

It will be remembered that in August, 1890, Messrs. Deats and Sterling purchased from the U. S. Government a very large lot of U. S. Revenues, such as beer, spirits and tobacco stamps, the lot containing over 500 varieties. At the great Inter-State Fair which was held at Trenton, N. J., Sept. 28th to Oct. 2nd, 1891, they distributed over 50,000 of these stamps to those who visited their display. The stamps are large and by no means attractive. Yet there are many who enjoy collecting them. If the Government were only to issue all the circus posters that are used we doubt not but some would collect them!

After our March issue was mailed we decided to discontinue THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST and have the subscriptions filled by a well-known American magazine. Our subscribers will doubtless be glad to know that we have altered our decision and that in future this paper will appear regularly. We begin re-issuing the paper with the August number in order that the new volume will begin with January, 1895. This issue is late, but by October we expect to be able to publish promptly on the first of the month as heretofore. This number is somewhat smaller than usual, however we will resume our 16 page form when we get caught up. As our second-class rates have been cancelled all future issues will be prepaid by stamps. Subscription rates remain unaltered for the present.

We quote the following from Stanley Gibbon's *Monthly Journal*: "We are very glad to be able to announce to our readers that the London Philatelic Society has decided, after taking certain steps, which we hope and believe, will result in meeting two long felt philatelic wants. One of these is a definite and fairly reliable authority upon the really good and dangerous imitations, and the well executed frauds purporting to be rare and valuable stamps; the other is a kind of registration office of the known specimens of the rarer stamps, through which the history of individual copies may be traced, and which will at the same time preserve a good record of doubtful types and dangerous imitations, and thus assist in preventing the free circulation of the latter. The Society in appointing an Expert Committee to deal with the former of these difficulties has at the same time entrusted to that committee the task of endeavoring to supply the second want also; and it is hoped the arrangements made, which such modifications as may from time to time become necessary, will be found fairly adequate. The members of the Committee, who are all men whose time is pretty well occupied, are not anxious to burden themselves with the examination of unlimited

numbers of common stamps, either genuine or forged; their desire is rather to confine their attention at present to more serious matters, to deal with stamps requiring both examination and registration. With this view and to cover the necessary expenses, they have decided upon making a charge of 2/6 for each stamp examined; and we think that when all the circumstances are taken into consideration, this charge will not be found exorbitant. It must be remembered that the stamps to be examined will not in many cases be such as can be approved or condemned off-hand, but many require careful examination and study by each member of the Committee, and close comparison with known genuine copies, further, the members do not propose to rely on their own knowledge and experience—they would not have accepted the office on such terms,—but they feel that they have at their backs a body of specialists upon whom they are entitled to call in all cases of doubt, and whose opinions will carry far greater weight than their own. There will therefore be no small amount of expenditure upon postage and registration. Besides this each specimen declared to be genuine will be photographed; one copy of the photograph will be filed by the Committee for future reference, and a second copy with the opinion of the Committee written upon it, will be forwarded with the original to the party submitting it, who will thus obtain an opinion which will at the same time form a document by means of which the specimen may be identified. When the opinion of the Committee is unfavorable a photograph will not be transmitted to the sender, but such a record of bad or doubtful types will be preserved as will, it is hoped, render the further circulation of these particular specimens exceedingly difficult. It is perhaps a question whether such a Committee should insist on being allowed to brand in some indelible manner any specimens as to the falsity of which they have no doubt, the present members are not, however, inclined to assume such a position of infallibility as this would involve, or to run the risk of irretrievable damaging what might turn out to be a genuine stamp. It only remains for us to add that the Committee, as at present composed, consists of Messrs. E. D. Bacon, M. P. Castle and E. B. Evans, and that stamps sent for examination accompanied by the fee of 2/6 for each, should be sent to Major E. E. Evans, Longton Ave, Sydenham, England. The receipt of the stamps will be immediately acknowledged, but there will be necessarily a delay of some days before a final reply can be given." The above speaks for itself, therefore no comment is necessary. We feel sure that many of our readers will feel grateful for the above opportunity.