

turns show that the inauguration of this system satisfies the public that postal notes are a safe and inexpensive means of remitting money.

Plate number 4 of the 1 cent numeral issue has been received.

A fact not generally known is that each postal note has the value watermarked in the paper.

The design for the Imperial penny postage stamp has been announced. Mr. Mulock on returning from Great Britain invited designs from a number of artists, embodying the idea which he had in his mind, but when these were submitted he found that they did not meet the object in view. Then he sat down and roughly sketching what he wanted handed it to an artist that the lines might be skillfully and symmetrically drawn. The stamp consists of a neatly executed map of the world in miniature. The British possessions are printed in red, and these stand out in bold relief against a dark background. Surmounting this instructive picture is a representation of the Crown, underneath which is a bunch of oak and maple leaves, symbolizing the unity of England and Canada. At the upper edge of the stamp are the words "Canada postage," in a neat letter. Underneath the map is placed, "Xmas, 1898," so that the date of the inauguration of Imperial penny postage shall be made a matter of record. On each of the lower corners appears the figure "2," indicating the denomination of the stamp, and at the lower edge is this suggestive passage, taken from the words of one of our patriotic poets, "We hold a vaster empire than has been."

Send copy of adv. early for next number.

U. S. Jottings.

By DOTTIE LONESOME.

I learn from good authority that there will be no special dies in the proprietary stamps of the present series. The great manufacturers have all agreed to refrain from using special dies. If this is true and I hope it is, collectors will again escape what might be an imposition.

The tendency of the stamp market is on an improved course; prices are gradually going back where they belong. Auction prices are better and sales more frequent.

All our revenue stamps are soon to appear perforated instead of rouletted. This bit of information is from a source that I believe to be well founded. It might be well to fill up on the present set if you have not already done so.

The Newspaper stamps continue to occupy the attention of the shrewd collectors. There of course can be no reason for them not being sold to collectors and no doubt something will shift so as to enable all of us to get them at better than face value. They never paid postage anyway, what do collectors want them so bad for?

It now seems to be a certainty that Porto Rico and the Phillipines are to be colonies of this country. When the U. S. took up the cause of Cuba, that country did not say all they intended. However from a stamp collectors point of view it is a splendid thing for philately, that the future of these once Spanish Colonies will not be represented in philately with so many unnecessary stamps. Our country may not take immediate possession of all the postal systems of these colonies at once but it is to be hoped it will not be long before Porto Rico stamps as well as the others, will be printed in English as well as Spanish.