

prices the above stamp in only one shade, viz; violet, while in the present edition it is catalogued in three distinct shades, the violet, red lilac and black violet, the latter color being valued at a much higher price than the other varieties.

It is only during the past few years that the Canada 1859 5 cent vermilion was known to the collecting public in more than the one simple way, but at last they have found a variety which is valued at \$15 00; the difference in the two stamps being known to very few.

So we could go on with an endless number of shades and varieties which are described and priced as distinct kinds.

Already we have a small list which minutely describes nearly every known variety of stamps, including the "outer lines" and other differences in the United States envelopes; and how long it will be before a regular catalogue will appear, pricing and describing all varieties and shades, no one knows, but at the rate we are advancing at present the time does not seem so very far distant.

To go farther into this interesting subject there are the varieties of perforation, these being very noticable in the issues of Prince Edward Island.

For example, the 4 and 6 pence stamps of 1861 are perforated 9; the

1870 issue is perforated 12, and the remainder in the same way.

Some of the Nova Scotia and other stamps are also catalogued with various numbers of perforations, but no stamps of British North America are so noticable in this line as those of Prince Edward Island.

We now come to the numberless shades of certain stamps; brain puzzlers to any but the expert. Such colors as red, crimson, vermilion, etc. all have a marked similarity toward each other; while such colors as are similar to buff and straw are somewhat difficult to distinguish; the latter being most noticable in the paper on which the wrappers of Canada are printed.

If you wish to know more about all the little varieties and shades so common to many stamps, get "Minor Varieties" by Crawford Capen, and a Color Chart; and thus equipped you can arrange your stamps in any way without difficulty.

PHILLIMUS.

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