

Danish Antilles, and if this county of ours cares to pay \$7,000,000 for the 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ square miles in question, it seems as though the Danes would close the bargain quickly. Perhaps U.S. surcharges may mark the stamps of the Danish West Indies in the opening year of the twentieth century. In passing, it may be worth noting that several minor varieties are in existence, both as regards perforation or a lack of it, and there are many differences in shades. Former catalogues give two official seals which are rather attractive and there are plenty of collectors, including yours truly, who put them in the album. It is noteworthy that two stamps of Schleswig-Holstein of 1850 date, when the provinces belong to Denmark, are held at \$18 in unused and \$60 in used condition, and that the stamps of Schleswig and Holstein both in after years are held at rather stiff prices. The stamps became obsolete in 1868, when superseded by those of Germany.

Nova Scotia Cent Series.

EDGAR NELTON

The series of stamps issued by the Nova Scotia Government contemporary with the change of currency in 1860-62 have always been exceedingly interesting to collectors generally on account of their beautiful designs and exquisite coloring. Interest in this handsome series has received a new impetus recently on account of the discovery and placing upon the market of the remainders of five values.

These stamps were engraved and printed by the American Bank Note Co, and were not only finished in the highest style of the engravers' art at that period but quite equal to any and are far superior in delicacy of design and clearly defined colours and printing to much that this well known company has since produced.

The 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c value was known among old-time collectors as the queen of stamps and is indeed a beautiful engraving. It has always been a moderately difficult stamp to obtain, especially on the original cover, having been used formerly to England and foreign countries.

One of the finest counterfeits ever produced of this stamp was made many years ago, but what its history was and by whom made I have never been able to ascertain beyond the fact that I found and purchased three specimens in Montreal some years ago. The engraving is almost equal to the splendid workmanship evinced in the original, and the artist who produced the forgery exhibited abilities worthy of a better cause. Probably it was figured at the time that this stamp would become very rare like its distinguished predecessor, so much like in general appearance, the famous 12 pence of Canada.

Just why these forgeries were never more widely circulated I am also unable to imagine as they would readily deceive even fairly well informed collectors, but as a matter of fact they did not and are worth *for purposes of comparison* and interest to the specialist in British North America far more than the original, so none may fear being swindled by counterfeits of Nova Scotia cent stamps altho' there are miserably poor forgeries of 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 10c in existence and also fair imitations 1c and 2c values, also very scarce like 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c forgery and worth far more now than the originals.

The recent discovery of Remainders has disgruntled some speculators and large holders of these stamps, but is a good thing for the philatelic world at large as many collectors have now the opportunity of filling up this is a small figure which may decline still farther yet. A careful examination of the Remainders offered show them to be genuine originals beyond all doubt, and enquiry at offices of the American Bank Note Co. show no Reprints have ever