

FRANKLIN STEARNS, Jr.

WE present herewith the half tone likeness of Mr. Franklin Stearns, Jr., Business Manager of "THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST", one of the best philatelic magazines in America. In fact it is a collectors magazine *par excellence*, its policy being to always promote the interests of collectors.

This excellent paper is owned and published monthly by **The Virginia Philatelic Pub. Co.**, composed of

Mr. August Dietz, President and Editor and Mr. Stearns, Secretary and Treasurer. This company has issued so far only four numbers of THE VIRGINIA PHILATELIST, the first having appeared Sept. 1st., 1897, but they have all been excellent and the energy, business and philatelic experience and capital at the company's command assure the perpetuation of the present high standard set for the magazine in its incipieney. In addition to his philatelic avocations, Mr. Stearns is largely engaged in managing private Richmond Real Estate and operating many Virginia farms, of which he and other members of his family own some of the finest in the State. He is also secretary and treasurer of The Virginia Philatelic Association, a very flourishing local organization which numbers among its members most of Virginia's prominent Philatelists.

The "Virginia Philatelic Pub. Co." is very extensively advertising their

magazine and their advertisement will be found on the front cover of this number of the **Philatelic Press List**.

Richmond, Va., U.S.A., the home of **The Virginia Philatelist**, is too well known, as the Capital of the late Southern Confederacy, to need much description. It is beautifully situated at the head of navigation on the historic James River and its unsurpassed water power facilities, combined with its water communication with the whole maritime world, pre-eminently qualifies it for a manufacturing and shipping city. Its seven hills have given it the name of "The Modern Rome."

The Capital of the State of Virginia at Richmond holds the famous statue of Washington, by Houdon, from which was taken the illustration of the bust of Washington which adorns the current U.S. 2c. Stamp.



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We would respectfully refer our

readers to Mr. B. L. Beard's Advertisements his terms are cash in advance to all, satisfaction guaranteed.

