

a letter to be sent through the mails written on the back of a stamp, and would not forward it.

Three billions of the Columbus stamps have been ordered to be printed. They are being made by the American Bank Note Company, of New York city. The stamps are printed from engraved steel plates big enough to strike off 400 of them on a sheet with a single stroke of the press

Uncle Sam pays the Bank Note Company 17 cents for every 1000 Columbus stamps.

## Auction Sales.

The prices brought by some stamps at recent sales were as follows:—U. S. 1861 3c. scarlet, new, \$16; 1868 90c., used \$8; Brazil 1845 300r., used, \$10.50; France 1849 1fr., vermilion, used, \$12.50; New York 5c., black, pair on cover, \$13.55; U. S. 1851 5c., fine, \$7.10; Justice 9c. \$14; Hawaii 1859 2c., black on blue, \$6.25.

At R. F. Albrecht & Co's recent sale the stamps sold well, some of which sold as follows:—British Guiana 1862 1c., pink paper, used, \$25.25; Saxony 3p., red, used, \$24.50; U. S. 1860 90c., new, \$4.60.

The highest price ever paid for a stamp at an Auction Sale, was obtained at the De Coppet sale, when a British Guiana 1850 2c., on rose, circular, cut round, used, \$1,010.

At the sale of the Hooper collection, Part II, held in New York, April 13th, a Nova Scotia shilling sold for \$41.90; P. E. Island provisional, on entire, \$40.; Canada 6d., unperforated, wove, all sold over catalogue prices.

The fifteenth Auction Sale of the S. of P. Will be held May 15th.