

advises collectors to either let these things alone entirely, or collect them while in use, or in a used condition*. That's very good advice, brother Jewett, but how are we to get these high values at face value with our pocket books the next thing to empty? Neither can I see how we are to get used specimens, as it is rather doubtful whether such high values will be required for postage in more than a very few instances. If any used specimens are captured by collectors or dealers, they will be held at a very high figure.

United States.—The Columbian stamps of this country are too well known to need much description, but as my list would not be complete without them, I list them: 1c. blue, Columbus in sight of land; 2c. maroon, Landing of Columbus; 3c. green, Flag ship of Columbus; 4c. ultramarine, Fleet of Columbus; 5c. chocolate, Columbus soliciting aid of Isabella; 6c. purple, Columbus welcomed at Barcelona; 8c. carmine red, Columbus restored to favor; 10c. dark brown, Columbus presenting Natives; 15c. dark green, Columbus announcing his discovery; 30c. sienna brown; Columbus at Rabida; 50c. light blue, Recall of Columbus; 1 dollar salmon, Isabella pledging her jewels; 2 dollar red, Columbus in chains; 3 dollar light green, Columbus describing his third voyage; 4 dollar carmine, Portrait of Queen Isabella and Columbus; 5 dollar black, Portrait of Columbus.

The Special Delivery stamp was changed to orange, because the S. D. boys mistook the 1c. blue, Columbian for the Special Delivery stamp; and often delivered letters franked with them. There is a peculiar puzzle in the fifty cent; by turning the stamp sideways so that "Christopher" is nearest the ground, a ridiculous picture of a man's face is presented. The head of the officer who is saluting Columbus forms the eyes, and his horse resembles a "plug" hat which has been badly smashed. A plainly marked shadow forms the nose; while a horse in the background forms the mouth.

The envelopes are of the denominations 1, 2, 5, and 10 cents, and are all on white paper. The following is a list of the different sizes; size A, 140x82 mm. 1, 2c.; size G, 219x98 mm. 2, 5c.; size H, 241x104 mm. 2, 5, and 10c.; size J, 257x111 mm. 2, 5, and 10c.; size N, 133x107 mm. 1, 2c.; size P, 148x92 mm. 1, 2, and 5c.; size L, 160x95 mm. 1, 2, 5, and 10c.; size R, 142x111 mm. 1, 2, and 5c. They are watermarked with a picture of Columbus and Liberty in centre. Above is small U. S. in monogram like the 1887 issue, and 1492. Below 1892, to left, Liberty; and to right, Columbus. There are a great many die varieties of the envelopes, but I won't mention them here, for want of space.

Uruguay.—A special cancel mark was in use here during the three days of the Columbian celebration.

Venezuela.—This country issued a Columbian stamp of the value of 25 centimes. The design represents the discovery of the main land by Columbus in 1498. The great discoverer is shown as holding a banner in his left hand, while with his right he steadies a cross which another man is pushing down into the soil of America. At the top, "1492-1892" with the value; below, the title of the picture; color, lilac mauve. This, I believe, completes the list of Columbian postage stamps.

*NOTE BY EDITOR.—Cancelled to order specimens of Seebecks are beginning to appear; so that one may secure used specimens if desired.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

MY FRIEND JONES.

BY ROY F. GREENE.



My friend Jones is a logical man, at least in his own estimation. He is not content with the simple knowledge that a thing is a fact, he must know the reason, and the outcome of it is that he reasons it out for himself, and his conclusions are oftentimes overdrawn.

Jones is not a stamp collector, but many of his friends are, and at first he derided the pursuit in his peculiar and matter-of-fact way. He at first classed it as a boyish pastime, but since looking at the photographs of lawyers, clergymen, doctors and editors, who are stamp collectors, that I have framed and hanging on the walls of my study, he concluded that he was mistaken, and of course he had to form other conclusions. The other day I met him and our conversation turned towards stamps and stamp collectors. He explained to me his latest conclusions off the subject, and I prevent them to show how untrue are the excuses he would make for stamp collecting. He has it figured out that philately is predominant among the residents of warm countries, that it flourishes in the climates most affected by heat. He says that the natives of these torrid countries are naturally an indifferent, lazy set of people; they will not work, and must of necessity have means to pass away the time; consequently they have turned to stamp collecting, and have found it a pleasant occupation of their time, which hangs as a burden upon them. Of course there are collectors in temperate and frigid climes, but they are exceptions to the rule. Now what do you think of that? It appears to me that my friend Jones is grievously in the wrong. Yet not more so than many others who seek to fathom the reasons why stamp collecting has an existence. His rehearsals gave me food for research, and I busied myself with hunting out statistics among musty volumes of philatelic lore in order to prove the falsity of his statements.

Stamp collecting first began in Paris, France, about fifty years ago, and made great progress in Paris before it spread to other cities and countries. The largest number of stamp collectors in any one country is claimed by the United States, while France, Belgium, Austria, Germany, and Gt. Britain are following closely behind. Spain, Italy, Greece, Portugal, and Turkey, which are much warmer climates than the foregoing, are possessed of a much smaller number of philatelists. Russia, Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway, have a greater number of stamp collectors than the whole of India, Egypt, and the rest of Africa. Now it seems to me that this is conclusive evidence that philately was not born of a torrid climate. Going farther, I would venture to say, though I have no statistics for this, that the Dominion of Canada possesses a larger number of philatelists than the whole South American Continent. I may be in error here however.

Philately has the largest number of devotees among the English speaking races, and who can say that these people are lazy, and idle dreamers, taken as a whole? The truth of the matter is that Mr. Jones don't know what he's talking about. He jumped at conclusions, and that is the case with many of our would-be critics. All the proof goes to show just the opposite from what he claimed.