

## U. S. Department Stamps.

## My Collection

The sets of Department Stamps (adhesives and envelopes) were receivable for postage until June 30th. 1884, after which date they were invalid for postage. In February 1885 the remainders of these stamps were destroyed. The following is a complete list of the amount used by each department for the ten years the stamps were in use:

Agriculture	\$ 87 000
Executive	1 800
Justice	25 400
Interior	538 600
Navy	81 300
Post Office	2 188 800
State	58 000
Treasury	1 443 700
War	1 145 000
Total	<u>5 513 100</u>

The value of each set as priced in Scotts 56th (latest) edition catalogue is as follows:

Agriculture complete	\$ 27 50
Executive complete	50 00
Justice complete	109 10
Interior complete	4 15
Navy complete	82 10
Navy, 2c green error unused	\$20 00
Post Office complete	6 26
State complete	217 00
Treasury complete	9 05
War complete	6 10

The above is for used specimens only.

The entire series are advancing in value, and collectors will do well to fill up their wants in these stamps at once, as in a few years they will be unobtainable.

I'm a Stamp Collecting crank you know;

I commenced a collection long ago.

In Canada postage I am nearly complete,

And my B. N. A. revenues are hard to beat.

I've got nearly all the stamps of Brazil,

Take a look in my album and get your fill.

Of U. S. Departments I've nearly a set,

But those I've not got are "easy" to get.

All the stamps I have mentioned I have without doubt;

But no matter what happens, don't let my name out.

In looking over an old copy of the \_\_\_\_\_, I noticed an article headed "Beginners Helps" in which the writer advises you to begin a general collection, and not pin yourself down to a certain country or a collection of countries; or in other words, do not be a specialist. This might have been alright in its time, but I'm afraid if such a thing was written at the present time, very few, unless general collectors, would notice it.

If your sets of B. N. A. and U. S. stamps are not complete, you had better fill them at once, and not wait for another advance.