

Massachusetts Items.

The American Collector's Company has secured the services of Geo. L. Toppan, secretary of the Boston Philatelic Society, as its Boston representative. Other Massachusetts agents are Lowell, Samuel Burbank, Haverhill, Herbert A. Chase and Springfield, F. Newell Chapin.

We have been greatly interested in the rivalry manifested by Boston dealers as to who will first place new issues upon sale. The first week in this month was marked by the appearance of two new issues from Newfoundland, and Frank P. Brown seems entitled to the honor of the first exhibit. The new six cent Canada has also appeared.

The two values from Newfoundland are one cent red, Queen Victoria, and two cent orange, Prince of Wales. The latter forcibly emphasizes upon one's mind the fact that very many years will not elapse ere that likeness will be frequently met with. Mr. J. A. Lyons informs us that in all probability no further new issues will be permitted by the powers that be, but that, with the exception of these issues, the old set in use prior to the jubilee issue will be resumed.

The following applications for membership in the New England association have been posted: I red S. Smith, 98 Milk street, Boston; J. Favrel Capron, 43 Milk St. Boston, and Chas. H. Smith, Dedham, Mass. Mr. Capron is the genial manager of the Boston Stamp Co. The association now numbers 74 members in good standing.

A. W. Batchelder of the New England Stamp Company has recently made a trip to Montreal by way of Portland, returning through New York state and stopping at various philatelic centres. It is almost needless to add that he took a few treasures along with him.

The auction sale of B. L. Drew & Co. on December 9th was largely attended, dealers as well as collectors being rep-

resented. The large stock of the Granite State Stamp Company of Newmarket, N. H., was among the attractions of the evening. Prices as a whole were low, many desirable lots selling way below wholesale figures. A few prices follow:

	Cat.	Sold
	price.	for.
U. S., New York, 5c.	\$8 00	\$4 00
do 1851, 12c, unused	25 00	5 50
do 1856, 24c	5 00	1 75
do 1856, 90c, o g	27 50	11 50
do 1861, 90c	4 00	1 75
do 1869, 24c, unused	20 00	1 75
do Interior Dept., complete set used	7 22	1 30
do Justice, 21c, used	20 00	5 25
do Navy, 7c, used	10 00	1 50
Canada, Jubilee, unused, o g face, value	16 22	15 50
Canada, 1882, 15c, o g; block of 16	4 80	2 40
Mauritius, 1819, 6d, used	10 00	2 30
New Brunswick, 5c, sheet of 100	5 00	1 00
do do 10c, sheet of 100	40 00	7 50
do do 17c, sheet of 100	25 00	5 00

The price paid for the New Brunswick will be interesting reading for *Messenger* subscribers.

Franklin E. Smith, the Newton dealer, is publishing in the *Eastern Philatelist* a very interesting series of articles relating to his trip abroad last summer.

The Colonial Stamp Company will hold an auction sale on Tuesday evening, Dec. 21st, in Elk's hall, Boston. Two 'gilt edge' sales are contemplated for January, one by the above mentioned firm, and one by B. L. Drew & Company. Mr. Drew is very enthusiastic. Said he:—'We have \$10,000 worth of stamps and not a damaged one in the lot.'

The Old Colony Philatelic society has elected these officers for 1898:—President, David Smiley; Vice President, Melvin T. Estey; Secretary, S. W. Shepard and Treasurer, Wilfred W. Skinner.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 15th.

BURNHAM.

Scott's 58th.

Our review of this standard Catalogue must be kept over for next month, when we propose devoting considerable space to it. Enough to say here that the catalogue improves with every edition.