

he is now a very much wanted young man.

I have received copies of new—or nearly new—publications, which are eager for exchange. When the bulk of our monthly philatelic journals can be obtained for from 10 to 25 cents, and all the weeklies for either 25 or 50 cents, it seems as though a publisher must be pretty sanguine to ask 50 cents a year for a new monthly journal, and typographically very poor.

Apropos of the above, a journal out west recently (December) published an issue with quite gaudy cover, and was so elated that it asked the opinion of certain prominent reviewers as to its merits. One reviewer whose opinion was asked replied in very moderate terms that it was amateurish, and in consequence was called insulting. The writer looked through the number very hastily, and, after finding one hundred typographical errors, threw it aside in disgust. Divisions on a single letter were common, and the omission of necessary periods was frequent. The publishers took pains to say "the editor did not write this," which was unnecessary.

The recent issue of U. S. 1c. blue in its later stages seems to have many shades of color, which is true of the 2c. red stamps which daily come to hand.

The writer thinks many philatelic scribes throw mud in order to get replies and notice of some kind. It is pretty hard to keep still sometimes and swallow ill-natured flings, but silent contempt will oftentimes punish harder than a vigorous open calling down. Some scribes can-

not be decent, and when their stock-in-trade is known, it is better to let them severely alone. If you reply they will most likely have something more to say.

HENRY A. CHAPMAN.

### *From Virginia.*

The eighth monthly meeting of the Virginia Philatelic Association was held Monday night, April 11th, at the Association rooms. The weather, far different from what it was last meeting night, was clear and cold,—just such a night that should have enticed every member from their cosy corners to come out, get a fresh breath and talk stamps. In the absence of the President and Secretary, our Exchange Manager and Counterfeit Detector filled the two positions with credit. There being no other offices to fill, your humble servant amused himself by looking over all approval sheets on hand, but was disturbed several times to cast his vote,—once in my life I held the deciding vote. The slim attendance was caused by our Amateur Opera Co. rendering "Little Tycoon" for the benefit of the S. S. S. S., "Sunday School Stamp Society."

Since speaking of the counterfeit surcharged issue of Newfoundland, the American Journal of Philately, in their April number, illustrates the original and counterfeit, with the following explanation as to the differences in them:—"In the original printing, the word 'ONE CENT' is 2¼ m.m. from the lower bar, whereas in the counterfeit the space between the two is 4½ m.m. Also in the originals the ink is of a heavy glossy black, whereas in