

fill out the very bare upper part of the stamp.

Beyond doubt the eye is best pleased by stamps whose outlines fill out a rectangle. The designers of our earlier stamps either failed to appreciate this idea or else failed to carry it out. Thus we find in many of the stamps of the older issues an unsatisfactory barrenness and lack of completeness, notably at the corners. At the same time many of our later issues appear painfully plain and lacking in variety when compared with the graceful designs and elaborate ornamentation of the earlier issues.

The paper is very thin, hard and extremely brittle. The stamps must be handled carefully, for they are easily broken. The paper is also quite transparent and much of the designs may be seen from the backs of the stamps. The gum is very dark brown, sometimes staining the paper. The perforation is 12, as adopted for the 1861 issue. The colors are very dark and rich and the ink heavily applied, occasionally giving a blurred appearance, though as a rule the impressions are very fine and clear.

The colors are:

**FIRST TYPES.**

- One cent, Indigo.
- Three cents, Brown-red.
- Five cents, Yellow brown.
- Ten cents, Dark yellow green.
- Twelve cents, Gray black.
- Twenty-four cents, Violet.
- Thirty cents, Red orange.
- Ninety cents, Dull blue.

**SECOND TYPES.**

- Pale blue, blue, dull blue.
- Pink, rose.
- Brown, red brown, black brown.
- Yellow green, blue green.
- Gray black, jet black.
- Yellow, orange.
- Pale blue, blue, marine blue.

It is said to be a matter of official record that, when these stamps were delivered to the government, the design did not give satisfaction, and alteration were ordered to be made once. This was promptly done and impressions from the altered dies were entered over those upon the original plates. I have seen evidence of this in blocks of proofs of the two types of the twelve cents, both from the same part of plate 5 and, by certain peculiarities of the imprint and plate number and their relative positions, proving the impressions to be from the same plate.

It has been claimed that these were not regularly issued as stamps and are only essays. But it is known that the sample book of the contractors contains a sheet of the twelve cents. And still better evidence that they are stamps is supplied by used copies. The ten cents is well known in a used state, the five and twelve cents used are reported by reliable collectors, and I have a good used copy of the twenty-four cents in my own collection.

To sum up, writes Mr. John N. Luff in the American Journal of Philately, Collectors who have sought these stamps have soon learned that they are extremely

rare. The Postmaster-General, in his report dated December 2nd, 1861, says: "It was the design of the Department that the distribution of the new stamps and envelopes should commence on the first of August, but from unavoidable delays, that of the latter did not take place until the 15th of that month." Mr. Tiffany gives August 14th, 1861, as the date of this issue. If official records were not inaccessible, we might learn something from the dates at which supplies of stamps were delivered by the contractors. But we must seek elsewhere for the needed information. I have been able to examine a large number of letters franked by stamps of the 1861 issue, and found one dated September 20th, 1861, bearing a five cents yellow, a ten cents of second type, and a thirty cents of the second color. This limits the issue of the stamps of the first types to a very brief period, not exceeding five or six weeks, at the most liberal estimate.

**P. S. OF A. ELECTIONS.**

Mr. Carstarphen, president; Mr. R. H. Ashcroft, vice-president; Mr. Kissinger, treasurer; Mr. Beamish, secretary; Mr. R. F. Greene, international secretary; Messrs. Makins, Henderson, Schiller, of San Francisco, trustees; H. D. Ruehlman, exchange superintendent; H. C. Crowell, auction manager; A. C. Becker, librarian; G. A. Katzenberger, attorney; S. B. Hopkins, counterfeit detector; F. Woolston, official editor.

The next convention will be held at Atlantic City, date to be about end of July, and not to conflict with that held by the American Philatelic Ass'n.

The secretary's report showed a paid up membership of 733.

Exchange superintendent must give a bond for \$1,500, and auction manager one for \$1,000.

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For marking on Concave, Convex, yielding or uneven surfaces.



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**NIAGARA FALLS SNAP SHOTS.**

U.S. 1847, 10c on cov. \$3.25; 1861, 5c brown, 23c; 1859, 6c blue, 40c; Canada 1859, 1c pink, 6c; 2c. rose, fine, 65c; N. Brunswick, 3p. \$2; 12c blue, 70c; Nova Scotia, 1c. black, 15c; 2c. mauve, 50c; 6c blue, 15c.

C. H. W. NEWTON,

Box 76 NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.

**Your Chances**

Of buying at these prices will not last long, as the 1897 Catalogue is now under way and will appear sometime during November. This means some advances in prices. We will offer some snaps every week. Send want lists.

**United States Revenues.**

Manifest, \$1 unperf.....	1 40
Entry of Goods, unperf, \$1.....	75
Insurance, 25c unperf.....	8
Conveyance, \$1 unperf.....	25
Life Insurance, 25c unperf.....	15
Probate of Will, \$1 unperf.....	1 10
Bond, 25c part perf, part of other stamp attached, fine copies.....	60
Bond, 25c part perf, unperf top and below while the last (has 40 copies).....	75
Surety Bond, 50c part.....	20
..... part perf.....	8
Mortgage, 50c unperf.....	70
Protest, 25c part.....	14
Warehouse Receipt, 25c unperf.....	1 10
..... part.....	45
Life Insurance, 25c, part.....	12
Entry of Goods, 25c part.....	3
U.S. Revenues, ass't per 100.....	20
Proprietary, 1c black and green, unused Same in pairs, strips or blocks.....	10
Property to red.....	4
Power of Attorney, 25c.....	10
Certificate, 25c.....	10
Life Insurance.....	20
Inland Exchange, 5c.....	2
Certificate, 5c.....	2
25c 2nd issue.....	10
2c black and orange, green (4th).....	4
U.S. 25c Bond, part.....	2
25c Bond, unperforated.....	1 50
\$1 Power of Attorney, unperf.....	20
\$1 Mortgage, unperf.....	70
Playing Cards, 5c (per 5, \$2.50).....	55
Playing Cards.....	11
Entry of Goods, 25c unperf.....	10
Lease, \$1 unperf.....	80

**British Colonies**

Dominica, 1/ CC, used.....	5 00
1870 Queensland, 1sh lilac, beauty.....	4 00
1853 S African Republic, 3d on 1/ used.....	25
1d on 3d, used.....	15
1855 South Australia, 1d yellow green, cat 15, fine.....	8 00
Queensland yellow registration.....	1 50
Victoria, 1851, 5d claret, fine.....	3 25
1852, 2d unused, og.....	1 25
10d unused, og.....	2 00
2 sh blue, unused, og.....	2 75
Turks Islands, 1852, 4d, a bargain.....	2 00
Trinidad, 1850, 6d green.....	2 00
India, 1854, 4 annas red and blue.....	1 00
Barbados, 1852, 1d green, unused, og.....	3 00
St. Vincent, 1852, 4d ultramarine.....	7 00
4d blue.....	7 00
Nova Scotia, 5p on cover, fine margins.....	1 25
New Brunswick, 2c orange, per 100.....	1 50
17c black, per 100.....	10 00
same, per 50.....	6 00
5c green, per 100.....	1 00

**United States Postage.**

1851 10c green.....	1 00
1847 5c brown.....	1 25
1855 5c brown, type II, 2-c cor. perf. og.....	2 50
24c blue, 2-c cor. perf. og.....	1 80
2c unused, og.....	25
5c brown.....	25
1853 1c buff.....	35
2c horseman.....	10
6c blue.....	45
10c yellow, fair.....	70
15c brown and blue, picture framed.....	1 15
1853 24c, fair copy.....	5 00
1872 12c purple.....	80
1851 3c red, unused, og.....	2 75
10c Continental print, strip 4, unused, og.....	2 10
Confederate States, 2c green used.....	25
State, 6c unused.....	65
Agriculture, 15c, cut in on left, stamp is otherwise perfect.....	3 00
Newspaper, 6c.....	25
6c.....	40
Interior 2c or 6c, unused, also in pairs.....	7
Due, 20c red brown, unused, og.....	1 00
United States, 1851, 10c green, unused.....	1 00
1850, 10c unused.....	1 00
1853, 10c green.....	21

**Canada**

6d dark violet.....	3 50
5c blue registered, very fine.....	2 00
2c vermilion registered (cat 15c).....	2 6
3c (1853) laid.....	2 80
1851 3d wavy.....	2 20
1852 3d ribbon, a bargain.....	2 80
1853 1d wavy, fine.....	2 50
Pair of 1853, fine.....	6 00
1854 1d perforated, fine.....	6 00

CASH WITH ORDER.

WM. R. ADAMS, 5

7 Ann Street, TORONTO, ONT.