

Notes.

The new Canadian postal notes are very popular, and are used in great quantities.

Speaking of postal notes, they are printed on paper specially made for each value. The paper is watermarked as follows: the amount in large letters across the top, then "Canada Postal Note" in a half circle, in the centre a maple leaf, with the value in figures in the lower corners.

The new 2c Penny Postage stamp is the first tri-colored stamp Canada has issued.

Twenty and fifty cent Jubilee's are still on sale at the Montreal P.O.

The latest boom, the stamps of Great Britain.

Advice to "minor varieties" collectors. Get two or three hundred of the 2c "Imperial Penny Post" stamps. That will be enough to last you a year.

Special Delivery

Toronto, December 30, (Special)-Postmaster Patterson said to-day that the special delivery inaugurated last spring had been a success. "It is growing gradually in favor," said Mr. Patterson "and will continue to grow as its advantages become more widely known. In the summer we used bicycles, and during the winter we have made use of the street cars. Both means of delivery are excellent and I have no fault to find with the trolley service. When a letter is posted in the special delivery aperture, it sets off a bell which immediately draws every clerk's attention to that spot. Consequently there can be no delay in the letter leaving the office. I think that the special delivery system is being used more in Toronto than anywhere else in Canada."

Reciprocity in Postal Cards.

Washington, D. C., December 29.—The Postmaster-General to-day signed an order accepting as private mailing cards both the Canadian mailing cards, bearing United States stamps and mailed on this side of the line, and the United States cards mailed in Canada with Canadian postage. This is a result of a reciprocal arrangement between this and the Canadian Governments, looking to avoid considerable annoyance in refusing postal transmission where travellers both ways write home on cards of their own country.

2c Letter Rate.

A 2c letter rate has at last been adopted in Canada. It went into effect Jan'y 1st, 1899.

The P. O. officials say that there is a marked increase in first class mail matter since the adoption of the new rate.

The Post Office Department had only on hand about one month's supply of three cent stamps, and when these are exhausted, no more will be issued. It is not unlikely that four-cent stamps may be issued to meet the demand for a double rate over the ordinary domestic or Imperial rate.

New 2c Envelopes.

The Department to-day issued a new two-cent envelope. The die was procured from the famous London house of De-La-Rue & Co., the making and printing of the envelopes being executed at the Government Printing Bureau. The contract between the English company and that done by the imported contract engravers from New York is markedly in favor of the Old Country product. This despatch is probably responsible for the rumor that an entire set of stamps of the regular De-La-Rue type will be issued soon. There is hardly any chance of this being true, as the Canadian Government has a contract with the American Bank Note Co.