

holiday number of the ADVOCATE. The weekly contained twenty-four pages and an artistic cover. Every page in the paper had something of interest for collectors and while it contained a goodly number of advertisements it certainly was a credit to its editors and publisher.

The Imperial 2 cent Canada has been received with favor here. The stamp takes well and although some of Canada's stamps are better emblems of the masier art, yet we like the Imperial 2 cent.

The Bureau of printing and engraving which is owned and operated by the government, printed and delivered for current use for the year 1893, 92,979,478 stamps, being about 7,000,000 more than was used in 1897.

No one seems to be able to tell with any degree of accuracy, whether or not the revenue stamps will continue to be rouletted or changed to perforation. Some correspondents in Washington say one and some the other, but common sense says our stamps will all be perforated soon.

Omaha stamps are going up. The 8 cent brings from two-and-one-half to three cents each and the ten cent, from two to two-and-a-half cents each. The higher values are worth half face and all values still going up. These prices are for stamps in used condition.

Our federal courts are very much in earnest about prosecuting any guilty persons who have broken the law in relation to the use of the mails. It has been held that a dealer has no protection under the law, when sending stamps on approval. The case of Wolle in St. Louis, is perhaps the latest and was watched very closely by dealers throughout the country, which resulted in Wolle's conviction and punished to

the limit of the law. He was, perhaps, as hard a conviction to secure as any combination of dealers will ever have, for skilled attorneys were employed on both sides. The law is just and says it is wrong to defraud dealers out of their stamps, and he whosoever transgresses, shall reap the penalty for reward.

A word for the encouragement of literature collecting, is, perhaps, better directed and with probably better results than many of the items found in our journals to-day. A complete file of any good stamp paper is of great value to a collector. Editors try as near as possible to print only original matter and as long as this custom prevails, the more papers you have the better philatelist you will be.

The Bureau of Printing and Engraving are at work on designs for private, proprietary stamps. Seven different designs or denominations are now in preparation.

The Postmaster-General recommended in his annual report, the adoption of a special stamped envelope of superior material of the denomination of ten cents to provide greater safety and security to registered letters, and that all persons registering letters be induced to purchase one of these at the face value of the stamp, as is now the case with postal cards.

R. F. Albrecht of New York has gone to Europe to purchase stamps and to secure rare lots for his atction sales which he holds regularly in New York City.

The ADVOCATE has proven that it is one of the best advertising mediums in North America. Those who have tried it, know it; those who have not tried it, do not know it, but those who try an ad. *will* know it. Our rates are reduced. See page 66.