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And Stamp-Collector's Vade-Mecum,

FOR THE YEAR

1904.



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The Rosary, West Hoathly, Sussex.

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No. 14—	150 varieties, all different, no photographs—A good parcel for advanced collectors	Price 0 6 0
No. 15—	300 varieties, all different—The Sabbath's Day's Friend	Price 0 5 0
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No. 18—	625 varieties, all different—Very useful for medium collections	Price 0 10 0
No. 19—	300 varieties, all different—The cheapest parcel in the trade	Price 0 7 0
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No. 26—	1000 English Stamps	Price 0 1 0
No. 27—	50,000 English Stamps	Price 0 12 0
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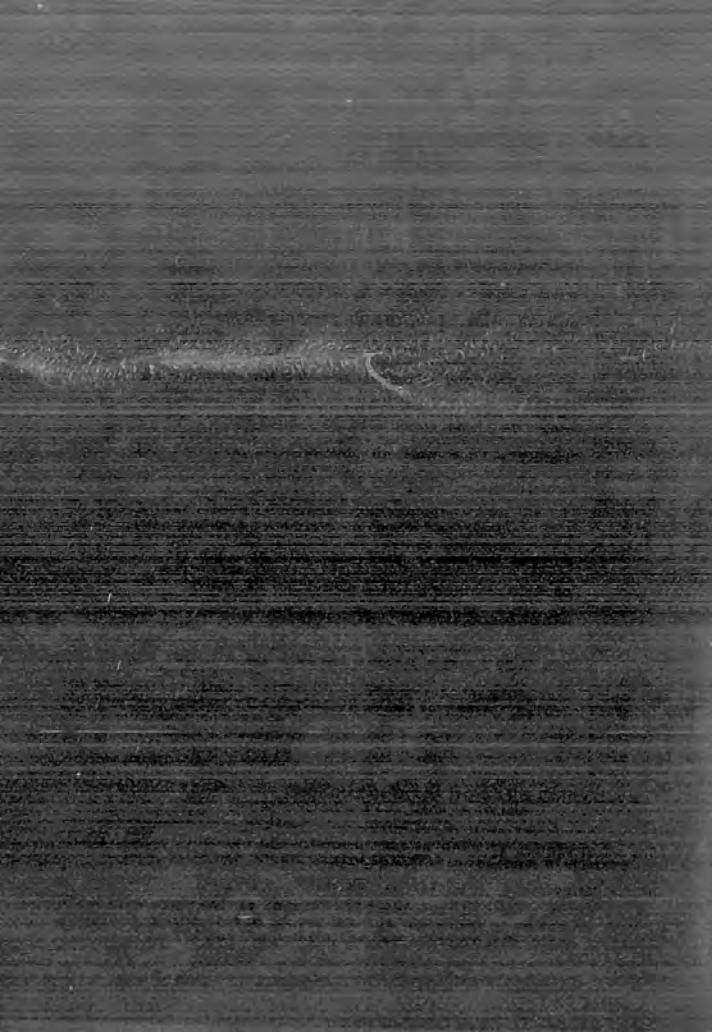
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THE JUBILEE OF J. W. PALMER.

THE month of October, 1903, marks the jubilee of J. W. Palmer, whose birth took place October 21, 1853. In the period thus covered the reputation built up stands unique, and presents endless features of interest. A conversation with Mr. Palmer in regard to the origin, growth, expansion, development of the stamp trade is a liberal education, and gives one a thousand new lights on this most interesting pursuit. As Mr. Palmer asserts, now the whole work of stamp dealing and collecting has become a science, the old conditions have disappeared, system has asserted itself, thought is apparent, and the great study of stamps is a modern thing of importance, known only to those who are in intimate association with it.

We hear sometimes that a man is born in a business or profession, by which assertion it is indicated that the person thus described was, even in early boyhood, a graduate in the industry. It may be stated, with strictest truth, that Mr. W. J. Palmer was born in the stamp business, and this will be thoroughly apparent in giving attention to the many revelations he can make. Without departing from truth, the reader will understand our position when we say that Mr. Palmer was but seven years of age when he commenced the commercial side of the stamp art in Catherine Street, Strand, London. Year after year he returned to the same street, but had to leave it owing to the metropolitan improvements, which have completely revolutionized that part of London. No mere article can possibly do justice to a life of so much variety as Mr. Palmer's, which has embraced a world of thought and industry.

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Brewford 1626(8)

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JANUARY.

- 1 F Issue of New English Stamps, 1880
- 2 S Union of Great Britain and Ireland, 1801
- 3 S Gretna Green Marriages abolished
- 4 M Est. of P.O. by Act to settle the Postage of Eng., Scot.,
- 5 Tu Edward the Confessor died, 1066 [and Ireland, '56
- 6 W T. A. Neale died, 1892
- 7 Th Lord Kimberley born, 1826
- 8 F Victor Emmanuel died, 1878
- 9 S Fire Insurance expires
- 10 S Introduction of the Penny Post, 1840
- 11 M
- 12 Tu Earl Iddesleigh died, 1887
- 13 W George Fox died, 1690
- 14 Th J. S. O. D. Palmer died, 1894
- 15 F *Bric-à-Brac* first issued, 1878
- 16 S Battle of Corunna, 1809
- 17 S Battle of Abu Klea, 1885
- 18 M German Empire proclaimed, 1871
- 19 Tu Isaac Disraeli died, 1848
- 20 W Mersey Tunnel opened, 1886
- 21 Th Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793
- 22 F Queen Victoria died, 1901
- 23 S William Pitt died, 1806
- 24 S C. J. Fox born, 1749
- 25 M Dr. John Doran died, 1878
- 26 Tu Death of General Gordon, 1884
- 27 W German Emperor William II. born, 1859
- 28 Th Battle of Aliwal, 1846
- 29 F George III. died, 1820
- 30 S Charles I. executed, 1649
- 31 S Est. of a Metro. Penny Post by William Dockwra, 1680

THE PALMER MUSEUM,

REMOVED TO

THE ROSERY, WEST HOATHLY

But not Open to the Public.

the famous Mare Street being the exact locality. The interesting occurrence of 1853 gave to us a boy who was to become so prominent in connection with stamps that for years he was absolutely the chief referee for all questions affecting them.

It was a part of the Palmerian philosophy, endorsed by his excellent father, Samuel Palmer, of the *Times* index. This gentleman gave attention to stamps, and was one of the first to become a dealer and collector. From the father, who was distinguished for his culture, literary taste, and business capacity, the boy undoubtedly inherited the many points which have added a growing interest to the life. London knew its Palmer, the stamp man, as one of its characters, for folks from all quarters sought J. W. Palmer in his Strand home and in Catherine Street close by, to consult him, deal with him, and have the benefit of his valuable advice.

A leading feature in Mr. Palmer's enterprise was journalistic work, as he saw that the publicity thus ensured would be of great use to his readers and himself. It is no idle assertion that he was the pioneer in stamp journalism, for twenty-five years ago he started *Bric à Brac*, which from that day to this has been a source of enlightenment and the utmost utility to thousands throughout the world. Collectors have cause to thank the enterprise of Mr. Palmer in journalism, though his work did not stop there, as *The Philatelist's Almanack* followed, and for twelve years has been welcomed in all parts of the world. These publications constitute a history of Mr. Palmer's enterprise, and though greatly valued from their commencement, they will fetch fancy prices in years to come.

One point in looking over the many pages of these publications strikes the reader very frequently, and that is the incessant fight for the purity in stamp dealings,

FEBRUARY.

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

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.

for none knew as the editor of *Misc-à-Brac* the thousand tricks for ever in activity to defraud the unwary. A special study with Mr. Palmer was that of forgeries and reprints, and these he has investigated in tens of thousands of cases. No one could imagine that forgeries and reprints were so numerous, and fraud so easy, who was destitute of the abundant information obtainable from the Palmer publications.

A great victory for this famous philatelist was the passing of the special Act of Parliament to protect stamp-collectors from reprints and forgeries, and the use of this Parliamentary reform has been evident year by year, and to-day is a monument of its originator's intelligent activities.

After so many years to the front in London, and being sought from princes to peasants, Mr. Palmer left London, and conducts some work still at his pleasant residence, The Rosery, West Hoathly, Sussex. His long career created a connection which has its strength to this day, and it is interesting to know that old clients in the most remote corners of the earth still will take only the decision of Mr. Palmer, whose long studies resulted in an accumulation of special knowledge bearing on stamps from the commonest to the most rare.

This 1903, then, marks his natural jubilee, and countless friends will join in world-wide congratulations over an event unique in stamp annals.

CHEAP STAMPS.—The reason we sell cheaply is we have no rent to pay; we buy for cash and sell for cash, with small profits and quick returns. Opinion is given, as before, gratis, and we only ask you to send sufficient to pay postage.

MARCH.

1	Tu	
2	W	Pope Leo born, 1810
3	Th	Sir J. F. Stephen born, 1839
4	F	
5	S	Thames Tunnel opened, 1845
6	S	Artemus Ward died, 1867
7	M	First Prayer Book issued, 1549
8	Tu	Postage Stamps introduced into Germany, 1850
9	W	German Emperor William I. died, 1888
10	Th	H.M. the King married, 1863
11	F	Benjamin West died, 1820
12	S	Bank issued £1 notes, 1797. £5 Bank of Eng. notes first
13	S	Discovery of Uranus by Herschel, 1781 [issued, 1793
14	M	King Humbert born, 1844
15	Tu	Viscount Melbourne born, 1779
16	W	Queen Victoria created Empress of India, 1876
17	Th	St. Patrick's Day
18	F	Communist insurrection, Paris, 1871
19	S	Lucknow taken, 1858
20	S	Sinking Fund established, 1786
21	M	Warning issued by J. W. Palmer, '88, to colls. concern-
22	Tu	Albert Way died, 1874 [ing Laureated Head, N.S.W.
23	W	National Gallery opened, 1824
24	Th	H. W. Longfellow died, 1882
25	F	
26	S	Duke of Cambridge born, 1819
27	S	Postage Stamps first issued Ionian Isles, 1857
28	M	Duke of Albany died, 1884
29	Tu	Albert Hall opened, 1871
30	W	Don Carlos born, 1848
31	Th	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.

OVER THE STAMP ALBUM.

WHAT a world is here before me,
 What a spell these stamps have o'er me,
 Works of art with so much meaning—
 What a lot the mind is gleaning.
 Stamps from all the lands collected,
 Here are studiously inspected.
 Romances of modern ages
 Are apparent on these pages.
 Stamps, as man, are many-sided,
 Points so different provided—
 Common-place or full of glories,
 All with very varied stories.
 Cash thus spent cannot be wasteful,
 Much so beautifully tasteful.
 Hold we here the pages turning,
 Widest mankind all concerning.
 Hours o'er my friends thus spending,
 Interest for me without ending.

THE KING AND QUEEN.

WITHOUT question, the sovereigns of our endless empire have made a deep impression on their people, and the Royal desire is to cultivate good feeling right round the world. The tact and wisdom of our King and Queen must be acknowledged on all hands, and the example of Queen Victoria is a potent factor in the new rule.

APRIL.

- | | | |
|----|----|--|
| 1 | F | Prince Bismarck born, 1815 |
| 2 | S | Cobden died, 1865 |
| 3 | S | |
| 4 | M | F. M. Palmer born, 1860 |
| 5 | Tu | Postage Stamps first issued Paraguay, 1870 |
| 6 | W | |
| 7 | Th | Denis F. MacCarthy died, 1882 |
| 8 | F | Lord Chatham died, 1778 |
| 9 | S | |
| 10 | S | Gen. Booth b., 1829 [of Stamps to the British Museum |
| 11 | M | T. K. Tapling, M.P., d., 1891, bequeathed his Collection |
| 12 | Tu | Lord Rodney's victory, 1782 |
| 13 | W | |
| 14 | Th | Princess Henry of Battenberg born, 1857 |
| 15 | F | |
| 16 | S | Battle of Culloden, 1746 |
| 17 | S | Magalhaens killed, 1521 |
| 18 | M | |
| 19 | Tu | Primrose Day. Lord Beaconsfield died, 1881 |
| 20 | W | Postage Stamps first issued Costa Rica, 1862 |
| 21 | Th | Baroness Burdett-Coutts born, 1814 |
| 22 | F | Petition against Forged Stamps prep. by Palmer, 1864 |
| 23 | S | Shakespeare died, 1616 |
| 24 | S | Daniel Defoe died, 1731 |
| 25 | M | First English Prince of Wales born, 1284 |
| 26 | Tu | Jeremy Collier died, 1726 |
| 27 | W | |
| 28 | Th | Mutiny of the "Bounty," 1789 |
| 29 | F | Postage Stamps first issued Lagos (Gold Coast), 1874 |
| 30 | S | 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 helms 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 counsellors 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, as the early flowers of spring appear,
 D edicates the Primrose, because he held it dear.—J. W. P.

SANDWICH MEN.

"REYNOLDS," the journal of strength,
 Thinks of the hungry man.
 Thomson, the editor, says,
 "Feeding" is just the plan.
 So he appeals to all,
 For "brothers of the board,"
 Send us something for "Sandwiches,"
 What you can afford.
 Then at the Christmas-tide,
 Come hungry men, every side,
 And there's humanising power
 In the beautiful bounteous hour.
 Readers wherever you live,
 To the Sandwich dinner give.

FIRST TRANSACTIONS.

UPON first transactions new customers are requested to leave a cash deposit of 5s. if cheap sheets are required, and 40s. in the case of the rarer specimens.

While most anxious to oblige young collectors, we regret to announce that, in consequence of many recent losses, we must emphatically decline to send out sheets of stamps for selection unless the request is countersigned by a principal, tutor, master, or other responsible person.

Sheets sent out on approval have been returned in one or two instances with forged stamps substituted for the genuine specimens. We intend in future to take legal proceeding against such offenders.

In forwarding Albums and Specimens, correspondents are requested to send stamps to cover return postage, including Registration Fee. No letter will receive a reply unless stamped addressed envelope is enclosed.

MAY.

1	S	Issue of the Mulready envelope, 1840
2	M	Thames Embankment opened, 1868
3	Tu	Jamaica discovered, 1494
4	W	Local Letter Post established in Vienna, 1772
5	Th	Ex-Empress Eugenie born, 1826
6	F	Postage Stamps first issued, 1840
7	S	Robert Browning born, 1812
8	S	Monarchy restored, 1660
9	M	Mr. Wallace, M.P., moved for Sel. Com. to inquire into
10	Tu	Crystal Pal. op., '54 [the merits of Rld. Hill's scheme, '37
11	W	Petition against forged stamps prep. by J.W. Palmer, '84
12	Th	Sir Charles Barry died, 1860
13	F	Suicide of King of Bavaria, 1886
14	S	
15	S	German Emperor Frederick died, 1888
16	M	Penny Postage Jubilee Celebration at Guildhall, '90;
17	Tu	Revised New Testament issued, 1881 [issue of Jubilee
18	W	New Eddystone Lighthouse opened, 1882 [post-card
19	Th	W. E. Gladstone died, 1898
20	F	Postage Stamps adopted by the Sandwich Islands, 1851
21	S	Lord Playfair born, 1819
22	S	Grisi born, 1812
23	M	Henry Fawcett born at Salisbury, 1833
24	Tu	Queen Victoria born, 1819
25	W	Princess Helena born, 1846
26	Th	Tuileries destroyed, 1871
27	F	Repeal of Corn Laws, 1856
28	S	General Grant died, 1885
29	S	Empress Josephine died, 1814
30	M	Alexander Pope died, 1744 [Archer, 1852
31	Tu	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.

THE OLD YEAR.

WEARY and worn after travel long,
 Approaches the old, old year.
 The moment is nigh,
 'Neath the midnight sky,
 For his face to disappear.
 He had his story to tell,
 He had his song to sing;
 Memories he has given us
 To which the heart will cling.
 Just a word of farewell to him,
 A final shake of hand.
 And he is gone beyond the gaze,
 Into the silent land.

THE YEAR THAT IS NEW.

FRESH as the dew at early morn,
 As it glistens on beauteous flower
 Comes the New Year, all so fair,
 And its beauty we all would share.
 Miracles may well be wrought
 All in action and in thought,
 Raising hopes which brightly gild.
 As the spirit anew is filled.
 Shine forth, young year, and make us glad
 Forgetting the sorrows that we have had.
 Make our joys for ever the more,
 Kindly, genial 1904.

JUNE.

1	W	Charles Lever died, 1872
2	Th	Garibaldi died, 1882
3	F	Prince of Wales born, 1865
4	S	Lord Wolseley born, 1833
5	S	St. Boniface
6	M	Cyprus Stamp issued
7	Tu	Postage Stamps first issued, Roman States, 1852
8	W	Sir John Millais born, 1829
9	Th	Charles Dickens died, 1870
10	F	P. O. robbery of Telegraph Stamps discovered, 1890
11	S	Money Market panic, 1866
12	S	Rev. Charles Kingsley born, 1819
13	M	Kensington Museum opened, 1857
14	Tu	Battle of Marengo, 1800
15	W	Wat Tyler killed, 1381
16	Th	Battle of Quatre Bras, 1815
17	F	Postage Stamps first issued, Tasmania, 1853
18	S	Battle of Waterloo, 1815
19	S	French postal system founded by Louis XI., 1464
20	M	J. A. Palmer died, 1893
21	Tu	Longest day
22	W	Great fire in Tooley Street, 1861
23	Th	Clive's victory at Plassey. 1757
24	F	Midsummer Day
25	S	Right Hon. H. Childers born, 1827
26	S	George IV. died, 1830
27	M	First meeting of the Postal Union Congress held in
28	Tu	Sir H. Lawrence born, 1806 [Paris, 1863
29	W	Lord Raglan died, 1855
30	Th	Opening of the Tower Bridge, 1894

THE MUSEUM

Of Seventy Thousand Reprints and Forgeries has been removed to West Hoathly, and though it is not on public view, arrangements may be carried out whereby this unique and celebrated collection may be inspected by those wishing to study so novel an exhibition. *But it must be respectfully understood that it is not now on public view.*

AUTUMN AT WEST HOATHLY.

AUTUMN ever seems to me
 To be in a deepening thought,
 Changes in the wandering year
 All so marvellously wrought.
 Let me linger in this scene.
 Birds around me are a throng,
 And the robin is a friend
 With a very welcome song.
 All around the Rosery
 Woods betoken many a change,
 Nature's mood is soft, serene,
 Beauties varied—ever strange.
 Summer's book is closed for me,
 But the autumn has a theme
 To enthrall in many ways,
 As the earth is in a dream.
 Flowers still adorn the world,
 Autumn has its tranquil pride,
 And entices wandering feet,
 All along the country side.
 Here is quite an old-world air,
 And the peace is perfect, pure—
 Everything hath looks of calm,
 Sweetness that must still endure.

THE SERVIAN ASSASSINATION

GAVE Europe a thrill beyond expression. In civilised lands such an outrage constituted a precedent, and evinced a deep conspiracy involving many persons. Such wholesale slaughter called for severer condemnation than has yet visited those whose hands were responsible for deeds which will everlastingly stain Servian history.

JULY.

1	F	20 cent. French Stamp suppressed, 1830
2	S	Penny Postage Jubilee Celebration at S. Kensington, '90
3	S	Battle of Sadowa, 1866
4	M	Declaration of American Independence, 1776
5	Tu	Lord Gifford born, 1849
6	W	Samuel Lover died, 1868
7	Th	John Huss burnt, 1415
8	F	Shelley drowned, 1822
9	S	Fire Insurance expires
10	S	Abolition of Members of Parliament's privilege of
11	M	Alexandria bombarded, 1882 [franking letters, 1840]
12	Tu	Crimea evacuated, 1856
13	W	Voting by Ballot instituted, 1872
14	Th	Bastille stormed, 1789
15	F	<i>St. Swithin</i>
16	S	Béranger died, 1857
17	S	Issue of American Five Dollar Stamp, 1862
18	M	Dean Stanley died, 1881
19	Tu	Bishop Wilberforce died, 1879
20	W	Lord Westbury died, 1873
21	Th	Robert Burns died, 1796
22	F	Issue of 15 cent. French Stamp (green), 1850
23	S	Duke of Devonshire born, 1833
24	S	Window Tax abolished, 1851
25	M	Great Fire at Baltimore, 1873
26	Tu	Metropolitan Penny Post established, 1883
27	W	Bank of England founded, 1694
28	Th	Armada dispersed, 1588
29	F	Seaham Harbour opened, 1835
30	S	General Post Office opened in St. Martin's-le-Grand, '29
31	S	J. G. D. F. J. Palmer born, 1897

FORGERS.

The Bend 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 that J. W. Palmer is always defeating his pretty little plans.

THE EDITOR'S JUBILEE.

October 24, 1853—October 24, 1903.

Let's celebrate the natal day,
 And do it in a proper way,
 For Palmer's reached his Jubilee,
 Hurrah! Hurrah! J. W. P.

What a day for one to think;
 Mem'ries rise as others sink;
 As he on the hill-top stands,
 What a world his mind commands.

As our Editor has friends
 To the earth's remotest ends,
 Over land and over sea
 Good luck to his Jubilee.

Industry in his career
 Made valuable points appear,
 Thus is cause for friendly glee
 On our Joseph's Jubilee.

May the birth-day start anew
 'Mid congratulations true,
 And prolonged the joyance be
 Of this splendid Jubilee.

AUGUST

1	M	Issue of Austrian Postal Union Card (5 kr.), 1880
2	Tu	Captain Marryat died, 1848
3	W	Vicount Peel born, 1829
4	Th	Adhesive Postage Stamp first invd. by James Chalmers,
5	F	Queen of Saxony born, 1833 [of Dundee, '34
6	S	Duke of Edinburgh born, 1844
7	S	New French Issues
8	M	George Canning died, 1827
9	Tu	Coronation of King Edward VII. and Queen Alexandra
10	W	George J. Goschen born, 1831 [Postage Stamps first
11	Th	Dog Days end [issued Roumania, '62
12	F	M. A. M. Palmer born, 1885
13	S	<i>Old Lammas Day</i>
14	S	Local Government Act passed, 1871
15	M	Sir Walter Scott born, 1771
16	Tu	Gas introduced in London, 1807
17	W	Rowld. Hill scheme adopted by House of Commons by a
18	Th	Emperor of Austria born, 1830 [majority of 100, '39
19	F	Balzac died, 1850
20	S	Abergele Railway accident, 1868
21	S	Battle of Vimiera, 1808
22	M	King Richard III. killed, 1485
23	Tu	Sir Astley Cooper born, 1768
24	W	Massacre of Huguenots, 1572
25	Th	Postage Stamps first issued, Egypt, 1865
26	F	Battle of Cressy, 1346. Samuel Palmer died 1899
27	S	Rowland Hill died, 1879
28	S	St. Augustine
29	M	Foundering of the "Royal George," 1782
30	Tu	Battle of Plevna, 1877
31	W	Postal Treaty of Berne came into operation, 1874

POSTAL REFORM

MAY still include 4d. post for newspapers in London and suburbs and it will be well when the halfpenny post card can be obtained for that price.

PICTURE POST CARDS have gained in popularity and are being collected. Some are real works of art. They make postal work more picturesque.

THE GOVERNMENT STAMP CASE.

DURING 1903 few cases attracted more attention than the Somerset House stamp scandal, which, after careful investigation, resulted in the condemnation of Walter John Richards and Anthony Buck Creeke. The revelations in the case were, indeed, such to the general public though, of course, those in the higher circles of stamp-dealing were not at all astonished, as such Government stamps have been offered from time to time. The means of sale added to the temptations of officials, though this is no argument for purloining national property. The condemned men have time for reflection, and their loss of reputation will terribly affect prisoners, who knew the real luxuries of life.

The case recalls the famous Gloucester affair in which Mr. J. W. Palmer was engaged as Government witness, his expert knowledge being of supreme value.

The case occurred in 1891, and concerned Mr. Alfred Warner Webb, a young and well-known citizen of Gloucester, who was a clerk in the office of the surveyor of taxes in that city.

Mr. Palmer's evidence was as follows:—"I am a stamp merchant of 281, Strand. I am accustomed to advertise in *The Exchange and Mart*. The November 17, 1890 number contained one of my advertisements (produced). Shortly before November 19, I received a letter from Mr. Warner Webb, which I have not been able to find. The piece of paper produced accompanied the letter. It had written on it. "Reply 3d. each cash," and annexed to it were penny and half-penny stamps with "I. R. Official" on them. Shortly afterwards, I received the letter produced, dated November 19, 1890, signed,

SEPTEMBER.

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

THE FIRST CASE.

THE Seventh—Palmer's—Clause of the New Post Office Protection Act came into force September, 1884. In October there was a Post Office prosecution for "feloniously forging and counterfeiting a die and plate and stamp." The prisoner was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment. Mr. Osborne, the solicitor to the Post Office department, stated that this was the first case of the kind "that has ever occurred." He should have said that it was the first case that has ever been brought to book by the authorities. We dare hope it will not be the last.

"A. W. Webb," stating that he enclosed 48 stamps at 3d. each, and stating that he had more. I then communicated with the Post Office authorities. I wrote a letter offering 4d. each. On November 26, I received a letter from prisoner stating that he was much obliged for the P.O. and offering blocks of stamps. The stamps for which I paid 12s. 6d. are produced, and were all over-marked "I. R. Official." On November 27, I wrote offering to take a sheet of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, at 5d. each if complete sheets. In reply, I received a letter, dated November 28, enclosing two sheets, 40 in a sheet, all over-printed. I sent a cheque for £7 in payment on 29th and this was afterwards returned through the bank. I received a postcard acknowledging the receipt of the cheque.

At the Easter Quarter Sessions, Webb was acquitted by the jury.

FREE HOME FOR THE DYING.

CAPTAIN PORTLOCK-DADSON makes an appeal on behalf of the Nelson bed in the Free Home for the Dying at Clapham. "During the past five years," he says, "it has proved a real haven of rest to many, and is constantly in request. To support it £50 a year is required. It is the only Free Home for the Dying requiring neither letters nor payments, and is open to all countries and creeds." Those desiring to contribute are requested to send their subscriptions to the secretary of the institution, 29, North Side, Clapham Common.—*Morning Post*.

[Such an institution deserves every support, and we ask readers to kindly contribute.]

OCTOBER.

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

THE HOSPITAL STAMP.

There's much to make us think in
 Suggestions gather round; {stamps;
 And minds may enet 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, penitless,
 And all bereft of health,
 Find strength anew, because the
 Obtain increasing wealth. {stamps
 All honour to the kindly King
 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 LATE LORD SALISBURY.

A MIGHTY Statesman, staunch as steel,
 Firm was he at the Empire's wheel,
 Seeing the points of governing powers,
 Watching for us, through so many hours.
 Aiding in days when things were so dark.
 At critical moments he made his mark.
 Anglo-Saxon in every way,
 True to the Queen and her spreading sway.
 Now he rests, as she rests, too,
 And the beautiful sleep is the Statesman's due.

THE PRESS.

It is an unalloyed pleasure, every year, to convey thanks to the Press for favours which are neither few nor far between. The Editor has ever been thoroughly appreciative of that ceaselessly generous motive and sympathy which have moved so many pens to assist him in making known the many ideas connected with the industry and journalism of stamps which have engrossed attention so deeply. The year 1902 has been no exception to the rule. Thanks to our Press agents and editors sending their journals directly, BRIC-A-BRAC is quite conscious of the large co-operation afforded by the recognition of countless offices round the world. Each week from every quarter, the frigid zone, the tropical lands, the world of London, the counties of Britain, the Colonial brethren, in fact, the gigantic brotherhood of the Press, near and far, the support given merits every expression of gratitude. There is no doubt that our excellent editorial and other Press friends—for friends they are, indeed—will lend us their powerful organisation of publicity to tell our people universally that The Rosery, West Hoathly, Sussex, is the address that will find the editor and staff, and that every communication will obtain the prompt and courteous consideration that our clients always have.

NOVEMBER.

- | | | |
|----|----|---|
| 1 | Tu | Stamped Pos. Letter-paper (<i>carta postale bollata</i>) issued |
| 2 | W | India proclaimed an Empire. '58 [by Sardinian Sts., '18 |
| 3 | Th | Mikado of Japan born, 1852 |
| 4 | F | George Peabody died, 1869 |
| 5 | S | Battle of Inkerman, 1854 |
| 6 | S | Postage Stamps first issued, Gambia, 1869 |
| 7 | M | Henry Fawcett, Postmaster-General, died, 1884 |
| 8 | Tu | John Milton died, 1674 |
| 9 | W | H.M. the King born, 1841 |
| 10 | Th | Royal Academy founded, 1768 |
| 11 | F | Martinmas |
| 12 | S | J. S. O. D. Palmer born, 1887 |
| 13 | S | Lord Rayleigh born, 1852 |
| 14 | M | First appointment of Postmaster-General for England, |
| 15 | Tu | William Pitt born, 1708 [1533 |
| 16 | W | John Bright born, 1811 |
| 17 | Th | Suez Canal opened, 1869 |
| 18 | F | Charles Heath died, 1848 |
| 19 | S | Man in the iron mask died, 1703 |
| 20 | S | Lesseps born, 1805 |
| 21 | M | Empress Frederick of Germany born, 1840 |
| 22 | Tu | M. S. E. C. Palmer born, 1889 |
| 23 | W | Post-Office prosecution, 1889 |
| 24 | Th | M. S. E. C. Palmer died, 1893 |
| 25 | F | Postage Stamps first issued in Sarawak, 1866 |
| 26 | S | Marshal Soult died, 1851 |
| 27 | S | Earl of Selborne born, 1812 |
| 28 | M | The <i>Times</i> first printed by steam, 1814 |
| 29 | Tu | J. D. F. G. J. Palmer born, 1901 |
| 30 | W | 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."

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN.

A FINE medal of this famous statesman has been sent to us by Mr. Restall, of Birmingham. The likeness is excellent, and will prove welcome to the friends of a gentleman who has certainly won a high distinction in the most Imperial sense. This medal is a souvenir of the South African tour which was a new departure in more senses than one.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

It may be of interest to people who are engaged in collecting a million stamps to know that Mr. J. W. Palmer is prepared to purchase them at the rate of from 20s. to £10 per million, according to variety and condition, but he wishes it to be generally understood that he cannot undertake to purchase the common varieties of English stamps in any lesser quantities than 50,000, and all such parcels must be sent carriage paid.

AUCTIONS

Do not always realise the best prices, and clients should remember this solid assertion. In looking over prices realised, the expert sees that frequently more would be given by disposal independent of auctions. It is always well to submit property to the expert, and all may know that Mr. J. W. Palmer, of West Hoathly, will ensure the best and promptest payment.

DECEMBER.

- 1 Th H.M. the Queen born, 1844
- 2 F Queen Adelaide died, 1849
- 3 S Rowland Hill born, at Kidderminster, 1795
- 4 S Richelieu died, 1642
- 5 M Postal Service organised at Nuremberg, 1570
- 6 Tu Postage Stamps first issued in Zurich, 1840
- 7 W General Sir Redvers Buller born, 1839
- 8 Th F. M. R. Palmer born, 1881 (now Mrs. Hiscock)
- 9 F Earl of Clarendon died, 1674
- 10 S Post-Office prosecution, 1890
- 11 S Archbishop Denison born, 1805
- 12 M Robert Browning died, 1889
- 13 Tu Dr. Johnson died, 1784
- 14 W Postage Stamps first issued in Belgium, 1849
- 15 Th Imperial Stamp of New Germany issued, 1871
- 16 F A. de Fourcroy died, 1843
- 17 S Oxford Mich. Term ends
- 18 S U.S. Slavery abolished, 1862
- 19 M
- 20 Tu John Wilson Croker born, 1780
- 21 W *St. Thomas.*
- 22 Th "George Eliot" died, 1880
- 23 F Samuel Parkes died, 1825
- 24 S Marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Hiscock, 1901
- 25 S *Christmas Day*
- 26 M
- 27 Tu Postage Stamps first issued in Brazil, 1843
- 28 W Lord Macaulay died, 1859
- 29 Th W. E. Gladstone born, 1809
- 30 F Postage Stamps first issued in Naples, 1858
- 31 S 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."

THE CAUSE AND THE CLAUSE.

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.

2

Colonial Assorted from 1s. 6d. to 10s. per 1,000.
 American Assorted from 1s. 6d. to 10s. per 1,000.
 New Albums with 500 stamps from 2s. to 15s.
 1,000 Assorted Foreign stamps 1s.



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10,000	7s. 6d.
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50,000	25s. 0d.
100,000	40s. 0d.

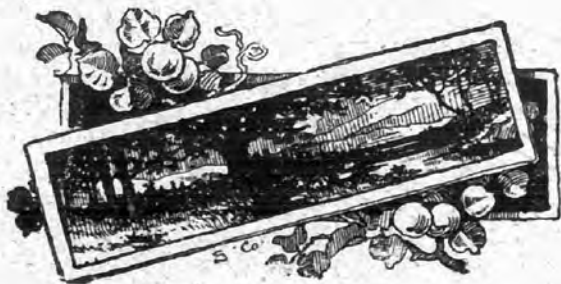
Large assortment of English stamps from 1½d. upwards,
 2s. per 1,000, including Penny Reds, imperfect and perfect.
 Penny Plate Numbers only 2s. per 1,000.

LICKING STAMPS

Is a matter that has occupied editors this last year, and our experience points to the prudence of not licking them. Water is plentiful, and it is easy to liquidate the back of the stamp without applying the tongue. Such a sanitary measure in avoiding stamp licking has a wider application than many people think.

THE KING AND BRIC-A-BRAC.

THE King, our most gracious Majesty, has been so good as to accept "The Philatelist's Almanack" for 1902, and also a number of BRIC-A-BRAC. Such notice from the noble Edward VII. is ever appreciated, and his kindly attitude demonstrates the width of his sympathies. While Prince of Wales he was the frequent recipient of both publications, and as King his royal interest has continued. This may be taken as a compliment to all philatelists, and we are glad to acknowledge the valuable attention he has extended. His royal mother, so much lamented in every circle, was always kind to notice the publications from BRIC-A-BRAC office, and now it is eminently satisfactory to know that her esteemed son cultivates the same sympathies which so distinguished the character of Her whose history makes us all proud.



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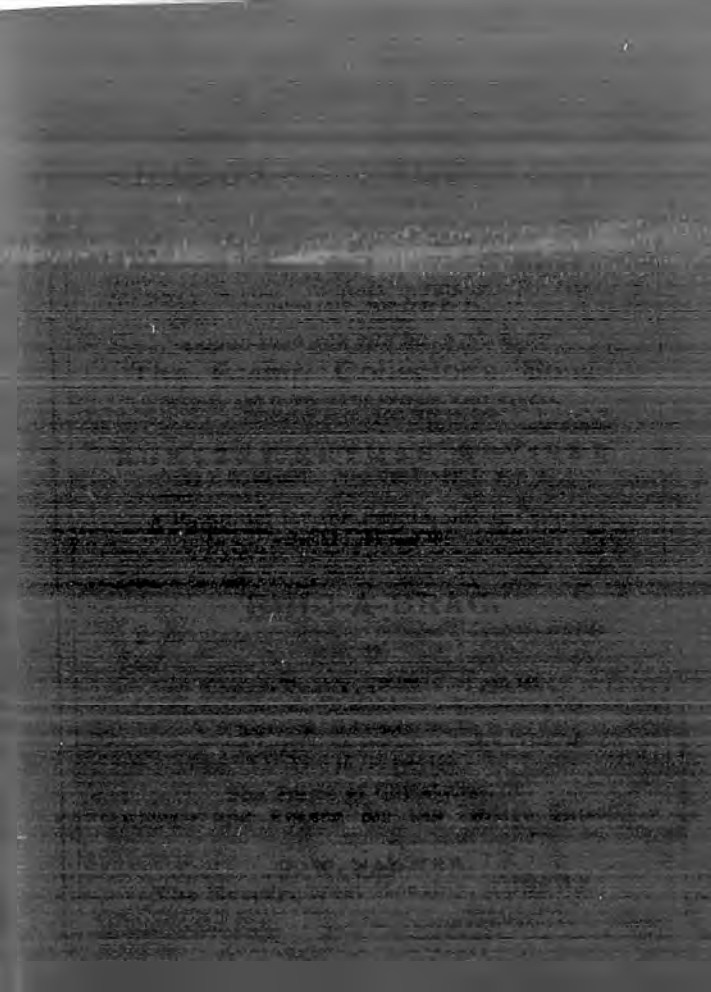
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W. WILKINSON HEAD & CO., LTD.,
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FLEET LANE, OLD BAILEY,
LONDON, E.C.



WALTER D. ...

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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Date: [Illegible]

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