

PACKETS OF STAMPS.



C. and H. GLOYN'S Sixpenny Packets.

No. 1 contains 30 varieties.

No. 2 contains 12 different unused Stamps.

No. 3 contains 12 varieties of Local U. S.

By Post, 7d. each Packet.

C. and H. GLOYN'S Shilling Packets.

No. 1 contains 60 varieties.

No. 2 contains 20 different unused varieties.

No. 3 contains 100 assorted.

C. and H. GLOYN'S Eighteenpenny Packet

Contains 90 varieties, several rare.

C. and H. GLOYN'S Two Shilling Packet

Contains 24 RARE Stamps and ONE of the following is also included:

New Orleans, Brazil, (italics) Mexican, or Nicaragua.

C. and H. GLOYN'S Half-a-Crown Packet

Contains 100 varieties of Stamps, including an unobliterated set of Nicaragua (2 and 5 centavos).

14.



The
POSTAGE STAMP

Founded by
EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

Edited by
FRED. J. MELVILLE.

*An Illustrated Weekly Journal for
all Classes of Stamp Collectors*

**Art and
The Stamp Collector.**



Re-printed from "The Postage Stamp,"
22nd April, 1911.

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ART AND THE STAMP COLLECTOR

The Advantages of Artistic Arrangement, and of a thoroughly Methodical System in Philately

THERE is no arguing against beauty in the stamp album. The utility of a collection depends on its beauty of arrangement and I would have every collector strive in the pursuit of pleasurable philately to make every page a picture.

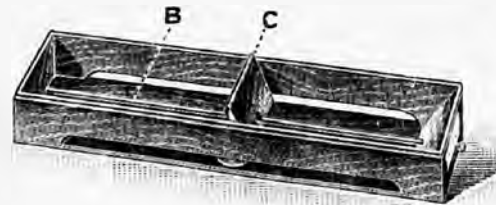
I do not of course mean that lavish ornamentation, gaudy trappings and extravagant flourishes contribute the requisite style of beauty for a stamp collection. They are more likely to suggest vulgarity than elegance. The highest beauty comes with simplicity, neatness in mounting and a nice judgment in balance.

The Attractiveness of Neat Display.

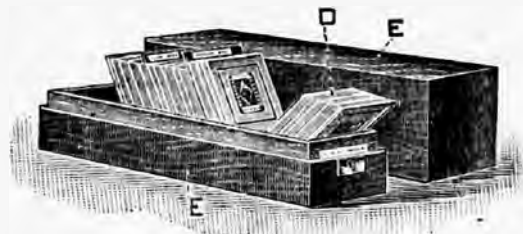
One reason—and not by any means a solitary one—which has gained many friends for the now popular Cistafile method of housing a stamp collection is the consistently maintained advocacy of neatness and simple elegance of display set forth in the establishment of the firm of Lawn & Barlow, which put the system on the market. The Cistafile is best explained by the statement that it is the card-index beloved of the American business house and of our free libraries, but adapted specially to the requirements of the stamp collector. It will be readily obvious to the thinking collector that such a system is capable of numerous manifestations and a variety of forms of the cards which take the place of album leaves.

The Systematisation of Knowledge.

The Cistafile is to many collectors an improvement on the blank album—at present it does not compete with the printed album. In this respect the system allows full scope for the individual display, but it has been so far developed as to assist neat arrangement, and we use the term system advisedly for it does undoubtedly encourage the systematisation of the knowledge that one acquires along with one's stamps. On the back of each card in a Cistafile there is a table which the collector who appreciates method and orderliness in all he undertakes should appreciate.



The tray to hold the small size cards. B is the removable steel screw rod, and C a patent rocker against which the cards rest at a convenient angle.



The tray showing the cards D filed on the screw rod, with dust proof box cover E.

This table sets out the form of *data* most convenient to be preserved by the collector concerning his possessions, viz. :—

- Year of Issue.
- Watermark, Perforation.
- Paper, Printer.
- Catalogue Price
- When bought, of whom, and
- Price paid.

A Training in Method.

I think there are many of us who would like to have started such a valuable documentary history of our collections from the beginning. But it is never too late to adopt a good innovation; and so far as young beginners are concerned they would find this system an excellent aid to training in business-like attention to the things that matter. It should be remembered that this information is on the back of the cards on which the collection is mounted, so that the data are permanently and readily accessible when studying the collection. This examination of the collection is quite convenient when the cards are in the box or cabinet by simply removing the cover or sliding out the drawer. Or the cards may be removed in a small packet and taken to a stamp meeting for comparison with other collections, and being cards may be handled freely without risk of damage to the collection.

The sizes of the cards are arranged to suit all requirements. One can have small cards so that one stamp or a block of four go to a card, or you can have cards as large as any album leaf that is available. In this



The small size cards showing one stamp within a frame on front, and the useful index on the back.

respect there is practically no limit to the adaptability of the Cistafile. The standard sizes for the cards, however, are No. 1, 2½ inches by 3¾ inches, to hold from one to four stamps; No. 2, 4 inches by 6 inches, to hold a complete issue of up to twenty stamps; No. 3, 6 inches by 9 inches, suited for specialistic display of blocks, copies on entire original, etc.

Only one Quality—the Best.

The method of storing these cards is simple and effective, and one of the most important requisites where such simplicity is a leading factor is the thoroughness of the workmanship and the quality of the materials. These considerations have certainly had the best attention and personal supervision of the promoters of the Cistafile. Small collections are filed in trays of the best seasoned mahogany which fit into boxes of the same sound material; while large collections are fitted into cabinets on the building-up plan, so that the home of your collection adds a new storey or a wing with a minimum of expense, and the addition fits harmoniously on to the rest of the structure, the elegance of the whole making it a pleasing piece of furniture, and a locking arrangement adding the requisite security from the predations of the pilferer.

Artful Aids to Artistic Arrangement.

To return to the cards, there are many devices which Messrs. Lawn & Barlow have prepared to

assist the collector in arranging his stamps. These are not perhaps necessary to the collector with the "prehensile eye and the artistic hand," but unfortunately he is nigh as rare as the buttons of a Roman's breeches. Few lovers of stamps but hesitate long before they can bring themselves to disfigure the pages of their collections with their own script. And there are some growing collectors and mature seniors who use sprawling fists that would be a disgrace to the kindergarten. If one cannot do better than a puerile scrawl or a mature illegibility, then the collector should use the printed aids to artistic arrangement which Messrs. Lawn & Barlow provide in the shape of tastefully designed frames, adhesive labels with the names of countries, and similar labels shewing the dates and watermarks. With these produced with an eye to the uniform elegance of a collection in the making, no one has any excuse for unsightliness in the arrangement of a stamp collection.

The Scope for Individualism.

To sum up briefly the obvious advantages of the Cistafile and its accessories, we have the elasticity of the American card-index—small collections go in small compass and can grow to illimitable extent on the same original plan with a small and gradual expense on the structure, and a minimum of re-arrangement, as once a stamp is mounted on a Cistafile card it never need be re-mounted. To change the order or position of a stamp or an issue in a collection all that is necessary is to transpose the cards without removing the stamps. There is no friction, a special transparent paper being gummed to the front of the cards. The cards are securely filed on finely plated rods which hold them in position, and on unscrewing and removing the rod the cards are easily removable at will without disturbing cards other than those to be removed. The boxes or cabinets are light proof and dust proof, and there is, therefore, no decay in the strong well-made cards. In books and albums it is no uncommon thing for the edges to turn yellow with exposure, and nothing is more unsightly in a stamp collection; such a decay is not possible in the Cistafile, unless the cards are left carelessly exposed without the boxes or drawers being properly closed. Yet another distinct utility in the Cistafile is its extreme portability and even when the collection is a great one there is absolutely no trouble in removing any section that may be required and enclosing it in a convenient carrying apparatus. Add to all this that with the Cistafile one's own notions of method in collecting, of limitations as to denomination or expense, of grouping are entirely unfettered. If Afghanistan be outside the sphere of our interests there is no need in the Cistafile to give it house room, nor need we leave spaces for the P.O. Mauritius if they are too costly for us. If we decide to ignore the difference between multiple and single watermarks, between ordinary and chalky papers, between troublesome Australian perforating machines, or between De la Rue and Harrison printings of the same stamps, then we are freely left to include just exactly what interests us in the Cistafile arrangement. The cost of the Cistafile is no greater than that of interchangeable leaf stamp albums of good quality, but the permanence of the system gives it a great advantage from the point of view of economy.



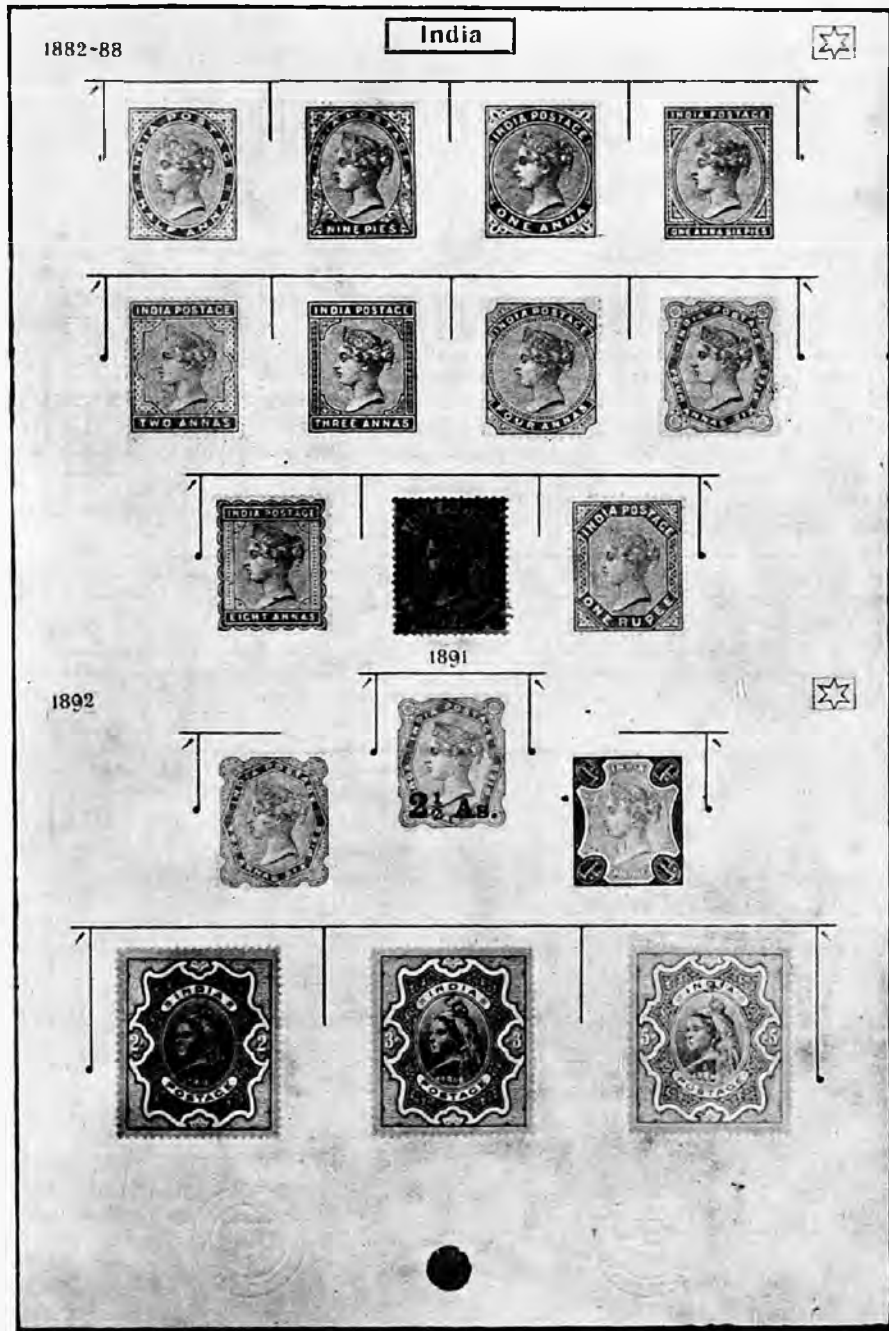
The set of Sierra Leone 1896-7 mounted on the intermediate size of Cistafile card.

Stamp Tweezers that are Safe.

The Cistafle is not the only novelty which Messrs. Lawn and Barlow have placed before the philatelic world. A very happy idea was that which led the firm to manufacture a new kind of stamp tweezers the action of which is practically the reverse of the ordinary forceps used by collectors. The latter require constant pressure between the fingers to retain hold of a stamp, the L. & B. Safety Tweezer is at rest when holding the stamp and pressure need only be applied to release it. In use a slight pressure opens the jaws of the tweezer, the stamp slips between and on releasing the spring the stamp is held firmly and safely. No further pressure is required while the stamp is being mounted or handed about for inspection. The jaws are of a peculiar long flat shape and in mounting they are level with the stamp all the time, and easily slip away as the spring is re-opened without any chance of damaging the stamp. Another special convenience of these tweezers is found when one is working at one's collection with occasional interruptions. A little batch of stamps is on the desk requiring attention but an interruption occurs—the supper bell or a chance visitor. To leave the stamps loose on the desk they may get scattered about to the risk of damage or loss. The little batch of stamps easily slips between the jaws of the L. & B. Safety Tweezer which anchors the lot to the table until we are ready to proceed with our mounting.

Insurance of Stamp Collections.

Another business-like innovation which this firm deserves every credit for developing, is the systematic insurance of collections for clients. Time and again we are asked by collectors how they can insure their collections against fire, burglary and larceny, as the insurance companies are not generally prepared to take stamp risks. Messrs. Lawn & Barlow, however, have an arrangement by which they can insure stamp collections for their clients against all risks, and it certainly is very advisable that every collector who has spent much time and money on his collection should safeguard himself against both fire and burglary.



A page of India, mounted on the full size cards and displaying the adaptability of the Cistafle to tasteful and pleasing arrangement.

Messrs. Lawn & Barlow are West End stamp dealers, the only philatelic firm, I believe, in that fashionable thoroughfare Regent Street, and their elegant salon at No. 52, is in keeping with the character of their high-class business, and with the consummate elegance and taste displayed in all their philatelic contrivances.