

THE PHILATELIC ADVOCATE.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. 2.

BERLIN, ONT., APRIL, 1897.

NO. 4.

British Colonials.

By HERBERT IREY WATTS.

1. Nevis.

In this series of short articles I shall devote some space to describing the country as well as its stamps. I shall not try to enter into minor prints, but shall take up one colony in each paper and describe its postal emissions in as interesting a manner as possible.

This sketch is to be about the stamps of Nevis.

Nevis is a small island in the West Indies, located south of St. Christopher. It is only about twenty square miles in area, and of corresponding population, which will account for many of its early issues being so scarce.

The first postal issue was in 1861 and consisted of four values, viz: 1 penny, 4 pence, 6 pence and 1 shilling. The colors were lake rose, dull rose gray and green respectively. These were first issued on a bluish paper but were later printed on grayish paper.

Up to 1867 all the stamps of Nevis were issued imperforate, but in that year a supply was printed and perforated 15. These were all upon white paper, except the 1 shilling which is also to be found on laid paper. Those on laid paper are a yellowish green, while the ones on white, plain paper, are blue green.

The next supply was lithographed on white paper and perforated 15. This applies to all except the one shilling stamp which was also perforated 11½.

The one shilling perforated 15 are grayish green and those perforated 11½ are vermillion.

In 1879 these picturesque stamps were replaced by a commonplace design similar to those now used by most British Colonies.

These are all perforated 14. Several split provisionals occur in this issue, the one penny stamp being cut to supply the half penny. These are surcharged "Nevis" in small type.

In 1882 several varieties, which had been surcharged "Revenue" for use as revenue stamps, were used for postage to supply a sudden demand. They are very scarce.

The first postal cards of this colony were issued in 1879. None of them are rare.

Notes.

By SIDNEY NICHOLS.

The director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing reports that the sale of stamps in the U. S. during the year 1895 was as follows;

Postage stamps	\$3,025,481,467
Special delivery stamps	4,666,270
Postage due stamps	19,348,714
Newspaper stamps	5,505,672
Total	33,055,002.123

In addition to this the Bureau has made the following stamps for internal revenue purposes: 36,044,732 sheets of tobacco, liquor and playing-card stamps; 214,000 sheets Custom House stamps; besides a vast number

(Continued on page 31)