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An Interesting Error.

The \$2 Value of the Third Issue of Canada Bill Stamps with Inverted Medallion.

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Today the collecting of oddities is not in as much vogue as it was a decade ago, yet an oddity that is really interesting is to day regarded by many in as friendly a manner as was an oddity ten years ago. By this I mean that a stamp that in some way differs from all others printed from the same plate or die in some salient point enjoys much favor in the sight of true philatelists. The tendency of collectors to possess something that no one else can secure is very manifest to anyone having dealings with philatelists. It seems to be an inherent trait of the human race for each person, to, in some way, differ in habits from the rest of humanity, and in collecting this trait is carried even farther than in every day life. Some collectors take pleasure from the collecting of oddities and errors of all classes, and certainly a collection of this kind presents a very pleasing and interesting appearance. If a stamp that differs only in the lacking or the addition of some unimportant feature is worthy of collecting at all surely the real oddities, such as the stamp being printed in the wrong color or the inverting of the centre portion of the stamp, are worthy of rank as really collectable classes. These show misunderstanding of orders or carelessness on the

part of the printers and are not accountable for by broken dies, worn plates, etc., but are the true oddities and and as such are well worthy of collection.

Chief among the class of inverted medallion varieties must necessarily come the revenues of the second, third and fourth issues of United States revenues. Various scribes have described and explained the issuance of these interesting issues in so thorough a manner that it would be unwise for me to say anything respecting them. But there is another specimen of this inverting of the medallion that, owing to the lack of definite information regarding it known, is even more interesting than those varieties I have mentioned. I refer to the \$2 value of the third issue of Canadian Bill stamps, than which to my mind, no more interesting stamp exists.

Very little definite knowledge is known regarding the number of such stamps issued, etc., but I will give a general view of how these stamps were issued to the public. This view may or may not be correct but as it is the generally accepted view of all collectors it is more than probably so.

These stamps were printed by the American Bank Note Co., New York, which company printed other classes of revenues as well as the Canadian Telegraph Franks. They were printed in two colors—red for frame and black for the medallion and it was necessary for the sheet to be run through the press twice, once for each