

base, framed above and below by two white lines, 3 scrolls, in color, at base of shield.

No. 15.	1c. brown	C. C.,	78.
"	16. 5c. pale ble	"	49.
"	17. 15c. puce brown	"	91.
"	18. 20c. olive green	"	37.

These, together with the *collect*, were made on one sheet, *i. e.*, a row of *collect*, and under it a row of duplicate. They come cancelled in a *red aniline ink*, in an *oval* and oblong form the Telegrams, while the "*Collect*" and Duplicate come only cancelled with the *oblong*, officially. There are some sold by *dealers* containing a hole punched in them, *2 m. m.* in diameter, but these were thus obliterated when the balance of the stock was sold, when the company was merged into the W. U. in the latter part of 1882.

Stamp Swindling.

THE recent conviction of Coffin at Portland, Me., and of Watters at Green Bay, Wis., for defrauding stamp dealers, is a matter of much moment to the fraternity generally, and will undoubtedly exercise a very wholesome restraint upon those who are inclined to acquire large and valuable collections at the expense of the dealer, and at a minimum cost to themselves. The former pleaded *guilty*, and got 30 days in jail; the latter pleaded *not guilty*, was convicted, and fined \$50.00 and costs. Action is covered under the statute providing against using the United States mails to perpetrate a swindle. A collector who removes stamps from a sheet, substituting others either of equal or of inferior worth, can be held liable under a civil action for the full value of the sheet which contained the stamps. A collector can also be compelled to pay the full value of a sheet of stamps, or of merchandise of any character, held longer than permitted in the conditions under which he applies for and receives them. The Andrews' swindle at Boston, Mass., now in the hands of the Chief Inspector, developed on investigation one of the most systematic plans that has yet come to our notice, and showed thorough premeditation. The address was "A. M. Andrews, Jr., Box 17, Jamaica Plains, Mass." The dealer received an official looking letter, bearing the legend, "Andrews & Jones, Attorneys, Temple House, Boston," said letter being signed by A. M. Andrews, and signifying his willingness to be responsible for any goods sent his son (?) on approval. All went well for a couple of months, but pretty soon letters of enquiry began pouring in on the Deputy Postmaster at Jamaica Plain. These were turned over to the Inspector, who at once put his foot in it by ordering all subsequent mail returned to the writers, destroying the only means of catching the swindler, as Mr. Andrews immediately took the note of warning, and when later on it was found that Andrews & Jones were *non-est*, and the whole business exposed, he was not to be found. Every honest dealer and collector has an equal interest in the suppression of such parasites on a worthy profession.

Since the above was written McFarland has been arrested, and it is said is making restitution of his plunder.—ED.