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The United States specialists' priced catalogue, of which, I believe only two editions have appeared, gives a place to and sets prices for the cancellations on the stamps of that country that makes the prices of the ordinary "collection specimen,"—be it ever so fine—look pale at the mouth.

To cite a few instances—here is a stamp priced at 3 cents as a normal collection specimen with ordinary black obliteration without any particular significance attached to it. This stamp with the same ordinary insignificant cancellation, or the town postmark in blue is priced here at three times the price of the black, viz. 10 cents. Other postal markings make this ordinary 3 cent stamp worth 50 cents if cancelled in purple or magenta, 75 cents if the word "paid," happened to land upon

**PAID**

it from the postal clerk's gavel or hammer. If this same stamp had been fortunate enough to have been hit after the cancelling weapon had come in contact with a pad of red or brown ink, its price by this catalogue is \$1. If the letter bearing this particular stamp had been, by any mishap, delayed in posting until the mail was closed at the Post Office for the city to which it was addressed, and the writer had the energy to take time by the forelock and hie himself to the railway

**LATE  
FEE**

station, where after being posted on the train, it was hit by the railway representative of the postal department, the value of that stamp is advanced to the price—note carefully—\$2.50. But this is not the limit, if the postman in the town office happened to have a green ink pad with which to regale his cancelling device the price of this same stamp so hit is \$3, according to the decision of the compilers of this catalogue—and they are given credit by those who deal with them for knowing values in stamp cancellations. Not to repeat, but to add a few details, a stamp priced in ordinary condition at 6 cents jumps to \$9 if mailed on a train, or \$12.50 if mailed at sea and cancelled "Packet" or equivalent in any other language.

One other instance—here is a stamp priced at 60 cents—kinsman of No. 14 Canada, 1 cent rose, 1859, priced as follows: if cancelled in black 60 cents, blue \$1, red \$1.50, brown \$2, ultramarine \$3, green \$7.50, Paid \$1, Way Letter \$2.50, Railway \$4, Packet \$12.50.

**WAY  
LETTER**

If these prices indicate the stage that has been arrived at on the other side of that imaginary line, that we who live close to hear so much about—it appears to this writer that it is good evidence that the Editor has not felt the philat-