamp, of a design similar to the four pence of the 1890-93 issue, but with the inscription at the bottom in smaller letters and reading "POSTAGE FOUR PENCE."

Adhesive.

4p orange brown

Buttons

American Journal of Philately

THERE have recently appeared in philatelic journals a number articles advocating the wearing of a button, by which philatelists might know one another. We usually regard a button as an article of use, though people have occasionally attempted to make it an ornament. More than half the buttons on a policeman's coat serve no useful purpose—though they may not point a moral, some of them adorn a tail. But the button in question, the philatelic button is to be of the ornamental class—something to be worn on the lapel of one's coat, where no button has any excuse for being.

The button of the Legion d'Honneur is a coveted decoration and the right to wear the button of the Grand Army of the Republic is a noble privilege, but a philatelic button would be child's play. It would make its wearer ridiculous and the self respecting philatelist would have none of it. The people who wear club and society pins would probably be pleased by a philatelic button, and those who enjoy adorning themselves with campaign badges and advertising buttons (usually a youthful and callow lot) would welcome it with unfeigned delight; but the men who are more thoroughly developed and whose taste has outgrown glass beads and imitation jewelry can scarcely be expected to display much enthusiasm for the project.

A button for philatelists should naturally suggest stamps. The question then arises, whose "image and superscription" shall it bear? A reproduction of

a King Edward stamp would not satisfy collectors in this country, nor would an American emblem please our British cousins; the German eagle would not be acceptable in France nor the Chinese dragon in Japan. It would be easy to give this button an international character. It would also be difficult to make it characteristic of philately and not absurd.

Attempts have occasionally been made to produce philatelic jewelry in the shape of scarf pins, watch charms, and cuff buttons, made by imprisoning a stamp under a bit of glass. These products have always been clumsy and ugly; they are startlingly conspicuous, but entirely devoid of charm or beauty. They are the sort of freaks that conservative people always shun.

The button idea is not by any means new. It does not appear to be generally known, but the thing was tried a number of years ago. The button then used was rectangular and made of bronze; it was not so "wide as a church door" but it suggested a miniature reproduction of one.

Men who are sound and well balanced dislike gewgaws and prefer not to attract attention to themselves. This class will not wear philatelic buttons and what they reject will meet only a passing favor from others. If philatelists of standing will not adorn themselves with buttons, it is of small moment whether others do or not.

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The Virginia Philatelist

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Richmond Stamp Co., Richmond, Va.

The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 2.

RICHMOND, VA., AUGUST, 1903.

Whole No. 62.

The First Commonwealth Stamp

Australian Philatelist

It came to pass that one of our members—by the name of Drake—of the first Federal Ministry of the Commonwealth of Australia, who hailed from Queensland, bethought himself to honor his country. As he held the portfolio of Postmaster-General, the idea came to him of doing so by some means of a postage stamp that would do duty in every State of the Commonwealth. But the "Five-Years Book-keeping" clause of the Federal Constitution Act presented a great difficulty, especially as he had set his face against the issue of a Federal stamp, when it was constantly pressed upon him, for the reason that the Book-keeping Clause was a bar to it. So he consulted his favourite officer, also hailing from Queensland, and, as two heads are better than one, a "back door" way was found to get out of the difficulty. An artist was found, whose name was to be kept a secret for a while, and he was instructed to draw a design, the artistic quality of which was not to be called into question, but which would honour Queensland above that of her sister States. The absence also in one or two of the States of a stamp of the denomination of 9d, presented the opportunity, or rather the excuse, for veiling the real intention of the said

Drake. The Book-keeping Clause difficulty was overcome by leaving the lower part of the design blank, and also the circle intended for the value. The stamp was then printed in a brown colour, but the value and the name of each of the Federal States was printed in blue. But the stamp had the word "Commonwealth" (Commonwealth of what?) surmounting the central design, and on each side of the centre three States were printed, one above the other. Now comes the cunningness of this would-be honourer of his country. The first State on the list is Queensland, the last New South Wales. And this is in the face of the Premier hailing from the latter State. The deed is done and Queensland has been honoured. The honour, in face of the universal abuse heaped upon the designer (not the real culprit) by all the leading newspapers in the States, is rather an unenviable one, and is certainly not deserved. We fancy that the outcry made against this stamp, and the unpardonable one of issuing it on paper used for Victorian stamps only, and printing the requirements of all the States in Melbourne, will prevent any further abuse of what is clearly the duty of a Minister who has to study the interests of all the States, and not that of one only.

A Philatelic Press Association is under way in the philatelic journalism. And the fact speaks not only for itself, but shows as well the vast stride that is being made in the stamp world. Are the needs

of the Philatelic papers really great enough to justify such an organization? All those who believe so should do all in their power to forward the movement, because we will receive much aid from it.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., AUGUST, 1903.

WE request our contemporaries to place the name of our Business Manager upon their mailing lists, and we will reciprocate when desired.

Now that the annual conventions are over, and the warm days are departing, renewed interest is being manifested in the stamp world. The conventions always open what we stamp folk call our "busy season."

The question of an album to contain spaces for Match and Medicine stamps is again being agitated. *The Perforator* quotes J. W. Scott as saying: "If the Match and Medicine stamps were properly advertised and exploited, there are Match stamps worth \$5,000 each, if we are to take postage stamps of an equal rarity as a criterion."

THE editor of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST desires to secure a few good articles, well written, about stamps, setting forth interesting facts in relation to the issue and history of stamps of various countries. We want something else than can be gained by a casual examination of a Scott catalogue. Let us hear from some of our writers. We especially desire articles on the stamps of the Confederate States.

ONE thing that our auction dealers should observe is more care in cataloging and describing the condition of stamps offered for sale by auction. To illustrate our remarks we were recently shown, by one of our friends, a copy of a stamp described as "fine." It was an imperforate stamp, and the margins on three sides were passable, but on the right it was trimmed *into* the frame of the printing. The stamp was retained, although we advised the rejection of the stamp.

FROM all indications the dealers are expecting an unusually heavy business this winter. It has been noted that business did not show the usual heavy decline during the summer just past, and although the state of trade was nothing like the "busy season," it far surpassed that of past years.

A renewed interest is manifest in the stamps of our own country, and the earlier issues are regarded as gilt-edge stock, and a renewed interest is displayed in U. S. revenues, due, no doubt, to several large lots being placed upon the market.

THE philatelic press of Great Britain is earnestly agitating the question of the establishment of a "white list," the same to include only such persons whose characters and reputations have been rigidly investigated. The need for such a list is unquestioned, as there have been

a series of swindling cases over there that leaves very little else for the English papers to comment upon. It is said that the French have in use a series of lists, ranging from the gilt edge to the black list. We wonder where some of the VIRGINIA's slow paying advertisers would be rated. And why not have such a rating in America? The need for such is clearly apparent.

MENTION was made in our last issue of how few philatelic papers are now published in the United States. Our views on the subject under discussion are agreed with

by *The Philatelic Inter-Ocean*, which states: " * * * We make the assertion boldly and without fear of contradiction, that a great majority of journals published have not paid their way, and if they run for a time it is to satiate the owner's desire for a publication of his own, or for his love for the hobby. Some start a paper and after a time find that the time at their disposal is such that they have too little to make a success of it, and then consolidate with some other, or sell out. It takes time to run even a paper the size of the *Inter-Ocean*."

The Independence, Texas, Local

Austin Statesman

Captain H. G. Askew has in his possession the cut of a war-time envelope, postmark and Confederate stamp, made at Independence, Washington county, which ranks among the most rare and valuable relics in the world, because it is the only one of its kind in existence.

The writer has some personal recollection of the time, place and circumstances under which it was made, and also the names of all the persons in any way connected with it.

During the Civil War the postal affairs of the Confederate government were not as good as they are now, the regulations not so rigidly enforced, and Confederate stamps hard to get and sometimes not to be obtained at all.

Under such circumstances some postmasters assumed all the functions, authority and power of the post-office department and improvised stamps, placed them on letters and allowed them to go on to their destination, keeping an account of all franks of this kind.

In 1862 Mr. John McKnight was postmaster in the town of Independence, Washington county. The office was kept on the public square in a good building fronting north. Every young

man in the town had enlisted in the Confederate service, to whom, of course, their aged fathers, mothers and sisters wrote frequently, making the demand for stamps very heavy. In addition to this the post-offices at William Penn, Samuels and Clay Station had not been established, all of which are situated just a few miles from that town, and Independence was not only the office where a large scope of country, very thickly settled, received their mail, but where they procured stamps also. All these things increased the demand for franks until it was immense, and made it very difficult for Postmaster McKnight to keep a supply. When the supply was exhausted and none could be had, in order that the postal facilities might not be disturbed nor forwarding letters delayed, the Confederate postal regulations authorized postmasters to receive 10 cents in money, the price of the stamp, write on the envelope "postage paid," and forward the letter to its destination.

Mr. McKnight was out of stamps so often that he concluded as a means of facilitating the work and obviating the necessity of writing the words to whittle out, or, rather, to carve, the die of a 10-

cent stamp. Being a mechanic, this he accomplished very successfully, using a penknife and a piece of oak wood.

The impression was made on common brown wrapping paper with home-made ink. These impressions were cut in shapes nearly square and pasted on envelopes with gum arabic dissolved in water. The post-office records at Independence having been destroyed by fire some years after the Civil War, just how many of these crude stamps were made and used will never positively be known; neither is it positively known how many stamp collectors have collected and preserved, but the claim is made by persons learned in such lore that there is only one on earth, and this is the property of M. Paul de Ferrary, of Paris, France, who, Mr. Askew says, paid no less than \$1,000 for it, and perhaps a still larger sum.

The entire envelope has been preserved, including, of course, postmark and stamp. The words "Southern Confederacy" are rudely carved in a circle, in the center of which is "Ten cents," also made with an ordinary pocketknife.

The postmark bears date of "Independence, July 31, 1862." The letter is addressed in a plain bold hand to Messrs. T. W. House & Co., Houston, Texas.

A gentleman who lived in Independence at the time and was perfectly familiar with the handwriting of many of the prominent people of the place recognizes the writing as that of Major A. G. Haynes, a wealthy planter of that place. In this he may be mistaken, but it is quite probable, as it is known that T. W. House & Co. were Major Haynes' merchants in Houston, that he and T. W. House were warm personal friends, and that they exchanged letters frequently

on both business and social subjects. This rare stamp and valuable souvenir of those troublesome days when families drank coffee made of parched sweet potatoes, clothed themselves in cotton cloth woven at home and dyed with copperas, was discovered by Mr. E. D. Dorchester, of Velasco. It is not known to whom Mr. Dorchester sold it, at what price nor how it found its way across the Atlantic, but it is presumed that an American agent of M. Paul de Ferrary made the purchase and shipped the valuable find to this enthusiastic collector.

The fact that this hand-made and home-made stamp was issued by Postmaster McKnight at Independence is as well authenticated as any fact in history can be, but the price paid for it and just how it came in possession of its present owner are matters of speculation.

Stamps of the same kind were issued during the war by the postmasters at Goliad, Gonzales, Beaumont, Helena and Victoria, and a number from each of these offices have been preserved and form a part of very valuable collections, but all issued from the office at Independence have been lost or destroyed save the one mentioned.

Mr. Askew's opinion that the envelope and stamp brought \$1,000 and perhaps more is based in part on the unquestioned fact that five of the stamps issued at Beaumont sold for \$5,000 to a New York collector, one of which was resold for \$1,400.

It is now quite probable in view of the fact that stamp collectors are growing daily more enthusiastic, that if the owner of the Independence stamp should offer it for sale that he would have no trouble in easily realizing from \$2,500 or \$3,000 for it.

Send us three yearly subscribers to our paper and we will send you THE VIRGINIA free for one year in return for

your services. Begin work among your friends to-day and send in the subscriptions.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Abyssinia.—It is reported that the stamps of this country are now surcharged "ETHIOPIA" in Amharic characters.

Aitutaki.—This is a new country for us to collect. The islands are to the north-east of New Zealand about 18° S. latitude and 160° W. longitude. The stamps are surcharged on current New Zealand.

Adhesives.

- ½d "Ava Pene" in carmine
- 1d "Tai Pene" in dark blue
- 2½d "Rua Pene Ma Te Ave" in carmine
- 3d "Toru Pene" in dark blue
- 6d "Ono Pene" in dark blue
- 1s "Tai Tilingi" in dark blue

Antigua.—A commemorative set has appeared, measuring about 1½ by 1¾ and show a large central medallion containing the royal arms surrounded by the inscription: EDWARDUS VII, D. G. BRITT. OMN. REX. F. D. IND. IMP. SIGIL. INSS. ANTIQUAE ET BARBADAE. MESSIS. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us the following values. The second color is one of the central medallion:

Adhesives.

- ½d green and grey-black
- 1d carmine and grey-black
- 2d brown and purple
- 2½d blue and grey-black
- 3d light brown and green
- 6d grey-black and purple
- 1s mauve and blue
- 2s violet and green
- 2s 6d red-lilac and grey-black
- 5s violet and green (King's Head in centre)

Austria.—OFFICES IN TURKEY.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly* has been shown a new series for these offices.

Adhesives.

- 10 para dark green, value in black
- 20 para rose, value in black
- 1 piaster ultramarine value in black
- 2 piaster pale blue value in black
- 20 piaster on 2 gl. dull green

Australian Commonwealth.—The first regular adhesive is a 9p issued for use in Australia. The same design will be

used for other States, the only change being the name of the State. Color is not stated.

Ceylon.—The *Monthly Journal* has received the 30c King's head stamp.

Adhesive.

- 30c mauve, value in dark green

Denmark.—Two new stamps have appeared of Type 5.

Adhesives.

- 2c carmine
- 8c brown

France.—*Ewen's Weekly* has received a set of the stamps of Indo-China, surcharged for use at Packhoi.

Adhesives.

Stamps of Indo China surch. in black.

- 1c black on azure
- 2c brown on buff
- 4c purple brown on gray
- 5c yellow green
- 10c rose red
- 15c gray
- 20c red on green
- 25c blue
- 30c cinnamon on drab
- 40c red on yellow
- 50c carmine on rose
- 75c brown on orange
- 1fr olive green on toned

Hong Kong.—To the list of last month should be added:

Adhesives.

- 20c grey-black and chestnut
- 33c grey-black and blue
- 35c lilac and blue-green
- 310c grey-black and orange on blue

Natal.—The 4s stamp of the current set is out; color carmine and yellow.

North Borneo.—The *International Briefmarken Journal* chronicles the 2c and 5c surcharged "BRITISH NORTH BORNEO" with the added surcharge "POSTAGE DUE" vertically in black.

Adhesives.

- 2c surcharged
- 5c surcharged

Orange River Colony.—In addition to our list in the June issue we add:

Adhesives.

- 1d carmine
- 4d green, carmine center

Persia.—*Le Timbrophile Belge* lists five high values with the circular surcharge. The background of all is stated to be grey and the stamps are all imperforate, with blue surcharge.

Adhesives.

- 10 tomans yellow-green
- 20 tomans blue
- 25 tomans dark green
- 50 tomans violet
- 100 tomans gold

Suriname.—A 5c stamp of the oblong type was issued at Paramaribo on June 16th.

Adhesive.

- 5c rose

Seychelles.—The English papers chronicle a provisional, consisting of the 15c King's head surcharged "3 cents" in black.

Adhesive.

- 3c on 15c ultramarine

Senegambia and Niger.—A set has appeared in the French Colonial type as follows:

Adhesives.

- 1c black on lilac blue
- 2c brown on buff
- 4c claret on lavender
- 5c light green
- 10c red
- 15c gray
- 20c red on green
- 25c blue
- 30c brown on bistre
- 40c red on straw
- 50c brown on bluish
- 75c dark violet on orange
- 1fr bronze green on straw

Servia.—We clip the following from the *Monthly Journal*:

"It appears that a complete new set of stamps had been prepared, with a portrait of the late unfortunate King in military uniform, and these must have reached this country (they were made, we believe, in Paris) either shortly before or immediately after his assassination.

They have now been issued, with the portrait obliterated by means of a surcharge showing the Arms of Servia (Eagle, bearing a shield with a cross, etc., on its breast) on a mantle, as upon some of the Servian post cards. The portrait is in black, and the frame and Arms as given below.

Adhesives.

- 1 para, lilac, Arms in blue
- 5 para, yellow-green, Arms in blue
- 10 para, carmine, Arms in black
- 15 para, stone, Arms in black
- 20 para, orange, Arms in black
- 25 para, blue, Arms in black
- 50 para, grey, Arms in red
- 1 dinar, dark green, Arms in brown
- 3 dinar, mauve, Arms in lake
- 5 dinar, brown, Arms in blue

The Arms on the 1, 3, and 5 dinars are much smaller than those on the other values in the set before us."

Venezuela.—Several sets of varieties have been produced by the Revolutionary Government. The following descriptions are taken from the *Monthly Journal*:

Guayana.—i. Large stamps, design 42 mm. square; Arms in the centre, "CORREOS DE VENEZUELA" at top, "ESTADO" at left, "GUAYANA" at right, "CENTIMOS" or "BOLIVAR" at foot, numerals in the lower corners; enclosed in a frame of small ornaments.

Adhesives.

- 5c black on pink
- 10c black on orange
- 25c black on pale blue
- 50c black on pale yellow
- 1b black on pale grey granite

These appear to have been printed singly, but in sheets of twelve, three horizontal rows of four.

We have a whole set of the above and a set of all the values of the second series for Guayana (including the only copy we have seen of the 10c on orange) plastered upon an entire envelope addressed to Port of Spain, Trinidad, and post-marked at Ciudad Bolivar on April 29th, 1903.

ii. Oblong stamps, 28x21 mm., with

a ship in the centre and the same inscriptions as above, but "Correos de Venezuela." is not in capitals and is punctuated. Frame composed of some of the same ornaments.

Adhesives.

- 5c black on pale grey granite
- 10c black on orange
- 10c black on deep red
- 25c black on pink
- 50c black on pale blue
- 1b black on pale yellow

These were set up and printed in vertical strips of three, forming so many varieties of type; the varieties may be easily recognised by the dots in the top and bottom of the frame, the uppermost stamp having three dots in each place, the second stamp two dots at top and three below, and the third three dots at top and only one below. The sheets contain twenty-four stamps, in six horizontal rows of four.

Marino.—The same type as ii. above but lettered "Distritto" at left and "Marino" at right.

Adhesives.

- 5c black on deep red
- 10c black on pale yellow
- 25c black on pale grey granite
- 50c black on pink
- 1b black on pale blue

The same varieties of type as before, but the second stamp has the third dot below too high. Sheets of the same size.

Maturin.—As Guayana, Type ii., but inscribed "MATURIN" at right.

Adhesives.

- 5c black on pink
- 10c black on pale blue
- 25c black on pale yellow
- 50c black on deep red
- 1b black on pale grey granite

The varieties are like those of Marino, and the sheets the same size. There is said to be some doubt whether the Maturin stamps were really issued, but there is no doubt that they are for sale.

It is interesting to note that some little trouble must have been taken to give the same values different colors in each of the three sets of the same design.

British Colonials in Fugitive Inks

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly

It has been the subject of remark that not all the British Colonies adhere to the Postal Union recommendations as to the colours of $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., and $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps. With a view to eliciting the real reason for such abstentions from a now universal rule, the Editor of the *Fortnightly* addressed an enquiry on the subject to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, taking as an instance the recently-issued 1d. stamp of Sierra Leone, printed in mauve and red.

In reply, Mr. H Bertram Cox, on behalf of Mr. Joseph Chamberlin, writes us as follows, under date, August 4th:—

"I am directed by Mr. Secretary Chamberlin to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th of July, relating to the colour of the new Sierra Leone penny stamp.

"2. I am to inform you that the new stamp is of the same colour as the late issue, and also of the same colour as the corresponding stamp in several other colonies. Red was not adopted as the colour of these stamps because doubly fugitive papers cannot be prepared in red, and it has been thought desirable to use doubly fugitive colours for the stamps of Crown Colonies as a measure of protection. Stamps up to and including the value of sixpence are therefore printed in mauve, which is doubly a fugitive colour, and the duty is given the labels of the colours recommended by the International Postal Congress for stamps of the respective values, the name of the Colony being given in letters of the same colour."

We club our paper with The Adhesive. See advertisement.

From the Pen of the Business Manager

THE writer takes great pleasure in accepting the office of business manager of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST and will do all in his power to promote and further the interests of our old Southern paper. We hope the readers and advertisers will give us their support and that the coming fall and winter months will be the most prosperous, both in the history of THE VIRGINIA and of our advertisers.

We hope to start an EXCHANGE COLUMN very soon and any exchange sent will be inserted at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per word including the name and address.

THE object of your advertisement is to sell stamps and deal fairly with all. Only this and nothing more. The fact should impress itself deeply in the brain of every writer of advertisements.

We desire to always protect the interests of our patrons, and any questionable transaction should be promptly reported to us. We will investigate the matter and assist them in securing satisfaction in every way possible.

We notice a good many frauds in the Fraud Reporter of the August *Perforator*, some of which give very pathetic and unique excuses. We congratulate Mr. Abbott upon the good work he is doing and hope he will keep up the fire until every fraud has vanished from our land.

We think this is a good field for some one who will compile a book containing a list of all the frauds and crooks up-to-date and we have no doubt there would be a ready sale for it. We would give him our support and possibly after seeing their name in a nice Fraud Directory it would make them repent.

No success in the stamp business will be permanent unless the articles advertised are so good that they advertise themselves. The writer recently noticed two advertisements of the same set advertised side by side in the same publication. One set was quoted at \$1.50 less than the other. *One* dealer will believe that his advertisement did not pay.

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THE \$60.00 newspaper stamp is the highest stamp in face value that has ever been issued.

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It is stated from Washington that all the dollar values of the 1894 issue have been destroyed, and no more requisitions will be filled by the Department.

We regret to learn of the death of one of our subscribers, Mr. J. V. Painter, of Cleveland, Ohio, who died August 13, after a brief illness of five weeks.

Confederate Stamps

sent on approval to responsible parties furnishing bank or good commercial references. We sell them in blocks, strips, pairs or singles. They are marked at 33 1/2 per cent. We have sold a good many of these stamps but still have good stock left. Want lists of Confederate stamps filled. Send for a selection and invest your money in stamps that are advancing in price each year. Write us today.

RICHMOND STAMP CO.
RICHMOND, VA.

ONE MINUTE, PLEASE. THREE BARGAINS

New South Wales, 5p green, 1860 issue, cat. 75, . . .20
Ecuador Jub. complete set75
Nyassa, giraffe, 2 1/4 through 5or13

All three for 40 cents.

Postage Extra. Agents Wanted. References Required

AMERICAN STAMP CO.,
806 W. Grace St., Richmond, Va., U.S.A.

NOW READY

Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue for 1903

Price 58 cents
post free.

Imperial Albums, bound in Boards, . 25c
Imperial Albums, bound in Cloth, . 40c

International Postage Stamp Albums

Nineteenth Century Edition, from \$1.50 upwards.

Twentieth Century Edition for stamps issued in 1901 and 1902, only, from \$1.00 upwards.

Circular of new packets and sets free on application.

Scott Stamp & Coin Co.,

18 East 23d St., NEW YORK, N. Y.

R·I·P·A·N·S

The simplest remedy for indigestion, constipation, biliousness and the many ailments arising from a disordered stomach, liver or bowels is Ripans Tabules. They go straight to the seat of the trouble, relieve the distress, cleanse and cure the affected parts, and give the system a general toning up.

At Druggists.

The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.

SPECIAL OFFER

Over 50 varieties all issue 1863-1900 a nice collection of this country catalogue value over \$6.50, my price \$1.50

Many others equally cheap. If you want to buy stamps why not write me to-day. I can save money for you Wholesale list free to dealers.

FRANKLIN COOMBS,

Established 1887.

ST. JOSEPH, MICH.

DO YOU KNOW THAT

We can sell you Stamps on which you can double your money? A trial is solicited. Wholesale Selections only in \$2, \$5 and \$10 lots. Remit by Express Money Order.

CHAS. C. GALLAGHER & Co.,

40 North 13th Street,

NEWARK, N. J.

JOIN UNION PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Dues 25¢ per year. Initiation fee 10 cents. For blanks and other information address

A. F. DISTELHORST,

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THE ADHESIVE,

None better. None Prompter. 30c a year, with three reading notices if sent with subscription. Adhesive and Virginia Philatelist (without reading notices) both for 30c a year.

THE ADHESIVE, Rocky Hill, Conn.

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THE ADHESIVE, Rocky Hill, Conn.

Special Bargains *in* United States

A star indicates unused. Orders under ten cents 2c extra for postage.

1857 1c blue, cat. 12c.....	\$.08	1893 10c Columbian	\$.02
1869 1c yellow, cat. 60c.....	.35	1893 50c "35
1872 1c vermilion, cat. 60c.....	.35	1893 2c " —a fine copy.....	1.25
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1879 30c black, cat. 12c.....	.09	1895 10c Special Delivery02
1879 90c carmine.....	.60	1895 50c orange06
*1888 4c carmine.....	.10	1898 1c Omaha .....	.01
*1888 5c indigo.....	.15	1898 2c " .....	.01
1888 5c " .....	.02	1898 4c " .....	.03
1888 30c brown .....	.20	1898 5c " .....	.04
1893 1c Columbian.....	.01	1898 8c " .....	.05
1893 2c " .....	.01	1898 10c " .....	.05
1893 3c " .....	.03	*1901 1c Pan-American .....	.02
*1893 3c " .....	.05	*1901 2c " .....	.03
1893 4c " .....	.02	*1901 4c " .....	.07
1893 5c " .....	.02	*1901 5c " .....	.08
*1893 6c " .....	.10	*1901 8c " .....	.13
1893 6c " .....	.05	*1901 10c " .....	.15
1893 8c " .....	.03	1901 Set complete, 1 to 10c, inc.....	.18

Approval selections sent on receipt of good reference. Write us to-day.

Richmond Stamp Co., Richmond, Va.

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 Vol. 2, with index 2.00
 Vol. 3, with index 1.75
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 P. O. Box 124, Richmond, Va.

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 Current issues supplied at 10% over face value. ALL STAMPS UNUSED.

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British West Indies.



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The Virginia Philatelist

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that our approval selections are the best if you will send for a trial selection, We sell only 50%. We have a large number of stamps which we have just purchased cat. from 1c to 5c priced at 1c. No other firm is in better position to sell so cheap. Writers sending too good references or if you are a minor send written guarantee from Parents and we will immediately send stamps. You cannot afford to pay enormous prices for such stamps when we can save you 20 per cent. in buying stamps from us.

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RICHMOND, VA.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

wants 10,000 more subscribers and to secure them quickly offers a trial subscription of one full year for 25c to each new subscriber who will send the names and addresses of two stamp collectors there will be sent a number of unused stamps to the catalogue value of 25 cents. ...

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The Collector's Own Catalog

of the adhesive postage stamps of all nations, 1904 edition, fully illustrated, with correct prices for used and unused specimens, will be ready about Oct. 20th. Send 10c now to the publishers for an early copy. Stamp dictionary and list free. Agents 50%.

Dept. B

A BULLARD & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Your Hat is on Crooked

but your head is level when you join the M. P. A. the best philatelic society going. Dues 25c to January 1904. Fine Auction, Sales and Exchange Departments. You will know more about it if you write to

MUNGER—OF—CORNING—IN—NEW YORK
Official Organ "The Metropolis" pub. by the society

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as follows:

150 varieties,	\$.09
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All post free. The above do not contain anything but genuine foreign stamps, *no U. S.* They are absolutely unexcelled.

16 varieties Hawaii, . . .	\$.60
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25 " Chinese,25
40 " "60

These five packets are very good value and are guaranteed to catalogue more than twice the price asked.

PLEASE REMEMBER that we guarantee entire entire satisfaction or we will refund your money.

Makins & Co., Inc.,
506 Market St., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

A few of our Bargains

- * means unused, orders under ten cents. 2c for postage.
- U. S. 1857 1c blue cat. 12c.08
- 1869 1c yellow cat. 60c.35
- 1872 7c vermilion cat. 60c.30
- 1879 30c black cat. 12c.08
- 1888 30c brown20
- 1901 Pan American set15
- *Canada 1897 1/2c Jubile25
- * 1897 6c "40
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- *New Foundland 1868 6c rose cat. \$1.50 .25
- * " " 1887 1/2c red06
- 50 varieties Foreign Stamps05
- 50 " " U. S. "10
- 10 Blank approval sheets05
- 50 " " "15
- 1 " " " book03
- 5 " " " books10
- 1000 Stamp Hinges08
- 3000 " " "20
- Scott's '03 cat. and other for. stamps . .58

Send us your name and address on a postal card and we will send you our new price-list which will be out shortly. It's free to all. Send us your want list.

Richmond Stamp Co., Richmond, Va.

The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 3.

RICHMOND, VA., SEPT., 1903.

Whole No. 63.

Albums and Catalogues

American Journal of Philately

* * * * The people who print albums and catalogues are business men. They are not working for their health nor to gratify their whims. They are in business to make money. One way to do this is to make articles which their patrons wish and which, therefore will sell. Two things determine what should be included in albums and catalogues, these are common sense and a knowledge of popular demand. The latter term does not mean that which is called for by the man who has worked himself into a specialist's frenzy and backs up his ideas with the dire threats of what will be done if his wishes are not heeded, but the quiet insistence of the many which makes itself felt.

In an open letter recently published by one of our contemporaries complaint is made because the International Album, published by the proprietors of this journal, contains only some blank pages for the stamps of Afghanistan and the Native Indian States. The average collector who gets a few stamps from these countries is not much interested in them and is perfectly content to place them on blank pages. The man who seriously collects the stamps of these countries would never be satisfied with a printed album, only a blank one would afford scope for his desires. The reason for reducing the space allotted to these particular countries was that hundreds of collectors had complained because so many pages in their albums were devoted to stamps which were so uninteresting and unintelligible that we had decided

not to collect them. Can it be supposed for a moment that the publishers (who also have stamps for sale) would be so blind to their own interest as to cut down any countries in which collectors generally are interested? As business men their object is to help the collector, to provide the things he wants and to eliminate the things which annoy him.

The letter also calls for the publication of an album for Match and Medicine stamps. Did the demand for such a work warrant its publication there can be little doubt that it would soon be in the market. To produce an album devoted exclusively to these stamps would involve an expenditure of thousands of dollars and might result in the sale of a few dozen copies to the very limited number of collectors of these stamps. Few publishers are sufficiently enthusiastic or philanthropic to risk such a loss. If the pages for match and medicine stamps were to be included in the regular albums for United States and foreign postage stamps we should soon have a "howl" from the great body of collectors that their books are cumbered by pages for which they have no use.

* * * * *

In these matters the wishes of the majority must rule. The publishers are seeking to give the greatest satisfaction to the greatest number. Did they attempt to carry out the ideas of each individual collector their publications would probably be freaks and suit no one.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

Published on the 25th of each Month by the
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.,

ROY B. BRADLEY, Editor and Prop.,
P. O. BOX 124, RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A.

W. GORDON RICE, Business Manager,
P. O. BOX 124, RICHMOND, VA.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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

An X marked opposite this notice indicates that
your subscription has expired and a prompt renewal
is solicited.

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SPACE.	1 Mo.	3 Mos.	6 Mos.	1 Year
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Half-column, ..	1.25	3.25	5.00	8.75
One column, ..	2.00	5.00	8.75	15.75
One Page,.....	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th
of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA. SEPTEMBER, 1903.

The merit of advertising is fully attested in the fact that all successful stamp dealers in the business use it continually.

The Philatelic World is a newsy little sheet that finds its way to our desk weekly. There are lots of good things for the money.

We acknowledge receipt of the Canadian Philatelic Manual for 1903, published by the Capital Stamp Co., of 63 Mackay Street, Ottawa, Canada. The book contains a list of collectors and dealers in the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland, together with names of the members of the Canadian societies. Price 25c.

The publisher of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST after diligent research and some

purchasing, is prepared to supply bound and unbound volumes of this journal at reasonable rates, which are published elsewhere. The binding is of a popular style, morocco and cloth, with the title neatly stamped in gold lettering, and is a handsome addition to any library.

A considerable number of sample copies are mailed and we solicit your subscription if your name is not already upon our books. We are well aware that we are one of the many, but we believe any collector can easily receive his money's worth, and we solicit your patronage entirely upon the merits of our publication. THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST is to-day the only journal for stamp collectors in the South.

THE criticisms of the daily press in regard to the over-elaborated design of the current two-cent stamp have had their effect, and now we learn from the Washington correspondent of *Meekel's Weekly Stamp News* that the die proof has now been O. K'd. by the proper officials, and that the preparation of the plates will begin at once. It is stated that the design is unique and different from anything that stampdom has ever seen. The design is quite different from the present one, being a large shield of rather peculiar shape, Washington in the center, and about two-fifths of the upper portion constituting a field, with six or seven stars being visible. The words "United States" and "of America" appear in two curved lines in the upper portion of the field.

"Series of 1902" is in very small type just under the two lines. The figures "2" are in about the same position, but are surrounded by a wreath. The name "Washington" appears in a curve below and the dates of birth and death at either side, and "Postage Two Cents" in two straight lines across the bottom completes the design.

Postage Stamps as Money

BY FRANK C. YOUNG

WHILE the subject is not one appertaining to the study of true philately, an interesting thing in relation to postage stamps and one which I think has not been much discussed in stamp periodicals is the use of postal labels as a circulating medium. At the present time this is prevalent to the extent that small sums are mostly sent by mail in stamps, but they are seldom passed from hand to hand as money in the every day transactions of business.

As will be remembered by older collectors in the strenuous days of the Civil War, in the days when a leading English stamp magazine referred to this nation as the *dis*-United States postage stamps, glutinous and greasy, dirty and delapidated, crumpled and creased, formed the only small change of the community the cause of many vituperative and profane adjectives and remarks as unclean as the stamps themselves.

At the North, during the earlier years of the war, the scarcity of small change was so great that many firms found it desirable and even necessary to issue a fractional currency of their own, cents made from copper and higher values of paper. Many of these war tokens are to found in numismatic collections of the present. This custom, more especially in the matter of half dollars and quarter dollars of paper, prevailed to an even greater extent at the South, where not only firms and individuals but States and municipalities, I believe, found it incumbent upon them to issue fractional notes.

But such was the constantly growing demand that these means were insufficient to supply it and the mainstay for change-making purposes was the use of postage stamps. These, naturally, after having passed through a dozen or so of

hands became torn and soiled, so much so that the loss from this cause was very great in the aggregate.

To obviate this difficulty some inventive genius brought out small cases for holding postage stamps. These had metal backs utilized for advertising purposes and a transparent front of mica. A postage stamp of the value of three, five or ten cents being inserted in the case, it was plainly visible and was thereafter passed from hand to hand with increased facility and with greater safety insured to the inclosed stamp.

The difficulties accompanying the use of stamps as a circulating medium was the prime cause for the issuance by the Northern government of the "shinplasters" or paper fractional currency, originally designated postal currency, the first issue of which bore representations of one or more postage stamps on each note.

While the use of stamps for money was very common in the North it was still more prevalent in the Southland, when, in most sections there was practically no other small change.

Indeed it is generally conceded that the principal reason for issuing one value of Confederate stamps, the twenty cent green, was for use as fractional currency as there was little demand for this value as a postage stamp.

This stamp, the finest printed of the Confederacy, first came out about June 1, 1863, and a very large number were issued from time to time. That this date is approximately correct is shown by the following extract from the *Richmond, (Va.) Examiner* of June 4, 1863, and that the main use to which the stamps would be put is shown by the fact that the article was headed "More Money."

"A new postage stamp of the denomination of twenty cents has been forth by the Treasury Department. The stamp is of a rich dark green color, with the medallion of Washington on the face, encircled by the words 'Confederate States of America' and the designation of twenty at the top and bottom, the former in figures and the latter in letters. The engraving is the best that has been executed in the postal currency.

"The medallion of Washington is excellent, with something peculiarly striking and natural, in the countenance not found in the best pictures of the Father of His Country.

"The stamp, if issued in any number, will be a good medium of change, and because of its high fractional value will, we hope, drive from general circulation some of the dirty five cent stamps that are becoming a greater nuisance every day."

The Stamps of Livonia

Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

In the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we find a few notes on the creation of the stamps of Livonia, which may be of interest.

The district of Wenden, or "Wendenschen Kreis," is one of the largest of the nine districts of the Russian province of Livonia, and is about as large as the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. Its shape is long and narrow. Proportionally few Russian post offices existed, and the great length of the district from north to south not only made the service difficult but also caused delays in delivery, wherefore it became absolutely necessary to make better postal arrangements. The representatives of the district suggested a scheme for a district postal service, to be quite separate from the Government postal service. This scheme was submitted to the Diet of Livonia, who decided to lay it before the Government for confirmation, which was accordingly done and obtained. In the district of Wenden special district post offices were instituted, whose duty consisted in the forwarding of all postal

matter within the district, with the result that the few Government post offices were quite neglected, except for correspondence addressed to places outside the district, which had to be forwarded, as before, to the Government offices in the principal towns as heretofore. All letters handed over to the Government postal service had to be franked with Russian stamps in addition to those of the district of Wenden, letters posted and intended for addresses within the district, only bore Wenden stamps. These were always obliterated with pen and ink, the Russian stamps, however, with dies, which are sometimes also seen on those of the district when they happen to adjoin the Russian stamps on the envelope. The early stamps had no inscription of value but all, with the exception of the green oblong stamp, were of the value of 2 kopecs. Lately a few more Governmental post offices have been opened, yet the district postal is in full working order still, and enjoying practically a monopoly of the custom.

Send us three yearly subscribers to our paper and we will send you THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST free for one year

in return for your services. Begin work among your friends to-day and send in the subscriptions.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Australian Commonwealth.—It is announced that a 10sh and 20sh Postage Due stamp has appeared, presumably of type II.

Adhesives.

- 10sh emerald green
- 20sh emerald green

Bosnia.—The 40 heller stamp has appeared printed in orange with numerals in black.

British East Africa.—The 1 ama stamp is now issued in bright rose.

Columbian Republic.—**BOLIVAR.**—*The American Journal of Philately* has seen another of the the abominations for this State. It is a 50c stamp of the design mentioned in our July number, but is printed in a new color. We have also seen imperforate copies of most of the Registration, Registration Return Receipt and Two Late stamps, which have been previously chronicled with sewing machine perforation, but we spare our readers a list of them.

Adhesive.

- 50c slate on pink

French Offices in China. **MONGTSE.**—According to several of our European contemporaries, the Indo China stamps have been surcharged with the word "MONGTSE" and Chinese characters, as Packhoi.

Adhesives.

- 1c black on lilac blue
- 2c brown on buff
- 4c claret on lavender
- 5c light green
- 10c red
- 15c gray
- 20c red on green
- 25c blue
- 30c brown on bistre
- 40c red on straw
- 50c carmine on rose
- 75c deep violet on orange
- 1fr bronze green on straw

Italy.—*La Timbrophile Belge* illustrates an Express stamp (presumably the same thing as our Special Delivery stamp). The stamp is of large size, with portrait of the king in an oval at the left and inscriptions "POSTES ITALIANE—ESPRESSO—CENT 25" in three lines.

India.—In our July number we gave a partial list of the new issue. The complete set is as follows:

Adhesives. (Regular)

- 3p gray
- 1/2a light green
- 1a carmine
- 3a violet
- 2 1/2a blue
- 3a orange brown
- 4a olive green
- 8a violet

Adhesives. (Official)

- 1/2a light green and black
- 1a carmine and black
- 2a violet and black
- 2 1/2a blue and black
- 3a orange brown and black
- 4a orange green and black
- 8a violet and black

Leeward Islands.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* published an order in Council, dated July 2d, quoting from the General Stamp Act of 1800, that in addition to uniform stamps for the Colony, the Governor may direct that special stamps may be used for each Presidency concurrently with the uniform ones. Therefore, the Governor orders such special stamps as follows:

"On and after the third day of July the several values of special stamps in the Presidencies shall be 1/2d., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d., 6d., 1sh., 2sh., 2sh 6d., and 5sh. The Post-cards shall be 1/2d., 1d., and Reply 2d. The Wrappers shall be 1/2d., 1d. The Envelopes, 1d., 2 1/2d., Registration Envelopes, large and small.

The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of Antigua shall be the

"A new postage stamp of the denomination of twenty cents has been forth by the Treasury Department. The stamp is of a rich dark green color, with the medallion of Washington on the face, encircled by the words 'Confederate States of America' and the designation of twenty at the top and bottom, the former in figures and the latter in letters. The engraving is the best that has been executed in the postal currency.

"The medallion of Washington is excellent, with something peculiarly striking and natural, in the countenance not found in the best pictures of the Father of His Country.

"The stamp, if issued in any number, will be a good medium of change, and because of its high fractional value will, we hope, drive from general circulation some of the dirty five cent stamps that are becoming a greater nuisance every day."

The Stamps of Livonia

Philatelic Journal of Great Britain

In the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* we find a few notes on the creation of the stamps of Livonia, which may be of interest.

The district of Wenden, or "Wendenschen Kreis," is one of the largest of the nine districts of the Russian province of Livonia, and is about as large as the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg. Its shape is long and narrow. Proportionally few Russian post offices existed, and the great length of the district from north to south not only made the service difficult but also caused delays in delivery, wherefore it became absolutely necessary to make better postal arrangements. The representatives of the district suggested a scheme for a district postal service, to be quite separate from the Government postal service. This scheme was submitted to the Diet of Livonia, who decided to lay it before the Government for confirmation, which was accordingly done and obtained. In the district of Wenden special district post offices were instituted, whose duty consisted in the forwarding of all postal

matter within the district, with the result that the few Government post offices were quite neglected, except for correspondence addressed to places outside the district, which had to be forwarded, as before, to the Government offices in the principal towns as heretofore. All letters handed over to the Government postal service had to be franked with Russian stamps in addition to those of the district of Wenden, letters posted and intended for addresses within the district, only bore Wenden stamps. These were always obliterated with pen and ink, the Russian stamps, however, with dies, which are sometimes also seen on those of the district when they happen to adjoin the Russian stamps on the envelope. The early stamps had no inscription of value but all, with the exception of the green oblong stamp, were of the value of 2 kopecks. Lately a few more Governmental post offices have been opened, yet the district postal is in full working order still, and enjoying practically a monopoly of the custom.

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A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Australian Commonwealth.—It is announced that a 10sh and 20sh Postage Due stamp has appeared, presumably of type II.

Adhesives.

- 10sh emerald green
- 20sh emerald green

Bosnia.—The 40 heller stamp has appeared printed in orange with numerals in black.

British East Africa.—The 1 ama stamp is now issued in bright rose.

Columbian Republic.—**BOLIVAR.**—*The American Journal of Philately* has seen another of the the abominations for this State. It is a 50c stamp of the design mentioned in our July number, but is printed in a new color. We have also seen imperforate copies of most of the Registration, Registration Return Receipt and Two Late stamps, which have been previously chronicled with sewing machine perforation, but we spare our readers a list of them.

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Adhesives. (Regular)

- 3p gray
- ½a light green
- 1a carmine
- 3a violet
- 2½a blue
- 3a orange brown
- 4a olive green
- 8a violet

Adhesives. (Official)

- ½a light green and black
- 1a carmine and black
- 2a violet and black
- 2½a blue and black
- 3a orange brown and black
- 4a orange green and black
- 8a violet and black

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The design of the special stamps for the Presidency of Antigua shall be the

same as that on the Public Seal of the Presidency for all values, with the exception of the 5sh., which stamp will bear the design of the head of His Majesty, the King.

For the Presidency of St. Christopher Nevis, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., 6d., 1sh., and 2d. 6sh., values, the design to be Columbus sighting land, taken from the Public Seal. For the 1d., 3d., 2sh., and 5sh. values, the design to be the group emblematic of the Sulphur Bath of Nevis, also taken from the Public Seal of the Presidency.

For the Presidency of Dominica, a design showing a view of Dominica from the sea, for all values with the exception of the 5sh., which will bear the design of the head of the King.

For Montserrat the central figure in the Public Seal of the Presidency for all except the 5sh., which will bear the King's head.

The Post-cards, Wrappers and Envelopes shall bear designs similar to those of the minor values of the postage stamps of the several Presidencies."

We have condensed the above from the official *Gazette*, so that collectors may know what to expect, a series of seventy-six stamps and entires for a group of islands of less than 700 square miles, with a population of about 200,000.

The Crown Agents here are offering all the stock of the Victorian issue of the Leeward Islands Government, so there is another chance for Mr. Thompson or some other speculator, but those entires will not be bought. The dies are said to "have been destroyed, so no further supplies can be printed." Apparently, the total value of adhesives is just over £7,000 for about 280,000 stamps.

Liberia.—*Der Philatelist* reports still other Official stamps surcharged "ORDINARY," for use as regular postage stamps. These are the 24c., \$1 and \$2 of the 1892 issue surcharged "OFFICIAL," the triangular 5c and the 24c. and 32c. of the 1894

issue with the surcharge "o. s." and the 5c. of the 1893 issue, likewise surcharged "o. s."

Adhesives.

- 24c olive green on yellow
- \$1 blue and black
- \$2 brown on yellow
- 5c violet and green
- 24c olive green on yellow
- 32c greenish blue
- 5c dark carmine and black

Montserrat.—According to the *American Journal of Philately* a new series of stamps has been prepared and issued for this colony. The design of all but the highest value of the series, a female figure clinging to a cross and resting the left hand upon a harp, is about as inappropriate for a postage stamp as anything that it has been our misfortune to see in a long time. The highest value, 5 shillings, is, with the exception of the name of the colony, of the same design as the 5 shillings of the new Antigua set.

Adhesives.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ p gray green
- 1p carmine and black
- 2p brown and black
- 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ p ultramarine and black
- 3p dark violet and brown orange
- 6p olive green and violet
- 1sh violet and gray green
- 2sh brown orange and gray green
- 2sh 6p black and gray green
- 5sh scarlet and black

Persia.—*Le Timbrophile Belge* has seen the 50 krans green with the surcharge "2 TOMANS" or "3 TOMANS," and an additional surcharge in Persian characters.

Adhesives.

- Perforated. Blue surcharge.
- 2t on 50k green
- Black surcharge.
- 3t on 50k green

Seychelles.—In addition to the provisional 3 cent on 15 cent chronicled last month the 45 cent brown and carmine has been surcharged "3 CENTS" in black.

Victoria.—The *Australian Journal of Philately* reports the 3 and 6 pence of the current issue. To this it also adds the $\frac{1}{2}$ penny with the compound perforation.

From the Pen of the Business Manager

Have you a friend interested in postage stamps? If so, send us his name and we will be pleased to send him a copy of our paper.

We will furnish you with a copy of the 63rd edition catalogue and give you one year's subscription to THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST for a 65 cent money order.

"Lest we be forgotten" is an excellent motto for men in the stamp trade, and reminds us of the necessity of persistence in advertising. The memory of collectors are often very short.

OUR readers are wide awake and intelligent and quickly grasp at any bargains offered them. Dealers will please take notice that now is the time to make contracts for the coming season.

Continuous advertising creates confidence. The facts are that one cannot be constantly before the public without being found out. And it may be remarked that advertising should promise satisfaction and every care taken to see that it is given. This is one secret of successful advertising.

Confidence is of slow growth. Patrons of philatelic advertisers are conservative, and nearly always give preference to an old and well-known firm, all else being equal. A firm or dealer contemplating an advertising campaign should be prepared to keep his name prominently before the people, and regular advertising pays far better than spasmodic efforts.

Clipped and Original

Counterfeits and double strikes of the 1903 Hayti surcharges are out.

The inscription on the stamps of Western Australia now reads "West Australia."

THE so-called reprints of the first issue of Wurtemberg are official imitations, and were made in 1864.

The "White List of Philatelists" mentioned in our last has been established by the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

J. W. Prevost, of Springfield, Mass., has built a new home, and has his stamp den in it completely papered with stamps.

The collectors who are forming a library will do well to complete their files of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, as some numbers are almost out of print.

ONE of our friends, Mr. Theodore Siddall, of New York, is temporarily in the Phillipine Islands, in the Government service, and has commissions to purchase stamps for several of our dealers.

About the biggest dollar's worth of philatelic literature a collector can obtain for \$1.00 is a yearly subscription to *Mekeel's Stamp Collector*. The volume for the past year contained over 700 pages.

The specimens of £1 English stamps having a cancellation of

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Mr. Roy B. Bradley, publisher of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, is in their employ and has charge of this department. Correspondence invited from prospective customers. :: :: :: :: ::

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*1888 4c carmine.....	.10	1898 1c Omaha01
*1888 5c indigo.....	.15	1898 2c "01
1888 5c "02	1898 4c "03
1888 30c brown20	1898 5c "04
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1893 2c "01	1898 10c "05
1893 3c "03	*1901 1c Pan-American02
*1893 3c "05	*1901 2c "03
1893 4c "02	*1901 4c "07
1893 5c "02	*1901 5c "08
*1893 6c "10	*1901 8c "13
1893 6c "05	*1901 10c "15
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The Virginia Philatelist

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Entered at the Post Office at Richmond, Virginia, as Second-class mail matter, September, 1897.

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 4.

RICHMOND, VA., OCT., 1903.

Whole No. 64.

The Brattleboro Stamp

Evening Telegram, October 10

A valuable specimen in the estimation of stamp collectors is the Brattleboro stamp on the original letter which has lately been added to the wealth of philatelic treasures which goes to make up the remarkable postage stamp collection of John F. Seybold, of Syracuse, N. Y.

Syracuse is honored in holding a collection such as Mr. Seybold possesses, famed over the whole world, particularly as being the richest in existence in the matter of rare stamps on the original letters. This fact has made the city of Syracuse known in foreign lands and out-of-way places where it otherwise would not have been heard of, for the stamp collecting fad is widespread, covering the entire habitated area of the globe.

The letter is most interesting as illustrating a provisional stamp issue during the probationary period before the issuance of stamps by the general government of the United States. The forerunner of the postage stamp in this country was the hand stamp marks showing the amount of postage, together with the word "paid" or "collect," to indicate whether the postage had been prepaid or was to be collected on delivery. The hand stamp was in much earlier use than the postage stamp, and we find the hand stamp preceded by the use of pen and ink for the same purpose.

The first use within the United States of stamps of even a semi-official character to indicate the prepayment of postage was in 1842, when the United States

City Despatch Post was established in New York by authority of the First Assistant Postmaster General, "for the conveyance of letters from one part of the city to another, subject to a charge on each letter of three cents, under section 20 of the laws of 1836."

These stamps, costing three cents each, did not prepay postage from one city to another, but simply paid for delivery within the city limits of New York. One carrier was appointed, and authority was given to the New York postmaster to appoint others from time to time as might be needed, also to procure "the necessary fixtures, pouches, boxes, labels, stamps, etc., at not exceeding \$1,200 for the whole." Such was the humble birth of the great free delivery system, of whose present day magnitude this city has just had a fitting illustration.

* * * * *

At some time after the inauguration of President Polk on March 4, 1845, the little village of Brattleboro, Vt., was treated to a new postmaster in the person of Dr. Frederick N. Palmer, a worthy physician of that place, who was also the village music teacher, and had the distinction of issuing what many authorities consider to be second of the postmaster stamps issued in the United States.

The exact date when these stamps were issued is lost, and the utmost research of stamp collectors has never been able to determine it.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

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RICHMOND, VA., OCTOBER, 1903.

Dealers from all parts of the country report an unusually good summer business, and a brisk season is anticipated.

We will supply Scott's 1904 edition of the standard catalogue and one year's subscription to this paper for a sixty-five cent money order.

Our old favorite, *The Weekly Philatelic Era* has been sold by Mr. Jewett to the Era Publishing Co. of Boston, and will be removed to that city. It is stated that the *Mekeel's Weekly* people are backing the new venture.

Quite a number of changes have occurred among the weeklies recently. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* has raised its subscription price to \$1.00 per year, and began several new departments. The paper is well worth the money, and

it has often been wondered how it could be furnished at the former low price.

It is definitely announced that we will have the Louisiana commemoratives. Replying to a letter from Mr. E. R. Aldrich, of the *Philatelic World*, Assistant P. M. G. Madden states definitely that commemorative stamps will be issued in connection with the Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis. "The matter of designs," Mr. Madden adds, "is now under consideration."

Our readers have doubtless noticed the issuance of new issues for the different groups comprising the Leeward Islands. It appears that they do not even supersede the regular issue, but are to run "concurrently." It is a matter of much regret that Great Britain allows her colonies to descend to the level of the South and Central American republics. In our opinion they are not on a level even with the Seebach issues. Of course we had our Columbians, and Canada her Jubilees, but it seems a pity for such collectible countries as the Leeward Islands to be injured in the standing of collectors.

Just as we go to press we hear that Panama, one of the states of the Columbian Republic, has seceded from the federation and established an independent government. It seems that the chief reason for the action lies in the rejection of the Panama Canal Treaty by the Columbian Congress, and which was enthusiastically advocated by Panama. It seems a general opinion among the press of the country that the administration at Washington is secretly giving encouragement to the revolutionists, and this country may be placed in the rather interesting position of encouraging that which was so forcibly denied the Confederate States some forty years ago. Of course we are on the outlook for surcharges and provisionals!

A Virginia Secret Worth Millions

Richmond, (Va.) Times-Dispatch, October 17

On a four-acre point of land jutting out into the Yeocomico River, a tributary to the Potomac, is located a manufacturing plant which is worth millions of dollars to the owner, who has declined all offers to form a "trust" and without the product of said factory the receiving and sending of United States mails would come to a sudden halt.

This isolated place is where all the steel postal marks used by Uncle Sam in the transacting of his postal business are manufactured, and the secret, a process of their manufacture, is as carefully guarded as though the building were filled to the rafters with the most precious gems ever found in the richest diamond fields.

It was a fear that the secret process would be discovered that caused the owner, Mr Benjamin Chambers, to seek the seclusion of one of the most desolate and out-of-the-way points of Northumberland county, Va., and remove the plant from the national capital, where his father had carried on the business of furnishing the Postoffice Department with stamp-markers since 1835, barring four years of the war, when he was too old to look after the manufacture, and his son, the present owner, was fighting for his country as captain of the Second Pennsylvania regiment. During those four years the contract was awarded William Fairbanks Company, of Connecticut, who were glad enough to give up the contract, as it was realized that they could not "deliver the goods," and the Department was paying fully five times more for an inferior steel stamp. Mr. Benjamin Chambers was awarded the contract by the Department in 1867, and has held it continuously since, though at times other parties have attempted to break in on his contract.

No successful effort has been made, and Mr. Chambers expresses the belief that he will be able to leave the plant and the contract to his sons as it was left to him by his father.

"I feel entirely safe with my secret here," said Mr. Chambers as he stood in front of the factory surrounded by a number of his workmen. "There is not a man in my employ who would be tempted for any sum of money to divulge what he knows of the secret. I have men working for me now who have been with me from the very first day I landed here with my machinery. I take them and train them up in the business—there are a number of branches of the work—and they stay with me. I guess we are just about as contented a manufacturing community on a small scale, as will be found in the United States."

At the close of the Civil War the Post-Office Department was paying \$24 each for the larger stamp, and \$5.25 for the smaller. The price of the former is now \$3 25 and the latter \$1.70, which is a slight increase over the prices of previous years, owing to the increased price of steel and other materials. The steel for the stamps is made by the ton by a Pittsburg company, and is of superior quality, being made under the personal directions of Mr. Chambers. The increased cost of the stamps is also due to a large number of letters and figures used, the Postoffice Department now requiring not only the hour, but the minutes recorded by the stamp. Each stamp furnished must be guaranteed for two years, and it is seldom that one fails to serve its allotted time, but occasionally some country postmaster, who uses a piece of grave stone for an inking and stamping slab, will hammer the hard steel type to ribbons in six months. First-class offices,

where there are the right kind of stamping tables, wear out less stamps than the cross-roads offices. Last year Congress appropriated \$37,500 for postmarking and rating stamps, and the present appropriation is \$45,000, but not all of this is expended for the Chambers stamps, his bills running to something like \$22,000 annually. There are rubber and other stamps made of type metal, which Mr. Chambers has no hand in.

* * * * *

While all the work of manufacturing is done here, Mr. Chambers' contract with the Postoffice Department stipulates that orders for duplicate stamps must be filled immediately, and in order to comply with this he has his son-in-law, Mr. Worthington, in charge of an office and supply house in Washington, and that gentleman having served a number of years in the factory, is prepared to put the stamps together and meet any demand made by the Department. When a postoffice, for instance, is destroyed by fire, one of the very first things the Department does is to order a new outfit of postmarking stamps forwarded to the office, for business cannot be resumed until these stamps reach the office. For this and similar "hurry up" calls for postmarking stamps the Washington office is always prepared, and the factory is constantly shipping new parts for the stamps.

One can scarcely believe that the making of these simple looking stamps would require machinery sufficient to build a locomotive, but it does, and the large building is crowded with machinery of the finest and most expensive make. Much of this machinery is of the invention of Mr. Chambers' father, and a great deal of his own. Mr. Chambers has spent months and years studying and trying to solve certain points about his inventions which have simply not reached a stage of perfection, and he feels that everything connected with the machinery and the manufacture of the stamps is secure from all prying interference by men who would give a fortune to learn the secret, which has caused the government to pay the Chambers' fully a million and a quarter during their contracts of sixty-eight years. There are now almost ninety thousand postoffices in the United States and these are being added to at a rapid rate, and the offices in our new possessions is swelling the list at a tremendous rate. Each and every office, down to the smallest hamlet, must have a postmarking stamp, and the consequence is that the stamp factory on this lonely spot of land almost surrounded by water is kept running on full time, and the native Virginians who do the work are ready to severely handle any prying individual who comes nosing around.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

British Central Africa.—The *Monthly Journal* chronicles a new issue, about the regulation size, with the values in the upper corners and the inscription: "BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA—PROTECTORATE" in two lines, at foot.

Adhesives.

1d gray and carmine

2d lilac and mauve
4d grey-green and black
6d grey and buff
25 6d grey-green and green
45 lilac and mauve
105 grey-green and black
£1 grey and carmine
£10 grey and blue

British Somoliland.—The ½a Indian

stamps, head of King Edward, has received the surcharge "SOMALILAND."

Adhesive.

1/2a green, black surcharge

Ceylon.—In addition to the 30c King's head which we listed in our August issue we have to list the following:

Adhesives.

2c orange-brown
5c lilac
12c sage-green, value in carmine
15c ultramarine
25c light brown

Dominica.—The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* has been shown the new stamps of this country. The stamps are of an oblong shape and show a view of the island; the 5sh showing the head of King Edward.

Adhesives.

1/2d green
1d carmine and black
2d brown and green
2 1/2d blue and black
3d black and mauve
6d brown and black
1sh violet and green
2sh purple and black
2sh 6p orange and green
5sh brown and black

East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.—According to *Ewen's Weekly* a set of stamps has been issued for these provinces, superseding those of British East Africa and Uganda. It is said a 2 anna violet and lilac, King's head type, was placed on sale July 24th, 1903.

France.—Separate sets of stamps are now being issued for Canton, Hoi-hoa, Mongtze, Pack-hoi, Tchongking, and Yunnan-sen, all formed by overprints on the stamps of Indo-Chine, consisting of the name and value in Chinese, in black. The sets run from 1c to 1fr.

French Somali Coast.—The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* lists a new set of stamps for this colony, of the same design as issued earlier in the year.

Adhesives.

1c claret and black
2c ochre and black

4c red and black
5c green and black
10c rose and black
15c brown and black
20c purple and black
25c indigo and blue
25c blue and black
40c orange and black
50c green and black
75c orange-brown and black
1fr orange and black
2fr green and black
5fr orange and black

German Empire.—The *Philatelic Record* states that official stamps have been in twenty-six varieties to date, and possibly thirty. The list is as follows:

- No. 1 The Duchy of Saxe-Meiningen
No. 2 The Administration of the large military orphanage at Potsdam
No. 3 The Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Scherwin
No. 4 The Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Strelitz
No. 5 The Grand Duchy of Hesse
No. 6 The Principality of Lippe-Deimold
No. 7 The Principality of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt
No. 8 The Principality of Schaumburg-Lippe
No. 9 The Duchy of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha
No. 10 The Principality of Waldeck and Pyrmont
No. 11 The Principality of Reuss, younger line
No. 12 The Duchy of Anhalt-Dessau
No. 13 The General Administration of the Thuringian Association of Customs and Taxes at Erfurt
No. 14 The Principality of Reuss, elder line.
No. 15 The Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar
No. 16 The Grand Duchy of Baden
No. 17 The Thuringian Provincial Court at Jena.
No. 18 The Solicitor-General's office at this Court (No. 17)
No. 19 The Officers of the Governor of Alsace-Lorraine
No. 20 The Committee of the Grand Ducal and Ducal Saxon University at Jena
No. 21 The Kingdom of Prussia
No. 22 The Principality of Schwarzburg-Vorderhausen
No. 23 The Grand Duchy of Oldenburg
No. 24 The State of Bremen
No. 25 The Duchy of Saxe-Altenburg
No. 26 The Duchy of Brunswick

Guadeloupe.—We find we have neglected to chronicle the latest list of surcharges, which were issued under decree of the Governor, who assigned the usual reason, namely, the *exhaustion of supplies* of stamps for the colony. At the same time letters were sent from the colonial postmaster inviting offers from the large dealers.

Of course we have the usual number of errors, consisting of wrong fonts of type, letters inverted, etc. We list only the regular issue.

Adhesives.

5c on 30c brown on bistre
10c on 40c red on straw
15c on 50c carmine on rose
40c on 1fr bronze-green on straw
1fr on 75c deep violet on orange

Unpaid Letter Stamps.

30c on 60c brown on cream
30c on 1fr rose on cream

Mauretius.—The *A. J. of P.* has received the Labourdonnais stamp with the surcharge in three lines "EXPRESS DELIVERY, 15c." Red surcharge.

Adhesive.

15c on 15c ultramarine

Orange River Colony.—The complete list of the new stamps are as follows:

Adhesives.

½d bright green
2d brown
2½d ultramarine
3d lilac

4d carmine and sage-green
6d carmine and lilac
15c carmine and ochre

St. Lucia.—The *Monthly Journal* has seen the new 1sh stamp.

Adhesive.

1sh dull green, name and value in black.

Servia.—Says the *Monthly Journal*: "Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. show us a used copy of a provisional 1 para stamp, formed from the 5 dinars of the new issue. The new value is overprinted at the foot of the stamp 'IIAPA' in the centre, with a figure '1' at each side; both the Arms and the new value are in carmine.

Adhesive.

1p in carmine on 5 dinars, brown, etc.

This is said to have been on sale for two days, and only singly for local circulars, after which period the stock on hand was withdrawn, and unused copies are apparently unobtainable at present. However, as Mr. O. Bickel is in Belgrade, it is unlikely that the remainders have been destroyed."

Signs of the Times

American Journal of Philately

So much has been written lately about "philately as an investment" and "philatelic speculation" that one might almost be pardoned for believing that the philately of to-day was fast becoming, if indeed it had not already become, merely another channel upon whose waters the collector might cast his bread with the certainty of reaping a rich reward, not after the proverbial "many days," but in the immediate future. This, while it is undoubtedly true in some instances, is to a very limited extent only, and it is our firm conviction, based upon personal experience, that a great majority of collectors look upon their collections as a source of pleasure and recreation rather than a financial investment. We are all human and, therefore, it is but natural for us to

feel better pleased if our treasures, whether they be philatelic or otherwise, show an increased valuation from year to year than we should be were the reverse the case.

In our opinion, however, it is neither good taste or good policy to keep the calcium light of publicity so constantly trained upon the sordid, commercial aspect of our hobby. It cannot but act as a deterrent upon the younger class which must furnish the advanced collectors of the future and if it does not disgust him completely, it has a tendency to induce him to study his stamps less and the quotations of the catalogue more; a result certainly, which is hardly conducive to the evolution of the true philatelist.

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 Leeward Islands . . . 1^{1/2}, 1, 2^{1/2}, 4, 6, 7, 1sh, 5 sh.
 Jamaica . . . 1^{1/2}, 1, 2, 2^{1/2}, 3, 4, 6, 1sh, 2sh, 5 sh.
 British Guiana . . . 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 24, 48, 72, 96c.
 British Honduras . . . 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 12, 25c.
 Current issues supplied at 10% over face value. ALL STAMPS UNUSED.

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PUBLISHED FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1903



The Virginia Philatelist

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Entered at the Post Office at Richmond, Virginia, as Second-class mail matter, September, 1897.

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sent on approval to responsible parties furnishing bank or good commercial references. We sell them in blocks, strips, pairs or singles. They are marked at 33 1/2 per cent. We have sold a good many of these stamps but still have good stock left. Want lists of Confederate stamps filled. Send for a selection and invest your money in stamps that are advancing in price each year. Write us today.

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Bound in cloth	\$.50	\$.58
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Circular of new packets and sets free on application.

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The simplest remedy for indigestion, constipation, biliousness and the many ailments arising from a disordered stomach, liver or bowels is Ripans Tabules. They go straight to the seat of the trouble, relieve the distress, cleanse and cure the affected parts, and give the system a general toning up.

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The Five-Cent packet is enough for an ordinary occasion. The family bottle, 60 cents, contains a supply for a year.

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THE ADHESIVE, Rocky Hill, Conn.,

The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 5.

RICHMOND, VA., NOV., 1903.

Whole No. 65.

Scott's Catalogue for 1904

THE editor has received a copy of the 1904 Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue for review, which reached him on Nov. 1st. The publishers are to be commended upon the early publication of the work at the beginning of the season. The book follows the lines laid down by its predecessors as to arrangement, illustration and contents, and it is fully up-to-date. Of course we are more interested in the prices than anything else. The stamps of the United States show no material changes, with the exception of envelopes, which are reduced somewhat. The older issues of British colonials are on the upward move, and this

is also noticeable among the popular foreign countries. No startling changes occur in South Americans, although all the non-Seebeck countries—especially the Argentine Republic—show decided advances. Some countries, such as Portugal, for instance, are much underpriced. We refer of course to the earlier issues, which are extremely difficult to secure in satisfactory condition. However, the book cannot please every one, and is well edited and arranged. The binding is in crash cloth and the mechanical work very fair. Scott Stamp & Coin Co., L't'd., Publishers, 18 E. 23rd St., N. Y. Price 58 cents, postfree.

Gibbons' New Catalogue

PART I, of Stanley Gibbons' Priced Catalogue, comprising the stamps of the British Empire, is at hand. The work is in two editions—an innovation begun last year and likely to continue—an American and English edition with the prices in their respective currencies. The work is carefully compiled and well illustrated, and much information is given in the way of notes that is obtainable in no other catalogue. A new feature is the insertion of the name of the printer and the method of printing the various issues, and illustrations of watermarks from accurate tracings. As regards prices, the publishers state. "The question of prices quoted in this Catalogue has received our most careful attention. These have been most care-

fully revised and lowered where justified, but we cannot close our eyes to the fact that our stock of old English Colonial stamps is becoming exhausted, and the difficulty of replenishing it now has been enormously increased compared with our experience of a few years ago."

It is stated that the catalogue is a price-list of what is for sale at the time of going to press, and the prices are not copied from other lists, or "averaged" from other catalogues, but are based upon their own stock (now estimated at worth nearly \$500,000.00). Stanley Gibbons do *not* sell reprints. The foreign part will be ready in January. Both can be obtained from Stanley Gibbons, Inc., 167 Broadway, New York, N. Y. Price for both volumes, 72 cents, postpaid.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

Published on the 25th of each Month by the
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.,
 ROY B. BRADLEY, Editor and Prop.,
 P. O. Box 124, RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A.

W. GORDON RICE, Business Manager,
 P. O. Box 124, RICHMOND, VA.

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One inch,.....	\$0.40	\$1.00	\$1.80	\$3.25
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Half-column, ..	1.25	3.25	5.00	8.75
One column, ..	2.00	5.00	8.75	15.75
One Page,.....	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., NOVEMBER, 1903.

At Glendening & Co's auction sale, London, on October 15th, the 10c Providence, unused, realized £3 15sh.

THE "White List" of philatelists, which was undertaken in Great Britain recently, has been abandoned for lack of interest.

DON'T forget that we will furnish you with the 1904 catalogue, and one years subscription to THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST for sixty-five cents.

THE real good stamp advertisement is the one that convinces the reader that it is as much to his interest to buy the article advertised as it is to the advertisers' interest to sell.

PHILATELY suffers a severe loss in the recent death of Frank F. Olney, of Providence, R. I., the ex-president of the

American Philatelic Association. His sterling qualities and generous liberalities endeared him to a large circle of friends who mourn his untimely end.

As we have remarked before, the appearance of the new catalogues mark the beginning of the heavy winter stamp business, and the early appearance is highly satisfactory. Many collectors never order stamps in any quantity until they have seen the new quotations, as there are always some radical changes.

WE wish to announce that we have acquired the new publication, *Saymon's Magazine*, recently published in New York City, and all subscriptions will be filled by this paper. Over 200 names are thus added to our already large list. *Saymon's Magazine* was the successor of *The Literary Philatelist*, also of New York.

QUITE a merry war has been recently waged among the principal dealers in United States envelope stamps and the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. publishers of the standard catalogue. The envelopes come in for a stiff reduction in price, and it is intimated by the aforesaid dealers that the prices are reduced for purely selfish business reasons; and the other side is offering to supply certain issues under discussion at lower rates than the 1904 prices.

RICHMOND has (or had) a stamp association which held monthly meetings up to the past two years, when they were abandoned because of lack of interest and suitable quarters for meeting purposes.

WE take pleasure in stating that a movement is on foot among a few of the leading philatelists of Richmond looking to the revival of the Association. To this end the editor invites the views of our local stamp men, and will also be thankful for the addresses of any Richmond philatelists who are not on our mailing list.

The Hardships of Philately

By EVERY PAGET

TRULY stamp collecting is fraught with many hardships. We perhaps do not think so at first, but such is nevertheless a fact, and it slowly impresses itself upon us more and more as we go along.

At first, the way may be comparatively easy. It does not require a large amount of funds to get the cheaper and commoner stamps, and yet we must first have them in our collection. By the time we have placed all the common stamps in our album, and commenced to reach after the higher priced ones, from that moment our pathway is strewn with hardships.

With the rich collector it is different. With his pockets strewn with money he can acquire as many stamps as he wishes, almost. Such stamps would be impossible for us to obtain. So few of us are rich that it would not do to alter my statement that our philatelic path is strewn with hardships.

In the first place, absolute completion in philately is an impossibility. In fact if we get an ordinary complete collection we should be content. But our race after stamps is the same as is our race after riches. We daily struggle on over almost impassable barriers, with the hope that we may some day achieve our goal. To want a stamp real badly and be unable to get it is one of our daily hardships. We may have funds enough but we are unable to find anyone with that particular stamp to sell. We may hunt many months; aye, we may hunt many years and spend a great deal of money thereby, and yet acquire it not. This is a hardship. There is nothing very pleasant about it. It shows a tenacity hard to defeat. Indefatigable energy is surely a great thing.

After long years of collecting our work may be undone by a single stroke. Fire

may take our collection and consume it to ashes. It may be stolen, and strewn about on the four winds, as it were. It may be lost in some unforeseen manner. We may have our collection insured. That does not recompense us for our loss. We have labored long and earnestly perhaps in amassing it, and it is to begin all over again to see it carried away in that manner. After long and patient struggling we may be able to amass a fair collection. Sickness may overtake us and we may have to sell it. Once again, it is broken into almost innumerable pieces and sold to many collectors.

We may conclude that it is impossible to get a complete collection, and thus finally conclude to specialize on one or more countries. We then proceed to sell our other stamps or trade them for stamps to complete the issue of the country or countries we are specializing, and then we may see it will be an impossibility to get a complete collection of that or those countries upon which we are now specializing. We may finally give up entirely in disgust.

But to offset this philately has many stimulants, many pleasures and enjoyments to buoy up our hopes and carry us on. We try to make our collection as complete as it is possible for mortal man to make it. Our friends in the collecting fraternity may help us. We may spend many pleasant and happy hours together. Talking with our philatelic friends who are better informed than we are, tends to bring us out. Tends to imbue us with their learning. It is a great benefit to us.

The counterfeit collector may go over our collection and point out many a counterfeit stamp. We should not be dismayed. Fill up those places again with other stamps. Philately is bound

to have its sharks, just like any other business. We have been taken in. We should be thankful that we were not taken in more than we have been. Every collector, no matter how wise he may think he is, should have some competent stamp counterfeit detector go over his collection at least once every year. It will weed out what counterfeits we have unconsciously acquired, and allow us to replace them with the genuine specimens before the genuine ones get beyond our reach in price.

The tendency of stamp prices seems to be higher. New members are continually joining us, which reduces the visible supply and puts up prices. They are high to-day. Next week they may be higher. Next week they may be lower. However, it is more likely that they will go higher than lower. Something awful must happen to the stamp collecting public, in order to drive enough away, to make any marked fall in prices.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Albania.—The following values have appeared, surcharged on current Italians:

Adhesives.

10 para on 5c
35 para on 20c
40 para on 25c

Corea.—The *A. J. of P.* has seen the new series issued recently. The stamps are of an elaborate design with a "VIOLET FALCON" in the central oval. The values are as follows:

Adhesives.

271 slate
1c violet brown
2c green
3c orange
4c rose
5c yellow brown
6c lilac
10c blue
15c red on straw
20c violet brown on straw
50c red on green
1 wren violet on lavender
2 wren violet on orange

Costa Rico.—The *S. C. F.* chronicles three new portrait stamps of Costa Rica and also a set of eight "Multas," or unpaid letter stamps.

Adhesives.

Portrait Series:

4c purple and black (J. Canas)
6c sage and black (J. Volio)
25c pale blue and brown (E. Figueroa)

5c green and black, unpaids
10c brown and black
15c green and black
20c red and black
25c blue and black
30c brown and black
40c olive and black
50c lake and black

Dutch Indies.—The new Queen Wilhelmina is appearing, and there have been received the following:

Adhesives.

10c grey black
30c red

East Africa and Uganda Protectorates.—The values of the set mentioned last month are as follows:

Adhesives.

Watermarked Crown and C. A.

12 carmine and gray black
2 1/2 ultramarine
32 gray green and brown
42 black and gray green
52 yellow brown and gray black
82 pale milky blue and gray black

Watermarked Crown and C. C.

12 green and gray green
22 violet and lilac
32 black and gray green
42 pale emerald green and gray black
52 carmine and gray black
52 carmine and gray black
202 ultramarine and gray black
202 stone gray and gray black
502 red brown and gray black

German Empire.—Messrs. Senf, writing to *Ewen's Weekly*, state positively that Prussia is the only State or Department that has issued an official stamp, and that this bears the number 21.

Great Britain.—The 1 shilling green and carmine, Queen's head, "Govt. Parcels" exists with inverted surcharges.

Hayti.—*The Weekly Philatelic Era* chronicles Scott's 69, 70, 72, 74, 75, 76 and 77 with inverted surcharges.

Hungary.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste* chronicles a set of postage due stamps as follows:

Postage Due Stamps

Perforated

- 1f green and black
- 2f green and black
- 5f green and black
- 6f green and black
- 10f green and black
- 11f green and black
- 20f green and black
- 50f green and black
- 1k green and black

Malta.—Mr. Wm. Thorne has shown the *A. J. of P.* the 2½d of the King's head type.

Nyassa.—The new set of provisionals, the surcharges of which were printed at London, has replaced the similiar set issued earlier in the year. It is said the surcharges are larger and clearer than on the previous ones.

New Zealand.—The *Era* states that this state is to have a new design for the Insurance set of adhesives.

Orange River Colony.—The *Fortnightly* chronicles the 1d carmine Cape of Good Hope with the surcharge "ORANGE RIVER COLONY" inverted.

Portuguese India.—We learn from the *P. J. of I.* that a copy of the 1½ reis on 2 tangas, issued in 1900, has been found with the surcharge inverted.

Panama.—As was to be expected, this new republic has issued a provisional set of stamps, consisting of the 1892-94

series being overprinted with a rubber hand stamp "REPUBLIC DE PANAMA" in two lines. The *A. J. of P.* has seen the following:

Adhesive Stamps.

Perforated

- Rose surcharge
- 1c green
- 5c blue
- 10c orange
- 20c violet
- Blue surcharge
- 2c rose

Too Late Stamp

- On Too Late Stamp of 1902
- Imperforate
- Rose surcharge
- 5c purple on rose

Phillipines.—The following values of the current series of U. S. have been surcharged in black:

Adhesives.

- 1c green
- 2c carmine
- 50c orange

Russian Levant.—A new list of surcharges have been created by surcharging diagonally in black:

Adhesives.

- 2 piastres on 20 kop
- 5 piastres on 50 kop
- 7 piastres on 70 kop
- 10 piastres on 1 rouble

Somali Coast.—The new series has been changed in color, the centers now appearing in black. *Mekeel's Weekly* lists the following:

Adhesives.

- 1c purple and black
- 2c rose brown and black
- 4c rose and black
- 4c salmon and black
- 5c blue green and black
- 10c rose and black
- 15c bristle and black
- 20c violet and black
- 25c blue and black
- 30c carmine and black
- 40c orange and black
- 50c green and black
- 75c buff and black
- 75c orange and black
- 1fr orange and black
- 2fr green and black
- 5fr vermilion and black
- 5fr orange and black

Sweden.—The *London Philatelist* chronicles a new commemorative stamp, of large design, showing the new post-office building at Stockholm.

Tahiti.—The 25 centimes French Colonial stamp of the "ESTABLISSEMENTS DE L'OCEANIE" series has been overprinted "TAHITI 10 CENTIMES" in three lines of red type. On the specimens chronicled the overprint is in a curiously "shiny"

ink, and the execution is very spotty and uncertain.

Provisional: 10c on 25c

United States.—The *American Journal of Philately*, with commendable enterprise, illustrates the new two-cent stamp, a description of which has already been published, by inserting the stamp itself. It is one of the most handsome stamps ever issued by this country.

The Royal Stamp Album

We have received a prospectus of the new album designed for the unsurcharged stamps of Great Britain and her many colonies, which contains so many meritorious ideas and advantages that we quote liberally from the prospectus:

"The existence of many stamp albums has served only to point out the necessity of one more which will combine all of the excellencies and admit none of the defects of its predecessors, and a comparison of the Royal Postage Stamp Album with others will at once show its superiority.

As the obtaining of every stamp ever issued in the world is a practical impossibility, the question soon arises: 'What shall I collect?' In nearly every issue of every stamp journal, wherever published, the question is asked. The great majority of collections are confined exclusively to the adhesive postage stamps of regular government issues. With our field thus narrowed into practicable boundaries we still find an unattainable and ever receding horizon in the surcharges, revenues used for postage, errors, varieties and shades of the modern stamp dealer. Some limits must be placed to the factors of our problem of collecting, and these we have judged to be a strict adherence to regular government postal issues, distinct types of design, water-

marks, intentional and authorized varieties of paper and separations, and have omitted surcharges, locals, revenues used for postage, errors in color and watermarks, and accidental or unauthorized variations in paper and separation. These omissions, while including by far the greatest number of the absolutely unattainable stamps, still leave a large field for careful study and furnish enough material to keep up interest in new acquisitions for a lifetime.

But the number of stamps is so great that a still further limit has been placed by philatelists on their collection, so that to-day, throughout the world, a majority of philatelists confine their collecting to British Colonial Stamps.

"The arrangement of the fields for inserting stamps is, in the main, a chronological one, yet enough attention has been given to the artistic array of form and color to give a pleasing effect to the completed pages.

"The omission of illustrations may at first sight offend some persons who have found such illustrations a guide to the easy locating of stamps, yet in some cases these very illustrations compel a reference to a handbook to determine the point at issue. A little study will show you that we have given for each field every essential point for determining, absolutely, the proper stamp which

is to occupy it. The white paper also forms a better background for the stamps than the black picture, which often projects outside of the stamp and detracts from its beauty."

A comparative table of 30 colonies is given with the regular issues, watermarks, surcharged issues, and varieties in tabulated columns, and we find that

out of a total of 2215 catalogued stamps we find 817 regular adhesives, 162 watermark varieties, 367 varieties and 869 surcharges. That the album will meet with a ready sale there can be no doubt. It is printed on one side of the paper only and contains spaces for all stamps issued to November 10, 1903. Published by the Colonial Stamp Co., of Chicago, Ill.

Notes from Here and There

Crawford Copen has resigned as president of the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., and established an office at 116 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

The *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* states that six dealers in Germany have been arrested charged with illicitly dealing in the new German official stamps.

Lewis Robie, who is remembered as a dealer whose advertising did much to bring match and medicine stamps into high favor about six years ago, is now in Austin, Tex., battling bravely against odds with consumption. Mr Robie is the author of the book, "Stamp Hunting," and many of Mr. Robie's personal experiences are interwoven with the story that he relates.

We club our paper with The Adhesive. See advertisement.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

wants 10,000 more subscribers and to secure them quickly offers a trial subscription of one full year for 25c to each new subscriber who will send the names and addresses of two stamp collectors there will be sent a number of unused stamps to the catalogue value of 25 cents. :: ::

THE JUNIOR has an excellent Stamp Department.

The Collector's Own Catalog

of the adhesive postage stamps of all nations, 1904 edition, fully illustrated, with correct prices for used and unused specimens, will be ready about Oct. 20th. Send 10c now to the publishers for an early copy. Stamp dictionary and list free. Agents 50%.

Dept B

A BULLARD & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

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FREE. 1 set of stamps catalogued 28c free with 1000 hinges, 10c. FOREIGN ORIGINAL COVERS 12 for 5c, 3 for 10c, 100 for 25c. 1 sheet of Japanese stamps catalogued over 60c, only 10c. 10 Cuban stamps 5c. 1000 hinges with 1 stamp catalogued 40c, only 10c. Everything post free just to get acquainted. :: :: :: ::

JOSEPH SAYMON,

12 W. 117th St., New York City

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WISH exchange with all reliable collectors, subscribe for Perforator and Fraud Reporter. Complaints investigated. Bills collected, for terms see Perforator. F. B. STEDMAN, Editor of Fraud Reporter. Warsaw, N. Y.

20 FINE WHITE ENVELOPES 20

neatly printed with your name and address and our interesting 16 page magazine three months on trial for only 10c.

HOME SUNSHINE,

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Canada PRICE-LIST FREE POSTAGE & REVS.

- 15 var. Canada Revenues, \$.10
- Canada Rev. c talogue,10
- 7 var. Newfoundland,10
- 3 var. New Brunswick,10
- 14, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10c Maple,25
- 14, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 20c Fig,20
- 8 var. Maps. surcharge Reg,12
- 6p Canada, 2.50
- 14, 1, 2, 3, 6, (1868 Large),50
- 14, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, 50c (1890)45
- 5 var. Jubilees,10

WHOLESALE

- 100 Maps 35c. 3c Jubilee, 30c. 1c Jubilee, 8c.
- 3c Maple, 10c. Newfoundland, 90c. Revs, 30c.
- 1,000 Canada 25c and 40. Canada illustrated
- Cloth bound Postage Album, special 50c.
- Newfoundland, 4p, 6p and 12sh lake, \$2.00

W. R. ADAMS, Toronto, Ont.

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U. S. 60 varieties (1856-1902) including commemorative, dues, revenues. Mounted and classified. A good starter. Postpaid 30c. 20 United States including foregomg, with higher values. Selected specimens. Mounted in a book. Postpaid \$1.00. My buying list for a 2 cent stamp.

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J. E. HYDE, JR.,

387 William St., East Orange, N. J.

1000 STAMPS FREE

not quite, but if you will send a Reference for my sheets I will give you free 50 var. stamps and 6c off my sheets. List free.
500 diff. \$1.25
1000 diff. 3.50

S. D. PIERCE, St. Francis, Minn.

UNITED STATES STAMPS

- 10c, 186105
- 15c, 187320
- 0c, 189020
- 1c, 189520
- 5c, 1898 Rev.05

All stamps in good condition. I, II & III issue Rev's at one-third catalogue.

POSTAL STAMP Co., 15 Lake St., White Plains, N. Y.

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We will send THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST one year and any of the following papers at the following rates: :: :: :: ::

- The Junior, (sub. 50c) 50c
- The Philatelic West and Camera News, 50c
- The Adhesive, 32c
- The Philatelic Inter-Ocean, 32c

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Dealers send at once for advertising rates in this Directory. There's money in it. Just write and see. :: ::

:: Address all orders to ::

V. G. BADGER, Dept. K

EAST HIGHGATE :: VERMONT

Special Bargains in United States

A star indicates unused. Orders under ten cents 2c extra for postage.

1877 1c blue, cat. 12c.....	0.08	1893 10c Columbian	0.09
1869 1c yellow, cat. 60c.....	.35	1893 50c ".....	.35
1872 1c vermilion, cat. 60c.....	.35	1893 2c ".....	— a fine copy... 1.25
*1879 2c " cat. 25c.....	.15	1893 85 ".....	— a fine copy... 3.75
1879 30c black, cat. 12c.....	.09	1895 10c Special Delivery .....	.02
1879 90c carmine.....	.60	1895 50c orange .....	.06
*1888 4c carmine.....	.10	1898 1c Omaha .....	.01
*1888 5c indigo.....	.15	1898 2c ".....	.01
1888 5c ".....	.02	1898 4c ".....	.03
1888 30c brown.....	.20	1898 5c ".....	.04
1893 1c Columbian.....	.01	1898 8c ".....	.05
1893 2c ".....	.01	1898 10c ".....	.05
1893 3c ".....	.03	*1901 1c Pan-American.....	.02
*1893 3c ".....	.05	*1901 2c ".....	.03
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The Virginia Philatelist

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 6.

RICHMOND, VA., DEC., 1903.

Whole No. 66.

The 1d Black of Great Britain

BERTRAM W. H. POOLE recently unearthed a small book on "Banking," and as information of interest is contained therein we reprint extracts from the *Monthly Journal*.

"In the early part the of last century, the government, while not allowing a banker to mint his own gold, apparently gave him a free hand as far as issuing paper money in the shape of bank-notes was concerned. The methods of producing these were such as to make forgery fairly easy, and in consequence the country was flooded with spurious notes, resulting in heavy loss on the part of the public. Bankers, but especially the Bank of England, were anxious to hear of some process that would render forgery of their notes impossible or, at any rate, make the cost of the production of fakes so great to the forger as to make the game not worth the candle.

The Mr. Joplin who wrote the essay was evidently an authority on banking matters in general, and it is in the chapter in which he deals with the question of forged notes that the information I think of value to stamp collectors appears. It seems that a firm named Perkins and Heath, engravers of repute, had submitted to the authorities of the Bank of England a design for a £5 note, which they held was impossible to forge or, at the least, to forge with profit. Two fine plates illustrating the design for the front and back of the note are given. The interesting point is that on that on the face of the note the King's portrait in an oval is shown duplicated sixteen times, as the author ex-

plains, by a process which Mr. Perkins had only just invented and patented, and by which it was possible to produce any number of exact copies of the same engraving. The writer shows that this means of indefinitely duplicating one design is "effected by engraving, first, on softened steel plates, which are then hardened, and, by means of a powerful pressure, are transferred to softened steel rollers, these again are hardened, and the engraving retransferred on to any number of either copper or steel plates," the identical process by means of which, thirteen years later, the first plate for the 1d black was produced, and this, I take it, is absolutely the first time the new invention was described in print. The author goes on to say that "it is stated by experienced engravers, that no artist can execute two faces that have much character and expression in them so much alike as that the most ignorant person could not discover a difference." Thus, had this process not been discovered and had stamps to be produced by the only system of engraving previously, each separate stamp would differ from its fellows on a plate in some small particular or other, each plate would differ slightly from its predecessor, and to crown all it would, at most, only be possible to print a few thousand sheets from each plate. It is appalling to imagine the terror scientific stamp collecting would have possessed under such "might have been." We can only be thankful that the process was discovered before postage stamps and their manufacture was thought of."



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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., DECEMBER, 1903.

THE editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, with the usual Englishman's lack of humor, fails to understand a little joke.

WE believe we have neglected to mention the fact that Mr. George L. Toppan is now associated with the *American Journal of Philately* as one of its editors. His "Notes Upon Stamps and their Varieties" is full of valuable information and is written in a pleasing style.

THIS is the season of the year for the heaviest advertising upon the part of stamp dealers, and THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, the only Southern paper, should not be overlooked. The dealer who advertises and then honestly backs up his statements is sure of attention and business. It is well said that "Nothing succeeds like success," and success never comes to those who sit idly down and live on hope and expectations.

THE question of a suitable album for match and medicine stamps is again being agitated, and our energetic New York contemporary, *The Perforator*, is publishing letters from leading collectors who are interested in the subject. Some years ago Mr. Oscar Jannasch, of Waco, Texas, had such an album in preparation, but it was finally abandoned for lack of support. It seems to be the general opinion that a special album for these stamps would greatly increase their popularity.

ONE of the strange freaks of fate has materialized in England. Just prior to the recent war in South Africa a new issue of stamps was being prepared for the late South African Republic, which was to bear the likeness of President Kreuger. Watermarked paper was prepared but was never used, owing to the outbreak of war, and it has been purchased by the well-known London dealer, Mr. W. Hadlow, who is utilizing it for printing—not stamps, but—his auction catalogues.

QUITE a remarkable discovery is heralded in the November issue of *The Australian Philatelist*. The publisher, Mr. Fred. Hagen, has discovered a *tebeche* pair of the two pence "Sydney View" on the original cover. It has long been an established fact that these stamps were printed from a hand engraved copper plated containing 24 types arranged in two horizontal rows of 12 but at first Mr. Hagen thought that there was another arrangement, but a letter from Dr. Houson's "History of the Post Office in New South Wales" shows that the plate contained two sections of 24 stamps each, which were probably separated before being placed on sale. This is probably a correct conclusion, as the stamps are about one-third of an inch apart.

The Manufacture of Paper

By EVERY PAGET

A necessary and indispensable adjunct to philately is paper. Without it we would perhaps have no postage stamps able to hold a candle to the ones now being made. As a matter of fact the die, ink, perforating machine, gummer, and the like are also indispensable. While they are a part of the stamp, the paper, is so to speak, the whole thing. The die, after being inked, leaves its impression on the paper, thereby forming the stamp; the perforating machine makes it easily detachable from the other stamps; the gummer adds the adhesive power, etc., but still the paper is an indispensable element.

Paper, as we all know, is manufactured in many different ways and from many different sources. It should be the aim and duty of every philatelist to be thoroughly informed on the different kinds of paper used in the manufacture of the different stamps. Such information will be inestimable in the detecting of counterfeits.

In the first place, the material from which the paper is to be made is reduced to a state of pulp. This pulp is then placed between wire frames, it is hardened, compressed, dried and comes out unburnished paper. The wire frames used are of two kinds. In one the wires are woven together, while in the other they are laid parallel, usually fifteen to twenty-five to the inch, and heavier supporting wires are placed back of them at intervals of an inch or so. The latter paper is called laid, and, as a general rule, the lines formed by the wire frame are more or less imprinted in the paper. The former, where the wires are woven, makes "wove" paper, and in it the line impressions are very indistinct.

This paper is intended and used for commercial use, while the wove paper

is generally used in books and the like. To make the laid paper more smooth it is starched and run between heated rollers. This is called calendering. If the paper is run through more than once it gets more smooth each succeeding time. Wove paper is also very often treated in the same manner.

The manufacture of paper has grown to enormous extents, and the secrets of the manufacture of much of it, from the coarsest common paper to the finest linen paper turned out, are guarded zealously. Paper is, as has been said, made from many sources. As quite common we find paper made from former paper reduced to pulp again, from colored cotton rags, white cotton rags, colored linen rags, white linen rags, and the purest of textiles.

Any paper manufacturer can take this list and add to it materially. Everyone knows that manila paper is made from the fibres of the manila hemp, as also rice paper was formerly made from the pith of the rice plant. So called "rice" paper is now made from many other sources. We also know of paper in which is woven silk threads. Take our paper currency for example.

The reduction of the rags, scrap paper, etc., after it has been assorted, into pulp is quite an interesting study, and if any of my readers have an opportunity to go through a paper factory, you should not fail to do so, and carefully study the different things shown you see and it will be of great philatelic aid.

Paper, as we all know, is watermarked while in the pulp state. The watermark is a wire frame which is placed against the pulp as it is hardening. The watermark frame is then withdrawn, and the compression, drying, etc., allowed to continue. When the paper is finished

it will be seen by holding a sheet to the light, an outline of the watermark causing the paper to be thinner where it was imbedded.

The manufacture of paper has made rapid strides. As we have oft been told, the original inventor got his idea from the wasp, but little did the inventor know paper manufacturing would reach such a degree of perfection as it has in the present age.

The youth no longer has to kill his sheep, skin it and prepare a parchment

from the skin on which to write his billet doux to his sweetheart. Oh, no, he simply takes a pen and ink and hurriedly, perhaps, scribbles off his epistle, and, within a few hours, the postman brings the answer. They didn't do things that way in ye olden times, but truly we are making a wonderful progress. The paper, the printing press and the ink, the three things in such common use, have made unprecedented strides forward, and we are none the worse off thereby.

Foreign Exchange Experiences

By C. W. RANKIN, in *Mekeel's Stamp Collector*

ONCE upon a time I devoted a great deal of energy and much valuable time to collecting the names of foreign philatelists who had publicly expressed a wish to exchange their own stamps for those of America, for at that time I was consumed with a desire to "swap" with other countries—America was far too limited a field for me. I have no doubt that other trustful and over-enthusiastic collectors have been seized with similar aspirations and have wished, subsequently, that they had remained unseized. But I was young and inexperienced. I had never "swapped" and oh! how I wanted to.

But here at last was my opportunity, the chance of a lifetime to obtain an enormous quantity of good foreign stamps for nothing—or next to nothing. I would exchange, and in a few short weeks I should have all sorts of foreign stamps to burn.

Certainly no prospective trader ever prepared his trading stock with greater care. I went through orange-peely waste-paper baskets every day for weeks to find certain values of Pan-American stamps and stamped envelopes. I invaded dusty attics and mouldy cellars and

incurred the wrath of all my relatives by unpacking carefully packed trunks. I stood on my head in barrels and crawled in spider-webby closets. Surely no other lot of foreign stamp collectors ever got a greater variety or a bigger one hundred than I put into each of these twenty-two precious packets; yes, I was nothing if not ambitious, there twenty-two of them. Then, not content with making the interior of those packets just the best that ever was I bought scarce, hard-to-get four and five stamped envelopes and adorned them besides with extra, and in a few cases, entirely superfluous stamps.

Then I addressed and mailed my twenty-two letters, with my own name inside and out, and with my wants modestly stated, to twenty-two persons with unpronounceable names, in Portugal, Turkey, China, Russia, Persia, New Zealand, Ecuador and fifteen other equally remote places. When the letter box had swallowed those twenty-two fat letters I sat down to await the deluge of foreign mail that was shortly to flood Michigan.

But the expected deluge never arrived. So far as most of the foxy foreigners are concerned, I am still waiting. To be

sure, long after I had given up hope, one honest Australian proved honest as well as appreciative and rewarded me with a very clean lot of Australian stamps that had travelled steadily for six weeks before they finally reached me. One intelligent Russian, with a name like a section of a barbed wire fence, followed his noble example with a well-selected lot. One Englishman did likewise. Canada and Newfoundland, too, finally covered themselves in glory. The Chinaman, alas! helped himself to what he wanted from my stamps—apparently he wanted most of them—and returned what few there were left. All I got out of him

was the solitary Hong Kong stamp that it took to pay postage on my own rified packet.

The remaining collectors either dropped dead at the sight of those good envelopes of mine or else calmly appropriated my packets, softly murmuring the while, in Persian, Turkish, or Portuguese: "*What an easy mark.*"

At any rate, they have my stamps and I have my opinion of foreign exchange. They probably felt safe, knowing that no plain American would ever be able to remember their jaw-breaking names and weird addresses.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

British Somaliland.—*Ewen's Weekly* states that a second printing of several values of the Queen's heads, with a surcharge across the bottom of the stamps instead of top.

Adhesives.

Queen's heads, India, surch. at bottom

2½a ultramarine

6a pale olive brown

12a brown on red

1r carmine and green

2r yellow brown and carmine

3r green and brown

5r violet and ultramarine

Bulgaria.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has received a provisional formed by printing a tall "10" in black on the 15 stotinki value. An error is reported of the 1s as printed in the lake color of 15s instead of purple, but as a pale purple can scarcely be distinguished from a dull lake, it may be only a slight change in tint or very likely a faded copy.

Adhesive.

10 on 15 stot., black and lake

Colombian Republic.—Almost every one of our contemporaries contains a

different list of provisionals and surcharges, and it is an impossibility to reconcile the various chronicles. This country is making strenuous effort to keep pace with the Leeward Islands and the Central American republics of un-savoring fame.

China.—A correspondent sends to *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* a description of a curious provisional as follows: The Post Office ran short of 1c stamps on October 22d, and instead of using two ½c to make up the rate, the 2c scarlet of 1898 was cut in half diagonally and employed for half its value. If this were all, the question would be a simple one; we do not catalogue or pay much attention to the multitude of half stamps that have been allowed to pass on letters. In this case, however the overprint was used, but it was applied after the half stamp was affixed to the envelope. It consists of the inscription "Postage—1 Cent—Paid," in three lines, within a rectangular frame, and is struck (on the

copy before us) so that only a portion of it falls on the stamp, and the rest is on the envelope. The curiosity therefore cannot come into the adhesive part of of the catalogue, as the only adhesive employed is the half stamp which we can all make for ourselves; it seems to be of a somewhat similar class to overprinted German envelopes but not of the same historical interest.

France.—OFFICES IN CHINA.—Long-Tcheou.—*La Cote Reele* lists a series of stamps for this town. They are current stamps of Indo-China surcharged with name and Chinese characters.

Adhesive Stamps.

- 1c black on lilac blue
- 2c brown on buff
- 4c claret on lavender
- 5c yellow green
- 10c red
- 15c gray on gray
- 25c blue
- 5fr red lilac on lavender

Indo-China.—Mr. C. Witt has shown the *A. J. of P.* a new provisional stamp for this colony. It is made by surcharging the current 25c stamp with "15" in figures 5 mm. high, black surcharge.

Adhesive.

- 15c on 25c blue

Liberia.—*Mekeel's Weekly* states that a new set is being prepared for this country.

Mexico.—The new 10c stamp has been surcharged "OFICIAL."

Paraguay.—*S. G. M. J.* report a new issue similar in design to that chronicled earlier in the year, but all the details redrawn. The date "1903" is replaced in the lower label by an ornament, and is given as "ANO—1903" in the upper spandrels. The stamp appears to be lithographed. They have also received a 5c stamp of the same type, and understand that there is a whole series, as follows:

Adhesives.

- 1c yellow green
- 2c orange
- 5c indigo
- 10c violet
- 20c vermilion
- 30c dark blue
- 60c ochre

Sudan.—The 5 piastres stamp of the 1898 issue, has been surcharged "5 MIL-LIEMES" horizontally in black.

Sweden.—We learn from *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* that the Swedish 5-kronor stamp that we chronicled in our last issue is in no sense a commemorative stamp but is intended for permanent use.

Venezuela.—*Mekeel's Weekly* chronicles an error of the 1 bolivar slate surcharged "1901" instead of "1900."

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PUBLISHERS,
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The Virginia Philatelist

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Manchester, Michigan.

The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 7.

RICHMOND, VA., JAN.-FEB., 1904.

Whole No. 67.

Sale of a Rare Mauritius

The following interesting account of a sale of a 2p blue Mauretius, unused, is clipped from the *London Times*. Our valued contemporary, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, says the stamp was knocked down to "Mr. Crawford," but in reality it was bought by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

"Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's sale of British, foreign, and colonial postage stamps on Wednesday at 47, Leicester-square, included one of the rarest stamps known to philatelists—an unused specimen of the 2d. blue Mauritius 'Post Office' issue of 1847. This stamp and the 1d. orange of the same issue were both engraved by Mr. J. Barnard, a watchmaker and jeweller of Port Louis, and were actually printed off one at a time. With the exception of about eight sets, the entire issue has disappeared, and ever since stamp-collecting became a serious pastime they have been regarded as the rarest of all issues. In 1865, 13 of these stamps were discovered at Bordeaux in a merchant's office; one of each passed into the collection of M. E. Lallanne, a French collector, whose collection passed into the possession of M. Piet-Latudiere, for 60,000f. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Co. bought the two Mauritius stamps from him for £680, and soon afterwards sold them to Mr. Avery. A few years ago another pair was acquired from a French collection for 40,000f., and yet another pair has changed hands at 48,000f., or about £1,920. So far as the 2d. unused stamp sold on Wednesday is concerned—only four or five unused examples are known—it was recently

discovered in a little collection made by the vendor, Mr. James Bonar, of Hampstead, when a boy at school in 1864, and is said to be one of the finest in existence. It was the first of the two stamps to appear in the open market; bidding was started at £500 and stopped at £1,450. Rumour states that it was purchased for the Prince of Wales's fine collection and that the underbidder was acting on behalf of the authorities of the German Postal Museum in Berlin. It may be mentioned that the late Mr. Tapling's collection in the British Museum contains unused examples of both the 1d. and the 2d., and that not many years ago these were valued at £300 each.

The sale also included the following Mauritius stamps:—1848, 'Post Paid' 1d. orange, early medium impression, a pair—£13; another pair, no margins at right, but very fine, and on piece of original envelope—£16; another pair, very large margins, lightly cancelled—£30; 2d. blue, medium impression, unused—£11; 2d. deep blue, the error 'Penoe'—£11 11s.; 2d. deep blue on small piece of original envelope, fine colour and very lightly cancelled—£16; and 1859 (October) 2d. dark blue, very slightly cut into at right lower corner—£9 10s. There were also the following:—New Brunswick, 1851, 1s. mauve, lightly cancelled—£10; Newfoundland, 1857, 1s. scarlet—£10 10s.; Nova Scotia, 1851, 1s. violet, very lightly cancelled—£11 11s.; and Grenada, 1888, 4d. on 2s. orange, a strip of three, including one of very rare variety with upright 'd'—£7 15s."



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

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ROY B. BRADLEY, Editor and Prop.,
P. O. BOX 124, RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A.

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One column, ..	2.00	5.00	8.75	15.75
One Page,.....	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., JAN.-FEB., 1904.

OUR esteemed Western contemporary, *The Philatelic World*, celebrated their birthday with a souvenir Christmas issue of twenty-four pages and a cover printed in silver ink on royal purple stock, which makes a very handsome appearance. May the *World* live long and prosper!

WE have been so much delayed by our printers that in order to catch up with our publication date we shall combine two months in one issue, and have accordingly dated this issue January-February. As the volume numbers are never changed, this will make no difference to our readers who bind their magazine, as twelve numbers always constitute a volume.

It would be a good thing if English dealers would cease to advise collectors to purchase unused British colonials in large quantities for speculative purposes.

Many issues are bought in large quantities and afterwards sacrificed to the detriment of the market. We remember one case in particular, few years ago, when a change of design was contemplated, the pretty embossed set of Gambia was bought heavily on speculation. Every one had Gambias for sale, and an English dealer purchased some hundreds of dollars worth below face value from a disgruntled speculator.

THE J. M. Bartels Company announce two valuable works to be issued shortly first "The Postage Stamps of the Philippines," edited by J. Murray Bartels, Capt. F. L. Palmer, U. S. A., and F. Athorp Foster. The numerous surcharged issues will be properly described and an absolute chronological arrangement of all stamps authorized for postal use attempted. All counterfeits will be carefully described, and the work is illustrated with over 150 half-tone reproductions,

The above company also announce the new edition of the "Catalogue of the Envelopes of the United States and its Colonies," which is edited by Mr. V. M. Berthold. In its new form it is really a treatise instead of merely a price-list. The plan adopted for the classification and description is as follows: The catalogue number of the envelopes is given first, next, color of the envelope, its dimensions in millimetres, number of Post Office size, number of knife, and price of the unused and used copy. The next column is headed "Remarks," and contains such information as may be of additional interest and value. The last column states the corresponding number of the envelope in the work National Philatelic Society (N. P. S.)

In addition, much valuable information is given regarding new dies differentiation of similar knives, and the addition of cuts and original drawings that frequently mislead beginners.

Counterfeits of United States Stamps

American Journal of Philately

WE wish to warn collectors against certain fraudulent varieties of the United States stamps and envelopes which are now in the market. Within a few days several dealers have sent us a number of these things, calling our attention to their true character and their source. The latter is one of the surprising features of the case. The man who is endeavoring to sell these stamps gives the names of R. P. H. Wolle and Herman Fisher (3991), Box 47, Jefferson City, Mo. There seems to be little room for doubt that the former is the correct name, which philatelists will remember as one of several names used by a man, who was, some years ago, convicted for using the U. S. mails for fraudulent purposes and sentenced to the penitentiary at Jefferson City, Mo. It certainly is surprising that a prisoner should have the opportunity and the nerve to attempt, from his cell, to repeat the crime for which he is now undergoing punishment.

Among the counterfeits which have been shown us are U. S. envelopes of the 1880-82 issue, 2c vermilion on amber, die C, altered to represent die D, and 3c green on blue, die B, altered to represent die C. In both cases the alterations were made by painting out parts of the design, and the former variety is a very

clever imitation.

There are stamps of the issues of 1861-66 and 1869, cut in halves and affixed to original covers, and decorated with fraudulent cancellations. There are proofs of the 24c and 30c of 1851-57, also on covers, and with fraudulent cancellations, designed to pass as the rare imperforate varieties. Included in the lot are the 1c and 2c, 1861-66, with imitations of laid lines impressed in the paper; this last work is not well done.

But the *chef d'oeuvre* of this misdirected artist is the imitation of type I of the 1c, 1851. This is made by adding to stamps of type II the turned under ends of the scroll and other ornaments at the bottom, which are characteristic of type I. These ornaments are either drawn or painted in and the work is done with wonderful accuracy. We must confess that, taken one at a time and amid respectable surroundings, we should never suspect their true character. Beyond question, these are among the most dangerous counterfeits which have ever been made.

We have brought the matter to the attention of the Post Office Department, in the hope that they may, temporarily at least, put a stop to the forger's operations.

Forgeries from Barcelona

Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal

I THINK it right to issue a note of warning to my readers to be very careful in buying any stamps from Barcelona, which is becoming a notorious centre from which forgeries emanate. Several of our clients have sent us selections with the letters which they have received from that city; some of these were sent by "D. Gallart," by "Manuela Tello,"

and by "Bernadina Garcia." But, from a comparison of the letters, these men are beyond doubt one and the same person. We think also that the names of "Zanini" and "E. Collin" have also been used as *noms de plume*. The man Zanini was employed as a house-porter in the respectable firm of Korting, or Kosting, Bros., of Barcelona. All these

people send out dangerous sheets on approval, and they have been attentive especially to collectors in Australia, Brazil, Uruguay, etc. The sheets are made attractive by the inclusion of some fairly good stamps, perfectly genuine and priced cheaply; but there is a number of dangerous forgeries mixed with them and offered at bargain prices. On a sheet before us we have the following forgeries:—

Nevis, 6d., lithographed, used.

New Brunswick, 6d. and 1s.

U. S. A., 1869, 24c and 30c., proofs skinned, false perforations and postmark.

Another sheet contains forgeries of the first issue of Philippines; Nova Scotia, 6d., green; cut copies of Ceylon, perforated, with the perforations clipped, and postmarked apparently on parts of originals. I shall be glad to hear from any clients who have been defrauded by buying forgeries in Barcelona, so that I may be able to place the details before the British Consul with a view to seeing if any action can be taken.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Afghanistan.—The *Monthly Journal* has seen the 2 abasi, on deep red paper and also on orange paper, and the registration stamp of 1898 on pale rose. The paper is the usual thin one in each case.

Adhesives.

2 abasi, black on deep red

2 abasi, black on orange

2 abasi, black on pale rose

Argentine Republic.—The *A. J. of P.* has seen the new 4c stamp issued in December.

Adhesive.

4c yellow

Great Britain.—The *P. J. of G. B.* announces the new 2sh 6d stamp, surcharged in black, for offices in the Turkish Empire.

Adhesive.

12pi on 2sh 6d violet

Hayti.—The *A. J. of P.* chronicles a set of stamps, for local use only, to commemorate the Haytian centennial. They are all surcharged with a "control stamp," consisting of a rectangular frame inscribed "POSTE-PAYNE" in two lines, separated by a bar, and the dates "1804-1904" vertically at the sides.

Adhesives.

Blue surcharge.

1c green

2c rose and black (Touissaint Louverture)

5c blue and black (Touissaint Louverture)

7c maroon and black (J. J. Dessalines)

10c yellow and black (J. J. Dessalines)

20c slate and black (A. Petion)

50c olive and black (A. Petion)

Hungary.—Mr. C. Witt has shown the *A. J. of P.* the 12f with figures of value in black.

Adhesive.

12f violet and black

Italy.—A new series of stamps is promised soon. Two of the lower values will honor Marconi and Valta, and the higher values will show the head of the King.

Liberia.—Three provisionals have been issued, made by surcharging the 16, 24 and 32 cent stamps of the catalogue type 87a, with their respective values "TEN CENTS," "FIFTEEN CENTS" and "TWENTY CENTS," in two lines, all in blue.

Adhesives.

10c on 16c lilac

16c on 24c olive green on yellow

2c on 32c greenish blue.

Portugal.—A postal due series has appeared.

Adhesives.

5r bistre
10r orange
30r dark green
40r lilac
50r red
100r light blue

Panama.—It seems as though we are to have an endless number of these surcharges. Already we have had seven distinct issues, four printings at Panama, two at Colon and one at David. By closely tracing the chronicles of our contemporaries we believe the following is a full list issued to date.

Adhesives.

FIRST PANAMA ISSUE.

Hand stamped surcharge: "REPUBLICA DE PANAMA"

Rose surcharge.
1c green, horizontal surcharge
1c green, horizontal surcharge inverted
1c green, horizontal surcharge, pair, one without surcharge
1c green, vertical surcharge
2c rose, horizontal surcharge
5c blue, horizontal surcharge
5c blue, vertical surcharge
10c yellow, horizontal surcharge
10c yellow, vertical surcharge
20c violet, horizontal surcharge
20c violet, horizontal surcharge inverted
50c bistre brown, horizontal surcharge
50c bistre brown, diagonal surcharge
50c bistre brown, diagonal surcharge inverted
1p brown carmine, horizontal surcharge

SECOND PANAMA ISSUE.

Hand stamped blue black surcharge
1c green, horizontal surcharge
1c green, horizontal surcharge inverted
1c green, vertical surcharge
2c rose, horizontal surcharge
2c rose, horizontal surcharge inverted
2c rose, horizontal surcharge, double and inverted
2c rose, vertical surcharge
2c rose, vertical surcharge, double and inverted
5c blue, vertical surcharge
10c yellow, horizontal surcharge
10c yellow, vertical surcharge
20c violet, horizontal surcharge
20c violet, horizontal surcharge, inverted
20c violet, vertical surcharge
50c bistre brown horizontal surcharge
50c bistre brown horizontal surcharge inverted
50c bistre brown horizontal surcharge, pair, one

without surcharge
50c bistre brown vertical surcharge
1p brown carmine, horizontal surcharge
1p brown carmine, vertical surcharge

Too Late Stamps.

Rose surcharge,
5c purple on rose
Blue black surcharge
5c purple on rose

Registration Stamps.

Rose surcharge.
10c red brown on blue
10c on 20c red brown on blue
Blue black surcharge
10c on 20c red brown on blue
Registration Return Receipt Stamps.
Rose surcharge.
10c blue on blue
5c on 10c blue on blue

THIRD PANAMA ISSUE.

Printed with bar at top and "PANAMA" vertically on each end.

Black surcharge.
2c rose
2c rose, surcharged at one side only
10c yellow
Blue black surcharge.
2c rose
Carmine surcharge.
5c blue
20c violet
Double surcharge in carmine and black.
20c violet

FOURTH PANAMA ISSUE.

Carmine surcharge.
1c green
1c green, double surcharge
1c green, pair, one without surcharge
1c green, surcharged at one side only
1c green, both words at one side of stamp
2c rose
5c blue
10c yellow
50c bistre brown
1p brown carmine

FIRST COLON ISSUE.

Hand stamped Magenta surcharge:

"REPUBLICA DE PANAMA"

1c green
2c rose
5c blue
10c yellow
Violet surcharge.
1c green
2c rose
5c blue
20c violet
50c bistre brown

1p brown carmine
Black surcharge.
2c rose

Registration stamps.

10c yellow, violet and violet surcharges
10c yellow, violet and magenta surcharges
10c yellow, violet and red surcharges
10c yellow, black and magenta surcharges
20c yellow, red and violet surcharges
10c yellow, red and magenta surcharges
10c yellow, red and red surcharges
Stamp of the Columbian Republic (type RS9)
surcharged "REPUBLICA DE PANAMA" in violet
20c red brown on blue

Registration Return Receipt stamps.

5c blue, violet and violet surcharges
5c blue, violet and magenta surcharges
5c blue, violet and red surcharges
5c blue, black and magenta surcharges
Stamp of the Columbian Republic (type
RRS2) surcharged "REPUBLICA DE PANAMA"
in violet
10c blue on blue

SECOND COLON ISSUE.

Hand stamped Magenta surcharge.—larger
surcharge, 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
2c rose
Violet surcharge.
2c rose
1p brown carmine

Registration stamp.

10c yellow, red and violet surcharges

DAVID ISSUE.

Violet surcharge: "CORREOS
DAVID"

20c violet

These are only the straight varieties issued, and it appears that hundreds of errors exist. The *A. J. of P.* states that they leave their readers to imagine the rest, and their wildest dreams cannot exceed the reality.

San Marino.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* quotes *The Daily Mail* of December 26, that this Republic has recently been robbed of a valuable collection of stamps, but £9,000 seems rather a long price for any collection that San Marino was likely to possess—9,000 lire (expressed as L. 9000) was probably the sum named, if, indeed, the whole story given below is not apocryphal:—

"TINY REPUBLIC ROBBED.

"The Government of the little republic

of San Marino has just suffered a heavy loss by having £9,000 worth of rare stamps stolen.

"A stamp collector recently arrived in the republic and offered the above sum for the collection. The stamps were sent to him to be examined, and the collector decamped with them without paying. A San Marino official followed the thief through Switzerland and Austria, but lost all trace of him in Vienna."

Senegal.—The *P. J. of G. B.* chronicles some new surcharges, made by printing the new figures in the center and a for over the old figures.

Adhesives.

5c on 40c red on yellow
10c on 50c carmine on rose
10c on 75c violet on orange
10c on 1fr bronze green on straw

Spain.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* has been shown a block of the current 5c stamps, imperforate, and they are told that a sheet or two in this condition has reached the post office at Cadiz and were sold there.

Spanish Colonies.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* quotes from *La Cote Reelle* that even the liberal supply of stamps that was furnished last year has proven insufficient for the demands of the inhabitants of Western Africa, and that six values of a set of fiscal stamps, inscribed "POSESIONES ESPANOLAS DE AFRICA OCCIDENTAL," have been overprinted "HABILITADO—PARA—CORREOS—10 cen. de peseta," in four lines and in various colours.

Adhesives.

10c in red, on 25c black
10c in blue, on 50c orange
10c in black, on 1p 25c rose
10c in black, on 2p red-brown
10c in blue, on 2p 50c (colour not stated)
10c in red, on 5p black

United States.—The Postal Telegraph and Cable Co.'s stamp for 1904 has appeared. It is of the regular type, and printed in blue ink on blue.

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The Virginia Philatelist

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 8. RICHMOND, VA., MAR.-APRIL, 1904. Whole No. 68.

"Mint" Condition

The Australian Philatelist

What is meant by "mint" condition in a stamp? Literally it means that the stamp is in the same condition as a new coin just issued from a mint. But whatever may be said of newly stamped coins, we have seen unused stamps, obtained direct from over the counter at a post office, and in no way damaged, that we would be sorry to place amongst the best of unused specimens. The design was complete, the perforation was not damaged, the stamp was well centered, and the gum was there, but the printing was slovenly done. Yet according to the description given in some of leading English philatelic journals these stamps would be classed "mint." Would it not be better to give the title of "perfect" to a stamp that cannot be excelled in any of its features?

Mr. Charles J. Phillips, in advertising a collection for sale in the December number of *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal*, speaks of some of the stamp as being in an "extra mint" condition; and further on descants on "condition" as the factor in the collection of all kinds of bric-a-brac, "amongst which we must include postage stamps." In the same issue appears the following paragraph in one of the editorials:—Without, however, in any degree abandoning our belief in

the superiority of the fine unused stamp, we are glad to see signs of a revolt against the worship of the fetish (for a fetish it is) entitled Original Gum! . . .

To gravely discuss the difficulty of distinguishing genuine gum from false really seems to us a *reductio ad absurdum*; if the stamp is a beautiful mint copy, it matters nothing what sort of gum it has on the back; if it is a poor copy the gum can make it no better." It is naturally supposed that the journal voices the opinion of its proprietors, who are also stamp dealers. Such being the case, is there not some inconsistency apparent in Mr. Phillips' notes and the editorial? Supposing a collector were to offer Stanley Gibbons Ltd. a dozen stamps, unused, with backs gummed, and a similar number unused, without gum, both being alike in every respect, would the firm discriminate between the two lots? As noted in our last issue we are at one with *S. G. M. Journal* in their opinion of the "original gum" question, and will do our best to make collectors share that opinion. Bearing this in mind it may lead to stamp dealers in Australia ceasing to discriminate between gummed and ungummed specimens. This would settle the question as far as collecting in this side of the globe is concerned.

According to *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, the Servian Government has authorized the issuing of a new set of postage stamps, comprising 5c, 10c,

15c, 20c, 25c and 50c values, to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the liberation revolt against Turkey. The set is to be on sale for a short time only.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

Published on the 25th of each Month by the
VIRGINIA PHILATELIC PUBLISHING CO.,
 ROY B. BRADLEY, Editor and Prop.,
 P. O. Box 124, RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A.

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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., MAR.-APRIL, 1904.

Look up our clubbing offers. We can save you money on your subscriptions.

IF the Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlin were a philatelist he would probably specialize in British Colonials.

WE regret to hear that Miss Amy L. Swift has suffered a severe loss in the death of her father, which occurred on February 26. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved family.

A NOTICEABLE tendency is being manifested among the better class of philatelic publications to increase their subscription rates. *The Perforator* recently increased their rate to 50 cents a year; *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* to \$1.00 a year, and now we notice that on June 1st the rate of the *American Journal of Philately* will be advanced to \$1.00 a

year. Added to the fact that the number of the stamp papers is decreasing yearly in the United States, it would seem that the public desires fewer and better journals.

ONE fact which has served to increase the number of journalistic aspirants has been the very reasonable postal rate charged for second-class mailing privileges in the United States. Papers entered as second-class matter are prepaid in bulk at the rate of one cent per pound in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Papers to be delivered in the U. P. U. are required to bear a one-cent stamp.

APROPOS to the above, the January issue of *The Philatelic Chronicle* states that "There never was an English philatelic paper which brought any appreciable profit. * * * It is bit aggravating to think that a Montreal or Quebec paper could be posted to 1,000 philatelists in London for the same money that 124 copies could be posted to some of the same people at a post office in the city itself." It appears that in Great Britain the mailing rate compels an outlay of one-half penny on each and every copy, and where their publishers would be compelled to pay \$10.00 to mail 1000 copies, this paper can mail 1000 copies at an expense of not exceeding \$1.00, if even that.

AMONG the recent changes in the journalistic line was the acquirement of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* by the parties owning *Mekeel's Weekly*, and its removal to Boston, where several excellent numbers were issued. We are now informed that it is to be consolidated with the *Weekly*, and the latter is to remove to Boston. C. E. Severn, who has so long been editor, and who has done such faithful work, is to retire. We regret to see the *Era* go, but wish the new venture the best of success.

Panama and its Bar Sinister

American Journal of Philately

PANAMA has occupied the center of the philatelic stage for several months now and the multitude of surcharges which have emanated therefrom has been enough to drive both the collector and the cataloguer to distraction.

In the columns of *The Weekly Philatelic Era* for Feb. 27th is an article from which we quote the following: "The reliable firm of Stanley Gibbons Co. announces that a representative of this firm who applied at a Panama post office for a large quantity of the provisionals was given unsurcharged stamps by the sheet, furnished with a rubber stamp, and allowed, at a neighboring hotel, to apply the surcharge in any form and with any ink that he pleased."

We have known of this transaction for several weeks, but, as is was told to us in confidence and we were given to understand that none of these stamps which were in any way irregular, either as to abnormal varieties of surcharge or colors of ink, would be placed on the market, we have not felt at liberty to publish the fact until now. It is, of course, needless for us to say that Stanley Gibbons' upright methods and reputation for business probity are too well known for any one to even suspect them of taking advantage of such an occurrence and foisting rubbish of this character upon the collecting public. On the other hand collectors should consider themselves fortunate that this firm, and not some less conscientious dealer, came into possession of this lot.

We cannot find words strong enough to adequately express our condemnation of the laxity of postal officials of this, or any other, country for allowing such conditions to exist.

To go still further back, when we placed our order for the first lot of these

stamps, which we did through a prominent resident of Panama who was then in this country, informed us that he could get us anything that we wanted in that line, even to the rubber stamp (or one of them) with which the surcharging was done. We replied to the effect that all we cared for was the stamps regularly issued and on sale at the postoffice. This lot we duly received and, as there were practically no varieties in it aside from the color of the surcharge being rose upon some values and blue upon others, we believe them to have been all right. However, later developments having made us suspicious, we have since refrained from purchasing any further supply of these "hand-stamped Panamas."

We can, of course, readily understand that some confusion must have necessarily resulted from the sudden and urgent calls for stamps while the postal department was practically without organization or supplies of any kind other than the unsurcharged stamps of the Republic of Columbia, we are even forced to admit that we have not the slightest doubt that anything in the nature of one of the old stamps would have passed the post office and franked a letter so long as it bore the magic word "Panama" surcharged upon it.

The fact remains, however, that the conduct of the officials in this matter is utterly indefensible, and no excuse that is at all adequate can be offered for the culpability and carelessness, not to mention any harsher names, which has been exhibited in this matter.

Truly, the fair escutcheon of the new Republic has earned a bar sinister, in philatelic circles at least, which will take a great deal of polishing before it will disappear.

In conclusion we will state that we are informed that the first hand-stamped surcharge has already been extensively

counterfeited in New York and that, as the genuine are poorly executed, it is next to impossible to detect the fraud.

St. Louis Commemorative Stamps

THE series of stamps issued to commemorate the purchase of the great Louisiana territory by President Thomas Jefferson from France will be placed on sale April 30th. An authentic description of the new series was recently given in an order of Postmaster General Madden, dated March 22d, as follows:

"Postmasters are notified that a special series of stamps in five denominations, to commemorate the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, and known as the commemorative series of 1904, will be issued beginning April 21 for sale to the public during the term of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, from April 30 to December 1, 1904. They must not be sold to the public before or after this period.

"The denominations and subjects of these stamps are as follows:

One cent, green; subject, Robert R. Livingston, United States Minister to France, who conducted the negotiations for the Louisiana Purchase.

Two cent, red; Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States at the

time of the Louisiana Purchase.

Three cent, purple; James Munroe, special ambassador to France in the matter of the Purchase, who with Livingston closed the negotiations.

Five cent, blue; William McKinley, who as President of the United States approved the Acts of Congress officially connecting the United States Government with the commemorative exposition.

Ten cent, brown: United States map showing the territory of the Purchase.

This series of some stamps will not be issued in book form.

There will be no commemorative issue of stamped envelopes, newspaper wrappers postal cards, special delivery or due stamps.

The stamps of the commemorative series of 1904 are not to be sold exclusively in place of stamps of the regular issue. A supply of the latter must be carried in stock by all postmasters. Stamps of the commemorative or regular issue will be supplied according to the preference of the purchaser.

Las Bela

Mekel's Weekly Stamp News

THE following interesting account of an almost unknown Indian Native State is from the *Philatelic Journal of India*. It may be mentioned that the total face value of the stamps issued by this State since it started in 1897 is 3½d.

The following account given first hand by the Wazir, Las Bela State, of the quaintly primitive postal arrangements of this little State in the Mekran Coast,

part of Baluchistan, should be of interest:

"There are no separate post offices in Las Bela State doing purely postal business like those in British territory, but every principal *Thana* (police station) in this State is treated as a post office, too, and the work of dispatching, receiving delivering of postal articles is done by the *Thana Munshis*. There are ten principal *Thanas* (excluding the *Wakalat*

office at Karachi) in the State and three in the Levy tracts, which also perform the postal work connected with their respective jurisdictions, both in towns and villages.

"The general arrangement for despatching and receiving the mails from and to British India, as well as the local *Thanas*, is this, that the mail leaves Bela for Karachi every day at noon, and reaches there in 42 to 45 hours, taking and delivering postal articles at the intermediate *Thanas*, where the mail from the neighboring villages and posts is collected and distributed. The article, viz., letters, parcels, money-orders, etc., meant for British India and Baluchistan, are made over to the Karachi Post Office by our Karachi Agency, otherwise called *Wakalat* office. Similarly, postal articles received from British India for the persons residing in the Las Bela State are taken delivery of by the Karachi agency and despatched to Las Bela by our local dak, which leaves Karachi daily at noon and reaches the headquarters of the State in the same time as mentioned above, delivering and collecting the dak at the

immediate *Thanas*. This arrangement has been working satisfactorily so far as the official and private requirements of this State are concerned.

"As regards the performance of the various kinds of postal business, the work of receipt, despatch and delivery of letters, parcels, registered articles and money-orders is done, as closely as possible, on the same lines as in the British Post-Offices in India, and the local rates of postage are also in conformity with the British Indian postal rates.

"There is no local value-payable system, nor has any necessity hitherto arisen to introduce the same, but with the British Indian post offices this business is transacted through the Karachi Agency.

"No Postal Savings Banks are maintained in Las Bela, nor do the people of this country seem to have any inclination to take advantage of this system. The British subjects, however, serving in this State, who wish to deposit their money in British post offices, send the same to Karachi and get it deposited with the Karachi Post Office through the State Agency there."

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Azores.—The postage due set which recently appeared for Portugal has been surcharged for use in these islands.

Postage Due Stamps.

Blue surcharge.

5r bistre

10r orange

30r dark green

40r lilac

50r red

100r light blue

Brazil.—An entire new series is being prepared for this country, says *Mekeel's Weekly*. The values will cover a wide range in reis and will endeavor to portray the history and progress of Brazil.

Ceylon.—The new 2c King's head has been surcharged "ON SERVICE."

Chile.—The *Era* quotes from a French paper considerable information relative to the new set. There are fourteen values of postage stamps, four envelopes, six post cards and two letter cards. The stamps from 1 to 50 centimes will be 25x28 mm., and the 1 and 2 pesos 25x32 mm. The stamps from 10 centimes to 2 pesos have central portrait.

Adhesives.

1c green, portrait of Don Diego Postales

2c rose, Arthur Prat

3c sepia, Lord Cochrane

4c dark brown, Camilo Henriquez
 5c blue, statue of Don Bernardo O'Higgins
 10c pearl gray, Don Ramon Freire
 18c pale rose and black, Don Manuel-Blanco
 Eucalada
 15c scarlet and black, Don Francisco-Antonio
 Pinto
 20c purple and black, Don Joaquin Prieto
 25c red brown, Don Manuel Bulnes
 30c dark green and black, Don Manuel Mouté
 50c sky blue and black, Jose Joaquin Perez
 1p yellow orange and black, Condor
 2p bronze and black, statue of Don Jose de
 San-Martin

Hayti. — The *American Journal of Philately* chronicles the following errors in the control stamps upon the recently issued series.

Adhesives.

Blue surcharge.
 Commemorative Series.
 1c green, double surcharge
 2c rose and black, double surcharge
 7c maroon and black, inverted surcharge
 Regular Series.
 1c green, double surcharge
 2c red, double surcharge
 10c orange brown, double surcharge
 50c violet brown, double surcharge
 50c violet brown, inverted surcharge

Jamaica.—The 1d carmine and black of the new type has appeared.

Lagos. — The *Fortnightly* chronicles the following series of King's head stamps:

Adhesives.

1/4d green
 1d purple on red
 2d mauve and blue
 1/4d purple and blue on blue
 3d mauve and carmine
 6d mauve
 1s green and black
 2s 6d green and carmine
 5s green and blue
 10s green and brown

Madagascar.—An extraordinary series of stamps has appeared here. Messrs. Whitfield, King and Co. has sent the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* the under-mentioned values:

Adhesives.

1c violet-brown
 2c brown
 4c brown
 5c yellow-green

10c red
 15c carmine
 20c orange
 25c blue
 30c orange red
 40c violet
 50c bistre
 75c yellow
 1f green
 2f grey-green
 5f black

New Zealand.—*Ewen's News* states that there are new printings of the 6p and 1sh. The 6d is in a dull rose-red and the 1sh in a bright orange red.

Philippines.—The 13c Harrison has been over-printed "PHILIPPINES."

Seychelles.—The 2c King's head is appearing in an orange brown. A specimen has been shown in *Ewen's Weekly*.

Siam.—The *S. C. F.* chronicles three new Siamese stamps.

Adhesives.

4 atts, mauve and carmine
 14 atts, blue
 28 atts, mauve and green

Spanish Guinea.—A series of revenue stamps have been surcharged for postal use. The stamps are of large size, and have received a double surcharge described by the *A. J. of P.* as follows: First, a female figure emblematic of the Goddess of Art and Commerce surrounded with the inscription, "POSESIONES ESPAÑOLAS DE AFRICA OCCIDENTAL" and the Spanish arms and, secondly, "HABILITADO—PARA—CORREOS 10 CEN DE PESETA" in four lines of large type.

Adhesives.

10c on 25c black, red surcharge
 10c on 50c orange, blue surcharge
 10c on 1p 25c rose, black surcharge
 10c on 2p claret, black surcharge
 10c on 2p 50c brown, blue surcharge
 10c on 5p olive, red surcharge

Straits Settlements.—*The Philatelic Record* states a new provisional has appeared.

Adhesives.

Black surcharge.
 1s on 1s lilac and carmine

It was indeed a notable event in the history of the London Philatelic Society that the Prince of Wales should preside over its March meeting and read "one of the most valuable and interesting papers which that society has ever been privileged to hear." We quote these words from the *Monthly Journal* which devotes its leading editorial space to the service of exploiting the event, the first time the Prince of Wales has actively identified himself with the work of the society. The London society may feel proud of the distinction it has achieved and we are certain that this meeting will give philately a standing in quarters where stamp collecting has been a reproach. It is in no fawning spirit that these words

are written. We are compelled to face facts as they really exist. While there are scores of persons who are thoroughly independent in speech, deportment, manner of dress and the hundred and one things that enter into daily life there are thousands of others who are influenced by the current of activities in the lives of others. They accept the standards raised by intellectual, social or financial leaders and philately is compelled to recognize this fact in promoting its interests. Anyone in our philatelic societies can plead its work with greater zeal in proportion as its membership list shows power among men who can influence thought and mould public opinion. —*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.*

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The Virginia Philatelist

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*Honduras, '91 com., 1c.-10c.	.45
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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 9.

RICHMOND, VA., MAY, 1904.

Whole No. 69.

The Richmond Stamp Club

AFTER a preliminary meeting, an organization was effected on Thursday evening, May 26th, held at the residence of Mr. C. F. W. Moser, No. 16 S. 1st St.

The following members responded to their names:

Messrs. Ahern, Bradley, Christian, Davis, Jackson, Lecky, Morrisette, Moser, Rice and Weckert. Mr. Bradley was appointed chairman *pro. tem.*, and explained for the Organization Committee the intents and purposes of the proposed association.

After some discussion it was decided that the club should not be affiliated with any national society, but should be a straight local organization, to be known as "The Richmond Stamp Club."

Upon suggestion, a motion was made that the election of officers be deferred until the next meeting in order to give any absent collectors a chance to be present and vote, which was carried.

Several enthusiastic speeches were made by members present, and from the interest taken it appears that Philatelic Richmond is again to the front.

After viewing the valuable and interesting entire envelope collection of our host, Mr. Moser, the meeting adjourned to meet on Thursday evening, June 9th.

ROY B. BRADLEY,
Sec'y *pro. tem.*

SECOND MEETING.

The second meeting of the Richmond Stamp Club was held at the residence of Mr. C. F. W. Moser, No. 16 S. 1st St., on June 9. Mr. Bradley in the chair.

The following members were present:

Messrs. Ahern, Bradley, Brown, Christian, Lecky, Morrisette, Moser, Myers and Rice. Several letters and messages were received expressing regret at their inability to be present and promising their most hearty co-operation.

A motion was made and carried that the officers be now elected, and nominations were asked for President. Mr. Roy B. Bradley was placed in nomination by Mr. Moser, and seconded by Mr. Ahern, and was unanimously elected. Mr. Moser was placed in nomination for the office of Vice-President by Mr. Ahern and seconded by Mr. Rice, and was unanimously elected. For the office of Secretary, Messrs. Ahern and Lecky were nominated, and upon the withdrawal by Mr. Ahern of his name, Mr. Lecky was unanimously elected.

Motion was made and carried that the office of Treasurer be united with that of Secretary, to be known as Secretary-Treasurer.

A committee consisting of Messrs. Ahern, Bradley, Moser and Weckert was appointed to draft a Constitution and By-Laws, and to report at a future meeting.

Mr. Myers having brought his collection along, the members present were given a rare treat, and it is seldom an evening was spent to more pleasure or profit.

The next meeting will be held at the residence of Mr. Wm. S. Ahern, 415 N. 32d Street, on June 23d, and all Richmond philatelists are cordially invited to be present.

WM. R. LECKY,
Sec'y-Treas.



Official Journal of the Virginia Philatelic Association.

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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., MAY, 1904.

WE are sorry that we are late again.

It is stated that Vol. I., No. 1 of *The Stamp Age* is the only number that will appear, owing to lack of time.

SOME wise dealers always plan their heaviest advertising campaign for the summer season, and claim that the results amply repay them.

OWING to the dissatisfaction felt over the service of their official organ, *The Philatelic West*, the members of the Twin City Philatelic Society have elected *The Adhesive* in its stead.

To advertisers! It would cost you 40c an inch to advertise in THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST; it would cost you about \$12.00 for postage alone to send a circular to the collectors who receive this journal monthly.

BADGER's Philatelic Directory lists thirty-eight papers, omitting all publications containing only stamp departments.

THE St. Louis Exposition stamps are now generally on sale, and are a very pretty set, with the exception of the ten cent, which is somewhat of a disappointment. But then the subject was a rather hard one to handle.

FEW pages in our albums arouse more interest than those containing the adhesives of the Confederate States. Of crude workmanship, printed on inferior paper, they tell the story of a nation that rose and fell, and is now merely a reminiscence.

The stamps of the Confederacy offer an interesting field for study and philatelic research. Upwards of two hundred varieties of the postmasters or local stamps were issued, not counting the different types of the same stamp. To this must be added about thirty-five Government issues, and the philatelist has quite a delightful task before him to classify the different types from the various firms of Richmond and Columbia, as well as the London printings.

What is the rarest Confederate stamp of the general issues? We have no hesitancy in exploding the old belief that it is the "TEN" cent blue. This is an error, however. The 10c blue with outer line is by far the most valuable, and is a *very rare stamp*. We leave it to you. Have not you seen a dozen "TENS" to one outer line? We have often noticed that this stamp is nearly always lacking in the better collections, and our belief is that the slight difference between the catalogue valuation of \$7.00 for the "TEN" cent and \$6.00 for the outer line is far from the correct valuation. Judging from our experiences and those of our friends we believe a quotation of \$5.00 for the "TEN" and \$15.00 for the outer line is much nearer their real value.

A Good Word from Panama

Nekeel's Weekly Stamp News

THE following communication from M. D. Senior will prove of interest:

"In my last, I advised you that I succeeded with the President of Panama, in having him dispose satisfactorily of the remainder question and now I have the further pleasure to announce that I have helped to win the battle, as to the new issue being ordered by the government itself and not through any bidder. Four weeks ago I wrote a petition, to be presented to the President, and therein I quoted the prices at which the stamps could be made here, both engraved and lithographed.

"I placed the matter in this light, that there was no reason why the post office should not sell as many of the new issues for the philatelic market as they sold of present issue, in the last two months; and taking as a basis the sales in the last one or two months, an equal amount of the new issue sold would show a profit after deducting their cost, equal to or more than the initial cost of the whole issue. You will see that I placed the matter in a plain and business way which, very fortunately, appealed to his good sense and as I further affirmed that any other steps would bring Panama to the disgraceful level of the Seebeck countries, I helped to get his favorable

decision and the following decree was issued:

"Republic of Panama, National Executive Power, Government Secretary's Office, Section No. 2 of Post Office and Telegraphs.

"PANAMA, March 10, 1904.

"Whereas:

"From convincing data recently secured by this Office, it is apparent that the best interests of the Nation would be served, to procure the postage stamps for the republic from direct foreign source, as heretofore:

"It is resolved

To suspend the solicitation of public bids for April 5th to supply said postage stamps, as advertised by the Government Minister, under date of Feb. 18, in the official Gazette and other local paper.

Register and publish, the Secretary of the Government.

"(Signed) TOMAS ARIAS."

"Not because I am interested in Panamas, but as a collector, I am jubilant of having modestly helped to hit the nail on the head and to see my humble efforts in benefit of my fellow collectors rewarded.

"I can inform you that the mail by yesterday's steamer has brought the order for the new issue from the Panama Govt. to the American Bank Note Co."

Some Faked British Colonials

Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

The withdrawal of many of the British overprinted official stamps, which, though never formally announced, is now an accomplished fact, has naturally brought about an added demand for these varieties. Readers of the *Fortnightly* who wish to complete their sets of "Army Official," "R.H. Official," and "Admiralty Official" stamps will do

well to seize the opportunity of doing so, as prices are undoubtedly on the up grade, both for unused and fine used specimens.

Another and a very regrettable result of the Government decision to abandon these issues is the sudden appearance on the scene of a number of forged surcharges. Not only are the normal sur-

charges being imitated, but all kinds of fancy varieties have been created. Mr. Nissen has shown us three rather ludicrous examples. All these are specimens of the red carmine bearing what purports to be the "R.H. Official" overprint. In one case the word "OFFICIAL" is spelt with only one "F"; on another stamp the same word is rendered "OFFICIAL"! while the third specimen lacks the letters "R.H."! These things

are utterly bad, and while there is some satisfaction in the knowledge that they would not deceive a collector of any experience, it is quite certain that these are fakes that may be used by unscrupulous persons to swindle those who have only a smattering of philately. The fact that the bogus surcharges are placed on used stamps is calculated to give them an appearance of genuineness in the eyes of the uninitiated.

The Case of R. P. H. Wolle

American Journal of Philately

PHILATELISTS have good reason to congratulate themselves that, in all reasonable probability, the notorious R. P. H. Wolle is to be entertained for some time at the expense of the State, during which period we may hope to be spared from the dangerous results of his misdirected abilities.

Wolle's persistent returning to the same line of swindling, despite the discouragements of several terms in prison, suggest that he is a believer in the old saying that "there is a sucker born every minute." Let us hope that before he is again at liberty the present generation of "good things," at least, will have been educated to an understanding of his way and works.

After several weeks of preparation of the case by Assistant District Attorney, Charles W. Appleton, it was brought before Judge Cowing and a jury on the 12th and 13th of this month, the presentation of the case being made by Assistant District Attorney J. H. Iselin. It was fortunate for us that the case fell into the hands of gentlemen who were able to take broad views of things, who were willing to believe that philately might be more than mere child's play, and who could understand how serious a menace Wolle's deeds were to established businesses and an entertaining

pursuit. It is interesting to note that this is practically the first case of its kind which has been presented in the courts of this State, the only other case being a brief presentation before a magistrate. The District Attorneys were, therefore, without precedents to guide them and were under the necessity of establishing the case on its merits and through their own abilities. It is, of course, an honor to be able to successfully do this, but the result could only be attained by hard work. That a large amount of care and thought had been devoted to the preparation of the case was clearly apparent to those who were present at the trial.

The action (grand larceny in the second degree) was brought in the name of Joseph F. Negreen. The only witnesses called were Mr. Negreen, his father, detective B. A. Flood (who made the arrest) and John N. Luff, an expert witness for the State. Messrs. Bruner, Herzog, Robinson, Doane and Kerbs were present for the purpose of giving testimony, but the case was deemed sufficiently strong without calling them to stand. The jury were out of the room about five minutes, apparently only long enough to take one ballot, and on their return rendered a verdict of guilty. Following the verdict, Judge Cowing congratulated the jury on the soundness

of their finding and then detailed to them (as could not legally be done before) the past history and convictions of the prisoner the dangerous nature of his offences and the desirability of restraining him from doing injury to stamp collectors and dealers. His Honor very justly held that though collecting and dealing in stamps were pursuits with which most people were not familiar, they were, none the less, amusements and industries in which large sums were invested and were as much entitled to the protection of the law as any other legitimate pursuit. While the case was remanded until the 18th, there does not appear to be any reason to anticipate the granting a new trial, and the announcement was made from the bench that the full penalty (imprisonment for five years) would probably be inflicted. Making allowance for good conduct, this will mean an imprisonment of about three and one-half years.

The stamps which Wolle had sold to Mr. Negreen and others as well as those which were seized at the time of his arrests in Boston and New York, were presented in evidence. They were a most interesting and dangerous lot of clever manipulations. His forte appears to be turning the proofs and common stamps into rare varieties. Among the numerous items were many altered United States stamps, for instance:

Issue of 1851. 1c, type II, painted to resemble type III; 24c, perforated, cut

to shape and mounted on a large piece of paper to represent the imperf. variety, being also affixed to an original cover.

1857. 3c, type II, with the outer lines of type I added.

1861, September issue. 5c and 30c, altered to resemble the August issue; 1, 2 and 3c stamps with fraudulent laid lines.

Bisected stamps of 1851, 1861 and 1869 issues on covers with bogus cancellations.

1869. 15, 24 and 30c with inverted centers.

Pan-American. 1, 2 and 4c with inverted centers.

Many varieties of proofs thinned, gummed and perforated. Among the envelopes were the 1874-82, 2c, die C, painted to resemble die D, and the 3c, die B, painted to resemble die C.

There are many other manipulated stamps, both U. S. and foreign. The work was unusually cleverly done and often required the most minute and careful examination to detect its fraudulent character. A man of Wolle's abilities should be able to earn a large salary at a legitimate occupation. When the time comes that he is again at liberty, it will behoove philatelists to be on their guard against purchasing ostensible bargains from sources that are not well authenticated. For the present, we have a wrong man in the right place.

Just as we go to press we learn that a sentence of imprisonment for four years has been imposed upon Wolle.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Azores. — The *American Journal of Philately* chronicles a new value of the postage due set, 20r pale lilac.

Crete. — According to the *Philatelic Record* the 1 lepton yellow fiscal stamp has again been employed for postal pur-

poses, during the temporary shortage of the 1l brown. This was in February of this year. The same thing happened in January of last year.

France. — OFFICES IN CHINA. — We learn from the *Philatelic Journal of Great*

Britain that the Tchongking office has lately been favored with a supply of the 25c and 50c stamps in new colors.

Adhesives.

25c black on rose
50c brown on azure

Guadeloupe.—The *A. J. of P.* says: Several of our contemporaries announce that some of the stamps surcharged last year have received an additional surcharge consisting of a rectangular frame with the date "1903." *La Timbrophile Belge* says that the date is sometimes at the top of the stamp, sometimes at the bottom and is found both vertically and horizontally. The new surcharge is in red or blue. Presumably this will add numerous varieties to the already long list which are found in the stamps with the original surcharge.

Adhesives.

Black and red surcharge.
40c on 1fr bronze green
1fr on 75c deep violet on orange
Black and blue surcharge.
40c on 1fr bronze green
1fr on 75c deep violet on orange

Hayti.—Mr. J. H. Lyons has shown *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* sheets of the 1c green and 2c carmine of the recently issued permanent set without the control overprint.

The *American Journal of Philately* chronicles quite an array of "errors" in recently issued stamps.

Commemorative

1c green	control mark	double
2c rose and black	"	"
7c black and lilac	"	inverted

General Set

1c green	control mark	double
2c carmine and black	"	"
10c chocolate and black	"	"
50c pale lilac	"	"
50c pale lilac	"	inverted

India. — CHAMBA. — *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* announces the following new stamps for this State; all but one are the King's head type.

Adhesives.

Black surcharge.
4a olive

8a violet
1r green and carmine
Official stamps.
3p gray (Queen's head)
3p gray
3/4a green
1a carmine

Madagascar.—According to *La Cote Reele* some of the values of these stamps ran short and they supplied the deficiency by bisecting other values.

Adhesives.

Blue surcharge.
5c red (3/4 of 10c)
15c brown on bistre (3/4 of 30c)

New South Wales.—Surcharges here, as in the other Australian states, are apparently to be abolished in favor of perforating the current stamps for official use. According to *Ewen's Weekly* the 1d has been perforated "OS" and several other values "OS" over "NSW" as official adhesives.

Official.

"OS"

1d rose pink
"OS" over "NSW"
d blue green
1d rose pink
2d ultramarine
2d green
4d orange brown
5d dark green
6d orange
1s purple brown
5s mauve

South Algeria.—We quote from *La Cote Reele*: "From an office lost in the desert of Sahara comes the first surcharge upon the stamps of the sower type.

The post office at Beni-Ounif, being out of postage due stamps, has taken the 30c lilac, of the sower type, and surcharged it."

The illustration shows the following surcharge in two lines at the top: "REGION SAHARIENNE—SUD—ALGERIEN," and, reading upwards at the right side: "A PERCEVOIR."

Postage Due Stamp.

Black surcharge.
30c lilac

Tasmania.—The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* says: "It seems to be quite the thing in Australia just now to perforate the current stamps for use in official correspondence instead of surcharging them. A number of the current stamps been so treated for this colony, the list to date being as follows:

<i>Official.</i>	
3d orange and lilac (Queen's Head)	
2½d indigo	View wmk. T.A.S.
3d dark brown	" "
4d orange brown	" "
6d lake	" "
1d rose red	" wmk V and Crown
2d violet	" " "

United States.—The new series, issued in commemoration of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, at St. Louis, Mo., was placed on sale April 30th.

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
1c green	
2c carmine	
3c purple	
5c blue	
10c brown	

Western Australia.—Mr. D. Field has shown the *P. J. of G. B.* the following values of the current set perforated with the letters "WA" for official use.

<i>Official.</i>	
1882-90, 3d red brown	
1885-93, 5d olive green	
" 6d violet	
" 1s olive green	
1899 1d carmine	
" 2d bright yellow	

1901	2½d blue
1902	1d carmine rose
"	4d brown
"	8d yellow green
"	2s red on yellow
"	2s 6d deep blue on rose
"	5s green

Southern Nigeria.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* reports a new value for this Colony.

<i>Adhesive.</i>	
Watermarked Crown and C. A.	
2½p ultramarine and black.	

Venezuela.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* tells us that the provisional series (Scott's type A32) has been surcharged "CORREOS" and the names of various towns, as follows:

<i>Adhesives.</i>	
Inscribed "ESTADO MATUDIN" at sides.	
Surcharged "CORREOS MATURIN" in bright blue.	
5c black on pink	
10c black on blue	
25c black on yellow	
50c black on red	
1b black on gray	
Inscribed "DISTRITO MARIANO" at sides.	
Surcharged "GUIRIA" in magenta.	
5c black on red	
10c black on yellow	
25c black on gray	
50c black on pink	
1b black on blue	
Surcharged "VRAPA" in magenta.	
5c black on red	
10c black on yellow	
25c black on gray	
50c black on pink	
1b black on blue	

Exchange Sheets

The Australian Journal of Philately

In the process of collecting it is only natural to assume that duplicates would be acquired, and the question would naturally arise, "What is to be done with them?" Clubs were formed and sheets were sent from member with the idea that one might, if he choose, remove any he required for his collection. So far, so good; members by this means

were enabled to get rid of stamps they did not need and secure others which were wanting. Presuming that a catalogue basis is adopted one would think the system would be equitable. It might be if the condition of all the stamps was the same, or if any catalogue represented the real local value of the stamps, but, unfortunately, none do, and these factors

have proven the weak points in the exchange system. A member will not take stamps off the sheets if he knows or thinks he can buy them cheaper for cash from a dealer. On the same principle, however, he cannot expect others to take his stamps if he prices them up to local market rates. Some members get carried away with the idea that because a stamp is catalogued at a certain figure they should be able to find buyers at a trifle less. They seem to lose sight of the fact that a dealer has to pay working expenses, and expects a profit for his time and trouble, besides which many

collectors haven't to pay market rates for their stamps, and could very well afford to price them at considerably less without being out of pocket. In some cases they may not cost anything at all, but there are members who are positively greedy in regard to the prices at which they mark their stamps, and they wonder why they are not removed from the sheets. If members were more moderate in regard to their ideas of value, they would be enabled to get rid more easily of stamps they did not require, and those not possessed of any particular variety would be more disposed to do business.

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The Virginia Philatelist

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 10. RICHMOND, VA., JUNE-JULY, 1904. Whole No. 70.

187,000,000 of Exposition Stamps.

Washington Star.

There have been issued to date 187,275,100 of the stamps commemorative of the Louisiana purchase exposition at St. Louis. These are proportioned as follows: One cent, 53,379,200; 2-cent, 122,812,700; 3-cent, 3,388,600; 5-cent, 4,716,800; 10-cent, 2,977,800. During the time of their sale since April 30, these stamps have commanded great attention from both public and collectors of stamps in this and other countries, and the total sales at the close of the exposition are expected to exceed the sales of the commemorative series issued for either the Columbian exposition or the Pan-American. The initial demand was so great that the department had much difficulty in filling the orders, but the bureau of engraving and printing has now caught up with the demand, and all requisitions are being filled as fast as they come in.

The history of the selection of the designs for this series is interesting. The date of the decision to issue a new series of postage stamps for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition is not on record at the department, but the date on which the bureau of engraving and printing was requested to prepare designs was Oct. 26, 1903. So many suggestions of subjects and designs for this series were received by the postoffice department that a list of them would not be practicable, but there were hundreds from all parts of the country and from persons of all conditions. In preparing a new series of postage stamps the postoffice depart-

ment advises the bureau of engraving and printing of the denominations, subjects and wording selected, and the border designs are left to the artists of the bureau. Models are then submitted to the department for any suggestions or changes and many alterations are usually made before a model receives a final approval and the order is given to go ahead on the work.

This course having been followed in the case of stamps for the commemoration of the Louisiana purchase exposition, the designs for the 2, 3 and 5-cent denominations were finally amended and approved Jan. 23, 1904; for the 10-cent Feb. 15, and for the 1-cent March 14. The suggestions for the subject finally chosen for the series were all made in the department. On Feb. 3 the department received from John H. Livingston, of Tivoli-on-Hudson, N. Y., a photograph of a painting by Gilbert Stuart of his grandfather, Robert H. Livingston. Another portrait of Livingston had been selected for the 1-cent stamp and the engraving had progressed to a considerable extent, but the portrait sent by Mr. Livingston was so much better than the one originally selected that it was substituted.

This series of stamps will not be issued in book form.

There will be no commemorative issue of stamped envelopes newspaper wrappers, postal cards, special delivery or due stamps.

Look up our list of clubbing offers on another page of this paper.



An Exponent of Philately.

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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND, VA., JUNE-JULY, 1904.

OUR enterprising English contemporary, *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, has been conducting an open forum for the benefit of its subscribers, and the subject, "Valuing a Stamp Collection," is being discussed in an interesting manner.

One reader, for instance, has laid it down that a collector should get at the value of a stamp collection by disregarding all varieties valued at six-pence or less, and then taking a fourth of the catalogue value of all that remain.

While we do not agree with many of the statements, we reprint some extracts from a recent communication in the above journal.

"If this indeed be the correct way to estimate the value of a collection, I for one shall be very chary of buying any stamps. One does not expect to make money out of a hobby, but when time and thought as well as money are expended in pur-

suing it, it is only reasonable to expect that the value of one's specimens will be fairly maintained. So far as I can gather from your Correspondents, it is quite impossible to make an ordinary stamp collection by purchase without spending about 75 per cent. more than it will ever fetch, and that is a state of affairs which I am sure few collectors realize. Those who can afford to purchase rarities are doubtless all right, and many even make a profit on their purchases when they wish to part with them, but the poor man has not only to pay up to 6d for stamps that have no value, but those that are above that sum, excluding the greatest rarities, are only worth 25 per cent. of what he pays for them.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that there is something extremely rotten in a system which produces these anomalies. It may be convenient to have the standard of price fixed, but one does not quite see why the standard should be fixed by a firm of dealers and at a price so much in excess of actual values. One does not see what harm could result if the standard of price was fixed by the prices obtained at auction which is the standard that governs the sale, or, at least, forms the basis for deciding the value of all other objects of vertu and art.

It may be said that stamp collectors are all perfectly aware that the catalogue price is only a fictitious one, and that it does not represent a stamp's real value; but many beginners do not appreciate this, and those who in ignorance pay more than a fair price for any specimen, have some grounds for feeling that their money has been obtained by false pretences.

It is now stated in the papers that the Postoffice authorities at Washington are about to consider whether a special series of stamps shall be granted to celebrate the Lewis and Clarke Exposition to be held during the coming year. If issued, we hope the set will consist of low values

Our Young Philatelists and their Prospects.

By J. E. HEGINBOTTOM, B. A.

A paper read before the Herts, Manchester, Junior London, Leeds, Sheffield and other Societies.

THE following remarks are written mostly with reference to the rising generation of Philatelists, because this is the class who will have to continue the good work which our leading men of to-day have launched forth, and the question arises:—"How must the Young Stamp Collector be helped and encouraged to become a thorough Philatelist?" I will divide my paper into six divisions, all of which, I hold, are necessary in their various spheres of influence, to help on and animate the ardent beginner towards accomplishing the object in question.

They are: (1) Exhibitions, etc.; (2) Experts competent to judge and advise our Juniors; (3) Papers, Articles, etc.; (4) The better status of the "postally used" stamps; (5) School teaching; and (6) Societies.

(I.) EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

Under this heading I would include also Displays at Bazaars, Sales of Work, Drawing Rooms, etc. By exhibiting stamps at any of the above, the interest in Philately would not only be greatly increased, but it would doubtless cause many new adherents to take up the pursuit; the stamps need not necessarily be for sale, but such a selection could be made as would tend to attract attention, not only for the time being, but in many cases permanently.

I name Drawing Rooms; these of course are generally attended by the fair sex, but all the more need therefore to have stamps represented at them; for I hold that Philately ought to take a better hold of the fair sex than it does at present in this country—where women, more or less, hold aloof from our various Societies, and rarely attend their meetings. One seldom sees any articles in

our journals penned by our woman-folk nor have we any recognized experts among them. This is somewhat different state of affairs to that existing on the Continent, in the United States, etc., where the Female Collector is more prominent, and even articles sometimes appear in the papers from their pens.

Encourage Philately therefore more amongst our sisters, etc., for is it not a fact that in a pursuit where women enter, there is a strong tendency to raise its moral tone? Exceptions there are, but the fact remains that women, as a rule, rarely enter into any hobbies, or societies, etc., where men are recognized leaders, unless some strong social status of respectability is attached to them, and inasmuch as this status is in every way applicable to our organizations, why should our fair sex not join them in greater numbers than they do at present?

As regards Exhibitions proper, I will allude to this more fully in part (4) dealing with status of the "used stamp" but I may add here that I consider none of our Exhibitions has helped our young collectors much. True, they may have been present and admired various exhibits, especially the "plums" in them, and who blames them if they have done so with somewhat of a jealous feeling? But what encouragement, may I ask, have they received towards gaining a word of recognition for any of their stamps had they shown them? I reply, "None whatever." Therefore more help should be given to our young Philatelists by offering medals or prizes for collections that are not necessarily complete, but which show Philatelic knowledge, careful mounting, etc. It cannot be expected that these young people could possibly possess a complete collection of a

country or set of countries otherwise than under very exceptional circumstances, and even, when some years ago, a young collector was fortunate to secure a medal for a fine collection (although not of course a complete one), his success was somewhat discounted, and one of our journals questioned the real ownership of his collection of stamps. Unless there was ample proof that it did not actually belong to the exhibitor it was a pity to have disagreeably alluded to the matter in a public criticism. Encourage our young collectors as much as possible to show their stamps at exhibitions, and let this encouragement be considerably increased in the future if Philately is to continue prosperous.

(II.) EXPERTS COMPETENT TO JUDGE AND ADVISE OUR JUNIORS.

I have alluded to this in recent articles somewhat at length, and only here repeat the main points I wish to impress upon you. I hold that we should have more "experts" in many of our leading towns, not only men but also women, who would be willing to help and advise the young collector gratis, or for a small fee, according to circumstances, for you must remember that not many lads and lasses are able to pay much for an opinion about a stamp. I quote herewith an extract from my previous remarks *re* this question.

"It would be well to appoint an agent, etc., in the leading provincial towns, the question of price for his or her work to be determined upon later; let such an agent be well up in Philately, and one who could advise our young collectors as to the status of any of their stamps they are in doubt about. This would probably relieve the leading experts of much work, as naturally they don't wish to expertize stamps other than the very rare ones, which are not often found in the possession of young philatelists."

Many of our adherents fight shy of pur-

chasing stamps for various reasons; for instance, there are so many faked and doubtful ones being offered at the present time and "stamps for collectors only," etc.; further, the charges for giving an opinion as to the genuineness of stamps are often so high to make it almost impossible to consult our experts. The tyros don't care to trouble the "leading philatelic lights" about their stamps, even if willing to pay the prices asked; for what they are generally in doubt about are seldom rarities.

Another point. Why should London only (with a very few exceptions) have experts meet there? Granted that our Metropolis is the centre of Philately, I hold that experts should be found in other towns, who would be willing to give this matter their best attention; if they were unable to express a satisfactory opinion then some London or other A1 expert could be resorted to.

As I have previously written, the worthy "London Expert Committee" does not specially care to have stamps sent to them for their opinion which are not classed as fairly rare ones, or unique, etc., or which are not really worthy attention, entirely apart from their charges, which have recently been raised to 5s. per stamp if catalogued under £20; 10s. per stamp if over £20 and under £50; and 20s. per stamp if £50 or more. If the stamp submitted is declared a forgery, the fee will be 2s. 6d. in all cases. For juniors, these charges are prohibitive, even the smallest of them, and consequently there is a real want of known experts with moderate fees, in many of our leading towns, which include amongst their population a considerable number of keen young philatelists. The two main reasons that discourage so many of our youthful adherents are: first, the want of such an adviser, and secondly, the existence of so many doubtful stamps, which makes the first condition absolutely essential; having no one to apply to and

fearing to lose what little money they have to spare on stamps, they abandon the hobby entirely.

(III.) PAPERS, ARTICLES, ETC.

These should be so written as to be applicable to our philatelic youth than most papers at the present time, although I am pleased to say we are improving on this point every year. Many of the learned articles in our stamp journals are utterly beyond young beginners who therefore subscribe to no leading publication, and, as a natural result, very many of the latter prove to be non-remunerative, while most of them are actually worked at a loss. Make your articles more interesting and less learned editors, and your circulation will improve accordingly.

The scientific (?) articles are all very well for the affluent, the specialist, and the general collector of means, and all praise is due to their authors for the trouble they take in order to instruct us, but they are scarcely of any assistance to our youthful fraternity, who naturally start their Philatelic career without going into such questions as minor varieties and errors, especially one error only may be found on a whole sheet of stamps. What care they for a whole sheet, when in many cases they may not possess even a single stamp, or only wish ultimately to have one in their collection? The great majority of our young collectors do not belong to the "upper ten," but include many who are only able to put aside small sums from time to time with a view to purchasing stamps, hence all encouragement should be shown them regarding what to collect and what to leave alone; which are spurious and which are genuine, etc.; and this can be done both

by local experts as well as by articles which could easily be written for study with the more learned ones.

I should be the last person to wish to say anything against anyone buying what he or she wishes, but the point here is that many of our young (and experienced collectors too for that matter) invest their money in stamps with an idea that if a "rainy day crops up" they can dispose of their property at a financial advantage to themselves, but they are often disappointed. If the *wealthy* collector sells at a loss, one need not sympathise with him.

But the collectors who suffer and whom one cannot but pity, are those who can ill afford to lose money, and who often throw up the whole thing in disgust, whereas a little advice given to them from time to time would avert disaster and probably help to add many true philatelists to our fold. Philately in itself is not to blame for this state of affairs, but it should be more thoroughly explained to our youth, and although I don't entirely advocate the collecting of stamp for investment purposes, the latter question is bound to crop up from time to time, and why not? Collecting for pleasure and instruction, together with a "remunerative eye," is to my mind the ideal method, for very few of us can afford to spend a large sum of money upon our stamps, utterly regardless as to whether we lose or gain, should we wish to dispose of them later on either for want or the "needful" or through lack of interest in our pursuit, and these arguments hold good not only as regards Philately, but as to coin collecting, money spent in pictures, old and modern furniture, bric-a-brac generally, &c.

(Continued next month.)

The *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* quotes a German paper as stating that forgeries exist of the Finland 5m values of

1885 and 1889. The color of the forgeries is excellent, but the paper is too glossy, and the corner figures too large.

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Argentine Republic.—*Ewen's Weekly* notes the existence of a vertical pair of the current 5c imperforate between the two stamps.

Chile—*The American Journal of Philately*, chronicles a series of obsolete telegraph stamps which have been surcharged "CORREOS" for postal use. Varieties are as follows:

Adhesives.

5c carmine
10c olive
2c on 20c dark blue
3c on 1p brown

French Congo.—Mr. William Thorne has shown *The American Journal of Philately* marked shades of the 1c and 2c stamps of 1900, our type A12.

Adhesive Stamps.

Watermarked Thtstle
Perforated 14x13½
1c brown and gray-lilac
2c red-brown and yellow

Holland.—CURACAO.— The following new stamps are chronicled by the *D. B. Z.*

Adhesives

1 c., olive-green.
2 c., red-brown.
3¼c., dark green.
3c., orange
5c., carmine
10c., blue-grey
15c., dark brown
25c., violet
30c.; red-brown.
50c., brown-carmine.

Indo China.—Mr. William Thorne has shown *The American Journal of Philately*, some new values for this colony.

They are of the type described by us in May.

Adhesive Stamps.

Perforated 14x13½
1c lilac on blue
2c brown on buff
4c claret on lavender
5c yellow green
20c red on green
1fr bronze-green on straw

Nicaragua.—*The American Journal of Philately* received two new surcharges for the official stamps of this country, surcharged upon the regular stamp. The type of the surcharge is the same as that described by us in our chronicle of November 1903, excepting that the numeral of value in the upper, right corner is omitted. It is printed vertically upon the stamps, and there are four of the ornaments to each block of twenty-stamps. The value upon the 1c reads: "1 CENTAVOS" and the of spelling "CENTAVOS" have been corrected. We understand, also, that a new series, our type A15 has already been received in Nicaragua. It is a commemorative series and the values are 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, and 50, and 1p.

Official stamps.

Perforated 12.
Red surcharge.
1c on 10c purple
1c " 10c " (double sur.)
2c on 1p ultramarine
2c " 1p " (double sur.)
2c " 1p " (extra sur. on back)

Panama.—CANAL ZONE.—*The American Journal of Philately* says; "As our readers most probably know, "Uncle Sam" decided about a month ago to purchase \$1000,00 worth of the surcharged stamps of Panama and, by an additional surcharge of the words: "CANAL ZONE" make them available for postal purposes in that portion of Panama immediately contiguous to the of the proposed canal and which is under the jurisdiction of this government. Of course these were in use only while awaiting the arrival of the regular United States stamps which are already in use on the Isthmus.

We understand that eight post offices have been established in the "Zone," *i.e.* at Ancon, Bohio, Cristobal, Empire, Gatun, Gorgona, Labora and Tavermillia.

The surcharge on the only copy which we have seen is handstamped in bluish black and the words "CANAL ZONE" measure 18x2½ mm. The stamps used for this purpose were the second printed series issued in the city of Panama.

We have, also, just received three values of the current series of the United States stamps surcharged "CANAL ZONE" vertically, reading upwards, at left and "PANAMA" at right in Roman capitals measuring 16x1½ mm. and 11x1½ mm. respectively.

Adhesives.

- Perforated 12
- Bluish-black surcharge
- 2c rose and carmine
- 5c blue and carmine
- 10c yellow and carmine
- On U. S. Postage Ssamps
- Watermarked U. S. P. S.
- Perforated 12.
- Black surcharge.
- 1c green
- 2c carmine
- 5c blue

Panama.—*The American Journal of Philately* has seen a copy of the registration stamp, 10c on 20c with a new hand-stamped surcharge consisting the word "PANAMA" with an heavy bar below it.

We hope to illustrate it next month.

Registration stamp

- Imperforate.
- Rose surcharge
- 10c on 20c blue on blue

Paraguay.—*Even's Weekly* quotes from a French contemporary the announcement of another new set of stamps, dated "1904." The values up to 60 c. are said to be somewhat similar design to the issues of last year, while the peso values are of oblong shape with a picture of a building, we gather in *black*, in the centre.

- 5c. blue.
- 10c. . yellow-brown
- 20c. , violet
- 30c. , pale blue
- 60c. , brown
- 1p. , black and carmine.
- 2p. " blue.
- 5p. " "

United States.—It is reported an entire sheet of the 2c. Louisiana stamp *imperfurate horizontally*, was purchased at the Cleveland post office.

Uruguay.—A new 5c stamp having a bullock as the chief feature of the design has been issued here recently.

Virgin Islands—*The Philatelic Journal Of Great Britain* has been shown a set up to 5s. of a special issue for his Presidency in the stock De la Rue King's Head "Postage and Revenue" type. All are printed on the new paper, watermarked multiple Crown & CA, and, so far as we have been able to ascertain, none have been printed on the old paper with single watermark. The value is in white on a *solid* ground of color in the case of the ¼d., 1d., 2½d., 6d, and 5s. denominations, and in color on a white ground on the other values of the set.

Adhesives

- ¼d. purple and green.
- 1d " carmine
- 2d " ochre.
- 2½d " ultramarine
- 3d " black
- 6d " brown
- 1s, 6d. green and carmine.
- 2s. 6d " black
- 5s. 6d. " blue

Zanzibar.—*The Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* chronicles a new series for this country. As before, the anna values are of small size and the rupees values are large. The central design is the arms of the country.

Adhesives stamps

- Perforated 14.
- ½a green
- 1a red
- 2a brown
- ½a ultramarine
- 3a gray
- 4a dark green
- 4½a black
- 5a yellow-brown
- 7½a red-violet
- 8a olive-green
- 1r ultramarine and red
- 2r green and red
- 3r violet and red
- 4a brown lilac and red
- 5r olive brown and red

Samoa "Palm Trees" Stamps.

The Australian Philatelist.

A LARGE parcel of the "Palm Tree" series of Samoan stamps has recently come on Sydney market. They are said to have been brought by a gentleman engaged in mercantile pursuits as an investment, his intention being to keep them under lock and key until they get scarce. Readers of "The Australian Philatelist" may perhaps recollect our publishing a communication we received from Mr. Davis (who had obtained permission from the King of Samoa to start a local

post between the island and Australia originally) to the effect that the plates of Samoan stamps had been destroyed. Mr. Davis used to transmit the money to Sydney to prepay the postage, as the stamps were only considered locals. They were afterwards admitted as an authorized issue. That gentleman is since dead, and amongst his effects were found the parcel of stamps referred to. In a future issue we may be able to throw a good deal of additional light on these stamps.

President Roosevelt and Stamp Collecting

MR. Charles J. Phillips of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, limited, enjoyed the privilege of a chat with President Roosevelt during his recent visit to Washington. He was armed with a letter of introduction to the President from his friend, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, and had the honor of meeting him at the White House on June 4th. "The President," writes Mr. Phillips, "was very

genial, and seemed to quite enjoy a chat about stamp collecting. He told me that he used to collect when a youth, but that he did not do so now. He said that he heard that stamp collecting was almost universal, but that now his own interest in stamps consisted in seeing that the officials did not make any more errors, and send out automobiles up-side down!"

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PUBLISHED *for* THE MONTHS OF AUG.-SEPT., 1904



The Virginia Philatelist

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 11. RICHMOND, VA., AUG-SEPT 1904. Whole No. 71.

"A Federal Issue."

The Australian Philatelist.

PHILATELISTS will look forward to with interest for the report of the sub-committee appointed by at the June meeting of the Sydney Philatelic Club to deal with Mr. Mahon's (Postmaster-General) proposal to call for designs for a Commonwealth issue of stamps. From the date Federation was established the Club has taken an active and unselfish interest in the question of Federal stamps; and we are of opinion that to the stand it has taken, the hands, to a large extent, have been stayed of the interested individuals in Melbourne, who were over anxious to see the issue of, what we may term, provisional stamps. Had the Club been able to see the design of the 9d. "Commonwealth" issue, its protest may have saved the Federal Post Office authorities the ridicule heaped upon it from all parts of the world. The issue of that stamp, and the tampering with the design of the New South Wales postage-due stamp should show the authorities that in matters they lack knowledge of, it is safer to seek the advice—and disinterested at that—of those who do know. The authorities must ere this have also found out that it is a very simple matter to make a mis-

take, and a very costly one to repair it.

We see no objections in allegorical designs; on the contrary, we think they are a great desideratum in colonial possessions of an empire. We are not a whit less loyal than the most loyal of the residents of the British Isles; but we claim that the King's head would not be the most suitable design for either Australia or any other branch of the empire, for the following reasons:—The time taken from the calling of designs for stamps to the day stamps are ready for issue is close on a twelvemonth. It may happen that the King's Head has been the chosen design; that His Majesty may demise shortly after the stamps are issued, and that the new King may also wish to see his head portrayed on the stamps. This latter contingency would entail an extra cost that would not be warranted. Thus appropriate allegorical or representative designs would be far preferable, and, from an economical point of view, more desirable than the head of the reigning sovereign. If the Federal Postmaster-General can be made to see the question in this light he may probably insist that designs should represent local scenery.

A Man by Mail.

The Philatelic Chronicle

ALTHOUGH it is not generally known a man may be sent by mail in London. If he is unfamiliar with the way to the part of the city he wishes to visit, he may call at a branch post office, and a postal messenger boy will accompany him at a fee

of threepence a mile. The boy is provided with a printed slip, on which, under the heading, "Article to be delivered," is written a description of his charge and the destination. How is this for enterprize?



An Exponent of Philately.

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Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND VA., AUG.-SEPT., 1904.

It will soon be time to begin the season's advertising campaign, and you should not overlook **THE VIRGINIA**.

AUGUST, 1904, carries our thoughts backward ten years. It was in August, 1894, that the editor issued the first number of the *Lone Star State Philatelist* first as a weekly and afterwards as a monthly, until its consolidation with **THE VIRGINIA**.

We are in receipt of a neat little book of 160 pages, entitled "The A. B. C. of Stamp Collecting" edited by Fred J. Melville, President of the Junior London Philatelic Society. The book is one that will be of great help to the young collector, who will find much information of value in the thirty-one chapters comprising the book. There are nineteen full

page illustrations which will be of interest to the instructive study of stamps. Price 1sh., and can be obtained of Henry J. Drane, Salisbury House, Fleet St., London, E. C.

JOHN N. LUFF, in the *American Journal of Philately*, has a ringing comment on the introduction of a new watermark on the British Colonial stamps entitled "The Beginning of the End." It appears that the current English colonial stamps are appearing with a new watermark, consisting of a crown and C. A. closely interwoven throughout the sheet, and we are threatened with a deluge of new series from the numerous possessions of the Island Empire. It is indeed time to call a halt if we do not desire to drive many of our younger enthusiasts from our ranks. Why not cease the collection of varieties of watermarks? Surely we have enough stamps of varied designs to satisfy even the most omnivorous collector.

WHILE speaking of watermarks we call attention to the fact mentioned in these columns before that an enterprising Chicago firm has brought out an album recently designed especially for British Colonial Stamps omitting all varieties of stamps and all surcharges, and from all accounts the album is meeting with a ready sale. Our English contemporaries speak in very favorable terms of the work, and it appears to be filling a "long felt want."

WE have received the first number of *The Stamp Lover's Weekly*, a weekly magazine-newspaper devoted to our hobby. It is an eight page sheet, about the size of the old *Era*. A well known philatelist, Mr. E. T. Parker, of Bethlehem, Pa., is the managing editor, and is ably assisted by a large editorial staff. The paper appears to have substantial backing, and we extend to the new weekly our best wishes for a long and prosperous life.

Our Young Philatelists and their Prospects.

By J. E. HARGINBOTTOM, B. A.

A paper read before the Herts, Manchester, Junior London, Leeds, Sheffield and other Societies.

(IV.) THE BETTER STATUS OF THE POSTALLY USED STAMP.

Whilst putting aside entirely my own views *re* the *used*, as opposed to the *unused* stamp, I have before now repeatedly asserted, and do so again here, that the *used* stamp is neglected as regards exhibitions, etc., greatly out of all proportion to adherents, and that, the *unused* has far too much attention paid to it.

Collectors of used stamps are not encouraged as they should be, and although I do not wish to lay stress upon the preference of one system over the other, I am bound to allude to the used stamp, simply because the great majority of our young collectors go in for this class of specimens with some few exceptions such as Virgin Islands, Prince Edward Island, Revenues postally used, etc., because they cost less than unused and the young collector has generally only a little money to spend on stamps.

If your inclinations are towards unused stamps by all means collect them, but I think much more attention should be given to used stamps at exhibitions etc., than is generally the case.

Why not keep the two classes in separate divisions? If we wish Philately to advance, we must encourage the collectors of *used* stamps—the youth of Philately—but they generally get precious little encouragement at exhibitions, for should they ever send in an exhibit they do not, as a rule, even secure a passing remark of admiration. I allude, of course, to small used collections belonging to our youth and not to large ones owned by more advanced collectors; although even the latter are more or less ignored when unused exhibits come into competition with them.

The young collectors of used stamps collect at a considerable disadvantage; they never gain medals or awards and hence they are outclassed. Medals should be offered for *used* stamps quite apart from unused, a method which would do no harm to the latter class but would do great good to the. What chance has a collection of used stamps of securing a recommendation, to say nothing of a bronze medal? Silver and gold medals are seldom given unless there be a good sprinkling of unused with the exhibit (assuming the class in which is shown to be open to both branches), or the country to an advanced specialist who is practically complete in his exhibits. I fail to see why a good collection of, say, used British, is not worthy of as much attention on the part of the judges as one of unused, but I have never yet heard of a gold medal being awarded for such an exhibit. Surely to get together the used specimens entails as much labor than to accumulate unused! It may not be so much a matter of "£ s. d.," but it is a matter of Philatelic research, and observation as regards obliterations, condition of specimens, etc., and it is this money question at exhibitions which, in my opinion, tends to thwart us with our pursuit. Medals should be given for collections apart from their monetary value so long as they are fairly representative; by adopting such a course, the youth of Philately would have a chance of securing a prize, and would be given increased encouragement in his philatelic labors.

The young collectors of unused stamps have far more assistance offered to them than the collectors of used stamps, but in what proportion are the latter to the former? Roughly speaking in the same proportion as the rich to the poor,

—a proportion which has nothing like the attention shown to it by our leading Philatelists which it deserves and ought to have.

(V) SCHOOL TEACHING.

Here again much might be done to increase the interesting study of Philately amongst the youth of both sexes. At the present time, it is true, there is decided improvement in this direction, for I know many schoolmasters who are collectors, and among them are some who persuade their pupils to take an interest in stamps but whether masters collect or not, I consider that certain studies should be taught with examples of stamps as illustrations, for instance, geography, political history, the various coinage systems, etc.

As regards geography, the Atlas is all very well in its way, but it might at least be substituted at times by the study of various postage stamps,—making use of enlarged plates, lanterns, etc. Geography can be made exceedingly interesting by stamp illustrations, political history especially so.

Take our latest Colony, the Transvaal; what a history its stamps impart to one!

We have, to commence with, the first Republic, with her Arms depicted upon the stamps, then the first British Occupation with "V. R." added as an overprint; this latter series giving way to our late Queen's Head issue of 1878 to 1879; then comes the second Republic issue in two distinct types, of which the first was a temporary one only, being the Queen's Head issue over-printed in Dutch; followed, later, by the permanent issue, depicting the Transvaal Arms again; this latter type remaining in force (with certain varieties of design) until the close of the last Boer War, when the second British Occupation became a fact. Then appeared the "V.R.I." and in turn the "E.R.I." overprints, finally followed by the issue of King's Head stamps. Truly the political history of the Transvaal is

splendidly represented by its various stamps.

One more illustration of a Colony, namely the Fiji Islands. We have its first issue with "C.R." (Caecumbau Rex), and values in English coinage, then the stamps surcharged with "cents," depicting American influence; later on these were additionally overprinted with "V.R." over the former "C.R." showing renewed English supremacy, which was finally made secure by the simple "V.R." in the design, and our late Queen's Head the two higher values.

The stamps of foreign countries are particularly instructive for the young, although I will only point out specially those of France and Spain, and the latter's former colonies of Cuba, etc. In France we have stamps showing changes from Monarchy to Republic, or Emperor to Figure of Liberty, and in Spain, from King to Queen, with insurrections shown by "Carlos" stamps, coming between. The stamps of her former colonies following the political history of the Mother Country, are now overprinted with "American Coinage," finally to be replaced by separate American issues.

What could depict clearer political history than these stamps? From another point of view, what art gallery of able and world renowned men could be better referred to than the various United States stamps, with their portraits of Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, etc.?

Such illustrations amply suffice to advance my contention that an improved system of teaching at both public and private schools by means of stamp illustrations would go far towards making Philately more interesting to our youth of both sexes, not only at holiday times, but during school hours, or what boys and girls often consider as being periods of drudgery; thus a double advantage would accrue.

(VI) SOCIETIES.

Our present stamp Societies, with few

exceptions,—such as “The Junior London,”—do not in any way touch the class of collectors on whose behalf I write.

They do much good I fully admit, but not as much as they ought to do, and the reasons are clear enough; for one thing the members are either too advanced in years or in philatelic experience for young collectors to join them; they naturally fight shy of associating with the “pig wigs,” and in many cases the subscriptions, rules, etc., bar them from entering. What we want are more *junior* societies,—formed especially with the object of encouraging our very young adherents to become members,—where expenses are normal, and where young Philatelists may get advice and gain experience without feeling that he or she is an interloper, because they happen perhaps, at the time, to possess no great amount of spare cash or no great “rarities.”

Many young collectors naturally belong to this latter category, and it often makes them discouraged and disheartened when they cannot join a Society consisting mostly of those in similar positions, with, of course, men of standing to back them up. Why should this be so? Is there no remedy? A young collector who has only small means at his disposal to spend upon his stamps, may be just as keen a philatelist as a wealthy one, and in time, with careful consideration and instruction, may turn out as true a collector as his wealthy confrere; as he grows up he may become possessed of such means as will enable him to spend more upon his stamps, thus bringing him further into touch with the affluent collector. Why then should such a one be allowed to drop out of Philately's ranks?

If we don't encourage this class, then Philately will lose for ever many of its strongest devotees, for it is collectors like these who, with help and encouragement, will eventually (if life be spared to them) blossom out into leading philatelists, put-

ting the “monetary” value of what they may hereafter possess as regards their collection entirely aside as not being essential to my arguments. Philately has ample scope for both the instructed and non-wealthy, as well as as the wealthy. Both are essential to its very existence, for the wealthy cannot rule it alone any more than our aristocracy can rule our country. They are of great service doubtless, but they are only the small proportion where any pursuit is concerned.

I repeat, that if we wish Philately to continue to prosper, to increase in popularity and to hold its own with other sciences (call it a *minor* science if you will, but still a science, as there are certain facts and principles about it definitely agreed upon), we must study our young collectors more than we are doing.

The present generation of advanced and medium philatelists must, in nature's ordinary course, give way to others younger, and if the latter are allowed to diminish for want of proper education the result must be clear to everyone.

We train our youth in business habits, in diplomacy, in science, in art, etc., so that they may keep up our country's prosperity and position in the world, and I say that even in Philately, the “boy makes the man and the girl the woman,” just as much as in other things.

Let us then do all we can to help the youth of both sexes as I have suggested. There can be but little doubt that Philately will then more than hold its own with other pursuits, and the present generation of advanced adherents will be enabled to hand over their labors to those who come after them, in the full conviction that these efforts have not been in vain, but will make the basis upon which Philately has been founded as firm as a rock! “A posse ad esse.” “Delectando pariterque monenda.”

In conclusion, I would add that some of the examples under Division V. are

taken from articles written by a personal friend, and certain of the stamps illustrating those examples were kindly lent to me for the purpose by a well-known firm of dealers, to whom I again take the opportunity of expressing my thanks for their courtesy. The other illustrations were from my own collection.

The following lines are taken from the late Gilbert E. Lockyer's little book on "Colonial Stamps." They are very applicable—especially where patience is

concerned—not as regards any trouble I may have had to make up details for my paper, but touching the patience of my indulgent readers.

"When courage flagged, and patience weary grew,
It was thy voice which turned my strings anew,
Soothing encouragement, when needed most,
You gave, and sent me fresher to the post,
So, cheered when wavering, I stuck to letters,
Adhesive to the last, and felt no fetters,
Perfect or imperf., now at length 'tis done,
Accept then the results, thou friendly one."

[THE END.]

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Australian Commonwealth.—We clip the following from the *Monthly Journal*:

"The new Postmaster-General is considering the question of calling for competitive designs for a uniform postage stamp for the Commonwealth. It is not likely that action will be taken for a few weeks, as several more pressing matters require attention, but Mr. Mahon, when spoken to on the subject, said he was in favor of a uniform stamp being adopted in the near future. Whilst not particularly concerned about the purely artistic aspect, he remarked, 'where we can conjoin the picturesque with the utilitarian, I will do so. We don't want to be looking at a blank wall all through life.'

One difficulty, it is said, in the way of a uniform design, is that during the book-keeping period of the Federation, there would require to be some distinctive mark to distinguish the stamps used in each State. It is suggested that this can easily be overcome by the name of the State being worked in the design in a way that would not interfere with its general appearance." It is to be feared that if this suggestion is followed it will only mean another crop of new issues. At any rate we hope that the design adopted will be a little superior to the current

type employed for New South Wales and Queensland.

Colombia.—**BOLIVAR.**—says *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* "A gold standard has now been established throughout the Republic of Columbia, and one direct result of this currency reform is a complete new issue of stamps for the province of Bolivar. The stamps so far received by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co. are as follows:—

Postal Adhesives	4c., 1c., 2c.
Acknowledgement of Delivery 2c.	
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The stamps are of the crudest possible kind, both as to design and execution and if this is the best that Bolivar can do under a gold standard, the sooner it goes back to a silver the better.

A new issue from *Candinamarca* is reported, and for the same reason, but this we have yet seen.

Dominican Republic.—*The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* says that some good forgeries of the 2c., 10c., and 50c. of the 1900 issue are in existence. Their principal characteristics are that the paper is white instead of yellowish; the first letter of "DOMINICANA" slopes slightly instead of being upright; the appear-

ance is rather coarse, and the copies are a little smaller than the originals.

The American Journal of Philately has seen three new provisional stamps from this country, made by surcharging new values upon stamps of the series of 1901.

Adhesives Stamps.

- Perforated 14.
Black surcharge.
2c on 50c gray-black and violet.
5c on 50c gray-black and violet.
10c on 1p brown and violet.

Ecuador.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* announces, upon the authority of a European journal, a new series of stamps, commemorative of the battle of Pichincho, on May 24, 1824, which was won by Captain Abdon Calderon, whose head they are supposed to bear. The central portion of the stamps is in black.

Adhesives

- Perforated.
1c red and black.
2c blue "
5c yellow "
10c red "
20c blue "
50c yellow "

France.—*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* announces a new Military stamp, consisting of the customary "M." overprint upon the 15c stamp.

Military Stamp.

- Perforated 14x14½
Black surcharge
15c slate green

Iceland.—We learn that two more values have been brought out bearing the portrait of King Christian.

Adhesives

- 2 kron brown and blue
5 " red-brown and slate

Indian Native states.—**HOLKAR.**—*The Monthly Journal* announces two more values of the new issue in the same design as the ¼a. stamp listed in April.

- 3 annas, violet; perf. 13½ to 14
4 " bright blue " "

KISHENGARH.—A correspondent has pointed out to the *Monthly Journal* that "we omitted to note that in the 8 annas

stamp the 'v' in the word 'REVENUE' is an inverted 'A' with a very distinct bar to it. This may compensate for some of the numerous inverted letters 'v' that are found in place of 'A' in so many quarters. *Las Bela.* The *Monthly Journal* says: "We have obtained the ½a. stamp upon a new variety of paper, a light blue of quite different tint from that of No. 2 in the catalogue, which might almost be called greyish-blue in comparison. The new stamp is also printed from a new stone, containing eighteen impressions, in six horizontal rows of three, and the stamps are further apart on the sheet than before, 8 to 9mm. instead of 4 to 5mm. Perforation usual.

½a. black on light blue.

Nicaragua.—*The American Journal Philately* says the commemorative series has reached us and we understand that the lower values were printed in practically the same colors as those of the 1903 series through an error. They can however, be distinguished both by paper and the shade. In the old series the paper was rather yellowish; in the new it is white and somewhat thinner than the old. The shade of the old 1c is yellow green; the 2c is carmine-rose; the 5c is ultramarine and the 10c is orange-yellow.

We have not seen the new 5c stamp so cannot give the exact shade; the others are as below.

Adhesives Stamps

- Perforated 14.
1c emerald green and black.
2c dull red and black.
5c ultramarine and black.
10c orange and black.
15c lake and black.
20c purple and black.
50c olive and black.
1p orange-brown and black.

New Zealand.—The publisher of *The Australian Philatelist* has been shown two varieties of the prepaid cancellation impressed by the Automatic Stamping Machine, which was received through the post; one of the Wellington being a

circle 21 mm. in diameter with an inner circle 13 mm. in diameter, between the two circles are the words N. Z., POSTAL STAMP NO. , in the centre in two lines ID. PAID, the number is undecipherable owing to the impression being blurred and stamped three or four times over; the envelope is postmarked N. Z.—Wellington—14 JL 04—paid; the other design emanates from Dunedin and has been forwarded by the New Zealand Stamp Co.; the design is an upright elongated oval measuring 12½ mm. wide by 22 mm. high, with an inner oval measuring 4 mm. wide and 14 mm. high, between the two ovals the letters "N.Z." appear at the top with the value in figures at each side, and underneath the value in words "one penny"; the envelope is postmarked Dunedin 7 July 04—Paid, The New Zealand Stamp Co. informs us that the postmark date was the first day of issue of the new prepaying postmark.

St. Lucia.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp News* notes the appearance of one value of the current series upon paper with the new watermark.

Adhesive Stamps.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
1p lilac and carmine.

Sierra Leone.—The one penny King's Head has appeared with the new watermark.

Adhesives.

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.

South Australia.—*The Australian Philatelist* has been shown some specimens of the modified design of the 5s. stamp, with the word "postage" altered to the new type of lettering. We cannot congratulate the authorities upon the appearance of the design, when compared to its predecessor; it is wretchedly printed and the design appearing blurred and all the smaller lines much thicker; the color has also been changed from pale rose to carmine. We are also in receipt from the same source of the new current 1d.

postcard, with the additional inscription in two lines underneath the ornamental design reading as follows:—"Available only for the Commonwealth, British New Guinea, New Zealand, and Fiji; if used for any other place, a Half-penny Stamp must be affixed.

Adhesives.

5s. carmine, word "postage" in thick letters

Postcard

1d. with additional inscription.

Venezuela.—*The American Journal of Philately* has received two new series from this country. The first is very similar to those which we chronicled in July excepting that the upper label is inscribed "INSTRUCCION" instead of "CORREOS DE" and the lower label is curved instead of straight. The other is composed of official stamps of the same design as our O3 but in new colors.

Adhesive Stamps.

Perforated 12
5c blue green
10c gray
25c red
20c yellow
1b claret

Official stamps.

50c claret
1b "

Zanzibar.—Just before the new series was issued that we chronicled last month, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* states that some enterprising worthy persuaded the postal officials to surcharge some of the values of the Sultan's head set, and he obligingly purchased the greater portion of them. According to *Ewen's Weekly*, some of the 4½ annas (in both colors) were surcharged "One," some 4a. "Two" and a few 7½ and 8a. "Two—&—Half" in three lines, all in large lower-case type. Particulars are as follows:—

"One" in black, on 4½a. orange

"One" in lake, on 4½a. blue-black

"Two" in lake, on 4a. dark green

"Two & Half" in black, on 7½a. lilac

"Two & Half" in black, on 8a. greenish-grey

The whole affair seems to have been a putup job, for a speculator.

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PUBLISHED *for* THE MONTHS OF OCT.-NOV., 1904.



The Virginia Philatelist

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The Virginia Philatelist

"An Exponent of Philately"

Vol. VI. No. 12. RICHMOND, VA., OCT.-NOV. 1904. Whole No. 72.

How to Value a Collection.

Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal.

Most of us value our little accumulations very highly, even though the actual cash they would fetch if thrown upon an unappreciative market may not amount to a very large sum, and no doubt most of us believe that at some future date our collections will be worth far more than they are now. This is a wholesome and encouraging belief, so long as we do not reckon too surely upon it, after the fashion of those who are said to "count their chickens before they are hatched." but a problem which troubles too many of us nowadays is, how to calculate the present worth of a collection that is bound to fetch a fabulous price in the far distant future.

We have no wish to treat this question in a frivolous manner; occasion arises from time to time for a collector to dispose of his collection, and it is then important for him to ascertain what price it is likely to fetch, and how much he may ask for it with a reasonable prospect of obtaining his price. We would, however, deprecate the present-day tendency to be always valuing one's collection and reckoning whether one is likely to make a good profit on the money that is being spent upon it. We believe that there is no rule that can be laid down by which the inexperienced collector can value his collection. After all, what is a value of a collection? The value of a thing is said to be the price that it will bring; and if that is the case, the only way to ascertain the value is to put it up for sale, but if there is no one present who wants it, the price is likely to be a very small

one. Calculate the value upon any principle that you please, and until you can find someone who will buy the article at that price your valuation is a fictitious one. We do not for one moment deny that, if a collector must sell his collection, it is a most desirable thing that he should make up his mind what to ask for it; but we maintain that no general rule will enable him to do this. Either he knows enough to value it fairly for himself, or he does not; and in the latter case he will have to get someone else to do it for him. Rough and ready rules as to certain proportions of Catalogue Prices, etc., will be apt to produce rough and ready results of a very unreliable nature. All sorts of points require to be taken into consideration, and considerable experience in selling stamps, as well as in buying them, will alone enable the valuer to arrive at the result upon which he can act.

The fact that, although no stamp is priced in most catalogues at less than a penny, a packet of a hundred varieties can be purchased for sixpence, or less, proves that those who tell us that stamps of very small catalogue price should be ignored altogether in our calculations are quite right. On the other hand, when we note that current, unused stamps of the face value of a shilling and upwards are catalogued at 25 per cent. over that value, or even less, it becomes evident that the rule which tells us to reckon all our stamps, the catalogue price of which is more than sixpence, at one fourth of that catalogue price, is not of universal application.



An Exponent of Philately.

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 ROY B. BRADLEY, Editor and Prop.,
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One Page,.....	3.50	8.75	15.75	28.00

Copy for advertisements should reach us by the 5th of each month to insure insertion.

RICHMOND VA., OCT.-NOV. 1904.

THE V. P. editor had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Eben S. Martin, of Minneapolis, recently, and regret that his short stay in Richmond prevented him from meeting many of our collectors. Mr. Martin is the publisher of *The Philatelic World*, and is an active and enthusiastic A. P. A. member.

A discovery of no little interest is the discovery of a stamp of Great Britain.

Collectors of British stamps know that there is a gap in the list of plate numbers of one penny red where No. 126 should occur. The number was unknown, and the plate was said never to have been used, until Mr. Harper's recent discovery. The number on the stamps has been submitted both to philatelic experts and to practical engravers and there seems to be no doubt whatever about its genuine nature.

We will give free to everyone sending us 30c (foreign 40c) for one years subscription to our paper (for the next 60 days) three Souvenir Cards showing the Buildings of the St. Louis Exposition.

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The Postmaster-General has again called their attention of the public to the use of the "Philippine" stamp in the U. S. Mails, and has issued instructions that all letters bearing these stamps shall be forwarded direct to the dead letter office as unmailable.

The Philatelic Society of India has decided to complete the India section of the Tapling collection. This collection was made by the late T. K. Tapling, a member of parliament. After his death in 1891 the collection was placed in the British museum. It is now value at half a million dollars.

The following postoffices have been established in the Panama Canal zone. Ancon, Bas Ubispo, Boheo, Chrystbal, Culbera, Empiro, Gorgono, and La Boca.

Ancon and Chrystobal are to be money order offices. The governor has the power of establishing any other post offices that may be needed.

There are no sets of stamps more interesting than the various issues of Uruguay. One may discern in the series of the different years the progress of engraving from the early years of the manufacture of stamps down to the present time.

Westervelt's Post.

DR. WILLIAM EVANS.

At request of W. H. MacKinnie the writer has consented to rewrite and condense into one, two articles written several years ago and published in two different stamp magazines, believing that those who have begun collecting since that time, and the number is thousands, might have some interest in the subject, and also that the data will be of more value if all published together than scattered as it has been up to this time.

There are also a few minor corrections to be made in view of some additional information which has been obtained since the two articles above mentioned were written.

Westervelt's Post stamps belong to a class of stamps, neglected by most collectors probably on account of their rarity and the price they bring. Few local stamps are cheap, and therefore few collectors possess many varieties of them.

Little is said about them in stamp publications, and therefore, most collectors know practically nothing about them.

The stamps of Westervelt's Post were used at a small village in Orange County, N. Y., called Chester, from 1863 to 1867. The exact dates upon which the different designs were issued has not yet come to light and it is doubtful if it ever will. The man who issued the stamps is dead, the printer's records are destroyed, and there is no other source can be obtained. Westervelt's son has been communicated with but is not able to throw any light upon the subject.

Charles H. Westervelt's, who used these stamps lived, in 1863, in what is known as "the upper village" of Chester.

This town was at that time peculiar, for there were really two villages separated from each other about a half mile.

The "lower village" sprung up after the Erie Railroad was built and was on the line of that road while the upper vil-

lage was back from the road. The post office was located in the lower village and as this rendered it necessary for the people in the upper village to go a half mile for their mail they were considerably inconvenienced thereby. Mr. Westervelt, to obviate this difficulty devised his "Post" and these stamps were used by him in carrying on this business.

He conducted a general store at which his neighbors could call and leave their mail to be carried by him to the post office.

One of his private stamps was attached to each piece to indicate that his fee had been paid and at the post office the regular postage stamps were affixed.

All incoming mail for his patrons was taken by him from the post office to his store and thence delivered to the proper persons without charge. The Westervelt stamps were used simply for the purpose of indicating that the fee for the delivery of the mail to the post office in the lower village had been paid, and it also insured the people that their mail would be taken to the proper place at the proper time. Westervelt was a peculiar man in many respects. One of his peculiarities was a mania for colors and this he permitted to exhibit itself in many ways, one of which is shown in the many colors of the stamps he used. The catalogue does not record all of these colors. There are other things omitted from it, which should not be. The stamps of Westervelt's Post are printed in four designs. The first which was probably the earliest in use, is simply an oblong made up of alternate circles and diamonds, with a four pointed star in each corner, containing the inscription, "Westervelt's Post, Chester, N. Y." in four lines. This stamp is 23 mm. long by 18 mm. wide. It was type set and there are doubtless several minor varieties of it. The design is printed in black

upon two colors of paper, flesh and lavender. The second design has in the center the head of an Indian, somewhat similar to that on the U. S. cent. Above is the word "Westervelt's" below it "Post" at the left "Chester" and at the right "N. Y." Surrounding this is a fanciful oblong border of minute scrolls and circles. The size of this type is 21 mm. by 25 mm. It was printed on several colors of paper in ink of two colors; viz; black and pink. The black is on lavender, blue and green paper, and the pink on white, yellow, fawn and green.

These stamps, like the first issue, were type set. They were printed in strips of six arranged in two rows of three each.

Each stamp differs in some of its minor details from all of the others of the

In No. 4, the upper ones point diagonally toward the center and the lower ones horizontally outward. In No. 5 the ornament at the lower right corner points horizontally outward and all of the others diagonally toward the center.

In Nos 1, 5 and 6 the word Post is followed by a comma and Nos. 2, 3, and 4 by a period. In No. 4 the line dividing the bottom ornament into groups is a letter i and in No. 5 it is the same letter inverted (¡). In No. 1 it is nothing more than two small dots one above the other.

Some other more minute differences exist but those mentioned are sufficient to enable one to tell almost at a glance the place in the block of any given stamp.

The third type of Westervelt's Post



strip so that there are six minor varieties in each color of ink and paper. It is therefore possible to tell the place any stamp occupied. No. 1 has perfect figure 8 in place of S in the word post, and this occurs in none of the others. The ornaments at the top and bottom are divided by a fine line into two groups in Numbers 1, 2, 4, and 5 while in numbers 3 and 6 there is no division. In No. 2 there are at the top of the stamp three ornaments in the right group and five in the left one, while at the bottom of this stamp and at both top and bottom of the other three the groups consist of four ornaments each. In Numbers 1, 2, and 6 the corner ornaments all point diagonally toward the center of the stamp. In No. 3 all point vertically, the upper ones upward and the lower ones downward.

has for its center a picture intended to represent General U. S. Grant, in an oval, surrounded by an oval band 2 mm. wide which contains the words "Westervelt's Post, Chester, N. Y." in capitals.

In the upper corners are the figure 2 and scrolls. In each lower corner the figure 2 and over this another figure 2, and scrolls, with the word "cents" in capitals between the lower figures. This whole design is framed by a heavy rectangular border line. The size of this type is 28 mm. by 22 mm. The inks used in printing this stamp were black and pink and the colors of paper were numerous. We have black on lavender, blue and green; and pink on pellow, buff, fawn straw, green and white. The stamps of this type were printed in blocks of six from a copper plate.

The fourth design is an American eagle similar in design to that used on a number of other local stamps. This is surrounded by an oval band in the upper part of which the words "Westervelt's Post," are printed, and in the lower part the words "Chester, N. Y." These words are separated at the sides by a five pointed star with a dash above and below it. The size of the stamp was 24mm. by 28mm. This type was printed from wood blocks, probably in pairs. Nothing is known at this writing concerning the colors of either paper or ink in which it was printed.

In 1867 a letter bearing one of the stamps of Westervelt's Post went to the dead letter office at Washington and the attention of the department was evidently called to the stamp, because an inspector was sent to Chester to investigate the matter. This investigation resulted in the department forbidding the further use of these stamps and they, like so many thousands of other stamps became obsolete. Westervelt's Post was not stopped. The mail was still carried from the post office to the upper village and this custom still exists but without the use of private stamps. The paper upon which all these stamps were printed was thin wove. They were all printed at the office of the Goshen Democrat in Goshen, N. Y. They were furnished to Mr. Westervelt un gummed. Some years ago the writer was presented with one

of the wood blocks of the oval type and half the copper plate of the 2 cents type and they have been sent to the *Perforator* for the purpose of illustrating this article. The 2 cent stamp was used on packages and the other three on letters.

To classify the varieties of these stamps we have

Type I.

Black on flesh. Black on Lavender.

Type II.

Black on lavender. Pink on yellow
Black on green. Pink on white.
Black on blue. Pink on fawn.

Pink on green.

Type III.

Black on lavender. Pink on buff.
Black on green. Pink on fawn.
Black on blue. Pink on straw.
Pink on yellow. Pink on green.

Pink on white.

Type IV.

Colors of ink and paper not known to writer.

(The cuts used in illustrating this article are from original plates from which these stamps were printed. These plates have been in MacKinnies' possession for many years, and although he has received many offers from parties who wished to secure the plates in order to "reprint" the stamps he has refused to permit the plates to be used for this purpose. The original plates have been sold to parties in England.—Ed.)

A Chronicle of New Issues

Correspondents of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST are requested to forward to the editor of this paper information they may possess regarding new or projected issues. The same will be properly acknowledged.

Bechuanaland.—PROTECTORATE.—We learn from *The L. P.* that the current rd. stamp of Great Britain has been overprinted with the words "BECHUANALAND—PROTECTORATE," vertically, in *black*, the first reading upwards and the second downwards. We are not sure whether

this stamp is actually in circulation at present or not.

Adhesives

rd., carmine; *King's Head.*

Chili.—A correspondent at Santiago informs the "*Monthly Journal*" that the agent, of the American Bank Note Co.,

of New York, has protested against the issue of the surcharged Telegraph stamps described last month, on the grounds that his company holds a contract for the supply of Chilean postage stamps for the next five years, and that the Government is bound not to obtain such stamps from any other source. He added that these stamps were contrary to the laws of the country, according to which the stamps of Chile must bear the portrait of Columbus. It seems that this latter statement is correct, for our correspondent says that the Decree ordering the new stamps, with portraits of various celebrities, already been withdrawn, and a new Decree published, under which the new stamps are to be adorned with various representations of the discoverer of the New World.

Chili.—Owing to some of the values getting scarce and new values being required, various telegraph stamps have been overprinted "CORREOS" and in some cases with a fresh value.

Adhesives

- 1c. on 20c. blue
- 2c. light brown
- 3c. on 1 peso. deep brown
- 5c. red
- 10c. olive-green
- 12c. on 5c. red

Dominican Republic.—"*Meeel's Weekly*" lists some provisional 2c., 5c., and 10c., stamps, gives the quantities of each value, 10,000, 30,000, and 10,000 respectively.

Adhesives

- 2c. on 50c., grey-blk. and violet; black surcharge
- 2c. on 1 peso, brown and violet; black surcharge
- 5c. on 50c., grey-blk. and violet; black surcharge
- 10c. on 50c., grey-blk. and violet black surcharge

Dutch Indies.—We take the following from the "*Philatelic Record*."

Whether remainders or "a find" we are unable to say, but a considerable quantity of the 1870-4 issue of Dutch Indies are on the market. We judge they are remainders but have no information yet as to the quantities. The 12½, 30, 50,

and 2g. 50., were offered in Berlin in blocks in mint condition at a tenth of catalogue price, and we see from the last auction sale catalogue to hand that they have found their way into that channel.

They are offered in the auctions in single blocks of four and not in any large quantity, although we suspect that the number to be placed is considerable.

Gambia.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles the current 1d. stamp with the multiple Crown and C. A. watermark.

Adhesives.

1d., carmine; new wmk.

Germany.—*Wurtemberg*.—Mr. Gielwelb has shown the *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* a copy of the 1 kr., green, Type 2, with a clear impression on the back, reading the right way.

Probably a sheet that was defective in some part of the impression was passed through the press again, for the sake of economy, but it is not silk thread paper.

The specimen is postmarked "STUTTGART 1 JUN. 1867."

Gibraltar.—MOROCCO AGENCIES.—*Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* has received the 20c. of the new issue. It has the old Crown and C. A. watermark and, we presume, exists with the same varieties of the overprint as the other values.

20c., dull green and carmine.

Mauritius.—*Ewen's Weekly* chronicles a curious variety of the 18 c. Express Letter label, on which the word "FOREIGN" has an exclamation mark in place of the "I" thus reading "FOREIGN." It is said to be the fifth stamp on the sheet.

The same authority reports that the current 6 c. stamp exists with the multiple watermark.

6c., blue and carmine on red; new wmk.

Mexico.—*The American Journal of Philately* has seen the current type of

the two cent stamp (Scott's type A26) in a new color.

Adhesives

Watermarked.
Perforated 14, 15.
2c. bright blue.

Servia.—The New England Stamp Co. has shown *The American Journal of Philately* the new coronation series.

They are large stamps and are in two types.

Adhesives

Perforated 12½.
5p. yellow-green.
10p. rose-red.
15p. red-violet.
25p. blue.
50p. gray-brown.
1d. bistre.
3d. blue green.
5d. purple.

Strait Settlements.—We have seen the current 3c. stamp with the multiple watermark.

3 c., lilac; *new wmk.*

Trinidad.—*Ewen's Weekly Stamp Notes* announces the appearance of two stamps upon the new paper.

Adhesives

Watermarked Multiple Crown and C. A.
Perforated 14.
½p. green.
1p. black on red, type II.

Venezuela.—We have received several stamps of a new design from this coun-

try. The design consists of a central oval, containing the portrait of a military gentleman in uniform within an arch.

Above, in a straight line, "CORREOS DE"; "VENERUELA" in curved line forming the top of the arch, and, below in a straight line, "CENTIMOS" with a large colorless numeral of value at either end of the word, and within the corner blocks forming the supports of the arch.

Adhesives

Perforated 12.
5c. blue-green
10c. carmine
25c. blue
50c. maroon
1b. maroon

Venezuela.—*The American Journal of Philately* has just received a novelty from this country. It is the 5c orange (our No. 144, type A25) without surcharge and makes a companion to the 50c (our No. 162, type A28) issued last year. Is it possible that all of the series, numbers 144 to 153, are to appear uncharged? Several of our contemporaries list some high values of the "Instrucción" series chronicled by us in June.

Adhesives

Perforated 12.
5c. orange.

Instrucción Type

3b. blue.
10b. violet
20b. rose.

Postage for the Phillipines.

Mr. C. M. Cotterman, Director of Posts in the Phillipines has issued an order regarding postage due stamps as follows:

GENERAL ORDER No. 18.

Manilla, P. I., Aug. 16, 1904.

N. C. Comfort,

In reply to your letter of the 11th instant I beg to inform you that the use of postage due stamps as evidence of payments of postage due has been discontinued.

So far as now known the use of this kind of stamps will not again be resumed in the Phillipine Islands. Enclosed herewith you will find a copy of the order in question on the subject.

The unused postage due stamps will very naturally be destroyed when the proper time comes.

C. M. COTTERMAN,

Director of Posts.

General Order No. 18.

Immediately upon receipt of this order postmasters will return by registered

mail to the Directors of Posts all unused post-due stamps on hand in their respective offices and the use of postage-due stamps for the payment of short postage on mail matter will be discontinued.

All the rules relative to the collection of unpaid and short paid postage will be in force as heretofore except that ordinary postage stamps will be used as evidence of the payment of such postage instead of the postage due stamps heretofore used for that purpose.

ONE great need in the U. S. today is an association for collecting accounts against approval sheet frauds with agents in nearly every city in the U. S. and all large cities in foreign countries. The agent, of course, would be paid a commission for each claim placed in his hands. He would then call on these frauds, and let them know his mission, and collect the account if possible, and then make his report to the headoffice. This is really the quickest way of getting rid of these frauds. In this way a personal visit from the Company's local representative would have more effect than writing letters.

Canada is following Uncle Sam's plan of using precancelled stamps. The 1 and 5 cent King's head stamps have been precancelled.

Ordinary Philippine postage stamps of the proper amount will be attached to the article when payment is made but cancelled with the impression of the postmarking stamp to show date of cancellation, and not by cancelling stamp or dauber as is done in case of stamps attached to matter when first mailed.

Hereafter postmasters will accept unused Philippine postage stamps as well as money from the public for the payment of postage due. C. M. COTTERMAN.

A bright, clean and newsy little monthly which finds its way to our desk monthly is "*Home Sunshine*." It is published in Flushing, N. Y., by Harry J. Cornell, and is edited by Mrs. Susan A. Hudson, of New York City. Its name truly signifies its mission, as it carries sunshine into the homes of many thousands of poor and invalid persons. May "*Home Sunshine*" live long, and continue in the great work that they are doing.

The stamp question before the Department now is—will we have a new issue in commemoration of Clark and Lewis Exposition.

The demand for the St. Louis stamps seems to be gradually decreasing as the people find that owing to the stamps being larger than the regular issue there is consequently more surface to be "licked."

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1903—2c. "03
1903—5c. "30
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