

1 cent blue, type 2, catalogued at \$1.50, I recently picked a very fine copy off the books of a well known philatelist at the very low price of 5 cents.

We have received inside information to the effect that a number of well known Eastern dealers will shortly issue a catalogue wherein they intend to price stamps at their true market value. This is an excellent scheme and we trust it will be carried out. Then dealers will no longer be forced to sell at from 50 to 75 per cent off catalogue as they are at present.

From Virginia.

The Virginia Philatelic Association, of Richmond, Va., was organized August 10th, 1897. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Franklin L. Kerns—President.
Franklin Stearns, Jr.—Secretary and Treasurer.

John Paalzow—Sales Supt.

C. F. W. Moser—Counterfeit Detector.

The Virginia Philatelist, the official organ of the Association, is under the able management of Messrs. Kerns and Stearns. Associated with them is Mr. August Deitz, as editor.

The Association, although but six years old, has in that short period brought its membership roll up to a point that justly enables them to feel well repaid for their work. Organizing with eight members, that number has been added to monthly until there are seventy-five upon its roll book. Among them can be found the grey-haired stamp collector of olden days (say in the seventies, for I am one of the

grey-haired), also the boy philatelist of to-day. Yes, the gentle sex are there too—we cannot do without them. Our meetings are being held in the business part of the city so they are not regular in attendance, but we will soon have them at every meeting when we have secured quarters further up town.

There are several collectors among the ladies who have very fine collections, although they have been at it for only a short time.

The most zealous philatelist among us, Rev. Dr. Carmichael, is a native of your country. He has been collecting the "little beauties" since his boyhood. Among his rareties are the first and only "Sydney Views" I have ever seen.

Will not some fair philatelist tell their secret of collecting? The writer commenced at the same time that a young lady friend of his did, and at this time she has fifteen hundred or more without the expenditure of one cent, while I have spent all my change and have only a few hundred. There is something mysterious in their art of collecting which I would like to find out. Will not some fair one divulge the secret? In so doing I will stamp you as an everlasting friend, and you will always have a friend in the old stamp collector, "down south" in the—

"OLD DOMINION."

Nutmeg Gratings.

The publisher of THE ONTARIO PHILATELIST has almost taken my breath away by asking for a letter containing "Connecticut Notes." I have never posed as