

**NINTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.**

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

**PRICE ONE PENNY.**

THE  
**PHILATELIST'S ALMANACK**

*And Stamp-Collector's Vade-Mecum,*

FOR THE YEAR

**1900.**



**J. W. PALMER, 7, Catherine Street, Strand.**  
(Late of 281, Strand, W.C.)

*Note it is a double-fronted shop and Covent Garden end.*

## PALMER, THE STAMP KING.

On this earth are scores of kings,  
Ruling big and little things.  
Over stamps one monarch reigns  
For his own and patrons' gains.

PALMER, as we all persist,  
Pre-eminent philatelist—  
Foe of forger—honest man—  
Pure integrity his plan.

Ring out wild bells to the wild sky,

PALMER is the man to buy,

Ring again thou mystic bell,

PALMER is the man to sell.

PALMER gives the best advice,

Also a description of value,

He can guide where others fail,

Come to him by road or rail.

PALMER won his place by merit

And merit is a rare gem

Prince and peasant he respects

And but fair return expects

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## WHAT'S IN A NAME?"

"WHAT'S in a name?" the poet asks,

And answers are too many.

Some have a little common sense

And others haven't any.

At school a boy whose name was Stamp,

On letters had no stick,

His gumption being very small,

He always got a stick.

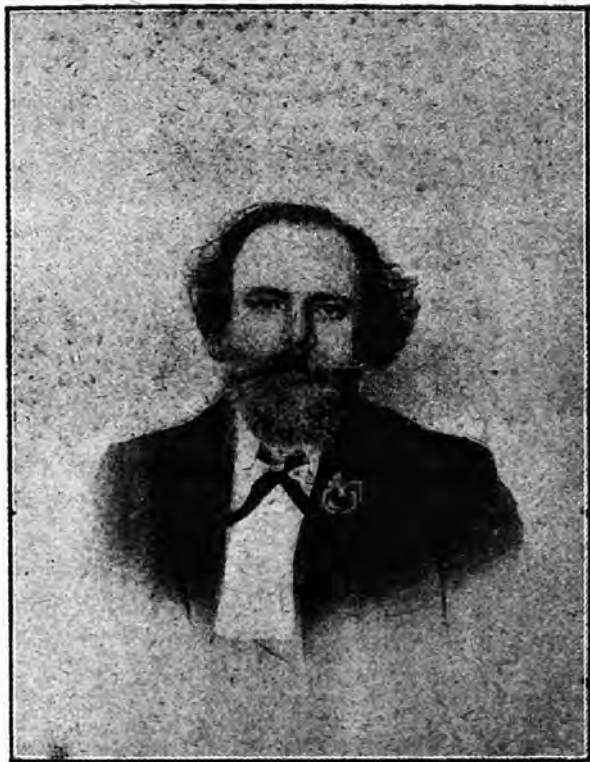
**MEN WHO HAVE EARNED SUCCESS.**



**FATHER OF STAMP COLLECTING.**

*Grafford 1626 (2)*

**MEN WHO HAVE EARNED SUCCESS.**



**FATHER OF STAMP COLLECTING.**

## THE NEW READING.

"WHERE are you going to, my pretty maid?"

"I'm going to Palmer's, sir," she said.

"Why do you go to Palmer's?" asked I;

"Because it's the best place, stamps to buy."

"Where are you going to, my pretty maid?"

"I'm going to Palmer's, sir," she said.

"And why do you go, will you please to tell?"

"Because it's the very best place to sell."

"Where is Palmer's, my pretty maid?"

"Seven, Catherine Street," she said,

"Along the Strand, and I ask no pardon

To say it's the end near Covent Garden."

## POST MARKS.

"Two heads are better than one," as the man said when he used the two halfpenny, instead of the penny stamp.

In Paris last year the postmen were on *strike*. In London there are thousands *knocking about* all the year round.

The picture post-card is rising in popularity. If you can't write a good note, you can send a picture.

L. M. Thornton, the author of that once familiar song "The Postman's Knock," died in the Bath workhouse. He sold the song for one guinea.

H. R. H. The PRINCE OF WALES has continued to advocate the hospital claims, and in many ways he has been encouraged, though not to the extent deserved. Mr. Gillman, at the Crystal Palace, was happy in the Sunday concerts and financial help came from them to the Prince's Hospital Fund. Mr. Charles Wyndham, with true lavish liberality, gave the entire proceeds of his last night at the Criterion Theatre to the Royal Hospital Fund, the amount going over £1400. Still the hospital stamps have not moved as they ought, and we beg to ask notice for them, as the shillings, the half-crowns, the five shillings and ten shillings are welcome to the great homes of the sick.



**ROOM COVERED WITH 70,000 STAMPS.**

*We are enabled to produce the above block, also the Flowers of Philately, through the courtesy of Sir George Neumes, who presented us with the two blocks, for which we tender our best thanks.*

## JANUARY.

1	M	Issue of New English Stamps, 1880
2	Tu	Union of Great Britain and Ireland, 1801
3	W	Gretna Green Marriages abolished
4	Th	Est. of P.O. by Act to settle the Postage of Eng., Scot.,
5	F	Edward the Confessor died, 1066 [and Ireland, '56
6	S	T. A. Neale died, 1892
7	S	Lord Kimberley born, 1826
8	M	Victor Emmanuel died, 1878
9	Tu	Fire Insurance expires
10	W	Introduction of the Penny Post, 1840
11	Th	
12	F	Earl Iddesleigh died, 1887
13	S	George Fox died, 1690
14	S	J. S. O. D. Palmer died, 1894
15	M	<i>Bric-à-Brac</i> first issued, 1878
16	Tu	Battle of Corunna, 1809
17	W	Battle of Abu Klea, 1885
18	Th	German Empire proclaimed, 1871
19	F	Isaac Disraeli died, 1848
20	S	Mersey Tunnel opened, 1886
21	S	Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793
22	M	Defence of Korke's Drift, 1879
23	Tu	William Pitt died, 1806
24	W	C. J. Fox born, 1749
25	Th	Dr. John Doran died, 1878
26	F	Death of General Gordon, 1884
27	S	German Emperor William II. born, 1859
28	S	Battle of Aliwal, 1846
29	M	George III. died, 1820
30	Tu	Charles I. executed, 1649
31	W	Est. of a Metro. Penny Post by William Dockwra, 1680

### OUR CHEAPNESS.

THE force of cheapness can no further go—  
 Attractions high and prices very low.  
 To Palmer come, you will not be misguided.  
 With all you need he's perfectly provided.

## STAMPS.

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THERE'S very little in some heads,  
 While others have too much,  
 But on the heads of letters you  
 Can never mention such.

They are the heads that never ache,  
 Howe'er the *licker* may  
 Supply the liquidation to  
 The stamp to make it stay.

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## ADIEU TO THE OLD YEAR.

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OLD year, again, with beating heart  
 I watch thy weary steps depart.  
 I see thy form bent very low,  
 Thy failing powers quickly go.

And shaking are thy poor old hands  
 As fall the finals of thy sands—  
 Ye go, as stars of midnight shine  
 Upon the tears of '99.

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## THE NEW YEAR.

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HOWEVER deep may be despair,  
 Hope gilds the coming year ;  
 The smile to light the future day,  
 Must dissipate the tear.

And so, although *ye end in nought*,  
 As nineteen hundred shows,  
 We feel thy story shall delight,  
 And joy within us glows.



## FEBRUARY.

1	Th	First German Stamps issued (Bavaria), 1849
2	F	
3	S	Marquis of Salisbury born, 1830
4	S	Sir W. Palliser died, 1882
5	M	Postage Stamps first issued in the United States, 1847
6	Tu	James Chalmers, Originator of the Adhesive Stamp,
7	W	Jules Verne born, 1828 [born, 1782]
8	Th	
9	F	Lord Mayo assassinated, 1872
10	S	Queen Victoria married, 1840
11	S	Thomas A. Edison born, 1847
12	M	Custom House burnt, 1814
13	Tu	Lord R. Churchill born, 1849
14	W	<i>St. Valentine</i>
15	Th	J. Bentham born, 1747
16	F	Battle of St. Vincent, 1797
17	S	Duchess of Albany born, 1861
18	S	Capture of Trinidad, 1797
19	M	King of Holland born, 1817
20	Tu	Princess Louise of Wales born, 1867
21	W	Postage Stamps first issued in Russia, 1848 (Envelopes)
22	Th	George Washington born, 1732
23	F	(24th) John Keats died, 1821
24	S	Great Earthquake at Mentone, 1887
25	S	Sir C. Wren died, 1723
26	M	Prince Ferdinand born, 1861
27	Tu	Elizabeth Ruth Palmer died, 1886
28	W	Postage Stamps first issued Denmark, 1851

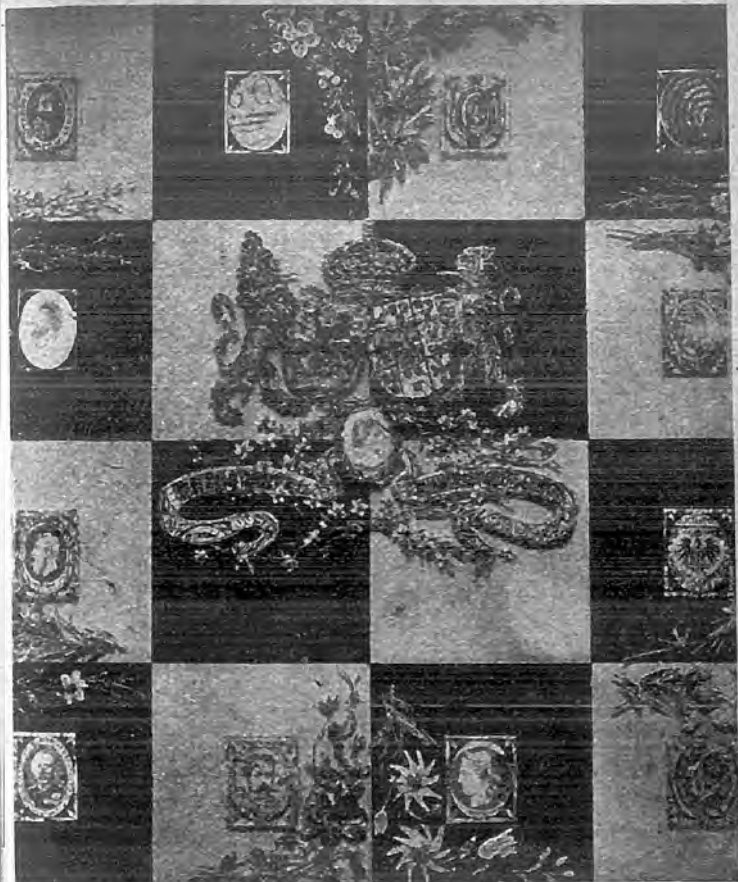
### In Memoriam

#### ELIZABETH RUTH PALMER.

*Died February 27th, 1886.*

AND from thy grave, O mother dear,  
Thou speakest yet what I may hear,  
Who wear thee in my heart.

We are but shadows, one and all,  
Who come like shadows on the wall,  
And so depart. —J. W. P.



**ANOTHER ATTRACTION** to our Curiosity Room is the beautiful work known as "The Flowers of Philately," and we beg to say that this unique achievement took a persevering Dutchman three years to do, using stamps, scissors, knife, and paste. The skill, the interest, the minute finish of the Dutchman must be admired by all who enter the exhibition.

## MARCH.

1	Th	
2	F	Pope Leo born, 1810
3	S	Sir J. F. Stephen born, 1839
4	S	
5	M	Thames Tunnel opened, 1843
6	Tu	Artemus Ward died, 1867
7	W	First Prayer Book issued, 1549
8	Th	Postage Stamps introduced into Germany, 1850
9	F	German Emperor William I. died, 1888
10	S	Prince of Wales married, 1863
11	S	Benjamin West died, 1820
12	M	Bank issued £1 notes, 1797. £5 Bank of Eng. notes first
13	Tu	Grand Duke of Hesse died, 1892 [issued, 1793]
14	W	King Humbert born, 1844
15	Th	Viscount Melbourne born, 1779
16	F	Queen created Empress of India, 1876
17	S	St. Patrick's Day
18	S	Communist insurrection, Paris, 1871
19	M	Lucknow taken, 1858
20	Tu	Sinking Fund established, 1786
21	W	Warning issued by J. W. Palmer, '88, to colls. concern-
22	Th	Albert Way died, 1874 [ing Laureated Head, N.S.W.]
23	F	National Gallery opened, 1824
24	S	H. W. Longfellow died, 1882
25	S	
26	M	Duke of Cambridge born, 1819
27	Tu	Postage Stamps first issued Ionian Isles, 1857
28	W	Duke of Albany died, 1884
29	Th	Albert Hall opened, 1871
30	F	Don Carlos born, 1848
31	S	Slave Trade abolished in England, 1806

### OUR DEBTORS.

DEAR debtors, don't forget the dues  
 We have upon our pages  
 Awaiting kind remittances  
 From persons of all ages.  
 Amid engagements great and vast.

As through the world you're going,  
 A little thought on Palmer's bill  
 Be generously bestowing,  
 And give a call or send along  
 The small amount that's owing.

N. B.—If you can resist this appeal, we shall indeed despair.



JAMES CHALMERS. (*See next page.*)

## JAMES CHALMERS, THE INVENTOR OF THE ADHESIVE STAMP.

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SOME men get full credit for benefiting their kind, before they die. Others work to help the world: they get small appreciation, and years pass over their graves before the memory of their achievements obtains any just esteem. James Chalmers saw a want; he met it, and his idea wrought a revolution in the stamp-world. The name of Rowland Hill seemed to overshadow everything in the postal service, and the average man, with loose logic, concludes that Mr. Hill was the parent of nearly all the good that quick and economical letter-communication has given to us. Among the welcome things of the post office, the adhesive stamp stands as a boon to be best appreciated by those who knew the intolerable inconvenience of old and awkward methods. Mr. Patrick Chalmers, son of James, long ago established the truth that his father gave the world the stamp which is so easily attached. The older Chalmers was born at Arbroath, Scotland, in 1782, and died at Dundee, in 1853. The year 1834 saw the invention of adhesive stamps. Eighteen months before the Penny Postage Bill was introduced into Parliament, Chalmers sent his plan to the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the proposed Bill, and also to the Mercantile Committee of the City of London charged with the support of the Bill. Rowland Hill's plan of impressed stamps fell through, and then the adhesive stamp was victorious, as it was finally adopted by Treasury Minute dated December 26, 1839.

As early as 1837, on the appointment of the Select Committee of the House of Commons in November, upon the proposed uniform penny postage of Mr. Rowland Hill, Mr. Chalmers laid his plan of the adhesive stamp before the Committee. Another communication of some length, dated Dundee, February 8, 1838, describes his plan to the Mercantile Committee of the City of London, charged with the support of the proposed reformed scheme. This document was left to the Library of the South Kensington Museum by the late Sir Henry Cole, who, at the period of its receipt from Mr. Chalmers, was secretary to this City of London Committee. Its contents were reproduced in pamphlet form by Patrick Chalmers, with the title, "The Adhesive Postage Stamp," and this publication has profound interest for philatelists and historians, describing, as it does, the plan of the adhesive postage stamp as ultimately adopted by Mr. Rowland Hill, and demonstrating its superiority to the ideas of Rowland Hill. Nothing better than the adhesive stamp was forthcoming, so it was taken by Mr. Hill on the date named more than five years after Mr. Chalmers invented

it. The Mulready envelope proved a failure, but the adhesive stamp saved the penny postage scheme, and is now more popular than ever. The first of January, 1846, was a proud day for James Chalmers, as then he received a public testimonial in recognition of his grand labours and invaluable invention. He was a very useful man in Dundee, where his fame is fresh to this hour. He died in August, 1853. The English, the American press, the "Encyclopædia Britannica," and the "Dictionary of National Biography," and other important publications have recorded with special knowledge, the great leading fact that James Chalmers, of Dundee, was the originator of the adhesive postage stamp. Thus Scotland gave a boon beyond conception to mankind, and, though we may be forgetful of the man whose gifted mind has blessed generations, the Editor of this almanack is sure that thousands who read this article will be glad to know these details of the excellent James Chalmers and his invaluable invention.

## MR. BUNCE,

WHO died last summer, was a power in Birmingham, where the *Daily Post*, under his fine guidance, raised its power and influence till not only the Midlands and the North felt the strength, but our own metropolis was aware of its vigorous bearing. The lives of editors are generally such strange contradictions, in that they are in deep obscurity and often mystery, yet so closely connected with the widest publicity which their genius inspires, that we are glad to lay our small tributes on the brow of the great Birmingham editor whose "last issue" came so recently

## A CHRISTMAS CARD.

To all our friends in many lands,  
 With genial hearts and willing hands,  
 The kindest greeting do we send,  
 As Christmas pleasures sweetly blend.  
 We wish them well in courts and camps,  
 Sincerity our feeling stamp

# APRIL.

1	S	Prince Bismarck born, 1815
2	M	Cobden died, 1865
3	Tu	
4	W	F. M. Palmer born, 1860
5	Th	Postage Stamps first issued Paraguay, 1870
6	F	
7	S	Denis F. MacCarthy died, 1882
8	S	Lord Chatham died, 1778
9	M	
10	Tu	Gen. Booth b., 1829 [of Stamps to the British Museum
11	W	T. K. Tapling, M.P., d., 1891, bequeathed his Collection
12	Th	Lord Rodney's victory, 1782
13	F	
14	S	Princess Beatrice born, 1857
15	S	
16	M	Battle of Culloden, 1746
17	Tu	Magalhaens killed, 1521
18	W	
19	Th	Primrose Day. Lord Beaconsfield died, 1881
20	F	Postage Stamps first issued Costa Rica, 1862
21	S	Baroness Burdett-Coutts born, 1814
22	S	Petition against Forged Stamps prep. by Palmer, 1884
23	M	Shakespeare died, 1616
24	Tu	Daniel Defoe died, 1731
25	W	First English Prince of Wales born, 1284
26	Th	Jeremy Collier died, 1726
27	F	
28	S	Mutiny of the "Bounty," 1789
29	S	Postage Stamps first issued Lagos (Gold Coast), 1874
30	M	Sir John Lubbock born, 1834

## PRIMROSE DAY. April 19, 1881.

"PEACE WITH HONOUR."

B ritannia mourns to-day her patriot son;  
 E ach year grows ever grief the more,  
 A nd heavier the loss his heirs deplore;  
 C heated of that Honour which he won,  
 O f Peace with Honour which he brought to us of yore.  
 N ow all is changed: the sacred Peace is fled,  
 S ince laggards to the councils came—  
 Fierce war the nation's portion, theirs the shame  
 I n Peace with Honour sleeps th' illustrious dead.  
 E ngland to the glory of his cherished name  
 L ovingly, the early flowers of spring appear,  
 D edicates Primrose, because he held it dear.—J. W. P.



THESE MEDALS WERE INVENTED AND STRUCK BY  
J. W. PALMER.

*Specimens have been accepted by the Royalties, many distinguished people, and thousands have been spread gratuitously.*



# MAY.

1	Tu	Issue of the Mulready envelope, 1840
2	W	Thames Embankment opened, 1868
3	Th	Jamaica discovered, 1494
4	F	Local Letter Post established in Vienna, 1772
5	S	Ex-Empress Eugenie born, 1826
6	S	Postage Stamps first issued, 1840
7	M	Robert Browning born, 1812
8	Tu	Monarchy restored, 1660
9	W	Mr. Wallace, M.P., moved for Sel. Com. to inquire into
10	Th	Crystal Pal. op., '54 [the merits of Rld. Hill's scheme, '37
11	F	Petition against forged stamps prep. by J.W. Palmer, '84
12	S	Sir Charles Barry died, 1860
13	S	Suicide of King of Bavaria, 1886
14	M	
15	Tu	German Emperor Frederick died, 1888
16	W	Penny Postage Jubilee Celebration at Guildhall, '90;
17	Th	Revised New Testament issued, 1881 [issue of Jubilee
18	F	New Eddystone Lighthouse opened, 1882 [post-card
19	S	Magna Charta signed, 1215
20	S	Postage Stamps adopted by the Sandwich Islands, 1851
21	M	Lord Playfair born, 1819
22	Tu	Grisi born, 1812
23	W	Henry Fawcett born at Salisbury, 1833
24	Th	Queen Victoria born, 1819
25	F	Princess Helena born, 1846
26	S	Tuileries destroyed, 1871
27	S	Repeal of Corn Laws, 1856
28	M	General Grant died, 1885
29	Tu	Empress Josephine died, 1814
30	W	Alexander Pope died, 1744 [Archer, 1852
31	Th	Machine for perforating stamps invented by Henry

## STAMPS.

THE more one thinks about them, the more suggestions arise. The student of stamps recognises their infinite variety, and knows what a gallery they would make. Some day in London, or some other great city, there will be a world exhibition of stamps, past and present, and those who may be privileged to look over that fine sight will have some idea what post offices mean. Stamps are a part of the world's history, and they tell more the more you know about them.



THESE BLOCKS WERE STRUCK BY J. W. PALMER.

## THE ROMANCE OF STAMPS.

WHAT romance clings around a stamp,  
 How wondrous is its pow'r !  
 To many it is as a lamp,  
 To light the weary hour.  
 It is the harbinger of peace,  
 Or herald of deep woe  
 The guest in noblest palaces,  
 The friend of high and low.

Just think that tiny stamp can bring  
 Vast tidings for us all,  
 Can penetrate Australian wastes,  
 Or where hyenas call ;  
 Siberia's ever-spreading snow,  
 Or Afric's scorching plain ;  
 The stamp is there, its word to bear,  
 And never comes in vain.

## JUNE.

1	F	Charles Lever died, 1872
2	S	Garibaldi died, 1882
3	S	Duke of York born, 1865
4	M	Lord Wolseley born, 1833
5	Tu	St. Boniface
6	W	Cyprus Stamp issued
7	Th	Postage Stamps first issued, Roman States, 1852
8	F	Sir John Millais born, 1829
9	S	Charles Dickens died, 1870
10	S	P. O. robbery of Telegraph Stamps discovered, 1890
11	M	Money Market panic, 1866
12	Tu	Rev. Charles Kingsley born, 1819
13	W	Kensington Museum opened, 1857
14	Th	Battle of Marengo, 1800
15	F	Wat Tyler killed, 1381
16	S	Battle of Quatre Bras, 1815
17	S	Postage Stamps first issued, Tasmania, 1853
18	M	Battle of Waterloo, 1815
19	Tu	French postal system founded by Louis XI., 1464
20	W	J. A. Palmer died, 1893
21	Th	Longest day
22	F	Great fire in Tooley Street, 1861
23	S	Clive's victory at Plassey, 1757
24	S	Midsummer Day
25	M	Right Hon. H. Childers born, 1827
26	Tu	George IV. died, 1830
27	W	First meeting of the Postal Union Congress held in
28	Th	Coronation Day <span style="float: right;">[Paris, 1863]</span>
29	F	Lord Raglan died, 1855
30	S	Opening of the Tower Bridge, 1894

### THE TWO P'S.

P stands for Postage  
 And PALMER as well;  
 Both go together  
 As all folks can tell.  
 The improvement of postage  
 Our PALMER has sought,  
 And seen his suggestions  
 To right issue brought.

P stands for PALMER,  
 Well known everywhere  
 The Postage befriends him  
 And gives him a share  
 Of all its abundance,  
 For not a post goes  
 But PALMER'S famed name is  
 'Neath somebody's nose.

## SUNDAY PAPERS.

THE year 1899 saw one of the strangest struggles ever known in the press-world, in connection with the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Mail*. It was known for a long time that the *Daily Mail* meant to try and establish a Sunday issue. Suddenly, with one of those dramatic impulses which have occasionally startled its readers, the *Daily Telegraph* announces a Sunday edition which is to eclipse everything in papers ever brought out on the so-called day of rest. The church opposition to both papers was striking, and though in each office it was anticipated that religious feeling would decline, it did not, for the agitation spread became well organised, and it is no secret that as the advertisements and the circulation of the two offending journals were being decreased owing to a church boycott, the Sabbath editions were not an unmixed blessing. In addition to this, and furnishing a far more potent argument, the new Sunday issues did not attract alarming support; and, so the *Daily Mail* for Sabbath reading went to its rest, and before the tears were dry the *Daily Telegraph* for the holy day was quietly interred. Opposition died down, and the two dailies went ahead again with renewed vigour.

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## CHRISTMAS!

Poets admire thee and pour out their pleasures,  
 Painters delighted produce wondrous treasures;  
 And all of us welcome thee, just once a year,  
 The holiday chief in all comfort and cheer.  
 Far off o'er the sea, the folks go picnicking,  
 And dance on the green, about their heels kicking.  
 In Britain 'tis different, cold winds are calling,  
 We slide and we shiver or may go snowballing.  
 Whatever conditions of climate and weather,  
 In this ancient land we gather together,  
 And indoors or out, the poorest rejoices,  
 Smiles light up the faces and music fill voices.

## JULY.

- |    |    |  |
|----|----|--|
| 1  | S  | 20 cent. French Stamp suppressed, 1850                   |
| 2  | M  | Penny Postage Jubilee Celebration at S. Kensington, '90  |
| 3  | Tu | Battle of Sadowa, 1866                                   |
| 4  | W  | Declaration of American Independence, 1776               |
| 5  | Th | Lord Gifford born, 1849                                  |
| 6  | F  | Samuel Lover died, 1868                                  |
| 7  | S  | John Huss burnt, 1415                                    |
| 8  | S  | Shelley drowned, 1822                                    |
| 9  | M  | Fire Insurance expires                                   |
| 10 | Tu | Abolition of Members of Parliament's privilege of        |
| 11 | W  | Alexandria bombarded, 1882 [franking letters, 1840       |
| 12 | Th | Crimea evacuated, 1856                                   |
| 13 | F  | Voting by Ballot instituted, 1872                        |
| 14 | S  | Bastille stormed, 1789                                   |
| 15 | S  | <i>St. Swithin</i>                                       |
| 16 | M  | Béranger died, 1857                                      |
| 17 | Tu | Issue of American Five Dollar Stamp, 1862                |
| 18 | W  | Dean Stanley died, 1881                                  |
| 19 | Th | Bishop Wilberforce died, 1873                            |
| 20 | F  | Lord Westbury died, 1873                                 |
| 21 | S  | Robert Burns died, 1796                                  |
| 22 | S  | Issue of 15 cent. French Stamp (green), 1850.            |
| 23 | M  | Duke of Devonshire born, 1833                            |
| 24 | Tu | Window Tax abolished, 1851                               |
| 25 | W  | Great Fire at Baltimore, 1873                            |
| 26 | Th | Metropolitan Penny Post established, 1883                |
| 27 | F  | Bank of England founded, 1694                            |
| 28 | S  | Armada dispersed, 1588                                   |
| 29 | S  | Seaham Harbour opened, 1835                              |
| 30 | M  | General Post Office opened in St. Martin's-le-Grand, '29 |
| 31 | Tu | J. G. D. F. J. Palmer born, 1897                         |

### FORGERS.

THE SEND is always with us. It says in certain noble records, "The poor ye have always with you." The same can be said of the forger. Only stamp experts know the activity, the endless ingenuity, the wonderful 'cuteness of the forger. He is everywhere. His ability is stupendous, and his profits are frequently commensurate. Palmer would not dare to tell all he knows, but the forger knows the Strand Stamp Merchant is always defeating his pretty little plans.

## THE CAUSE AND THE CLAUSE.

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THE famous seventh (Palmer's) clause of the Post Office Protection Act was passed into law in September, 1884, at the instance of Mr. J. W. Palmer, who spared neither trouble nor expense in order to obtain the insertion in the act of this clause, intended especially for the protection of philatelists. We give the precise terms of the clause:—

(Section 7.) A person shall not—

- (a.) make, knowingly utter, deal in, or sell any fictitious stamp, or knowingly use for any postal purpose any fictitious stamp; or
- (b.) have in his possession, unless he shows a lawful excuse, any fictitious stamp; or
- (c.) make, or, unless he shows a lawful excuse, have in his possession, any die, plate, instrument, or material for making any fictitious stamp.

Any person who acts in contravention of this Section shall be liable on summary conviction on a prosecution by order of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue to a fine not exceeding £20, subject to the like right of appeal as in the case of a penalty under the Acts relating to the Excise.

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Ocean penny postage will be adopted by Cape Colony on September 1.

## OUR NEW PLACE.

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As is now pretty well known all over the world, NUMBER SEVEN, CATHERINE STREET, STRAND, is the address where Palmer, the Philatelist, is established, and to this address he went straight from 281, Strand, from which the Almanack has hitherto gone to its patrons wherever the British Flag floats. Now, Palmer must progress. Those two p's go together very agreeably, and it was the determination of Joseph William Palmer to show the world every possible improvement in the new establishment, the opening of which has formed a fresh departure in stamp enterprise. So, as events had marched on during the long years in the Strand, he meant to take all advantage of the progress made in the going years. So, carefully studying the possibilities of the vast establishment in Catherine Street, with its imposing double front, its space reaching far back towards Wellington Street, and the floors going so high, the enterprising proprietor saw fine opportunities to give his old business every encouragement of up-to-date excellence. In the space at command in this almanack, we cannot give the fullest particulars, but can indicate broadly two prominent points. There is no necessity to enforce the argument that LIGHT is of primary value in *dealing* with, or *collecting* of stamps. Stamps are a small people, we may say, and the minutest detail, the microscopic difference, the tiniest particular makes such height or depth in value, that sharpest eyesight needs all the aid of the kindest sun or the illumination which skill of man can provide. We know that summer in London, while entailing discomforts inseparable from great city life, gives a plentitude of daylight. But it is not always summer, and autumn brings shadows, followed by winter darkness, which makes us appreciate the help of special light. So, Seven, Catherine Street, can pour a flood of light on the stamp in an instant, that the comparatively ignorant or the perfectly initiated can see all that is to be seen, while the experts of the establishment are always ready to give further aid if needed. The admiration expressed by patrons over lighting arrangements has been a true reward, though not the only one, fortunately, for the trouble taken to provide all modern accessories, whatever the expenditure. Inside and outside, Palmer's illumination has attracted attention, and whichever way you enter the street on dark days or nights, the powerful luminants catch the eye, and all know the bright front is Palmer's Stamp Emporium. The front shop has been elegantly fitted up, so that all customers are well and perfectly accommodated in looking over the endless stock, or any particular section, or displaying the collections, small or large, brought for trade or advice, or both. Behind the extensive shop are

further stores, and then comes the Forgery Museum, with more than seventy thousand stamps, all false, absolute forgeries and reprints, which came to Palmer as genuine visitors, but seeing their fraudulent character, he took them into custody, with the resolve that whatever harm they had accomplished in the past, for the present and the future they should be under his eye, looking at him from the walls, and kept within doors, where the public might study them and be told their real character and perilous deception. Beyond this unique Museum, to be seen by applying to the Proprietor, is the Curiosity Room, and here you may find enough things to demand the study of a lifetime. A fortune has been spent over a long course of years in getting these things from all parts of the world, and some possessions are so ancient that they carry us back to prehistoric times. Every day additions are being made, and very agreeable hours can be spent over the cases, the books, the pictures, the queer things which have enough to make us think and long for research, investigation, keener acquaintance. There is much more at Seven, Catherine Street, to claim description, but we need not weary the reader with too many details, as all that we tell of can be seen by permission. Enough has been said to show that in 1899 a true advancement was made and an establishment provided for all in the stamp interest to find the aid, guidance, and surroundings worthy the century end. An invitation is now extended to all to visit Seven, Catherine Street, at Covent Garden end, and prove the statements now given.

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## MARY'S LITTLE STAMP.

---

Mary had a little stamp,  
 The stamp, they said, was rare ;  
 She kept it in her album, and  
 It seemed in safety there.  
 Folks looked upon the treasure, and  
 They talked about its worth ;  
 One day a keen collector came  
 And he looked on with mirth.  
 Said he " It is a forgery,  
 The stamp you prize is bad,  
 It is not worth a single cent,  
 Dear Mary, you've been had."



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 One day a keen collector came  
 And he looked on with mirth.  
 Said he "It is a forgery,  
 The stamp you prize is bad,  
 It is not worth a single cent,  
 Dear Mary, you've been had."

## AUGUST.

1	W	Issue of Austrian Postal Union Card (5 kr.), 1880
2	Th	Captain Marryat died, 1848
3	F	Mr. Speaker Peel born, 1829
4	S	Adhesive Postage Stamp first invd. by James Chalmers,
5	S	Queen of Saxony born, 1833 [of Dundee, '34
6	M	Duke of Edinburgh born, 1844
7	Tu	New French Issues
8	W	George Canning died, 1827
9	Th	Postage Stamps first issued, Roumania, 1862
10	F	George J. Goschen born, 1831
11	S	Dog Days end
12	S	M. A. M. Palmer born, 1885
13	M	<i>Old Lammass Day</i>
14	Tu	Local Government Act passed, 1871
15	W	Sir Walter Scott born, 1771
16	Th	Gas introduced in London, 1807
17	F	Rowld. Hill scheme adopted by House of Commons by a
18	S	Emperor of Austria born, 1830 [majority of 100, '39
19	S	Balzac died, 1850
20	M	Abergele Railway accident, 1868
21	Tu	Battle of Vimiera, 1808
22	W	King Richard III. killed, 1485
23	Th	Sir Astley Cooper born, 1768
24	F	Massacre of Huguenots, 1572
25	S	Postage Stamps first issued, Egypt, 1865
26	S	Battle of Cressy, 1346
27	M	Rowland Hill died, 1879
28	Tu	St. Augustine
29	W	Foundering of the "Royal George," 1782
30	Th	Battle of Plevna, 1877
31	F	Postal Treaty of Berne came into operation, 1874

### SIXPENNY POSTAL ORDERS.

ENGLAND has not got every advantage yet. Jamaica can smile upon her in one respect. It has sixpenny postal orders. We could do with some. This we mean, personally, and nationally. The sixpenny order looks important! It is pretty. And we must have it.

## PETITION

ON behalf of the humble Flower Dealers of Covent Garden, that they may still be allowed to place their flowers under supervision, along Catherine Street, between the hours of 4 and 9 a.m. Some interference has been instituted with the old custom which harms no one, and does good to certain individuals. By paying a small sum to a caretaker the flowers are watched and robbery prevented. In case of actual nuisance the question would be different, and beautiful flowers should not be condemned. Here follow signatures of friends and neighbours who approve of the flowers being allowed to remain between the hours named :

J. W. PALMER, 7, Catherine Street, Strand.

JAMES BREMNER, 26, Drury Lane, W.C.

H. TITE & CO., 32, Catherine Street, Strand.

J. HOLBROOK, 1, Catherine Street.

T. HOLBROOK, 5, Catherine Street.

H. SQUIRES, 28, Catherine Street.

A. G. FALLON, "London Reader," 26, Catherine Street.

W. C. BAKER, 3, Catherine Street, Strand, W.C.

L. HOLLINGSWORTH, 24, Catherine Street.

BEECHINGS LTD., 6, Catherine Street.

DEPT. 29, Catherine Street.

## SEPTEMBER.

- |    |    |   |
|----|----|---|
| 1  | S  | Palmer's Clause, P.O. Protection Act, 1884. Post-card     |
| 2  | S  | Board of Trade constituted, 1786 [reform introd., 1894    |
| 3  | M  | Oliver Cromwell died, 1658                                |
| 4  | Tu | J. Palmer, of Bath, submits to the Govt. his scheme for a |
| 5  | W  | Op. of Severn Tunnel, '85 [system of mail coaches, 1784   |
| 6  | Th | Sir Henry March born, 1840                                |
| 7  | F  | W. H. T. Palmer born, 1883                                |
| 8  | S  | Sebastopol taken, 1855                                    |
| 9  | S  | Thomas Watts died, 1869                                   |
| 10 | M  | Guizot died, 1874   |
| 11 | Tu | Battle of Malplaquet, 1709                                |
| 12 | W  | Postage Stamps first issued, Iceland, 1873                |
| 13 | Th | Quebec taken, 1759  |
| 14 | F  | Duke of Wellington died, 1852                             |
| 15 | S  | Liverpool and Manchester Railway opened, 1830             |
| 16 | S  | Ben Jonson died, 1637                                     |
| 17 | M  | Brighton Railway opened, 1838                             |
| 18 | Tu | Dr. Johnson born, 1709                                    |
| 19 | W  | Dean Swift died, 1745                                     |
| 20 | Th | Battle of the Alma, 1854                                  |
| 21 | F  | Sir W. Scott died, 1832                                   |
| 22 | S  | Lord Chief Justice Denman died, 1854                      |
| 23 | S  | Marshal Bazaine died, 1888                                |
| 24 | M  | Postage Stamps first issued, Heligoland, 1867             |
| 25 | Tu | Porson died, 1808   |
| 26 | W  | Von Moltke born, 1800                                     |
| 27 | Th | G. Cruikshank born, 1792                                  |
| 28 | F  | Eugene Clemenceau born, 1841                              |
| 29 | S  | J. W. Palmer married, 1880, Covent Garden Church          |
| 30 | S  | Fiji Islands ceded. 1877                                  |



PALMER FIGHTING THE FORGERS.

## THE QUEEN

Saw her eightieth birthday last May, and, with every year, the noble life grows more wonderful. Apart from the eloquent fact that such years must be interesting in any fellow-creature, with the Sovereign under whose sway most of us have grown up, the fact of prolonged years, with keen faculties and high interests in splendid preservation, adds a charm to an existence which is among the glories of all history, and standing unique in the life of kings and queens and emperors and empresses.

## THE DEATH OF THE CZAREWITCH

Was a sad blow to the Russian Court, and the circumstances were peculiarly painful. The present occupant of the throne being without an heir, the question of succession to so great a heritage as the Crown of Russia is one of high moment, and therefore the death of so favourite a royal personage was intensely regretful.

## OCTOBER.

1	M	Introduction of 6d. Telegrams, 1885
2	Tu	Sir Stevenson Arthur Blackwood died, 1893
3	W	Postage Stamps first issued, Japan, 1871 [Memel, 1646
4	Th	German Government Post started between Cleves and
5	F	Prince Henry of Battenberg born, 1858
6	S	Right Hon. W. H. Smith died, 1891
7	S	Edgar Allan Poe died, 1847
8	M	Great Fire of Chicago, 1871
9	Tu	St. Denys
10	W	Oxford Mich. Term begins
11	Th	
12	F	Pekin taken, 1860
13	S	Palmer's system of mail coaches adopted, 1797
14	S	Fire Insurance expires.
15	M	Prince Alfred of Edinburgh born, 1874
16	Tu	Houses of Parliament burnt, 1834
17	W	L. Pocock died, 1882
18	Th	Lord Palmerston died, 1865
19	F	Henry Kirkè White died, 1806
20	S	Lord Palmerston born, 1784
21	S	Battle of Trafalgar, 1805
22	M	Edict of Nantes revoked, 1685
23	Tu	Postage Stamps first issued, Servia, 1866
24	W	Joseph William Palmer born, 1853
25	Th	Battle of Agincourt, 1415
26	F	Post-Office Prosecution, 1891
27	S	Sir G. Kneller died, 1723
28	S	New Royal Exchange opened, 1844
29	M	John Leech died, 1864
30	Tu	Gambetta born, 1838
31	W	All Hallows Eve

### THE HOSPITAL STAMP.

There's much to make us think in  
 Suggestions gather round; [stamps;  
 And minds may benefit with them  
 To earth's remotest bound.

But here's a pretty stamp which tells  
 Of charity benign—  
 Just as when clouds shall pass away,  
 The stars serenely shine.

The stamps in fancy take our feet  
 To wards so long and white.  
 Where sickness knows the darkened  
 And dreads the endless night; [hour

There human beings, penniless,  
 And all bereft of health,  
 Find strength anew, because the  
 Obtain increasing wealth. [stamps

All honour to the kindly Prince  
 Who thought of pretty stamps  
 For pain's great album in the light  
 Of Charity's good lamps.

Each stamp is surely an appeal  
 To aid a fallen brother,  
 And its cement should make us stick  
 More closely to each other.

## THE HOSPITALS

ARE always wanting help, and the last year or two, more has been forthcoming. It is a pleasant reflection that amid all the grand efforts made, it has been our good fortune to help, for the weakest voice may help the chorus. We fear we have wearied the public with constant references to the hospital stamps; but it must be remembered that many read and do not trouble about stamps, but will send orders and cheques which are welcome to the hospital treasurer. We are always glad to read of contributions to the hospital fund.

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## SIR JAMES VAUGHAN

WON a distinction among metropolitan magistrates by qualities of the highest value, and in his retirement carries the respect and warm appreciation of all. Many a luckless man and woman found a friend in the Good Quaker, in whom gentleness and mercy were points to temper justice.

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## BRIC-A-BRAC

COMPLETES its twenty-second year of publication in 1900, and, we believe, is the oldest of publications devoted to stamp-journalism, which has, of course, spread on every side the last few years. BRIC-A-BRAC, amid developing competition, has maintained its own, and gone *ahead*, the latter seemingly being the right thing to do in the case of a stamp-paper. We are always thankful to our supporters and our minds are sufficiently elastic to have room for all who find the pages of our monthly acceptable according to taste and temperament.

---

## THE VALUE OF A STAMP

GREATLY depends on the day of the week. Every day except Sunday you may look at a post-office with no great anxiety, but on the day when many people write a letter who never think of it at any other time, then it is generally found there is no stamp, and people search high and low to get one. At many taverns they keep a few stamps for customers, and we have known a friend go into several such houses and make a hole in a shilling before a Queen's head was handed over the counter for the letter which must go by the midnight post. But Palmer always has a stamp, so there is no need to run about on a Sunday.



## NOVEMBER.

1	Th	Stamped Pos. Letter-paper ( <i>carta postale bollata</i> ) issued
2	F	India proclaimed an Empire, '58 [by Sardinian Sts., '18
3	S	Mikado of Japan born, 1852
4	S	George Peabody died, 1869
5	M	Battle of Inkerman, 1854
6	Tu	Postage Stamps first issued, Gambia, 1869
7	W	Henry Fawcett, Postmaster-General, died, 1884
8	Th	John Milton died, 1674
9	F	Prince of Wales born, 1841
10	S	Royal Academy founded, 1768
11	S	Martinmas
12	M	J. S. O. D. Palmer born, 1887
13	Tu	Lord Rayleigh born, 1852
14	W	First appointment of Postmaster-General for England,
15	Th	William Pitt born, 1708 [1533
16	F	John Bright born, 1811
17	S	Suez Canal opened, 1869
18	S	Charles Heath died, 1848
19	M	Man in the iron mask died, 1703
20	Tu	Lesseps born, 1805
21	W	Empress Frederick of Germany born, 1840
22	Th	M. S. E. C. Palmer born, 1889
23	F	Post-Office prosecution, 1889
24	S	M. S. E. C. Palmer died, 1893
25	S	Postage Stamps first issued in Sarawak, 1866
26	M	Marshal Soult died, 1851
27	Tu	Earl of Selborne born, 1812
28	W	The <i>Times</i> first printed by steam, 1814
29	Th	First School Board Election, 1870
30	F	Cardinal Wolsey died, 1530

### In Memoriam.

In loving memory of Queenie, who died on November 24th, 1893, and of Jack, who died January 14th, 1894, infant son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Palmer.  
"To be remembered is not to die."

## CHRISTMAS

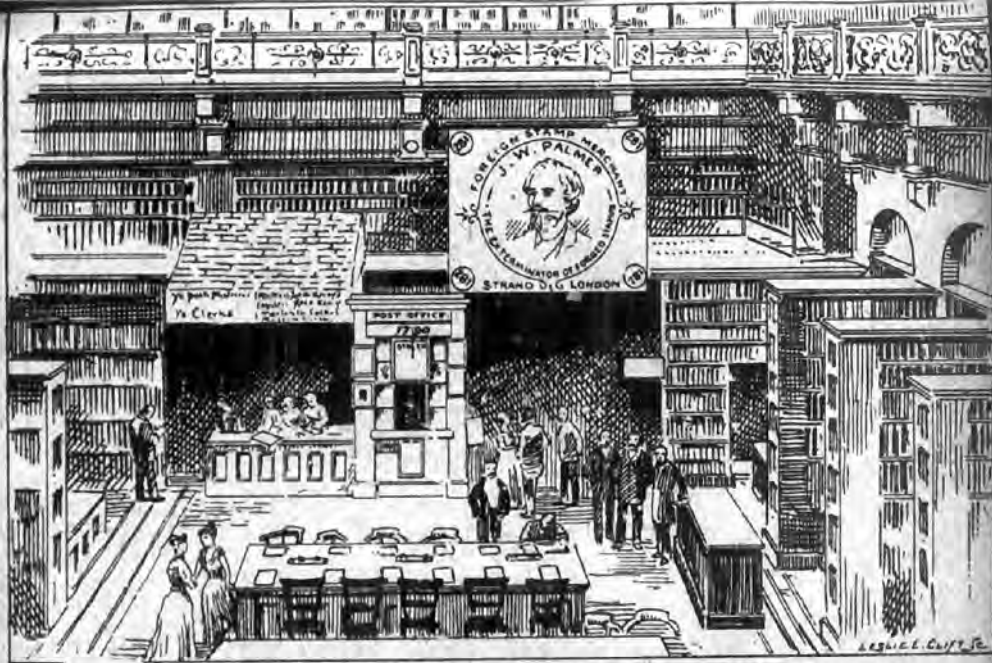
FINDS us in a new home, though close by the ancient spot, where year after year BRIC-A-BRAC and our Almanack went forth to please old patrons and secure new ones. The march of time bears us all along, and on the way changes must occur, some of which may be improvements, while others may be of less decided character. Anyway, whatever the past, in its shadow or its sunshine, when comes the magical period celebrating the birth of Christ, it is our bounden duty to cheer up, make the best of things, and utter wishes for brighter days, that may brighten hearts even if they never experience realisation. Christmas and stamps are inseparable, and it is a pleasing reflection to us engaged in the history, mystery, and industry to know that the great festival owes so much of its high glory and intense interest to the official pictures which carry gifts and graces the world over. There were times when Christmas knew nothing of stamps, and, without doubt, the 'tide time had its pleasures, even with the restrictions of limited intercourse. It may be said, with undeniable accuracy, that stamps are a comparatively modern addition to Christmas attractions, but, however modern, they have become part and parcel—parcel post we may say—of the holiday period, and as soon as autumn shadows gather round in all parts of civilisation, rise the thoughts of what must be done to increase the sweet sentiments of Christ's Natal Day, to give expression to its noble meanings to dignify the associations which bring us nearer together in heart, though oceans divide us. Christmas has given an activity to the stamp-world, only too well known to officialdom, and the least intelligent post-man could tell a story bound to interest. On all Christmas-trees some stamps should be present to adorn the festive boughs, and they should be of foreign lands and distant colonies as well as of home, to indicate how widespread is the influence of the little labels. The stamp is so accommodating in its way that it comes within scope of the lightest purse, or even no purse at all, and the poor widow can send her greeting to the son far over the sea, while the Queen upon the Throne must also use the stamp which sends the missive from the noble halls of her palace. So, though stamps are little folk, behold how powerful they are, and what they mean to all of us; for if by their simple, yet wonderful aid, the letters and packages could not come from those we may not see for years, or for ever, we should be in silence and with extra anxiety. So, with the Christmas toast we couple the stamps that increase the sweetness of the time.

## DECEMBER.

- 1 S Princess of Wales born, 1844
- 2 S Queen Adelaide died, 1849
- 3 M Rowland Hill born, at Kidderminster, 1795
- 4 Tu Richelieu died, 1642
- 5 W Postal Service organised at Nuremberg, 1570
- 6 Th Postage Stamps first issued in Zurich, 1840
- 7 F General Sir Redvers Buller born, 1839
- 8 S F. M. R. Palmer born, 1881
- 9 S Earl of Clarendon died, 1674
- 10 M Post-Office prosecution, 1890
- 11 Tu Archbishop Denison born, 1805
- 12 W Robert Browning died, 1889
- 13 Th Dr. Johnson died, 1784
- 14 F Postage Stamps first issued in Belgium, 1849
- 15 S Imperial Stamp of New Germany issued, 1871
- 16 S A. de Fourcroy died, 1843
- 17 M Oxford Mich. Term ends
- 18 Tu U.S. Slavery abolished, 1862
- 19 W
- 20 Th John Wilson Croker born, 1780
- 21 F *St. Thomas.*
- 22 S "George Eliot" died, 1880
- 23 S Samuel Parkes died, 1825
- 24 M Thackeray died, 1863
- 25 Tu *Christmas Day*
- 26 W
- 27 Th Postage Stamps first issued in Brazil, 1843
- 28 F Lord Macaulay died, 1859
- 29 S W. E. Gladstone born, 1809
- 30 S Postage Stamps first issued in Naples, 1858
- 31 M Gambetta died, 1882

### IT COSTS YOU NOTHING.

WHAT costs you nothing? The question is natural. The reply shall be equally natural. Therefore, please listen. It costs you nothing to consult J. W. Palmer on all and every stamp question. He has made it a rule of life—an axiom of business—never to charge a penny for advice. His knowledge is proverbial; he knows how many stand in need of it, and his determination has always been to guide, enlighten, and benefit without asking one penny as a fee. You cannot end the year better than remember the lesson, "It costs you nothing."



PENNY POST JUBILEE CELEBRATION AT THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM,  
JULY 2, 1890, REPRESENTING THE POST OFFICE IN 1790—1890.

## J. W. PALMER'S LIST OF USED AND UNUSED FOREIGN AND COLONIAL STAMPS.

IN PARCELS (Thirty-fourth Series). Every Stamp warranted Genuine

Postage abroad charged extra according to rates

**NO PARCELS FORWARDED UNLESS A REMITTANCE IS SENT WITH THE ORDER.**

		£	s.	d.
No. 1—	50 varieties, all different, of used Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	0
No. 2—	40 varieties, all different, of used Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	0
No. 3—	60 varieties, all different, of used Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	0
No. 4—	20 varieties, all different, of British Colonial Stamps ..	Price	0	0
No. 5—	100 varieties, all different, of used Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	1
No. 6—	150 varieties, all different, of used and unused Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	1
No. 7—	200 varieties, all different, of used and unused Foreign Stamps ..	Price	0	2
No. 8—	500 varieties, all different, of used and unused Foreign Stamps ..	Price	1	10
No. 9—	500 Stamps, Foreign, &c (some rare) ..	Price	0	3
No. 10—	1000 Foreign Stamps (if sent by post, 10d) ..	Price	0	0
No. 11—	50 varieties, all different (including a three-cornered Cape of Good Hope) ..	Price	0	1
No. 12—	50 varieties, all different, no Europeans.—A good parcel for foreign collectors, with many scarce and good stamps in it ..	Pr	0	5
No. 13—	100 varieties, all different, no Europeans.—Amongst them many rare stamps ..	Price	0	5
No. 14—	125 varieties, all different, no Europeans.—A good parcel for advanced collectors ..	Price	0	5
No. 15—	250 varieties, all different.—The Schoolboy's Friend ..	Price	0	5
No. 16—	500 varieties, all different.—A capital assortment ..	Price	0	10
No. 17—	500 varieties, all different.—Gives splendid value ..	Price	1	1
No. 18—	350 varieties, all different.—Very useful for medium collections ..	Price	0	10
No. 19—	425 varieties, all different.—A fair proportion of good stamps ..	Price	0	7
No. 20—	500 varieties, all different.—The cheapest parcel in the trade ..	Price	0	6
No. 21—	500 varieties, all different.—A perfect wonder ..	Price	0	7
No. 22—	600 varieties, all different.—Contains many good and scarce stamps ..	Price	0	18
No. 23—	400 varieties, all different.—A fine present for a beginner ..	Price	0	10
No. 24—	300 varieties, all different.—Another very cheap parcel ..	Price	0	4
No. 25—	1000 English Stamps ..	Price	0	0
No. 26—	1000 English Stamps ..	Price	0	1
No. 27—	50,000 English Stamps ..	Price	0	17
No. 28—	100,000 English Stamps ..	Price	2	0

**SPECIAL** Parcels carefully selected from Old Collections.

Always on hand, Price from 5s. to £10.

**POSTAGE.**—Collectors are informed that in ordering stamps to be sent by post, extra fees should be sent to defray the expense of carriage.

50 to 250 .. 1d. | 250 to 500 .. 1½d. | 500 to 1000 .. 3d

These rates apply only to England. If packets are to be sent abroad, the foreign postage is at the rate of 3d. per 100. In the event of customers desiring to register the packets, the Post Office fee is 2d. extra.

**W. WILFRED HEAD & Co., Limited, Printers, Fleet Lane, E.C**

PRICE 1d., BY POST 1½d.

## THE TALKING STAMP.

---

PALMER'S CHRISTMAS ANNUAL FOR 1891.

## SHADOWS ON THE WALL.

---

PRICE 1d. BY POST 1½d.

## MUSICAL ALBUM.

Containing the Philatelic Polka, the Postage-Stamp Waltz, the Collector's Quadrille. Composed by FRANCES MARY PALMER.  
Published at 6s., post free 3s. 2d.

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*A GOOD SONG FOR THE DRAWING-ROOM.*

## The Stamp Collector's Song.

Written and Composed by FRANCES MARY PALMER.  
Published at 3s., post free 7d.

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## NURSERY RHYMES REVISED.

By J. W. PALMER. Price One Penny, by post 1½d.

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## A Pamphlet for the People, Catch-Penny.

Price 1d., by post 1½d.

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Price 3s. 6d., post free. A Book for Collectors and Connoisseurs.

## BRIC-A-BRAC.

A Collection of curiosities, old and new, and various articles from several sources.

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**Topsy-Turvy.** Price 1d., by post 1½d.

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"Reasonable and reasonable"

"A dainty little production."—See *Press Notices*

Price 1d., by post 1½d.

**The Spirit of Christmas; or  
Rhyme and Reason for the Festive Season.**

## WHAT WE WANT TO SEE.

---

DREYFUS free with all honours, and France thereby re-established in the good opinion of the world.

---

Our authorities not to allow right sized blocks of stamps to be used. They must inflict loss on the Revenue. Mr. Palmer has always advocated blocks that could not be mis-used.

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The Government to sell used telegraph stamps, and to give the profits to the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund.

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The farthing post for papers in town and suburbs

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The halfpenny card for the halfpenny.

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Ocean penny postage all over the world.

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Our agitation for farthing post within limits; the half penny postcard and the ocean penny postage to be successful.

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All friends to continue their favours to Palmer's Stamp Emporium 7, Catherine Street, Strand, London.