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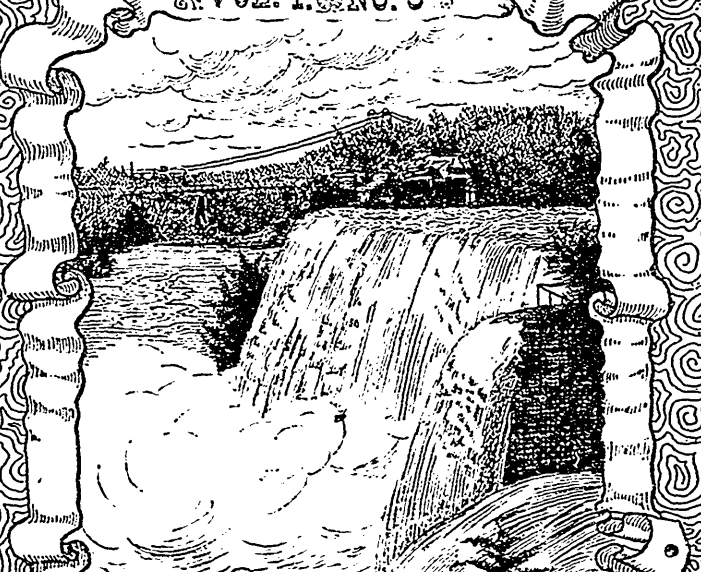
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HOLIDAY NUMBER.

NIAGARA FALLS PHILATELIST

VOL. 1. NO. 5



DECEMBER

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE
IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING

FAYERS
NY

Try an "Ad" in the N. F. P.

THE - NIAGARA FALLS PHILATELIST.

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This paper is published on the 10th of each month and all advertising matter intended for next year must reach us on or before the 1st of the month.

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Address all communications to

Niagara Falls Pub. Co.

NIAGARA FALLS, SOUTH ONT.

It is sent to States remote from the U. S. without charge to New York Falls Post-Office, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

GUARANTEED CIRCULATION FOR THIS MONTH 5000

GUARANTEED CIRCULATION THIS MONTH 5000

ORDER THE NEXT ISSUES N. F. P.

NIAGARA FALLS PHILATELIST.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOLUME I.

DECEMBER, 1887.

NUMBER 5.

OUR HOBBY.

Many well meaning, sensible people smile and scoff at the idea of persons, who are perhaps as sensible as themselves, collecting what they profanely term "Dirty little bits of paper." Yet perhaps these very individuals are accumulating at home, and guarding with the tenderest care and solicitude, a heap of dirty coppers in the shape of pennies; paying fabulous prices for some, because our wise and beneficent Uncle Samuel does not see fit to issue but a limited number. Or others whose sole object in life is to possess a certain Beetle, or Butterfly; others to whom an old black letter worm-eaten tome is a mine of wealth. In short all men have their hobbies, just as little girls used to have their dolls some few years ago, before they became ready-made women. Now, brother collectors of minerals, prints, coins, plants, engravings, buttons, books, &c., why should I not have my hobby, and follow it out instead of being ridiculed? My friend of the button-mania, what interest is it to me that you possess a collection of 15,000 different buttons. All I care about them is that my "*Cara Sposa*" supplies them to my clothes when needed. The idea of collecting buttons, ha! ha! I have just as good a right to laugh at you as you to sneer at me for being a philatelist. My friend the herpetologist, I don't care for your fine specimen of "*Isthmognathus DeKagir*," or "*Phrynosonans Donglasie*." What to me are birds, serpents, coins, books, ferns etc., when I can

revel in the beauties of a rare and valuable postage stamp. Let us then, as we all require a certain degree of forbearance from the eminently practical people of our country, for our little foibles, cling to each other, and bringing to our minds the old adage: "One man's meat is another man's poison." cease to ridicule each other's fancies. Let us take a view of the few benefits to be derived from the study of philately, and ask ourselves why it is preferable as an amusement and occupation to the thousand and one other subjects for collectors to expend their mental energies upon. A person collecting minerals, or other objects of like nature, can never expect to make his collection complete; besides even to possess a respectable collection of books, coins etc., requires a very large expenditure of time and money, much more than many collectors could afford, even were they willing to give. These collections are bulky, require great care for their proper preservation, and much study, to be properly posted up as to their history. To none of these objections is philately liable. For a very moderate expense an excellent collection of stamps can be procured, a collection can be made complete, at least, during the lifetime of a collector. It requires very little trouble to keep it in complete order and can be carried about in a small parcel. To the young school boy, who is supplied by his doting parents with a sufficiency of spending money for his little wants, apples,

tops, kites, &c., and a little over, there can be nothing more improving & interesting than the study of philately. He supplies himself at a very moderate cost with a good album and catalogue, and goes to work. In the interval of study and rainy days, when outdoor sports have to be given up, he can always find an inexhaustible store of amusement in his album.

In pursuing this study, he becomes acquainted with a part of the history of different countries, some of which perhaps he would never otherwise have heard of. He learns who the sovereigns were, and naturally turns to his history to find out all he can about them. He comes across a stamp of "Heligoland," or the "Orange Free States" and straightway consults his geography to find out the localities of these heretofore unknown lands. He sees many different varieties of paper, good, bad, and indifferent, and is led to inquire the process of manufacture, how the water-marks are put in, &c. Viewing with an artistic eye the engraving on a stamp, his mind naturally inquires how it is done,—how the perforations are made,—in short, there are many of these little points of interest that are as a sealed book to the "profane." He further becomes acquainted with the currency of different countries, and heraldry, if he has a taste for armorial bearings, his fancy can be amply gratified in this occupation—as many of the stamps are simply a picture of the coat of arms of the country to which they belong.

If his means will allow, let him take a good journal, and keep himself well up in the changes taking place in stamps, new emissions and withdrawals. I would say to my school-boy friends, and they are all my friends, for I have a most kindly feeling for them and their little amusements, if you have time, funds and disposition, collect, and by all means take my word for it, you will find in it pleasure and profit. I don't know whether school-boys

now-a-days eat molasses candy or not (they did when I was a boy, not a great while ago.) but if they do, let them, instead of ministering to their appetites for sweets, invest in something that will certainly improve their minds. In case they become tired of stamp collecting, they can always sell their specimens for a fair price. Now, what I have been saying to the school-boys, applies just as well to children of larger growth. Anyone who will give himself the slight trouble to investigate the subject of Philately, will be sure to find in the science a vast fund of general information and pleasure. Some days since I had the pleasure of conversing with a middle-aged gentleman, who I discovered purchasing stamps, and upon my expressing my gratification at so practical a man as himself making a collection, he informed me that his pet hobby for years had been the collecting of minerals, but accumulating, they took up too much room to be properly displayed, so he had packed them in boxes and commenced stamp collecting, and found it more interesting to him by far than minerals.—E. S. P.

The Stamps of Sarawak.

The country of this name is little known and seldom spoken of except in connection with philatelic matters. Sarawak is not mountainous as it lies between the hills and the shore. The government of this interesting country is a peculiar one. Its head is an Englishman with a Hindoo title and Mala subjects. A great many of these latter belong to tribes of Dyaks. The first issue of stamps appeared in October 1868. It was a three cent. brown on yellow. In the corners were the letters J. B. R. S., which signify James Brook, Rajah (of) Sarawak. In the centre was his portrait. In 1871 the new Rajah issued another three cent stamp, same color, bearing his portrait. The letters in the corner remain-

ed but J, was changed to C. to stand for Charles. A set of 5 values followed in 1874. They are as follows : 2 cts. mauve ; 4 cts. brown ; 6 cents green ; 8 cents, blue, and 12 cents, rose. A revenue stamp was also issued, it was of the value of three cents and was printed in black on slate-colored paper. It is quite scarce in this country.

Costa Rica and its Postage Stamps.

BY J. WITTEMORE HALSEY.

Costa Rica is the smallest and most southern of the Central American republics Area, 26,040 square miles. Population, 190,000. There are many volcanic peaks, the most important being Turriable, Chirqui and Los Vostos ; 12,500, 11,265 and 9,840 feet high, respectively.

San Jose, the capital, is beautifully situated in a valley between two ranges of volcanic mountains. Population 30,000. Port Lemon, a thriving town on the coast, is the central point of export. All day long the vessels are loaded with immense quantities of bananas and coffee, which form the staple exports. Manufactured goods from Gt. Britain comprise the chief imports of the republic.

Freight is transported from Port Lemon, to within thirty miles of San Jose by means of an uncompleted railroad, which is in time to connect the two cities ; there it is transferred to mules, who complete the remainder of the journey which is none of the easiest.

The president, Don. Birnado de Soto is in power for four years and is assisted by two vice-presidents.

De Soto is about thirty years of age and commands the respect and confidence of the people.

The first series of stamps were issued in 1862, they were two in number, values

and colors as follows : $\frac{1}{2}$ real blue and 2 r red, were unperforated and of the following designs :—

A ship at harbor in a beautiful bay, overshadowed by lofty peaks and wooded heights, formed the centrepiece ; above, a wreath bearing the words "Correos de Costa Rica," below in label, "Medio real" etc., according to value ; a numeral in circle with labels at sides on which were the words representing value was placed at the extreme top, a wreathed frame surrounded the centrepiece completed the design.

The next issue, that of the following year, consisted of the same design with two new values added, namely a 4 r green and a 1 peso orange, these being perforated are not rare.

In 1881 $\frac{1}{2}$ r blue, 2 r scarlet and 4 r green were surcharged with large numeral of value and the abbreviation, 'cts' in the following manner ; 2c on $\frac{1}{2}$ r blue, 1c on $\frac{1}{2}$ r blue, 2c on $\frac{1}{2}$ r blue, reading 'dos cents' 5c on $\frac{1}{2}$ r blue, with the letters U. P. U. added ; 10c on 2 r scarlet, and 20c on 4 r green, same letters added at the base. The latter values of this set are exceedingly rare.

In 1883 an entirely new design appeared, pattern as follows :—a bust portrait of Gen. Don Prospero Fernandez, whom De Soto succeeded as President, enclosed in oval, formed the centrepiece ; value was placed in the upper left and lower right hand corners, "Union Postal Universal Costa Rica," was enclosed in circle, value and date of issue appeared in broad labels in the two remaining corners and completed the design. Colors and values were 1c green ; 2c carmine ; 5c purple ; 10c orange, and 40c blue.

The envelope stamps issued in 1886 were two in number, the design consisted of the rulers portrait enclosed in circle, with slightly altered wording, they are not rare.

There is a large number of official stamps but they are too numerous to describe, and including Guanacaste, consist entirely of surcharges.

Collectors may find it to their advantage to look over their Costa Rica stamps and examine them closely, for they may come across a rare error of valuable oddity which might have hitherto passed unnoticed.

As the mania for collecting Postage Stamps seems to be on the increase, the following details, recently published by a French contemporary, will be read with interest. Three years ago, the son of the Duchess de Galliera possessed the largest collection of postage stamps. At that time he had paid no less than \$250,000 for this gigantic collection, and the special library thus obtained counted nearly three hundred volumes. M. deRothchild's collection is valued at \$50,000 and it is only to special friends that the volumes containing the rarest specimens are ever shown. At the Paris mint a remarkable collection of French and foreign postage stamps is kept, and that at the Admiralty is famous throughout the world. As a rule, rare postage stamps vary in price according to their appearance; if they are well preserved they are far more expensive than those on which the design and color are obliterated. For instance, old Black Brazil stamps are paid for at \$4.80 to \$12 apiece; those from Buenos Ayers are valued according to their color, green and yellow ones are worth from \$12 to \$20 and red ones from \$20 to \$25 apiece. One of the most expensive of all stamps is that from English Guiana, of the year 1856, which is paid for at \$200. The most expensive stamp in France is the vermilion one-franc stamp of 1849; it has been paid for with \$50.

C. P. A. Notes.

Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Hooper, of Ottawa, the Sec'y pro-tem, we have been unable to receive any communication from him, and for the same cause the election of officers and in fact, all the business of the Association will be delayed some weeks. We sincerely hope our worthy Sec. will be speedily restored to health.

Our Offer as an Official Organ.

We will give the free use of our columns at any time and to any extent desired, and mail the N. F. P. free to all members of the Association, and to give the Association all the aid in our power. And to make matters plain to all, (the H. P. included), we will state that our offer in last number was 150 % discount, not 'com.' or 'off' as some construe it, but 40c. instead of \$1.00. And now we venture to make even a better offer of 20 cents per inch 'ad' to those referred to above.

The Adage Verified.

A newsboy passing along Bay Street chanced to discover several sheets of 3 ct. stamps. He was at first inclined to conceal them, but repelling the unworthy suggestion he asked a venerable man if they were his. The venerable looked at them, hurriedly said they were, patted him on the head, gave him ten cents and said he would be an editor yet. The venerable man then hastened away, but later on was arrested for attempting to pass counterfeit stamps and with having others in his possession, whilst the honest newsboy played "old man" with his humble two five cents and ran up a profit of one dollar and seventy-five. Honesty is sometimes the best policy.

EDITORIAL

Brother Philatelists, it is with pleasure that we present you with number five of the N. F. P. Canadian stamp collectors have long felt the want of a good, reliable magazine; one devoted solely to their interests, and low in its subscription as any journal of its character. Will you kindly aid us to make it a paper to interest all Philatelists, and one of which we all may feel proud.

When we commenced the publication of this journal we determined to spare no effort or expense to make it one of the best published; one that every Philatelist will want to have in his possession and delight in reading. We began fairly well and have improved with every issue; and we think without imposing on the good nature of our patrons, we may with this issue of the N. F. P. congratulate ourselves. The Philatelic press, with one or two exceptions has come forward and given us a 'warm shake of the hand,' showing a thorough appreciation of our efforts to make our magazine second to none. Our great aim is to make the N. F. P. the leading publication of its kind. Fellow Philatelists won't you help us to make it such?

NOTES.

Be sure and see the January number.

Owing to the limited space last month, the record of New Issues and Exchanges were omitted.

Read this magazine through carefully and if you don't think it is worth 25 cents a year don't subscribe.

The subscription price will be raised next month to 35 cents, foreign 40 cents. Subscribe now while the subscription price is only 25 cents.

Our great aim is to make the N. F. P. the leading stamp journal. Collectors and dealers we ask your support and co-operation to make it such.

No other magazine in this country or the United States can wish its patrons "a Merry Christmas" or "a Happy New Year" with more sincerity than the Niagara Falls Philatelist does this season.

We are pleased to record a marked increase in our subscription list, which fact alone, demonstrates beyond all doubt that our efforts to publish a really good magazine at a low price have been appreciated.

We have said many times that our only terms for advertising were CASH IN ADVANCE. If a man cannot pay for his advertisement when he sends his copy he is just the man we don't want to do business with.

To Advertisers.

Next month our advertising rates will be raised 100%. Our increased circulation and improved appearance etc. of the journal prompts us to adopt this course. By sending in your contract previous to the 1st of January, you may secure the following low rates, viz:—

1 inch.....	6 months.....	\$1.80
2 "	"	3.00
½ column.....	"	6.00
1 "	"	10.00
1 page	"	16.00

Terms, cash invariably in advance.

Why is a stubborn donkey like a postage stamp? Because the more you lick it the more it sticks.—Charleston Phil. The funny man of the Charleston Philatelist must have been rather sleepy when he penned the above conundrum. In our experience we find, the more you lick a stamp the less it sticks.—[Ed. N. F. P.]

Our Contemporaries

We have received the following papers since last month: Publishers will please accept thanks.

Philatelic Journal of America.—Figaro—Collectors' Aid.—Philatelic Fortnightly.—Philatelic Journal of Ohio.—General Anzeiger fur Philatelic.—Old Curiosity Shop.—Philatelic Gazette.—Texas Philatelic Journal — | —Midland Philatelic and General Advertiser. — Illustrirtr's Brief-Marken Journal. — Herdman's Miscellaneous.—Mohawk Standard.—Stamp.—Exchanger's Monthly.—Witch City Philatelist.—Geologist Gazette.—Curiosity World.—The Collector—Common Sense.—The Gem —Charlestown Philatelist.

The October issue of the Figaro is very interesting containing several good articles, Keep it up Bro. Voute.

The Publishers of Quaker City Philatelist are to be congratulated on the appearance and excellent contents of the November issue. This magazine promises to be one of the leading stamp papers in the country. May it meet with the success it so richly deserves.

The Charlestown Philatelist is a very creditable Philatelic publication from Charlestown, S. C

The Witch City Philatelist for November is neat, and its contents good.

The Philatelic Journal of Ohio is the title of a little sheet from the state of that name.

The Buckeye State Philatelist published by E. J. Smith of Portsmouth, N. H., is a neat paper; its pages give evidence of intelligence and careful editing, and it should be well sustained.

The Philatelic Gazette improves with every issue. We predict for it a long and prosperous career.

Common Sense comes to hand. It contains several interesting items, but the printing might be improved on.

What has become of Brother Finley's paper, the Canada Stamp and Coin Journal. We have not seen a number for an age.

NEW ISSUES.

AZORES.—The new stamps of Portugal 25 and 500 reas, both lilac, have been surcharged "Acores" in small letters.

AUSTRIA.—Letter cards with the current stamp 15 kr. gray and black, and envelopes of white wove paper 142x86 m m with the stamp in the lower left corner, have appeared.

BULGARIA.—The unpaid letter stamps 5 & 50 sto. are now perforated 11½. The 20 & 50 sto. stamps are fiscals.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—The 3d bronze green, and 1d red-brown wrappers are surcharged in 7x14 m m.

CANADA.—The stamp on the post card is now inscribed 'post card' instead of postage.

COSTA RICA.—The new 10 centavo stamp has been surcharged 'oficio.'

CEYLON.—The 6c card has been surcharged 2½ cents, and has in addition the words "the price is three cents including the card."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The 5 sh. orange has the anchor water-mark.

CELUCIA.—The Ill. Br. Journal has seen the 6d in lilac and blue.

DUTCH INDIES.—5c green has been issued in new type, with figure value in the centre.

ECUADOR.—The new 80c is olive brown, (C. C. 87) and of the envelope the following sizes and papers are noted with inscriptions in Spanish. 139x82 m m 5c on amber and blue, 10c on white, blue and orange, with inscriptions in French; size 149x91 m m, 5c on white and blue.

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Stamp Dealers Directory.

Terms for a 2 or 3 line advertisement in this Column 50 cents per year, payable in advance.

EGYPT.—Envelopes are now in progress of manufacture and they will be put into circulation next month.

GREECE—The stamps of this country are now perforated 16. The perforation is ragged.

INDIA.—The one rupee has been surcharged "On H. M. S."

JABRAPATHAN.—A curious stamp has been issued by this native state. What looks like a warrior with three legs dancing a war dance is in the centre in an oval, around which are native inscriptions. 1 Anna green, (C. C, 24) unperforated on white laid paper.

NATAL.—There is a 2p. on paper water-marked crown C. A. and perforated 14.

NABAH.—Stamps with surcharge in two lines in red on the 3a, 2a, 4a, 1r, have appeared and also in black on the 1a and 8a.

PORTUGAL.—The 25 rurs lately issued in lilac (C. C, 74) and the 2½ rees in brown (C. C, 87).

PERU.—There is 5 x 5c card the sun and large figure 5 surcharged in lilac.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—The post card 1 tonga of 1885 is surcharged '3 reis' in two lines.

SELANGOR.—The 2c. rose Straits Settlement has been surcharged 'Selangor' in black in four and five varieties of type.

STRAIT SETTLEMENT.—The 5c blue is surcharged 2 cents in black.

SALVADOR.—Stamps of the value of 5c. have been ordered in New York. These are to be probably of the same design as the 3 and 10c.

SWITZERLAND.—Both the 5 x 5c. and 10 x 10c. cards are of form 2.

SWEDEN—There is a new official card. The stamp in the upper right-hand corner has three crowns on a horizontally lined ground in circular band, inscribed 'Sveriges Slatbanor.' A plain frame measure 122 x 27 m m. At the top is "Jeruvays Bretkört" (railway card); then three lines for address, the first preceded by "Till," before the third "Tienstesak" then "framed lag no deu 188." Blue on white card.

Artwright, J. J.—Benson, Minn., U. S. Stamps on approval 33 1/3 per ct. com.

Arminsia, Nazi.—Neiva Tolima, U. S. of Columbia. Stamps on commission.

Biggar, L. A.—Altona, Ill. 500 different varieties of stamps \$1. 100, 15c., 300, 50c. Price list, free.

Book, F. E.—Niagara Falls South, Ont. Approval Sheets a specialty.

Book, Dr. E. E.—Niagara Falls South, Ont. Dealer in Foreign and U. S. Stamps.

Bruce, Adolph.—Balloch, Dumbarton, Scotland.—European stamps for collectors.

Bonus, Frank—Niagara Falls, Ontario. Send stamp for price list.

Davis, M.—Table Rock, Niagara Falls, Ont. Second hand International Stamp Albums for sale.

Doig, C.—Watertown; Wis., U S Price list of stamps free on application

Delmay, Le, & Co.—10 Boulevard, de Strasbourg, Paris. Wholesale and Retail

Dorse, L A.—St. Catharines, Ontario, Old U S Coins

Jackson, G N.—Santa Anne, San Salvador, C A South and Central American stamps

Morlaye, C.—Riom, France Fine Approval Sheets

McDonald, C W.—Copenhagen, Denmark Wholesale dealer in stamps

Morse & Winters.—Bluff Road, Liverpool, Eng Stamp Cuts for sale

Niagara Falls Stamp Co.—Niagara Falls South, Ont Approval Sheets to responsible parties

Norcross Henri.—Vevey, Switzerland Sheets on approval 75 per cent. commission

Parnham, T R.—Niagara Falls, N Y Coins, Stamps and Curiosities

Ross, E.—Blackpool, England Wholesale price list for stamps

Ross, Charles.—Sydney, N S W Selections of Stamps on approval

Stone, H.—Snow Hill Buildings, London, E C Approval Sheets.

EXCHANGES.

(Under this head will be issued Notices of Exchange for Stamps, Coins, &c. Exchanges must not exceed Thirty words, and must be written on a separate sheet of paper. All notices must reach us by the 25th of each month to insure insertion in next issue.)

J C MASTER, Woodville, Miss, U S A -Duplicates to exchange, send lists

A A SHERIDAN, Niagara-on-the-Lake Ont—Two hundred different tin tags and stamps

I WILL EX. a 32 calibre revolver for stamps or coins, P. F O'Keefe, Mansfield Valley Pa.

A C McKANE, Belleville, Ill., desires to correspond with collectors in foreign countries

DR E E BOOK, Niagara Falls South Ont—Desires correspondence with advanced collectors

N E CARTER, Delevan, Wis. -A large quantity of curiosities to exchange for stamps. List sent on receipt of a two cent stamp

PERCY POLLARD, Washington Ta -Copy of Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, (Eng.) and Toledo Blade of this paper to exchange for philatelic papers

WANTED—Philatelic and Natural History paper. Send list of what you have with prices wanted. H E Deats, Flemmington, N J, A P A 69

THE NIAGARA FALLS STAMP Co., Niagara Falls South, Ont -Will give four surcharged one cent, Siam, for Vol. I of the Philatelic Journal of America

WANTED - Back Nos. of the Toronto Philatelist Journal will pay cash or give good exchange, Dr E E Book, Central Drug Store, Niagara Falls South Ont

I will exchange a pair of Acme Club Spring Skates for the best offer of stamps, they cost \$1.50 and have only been used once.—J. C. Niesser, Toronto, Ont.

F E Book P.O. Box 58, Niagara Falls South, Ont, Canada—An International stamp album with about 250 different stamps for Vol. 2 of the Empire State Philatelist

MATT. LELLON, JRN. Gilroy Cal.—Six tin and paper Tags for every 10 used Canada Postal Cards. 50 Nice picture cards and 10 newspapers for 500 Common Canada stamps

Ontario Stamp Co., Box 106, Niagara Falls South, Ont -Wish every stamp collector in Canada to send their address on a post card, and publishers send their advertising rates.

50 varieties of Foreign Stamps for every large U S cent or ½ cent sent me. 100 var. for every V nickel without cents sent me. 100 mixed Foreign for every 100 mixed U S stamps sent me. C. W. Feugh, Kossuth, Ind.

W H VERITY, Box 119 Luther, Mich—Will give good exchange for all kinds of U S, Canada, N S, N B, Newfoundland and P I stamps ; 100 U S for 100 mixed Canada stamps. Do not send less than 200 at one time

5,000 mixed Tin Tags, containing many rare, for the offer of Canadian, Nova Scotian, New Brunswick, Newfoundland or P. E. I stamps, Philatelic papers or foreign postal cards Tags warranted genuine. Clarence D. Oliphant, Box 385, Mt. Holly, N Jersey, U S A

D. S. Dunbar, Baldwinville, N Y.—I would like to exchange American stamps for others with foreign collectors and dealers (Canada excluded) in sufficient quantities to make it profitable. Especially postals and stamped envelopes entire. Good reference required and given.

I will give 100 fine Foreign Stamps for every stamp catalogue sent me. 125 for Scott's, Durbin's or Stanley Gibbons & Co's. Jubilee Packet—50 stamps all different, only 25 cts. I send stamps on approval to responsible collectors ONLY. John R. Hooper, 124 Slater St., Ottawa, Canada.

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In answering Advertisements be sure and mention the N. F. P.

I

EXPECT YOU TO READ THIS,

AND

MAKE MONEY

BY

SELLING STAMPS OFF MY SHEETS



Send a 3-Cent Stamp and Good

Reference for one of them at

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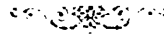
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