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THE DIRIGO STAMP CO.

A Philatelic Story.

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"The Fatal Stamp," etc.

Chapter V.

The day after dawned bright and clear, and the sun shone down on the scene of ruin and disaster. The once beautiful valley, yesterday dotted with happy homes, was to-day a muddy seething lake.

The water had carried away the railroad trestle and all direct communication with the opposite side of the valley was cut off.

Charlie Burdee was standing at the end of the main street listening to a crowd of men discussing the flood. One of the men was a reporter on the staff of a daily paper in L—w, a city one hundred miles from Winston, and therefore twice that distance from North Lynne.

"I'd give ten dollars to get a short dispatch to L—w by noon," said the reporter. "I can't send it around because all the telegraph wires are busy, but if was at Winston I could—"

"Say Mister, I'll send your dispatch to L—w for ten dollars if you'll pay the telegraph from Winston." The reporter looked at the speaker, Charley Burdee, incredulously. "How'll you do it boy?" he asked. "Carrier pigeons," briefly announced Charley. "Come on, then, I'll stand by my offer, for if I get in an account of this flood I'll get a promotion sure."

At the Dirigo office matters were

explained to the other partners and while the reporter wrote his account the boys prepared the pigeons for the flight. Six of the Pegg girls' birds were selected for this duty and, when, an hour later, the messages were ready, the pigeons were turned loose from the office door. For ten minutes the birds circled over the village and then disappeared over the flooded valley in the direction of Winston.

One of them bore this message:—

Dirigo Stamp Co., No 2. Girls:—

Wire the messages on the six birds you will receive to day to the news at L—w and they will pay the expense. Five dollars for each Co. Expect particulars later. We see a chance to make some money out of this.

Dirigo, No 1.

Of course you want the balance of this charming story. It will be continued next month. Send 25c and get this paper until Jan'y 1899 and a copy of "Philatelia" the best philatelic novel ever written.

New Canadian Stamps.

A design for a new postage stamp has been approved by the Postmaster-General. There is a portrait of Her Majesty as she appeared at the Coronation, engraved from a likeness procured during the Jubilee ceremonies upon which was the Queen's own autograph, so it is authentic. The corners of the stamp will be decorated with maple leaves. The present stock of stamps will take some weeks to exhaust, and not till they are done will the new stamps be issued.