

*Brawford 2184*

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

(With which is Incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

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The Official Organ of the following Societies:

THE LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	THE CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.
ROCHDALE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
EDINBURGH AND LEITH SOCIETY.	SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.
BRISTOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.	

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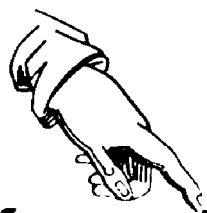
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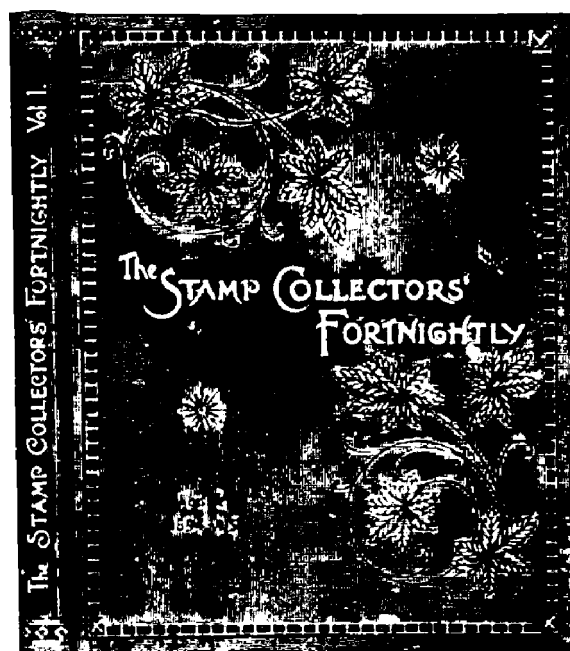
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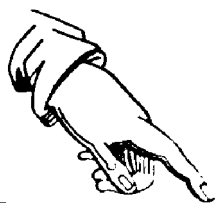
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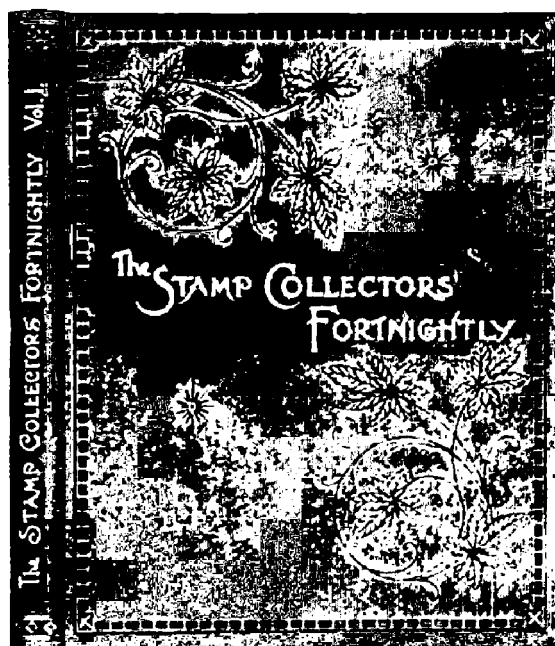
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The following Sale, on 26th and 27th October, will contain amongst other Fine Stamps:

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IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE SALES, Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON will hold SALES OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS on November 17th, 18th and 30th; December 1st and 14th, 1897—January 5th, 6th, 19th and 20th; February 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; March 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; April 5th, 6th, 27th, and 28th; May 11th, 25th, and 26th; June 15th, 16th, 29th and 30th.

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**CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.**

COMMITTEE FOR SEASON 1895-96.

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*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*  
Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

**HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

The seventeenth and last meeting of the present season was held on Monday, Sept. 21st, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., the following members being present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, J. E. Joselin, H. A. Macmillan, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, J. B. Neyroud, H. Atherly, J. B. Camaschella, F. Cutrtis, D. Thomson, and H. W. Plumbridge, when our ninth auction sale was held.

A. Gisborne (Nottingham), and L. C. Van Vloten (Dutch Indies) were duly elected members for the coming season.

The first meeting of the ensuing season will be held on Monday, Oct. 5th, and the General Meeting on Oct. 19th.

Will members kindly note that all subscriptions for the ensuing year are due, and date from the first of October.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Monthly Post*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From France: *Le Courrier des Timbres Poste*, *L'Emancipation*.

From Germany: *Die Post*, *General Anzeiger für Philatelie und Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From the United States: *American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Monthly Bulletin Postal Card Society*, *Post Office*, *Stamp Advertiser*, *Evergreen State Philatelist*, *American Philatelic Magazine* and *Rocky Mountain Stamp*.

From India: *The Philatelic World*.

From Sorocaba: *O Colleccionador de Sellos*.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

**HON. EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.**

Will Foreign members kindly note that although sheets for circulation in the Exchange Packets will at all times be received from them, the packets cannot be sent abroad. Cash will be remitted for stamps sold.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should

be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE opening meeting of the Session, 1896-97, was held at the Grand Hotel, on Friday, September 25th. The President in the chair, supported by the Vice-Presidents, Hon. Treas., Hon. Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Assistant Hon. Secretary; Messrs. Ridpath, Grunewald, Retri, Whapham, Gibson, Marsden, Jones, Pemberton, Nanch, Ostara, Fildes, Rellero, Darlow, and the following visitors: Mr. Ehrenbach (London), Mr. Harry Hilckes (London), Mr. J. Neilson (Rio de Janeiro), Mr. Skipwith, Junr. (Leeds), Messrs. Oxley, Croxton, B. J. Beckton, Leers, Wanstall, &c.

The President, in a few opening remarks, welcomed the visitors, and mentioned that the committee, knowing their debt to Mr. Ridpath for his services in the last three Sessions, felt that they could not trespass upon his kindness this year. Mr. J. H. Abbott had come forward and offered his services and lantern for the occasion. He might point out that the only difference noticeable would be that the stamps would not be thrown upon the screen in colors, but that, in the near future, by Mr. Abbott's endeavours, even that might be done.

He was glad to be able to tell them that the Exhibition of 1897 was now on a business basis and the arrangements in a forward state and he thought he could assure them that the Provincial Societies would have their interests kept well in the foreground.

Mentioning the "Nova Scotia" find, the President said, much as some might regret it, he did not consider that Philately would greatly suffer. Collectors might not look upon their specimens bought previously with the same love and admiration as before; yet it must be borne in mind that philatelists had an interest something more than the mere value of their stamps, and that the find would enable many to obtain these, out of whose reach they had been before.

The Hon. Secretary being called upon, read the names of those who had replied, expressing their regret at not being able to attend the meeting.

The programme of the Exhibition affixed hereto was then entered upon; that it was a decided success seemed to be the opinion of those present.

**PROGRAMME.—PART I.**

- 1. HAMBURG—The Secret Marks  
G. B. Duerst
- 2. TRANSVAAL—Genuine and Forgery  
W. D. Beckton
- 3. TUSCANY .. .. W. W. Munn
- { ROMAGNA .. .. }
- { VENEZUELA .. .. } W. D. Beckton
- 4.—{ CORRIENTES .. .. }
- 5.—BREMEN .. .. G. B. Duerst
- { SICILY .. .. }
- 6.—{ HONG KONG .. .. } W. W. Munn

*Interval.*

**PART II.**

- 7.—{ EGYPT .. .. } G. B. Duerst
- { ROUMANIA .. .. }
- 8.—GREECE—1862-75 Issue .. W. D. Beckton
- 9.—SARDINIA .. .. E. Petri
- 10.—GREECE—1889 Issue .. W. D. Beckton
- 11.—GREECE—1889 Issue .. W. D. Beckton
- 12.—PALMA .. .. W. W. Munn
- { MODENA .. .. }
- 13.—GREECE—1889 Issue .. W. D. Beckton
- 14.—SPAIN—1855 .. .. G. B. Duerst

- 15.—SPAIN .. .. W. W. Munn
- 16.—BADEN .. .. Harry Hilckes
- 17.—SPAIN—1870 .. .. G. B. Duerst

A vote of thanks on the motion of Mr. Gibson was heartily accorded to Mr. Abbott who suitably replied.

The meeting was brought to an end by Mr. Abbott showing how far he had succeeded in his endeavours to give the stamps in their colours upon the screen.—ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*, Grasmere, Whitefield, Manchester.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word,—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonial and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. *Bazaar Reference Ticket*.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [11]

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A NUMBER of Duplicates for sale from 30/- to 4d. Cheap. Approval against Reference.—DRESNER, Bexley Heath, Kent. [15]

OLD UNITED STATES and Columbian stamps given in exchange for good English Stamps and Colonials. Make retail shipment, 100 to 5,000 of your country. Write what you want in North, South, and Central American stamps. I will give satisfaction.—F. M. THOMAS, Stamp Dealer, 3610, Finney Ave, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. [13]

W. H. EARL, Newcastle, Staff., wants unused Colonials in pairs, especially Africans. Used Leeward 4d and 1d., 2/6 per 100, and 4d. and 1d. controls, unused red 1d. English for sale. [11]

EXCHANGE.—Stamps of any country taken for obsolete Italian Stamps; value not under one shilling each. Catalogue—Stanley or Sent. No answer to senders of smaller value. Address: G. CARDINALI, Ministero Poste Telegraph. (\*) Foreign Member City of London Philatelic Club. Rome, Italy. [11]

J. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield, sends approval sheets of English plate numbers, priced 75 per cent below catalog price. Well worth a trial. [13]

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SOUTH LONDON STAMP EXCHANGE—Rules on application. References required.—J. CARLBY, 74, Claylands Road, London, S.W.

EXCHANGE—50-200 stamps from Denmark are wanted to exchange with same number from another country.—K. KRISTENSEN, Adr. J. LAURITZEN, Esbjerg, Denmark.

EXCHANGE.—Whoever sends me 50 to 100 different stamps of his own country shall receive same number Italy, modern and ancient CARLO PANSACCHI, Ministero Poste, Rome, Italy.

(Continued on third page of Cover).

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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## MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

**M**ESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing season will be as under:—

1896—October 8th and 9th, 28th and 29th.

November 12th, 13th, 26th and 27th. December 15th, 16th and 30th.

1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

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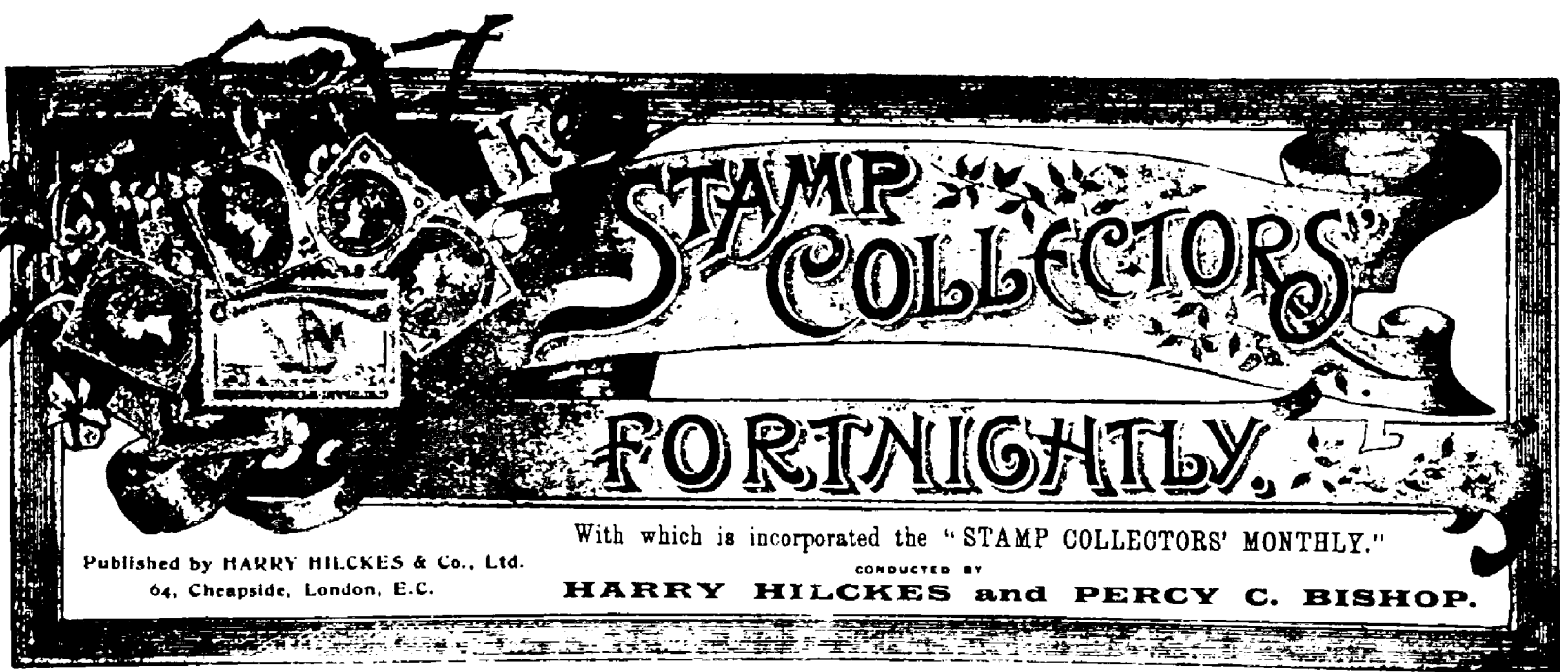
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- |                                    |  |                                       |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
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| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

**HOW SOON WILL THE JILKA ISLANDERS NEED STAMPS ?**

ANOTHER American—this time a lady—will assume monarchical rank. Miss Ella Collins, daughter of a New York tailor, will (says the *Lady*) be the first woman of the United States raised to a throne by marriage. She will shortly become the wife of Colonel John F. Hobbs, who, under the name of Onmaulea, reigns over the semi-barbarous people of the Jilka Islands, in the New Hebrides group. Colonel Hobbs was born in South Carolina, and after a wandering life, full of strange adventure, settled on one of the Jilka Islands. Since then he has become the undisputed ruler of the 1,200 or more people who live there, and assumes the title of king. By the edict of the assembly which chose him the title is to remain with him and his descendants for ever. Probably "him and his descendants" will be floating an issue of stamps soon. Well, there will be a little more justification for Colonel Hobbs than there was for "Baron" Hardon-Hickey, the *suo disant* Prince James of Trinidad.

**THE NEW ISSUE OF TRINIDAD.**

THE report is current that for postal purposes the Island of Tobago has been joined to the Island of Trinidad. The new issue of Trinidad will be used for both islands.

**PHILATELIC NOTES FROM BULUWAYO.**

MR. J. A. VAN SOBBE, of Buluwayo, in a letter to the Liverpool Philatelic Society, to whom we are indebted for

permission to quote, writes:—As the local supply of low value stamps ran short about April 20th, and as no communications could be held with Salisbury, where the B.S.A. Co.'s supply is kept, the 5 stamp was surcharged 3d., as there was a supply of 1d. stamps to hand (4d. being the Colonial rate, and 6d. the postage to England, &c.) Total number of stamps surcharged 50 sheets of 60, or in all 3,000 stamps. The printing was executed at Buluwayo *Chronicle* Office. A few stamps of the 4/- value were surcharged 1d. for fiscal use only.

As soon as the supply in Buluwayo ran short and no communications could be held with Salisbury the Cape stamps were over printed for use in Buluwayo and Rhodesia (South). The values were as follows:—

3d., 2d., pl., 1d., 3d., 6d., 1/-

The number of each value delivered I am unable to ascertain.

Note! The current B.E.A. Co.'s stamps are used alike for postage and revenue. No higher values than 5/- are to be bought at the post office as postage stamps. The higher values are really intended for fiscal use. I have seen £5 surcharged £50 also £100 for stamping licenses, &c. In reality no value above 5 should be used for postage, but in a new country like Rhodesia much is permissible.

**ANOTHER SWINDLE NIPPED IN THE BUD.**

AN important firm of printers have submitted to us copies of the well-known Formosan labels, printed from stone and executed very badly. The originals were printed from copper or steel plates, and were most likely made in London. The firm in question had an order from Shanghai to print a large number similar to the specimen submitted, and with this order the original die of the stamp was sent. However, at our recommendation, the firm refused to have anything to do with the order. Is it possible that when the Chinese evacuated Formosa, some clever Celestial stole the plate from the Post Office?

**THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION OF 1897.**

A meeting was held on Thursday the 24th September, at which twenty members of the Committee attended. Various resolutions of minor importance were passed and then the question of the Executive Committee was broached by Mr. M. P. Castle, who suggested twenty members as ample. As soon as this point was settled Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons came forward with a list of twenty names, which we have marked with asterisks on the subjoined list of the eighty-five Committee members.

## THE LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

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## THE MANCHESTER SOCIETY'S LANTERN EXHIBITION.

As will be seen by the report of the Manchester Philatelic Society, a very successful Magic Lantern Display was given on the 25th September, when our Mr. Harry Hilckes had the pleasure of being present. A most enjoyable evening was spent. The exhibition was an entire success, and proves once more how very important such exhibitions become when conducted on purely scientific lines. Of special interest to us was the Transvaal forgery of the 1883 issue, lent by Mr. E. J. Nankivell. Some very amusing comments were made when the operator showed various issues of Greece, which were withdrawn, to be included in a future paper on Greece stamps, as Mr. Beckton explained they showed some little known varieties which he at present did not wish to disclose. In one case two copies of Spain, 1870 (said to be forgeries), were thrown on the screen, together with an acknowledged genuine copy, but the most scrupulous scrutiny could not find any important variation, although they distinctly showed some difference when under the magnifying glass. It was then suggested that they might be lithographed. All of which goes to prove how instructive such lantern exhibitions can be made.

It will be remembered that some time ago the City of London Philatelic Club also had a magic lantern display

when the stamps, were thrown on the screen by reflective light. We suggested this to the operator in Manchester who at once made certain trials which were quite successful, and it is quite likely that lantern displays will form an important feature in future meetings of the Manchester Society, as by using the reflected light no prepared slides are required, the actual stamps being used for the purpose.

During our stay in Manchester we were shown some very fine collections of certain difficult countries such as Japan, Roumania, Greece, and the northern countries of Europe belonging to Messrs. Beckton and Harrison, which showed with what scrupulous care they were compiled.

## SPREAD OF EDUCATION?—OR PHILATELY?

The sales of ordinary postage stamps in the Punjab (says the *Morning Post*, of Allahabad), have increased by nearly one lakh of rupees per annum during the past two years, education must be spreading among the people. The telegraph would seem also to be more generally appreciated, since an increased sale of telegraph stamps, by Rs. 20,000 per annum, for the same period, is announced.

## THE PROFITS OF "PHILATELISM."

PHILATELISM is an extraordinary craze, writes the London correspondent of a provincial newspaper. Nevertheless it sometimes reaps a rich harvest for its agents. I happened to look in at the office of one of the leading stamp agencies, and was informed that in addition to the persons employed abroad in collecting foreign issues, they had over thirty in the London office busily separating stamps or else engaged in issuing their monthly journal. So extensive is the trade that they confine their collections merely to postage stamps. Yet with this restriction they manage to obtain thirty thousand pounds yearly. Truly a marvellous thing to coin so much money out of a strip of used paper!

## JOHORE'S "PRETTY" STAMPS.

THE new postal and revenue stamps to be issued in Johore on the 17th Rabil Awal, answering to the 26th of August, 1896, are very pretty (the *Kangoon Times* remarks), and are of the same character as those used heretofore. They contain, however, the portrait of the present Sultan.



By C62.

## MINOR VARIETIES OF THE LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.

The 1d. black, continued from page 275.

SINCE writing my last, Mr. H. J. Bignold has kindly placed his superb collection of English Postmarks at my disposal for these notes. I am therefore able to make the following additions to my list of obliterations on the 1d. black:—

- A34. Maltese Cross in yellow.
- A35. " " in deep purple.
- A36. " " in red and black.
- A37. Town Cancellation in red.
- A38. 1844 Obliteration in red (English type).
- A39. W. District Obliteration of 1861.

I have to thank several correspondents for additional information and some very kind comments.

Mr. H. Hawley sends a list of Maltese Cross obliterations with numbers in his possession. If he will send the covers to me for inspection I will return them the next day, and refund the cost of sending them per registered post. In the hope that he will so oblige the readers of this column and myself, I defer the publishing of his list, which I may say promises to throw some additional light on this most tantalizing subject.

Mr. G. W. Martin reports that he has "Penmaenmawr Penny Post" in red, and "Newton Lancashire Penny Post" in black. He further remarks that these postmarks do not always occur on the stamp, but sometimes on the sheet, which is very true. I have not seen this postmark in red, and am rather envious in consequence.

Mr. Collins reports that his collection confirms my remarks with reference to the use of the unnumbered Maltese Cross in London, during 1843-4. He has entires, bearing date July, 1843; December 5th, 1843 (postmarked Great Portland Street); and five copies dated March and April, 1844, the latest date being April 12th. He has also a copy of this obliteration bearing date 13th September, 1844, but he does not say where this was used.

Mr. G. Fox makes some suggestions which I am glad to follow:—

- 1.—That I should add to the list of plate numbers, numbers 6 and 11, as reported by Lord Kingston in his paper, published in the *London Philatelist*, of December, 1894. I have not seen these plates, but my omitting to notice them in my last was quite accidental.
- 2.—That I should state that the plate number is found in the right and left hand corners of the margins.
- 3.—That I should warn students against artificially chemically blued specimens.—I have not seen any of these. The two copies I noted were taken by me from pieces of the original sheet in my search for inverted watermarks.
- 4.—That I should refer to the forgeries of the "V.R."—Here again I must plead ignorance beyond knowing that such forgeries exist. Hilckes' Catalogue says, "The most dangerous forgery known is that of the V.R. Different 'makes' exist, and the most famous one is that which gained for its perpetrator three years penal servitude (Dr. Asmus's trial in 1892). An ordinary black stamp was taken, the Maltese Crosses in the upper corners skilfully removed and replaced by the letters 'V.R.'"
- 5.—That the so-called *white* Maltese Cross are only faded violet ones.—This is so obvious that one hesitates to keep repeating the information. I must own to admiring the lovely "cheek" of those who thus endeavour to get rid of a "waste product."
- 6.—That I should call attention to the differences between the same angle letters on different stamps.—Differences of course exist in the *position* of the letters in the squares, which are very noticeable, but I do not think that more than one complete alphabet was used. I say this subject to correction, as my stock is not sufficiently large to express a more definite opinion. There is, apparently, three forms of the "E." and two of the "B.", but I am not satisfied that these are from different alphabets.

Mr. G. Mackey enquires whether I have noticed that in one of the plates of the 1d. black there is no cross-bar to the "A" in "Postage" of the stamp Q.F. He has only seen this peculiarity on the stamp mentioned. I had not noticed this. My copy of the "Q.F." bears the "A" complete, but I see there are three others in my sheet without the cross-bar—Q.B., Q.J., T.B.

(To be continued).

*Ship Letters.*—Exigencies of space led to the curtailing of my list last time. As it happens that those cut out were most interesting, I give them here:—

- From H.M.S. Melpomene, Halifax, to Isle of Wight, 24/11/62. Obliteration, A98. (The Halifax Office No. is A92).
- From H.M.S. Rinoldo, to Dartmouth, 7/3/62. Plymouth Ship Letter. Obliteration, T20.
- From H.M.S. Euryalus, Hong Kong, to London, 3/6/63, pmk. Hong Kong. Obliteration, A83.
- From H.M.S. Sanspariel, Hong Kong, to Runcorn, 2/2/63, pmk. Hong Kong. Obliteration, A86.
- From H.M.S. Marlborough, to London, 27/6/64. Obliteration, B12.
- From British Legation, Japan, to Plymouth, 22/6/64, pmk. Hong Kong. Obliteration, A83.

ENGLISH STAMPS USED ABROAD.

(Continued from page 267).

- C35. PANAMA (continued).  
 6d., plates 3, 5, 6 (emb.); 8, 9 (spray); 11 (dark buff); 12 (light buff); 14, 15, 16, 17 (grey green).  
 10d., plate 1.  
 1/- green, plate 4 (emb.); 4 to 13 (spray).  
 1/- salmon, plate 13 (spray).  
 2/- blue.  
 5/-, plate 2.

- C36. ARICA.  
 6d., plates 6, 9 (lilac); 11 (light buff); 15 (grey-green).  
 9d. bistre (spray).  
 10d. pale brown.  
 1/-, plates 4, 5, 6, 7.  
 2/- blue.  
 5/-, plate 1.  
 4d., plates 7, 8, 13 (orange), 15 (vermilion).  
 6d., plates 1, 4, 6 (emblems), 14, 15 (grey-green).  
 9d., plate 4 (spray).  
 10d., plate 1.  
 1/-, plate 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 8, 12 (spray).  
 2/- blue, 2/- brown.

- C37. CALDERA.  
 3d., plates 17, 18, 19.  
 6d., plates 6, 9 (lilac); 15, 16 (grey-green; spray); 19 (crown).  
 8d. orange.  
 9d. bistre (spray).  
 10d. pale brown.  
 1/- green, plates 4, 8, 12, 13.  
 2/- blue, 2/- brown.

- C38. CALLAO.  
 1d., plate 144.  
 2d., plate 14.  
 3d., plates 5, 6, 8, 15, 18.  
 4d., plates 10, 11, 12, 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion), 15, 16 (sage).  
 6d., plates 3 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray), 11 (dark buff), 12 (light buff), 13, 14, 15, 16 (grey-green).  
 8d. orange.  
 9d., plates 4 (emblems), 4 (spray).  
 10d., plate 1.  
 1/- green, plates 4 to 13 (spray).  
 2/- blue.  
 5/-, plates 1, 2.

- C40. COQUIMBO.  
 3d., plate 19.  
 6d., plate 4 (emblems), 8, 9 (spray), 11 (light buff).  
 9d. plate 4 (spray).  
 1/- green, plates 4, 6, 8, 12, 13 (spray).  
 2/- blue.  
 5/-, plates 1 (black pmk.), 2 (blue pmk.)

- C41. GUAYAQUIL.  
 3d., plates 16, 18.

- C42. ISLAY.  
 4d., plate 16.  
 6d., plates 4 (emblems), 14 (spray).  
 1/-, plate 12.

- C43. PAYTA.  
 4d., plate 12.  
 6d., plates 8 (violet), 11 (dark buff), 12 (grey).  
 1/- Plate 4 (emblems).

- C51. ST. THOMAS.  
 1d., plates 72, 90, 93, 95, 96, 102, 106, 124, 140, 146, 148, 150, 157.  
 1 1/2d., plate 3.  
 2d., plates 9, 14.  
 3d., plate 4 (emblems), 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18 (spray).  
 4d., plates 7 to 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion), 15 (sage).  
 4d. brown, plate 17 (crown).  
 6d., plates 5, 6 (emblems), 6, 8, 9 (spray), 11 (dark buff), 11, 12 (light buff), 13, 14, 15, 16 (grey).  
 9d., plate 4 (emblems), 4 (spray).  
 10d. plate 1 (light and dark red-brown).  
 1/- plates 4 (emblems), 4 to 13 (spray).  
 2/- blue, 2/- brown.  
 5/-, plates 1, 2.

- C56. CARTHAGENA.  
 4d. plates 10 (orange), 15, 16 (sage).  
 6d. plate 13 (grey).  
 1/-, plates 4, 13 (green; spray), 13 (salmon; spray).

*Nova Scotia, Latest!*

As we go to press, the Scott Stamp and Coin Company write us:

DEAR SIRS,—We telegraphed you the other day that we were not able to furnish you with a statement of the quantities found of each value of the Nova Scotia stamps. We are now informed that they are approximately as follows:

50,000	..	..	1c.
50,000	..	..	2c.
50,000	..	..	8 1/2c.
30,000	..	..	10c.
12,000	..	..	12 1/2c.

We think that these figures represent about correctly the proportionate quantities sold out by the Government, but it may be that our information is not absolutely correct.

Yours truly,

THE SCOTT STAMP AND COIN Co.

Now, who is right—the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, or Mr. J. W. Scott?

### General Notices.

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Advertisements (the tariff for which may be obtained on application), should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

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Quarter Column	do.	0	10	0	Quarter Column	do.	0	9	6
One Inch	do.	0	5	0	One Inch	do.	0	3	6

TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 3, 1896.



ONE can picture the average English philatelist rubbing his eyes and pinching himself on receiving Signor Spurious Spiotti. Edoardo Spiotti's "Catalogue des Imitations des Timbres-Postes," which, to better convey the idea of the Signor's up-to-dateness, is headed in bold numerals, 1897. "I have the honour," says this distinguished Italian, writing in a sort of pigeon French which any schoolboy of twelve could "save"—"I have the honour to present to you my catalogue of the imitations of the obsolete stamps of Italy and other countries." After this the statement that the imitations are "tres rassemblantes aux vrais timbres postes," sounds a trifle superfluous, for who ever knew an imitator whose stamps were not equal to the genuine article? But the masterpiece of Signor Edoardo Spiotti's introductory address is the paragraph which seeks to justify the forger's malpractices on the plea that it is all done for the good of the public. Many *amateur des timbres*, the Signor points out, are unable to complete their sets of stamps because they lack just the one rare stamp of the series, which rare stamp some horrid ogre of a stamp dealer has in his possession, but will not part with for less than the price of an Italian dukedom. What happens? Spiotti comes to the rescue with his *imitations qui sont tres rassemblantes aux vrais timbres-poste*. Like the spirit in the pantomime, he hops forward from the opposite side with the magic wand of *imitation*, and the curtain falls on a scene of general happiness and jubilation. Of course the Signor does not say all this in his circular; we have allowed our fancy to run riot a little by way of pointing out the true beauty of the Spiotti system, based so benignly on the principle of the greatest good for the greatest number. It is a fine Pecksniffian effort: and see how

cheap Spiotti is! Three francs, say 2s. 4d., will buy a perfect imitation of the 3 lire Tuscany, while minor rarities may be had for a matter of a few paltry centimes. "Buy of the maker," shouts the coster who sells cheap braces in the Mile End Road. Spiotti might well adopt the same moving cry; though in Spiotti's case we reflect with much thankfulness that to buy of the maker is the only possible course. There are fortunately few middlemen to steer clear of in this branch of trade.

Doubtless, many readers of the FORTNIGHTLY will have received Spiotti's Catalogue. To warn them not to buy would only be an insult to their intelligence. Spiotti's tawdry pretence of philatelic benevolence will not deceive the smallest schoolboy. His imitations, as pictures, may be fit to grace the page of a hospital scrap book, but as "stamps" they are impossible. A glance will lay bare their true character. Most of them are identical with the very feeble forgeries of old European stamps, which we have exposed in earlier issues of our paper. The serious side to the matter is this: How comes it that Spiotti, who makes no effort to conceal his whereabouts, is allowed by the Italian Government to openly traffic in spurious stamps? Is there in Italy, as in France, no law to prevent the forgery of obsolete postage stamps? Even if this be the case, Spiotti is still amenable to the law, for we see that he offers forgeries of the stamps of Gambia, which are in no sense obsolete. We have many readers in Italy, and we appeal to them to move the authorities with regard to this open scandal. We have no intention of advertising the pecksniffian Signor by divulging his address in these columns; but to any Italian reader we shall be happy to supply this and all other information that may be required. P.C.B.

This number of the "S.C.F." marks the commencement of our third year of life. At such a juncture it is natural to glance backward and also to take a look ahead. This issue, we think, is ample evidence of the fact that we do not intend to "look back" in a retrogressive sense. We have lately rearranged the leading "features" of our journal. The "Philatelic Personalities," as occupying space which might be devoted to more useful matter, have been dropped; "Philately At Home" and "Philately Abroad" have been merged into one another, the compound forming a department of our paper in which all items of miscellaneous news and gossip will be found. To economise space, "Our Forum" and "Answers to Correspondents" have given place to "Twixt Editor and Reader," which comprehensive headline will cover a multitude of more or less important trifles. Then we have attempted to cater for boy philatelists in a column headed "First Steps in Philately," and for the benefit of advanced specialists of the stamps of Great Britain we have greatly increased the space allotted to our Mr. C62 who has run this feature of the "S.C.F." with conspicuous ability. But it may be that there are other ways in which we can perfect our system. You perhaps can suggest one?

The quick workman-like methods of the Committee appointed to promote the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897, augur well for the success of that undertaking. The last meeting, which we report under the heading "Philately at Home and Abroad," was, throughout, a marvellous example of loyal concord and brotherly unanimity. The chairman's suggestion that an Executive Committee of twenty members be appointed from the eighty-five gentlemen constituting the General Committee, was at once agreed to, and as promptly acted upon. Indeed, that philatelic veteran, Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, had ready a list of twenty names which were put to the meeting and with startling promptitude endorsed by all present. Such unanimity, we repeat, is an omen of good. It shows that on the question of the Exhibition our leading philatelists are all of one mind. It does one good to find that when the cause is a good one, philatelists of all shades of thought can "pull together" in perfect accord.

# The Nova Scotia "Deal."

(FURTHER FACTS CONCERNING THE GREAT "FIND" AND THE WAY IN WHICH IT WAS WORKED).

SINCE writing our leader on the above subject in our last number we have received communications from all parts of the country, the writers in every instance expressing their utter disgust at the manner in which this "find" was launched upon the market. We have since ascertained that although Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, describe themselves as the sole agents of the purchasing syndicate outside the United States, they were not the first to offer these stamps in the English market. It appears that Messrs. Buhl & Co., Limited, had quantities of these stamps many weeks previous to the date of issue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Circular.

It having been reported to us that Messrs. Buhl obtained their supplies from Messrs. Gibbons, we wrote them as follows:—

DEAR SIRs,—In consequence of our articles on the Nova Scotia remainders we have received a mass of correspondence on the subject and have also heard verbally from many persons who have purchased these stamps from you. We have been told that you were selling these stamps weeks before Messrs. Stanley Gibbons announced that they were sole agents for the Canadian Syndicate. As we consider it in the interests of Philately highly important that all particulars about this transaction should be made public without delay, we would thank you to let us know whether you obtained these stamps direct from the Canadian Syndicate or through Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' agency. Your immediate attention to this matter will greatly oblige,

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD.

MESSRS. BUHL & CO., LTD.

Sept. 23rd, 1896.

To which Messrs. Buhl chose to reply in the following terms:

To the Editors of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

64, Cheapside, E.C.

GENTLEMEN,—You are well aware that we are always willing to give any information on Philatelic subjects of general interest; but we must decline to reply to your grossly impertinent registered letter of the 22nd instant, and must request you to refrain from troubling us with any similar impudent communications in future.

Yours faithfully,

BUHL & CO., LIMITED.

TH. BUHL, *Managing Director*.

Sept. 23rd, 1896.

Naturally it was against the policy of Messrs. Buhl to enlighten the public on this subject. There is hardly a dealer in this country or collector of any note who has not had offers of these stamps at ridiculously high figures, (bearing in mind the gigantic dimensions of the "find,") and we are sorry to say a very large percentage of these offers were accepted by collectors and dealers who had not heard of the discovery of the remainders. One man, we hear, purchased a hundred sets at £1 10s. per set, and there are many who have been "landed" with the 8½ cents alone at £1 apiece—a bargain price indeed! Of course only small lots in pairs or blocks of six were offered at one and the same time, and not a word was said about the large number found. Undoubtedly buyers understood that only a small number of the 8½c. turned up; they couldn't think otherwise in the absence of any explanation of the seller. Besides, the price asked £1 apiece, appeared to be a fair price in the light of recent auction sales, as a glance at our publishers' new "Auction Summary" will show that this stamp hardly ever fetched less than 23½ a copy; even as late as June last, at which time the "find," or, let us say, "purchase" must have been an accomplished fact.

It would be interesting to know, if true, why Messrs. Gibbons supplied Messrs. Buhl so long before the issue of their circular; and, if not true, how it was possible to obtain supplies behind the back of the "sole agents." Anyhow, Messrs. Buhl must have known that very large quantities were found, and if they did, their behaviour in selling these stamps at such a high figure is open to severe criticism. We subjoin a letter from a well-known collector in the country, which reflects the feeling of a great many others with whom we have come in contact. The remark that offers were

made by reply-paid telegrams deserves special attention, as it shows that those who sent them were fully aware that urgent replies were necessary.

MESSRS. HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD.,

LONDON,

Sept. 23rd, 1896.

DEAR SIRs,—I notice in the "S.C.F." your offer respecting the Nova Scotia remainders. I certainly was much surprised after receiving the three sets from you to have them offered to me at considerably less prices. I have also just heard that efforts were being made to place these stamps in Manchester, (which I am afraid has been partially successful), by means of answer prepaid telegrams. When I received my *Metropolitan Philatelist* it began to dawn upon me that there was some underhand work in progress.

I am very pleased to see that the "S.C.F." has spoken out most unmistakeably in this disgraceful matter, and I think, not at all too strongly. I consider this will prove one of the severest blows that has been given to Philately for a long time past. That our so-called "leading firm of dealers," should have acted in the manner they have done, is much to be regretted, and it will be a long time before they will regain the confidence of philatelists. As far as I can learn, they have not offered these stamps to any of their private customers, but have let the trade in, so to speak.

Personally, I am very sorry these remainders have come upon the market, instead of being destroyed. I have always had a weakness for Nova Scotia on account of their artistic qualities. After the exposure, I hardly care to have any part in the affair, and feel inclined to get rid of the stamps. Would you kindly send me your Wholesale Price List, and very probably I might be able to select some stamps (for specialising) to take instead of the Nova Scotia. I am sorry you have been placed in such a dilemma by the action of others, who certainly ought to have shown a higher standard of integrity in business.

Yours truly,

W.M.

We have recently had occasion to visit Manchester and Liverpool, and the remarks made by philatelists in these towns were very far from flattering to Messrs. Gibbons and Buhl. The greatest surprise was expressed that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, should have lent themselves to such a bit of smart business. Naturally, both Messrs. Gibbons and Messrs. Buhl cast doubts upon the assertions made in our last issue as to the low prices at which sets of Nova Scotians have been offered; and in a letter dated 21st September they make us the handsome offer of 4/- per set, which offer was echoed two days later by Messrs. Buhl. That the price mentioned to us was a *bona fide* offer is proved by the fact that just about that time one man, whose name we are willing to disclose to Messrs. Gibbons, had these sets offered to him at 3/6 per set, whilst one member of the Manchester Society had offers at 4/- per set. When we had the offer made to us we knew neither Messrs. Gibbons' prices, nor had we any idea of the "find," but it was just that offer that made us suspicious and practically started our investigations. It is ridiculous for Messrs. Gibbons to say no one can offer these stamps in this country; we know for a fact that weeks before the circular came out, small lots were offered in London from Canada. It may be quite possible that the present Syndicate will stick to their prices, but who knows whether a large or smaller lot has not been sold by the Nova Scotia Government before the Syndicate entered into negotiations with them?

The face value of these stamps is 33 cents, and it is reputed that that is the price paid for the sets by the Syndicate. Messrs. Gibbons offer the following lot at the price of £103:—

	£	s.	d.
320 of 1 cent at 1/- equal ..	16	0	0
320 of 2 cents at 1/- equal ..	16	0	0
320 of 8½ cents at 2/6 equal ..	40	0	0
155 of 10 cents at 2/6 equal ..	19	7	6
85 of 12½ cents at 3/- equal ..	12	15	0
	103	2	6

Therefore, in the aggregate the cost per set, at the rate of Messrs. Gibbons' offer, is about 10/- wholesale; the retail value can therefore be easily calculated. Whether this



wholesale price of 10/- is a fair one, in the face of the purchase at 33 cents (equal to 1/2½ about) is a matter for the public to say, and, although protestations are made at the present time that the price will not be lowered, we should say that it is quite on the cards. Once the Syndicate finds out that it cannot sell at this inflated figure, it will reduce its wholesale price, and consequently the retail price will also drop. We should say that, judging from the very low offers we have seen, it is extremely likely that we shall yet see a lower price, and we cannot believe, in view of all the facts that have come to our knowledge, that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are the only firm through whom these stamps can be obtained in Europe.

With regard to the actual numbers of the "find," it is stated that about £9,000 was paid to the Government of the Colony by the Syndicate purchasing the stamps. As it is also known that face value was paid, this gives us a fair clue. It is clear that there could not be 200,000 complete sets, for these at face value would amount to over £13,000. Now, as the lots offered by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, show a smaller proportion of the 10c. and 12½c. values, we think the following estimate of the actual extent of the "find" will, when the truth is known, be found to be somewhere near the mark. (That is always supposing the figure of 200,000 sets given by Mr. J. W. Scott is correct):—

1c. value (200,000 stamps)	equals	£400	sterling.
2c. " (200,000 " " "	"	£800	"
8½c. " (200,000 " " "	"	£3,400	"
10c. " (100,000 " " "	"	£2,000	"
12½c. " (60,000 " " "	"	£2,300	"
760,000 Total ..		£8,960	"

The London Society's book on British North America, states that 1,900,000 stamps of all values were printed, but fails to give details as to the precise numbers of the various values. The estimated find of 800,000 stamps represents, therefore, nearly one half of the total number of stamps printed. It is believed by many people that the 8½c. value is more liberally represented in the remainders than any other value. If so, all the worse for those philatelists who were induced to buy this stamp at a price approaching its full market value by persons who knew of this gigantic deal.

Under the circumstances, an investment in these Nova Scotia remainders seems to be a very undesirable one, and for the present we very strongly advise our readers to have nothing to do with them. That is the universal feeling of all those who are in close touch with the market, and they are the men who should know.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



ANYTHING concerning the stamps of Nova Scotia being just now of paramount interest, there need be no hesitation in giving prominence to the following letter from one of our constant readers:

DEAR SIR, Having received a set of the above stamps from a firm of Dealers on offer at the following prices: 1c. 1/3, 2c. 1/3, 8½c. 9/6, 10c. 3/3, 12½c. 2/9 each. I have examined and compared them with those in my collection, which I have had many years.

I find they are all perf. 12. The 1, 2, and 10 cents are on white paper and white gum, the 8½ and 12½ cents are on toned paper with brownish gum. The 8½ cent is a light green, the three I have are dark on bluish-green, two are perf. 11½ and one perf. 12. The 10 cent is also quite a different shade from the one in my possession, but mine is on toned paper, perf. 11½.

It would be instructive if you were to state in your next "S.C.F."

any particulars as to perforation, &c., of these Remainders, that have come under your notice.

Is it possible that these so-called Remainders can be Reprints?

Yours faithfully,

NOVA SCOTIA, Perf. 11½.

Very many congratulatory letters have reached us since the publication of our last number. Space forbids individual acknowledgment, but all those readers who have so encouragingly written to us will please understand that we are deeply sensible of their kindness.

Evidently our new feature "First steps in Philately" will be read by a wide circle of young philatelists. The letters we have already received testify to that, and the number of questions already sent in for early answer in the column referred to shows that we are supplying a long felt want. "W.E.D." (Bromley) writes:—

I have taken your "S.C.F." in now for nearly a year, and as I am only 14 and have not been collecting very long, and have only got about 1000 varieties, I am glad you are thinking of us boy collectors in your paper. I am sure it will be valuable to me at least, as I have had some very good stamps pass through my hands which I then did not know the value of, and exchanged for common ones.

This correspondent and, strangely enough, two others who live at great distances from one another, suggest to us that we should publish a monthly paper specially for boy collectors. The idea is a bit startling. Still, we'll think it over.

\* \* \*

Will someone kindly write and tell us that the FORTNIGHTLY is a dashed bad paper, and that its advertising columns are of no value whatever? The apparently endless procession of testimonials is affecting the estimation in which we hold ourselves to an alarming extent. Fears are entertained here as to whether our hats will continue to accommodate our heads if we are subjected to much more flattering testimonialising at the hands of advertisers. Mr. W. J. Pattison, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, writes under date, September 21st:—

Replies to my advertisement are already to hand containing enquiries for many of the stamps, and this week I have had letters from India, Western Australia, and Canada in reply to previous adverts. in "S.C.F." Don't forget to warn me when my advertisement contract is about to run out.

\* \* \*

How do you like our new headlines, gentle reader? Pretty, aren't they?

## First Steps in Philately.

By PERCY C. BISHOP.

### II.—WATERMARKS: HOW TO FIND THEM.

SOME watermarks have a mule-like obstinacy calculated to try the temper of the most patient philatelist. Coax them as you will, they refuse to show themselves; and too often the tired philatelist will mark the refractory stamp in his album or on his exchange packet sheet "No wmk. very curious" and thus it will remain until some brother stampite, more practical, proves that the classification is wrong, perhaps impossible, or perhaps both. On the other hand there are watermarks that a blind man could scarcely miss. In their startling clearness they seem almost to rise up from their brown bed of gum and smite you in the eye, saying "Here I am old fellow; can't you see me?" And how often, in the case of stamps that are rare in the unwatermarked condition, do we mentally answer: "Yes, confound you, I can see you plainly enough! Wish to goodness I couldn't!"

To bring out an obscure watermark various plans are adopted. When holding the stamp up to the light proves to be of no avail, some help may be derived from a device which was fully described and illustrated in a recent issue of the *Bazaar's* excellent "Philatelist's Supplement." This consists simply of an oblong piece of cardboard from which a small square has been cut, leaving an aperture in the centre of the card about the size of an average postage stamp. Against this aperture the stamp to be examined should be placed, and



then the whole should be held up to a strong light. The advantage of this arrangement will not be readily apparent; but the advantage is there nevertheless. The effect of the small square hole in the card is to concentrate the force of both eyes and also the rays of light on that particular spot, generally with the result that the coy watermark at last becomes apparent. I have found this plan most efficacious.

Stamps laid on a surface of dead black will often reveal a watermark otherwise undiscoverable. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, advertise a special "Philatelic Tile" to be used for this purpose, but that seems to be carrying the supply of philatelic accessories to somewhat absurd lengths. Most people have a "black surface" of some sort about the house. The black "American cloth" cover of a sixpenny memorandum, or penny "rent book," will do admirably; even a black Japanese tea tray, turned upside down, will be found to answer the purpose quite well. The sheet of black vulcanite, which newspaper reporters use to rest their carbon paper and "flimsies" upon, forms an ideal "watermark revealer."

Watermarks that defy all the devices I have mentioned generally yield with a good grace to the subtle persuasiveness of benzine. This should be applied delicately to the back of the stamp with a camel's hair brush. The benzine will in no way injure the stamp that is operated upon.

#### TOPSY-TURVY WATERMARKS.

There are inverted watermarks, watermarks placed sideways, and watermarks reversed. Young collectors will do well not to attach too much importance to such freaks. Generally speaking, they add little or nothing to the market value of a stamp. In some cases they are utterly insignificant, as for instance in stamps printed *l'ête bêche* (that is to say, with every alternate row of stamps in the sheet printed upside down) such as the stamps of Grenada. It is a necessary consequence of *l'ête bêche* printing that half the stamps on every sheet show an inverted watermark. The One Penny English stamp of the current type is by no means rare with watermark inverted, though the "inversion" in this case is the result of pure accident.

#### THE CLASSIFICATION OF WATERMARKS.

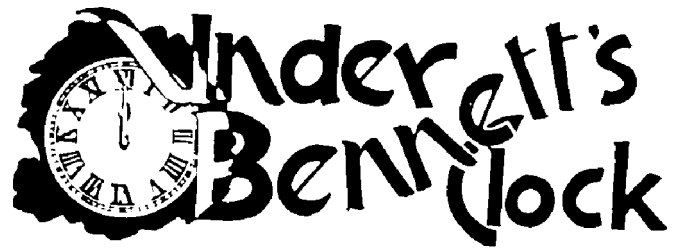
Watermarks play such a large part in the study of stamps, that the neat and clear classification of the various specimens, according to watermark, is a necessity of the age. Collectors who boast a neat handwriting, may, perhaps, adhere to the old way of writing in pencil or ink, above each stamp, "perf. 14" or "perf. 16" or "perf. 12½," as the case may be; but those who write badly—which, mark you, is said to be a sign of mental eminence—will do their classifying by means of the neat rubber stamps, which are supplied at a nominal cost by the publishers of the "S.C.F." These rubber stamps, far from disfiguring, add, rather to the attractiveness of a well-arranged album.

(In our next number: "Perforations and How to Measure Them).

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING OCT. 17th.

##### Auction Sales.

- Oct. 5th.—The Philatelic Auction Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, S.E., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Oct. 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Buhl and Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Oct. 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Oct. 12th and 13th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 precisely.
- Oct. 14th and 15th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Oct. 16th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.



THE Season 1896-7 has begun much earlier than in previous years, and during the last four weeks we have been very busy, owing, no doubt, to the wet weather, for "its an ill wind that blows nobody any good."

The manuscript for the second edition of our **English Catalogue** is now finished, and will be sent to the printer in a day or two. We can say nothing about its contents at present, but we say this much, that it will be price 2/6, post free; it will be of handy pocket size, and will contain all information known about English stamps up to date. It is impossible to say when the book will be ready, but we expect it early in November. Orders can now be booked, and the catalogue will be forwarded in rotation to all who have ordered it as soon as ready.

We have a few copies of the first edition of our **English Catalogue** left, which we can supply, without the interleaving, at 3/3 per copy.

**Stock Books.**—It is very peculiar how soon a successful idea is copied by unscrupulous makers. During the last few weeks we have seen four different makes of **Stock Books**; they were shown to us by customers who had previously bought our **Books**, and as these makes were sold at a slightly lower price they naturally found a market. One man showed us such a book which was crammed full of stamps, but all the strips come loose and every time he handled the book a number of stamps dropped out. We never pride ourselves upon selling the cheapest article, but we have no hesitation in saying that in every case what we do supply is the best possible quality. It does not pay us to sell shoddy goods. Our **stock books** are retailed at 1/6, 6/6, 10/6, and 14/6, as will be seen from detailed advertisements that have appeared in a previous number of the **FORTNIGHTLY**.

The **Index** for the Second Volume of the **FORTNIGHTLY** will be ready next number, and if weight permits will be forwarded to every reader of the "S.C.F." without charge. As in previous years we are again prepared to bind last year's **FORTNIGHTLY** in a handsome cover, supply index and pay return postage of bound volume on receipt of P.O. for 2/6. Cover and Index alone can be forwarded for 1/3 post free.

We have a few copies of the first volume bound complete left, which we can sell for 5/6 post free.

**Auction Summary.**—Of this book also we have a few copies of the first edition left, which can be had for 1/6, post free. (Indexed edition, 2/6), or this year's edition, together with the first, for 2/6, post free.

Our **Stock of Stamps** has now been all re-arranged, and our approval books are ready for the inspection of our customers. They are, as usual, arranged in a most careful manner, all varieties of shades, perforations, and shades being considered. Prices are reasonable. Those who have not yet done business with us will kindly forward references, and we shall be pleased to send any of the books mentioned.

Still they come—the advertisements, we mean. This number again shows a large increase of contracts over the last, and substantial contracts at that. We are glad to see them, but we can assure our readers that only those will be accepted that come from dealers who, in our opinion, deal fairly and honestly. More than once have we refused contracts from undesirable persons.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## These Zululand should go up in price.

FROM the *Monthly Circular* we gather that the number of English stamps of the 5d., 9d. and 1/- values, surcharged "Zululand," was as follows: Of the 5d., 6,020; of the 9d., 3,708; and of the 1/-, 4,864. If we may rely upon these figures, which are supplied by Mr. F. E. Empson, there ought to be room for a strong upward movement in the prices of these stamps.

## The Boom in U.S.A. Revenues.

The Scott Stamp and Coin Company, in their organ, the *American Journal of Philately*, gives us a foretaste of the 57th edition of the Scott Catalogue, in the shape of a general indication of the noteworthy changes that will take place in the prices quoted. Apparently the sensational item this time will be the U.S.A. Revenues.

During the past three or four months (say the Scott Company) a tremendous demand has sprung up for all kinds of United States revenue stamps, carrying some values to actual records of sales at three or four or five times our catalogue rates. This demand has been in a great measure for the perforated stamps, but it is now becoming apparent that the imperforates are also increasing in popularity, while the supply of them is far more limited than that of the perforated series; hence their advance will have to be even more rapid than that of the latter.

## Two Types of the Current Danish Stamps.

The September issue of the *Stamp Collectors' Journal* touches a high point of excellence. We hope the improvement will be permanent, for the *S.C.J.* is the oldest English stamp journal, and we are apt to expect great things of a philatelic publication which has got into its teens. Our Mr. Percy Bishop contributes to this September number a second of his "Countries to Specialise" articles, dealing this time with the stamps of Denmark. Some of the younger readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* are not familiar with the change of type in the current issue of Denmark, as described in the article under notice:—



In 1882, writes Mr. Bishop, appears two stamps of an entirely new design—the 5 öre and 20 öre with small figure of value in all corners of the stamp; and these were followed by a similar new design for the 10 öre. Three years later a marked change was made in the size of the corner figures. That was in 1885;



yet the latest edition of a catalogue we have before us takes no cognisance of this, to all intents and purposes, new issue. It is to be hoped that this very serious error of omission will be rectified in the next edition. This so-called "minor variety," which is really a very major variety, is so interesting that I have had special blocks made in order to show clearly the difference between the 1882 and 1885 editions. I illustrate only about a fourth part of the stamp, magnifying that fourth so as to show more clearly the two sizes of the corner figure. The 5 öre and 20 öre stamps I have found to be almost equally common in both types; but not so with the 10 öre. In the case of this stamp, if the 1885 variety is worth a halfpenny, then the 1882 version is cheap at half-a-crown!

It is not a difficult matter to guess that the catalogue referred to in the above extract is Stanley Gibbons'. In that catalogue every trashy issue of Danish and Norwegian local stamps is carefully listed and priced, for the benefit of such foolish schoolboys as choose to pay good English money for such tawdry rubbish; but when it comes to a most important variety of Danish postage stamps proper, it apparently is not a matter that is worth much trouble. Stay, though! Mr. Charles J. Phillips has told us that he has made some most

important discoveries in Scandinavian stamps. Perhaps the new Denmark type is one of these, but as type II. appeared in 1885, Mr. Phillips has been in no great hurry. It is somewhat unfortunate, too, that the variety is being "discovered" by him so long after it has been noted and priced by Scott and Senf.

## South Australia's Stamp Competition.

The Editor of that sprightly and outspoken journal, the *Australian Stamp Collector*, gives us the latest news concerning the stamps of South Australia:—

A writer in a South Australian paper recently described the stamps of the colony as "the worst in the world," and he wasn't far out. Probably this aroused the Government to action, for they offered a prize of five pounds for designs for a halfpenny stamp and postcard. Whether there is to be an increase of taxation to meet this lavish expenditure or not, we are unable to say, but no doubt the wants of philatelists will recoup the colony.

Over fifty designs were received by the Postmaster-General, but not one of them has been approved of as being suitable for the purpose. Eleven of them possessed sufficient merit, however to warrant the judges in dividing the sum awarded amongst this number of competitors. Most likely a design will be made up from these drawings.

One of the best designs for the post card is stated to have been the work of a Melbourne artist, and consisted of a view of King William Street, Adelaide, showing the General Post Office and Town Hall in the foreground, a small vignette in the corner having a picture of a mail steamer at the Semaphore.

## An Arctic Postage Stamp.

The Arctic regions may now be said to possess a certain philatelic interest, for we learn that the unusually large number of people who have been attracted to Spitzbergen this summer has induced the enterprising owners of the little steamer *Lofohen*, which has plied weekly between the island and Tromsø, to manufacture a postage stamp franking letters between the two places. Although the correspondence has been strictly limited, the stamps would appear to have met with a ready sale, for a traveller who has recently returned from a visit to Spitzbergen reports that whole sheets of the philatelic curiosities were bought, each stamp being duly post-marked "to order" so as to give it the appearance of having been genuinely postally used.

## San Marino's Big Philatelic Revenue.

In an article on San Marino and its Stamps, many of which, by the way, we owe to the good (?) offices of an ingenious stamp dealer, lately resident in the Republic, the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* gives the number of stamps issued in this tiny state:—

1877.				
2c.	10c.	20c.	30c.	40c.
100,000	50,000	300,000	25,000	25,000
1892, Provisional Issue.				
5c. on 30c.	5c. on 10c.	10c. on 20c.	10 + 10 on 20c.	
10,000	20,000	40,000	40,000	
1892, Ordinary Issue.				
5c.	30c.	40c.	45c.	100c.
100,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	5,000
1894.				
2c.	10c.	15c.	65c.	200c.
100,000	40,000	20,000	15,000	10,000
1894, Jubilee Issue.				
25c.	50c.		100c.	
200,000	100,000		100,000	
1895.				
2c.	20c.	100c.		
200,000	20,000	5,000		

Roughly speaking, these issues add up to about £13,000 face value. Not bad this, for nine years! How many inhabitants has San Marino? We believe about 69.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., August 12th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
A	British Columbia, 50c. perf. 12½ ..	1 7 0
a	British Honduras, 50c. small on 1 ..	3 10 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green ..	3 15 0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue ..	2 2 0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA. *	4 15 0
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey ..	1 5 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- *	2 2 0
a	Great Britain, 10/- grey on bleuté, anchor ..	1 14 0
a	Naples, ¾t. light blue, cross ..	4 15 0
a b	Nevis, 4d. rose * ..	3 6 0
a	ditto, used ..	1 12 0
a b	4d. orange, engraved * ..	2 10 0
b	6d. grey-lilac on bluish ..	1 10 0
a b	6d. grey-lilac, two copies, each £1 5 0 ..	and 1 7 0
a	1/- green, perf. 13 * ..	4 0 0
b	ditto, used ..	1 5 0
a	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15 ..	3 15 0
a	1/- pale green, litho. * ..	1 10 0
a	1/- violet * ..	2 0 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green ..	1 7 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green * ..	1 2 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 2gr. red, on entire ..	1 7 0
a	ditto, 3gr. yellow, ditto ..	1 6 0
b	Philippines, first issue, 10 cuartos pale rose-red ..	1 6 0
a	Roumania, 50b. with beard ..	1 6 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange * ..	2 2 0
a b	1/- orange, CA., perf. 12 ..	1 6 0
a b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. ..	4 12 6
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	3 2 0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf. ..	1 5 0
a	5/- dull lake, perf. 12½ * ..	1 4 0
l	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac, on white ..	3 3 0
a b	United States (1869-75), 24c., no grill * ..	2 8 0
b	(1869), 90c. ..	1 12 0
A	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line * ..	4 12 6
a b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	3 0 0
a	6d. black bronze ..	3 3 0
a	Wurtemberg, 70k. violet (dark shade) ..	3 12 0
a	70k. lilac-rose ..	3 6 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., August 18th, 1896.

b	Afghanistan (1292), abasi, purple * ..	1 3 0
b	(1293), 1 rupee greenish, pair * ..	3 15 0
a	Bolivia, 500c. black, 9 stars ..	3 0 0
a	British Central Africa, £1 black and orange, no wmk. ..	1 0 0
a	British East Africa, 2 rupees (on B.E.A. Co.) ..	1 12 6
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey ..	2 2 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green, good margins ..	2 15 0
b	Ceylon, 9d. imperf. ..	2 0 0
a	1/- purple, no wmk. ..	1 8 0
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey, * ..	1 10 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green, penmark ..	1 2 0
b	Great Britain (1884), 5d. green 'perf. 12, "Specimen" ..	1 0 0
a	2/- deep blue, * ..	1 11 0
a	10/- grey-green, anchor ..	1 10 0
a	£1 brown-lilac, Maltese cross ..	1 1 0
a b	£5 orange on bleuté, "Specimen" ..	1 18 0
a b	Guatemala, 20c. yellow and green, centre inverted * ..	1 8 0
b c	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose ..	1 4 0
A	Mexico, 12c. black on brown, (error) imperf. ..	2 2 0
A	Naples, ¾t. blue, arms, on entire newspaper ..	17 10 0
b	50gr. lake * ..	2 4 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Philippines, 2r. blue, "Habilitado Por La Nacion" ..	3 7 6
a	St. Christopher, 6d. green, Nevis Revenue, surcharged ..	3 0 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star * ..	4 4 0
a	(6d.) green, ditto, used ..	1 18 0
b	St. Vincent, 1/- slate, perf. about 15 * ..	1 8 0
b c	Sandwich Islands, Inter Island, 2c. black on white wove ..	1 12 0
b c	Scinde, ¾a. scarlet, on piece ..	1 5 0
c	Spain, 12 cuartos red and blue, imperf., inverted centre, cracked across ..	5 0 0
a	Sweden, 3sk. bco. green ..	1 6 0
a	Turks Islands, 1/- slate-green * ..	1 12 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., September 7th, 1896.

c	British Guiana, 4c. blue, perf. 12½ ..	1 4 0
b	British Honduras, 6d. yellow * ..	2 4 0
c	Canada, 6d. violet-black, slight cut at top * ..	1 12 0
b	Ceylon, 9d. imperf. ..	2 0 0
a	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA. * ..	3 17 6
b	Nevis, 4d. rose * ..	2 12 6
b	4d. orange, engraved * ..	2 0 0
b	1/- yellow-green ..	3 4 0
a	New Brunswick, half 6d. yellow on entire ..	1 6 0
a	6d. yellow ..	2 14 0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange ..	1 16 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green ..	1 5 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green * ..	0 10 0
a b	Queensland, 1d. imperf. ..	1 6 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	1 0 0
b	St. Lucia (6d.) green, star ..	1 18 0
a	St. Vincent, 1/- violet-rose, comp. perf. * ..	3 0 0
a b	6d. green, CA., perf. 12 ..	1 0 0
c	5/- rose, margins torn, touching design ..	5 5 0
A	Sierra Leone, 4d. blue, CC., perf. 14, block of 9 * ..	13 0 0
a	Trinidad, 5 - dull lake, perf. 12½ * ..	0 18 0
b	United States, 5c. imperf. ..	1 10 0
c	(1856), 90c. blue, partly thinned, otherwise fine ..	2 14 0
b	(1861), 90c. blue ..	1 0 0
a	(1869-75), 24c., no grill * ..	2 6 0
a	Columbus, set, used ..	5 0 0
A	Victoria (1895), 2/- green, pair * ..	1 8 0
a b	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown ..	1 2 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., September 8th, 1896.

a	Antigua, 2½d. brown ..	1 1 0
a b	Azores, 5r. black surcharge on black, imperf. ..	1 10 0
a	Barbados (1860), 4d. brick red * ..	2 15 0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. brown-red * ..	1 2 0
b c	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. lilac, triangular, block of 4, with gum, but slightly stained * ..	5 17 6
c	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., torn one side, good margins ..	9 0 0
a	8d. brown, star, perf. * ..	8 8 0
b	10d. vermilion, imperf. * ..	1 2 0
c	2/- blue, imperf., slight defect, fine margins ..	5 0 0
a	5c. on 4c. lilac-rose, pair ..	2 10 0
a	5c. on 8c. yellow, inverted surcharge ..	1 12 0
a	Great Britain, 10d. grey-green, Anchor ..	1 12 0
a	India, ¾a. red, pair, with bottom margin ..	13 10 0
A	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., medium early, on entire ..	12 10 0
a	Mexico (1867), 4 reales black on yellow, Gothic surch. ..	1 5 0
a	(1884), 10 pesos blue * ..	1 8 0
b c	Natal, first issue, 9d. blue, unevenly cut (26 x 32 mm.) ..	5 0 0
b c	Nevis, 6d. litho., slight stain * ..	9 0 0
b	New South Wales, 6d. grey brown, wmk. 8 sideways ..	1 1 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green ..	1 1 0
a	Portuguese Indies, 6r. on 200r. yellow of 1872 (S.G. 170), on entire ..	2 2 0
a b	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. * ..	2 12 6
a	6d. olive-brown * ..	3 0 0
a b	ditto * ..	2 0 0
a	1/- lilac ..	1 1 0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- orange, perf. 12½ * ..	2 6 0
a	6d. lilac, CA. * ..	2 15 0
a	St. Vincent, 1/- slate, perf. about 15 * ..	2 8 0

(To be continued.)

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1c. red,	2c. carmine	} 6 } 2/6 } 16/- } £6
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2c. violet,	10c. green	
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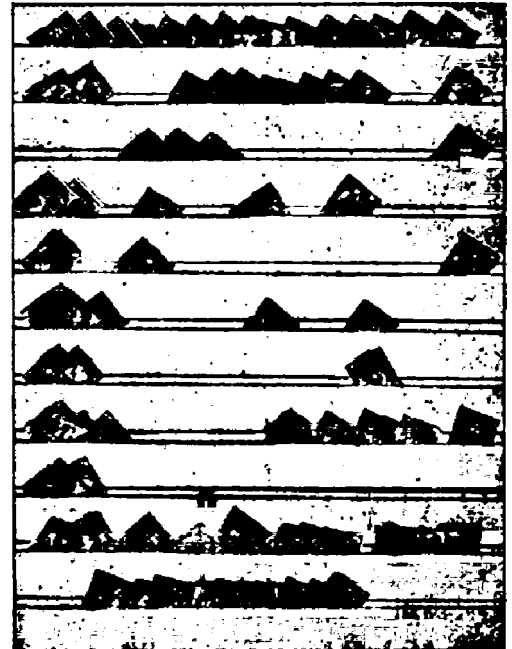
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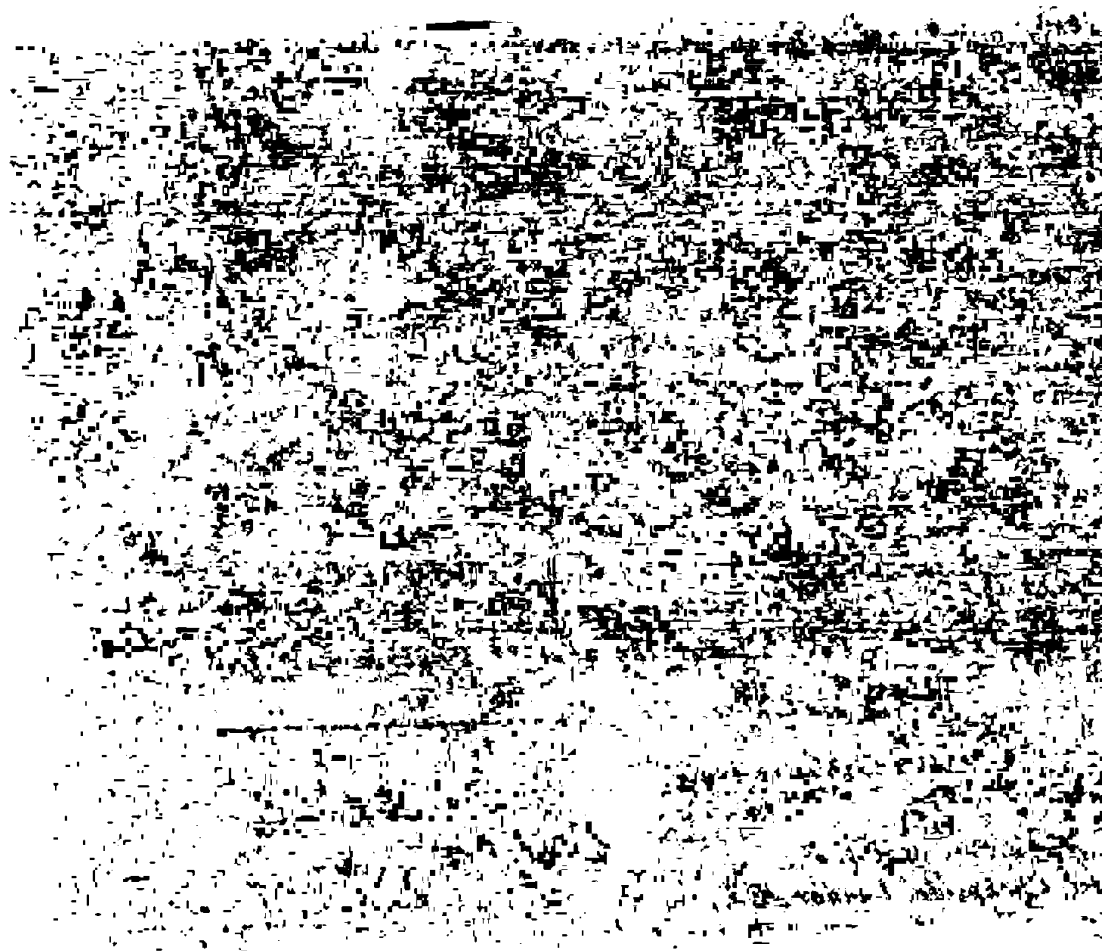
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**THREE ROLLS of . . . . . TRANSPARENT PAPER FOR STAMP MOUNTS, . .**

Coated with chemically pure gum, 25 yards long each roll, 3in. wide, packed in convenient tin boxes, with side slit, in order to easily unroll, either partially or totally, will be sent on receipt of . .

One Shilling in Unused Stamps. POST FREE. (Registration 2 1/2d. more.)

Three rolls will be sufficient to make 6,000 Stamp Mounts, thus combining economy with ease.

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DEALER IN BRITISH STAMPS,  
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**SETS OF PLATE NUMBERS.**  
Fine Condition. Approval willingly.  
These Sets are all complete, and are  
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obtainable anywhere.

15.	½d. red	..	..	8 6
151.	1d. red	..	..	21/-
2.	½d. red	..	..	4d.
7.	2d. blue	..	..	1 6
18.	2½d. rose	..	..	10 6
7.	2½d. blue	..	..	1 6
20.	3d. rose	..	..	10 6
10.	4d. orange	..	..	3 6
8.	6d. lilac	..	..	4 6
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13.	1/- green	..	..	12 6
Series of 11 Sets for				70/-
Collection, 300 varieties				£25
" 350 "				£10

10% discount over £1 on Sets.

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Ready early in October. The Standard  
Price-Catalogue of British Stamps and  
Postmarks. Comprising:—Adhesive,  
Postage, Telegraph and Fiscal Stamps;  
Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards, &c.;  
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British Post Offices, with their office  
numbers. The most complete Cata-  
logue of British Stamps ever published.

200 pages. 200 Illustrations.

5th Edition (1896-97), 2/6 post free.

**This Week's Bargains:**

Transvaal (1896), 2/6 violet and green	s. d.
Swaziland (1893), 6d. used (cat., 4/-)	2 9
" " " (6/6)	3 6
Great Britain (1896), Army Off., set of 3 (½, 1, 2½)	0 10
United States (1895), 81	1 4
" " 82	4 6
" " 85	6 0
Zanzibar (1896), on India, complete set of 14, (½a. to 5 rupees, used)	48 0
Transvaal (1894), set of 4. "Shafts," obsolete	0 10
British South Africa, set of 6 (½, 1, 2, 4, 6d., 1/-), obsolete, used	3 0
Great Britain, £1 green, postally, used	4 0
New South Wales (1855), 2d., "Diadem," wmk. double-lined	7 6

Terms Cash with Order. Money returned if Stamps  
not approved.

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R.S.B.

Wholesale and Retail List (free). Ready shortly.

**CHARLES T. REED,** 26, Manchester Square,  
Mansions,  
Dorset Street, London, W., England. [5

**SOME CHEAP SETS.**

Used, unless marked \* No. in Set. Price.

Persia, 1894. 1, 2, 5, 8, 10s., 1 kran.	6	0 8
" " 1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 16s., 1, 2, 5 kran. (The 16 shahi is rare).	9	5 0
Modena, 1852, 5, 10, 15, 25, 40c.	5	9 0
Roman States, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 baj	6	1 6
*Greece, Olympian, 1-25 lepta	6	1 0
*British East Africa, on Indian, ½-12a.	10	15 0
*Zanzibar, on Indian, ½-12a.	10	15 0
Norway, Unpaid, 1-50 ore	5	0 9
Bolivia, 1894, 1-100c.	7	1 6
*Cuba, 1896, ½m. to rc. de p.	7	0 6
Bulgaria, Boris	4	1 0
*Borneo, "Pictures," 1-24c., used	9	3 0
Labuan	9	3 0
Oil Rivers, 2½d. and 3d., very cheap	2	2 0
Great Britain, 1d. red, plate numbers com- plete from 71 to 224, fine picked copies, mounted on cardboard, splendid value	150	10 0

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ELMSDALE,  
BYRON ROAD, JERSEY.

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**Current Unused British Colonials.**

Price List Free on application.

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**OLD UNUSED BRITISH COLONIALS.**

**FERNANDO** Five Cents  
**PO** on  
**1896.** Ten Cents **2/-**

**ALFRED SMITH & SON**  
BATH. [2

**GRATIS: Set of 10 Brazil.**

Purchasers of "October" Packet containing  
97 Different Stamps, including set 4 Guatemala,  
Bermuda, Cyprus, Sirmoor, Hong Kong, Finland,  
Straits, Peru, Austrian Levant, Queensland, (new),  
Bosnia, Bolivia, Grenada, Transvaal, 1/- (obsolete),  
Spain, Official, (rare, used), Cape 3d., 6d. and 1/-, etc.  
FREE, 1s. 1d. Selections sent on approval.  
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List Free. [12-alt.

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**COLLECTOR IS BREAKING AN OLD  
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AND will sell the Varieties at 30 to 40 per cent. below  
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per cent. below catalogue.

Selections on approval against two satisfactory  
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LIST CONTINUED.

Cape, 1d. Woodblock, 55/- and 66/-; 4d. dark blue, 55/-;  
1/- green, pair, 50/-; 5/- CA., 27/- Ceylon, 4d., imperf.,  
unused, £14; 10d., used, 17/-; 1/- used, 14/-; 1/9, used,  
50/-; 1d., no wmk., perf. 12, unused, 60/-; 2c brown,  
perf. 12, 25/-; strip of 3, 8d. Service, unused, 48/-;  
H. Colombia, 50c., perf. 14, used, 30/-; 25c., perf. 12, 2, 4,  
used, 40/-; ditto 50c., 33/- Canada, 7½d. green, 50/-;  
10d. blue, 32/-; 4d., perf. 25/-; 5c., imperf., 40/-  
Dominica, 1/- CC., 12, 20/-; 1/- CC. 14, 20/-; 6d. CA.,  
unused, 16/6; used, 34/-; 6d. revenue, used postally,  
26/-; 1/- ditto, 34/- Fiji, 2d. on 6d. (Gibbons, No. 21,  
catalogued £10), £5. French Colonies, 2c. (head), 21/-.

See continuation next issue.

**W. J. PATTISON,**  
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NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

**Bargains in SCARCE ENGLISH.**  
(Returnable if unsatisfactory).

Our	Gibbons'	
Prices.	Prices.	
½d. red, plate 9..	4/3	10/-
1d. rose-red, CC., plate 16 ..	2/6	8/-
2d. blue, CC., plate 16, plate 6 ..	4/-	12/6
2½d. rose, plate 17 ..	3 9	12/6
4d. rose, small garter ..	3/6	20/-
4d. rose, medium garter ..	5/3	16/-
6d. pale chestnut, plate 12 ..	4/6	7/6
11 complete sets, viz.:		
½d. red, 1d. red, 2d. blue, 2½d. rose, 1	nett	
2½d. blue, 3d. rose, 4d. orange, 6d.,	70/-	176/-
lilac, 6d. grey, 1/- green ..		

Approval Books sent to responsible parties.

10% Discount over £1.

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75, Little Britain, LONDON, E.C.

Bankers: National Provincial Bank of England. [10



SENF CATALOGUE, 1896, Post Free, 2/9.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 54—No. 2—Vol. III. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1896. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Cambridge University Philatelic Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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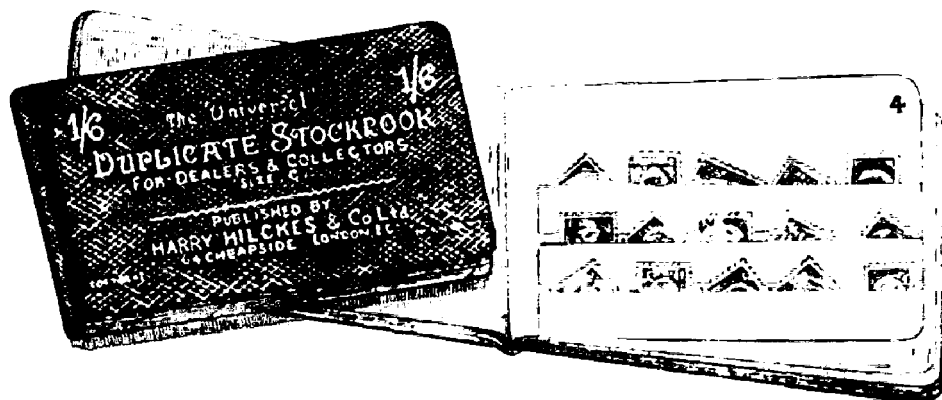
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MAKE THE SALE OF

**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.**  
**A SPECIALITY.**

The NEXT SALE will take place on the 26th and 27th October, and contain amongst other Fine Stamps: A MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF WEST INDIANS, including: Dominica, CA., 1/-, used and unused; Montserrat, CA., 4d. blue; St. Christopher, CA., 1d. lilac-rose, unused; St. Vincent, 5 - rose; Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA.; Nevis, 6d. green; St. Lucia, 1/- orange, used and unused; Virgin Isles, 6d., perf. 15, and 1 -, single-lined border, &c., &c.; New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 6d. and 1/-; United States, fine Departmentals.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE SALES, Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** will hold SALES OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS on November 17th, 18th and 30th; December 1st and 14th. 1897—January 5th, 6th, 19th and 20th; February 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; March 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; April 5th, 6th, 27th, and 28th; May 11th, 25th, and 26th; June 15th, 16th, 29th and 30th. When possible Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** issue their Catalogues one month in advance, in order to circulate in America and on the Continent.

LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

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Specialities in RARE STAMPS,  
 ENTIRE ENVELOPES and POSTCARDS.

*Finest Stock of Postcards*  
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**APPROVAL SHEETS**

Against Cash Deposit or Satisfactory References.

**WANTED** and Good Prices given for all kinds of **RARE****STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS.**

Also United States, Common Colonials, Central and South American in Quantities.

To the Colonies. Stamps, Cash or Goods of any kind sent in Exchange. [5]

**A Good Investment.**

If you want to invest ONE SHILLING to the best possible advantage send TO-DAY for the

**Waterloo Packet, No. 2**

Set of 5 rare Honduras, used; and set of 5 Portuguese Colonies presented gratis to every customer.

THE Packet contains 100 superior Stamps, all in fine condition and all guaranteed genuine, including Great Britain Rare Set of 4 Railway Stamps, used and 1841 issue, imperf.; Siam (rare surcharge); Queensland, rare 1/- mauve; Guatemala (1886 lithographed); Iceland, 1876, rare; Canada; Victoria; Gibraltar; Portugal (fine set, many issues); Saint Vincent (rare surcharge); India (native state); Gold Coast; Trevancore; German (fine set, including obsolete issues); Western Australia, swan; New South Wales; Costa Rica, second issue; Japan, fine set, including many good stamps; Finland (good variety); Cape of Good Hope; France, fine variety, many issues; United States (1863); Portuguese Indies (used and fine); Luxemburg (1891); Holland (fine set including Baby Queen issue); and many other good clean stamps. The whole collection would cost you many times the price asked if purchased separately.

PRICE . . . . . 1 2 (post free).

Full Particulars of Grand

**Prize Distribution:** Whereby every purchaser of goods to the value of 5/- during October, November and December is certain to secure a prize.

Will be sent to every purchaser of the Waterloo Packet.

[11]

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** 53, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.

*Doings of Societies.*

**CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.**

COMMITTEE FOR SEASON 1895-96.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*  
Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

Messrs. H. A. Macmillan, H. J. Bignold, W. Morley, N. Z. Dracachis, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, W. G. Hawkins, D. T. Nops, and Percy C. Bishop.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E

**HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

The first meeting of the season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, on October 5th, the following members were present, Messrs. Hilckes, C. Forbes, F. B. Carr, J. E. Joselin, H. Thompson, D. T. Nops, D. Thomson, H. W. Plumridge, G. B. Browne, and J. B. Camaschalla. The first portion of the evening was occupied by a discussion on the Lost Rarity Packet, and arrangements for the ensuing season, afterwards Mr. D. T. Nops kindly showed portions of a fine collection he had brought for the inspection of members.

The following gentlemen were duly elected members: Otto Richter (Baden-Baden), David Benjamin (Shanghai), and R. Dalton (Bristol).

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

The General Meeting will be held on Monday, the 19th inst.

Nov. 2nd. Magic Lantern display of Forgeries, Novelties, etc.

And our Tenth Auction Sale on Nov. 30th.

**EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.**

Settlement of Lost Rarity Packet is again deferred owing to the reason that two members interested are holding out against the arrangement that the stamps found, should be sold by public Auction and the proceeds divided *pro rata*. The Superintendent however hopes to obtain the signature of these two to the above arrangement during the next few days.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Record*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From Germany: *Die Post*, *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, *General Anzeiger für Philatelie* and *Internationales Offertenblatt für Philatelie*.

From the United States: *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The American Collector*, *The Boston Stamp Book*, *The Columbian Philatelist*, *The Home Worker*.

From Buenos Aires: *El Filatelista*.

The Stamps of St. Vincent has lately been added to the list of Books, the Librarian will be pleased to send it to any member for perusal on receipt of postage.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

*President:*—T. WILSON, Esq.

*Vice-President:*—R. HOLLICK, Esq.  
W. PIMM, Esq.

*Committee:*

Mr. P. T. DEARIN. Mr. H. R. BEWLAY.  
Mr. W. S. VAUGHTON. Mr. W. F. WADAMS.

*Hon. Secretary & Treasurer:*—  
Mr. H. E. GREATOREX.

**OCTOBER 1st.—ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING.**

The above officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year.

The accounts showing a balance of £19 11s. 5½d. in favour of the Society, were audited, approved and adopted.

The election of the following members was confirmed. Messrs. J. Ferroni (Rep. of Colombia), R. Osborne (Spain), C. Dascalakis (Greece), D. Benjamin (China), H. Cunningham (London), E. G. Cullin (Straits), H. A. Hatton (Natal), P. Kohl (Germany), C. McNaughtan (London), J. N. Coumenos (Greece), Dr. jun. C. S. Socolis (Greece).

The following were then unanimously elected members:—Messrs. M. Giwelb (London), C. Whitfield-King (Ipswich), T. H. R. Crowle (London) Wilmot Corfield (India), J. H. Lewes (India), W. Salisbury (Birmingham), J. R. Smeaton (Birmingham), W. J. Austin (Natal), Guydon Hutson (Glasgow), F. J. Cade (Cheltenham), Mrs. Eadon (Birmingham) Miss A. Benson (Bath).

One application was refused, and several postponed through want of time to examine them.

The annexed programme was approved:—

- 1896.
- Oct. 15. Presidential Address Mr. Wilson.
- Nov. 5. Display—Ceylon.
- " 19. Paper—South Australian Officials  
Mr. G. Johnson.
- Dec. 3. Display—South Australia
- " 17. " United States
- 1897.
- Jan. 7. Paper—Cape of Good Hope  
Mr. G. Johnson
- " 21. Display—Postal Curiosities
- Feb. 4. " Trinidad
- " 18. Paper—Mexico Mr. Wilson
- Mar. 4. " "Used stamps and why I prefer to collect them," followed by a Display of his collection of West Indies
- " 18. " Barbados Mr. R. Hollick
- Ap. 1. " "Austria and Hungary" Mr. W. Pimm
- May 6. Philatelic Display Mr. W. B. Avery.
- " 20. Paper—Roumania Mr. Edelmuller
- Oct. 7, 1897. Annual General Business Meeting.

The report of the past session with rules, balance sheets, etc., will be ready for distribution about October 14th, and the Hon. Sec., will be pleased to send a copy on application if such is received early. For although we have printed 4000, we can only send them to selected names from our lists.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of ½d. for every word,—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. Bazaar Reference Ticket.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [10]

STAMPS.—Cheap to medium, moderate prices. Speciality, approval sheets. Correspondence in English. JOHNSTON, Stamp Dealer, New Deer, Aberdeenshire. [6]

REGAN, Swift, or any other make Gent's or Ladies' Bicycles offered in Exchange for only Good Stamps. Foreign export solicited.—KNASTER, Cambridge. [7]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES of EXCHANGE (PURE and SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to THE SECRETARY, Mr. C. FORBES, Hon. Secretary and Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [3]

A NUMBER of Duplicates for sale from 30/- to ½d. Cheap. Approval against Reference.—DRESSER, Bexley Heath, Kent. [4]

OLD UNITED STATES and Columbian stamps given in exchange for good English Stamps and Colonials. Make trial shipment, 100 to 5,000 of your country. Write what you want in North, South, and Central American stamps. I will give satisfaction.—F. M. THOMAS, Stamp Dealer, 3610, Finney Ave. St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. [2]

D. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield, sends approval sheets of English plate numbers, priced 75 per cent below catalogue. Well worth a trial. [12]

250 VARIETIES, 10d.; 500, 4/2; 1000, 16/6; 1500, 40/- No reprints, locals or fiscals, 100 varieties of Colonials, 2/9; 100 ditto South America, 3/-; 1/ values of Falkland, St. Helena, Tobago, Fiji, Bahamas, St. Vincent, Zulu, 1/1 each, post extra. 6d. values 9d. each. See New List, 70 pages. Wholesale and Retail free. 1d. Nova Scotia, 1, 2, 8½, 10, 12½ for 15/- each; 8½ green, 7/6 each.—MIDLAND STAMP Co., Northampton Street, Birmingham.

BLACK PENNY and blue twopenny English stamps on entire (preferred) or loose of 1840 issue, purchased in large or small quantities. Price according to condition. Bazaar reference ticket.—GEORGE MACKAY, 74, New Street, Birmingham.

TO those who will send me 100, 500 of best postage stamps or envelopes, I will return the same number of Austrian Levant, Lombardian, Hungarian, Balcan Russian or Italian Stamps, etc. Answer by reply postal card.—N. WUNSCH, Nicolsburg, Austria

EXTRAORDINARY Value, 100 different rare stamps catalogued by Gibbons £5, for 20/- in a blank postal order. All the stamps in good condition. No rubbish. I desire specimen copy of all stamp papers.—ROBERT OSBORNE, Puerto Sta Maria, Spain. [2]

COLLECTORS invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first-class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from ROBERT REID, Jnr., 20, Lichfield Road, Kew Gardens. [2]

ABYSSINIA Used, postmarked Harrar—set complete (7) 12/6; ERITREA, used, set complete (11) 9/- All guaranteed genuine. J. HENRY BLAKE, Aden, Arabia.

WHOEVER sends me 125—250 good stamps will receive 125—300 Servia (old), Roumania, 68—96 Roumelia, Bulgaria, Jubilee, Montenegro, etc. Always answer.—S. GLASBROOK, Motoc Street, Jassy.

GRATIS—List 500 Sets, Packets, etc., Sheets, ½d stamp upwards; 250 superior mounts free to all ordering sheets. Agents wanted, good commission, besides valuable prizes. Many secured albums last season. Why not be among our smiling and satisfied customers? Particulars free F. McAUSLAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. Established 1887. [15]

WANTED by man, age 26, situation as Assistant to a London Stamp Dealer, several years experience as a Dealer. Write Assistant, Office of this Paper.

(Continued on third page of Cover).

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY . . .

## MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

**M**ESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing season will be as under:—

1896—October 28th and 29th. November 12th, 13th, 26th and 27th. December 15th, 16th and 30th.

1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

October 28th and 29th. A Fine Private Collection, comprising the following Rarities:

Oldenburg, complete, including ½gr. yell., used; French Colonies, 4c. grey, a fine pair; Hungary, 3kr. litho., unused; Cape of Good

Hope, Woodblocks, 1d. red, superb, and 4d. dark blue, fine; Mauritius, large fillet, 2d. blue; British Guiana, fine large unused blocks of 1860 issues, provl. 2c. and 4c.; Grenada, ½d., error, postage, used; Canada, 7½d. green, used, on piece, very fine; Nevis, lithographed, 6d. olive, used, and another unused, and others; New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, fine; St. Domingo, 1st issue, 1 real yellow, used; St. Vincent, wmk. Star, 1d. drab, and 4d. ultramarine, unused, with gum, and provls.; fine Sydney Views and laureateds; Philippines, 1rl. violet, surch. Habilitado, &c., used; Turks Islands, a scarce lot of provisionals; Ceylon, 1/9, fine; Victoria, 2d., fine background; Fiji Islands, early issues, a fine lot; Queensland, 1st issue, 1d., 2d. and 6d.; Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson on blue paper, unused and fine; and others.

**NOTICE.**—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions from MR. DOMINIC BROSNAN, who is going abroad, owing to ill-health, to Sell by Auction, at the St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, on Wednesday, October 28th, at 5.30 p.m. precisely (just previous to the Sale of Stamps), the Lease of the Shop, No. 27, New Oxford Street, now in his occupation, occupying a prominent position nearly facing Mudie's Library, whereat the business of a Stamp Dealer has been successfully carried on during the last eight years. The lease has 2½ years unexpired, with conditional option of renewal at the low rent of £100 per annum, including rates and taxes. Particulars of Guildford E. Lewis, Esq., 14, South Square, Gray's Inn; at the St. Martin's Town Hall; and of the Auctioneers, 35, Old Jewry, E.C.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of collections and rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale.

**VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.**

CATALOGUES of all Sales, and Terms, can be had on application to

**Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER (Philatelic Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.**

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## Transvaal, 1895 Issue.

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Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.  
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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."  
CONDUCTED BY  
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 54.—No. 2.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1896.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### PRINCE-OF-NAPLES-WEDDING POST CARDS.

AN OFFICIAL ISSUE OR A DARING FRAUD?

WE have received from Italy a handbill, gaudily printed in blue and red, setting forth with much *empressment* the fact that somebody or other will issue, on the occasion of the marriage of Victor Emmanuel of Savoy, commonly known as the Prince of Naples, with the Princess Helen of Montenegro, "a commemorative postal card bearing an official stamp." The handbill proceeds to set forth that the "circulation" of the post card will be 24,000 copies, and that the price for each card posted from Italy to the address of the person ordering same will be 30 centimes (threepence). We scarcely like to denounce this issue off-hand as being unworthy of serious attention; because the handbill bears the name of a philatelist who can claim membership in some of the most reputable philatelic organisations of the continent. Nevertheless the thing has a disagreeable look. Even supposing the projected commemorative card under notice has received some sort of official sanction, it is still in the highest degree unnecessary; but we are not prepared to believe, without proof, that there will be anything official about the card save the Italian stamp which must of necessity appear thereupon before a single copy can leave the country. Anyone can buy 10 centesimi post cards, print a "commemorative" device upon them, and retail them at 30 centesimi apiece. We advise extreme caution in connection with this "issue."

## HOW MANY MORE NEW HOBBIES?

The *Daily Mail*, under the title of "Busography," has been trying to induce its readers to believe that grown men are seriously applying themselves to the study of—omnibus tickets! and now *Pearson's Weekly* tells us that the latest fad in the far East is the curious mania for collecting matchbox labels. Such considerable proportions has this fad assumed that a class of matchbox brokers has arisen. They board every steamer as she arrives in the Hooghli from a Western port, and bargain with the sailors for the matchboxes they may have brought with them from England. These empty boxes sometimes fetch, in Calcutta and Bombay, one hundred times the price that they are sold for when full. A collection lately realised 600 rupees, or about £40. The labels are mounted in an album like postage stamps.

### SOME TIMELY TIPS CONCERNING QUEENSLAND.

We are indebted to our good friend, Mr. J. A. Smallbones, for the following information concerning Queensland Stamps, which has come to him by mail from the colony:—

The "Cames" 2½d. Queensland is just issued and is a very pretty stamp, but the colour is so near the 1d. that it will only be in issue a short time. There will also be a change in all values as soon as present stocks are exhausted, it having been decided to print all values with the numerals in right and left bottom corners same as 2½d. and 5d.

### TRINIDAD'S NEW STAMPS.

The new stamps of Trinidad are of striking design. The central device is a revival of the figure of Britannia. There are ten values ranging from ½d. to £1, and the stamps of 5/-, 10/- and £1 are of a much larger size than the lower values.

### PHILATELIC ACTION AT LIVERPOOL.

At the Liverpool County Court recently, before his Honour Judge Collier, an action was brought by Mr. H. G. Bradbury, for whom Mr. P. C. Kelly appeared, against Mr. G. S. Dodman, to recover £3 8s. 9d. balance of £6 deposited by plaintiff with defendant as security for the return of a "Great Britain" stamp, buff plate 13, left with plaintiff for purchase or return. The plaintiff's case was that he ultimately declined to purchase the stamp at the price of £10, which was asked for it, and returned it to defendant. Having received £2 11s. 3d. on account, he brought the action to recover the amount deposited. The defence was that the plaintiff had purchased the stamp out and out. His Honour having heard the evidence, gave judgment for the plaintiff, with costs.

### A "VIVE LA RUSSIE" STAMP.

MANY newspapers state that "the visit of the Czar to Paris will be signalled by the issue of a new stamp, which the 200,000 collectors in this country will be eager to secure. This issue will be some contribution towards defraying the expenses entailed by the welcome given to the Emperor and Empress. This may be true; it may not. Time will show.

### CHINA'S POSTAL SYSTEM AS IT IS.

IN view of the promised establishment of a properly organised postal system for the Chinese Empire, it becomes interesting to look into the existing mail arrangements of that vast country. In the nick of time a long and most exhaustive article on this very subject appears in *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*, of which a marked copy has been sent us by an esteemed continental correspondent. The Chinese postal service, such as it is, had hitherto been divided into two classes, it appears.

The first of these, the Imperial Post, is at present administered by the Postmaster-General, whose office is in Peking. The branches are restricted to the provincial capitals, and Vice-Postmasters are in charge. These officials are selected exclusively out of the upper military class. The Imperial Post was to forward only imperial edicts, regulations, and similar official writings; however, in reality the messengers also carry the private correspondence of the upper classes. The carriers are specially selected and enjoy a number of privileges, as for instance, the right to live at hotels and obtain food for their horses free of charge.

The second division is known as "General Postal Service (Yuting)"; it extends over all China. The main office is in Peking, and in every Chinese city that is walled there is a branch. The Taotais, or generally the Postmasters of their respective districts. They name District Governors, are their subordinates who act as local postmasters. The latter again control and are responsible for the carriers and messengers. Each one of these must forward the mail from his station to those points which are nearest to his centre. The average distance between does not exceed 100 li. (about 30 English miles). At every station there is a man who keeps account of all letters received and forwarded. All post office buildings are the property of the government.

Almost all official documents, which are to be forwarded, bear a superscription which states how quickly they are to be carried. Ordinary documents are marked 200 li. (about 80 miles) per day; those which are to be especially expedited are expected to travel 400 li. and those which are in great haste, as much as 800 li. per day. The messenger must traverse this distance, no matter what the state of the weather may be, otherwise he is subject to punishment. The best time which has ever been made in China is 280 German miles (nearly 1400 miles) in 4 days, or about 14 miles per hour. This occurred in the year 1851 in the Taiping Rebellion. The expense of this postal service is born by the provincial authorities.

As perfect as the Imperial postal system of China may have been, even in former centuries, it was never used to any extent by the commercial or private interests. Even had they been permitted to send letters or packets by the means of this service, it is still doubtful if they would have availed themselves of the privilege, as the officials would have been suspected of tampering with private letters. In consequence, independent postal agencies were established in the cities and market towns for the convenience of bankers, merchants, and private individuals, which undertook the forwarding of letters and packets. In the large cities there are generally several of these private enterprises, and these produce considerable competition. As a result, it occurs more frequently than anywhere in the world, that postal officials collect mail matter from the houses of customers instead of the latter sending letters and packets to the office itself.

Such then is the cumbersome postal system, or, rather, series of postal systems, with which the conservative celestial has rested content. Sir Robert Hart, an Englishman whose ancestors will probably be raised to the highest rank in the Chinese nobility, in accordance with Chinese custom, is changing all that. In 1893, Sir Robert addressed a letter to the Peking authorities, asking to be allowed to organise a postal system for China on European lines. His proposal was accepted, and China will very shortly have her postal system. The rules and regulations of the Chinese St. Martin's Le Grand, are already promulgated. The existing Customs Post Offices in the treaty ports will become Imperial Post Offices, but will remain under the supervision of the Customs Commissioners. The Chinese G.P.O., will be, properly enough, at Peking. Then there is the question of the postage-rates. That is important:

The rate of postage is different, according to where letters go from seaport to seaport, into the inland, or to foreign countries. For foreign letters it shall be regulated by Art. 5 and 6 of the Universal Postal Union agreement. If a foreign letter is to be sent through an Imperial post office into the inland, to a place which is not included in the Universal Postal Union, the receiver has to pay the inland postage in addition. Likewise, for letters from an inland station to foreign countries, the sender has to prepay inland postage. The amount of this inland postage is to be determined and collected by private post office establishments.

For transmission from one treaty port to another the following scale shall apply:—

Post cards .....	1 c.
Letters up to $\frac{1}{4}$ Chinese oz. (Tael) .....	2 c.
" " $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. ....	4 c.
" " 1 oz. ....	8 c.
	and upwards on the same scale.
Newspapers, Chinese .....	1 c.
" European .....	2 c.
Samples and Printed Matter, per 2 oz. ....	2 c.

For registered letters an additional impost is collected. A receipt is to be given therefore. For foreign letters, the regulations contained in Art. 5-7 of the Universal Postal Union agreement are to govern. For a return receipt in addition to the cost of registration, double the impost is to be paid.

All private postal establishments are compelled to inform the nearest post office of their rates, in order that they may be made public.

For the prepayment of foreign letters, and letters addressed to treaty ports, special stamps shall be printed, which are to be pasted on the letters. These stamps shall be sold at the post offices, and at such stores as may be designated by them. Counterfeiting of these stamps will be punished in the same way as the counterfeiting of bank notes.

That last provision is excellent, is it not? China may yet become, philatelically, a most interesting country.

### THE NOVA SCOTIA MYSTERY.

JUST as we go to press the following letter comes to hand. It is only one more example of what collectors (whose friends or wish to be) think of our Auctions. What the *dealers* think, especially the dishonest part of that fraternity, is immaterial.

DEAR SIR, AS one who has always taken a lively interest in your Journal ever since I bought a copy of the first issue over the counter in Sept. 1894, I should like to congratulate you on the strong line you have taken up with regard to the Nova Scotia affair.

I quite agree with all you have said, and I heartily endorse every word of "W.M.'s" trenchant letter. I would, however, especially emphasize his remark that "this will prove to be one of the severest blows that has been given to philately, for some time past," a sentence summing up the whole simple truth.

Another of your correspondents ("Nova Scotia") goes even further, for he asks—"Is it possible that these so-called Reminders can be Reprints?" I should think it quite possible, nay, even probable, when we remember the haze of mystery which surrounds their discovery. In these latter days, what with Reprints, Reminders, cleaning and various other tricks, the lot of a collector of unused specimens is not a happy one, and I should think this last straw will effectually break the back of even so patient and long-suffering a creature as he. The Unused Stamp Collector is an individual with whom I have never had the smallest sympathy, for, to my mind an unpostmarked specimen has no more value or interest than an essay or a current English bought at the nearest P.O. Add to this feeling the now notorious fact that collectors are liable to wake up any fine morning to find their unused stamps (upon whose acquisition they had expended much money and no little trouble) are—owing to a certain discovery (?)—hardly worth more than so much waste paper. Then the collector's cup of bitterness must be full and running over. Verily, this last "disgraceful matter," as W.M. calls it, is a heavy blow and a great discouragement. Faithfully yours,

Oct. 11th 1896.

B. D. K.

And so it is; but we have this consolation, that our timely exposure of the unsatisfactory position of affairs, saved many collectors—aye, and dealers too!—a serious loss of money.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING OCT. 31st. Auction Sales.

Oct. 19th and 20th—Mr. W. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely, each day.

Oct. 26th and 27th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 precisely.

Oct. 28th and 29th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely.



By C62.

MINOR VARIETIES OF THE LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.

(Continued from page 4).

CAN any reader who has a reconstructed sheet of plate 12 of the 3d. tell me whether the stamp lettered "J.O." has an inverted "C" in the top left hand corner? In making up my sheet this week, I found a stamp showing this seeming error of lettering, and should like to know whether this is invariable.

I have again to acknowledge a large batch of letters, which shall receive attention next time. Mr. Hawley has sent the numbered Maltese Cross obliterations I referred to last issue, and these I hope to comment upon next issue. I have asked the Editor to prepare a few blocks for illustration: but whether I get them or not will, I suppose, depend upon the state of his liver.—[Liver alright, so are blocks.—Eds.] One of these days, when "matter" runs short, I shall fill this column with suggestions for the formation of a Society for the Suppression of Editors' Livers.

THE 1D. RED-BROWNS, WMK. SMALL CROWNS, IMPERF. JANUARY 1841 TO 1854.

Of this issue, 206 plates were registered. It has been supposed that plate 12 was the earliest issued in red-brown. Mr. Mackey, however, writes to tell me that he has a complete sheet with the official No. 10 in each corner of the margin. The colour varies very considerably; impressions may be found in shades of light brick-red, rose-red, red-brown, brown, and plum colour, and on very thin, medium, and thick paper.

The paper is usually more or less stained blue or greenish-blue (except when the colour of the stamp is a light brick-red, in which case the paper will usually be a yellowish-white), its original tint being a greyish-white. I take the following note from Mr. Westoby's "Postage Stamps of the United Kingdom":

"It is to be regretted that philatelists are unable to define the normal colour of this issue with more precision than by terming it red-brown. Mr. J. B. Bacon, in his evidence before the Committee of the House of Commons, said that "the ink had always been the same," but it was a compound of various ingredients, and the proportions in which they were employed were not invariable, or we should not find so many tones of colour, nor the ink operating so capriciously in its chemical effects of changing the paper to "blue."

A somewhat curious variety of this, and some of the later issues, is that known as "ivory head," in which the head and sometimes the lettering, appear in white on a blue or grey ground, on the back of the stamp. Occasionally, the head is outlined in pink, but these are rarely met with, and I have never seen a good specimen. In these varieties, the lighter part of the design shews white on the back of the stamp. I have one specimen, however, in which this is reversed, the head being blue on a yellowish-white paper. This freak is rather common on the perforated issues of 1854-58, on greyish paper. This stamp is also known without wmk. on "Dickinson" paper, with silk thread, but these were never issued to the public.

Varieties:—

- B 1. Impressions in the shades of colour noted above.
- B 2. Early impressions with eyeball distinct
- B 3. Worn plate.
- B 4. Watermark inverted. (Note.—The wmk. varies in size, shape and thickness of lines.)
- B 5. Varieties of paper. Very thin; medium; thick.
- B 6. " " Yellowish-white; greyish-blue; blue; deep greenish-blue.

- B 7. With "ivory head" on bluish.
- B 8. " " " with pink outline.
- B 9. " " "Blue head" on yellowish-white or grey.
- B 10. " " Hair lines. (These may be found above, below, or through the value, and vertically through the angle squares on the right hand side of the stamp.)
- B 11. Varieties of Angle Letters.—(I am unable to say how many complete alphabets were used, there were certainly two, and probably more. I have four types of several of the letters, but have not been able to complete more than two alphabets. In one of these the letters are small and thin, (usually found on stamps with the M. Cross oblit.), in the other the letters are much larger and thicker. Many of the letters are imperfect, D., E., G., H., T., very frequently).

Varieties in the Lettering of the Value:—

- B 12. With the letters "N E" of "One" joined at bottom.
- B 13. " " letter "E" of "One" without bottom bar.
- B 14. " " both "E's" without middle bar.

(The value is frequently found printed in very thick coarse letters. This is probably caused by the wearing of the plate, which, doubtless, is also the reason for the circle of colour seen round many of the angle letters.

(To be continued.)

ENGLISH STAMPS USED ABROAD.

(Continued from page 5).

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>C57.<br/>GREYTOWN.<br/>1 1/2d., plate 3.<br/>3d. " 20.<br/>4d. sage, plates 15-16.<br/>1d. brown " 17 (garter), 17 (crown).<br/>1/-, plates 12, 13 (green), 13 (crown).<br/>2/- blue.<br/>5/-, plates 1, 2.</p> <p>C58.<br/>HAVANA.<br/>4d., plates 11, 12, 13, 14.<br/>1/- " 4 (emblems), 4, 12, 13 (green, spray).<br/>2/- green.<br/>5/-, plate 1.</p> <p>C59.<br/>JACMEL.<br/>3d., plates 6, 11.<br/>4d. " 8, 13 (orange), 15 (vermilion), 15, 16 (sage), 17 (brown, garter).<br/>1/-, plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 (green, spray).<br/>2/- blue, 2/- brown.</p> <p>C60.<br/>LA GUAYRA.<br/>1d., plate 177.<br/>4d. " 12, 16.<br/>6d. " 11 (buff), 12 (grey).<br/>1/- " 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (green).</p> <p>C61.<br/>PORTO RICO.<br/>1 1/2d., plate 3.<br/>3d. " 6, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18.<br/>4d. " 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion).<br/>6d. " 5, 6 (emblems), 8, 9, 13, 14 (spray).<br/>9d. " 4 (emblems and spray).<br/>10d. " 1.<br/>1/- green, plates 4 (emblems), 4 to 13 (spray).<br/>2/- blue.<br/>5/-, plate 1.</p> <p>C62.<br/>SANTA MARTHA.<br/>1/- green, plate 5.</p> | <p>C63.<br/>TAMPICO.<br/>4d., plate 13.</p> <p>C81.<br/>BAHIA.<br/>2d., plate 13.<br/>3d. " 8.<br/>4d. " 11, 12.<br/>6d. " 6, 8 (spray), 11 (dark buff), 12 (grey).<br/>9d. bistre (emblems).<br/>1/-, plates 4 (emblems), 4, 5, 7, 8 (spray).<br/>2/- blue.<br/>5/-, plate 1.</p> <p>C82.<br/>PERNAMBUCO.<br/>6d., plate 6 (spray), 12 (grey).<br/>5/- plate 2.</p> <p>C83.<br/>RIO DE JANEIRO.<br/>3d., plate 7.<br/>4d. " 9, 11, 12, 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion).<br/>6d. " 6, 8, 9 (lilac), 11 (light and dark buff), 12 (grey).<br/>9d. " 4 (emblems).<br/>1/- " 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 (spray).<br/>2/- blue.<br/>5/-, plate 1.</p> <p>C86.<br/>PORTO PLATA.<br/>1 1/2d., plate 3.<br/>4d. " 15 (vermilion).<br/>1/- " 12.</p> <p>C87.<br/>ST. DOMINGO.<br/>1 1/2d., plate 3.<br/>4d. " 15 (vermilion).<br/>1/- " 12.</p> <p>C88.<br/>ST. JAGO DE CUBA.<br/>1d., plate 106.<br/>2d. " 9.<br/>4d. " 10.</p> <p>D22.<br/>CIUDAD BOLIVAR.<br/>4d., plate 16.<br/>1/-, plates 4, 5, 13 (green, spray).</p> |
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**General Notices.**

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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TERMS:—Strictly Cash with Order.

**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, OCTOBER 17, 1896.



ON second thoughts, which, in philately, are as much better than first thoughts as in every day life, we are not exactly overwhelmed with the sagacity of those who have the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 in hand.

"Sagacity" is a word which our readers may construe as they please. We write with a due sense of the weight which attaches to our words. The FORTNIGHTLY has made itself the champion of the collector—in some cases the champion of the collector as against the dealer. This policy has earned us the enmity of many whose interests, commercially speaking, have suffered considerably as a result of our campaign against fraud and dishonesty. In some high places, as well as many that lie hid from the light of day we are cordially hated. This hate we regret to say has been allowed to intrude itself into the councils of those philatelists—for the most part able and honourable men—to whose care has been intrusted the formation of next year's exhibition. The Executive Committee, just elected, consists of collectors, journalists and dealers. While two contemporaries of the FORTNIGHTLY (three if we include the *London Philatelist*) are represented on this Committee, the FORTNIGHTLY, which addresses a far wider constituency of bona-fide Collectors than any of the three, is cold-shouldered. Not only as philatelic journalists were our Editors entitled to office, but also as collectors, and in the case of one of them as a dealer also. The fact that Mr. Harry Hilckes is not on the newly formed Executives has occasioned very wide-spread comment in London Philatelic circles.

We have good grounds for the suspicion that Mr. Hilckes' exclusion was a matter arranged in advance by a small clique of dealers, who, using Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons as their

cat spaw deliberately "nobbled" the meeting which we reported in our last issue. In that same issue, it will be remembered, we commented upon the striking unanimity which was the keynote of the gathering. We said it was:—

"A marvellous example of loyal concord and brotherly unanimity. The chairman's suggestion that an Executive Committee of twenty members be appointed from the eighty-five gentlemen constituting the General Committee, was at once agreed to, and as promptly acted upon. Indeed, that philatelic veteran, Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons, had ready a list of twenty names which were put to the meeting and with startling promptitude endorsed by all present. Such unanimity, we repeat, is an omen of good. It shows that on the question of the Exhibition our leading philatelists are all of one mind. It does one good to find that when the cause is a good one, philatelists of all shades of thought can "pull together" in perfect accord."

Probably, few readers detected the sarcasm of those comments. It was sarcasm that would necessarily only appeal to those representatives of the inner circle of Philately who were present at the meeting. Exactly how much of it was sarcasm we shall not say. We like unanimity and loyalty and all that sort of thing; but when the Chairman of a meeting suggests an Executive of twenty members and one moment later a leading dealer gets upon his feet with a list of exactly twenty names in readiness—well, then we begin to think that unanimity can be carried too far, and that "the long arm of coincidence" can be overdone.

READERS of our articles on the question of the Nova Scotia "find," will not have forgotten Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' letter, in reply to ours, stating that full Scotia details concerning the "find" would be given in their own Journal. "Their own Journal" has since appeared, and it contains—not one single word concerning Nova Scotia! On the other hand, in the organ of Messrs. Buhl & Co., we find this interesting paragraph:—

What a noise there is over this deal. So far as I can learn the firm of Stanley Gibbons got the exclusive distribution of those Government remainders for all countries outside America. They have been selling them in wholesale lots only, and the lowest price at which they are sold in the largest lot precludes their being retailed at 10/- at a profit. Yet one dealer asserts that he has been offered thousands of sets at 2/6 per set. I understand that the Strand firm at once offered this party 4/- per set for a thousand sets, and a well-known collector emphasised his unbelief in the assertion by offering £500 cash down for a supply; but in neither case, sad to say, is the "2/6 set forthcoming." If the statement is true, which I very much doubt, it can only be explained by the fact that the Syndicate which secured the remainders has broken faith with the Strand firm, and will have to stand the penalty, by no means a light one.

This paragraph appears under the headline Stamp Trade Notes, by a Dealer. It is not difficult to guess that dealer's identity, although the actual writing may have been done by the dealer's "ghost." Thus we may take this as Messrs. Buhl's reply to our "impudent communication." We welcome it, for it is strangely instructive. Messrs. Buhl, perhaps unwittingly, betray the fact that there has been some crooked work somewhere among the people who have been handling these Nova Scotia stamps. It is not at all unlikely that there has been a big breach of faith somewhere. Men who will sell the trade in the way the trade has been sold over this business, will just as willingly sell each other. Honour among philatelists? Yes, but there are some people mixed up with our hobby whom we should hesitate to describe as philatelists. We have not yet got to the end of this strangely discreditable chapter of philatelic history.

It is gratifying to be able to announce that our article concerning the benevolent and public spirited "Spurious Signor Spiotti," perhaps, we should say, is blossoming. One of our readers, resident in Italy, has decided to take the matter up. By every means in his power, this gentleman will seek to bring home to the Italian Government the necessity of some preventive action. It is perhaps too much to hope that Spiotti will be lodged within four substantial walls; but his nefarious trade will be stopped. And that, after all, is the great thing.



## The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Oldenburg.

By the Author of the "Secret Marks of Switzerland."

(Continued from page 288).

*b.*—The cross in the second field, in the upper right corner, is quite broad, resembling in shape the cross upon the stamp of 3-groschen of the preceding issue. This cross is nearer to the top and bottom lines of the field than it is to the side line. The fine, horizontal, coloured lines, which indicate that this field is blue, are not plainly visible, but they are very numerous. In many of the counterfeits the cross is too large, and is too near the side lines, either to the right or to the left. The horizontal coloured lines are too distinct and not numerous enough; this is also true of the same lines in the third and fifth fields.

*c.*—The third field, in the left lower corner, with its small cross, is usually so blurred that we cannot give any of its details.

*d.*—The fourth field, in the right lower corner, the one with the rows of squares of alternate colours, is, if possible, still more indistinct than the third one.

*e.*—Only by analogy are we entitled to say that the fifth field contains a lion; still we can see that he is but little erect, and his head and his crown appear to touch the dividing line in front of him. We have seen a counterfeit in which the lion was in a very erect attitude.

We wish to say a few more words upon the counterfeits of this stamp in a general way. Their colour is usually quite good, although the orange has sometimes too red a tint. The inscriptions and the figures are mostly too large. In one variety of these counterfeits the upper ends of the scroll are split too deeply, while in another they are not deeply enough cut. The letters "V" of "Viertel" and "G" of "Groschen" are too straight and consequently their heads are not close enough to one another. The cross upon the crown is usually too small, too fine and too narrow.

The stamp of  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen, in a used condition, is extremely scarce, and it has a much higher commercial value than an unused specimen. The natural consequence of this is that there are upon the market many genuine stamps of this value with counterfeit cancellations. Such falsifications are exceedingly difficult to detect, and this can be done only when they are compared with numerous specimens of undoubted authenticity. We urgently recommend that before buying a used  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen stamp, it should be sent to a well-known expert for careful examination. All black cancellations upon these stamps may be looked upon as counterfeit.

Mr. Ohrt, in his great work upon the stamps of Oldenburg, has an admirable chapter devoted to their cancellation. He has described with the utmost care and accuracy the different varieties and the periods during which each of them was in use. It would lead us too far to follow him in all the details he gives, or even to give a resume of his work. For the stamps of the three issues, which we have studied so far, there is, fortunately, but one cancellation of importance that has been counterfeited, and it is this one on the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -Groschen. In the other values, unused stamps have as high a commercial value as used specimens, and in some cases even higher. When this latter case is true, attempts are made by counterfeits to remove the cancellation. They do this in three ways: by erasing the mark, by painting it over with the colour of the stamp, or by treating the specimen to a chemical bath. Among the many and various ways which have been recommended to detect these falsifications, we have found photography to be the best one. By its aid we have been able to detect all manipulations of whatever kind they happened to be, even when done with great skill.

### II.—1.3 Groschen, Green.

First impression, *a*, light grass green; vivid grass green.

Second impression, *b*, moss green.

As the design of these stamps is the same as in the corresponding value of the second issue, we refer our readers to the description which we have given of them under that head.

Owing to the coloured impression on white paper, all the details of the design are not of equal clearness, some being difficult to distinguish; the coat of arms and the figures are frequently blurred; the inscriptions seem to be fatter. The hanging ends of the scrolls and the ornaments around the small ovals being the most distinctly printed part, are the best guides in studying the stamps of this value. The stamp of moss green colour is the scarcer of the two.

Most of the counterfeits in existence are either too dark or too light in colour. The inscriptions are too large; the figures indicating the values have the same defect; the details of the various fields of the coat of arms are not correct, and the seven pearls are too large, and do not differ enough in size among themselves.

### III.—1.2 Groschen, Brown.

First impression, *a*, yellowish brown.

Second impression, *b*, dark brown-red.

In older works the stamps of these two impressions have often been chronicled and classified as two types. The difference between them, however, do not owe their origin to differences in the plate; they are caused by the fact that much care was used in preparing the second impression, consequently the designs and the shadows appear in great clearness, giving to the stamp a very different look.

The design of the stamps of this value is the same as that of  $\frac{1}{2}$ -groschen of the same issue.

1.—The inscription, "Oldenburg," in the upper scroll, measures 1.25 cm. in length; the letters of this word are of the same size as those of the stamps of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ -groschen. The position of the letters "O" and "G," with reference to the hanging ends of the scroll, is also the same; the O is not so far down, or, at any rate, does not appear to be so far down. The L has a very wide foot, its last stroke is heavy and reaches very far upwards.



In the stamps of the first impression, the upper scroll is filled with quite a number of vertical shade lines; the neighbourhood of the "N" being the only one in which there is a white space. But in the second impression these lines are much less in number, and in many specimens even they are altogether missing.

2.—The design of the hanging ends of the scroll may best be seen from the illustration. These ends are so shaded that they appear to be surrounded by a narrow, continuous white line. On the left side the split is specially deep and curved; on the right side the innermost tip is the longest one, and the whole end is quite distant from the frame line of the stamp.

3.—The two small ovals, which bear the value, are very much rounded; they do not touch the white surrounding line of the large oval, nor the outside line of the stamp. The figures are small and very thin, so also is the fraction line. Many times in the stamps of the first impression this fraction bar comes in contact with either one of the figures on either side. This never occurs in the stamps of the second impression. The head of the figure "2" in the left oval is high and somewhat pointed. In a large number of the stamps of the first impression we have found a dot to the left of the figure "1" in the right oval. Of 23 specimens which we examined, 16 were provided with that, while among 14 stamps of the last impression we found only one that possessed the dot. Among the 23 specimens which we mentioned as having been examined by us of the first impression, we found 16 that had a very curious little stroke beginning underneath the figure "1" and running for a short distance parallel to the fraction bar; no such stroke was to be seen upon the 14 other specimens.

(To be continued).

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



IF we needed any justification for the line we have taken on the subject of the Nova Scotia "find," we have it in the sympathy and gratitude of our readers. Writes a prominent Edinburgh philatelist:—

Many thanks for your exposure of the Nova Scotia f— find. It is one reason

more to make me discontinue stamp collecting. Is this shady dealing not punishable as obtaining money under false pretences?

We trust that this correspondent is not in earnest in his opening remark; but it is a fact that many of our readers have felt strongly inclined to abandon philately as a result of this Nova Scotia business.

\* \* \*

Mr. H. C. Sellé, of Surbiton, writes:—

If I can be any help to you in the perforations of the Nova Scotia Stamps, I shall be very pleased, for I get a lot of good advice from your valuable paper the FORTNIGHTLY.

Six months ago I invested in 30 mixed cents *all used*. I find, as your Constant Reader does 20 out of the 30 are perf. 11½. All my 11, 12½c. are 11½ perf., also 3, 10c., and 1, 8½c. The 5c. blue some are 12 and 11½, one is 12 × 11½, also 2, 2c. are 12 × 11½. I have an unused 5c. which is 11½ perf. I should esteem it a favour, and others would do the same, if you gave your opinion in your next edition about *used* Nova Scotia, whether they would rise; as the "find" consists entirely of unused; and whether the 5c. unused will be rare. If the subscription to your paper was 10/-, it would be fully worth it, for it gives an amateur valuable advice, I have saved pounds since I had it. I wish you every success.

For this too great kindness much thanks. With regard to the question of rarity, the 5c. unused is now probably the rarest of the unused Nova Scotia. It will be found a somewhat difficult matter to buy a faultless copy for less than 17s. 6d. Whether there will be any appreciation of the used specimens as a consequence of the "find" we scarcely like to say. Philatelic prophecy is dangerous sport. It is not unreasonable, however, to expect that there will be far more buying than selling of used Nova Scotia for some time to come.

\* \* \*

Meanwhile the question of the perforations of the stamps included in the "find" is a most interesting one, and one that may have an important bearing on the values of the stamps. In Bright's "A.B.C." catalogue, a great differentiation of price is made, as between the yellow gum and the white gum; and if it turns out to be the fact, that all or even the bulk of the remainders are on the white gum, then the values of yellow gum series, should not be affected to any great extent. We shall be glad of any further help our readers can give us in arriving at the precise situation of affairs. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, could, of course, set all doubts at rest if they cared to do so; but, as Mr. West, of Acton, points out in a letter dated October 10th:—

In your No. 26, vol. 11, you publish a letter from Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., saying they prefer to make all announcements re Nova Scotia remainders in their own Journal. Now the one just to hand from them, does not contain any information on the subject at all a fact that looks very bad for them. I have heard many unfortunate comments about their firm acting thus in the matter.

\* \* \*

Just one more paragraph, and then Nova Scotia must be dismissed for this issue. Mr. W. H. Earl, a Staffordshire reader, has unearthed the following:—

In the *Leisure Hour* for 1863 there is an illustrated article on Postage Stamps. The writer refers to those of Nova Scotia as follows: "The most beautiful stamp is the Nova Scotian twelve-and-a-half cents, manufactured in the United States, and universally called the Queen of Stamps. A recent number of a well-known Belgian newspaper says of it, never perhaps has the engraver's art created aught more lovely in so circumscribed a space, and it is only to be

regretted that this little masterpiece must ever be outraged by the cancelling mark."

Philately is of real assistance even to the hard-headed business man; and no one knows this better than our confrère of the quill who pulls the editorial strings of the daily *Financial Post*. A par in that paper draws attention to the distrust that many investors evince towards British Columbian concerns. "Is it really a British Colony?" they ask incredulously. They somehow mix it up with that other Colombia which is spelt with an "o." "British Columbia and the United States of Colombia," remarks the editor of the *Financial Post*, are very far apart. And this shows the utility of collecting postage stamps. Philatelists never go wrong in matters of that kind."

There! paste that in your hat, gentle reader, for use when the next anti-philatelic bigot comes along.

\* \* \*

We regret to have given some small offence where none was intended. One of the managers of that excellent journal, the *Philatelic Californian*, writes us:—

In a recent issue of your publication I noticed an article, speaking of the evident lack of original manuscript—original investigation and research—in the branch of philately in the Eastern part of the U.S. I desire to call your attention to our latest issue of the *Californian* (a copy of which we have mailed you). The two articles of note are from the pens of two of our most advanced collectors, Messrs. Weber and Riddell. As both these gentlemen are regularly on our staff, and are ably assisted by many fine collectors in our city (men that belong to the Pacific Philatelic Society), we expect to contribute many articles of note to Philately.

Now it will be remembered that our remarks concerning the apparent scarcity of good philatelic literature in the States was called forth by the fact that a standing advertisement in Mr. Gremmel's paper, *The Post Office*, headed "Good manuscript wanted" brought forth no replies. Perhaps we were also slightly influenced by a long course of fat but empty publications of the type of the *Pennsylvania Philatelist*. We know and love our *Philatelic Californian*, and have never failed to seize an opportunity of drawing attention to its good work. The members of the Californian Philatelic Press Club, though their efforts may be belittled by rival journalists in the States have made a host of friends here by their earnest and thorough philatelic work. More power, say we, to their several elbows.

\* \* \*

After all, "the backwardness in coming forward" of the American philatelic writer should not have astonished us. Have we not ourselves vainly advertised for some English philatelist bold enough to undertake the work of compiling an exhaustive New Issue List for the FORTNIGHTLY?

\* \* \*

Writes "E.C.H.D.," a Cornish reader:—

I am in a difficulty about one of the answers to questions in the old *Stamp Collectors' Monthly*. It runs as follows:—

"The Austrian, British, French, German, and Italian Stamps for the Levant are surcharged to prevent the respective Governments being losers by the rate of exchange. The Levant Post-office takes gold only in payment for stamps, so many merchants there imported their stamps from Europe, where paper currency was accepted in payment. When gold was at a premium, these Governments were victimised in this manner, consequently they issued special stamps surcharged with the local value to protect themselves."—S.C.M.

(1) How would European stamps surcharged with the local value become available for postage in the Levant? What understanding exists between the Levant and the European Governments? There must be some understanding, because how could the Levant revenue be maintained by the usage of European stamps?

(2) Who surcharge the stamps, the Levant or European Governments?

(3) What am I to understand by saying that "The Levant Post-office take gold only in payment for stamps?"

Now in the first place all the European Powers have Post Offices in the Levant. That is provided for by Treaty, and the object of the arrangement is simply the circumvention of the unspeakable Turk, who does not usually stop short at opening other people's letters. (2.) The stamps are of course surcharged by the European Governments concerned. (3.) The statement as to gold in payment is to be taken

literally. Our correspondent must surely be aware of the differences that arise in the value of paper currency handled internationally. At one time English stamps were sold in Constantinople without surcharge, but it was found that that would not do at all. For 40 paras is a little less than 2½d., and the Levantines were not slow in finding this out. By buying large quantities of the unsurcharged stamps and shipping them back to agents in this country, the Levantine Jew could make quite a handsome little "turn." Hence the surcharge. \* \* \*

There seems to be a great rage for stamp collecting here, writes a Buluwayo correspondent. The postmaster here informed me a few days ago that when the company ran short of their own stamps some Cape of Good Hope stamps were brought up, surcharged "British South Africa Company." They had scarcely been in circulation when he was bothered with cables, telegrams, &c., from all parts of the globe, asking him to sell a complete set. £780 worth of stamps was ordered at the first onset. The postmaster informed me that he had received cash to the value of £400 to buy these stamps with, which offers, naturally, he had to refuse. So great is the craze for getting these stamps, and so numerous are the applications, that he has been obliged to start a new letter-book, solely for stamp inquirers. \* \* \*

We are indebted to "Iberius" of *Mckel's Weekly Stamp News* for the following interesting quotations from the advance proofs of the forthcoming issue of Scott's Catalogue:—

United States—

1847, 5c .. .. .	\$ 7.50	\$ 0.85
10c. .. .. .	20.00	4.00
1851-56, 12c .. .. .	25.00	2.25
24c. .. .. .	100.00	
1855-60, 1c., type I. .. .. .	15.00	5.00
5c. brick-red, type I. .. .. .	75.00	15.00
5c. red-brown, type I. .. .. .	25.00	7.00
5c. brown, type I. .. .. .	15.00	4.00
5c. brown, type II. .. .. .	5.00	2.50
30c. .. .. .	12.00	7.50
90c. .. .. .	27.50	40.00
1861, 10c., type I .. .. .		20.00
3c. pink .. .. .	35.00	8.00
5c. yellow .. .. .	50.00	8.50
24c. red-lilac .. .. .	10.00	1.50
30c. .. .. .	6.00	.60
90c. .. .. .	20.00	4.00
1862-66, 3c. scarlet .. .. .	100.00	
5c. red-brown .. .. .	20.00	3.50
15c. .. .. .	7.50	.50
24c. grey-lilac .. .. .	4.00	.40

The sets of 1861-66 are now arranged according to the newly discovered chronological data.

1867, 3c. rose, grilled all over .. .. .	\$ 40.00	\$ 17.50
15c. black, 11 × 13 .. .. .	25.00	5.00
5c., 9 × 13 .. .. .	12.50	3.50
24c. .. .. .	15.00	6.00
30c. .. .. .	15.00	5.00
90c. .. .. .	50.00	18.00
The set of re-issues, 10 values .. .. .	277.50	
1869, regular set .. .. .	119.75	
Re-issue, 10 values .. .. .	150.00	
1870, 6c. grilled .. .. .	15.00	4.00
7c., grilled .. .. .	15.00	4.00
10c., grilled .. .. .	35.00	10.00
30c., grilled .. .. .	35.00	25.00
90c., grilled .. .. .	25.00	7.50
1870-71, set of 11 values, National. .. .. .	99.00	
1873, 7c., Continental .. .. .	6.00	.75
12c., Continental .. .. .	12.50	.75
15c., Continental .. .. .	10.00	1.00
1875, 15c. ribbed .. .. .		2.50
30c., ribbed .. .. .		25.00
Re-issue, 4 values .. .. .	110.00	
1879, 90c. .. .. .	7.50	1.25
1880, re-issue, 4 values .. .. .	200.00	
1882, 10c., re-engraved .. .. .	2.50	.25
1890, 90c. .. .. .		.85
1893, set Columbians. .. .. .	26.42	
1894, set unwmk. .. .. .	18.66	

Of some quotations for departmentals the most startling item is the \$5 State unused, which the Messrs. Scott will move up to \$135.

*First Steps in Philately.*

By PERCY C. BISHOP.

PERFORATIONS: HOW TO MEASURE THEM.

ONE of the first mistakes of the young idea is to suppose that we measure the perforations of stamps by counting the number of small points or projections along one edge of the stamp. This notion is clung to so tenaciously by the rising generation of Philatelists that one almost despairs of being able to outroot it. But let the young collector try measuring his perforations on this primitive plan, and he will quickly find himself in a state of hopeless muddle. Some of his stamps will gauge a different perforation on each of their four sides, and most of them will yield measurements that are not to be found in any catalogue.

As a matter of fact the calculation of perforations is a much more intricate matter. We owe the system now generally employed to an earnest French philatelist, Dr. Legrand, a fact which explains the use of the French measure in this connection. Briefly when we say that a stamp is perf. 12½, or perf. 14, or perf. 16, we mean that the size of its perforation is such that 12½, or 14 or 16 punctures (as the case may be) go to the space of two centimetres, or, in English measure, three-quarters of an inch.

To simplify measurement we use what is known as a perforation gauge. These are supplied by all dealers for about 6d. each. Some give them away; but things that are given away are seldom good, and this adage is most remarkably true of perforation gauges. In measuring perforations absolute exactitude is necessary, and only those who know the treachery of paper and printing ink can realize how difficult it is to produce an absolutely correct gauge. The one offered by our publishers, and known as "The Exact," has been pronounced one of the best on the market. Mr. Wm. Brown's "Ideal" is also a deservedly popular gauge.

Given our gauge it is not easy to go astray in using it, for the thing is simplicity itself. About a score of lines of black dots appear upon the gauge and against each line stands a number which determines the perforation of the stamp. Taking our stamp we slide it over the card from one row of lines to another until we reach a row the black dots of which exactly fit the Perforation of our stamp. Then the key number placed against that particular line, represents the sought for perforation.

"COMPOUND" PERFORATIONS.

It not infrequently happens that more than one size of perforation will be found upon the same stamp. Such stamps we describe as compound perforations.

In the great majority of cases the perforation of such stamps will be found to be the same at top and bottom. The two sides will also equal one another in perforation. But there may be three or even four varieties of perforation in one stamp. Such freaks fortunately are not common; but they do occasionally occur, and it is necessary to know how to deal with them. In cases where both horizontal and both vertical perforators are equal we, taking the horizontal (that is top and bottom) first, describe a stamp that is perforated 12½ at top and bottom and 13 at the sides as "perf. 12½ × 13." A stamp perforated differently on all four sides would be perf.—(top) × perf.—(bottom) × perf.—(right side) × perf.—(left side). But these niceties of perforation are not likely to affect the very young collector who may for the present content himself with gauging one edge of his stamp.

I hope I have made the subject of the measurement of perforators sufficiently clear for the Philatelic tyro. It is not an easy matter to explain without the aid of very elaborate illustrations. Any beginner who is still in difficulty must say so, and I will endeavour to help him out.

In our next number I shall have something to say concerning the various styles of printing employed in the manufacture of stamps, and give some hints as to how lithography may be distinguished from surface printing, surface printing from engraving, and so on.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. **BUHL & CO.**, September 8th, 1896.

(Continued from page 11).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	<b>Straits Settlements, Pahang</b> , 10c. (unchroni- cled type, 15 x 3 mm. block letters) .. ..	1 2 0
a b	<b>Perak</b> , 2c. brown, crescent and star * .. ..	4 15 0
a b	ditto, 2c. on 4c. rose, narrow E, error OENTS * .. ..	1 6 0
a	ditto, ditto, wide E .. ..	1 6 0
a	ditto, another * .. ..	1 6 0
b	<b>Switzerland, Vaud</b> , 5c. .. ..	1 3 0
a b	<b>Trinidad, Litho</b> , red .. ..	1 2 0
a	<b>Uruguay, Block letters</b> , 120r. blue .. ..	4 10 0
a	ditto, 180r. green .. ..	1 10 0

Mr. **HADLOW**, September 15th, 1896.

b b	<b>Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock</b> , 1d. carmine, cut close .. ..	1 6 0
b	<b>Queensland</b> , 1d. red-brown, no wmk., on entire .. ..	1 2 0
b	1d. carmine, imperf. .. ..	1 8 0
a	<b>United States, Periodicals</b> , set (except 9c.) * .. ..	16 16 0

Messrs. **BUHL & Co., Ltd.**, September 21st and 22nd, 1896.

c	<b>Baden</b> , 3k. rose, perf. 13½, thinned * .. ..	4 8 0
b	<b>Bahamas</b> , 1d. lake, imperf. .. ..	2 15 0
b	<b>Bavaria</b> , 12k. lilac, perf. .. ..	1 4 0
A	<b>Belgium</b> , 5 francs red-brown, pair * .. ..	£1 18 0 and 2 0 0
a	<b>British Central Africa</b> , 3s. on 4s., used, on piece, two copies .. ..	each 1 5 0
a	<b>British Columbia</b> , 50c. perf. 12½ .. ..	1 10 0
a b	<b>British East Africa</b> , 2½a. in red on 4½a. purple .. ..	1 18 0
a	<b>British Guiana</b> (1851), 1c. magenta .. ..	5 10 0
a	(1853), 1c. vermilion, large margins .. ..	2 2 6
b	(1862), 2c. yellow, grapes, broken "O," roulette two sides .. ..	8 8 0
a	<b>British Honduras</b> , 6d. yellow * .. ..	2 17 6
a b	2c. small, on 6d. rose, perf. 12½ * .. ..	1 10 0
a	<b>British South Africa</b> , £1 blue .. ..	1 1 0
b	<b>Brunswick, first issue</b> , 2sgr. blue * .. ..	4 0 0
a	<b>Buenos Ayres</b> , 2 pesos blue .. ..	1 2 0
a	3 pesos green .. ..	3 10 0
a	4 pesos (4 reales) brown .. ..	1 18 0
a	<b>Bulgaria</b> , 5s. carmine on flesh (error) * .. ..	7 7 0
b	<b>Canada</b> , 7½d. green, good margins .. ..	2 10 0
a	<b>Cape</b> , 5/- orange, CC. * .. ..	1 5 0
c	<b>Ceylon</b> , 4d. rose, imperf., good, but slight thinning .. ..	12 10 0
b	9d. violet-brown, imperf. .. ..	2 10 0
b	2/- blue, imperf. .. ..	5 7 6
b	1r. 12c., perf. 12½ * .. ..	1 12 0
b	<b>Denmark</b> , 4 rbs., light brown * .. ..	1 2 0
A	<b>Dominica</b> , 1/- carmine, C.A. .. ..	3 15 0
c	<b>France</b> , 1fr. orange, good, but slight thinning .. ..	3 10 0
b	<b>French Colonies</b> , 4c. grey .. ..	1 4 0
a	25c. black on red * .. ..	1 4 0
a	<b>Gambia</b> , 1/- green * .. ..	2 2 0
b	ditto * .. ..	1 6 0
a l	<b>Gold Coast</b> , ½d. olive, C.A. * .. ..	2 0 0
a	1d. blue, CA * .. ..	9 0 0
a	<b>Great Britain</b> , 5/- rose, plate 1 * .. ..	1 10 0
a	£1 brown-lilac, 3 crowns * .. ..	2 10 0
a	<b>Inland Revenue</b> , £1, 3 orbs, "Specimen" .. ..	3 3 0
a	<b>Hamburg</b> , ½sch. black, imperf. .. ..	1 5 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	<b>Hanover</b> , 3pf. rose, grey net * .. ..	1 8 0
a	½ thaler, wide net * .. ..	2 0 0
c	10gr. green, thin * .. ..	2 2 0
b	<b>Hong Kong</b> , 10 dollars, rose .. ..	1 18 0
a	<b>India, Service</b> , 2a. green on long lilac .. ..	1 10 0
a	<b>Lagos</b> , 5/- blue * .. ..	7 10 0
a b	<b>Lubeck</b> , 2½sch. brown (error) * .. ..	1 12 0
a	<b>Magdalena</b> , 20c. blue * .. ..	1 0 0
a	<b>Mauritius, Greek Border</b> , 1d. red, small margins * .. ..	6 5 0
a b	<b>Mecklenburg Schwerin</b> , ½sch., dotted ground, roul., pair .. ..	9 5 0
a	<b>Naples</b> , ½t., blue, arms, on entire newspaper .. ..	15 0 0
a b	½t. blue, cross, on entire .. ..	£4 10 0 and 5 5 0
b	50gr. lake .. ..	1 10 0
b	<b>Natal, first issue</b> , 6d. green, on entire .. ..	2 0 0
a	1/- green, curved black surcharge .. ..	3 0 0
b	<b>Nevils</b> , 4d. rose * .. ..	3 7 6
a	4d. blue * .. ..	2 0 0
b	6d. grey-lilac .. ..	1 4 0
a b	6d. green, Revenue, St. Christopher, on piece .. ..	2 2 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 .. ..	1 6 0
a	1/- purple * .. ..	2 0 0
a	<b>New Brunswick</b> , 6d. yellow .. ..	3 5 0
a	<b>New South Wales, Sydney</b> , 1d., plate 1, worn, two strips of 3 .. ..	each 3 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, a single .. ..	1 2 0
a b	ditto, 1d., plate 2, pair .. ..	1 17 6
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1, on entire .. ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, on piece .. ..	1 5 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2 .. ..	1 6 0
b	ditto, 3d. green .. ..	1 0 0
a	2d. blue, imperf., wmk. 5 * .. ..	2 15 0
a & c	<b>New Zealand</b> , 2d. lilac-blue, pelure, pair .. ..	2 0 0
b	<b>Nova Scotia</b> , 6d. green .. ..	1 8 0
a	<b>Oldenburg, second issue</b> , ½gr. black on green .. ..	5 10 0
b	ditto, 2gr. black on rose * .. ..	3 5 0
a	ditto, ditto, used .. ..	1 6 0
b	<b>Parma</b> (1859), 80c. orange * .. ..	1 3 0
c	<b>Roumania</b> , 5b. red (error), fine but thin * .. ..	4 4 0
a	50b., with beard .. ..	1 6 0
A	<b>St. Christopher</b> , 1/- lilac .. ..	1 4 0
b	<b>St. Lucia</b> , 1/- orange-brown, CA. * .. ..	4 7 6
b	ditto, used .. ..	4 4 0
c	<b>Saxony</b> , 3pf. red, slight chip .. ..	3 10 0
a	<b>Shanghai</b> , 1cand., antique numeral .. ..	1 6 0
a	3cand. ordinary numeral .. ..	1 6 0
a	<b>South Australia</b> , 10d. blue on orange, roul. * .. ..	1 0 0
b c	4d. purple, star, perf. and roul. .. ..	1 5 0
b	<b>Spain</b> (1865), 19 cuartos rose and brown, perf. * .. ..	1 12 0
b	<b>Switzerland, Basle</b> , 2½r. * .. ..	5 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, two used copies .. ..	each 4 15 0
a	<b>Geneva</b> , 5c. apple-green, large eagle .. ..	1 2 0
a	<b>Neuchatel</b> , 5c. .. ..	2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto .. ..	1 16 0
a	<b>Zurich</b> , 4r. horizontal lines .. ..	15 0 0
c	ditto, ditto, horizontal lines, fine but thin .. ..	10 10 0
c	ditto, 6r. horizontal lines, ditto .. ..	1 10 0
a	<b>Trinidad, Litho.</b> , 1d. green-blue, early .. ..	2 10 0
a	4d. grey-lilac, imperf. .. ..	1 10 0
a	1/- indigo, ditto .. ..	1 10 0
b	1/- bright mauve, thick paper, perf. 13 .. ..	2 2 0
A	<b>Turks Islands</b> , 4d. blue * .. ..	1 16 0
a	ditto * .. ..	1 12 0
b	ditto * .. ..	1 4 0
a b	<b>United States</b> (1868), 90c. blue, grill .. ..	1 10 0
a	<b>Columbus</b> , set * .. ..	£3 10 0 and 3 17 6
a	<b>Virgin Islands</b> , 2½d. brown * .. ..	1 12 0
a	4d. on 1/- * .. ..	1 5 0
a b	1/- crimson border .. ..	1 10 0
a	1/- brown .. ..	2 2 0
a	<b>Wurttemberg</b> , 3k. orange, no thread * .. ..	5 0 0
b	18k. purple * .. ..	1 4 0
b	18k. blue, with thread .. ..	1 6 0
b c	18k. blue, no thread .. ..	£1 2 0 and 1 6 0
a	18k. orange, perf. * .. ..	1 6 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Sept. 24th and 25th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	
		£	s. d.
a	Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- rose, pair *	..	105 0 0
a	1/- black, large star ..	..	1 4 0
a	5/- rose ..	..	2 2 0
a	Brazil, first issue, 90r. black ..	..	1 6 0
b	Bremen, 7gr., imperf. ..	..	1 14 0
A	British Columbia, 5c., perf. 12½ *	..	1 10 0
a	10c, do. ..	..	1 12 0
c	British Guiana, first issue, 4c. orange, cut to shape, on entire ..	..	16 0 0
A	British Honduras, 6d. yellow *	..	3 0 0
a	1/- grey ..	..	2 7 6
a	Canada, 7½d. green, fine margins ..	..	3 3 0
a	10d. blue ..	..	1 2 0
a	12d. black, "Specimen" ..	..	2 0 0
a	Cape, Woodblock, 4d. blue, on entire ..	..	2 12 6
a b	do., do., heavy postmark ..	..	1 16 0
c	do., 4d. red, cut close and damaged ..	..	24 0 0
a	1/- emerald ..	..	1 6 0
a	Ceylon, 2d. emerald, CC. *	..	4 0 0
b	4d. rose, star, perf. * ..	..	1 10 0
a	4d. carmine, do., do. * ..	..	1 4 0
a	5d. purple-brown, CC. ..	..	1 6 0
a	6d. brown, star, perf. * ..	..	1 2 0
b	8d. brown, do., do. * ..	..	3 10 0
a	10d. vermilion, perf. 12½ * ..	..	1 4 0
a	2/- blue, star * ..	..	1 16 0
a b	do. * ..	..	1 10 0
a	Denmark, 2 rbs. blue *	..	2 2 0
a	(1864), 16sk. grey, imperf. *	..	0 16 0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA., pair, with margins and control number ..	..	5 0 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green * ..	..	2 0 0
a	do., used ..	..	2 6 0
a	Great Britain, 2/- brown ..	..	2 10 0
a	do., "Specimen" ..	..	1 0 0
a	Heligoland, 1pf. rose and green ..	..	1 10 0
a	1 mark ..	..	1 0 0
a	India (1856), 2a. green * ..	..	3 0 0
a	Service, 4a. green and lilac, strip of 4, with pair of ½a., and some common ones, on entire ..	..	20 0 0
a	Italy, first issue, 40c. red, block of 4 *	..	4 8 0
a	Lagos, 2/6 brown ..	..	3 10 0
a	5/- blue ..	..	6 17 6
a	Lubeck, 2½sch. brown (error) *	..	2 5 0
a	Naples, 50gr. lake * ..	..	3 17 6
b	Natal, first issue, 1d. buff ..	..	1 2 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose * ..	..	3 5 0
a b	ditto, used, pair ..	..	2 14 0
a	4d. orange, engraved, pair ..	..	2 2 0
a	ditto, a single ..	..	1 1 0
A	4d. orange, litho., margins on two sides *	..	14 0 0
A	4d. blue, pair * ..	..	3 3 0
b	6d. grey-lilac * ..	..	1 16 0
A	6d. olive-grey, litho., pair *	..	28 10 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 * ..	..	3 5 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	2 0 0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 * ..	..	4 0 0
a	ditto, used, pair ..	..	4 4 0
b	ditto, a single ..	..	1 10 0
A	1/- green, litho., strip of 3 *	..	4 10 0
A	1/- purple, pair * ..	..	3 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 6½d. lake ..	..	1 6 0
c	1/- orange, fine, but slight tear ..	..	12 10 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, on bluish ..	..	1 0 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2 worn ..	..	8 15 0
b	Laureated, 8d. yellow ..	..	1 7 0
b	8d. orange, perf. 12 ..	..	2 12 0
b	10d. lilac, perf. 10 * ..	..	1 10 0
A	(1885), 5/- purple, wmk. 5/- * ..	..	1 2 0
A	do., 20/- blue, do. * ..	..	3 0 0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr. black on green *	..	1 5 0
a	second issue, ½gr. * ..	..	5 15 0
a b	Queensland, 2d. deep blue, rough perfs., imperf. horizontally * ..	..	9 10 0
a	Reunion, 30c. black on bluish, an uncanceled copy, on entire ..	..	68 0 0
a	do., penmarked, on entire ..	..	68 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	..	2 10 0
a	do., used ..	..	2 12 6
a	1/- lilac ..	..	1 2 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
b	St. Lucia (6d.) green, star..	..	1 12 0
A	6d. lilac, CA. * ..	..	2 8 0
a	1/- orange-brown, CA. ..	..	2 10 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow *	..	1 7 0
b	do., used ..	..	1 5 0
a	1d. on 6d. yellow-green *	..	1 18 0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red..	..	4 15 0
b	Schleswig Holstein, first issue, 1sch. blue ..	..	2 15 0
a	Shanghai, 1 cand. on 3 cand. rose *	..	1 2 0
a	ditto, used ..	..	1 14 0
a	1 cand. on 6 cand. green ..	..	1 14 0
a	1 cand. on 9 cand. blue..	..	3 10 0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ..	..	2 2 0
b	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c. ..	..	1 6 0
a	Winterthur, 2½r. ..	£2 14s. and	2 16 0
a	Zurich, 6r. hor. lines ..	..	1 16 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue ..	£1 6s. and	1 10 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	..	2 12 6
a	Trinidad, 6d. emerald, thick paper, perf. 13 *	..	5 0 0
a	1/- purple-blue, ditto, perf. 11½ ..	..	1 8 0
a	1/- purple, CC., perf. 12½ * ..	..	1 0 0
a b	United States, 5c. brown, imperf. ..	..	1 4 0
a	(1856), 90c. blue * ..	..	3 4 0
a	(1868), 90c. blue, grill * ..	..	6 6 0
ra	(1869), 90c. pair ..	..	4 8 0
a	(1869-75), 15c. * ..	..	1 6 0
b	(1870), 24c. violet, grill ..	..	1 2 0
b	Victoria, Emblems, 2d. purple, wmk. "Threepence" *	..	1 6 0
a	9d. blue on 10d. brown-rose *	..	2 0 0
a	5/- blue on yellow ..	£3 10s. and	4 10 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, large V ..	..	3 0 0
A	1/- crimson border ..	..	1 2 0
a	1/- single border * ..	..	4 2 6
a	ditto * ..	..	3 3 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	4 6 0
b	ditto, on piece ..	..	3 10 0
b	1/- double line * ..	..	4 17 6
a b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	..	2 10 0
a b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, perf. * ..	..	1 6 0
b	70k. lilac-Rose ..	..	1 14 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY and Co., September 28th, 1896.

A	Great Britain, 2½d. plate 3, orb, strip of 3 *	..	9 0 0
a	£5 orange ..	..	2 4 0
a	Ionian Islands, blue, on entire ..	..	2 6 0
c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., early, fine but slight thinning	10 10 0	
a	Small Fillet, 2d. late, pair * ..	..	16 10 0
c	Greek Border, 1d. red, slightly cut into * ..	..	5 5 0
a b	ditto ditto used, two copies, each	3 5 0	
b c	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac * ..	..	1 16 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow with half a 3d. on piece	5 0 0	
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange *	..	9 0 0
a	6½d. carmine * ..	..	11 0 0
c	ditto used, fine colour, margins and postmark, but slight thinning at top	15 0 0	
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green ..	..	1 5 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. pelure, imperf ..	..	1 1 0
b	2d., do., do. ..	..	1 4 0
a	St. Christopher, 4d. blue, CA. * ..	..	6 0 0
A	6d. olive-brown * ..	..	3 3 0
a	1/- lilac * ..	..	1 0 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue * ..	..	4 7 6
a	(6d.) green * ..	£4 and	4 4 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. rose, no wmk., strip of 3, imperf., vertically * ..	..	4 5 0
ra	ditto, pair, imperf. * ..	..	4 15 0
a	1d. black, perf. 12 x 15, pair * ..	..	1 18 0
A	Sierra Leone, ½d. on 1½d. lilac, broken E in PENNY *	..	4 15 0
A	South Australia, 3d. red on blue ..	..	1 2 0
A	6d. blue, perf. and roul., pair * ..	..	12 0 0
c	Switzerland, Geneva, the double stamp, severed and rejoined, each half an a copy ..	..	27 10 0
c	Vaud, 4c., cut into at top ..	..	16 10 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	..	3 5 0
b	Tuscany, 6ocr. brown-red..	..	9 12 0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf..	..	1 9 0
a	Victoria, Beaded Oval, 4d. rose, wmk. "Fourpence" *	..	1 5 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. orange, roul. ..	..	1 1 0
a	6d. green * ..	..	3 5 0
b	1/- brown, block of 4 * ..	..	4 5 0
a b	Wurtemberg, first issue, 9k. rose * ..	..	6 10 0

Messrs. PUTTICK &amp; SIM 'SON, September 29th and 30th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a	Barbados, ½d. in black and in red, on 4d. brown, CA. pair	7	5	0
a	1d. on half 5/- rose, pair	24	0	0
a b	5/- rose	3	16	0
a	ditto, used	2	2	0
a b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac	1	4	0
b	Belgium, 20c. blue, wmk. without frame	1	8	0
A	5fr. pale brown	1	2	0
b	Brazil, first issue, 90r.	1	10	0
A	British Central Africa, £1 blue	1	6	0
A	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½, strip of 3	3	0	0
A	ditto, a single	1	10	0
a	50c., perf. 12½	1	12	0
a	British Guiana (1854), 4c. blue, white line	1	1	0
a	(1860), 1c. dark brown	1	16	0
a	(1862), 1c. rose, complete sheet of 24, unsigned	36	0	0
A	British Honduras, 6d. yellow	3	3	0
A	1/- grey	3	3	0
a	Brunswick, ½sgr. percé	1	4	0
b	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso brown	2	0	0
a	1 peso blue	1	14	0
A	Canada, ½d. rose, perf.	2	0	0
A	6d. violet-black, perf., pair	29	10	0
A	ditto, a single	12	10	0
A	7½d. green	15	10	0
b	ditto	7	15	0
A	10d. blue, thick paper, pair	26	15	0
A	ditto, a single	9	10	0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue, on small piece	3	3	0
a	ditto, ditto	2	16	0
a	ditto, 4d. dark blue	4	17	6
a	Ceylon, 2d. emerald, CC.	1	18	0
a b	4d. rose, star, perf.	1	6	0
a	5d. purple-brown, no wmk.	1	6	0
a	5d. purple-brown, CC.	1	5	0
b	6d. brown on bleuté, imperf.	5	10	0
a b	9d. brown, no wmk.	1	2	0
b	1/9 green, imperf.	3	2	6
b	do., used	2	4	0
a	2/- blue, star, perf.	1	1	0
b	Denmark, first issue, 2rbs. blue	1	2	0
a	Dominica, 1/- crimson, perf. 12½	1	1	0
A	1/- lake, CC., perf. 14, strip of 3	2	10	0
A	1/- carmine, CA.	3	0	0
b c	Great Britain, 2½d., plate 3, orb	1	16	0
b c	3d., plate 4, spray	1	16	0
a	9d., plate 4, emblems	1	2	0
a b	2/- red-brown	2	4	0
a	5/- plate 1	1	12	0
b	ditto	1	4	0
a	£5 orange	£2	6	0 and
a	do. on blue, "Specimen"	1	16	0
a	I.R. Official, 2½d. lilac, pair	1	12	0
c	ditto, 1/- green	1	8	0
a	Levant, 12 pias. on bluish	1	6	0
b	Helligoland, ½sch., roul.	1	1	0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	6	0	0
a	Labuan, 6c. red on 16c. blue	4	7	6
a	12c. red, CA. sideways	3	10	0
c	Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d. blue, fine, but repaired	14	10	0
a	Britannia, 1/- yellow-green	3	3	0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC., two copies	each	1	5
a	Naples, ½t. blue, cross	4	0	0
a	50g. pale lake	2	2	0
b	Natal, 6d. grey	1	12	0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	1	0
b	4d. rose on bluish	3	0	0
a	4d. rose	£1	9	0 and
a	4d. orange, litho.	£0	19	0 and
b	6d. grey-lilac on bluish	2	4	0
a b	6d. grey-lilac, two copies	each	1	14
a b	ditto, used	£1	13	0 and
A	6d. green	8	2	6
b	1/- green, perf. 13	1	6	0
a	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15	18	0	0
a	ditto, used	3	5	0
a	1/- green, perf. 15	1	10	0
b	ditto	1	0	0
A a	1/- green, litho., plate of 12	23	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a	Nevis, two singles	each	1	10
A	1/- purple, strip of 3	5	0	0
A	ditto, a single	1	14	0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	4	4	0
a b	ditto	3	0	0
b	Connell	10	10	0
b	New Caledonia, 10c. black, sheet of 50	10	0	0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange	1	5	0
a	ditto, used	1	10	0
b	4d. orange	2	0	0
a b	6½d. lake	1	5	0
a	8d. carmine-red	1	2	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	1	12	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1	3	5	0
A	ditto, 2d., plate 2, "Crevit" omitted	7	15	0
a	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue	14	10	0
A	ditto, used on entire	2	12	0
A	ditto	2	4	0
b	2d. blue, no wmk., imperf.	1	6	0
a b	Norway, first issue, 4sk. blue	1	16	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1	0	0
a	6d. yellow-green	1	16	0
a	6d. dark green	1	16	0
A	8½c. green, on white	0	11	0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. green	1	1	0
A	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	7	0
a	4d. blue, CA.	5	10	0
A	6d. green, perf. 12½, block of 4	3	12	6
A	6d. olive-brown, vert. strip of 4	10	0	0
A	ditto, a single	2	10	0
A	1/- lilac, block of 6, with margins	6	0	0
a	ditto, strip of 5, used	4	15	0
A	ditto, a single	1	2	0
a	St. Helena, 6d. blue, CC., perf. 12½	2	17	6
a b	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA.	£2	10	0 and
a	1/- orange-brown, CA.	3	10	0
a	St. Vincent, ½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair	3	18	0
A	1d. rose, no wmk., imperf.	3	5	0
a	1d. red on half 6d. blue-green	2	6	0
a	1d. on 6d. yellow-green	1	12	0
a	4d. on 1/- vermilion	14	0	0
a	6d. blue-green, star	1	12	0
a	1/- indigo	3	12	6
a	1/- slate, comp., perf.	2	2	0
a	1/- vermilion, large perf.	5	5	0
a	Spain, (1854), 2 cuartos green	1	5	0
a	ditto, 2 reales red, on bluish	1	5	0
a	(1865), 19 cuartos rose and brown, perf.	2	10	0
a	Sweden, 3sk. hco. green	2	4	0
a	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	6	0	0
b c	Geneva, 5c. apple-green, large eagle	1	6	0
a	Vaud, 5c.	1	2	0
a	Zurich, 4r., vert. lines	19	0	0
a	ditto, 6r. ditto	1	8	0
b	Poste Locale, 2½r., cross framed	1	5	0
a	Tobago, ½d. on 6d. orange-brown	1	17	0
a b	1d. pen surcharge, on half 6d. orange-brown, on piece	2	0	0
A	6d. ochre, CC.	3	0	0
a	Trinidad, 1d. deep rose-red, pin perf.	4	4	0
a	4d. grey-lilac, ditto	5	7	6
a	6d. green, ditto	7	0	0
a	5/- dull lake, perf. 12½	£1	14	0 and
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey	3	0	0
a	ditto, on piece with a 4d. grey	3	5	0
a	2½d. on 6d. black (Gibbons 7)	2	10	0
a	2½d. on 1d. red, vert. pair (Gibbons 6 & 7)	13	0	0
a	1/- slate green	1	10	0
a	Tuscany, 1 soldo yellow on bluish	1	4	0
b c	ditto on white, cut close	2	6	0
a	60 cr. brown-red	10	10	0
a	United States (1856), 90c. blue	3	16	0
a b	(1869), 24c.	2	2	0
a	ditto, 90c.	2	6	0
a	Columbus, set	4	0	0
a	Victoria, Queen on Throne, 2d. brown, engraved	1	0	0
a	5/- blue on yellow	3	3	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown	1	12	0
a	ditto	1	9	0

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**LITERATURE**: Stamp Collectors' Annuals, 1892, '93, '94, the set of three, post free, 1 1/2; cloth covers, 2/9. Contains Valuable Articles, Stamps of Ceylon, Egypt, France, Faridkot, Haiti, Mexico, Natal, Switzerland, &c.—BISHOP, Ivy Dene, Upwood Road, Ivy, Kent.

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No. 55—No. 3—Vol. III. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1896. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

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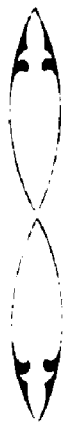
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British South Africa, obsolete set, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8d. and 1 .., very scarce .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	17/6	—	—
Gambia, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2 and 4d., only fine copies .. .. .	1/6	4/	15/
Great Britain, 1d. black, 1d., imperf., 2d. blue, no lines, 2d. blue, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	2/6	6/	22/6
.. .. . 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, light pmkd. copies .. .. .	2/	5/9	—
.. .. . 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, ditto ditto .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Lagos, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2 and 4d., picked specimens .. .. .	1/6	4/	—
Malta, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 4d. and 1/-, ditto .. .. .	1/6	3/6	—
Niger Coast Provisionals, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	12/	—	—
Niger Coast, 2nd issue, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	3/6	9/6	—
Oil Rivers, 1st issue, 1/2, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	10/	—	—
Queensland, 1/2, 1, 1, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	1/3	3/3	—
St. Christopher, 1/2, 1, 2 1/2, and 4d., very scarce .. .. .	5/6	14/6	—
Sierra Leone, 1/2, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/- (obsolete), very scarce .. .. .	4.6	12/	—

Large Illustrated Price List of Packets, Sets, and Single Stamps will be published on 31st October. Copy sent Post Free to any address on application.

[10

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 53, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.**

## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

#### HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

THE **Fourth Annual General Meeting** of the above, was held on Oct. 19th, at Kenann's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C. Members present:—Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, F. B. Carr, H. A. Macmillan, H. Thompson, W. Morley, H. W. Plumridge, T. Buhl, T. H. Thompson, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atherley, A. Hogan, D. Thomson, and E. T. Patterson.

The Secretary read a brief resumé of last season's meetings:—

The number of meetings held was 19, total number of attendances was 259, averaging 13.5 for each meeting.

The number of new members elected was 36.

During the season discussions and papers on various subjects have been given, including "English Stamps Used Abroad" and the Leeward Island Remainers (the original plates of which were kindly lent by Mr. T. H. Thompson).

Another item of interest was our first Magic Lantern Display, and Lecture on the Tintometer, this meeting was the most successful of the season, it being attended by members, and visitors to the number of 46.

Our recently inaugurated Auction Sales also have brought many members, many good Stamps have been put up for sale and members have been enabled to add to their collections at prices far below those of other London Auctions. All stamps at these Sales must be paid for on the night of the sale. 2½% commission only is charged which is placed to the funds of the Club.

Ten of these Sales have been held up to the present, and they will be continued at the express desire of many members during the coming season.

Displays of various Countries have been shown by Messrs. H. Hilckes, J. J. Lane, H. L. Hayman, F. B. Carr, and H. J. Bignold.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, the reading of the balance sheet was held over until the next meeting. Two auditors were appointed, Mr. T. H. Thompson, and Mr. E. T. Patterson, and their report will be published as soon as possible.

The officers for the present year were then elected.

#### Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

Secretary and Librarian: Mr. C. Forbes.

Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

And for the General Committee:—

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, & H. Atherley.

It was decided also to continue the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, as the official organ of the Club.

Meetings for the Season have been decided as follows:—

Nov. 2nd.—

„ 18th.—Magic Lantern Display.

„ 30th.—Eleventh Auction Sale.

Dec. 7th.—First Annual Dinner.

„ 14th. Paper: British Colonial Revenue Stamps, and Display of same, by W. Morley, Esq.

„ 20th.—Paper: English. H. Hilckes, Esq.

Jan. 11th.—Twelfth Auction Sale.

Future dates will be published in due course.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

After the reading of the annual report it was suggested by the Secretary, that a Dinner should take place every season, this met with the unanimous approval of all the members present, it was therefore decided after a little discussion to hold the **First Annual Dinner on Monday, December 7th**, at Kennan's Hotel. Tickets for the same to be about 5/- each.

The Secretary will be greatly obliged if members will kindly advise him if they intend being present, on receipt of this notice a ticket will in due course be sent to them.

All philatelists and friends of members will be welcome.

#### HON. EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Members will kindly note that in future all sheets for the Exchange Packets must be sent to his private address:—81, Bennerley Road, New Wandsworth, London, S.W.

#### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, and *The Bazaar Philatelic Supplement*.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken-Offertenblatt*, *Internationales Offertenblatt für Philatelie* and *Philatelistisches Börsenblatt*.

From the United States: *International Philatelist*, *Weekly Stamp News*, *Metropolitan Philatelist*, *Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *Boston Stamp Book*, and *The American Journal of Philately*.

From Canada: *The Canadian Philatelist* and *Edward's Philatelic Press List*, No. 3.

From India: *The Philatelic World*.

Mr. Forbes also thanks Mr. W. Morley for a copy of his Catalogue of the "Revenue Stamps of the British Colonies."

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

#### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

#### MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE second ordinary meeting of the Session was held at the Grand Hotel, on Friday, October 9th; the President in the chair, supported by a moderate muster of members. After the minutes of the opening meeting had been read and confirmed and the general business of the meeting transacted, Mr. T. Oxley, of Pendleton, was elected a member of the Society, and Mr. Blockey, of Adelaide (Australia), a corresponding member.

The President read his paper on "Philatelic Exhibitions." He commenced by pointing out the many advantages collectors derived from them.

He stated the object of the paper to be in the first place, to form a foundation for next week's discussion; in the second, by promoting the discussion to stimulate still further the very great interest known to be taken in the coming Exhibition by all members of the Manchester Philatelic Society; and in the

third place, to lay what information he could before those who had not had experience of the Exhibitions held in previous years.

The Classification of Countries, Means of Advertising the Exhibition, The kind of Show Cases to be used, and the general arrangements of the Exhibits, were a few of the points upon which he invited discussion.

The President then gave briefly a sketch of the London 1890 Exhibition. He mentioned, too, the interesting shows held every now and again at Effingham House, the result of these and of the Exhibitions held in Vienna, Leeds, Birmingham and Edinburgh in 1890. In Paris, Zurich and Kimberley in 1892-3. In Ipswich, The Hague and Vienna in 1895, being, the undivided opinion that, another (and he hoped the most successful) be held as soon as possible in London. Touching the question of Fiscals,—the Exhibition held in Leeds, taken as an example, showed how little interest they were to Philatelists. Mr. Beckton hazarded the opinion, that the philatelic community look upon this branch in much the same way that fiscalites look upon collectors of railway tickets and wine labels.

The President read the syllabus of classes of the 1890 London Exhibition to show how much greater the divisions must be to cope with the advance taking place during the last few years. Secondly came the syllabus of the 1892 Paris Exhibition. Thirdly, that of the Geneva; and lastly, the syllabus, which he had drawn up and suggested for the sake of discussion next Friday. The main points of his programme to note were, firstly, that it was so arranged that, with the exceptions of I. and II., all the groups are arranged geographically. Groups III., IV. and V. are the English Colony groups; VI. and VII., European Countries; and VIII., the rest of the World.

In order to make the countries in the various groups as equal as possible in interest and rarity, he had taken out those the stamps of which are acknowledged rarities, and placed them in the classes I. and II. Thus the groups would not be deprived of interest to any, as no single exhibit of a particular country could carry off the highest reward in the group.

Coming nearer home, Mr. Beckton made various suggestions in the interest of Provincial collectors; no longer could it be said that the vast majority can have absolutely no chance of success in an International Exhibition. Extra medals should be given in the various groups for the best collection exhibited by a provincial collector (being a member of a provincial society), shown in the open class without obtaining an award in the open competition.

Provincial Societies might also offer two medals to be competed for by its own members, in any class.

The effect of these suggestions would be that probably a larger number of exhibits would be drawn from the provinces, but no doubt the executive committee will have the right of declining any exhibits in case of overcrowding.

After a few remarks relating to general regulations, advertising, etc., Mr. Beckton brought his paper to a close. He earnestly requested the members to bring forward any suggestions next week, when they would have the opportunity of letting their views be known.—ARTHUR H. HARRISON, Hon. Sec., Grasmere, Whitefield, Manchester.

#### LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Annual Meeting of this Society was held at the Alexandra Hotel, on Monday, Oct. 12th. There were 25 members present and one visitor.

The Hon. Sec. presented his balance sheet for the past season which shewed a balance in favour of the Society of £26 18s. 5d., the accounts having been duly audited were approved and adopted. The sale of stamps from the Packets was about 20% of the amount sent round. The following were elected officers for the ensuing season:—*President*: Mr. F. B. Bradbury; *Vice-Presidents*: Mr. W. F. H. Hill; Mr. M. Broad; *Committee*: Messrs. W. J. Bradbury, W. McQuie Green, A. M. Coates, J. G. Tweddle, and H. Woods; *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*: Orford H. Cecil, 40, Shrewsbury Road, Oxton, Birkenhead; *Hon. Exchange Secretary*: Mr. Thomas Whitworth.

#### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held at the Albany Hotel, on Wednesday, October 21st. The President took the chair, and the following Officers and Committee were appointed by ballot for the session, 1896-97. *President*: Mr. J. W. Chapman; *Vice-President*: Mr. T. C. Clough; *Treasurer*: Mr. G. H. Hunt; *Exchange Secretary*: Mr. R. Sneath; *Librarian*:

Mr. H. Hawley; *Committee*: Messrs. J. L. Pike, W. Taylor, F. Atkin; *Hon. Secretary*: Mr. J. Bramah. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and adopted, Mr. Hawley kindly shewed a very interesting collection of 1d. red English on originals, imperf. with maltese cross obliterations and numbers in centre, and other curious cancellations which were greatly admired and commented upon. Mr. Hunt also kindly shewed his splendid collection of African stamps, which were viewed with great interest and pleasure. His collection of Capes, Mauritius, Natal and other Colonial stamps, contained a number of great rarities and were practically complete.—*JAMES BRAMAH, Hon. Secretary*, 145, Gill Street, Sheffield.

#### PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

##### Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of ½d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. *Bazaar Reference Ticket*.—*KNASTER*, Cambridge. [1]

STAMPS.—Cheap to medium, moderate prices. Speciality, approval sheets. Correspondence in English. *JOHNSTON*, Stamp Dealer, New Deer, Aberdeenshire. [5]

REGLAN, Swift, or any other make Gent's or Ladies' Bicycles offered in Exchange for only Good Stamps. Foreign export solicited.—*KNASTER*, Cambridge. [6]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES OF EXCHANGE (PURE AND SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 200 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to *The Secretary, Mr. C. FORBES*, Hon. Secretary and Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence treated with Dealers and Collectors. [3]

A NUMBER of Duplicates for sale from 30/- to ½d. Cheap. Approval against Reference.—*DRESSER*, Bexley Heath, Kent. [2]

OLD UNITED STATES and Columbian stamps given in exchange for good English Stamps and Colonials. Make trial shipment, 100 to 5,000 of your country. Write what you want in North, South, and Central American stamps. I will give satisfaction.—*F. M. THOMAS*, Stamp Dealer, 3610, Finney Ave, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. [1]

EXTRAORDINARY Value, 100 different rare stamps catalogued by Gibbons £5, for 20/- in a blank postal order. All the stamps in good condition. No rubbish. I desire specimen copy of all stamp papers.—*ROBERT OSBORNE*, Puerto Sta Maria, Spain. [1]

COLLECTORS invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first-class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from *ROBERT REID, junr.*, 20, Lichfield Road, Kew Gardens. [1]

COLUMBUS 8c. FINE Specimens, 5d. 2/6 net. Others.—"PHILATELIST," 37, King's Road, St. Leonards, Sussex. [5]

GRATIS—List 500 Sets, Packets, etc., Sheets, ½d stamp upwards; 250 sup prior mounts free to all ordering sheets. Agents wanted, good commission, besides valuable prizes. Many secured albums last season. Why not be among our smiling and satisfied customers? Particulars free—*F. McAUSLAN & Co.*, 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. Established 1887. [5]

(Continued on third page of Cover).

#### EDWIN HEALEY & CO., Stamp Merchants,

14, WORMWOOD ST., OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.  
Will buy large lots of Stamps for ready cash to large amounts, no waiting, promptness always.

One of the finest Stocks in London. [80]

#### IGNATIUS KNASTER, CAMBRIDGE, Export Bicycle Depot.

Importer of Russian and Egyptian Cigarettes.

Exchange the above Articles for Stamps. [66]

This 1 inch Space:  
Cost 20/- for 12 insertions,

or 37/6 ,, 26 ,,

CASH WITH ORDER.

#### To my Customers in Paris :

When staying last time at the Hotel Terminus a gentleman called upon me showing a number of small Books, with white paper covers, the leaves being kept together by a green silk band. After he left, I found one book left on my table which, however, bears no indication of ownership. The spaces in the book are stamped with carmine ink as follows:

P L

Any one of my readers who could identify from above the owner of the book would greatly oblige by letting me know his address, in order that I may return same.

HARRY HILCKES, 64, Cheapside, LONDON.

## W. B. KIRKPATRICK,

(Member I.P.U. Committee, City of London  
Philatelic Club, etc., etc.),

### Closeburn, BOURNEMOUTH.

#### OFFERS. ALL FINE COPIES.

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Nova Scotia, 5c. blue, unused	...	7 6
Ceylon, 9d., no wmk., used	...	22 6
" 5d. red-brown, used	...	22 6
Barbados, 6d. rose, imperf., used	...	9 0
" 1/- black, imperf., used	...	5 0
" ½d. green, no wmk., clear cut, perf., unused	...	12 0
" ½d. green, no wmk., clear cut, perf., used	...	4 0
" ½d. green, small star, perf. 11 x 15, unused	...	100 0
" ½d. vermilion, small star, perf. 11 x 15, used	...	27 6
St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, clear cut, perf. 15 ½, used	...	42 0
" 6d. ditto, star wmk., used	...	12 6
" 4d. blue, no wmk., perf. 11, used	...	23 6
Trinidad, 5/-, perf. 14, unused	...	10 6
" ½d. black on black, CA., used	...	17 6
Turks Island, 1d. vermilion, CC. sideways, unused	...	3 6
" 3d. grey, CA., unused	...	4 6
" 1/- brown, CA., unused	...	1 8
Bechuanaland, ½d. to 1/- on British, set 6, unused	...	8 0

SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.

#### SPECIAL !

Fine Selection of British African Colonies now ready.

# STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.  
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With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."  
CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 55.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1896.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### INTERESTING TO ALL DEALERS IN STAMPS.

ONE of the strangest of the many strange conditions of the stamp trade is the fact that almost anyone can get valuable consignments of stamps delivered to him without the outlay of a single penny piece; and it is a nice question whether the law can touch a man who sends for stamps, well knowing that he is unable to pay for same. Thus great interest attaches to a charge which has been preferred against a German of the name of Johannes Kaeslau, who has lately taken up his residence in Dundee. (On October 9th, Kaeslau, who adopted the name of John Keslow, in Dundee, was arrested and charged with fraud. It was stated, that writing from Burns' Home, Commercial Street, Dundee, Kaeslau had solicited consignments of stamps from several firms of dealers, he having at that time, neither the means of paying for them nor the intention to do so. The accused, being unable to speak English, the Rev. W. Blumenreich, acted as interpreter. The prosecuting counsel asked for an adjournment in order that he might obtain the various letters the accused had written.

On October 15th, Kaeslau, now described as a mechanic, was brought up on remand, on the charge of obtaining goods by fraud. From the evidence adduced, it appeared the man went to Dundee about a month previous to the date of his arrest. He hired rooms in Exchange Street, and, after

occupying them for a day or so, he intimated to the landlady that he would be absent for some weeks, and instructed her to take charge of any letters that came addressed to him. It is alleged that he then went and lodged in Burns' Home, and wrote letters to a number of well-known dealers in old postage stamps, requesting them to send on parcels of stamps for approval to the address in Exchange Street. Answers, it is stated, were returned to the letters, and stamps enclosed, as desired. One of the gentlemen began to suspect that all was not right with his correspondent, and he communicated with a friend in Dundee, requesting him to make enquiries. The result of this step was that the party who had been communicated with by the stamp dealer, paid a visit to the house in Exchange Street. From what he learned there his suspicions were increased, and he immediately informed the police. The accused was subsequently apprehended, and the letters which had been received at the address in Exchange Street were taken possession of. It was found that old foreign postage stamps to the value of about £12 had been sent, one letter containing about £7 worth, but none of them had been taken possession of by the accused.

Mr. John Bartholomew, solicitor, who appeared for the accused, laid stress on the prisoner's ignorance of the language, and pointed to his previous good character, as shown by a number of certificates.

The Sheriff said the accused had not denied writing the letters, but had said they were written by a man of the name of Brown. That would have been a good defence if it had been probable, but he saw no reasonable probability for supposing that he was the innocent agent of a man named Brown, as he had said. He would not punish the accused severely, one reason being that the parties should not have sent these stamps to a person of whom they knew nothing. That whole business of dealing with stamps and small curiosities of that kind was a mere temptation for swindling—a botheration, without any sensible purpose whatever, except to amuse girls too young to play at blind man's buff, or something of that sort. (Laughter). He was glad to see that it was only Englishmen who had been led into the trap. He saw that some stamps were charged at forty or fifty times their value. A trade that required such large profits did not deserve to be protected very much from swindling. Taking into consideration that the accused was a foreigner, and had some idea that attempted fraud was not punishable as in his own country, he limited the sentence to twenty days' imprisonment, dating from his arrest on the 8th inst.

### THE ALLEGED SLUMP IN STAMP COLLECTING.

ACCORDING to postal officials there has been a big slump within the last year or two in the stamp collecting hobby. So says the *Daily Mail*. Although the clerks are supposed to avoid all dealings with stamp collectors except in the ordinary way of business, yet hardly a day passes without the receipt at the G.P.O. of letters from dealers or amateur collectors asking for information regarding certain stamps. At one time letters from stamp collectors became so numerous that it was found necessary to print a circular letter in reply to these queries.

### MULREADY ENVELOPES PUZZLE THE G.P.O.

Discussing the fact that all British postage stamps of all issues are good for postage the *Golden Penny* tells this story, which may be true or may not: "A stamp dealer recently sent a Mulready envelope through the post addressed to himself in order to see what would happen. At first the authorities refused to recognise it, and made a charge of twopence on delivery. The dealer then appealed to the chief office, and his twopence was returned to him, and his letter was officially stamped with the words, "Charged in error, the stamped envelope being genuine."

### TRY THIS ON YOUR STAMPS.

SYMPSYCHOGRAPHY is a portentous word, and so it should be to sum up worthily the phenomena with which it is concerned. The world knows something already of the remarkable photographic experiences of Mr. Inglis Rogers, the American spiritualist, who professes to have obtained pictorial images of certain mental processes. Mr. Rogers alleges that after contemplating fixedly for a time so simple a work of art as a British postage stamp, he then placed himself before the lens of a camera in a dark room, and was rewarded by finding that the sensitised plate reproduced a shadowy portrait of our gracious Sovereign, with the words "One penny" on the rim. We recommend philatelists to try a little Sympsychography. Perhaps if you "contemplate fixedly" your ordinary common-or-garden penny blacks you will see a shadowy "V" bob up into one corner, and a filmy "R" slide up into the other. Dr. Asmuss, maybe, was guilty only of materialised sympsychography; but he should not have sold his "pictorial images of mental processes."

### MR. L'ESTRANGE EWEN COMES TO TOWN.

OUR readers will notice from our advertisement columns that yet another dealer has moved to the metropolis. This time it is Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, of Swanage. His address henceforth is 32, Palace Square, Norwood.

### BOOKS TO BUY AND OTHERS.

"NUMM'S Directory of the Stamp Dealers of Great Britain" grows yearly fatter. We could point out one or two errors in this, the Ninth Edition, but we well know, that perfection in a publication of this sort, is practically unobtainable. It will amuse Mr. H. A. McMillan, to find himself still described as of Bishopsgate Church Passage. Mr. Myerseough, too, has been sent back to the deepest dungeon beneath—St. Michael's Alley. However, with all its faults—and they are fewer now than they have ever been—we should often be at a loss without our "Numm." The price, as usual, is 5d. post free.

Messrs. Alfred Smith and Son, whose address is now 37, Essex Street, Strand, have sent us a copy of a brochure entitled "Notes on the contents of the New 'Rowland Hill' Packet of Postage Stamps," which packet is, of course, on sale by Messrs. Smith. The little book gives many interesting facts, more or less new, perhaps, to the very young beginner, and the fact that 6d. is charged for it, adds piquancy to the venture.

We fail to see the utility of "Edwards' Philatelic Press List," hailing from Montreal. A list it is not; but merely a collection of advertisements bound up into a pamphlet of some 50 pages. Why does not Mr. Edwards publish a proper alphabetical list of philatelic journals, with full particulars as to date and place of publication, features of interest, and price—in fact, a proper philatelic press directory. Such a publication would be most useful, and would be well patronised. The only purpose of the pamphlet now before us seems to be the sole and peculiar benefit of Mr. Edwards—an object that cannot be expected to arouse any great enthusiasm.

### HANDBOOKS FOR THE BEGINNER AT LAST.

WE hear that Mr. Oliver Firth will write, and Mr. L. Upcott Gill will publish, a handbook for philatelists, with the title of "Postage Stamps and Their Collection." The sample pages sent us by Mr. Gill promise a well-written and well-arranged handbook of our hobby. The price of the book will be 3/6. Something of the same sort is being undertaken for another firm by one of our editors, Mr. Percy C. Bishop, but here the idea will be to cater to the very youngest of young philatelists, to which end the price will be made very low—probably as low as 6d, though this point is not yet definitely settled.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S REPORT.

THE Annual Report of the Birmingham Philatelic Society for the year ending October 1st, 1896, worthily follows the previous records of this go-ahead Society. The membership, at the date of issue of this report, was 156; but many have joined since. The Society's progress in this connection has been phenomenal. Look at the figures:

From Oct. 1st, 1892, to Oct. 1st, 1893, there were 26 members.

"	"	1893.	"	1894.	"	45	"
"	"	1894.	"	1895.	"	77	"
"	"	1895.	"	1896.	"	156	"

The accounts show a healthy financial position, and the scheme just devised by which all the leading philatelic journals can be supplied to B.P.S. members at greatly reduced rates of subscription is a tribute to the enterprise of the Society. It is not too much to say that the B.P.S. owes a great deal of its present position to the great energy of its officers, from among whom, Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., the Society's Hon. Secretary, may be singled out as a tireless worker for the good of his fellow members.

Speaking of the officers of the Birmingham Society, it will be well to explain away the strange series of printers' errors which crept into our last report of the Society, under the heading "Doings of Societies." The list of officers there given should have read:—

*President:* MR. W. T. WILSON.

*Vice-Presidents:* MR. R. HOLLICK. MR. W. PIMM.

*Committee:*

MR. H. R. BEWLAY. MR. LUNDEBLAD.

" P. T. DEAKIN. " C. A. STEPHENSON.

" H. E. GREATORIX. " W. S. VAUGHTON.

*Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:* MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,

*Official Address:* 208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

The Birmingham Society's programme contains, as usual, many items that will make many a Londoner wish himself in Birmingham.

### GERMANY'S PRIVATE POSTS.

WHAT would our General Post Office say to a novel experiment which has been recently tried in Munich? A private post was started in that city last week, with the object of underselling the Government Post Office. The new company, who have provided their postmen with bicycles, and deliver letters to any part of the city four times a day, charge only 1½ pfennig, less than a farthing, for missives weighing up to 3½ oz. This private venture will, no doubt, strike a severe blow at the prosperity of the Bavarian Post Office, as far as Munich is concerned. It is perhaps lucky for our Post Office that such private companies are prohibited by law in England, for it would be possible to carry letters for a halfpenny and still make large profits. But if this monopoly of letter carriage did not exist, perhaps a little healthy competition might make the General Post Office less lethargic in the correction of its little vagaries, of which editors, among other sufferers, are from time to time only too acutely conscious.

### A JAPANESE INNOVATION.

THE *Westminster Gazette*, on the subject of the War Stamps of Japan, observes that these stamps are the first issued in Japan bearing a portrait of the human head, all previous issues having avoided the human form or countenance. Some criticism has been aroused in Japan by this departure from customary usage. It has even been declared in some of

the native papers to constitute an indignity upon the Imperial Princes that the counterfeit presentments of their faces should be regularly stamped by post-office clerks. In Brazil, there was at one time a similar feeling; and in Russia and Germany, to this day, the postage-stamp portrait is eschewed, probably on the ground that for a mere postal official to be able to punch his Sovereign in the face with a hand-stamp would be a dreadful blow at the "divinity that doth hedge a King," to say nothing of the halo that doth crown an Emperor.

**THE LATEST EFFORT OF THE FORGER.**

MORE bad Spaniards! Messrs. Thomas Ridpath & Co., write: "We beg to caution you against some very carefully got up forgeries, which have just made their appearance from the Continent, of the very rare *Spain, 2rbs. 1851 and 1852.* These forgeries are well executed and can only be detected by most careful comparison with the genuine stamps."

The above paragraph, with the headline we have given it, would have appeared in the FORTNIGHTLY twenty years ago had our paper then been in existence. Anyhow, Messrs. Ridpath's post card was dated in the early seventies. We wonder how many dealers would go out of their way to do such a thing in the year of Grace 1896!

**THE ONLY GENUINE PRINCE OF NAPLES POST CARD.**

An esteemed reader in Italy, Sig. Fabri, sends us a post-card issued in Rome in commemoration of the Wedding of the Prince of Naples. This card, Signor Fabri assures us, is the only genuinely official card issued in celebration of the Italian Royal Wedding. All others are speculative, including, we suppose, the one recently announced from Venice, and noticed at some length in the last issue of the FORTNIGHTLY.



By C62.

**MINOR VARIETIES OF THE LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.**

(Continued from page) 17.

BEFORE going any further it is necessary to give some attention to letters from readers.

Mr. Way sends me a copy of plate 13 of the 2d. blue lettered H.E., with a thick blue line running across the top of the letter H. My sheet is short of this particular letter, so I cannot tell him whether this line is invariable, or only an accident on this copy. I should be glad to hear from anyone who has this plate reconstructed.

Mr. Earl sends me tracings of two 1836 "penny post" marks, "Skibbereen penny post" and "Skibbereen ship letter," in black, dated 28th May, 1836, in the one case; and "Merthyr Tydvil penny post" in red, in the other.

Mr. Mackey sends me two letters from which I take the following extracts—"I fancy the absence of the bar in A of postage is not infrequent, but I always like to see at least two examples of an error before I think it is probably to be found on each stamp of the same lettering from the same plate" (a very good rule to go on, and one that should be applied to all minor varieties). "Do you find the dot in centre of M. Cross oblit., of the 2d. 1840, common? I have 4 examples and have not heard of any others" (No, this oblit. is not common on any stamp, I have not seen it on the 2d., 1840, though I have seen it on the 1d. black, and 1d. and 2d., 1841. Has Mr. Mackey, or any other reader, ever seen it in red?). "I certainly think that the so-called white M. Cross is a faded violet, but I have one showing no trace of pinkish colour, but the bluish-white of skim-milk, 'steely' a diamond merchant would call it. I have just found my third example of black dot in the centre of full stop after

"penny, in 'L.D.' of 1d. black" (I am much obliged to Mr. Mackey for his letters and can assure him that I am not bored in the least. His flattering remarks I have underlined in red, and sent them to the editors, with a little suggestion of my own as to salary).

Mr. Hawley has sent me a large parcel of entire letter sheets, having among them 13 examples of the numbered M. Cross oblit. Thanks to his kindness I am in the happy position of having to acknowledge that the opinion I expressed in this column on Sept. 5th is entirely wrong. "Company is good, if 'tis to the gallows," says the proverb, so I take as much comfort as I can from the fact that Mr. Ewen is as wide of the mark as I am.

This obliteration was *not* used to indicate the different walks of postmen, on delivery bent; neither was it used, as I thought, at certain principal offices. How, or under what circumstances it was used is not so clear, but I think that after a perusal of the following list, readers will agree with me upon one solution of the difficulty. All the letters here dealt with were posted in London for delivery to the same firm in Sheffield, and in addition to the obliteration and London pink, all bear the Sheffield delivery pink in blue. This effectually disposes of the suggestion that the numbered M. Cross had any connection with the arrangements for delivery in London.

- (a) M.X. 2, from Lincoln's Inn, 4 4/43, pink, Type 1
- (b) M.X. 5 " " " " 8 5/43 " "
- (c) M.X. 8 " " " " 16 5/43 " "
- (d) M.X. 9 " " " " 18/8 43 " "
- (e) M.X. 7 " " " " 26/9 43 " "
- (f) M.X. 6 " " " " 30/4 44 " Type 2



Type 1.

All the above were from the same firm in Lincoln's Inn, and though there is only one copy shewing the exact place of posting—Charing Cross—I think the presumption is that the letters were posted somewhere near Lincoln's Inn.



Type 2.

- (g) M.X. 6, from Gray's Inn, 22 4/43, pink, Type 1
- (h) M.X. 7 " Cheapside, 24/5 43 " " 3
- (i) M.X. 11 " " " " 1/6/43 " " 4
- (j) M.X. 1 " London Bridge, 25/8 43 " " 1
- (k) M.X. 7 " Bedford Row, 4/9/43 " " 1
- (l) M.X. 9 " Cornhill, 2 10/43 " " 4
- (m) M.X. 5 " " " " 27/10 43 " " 3



Type 3.

It is very clear from this list, that my theory that the numbers were used in different principal offices is hopelessly wrong, unless Lombard Street used Nos. 5, 7, 9, 11; and some office or offices near Lincoln's Inn used Nos. 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, which is very improbable. Add to this the fact that No. 1 is known with pink, N. Brixton, No. 6, with pinks, Gt. James St. (probably Bedford Row), Clerkenwell Green, and Charing Cross, and No. 7 with Charles St. West.



Type 4.

All seems to point to one thing,—that the numbered obliteration was not used at the office where the letter was posted, but that it was affixed at the place where the different mails were made up. I have no doubt that this place was the G.P.O., and that the Nos. refer to the mail by which the letter was despatched, that is, that the Nos. mean exactly the same in the Maltese Cross obliteration as in the London "City" obliteration of 1844. As to some extent confirming this, I note that in 1842, the reason for the increased cost of the delivery of the letters, is said to be the institution of the new day mails, which, though few in number, prevent the detention of letters in the London office for fourteen hours.

I am extremely obliged to Mr. Hawley for his kindness in sending me the material for the above notes.

The postmarks illustrated are of interest as shewing the types in use in London in 1843. Mr. Hillekes has a copy of type 3 on the 1d. black which neither he nor I could understand before seeing these postmarks.



## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 31, 1896.



WE have readers in Dundee, and many of them—constant readers, who renew their subscriptions with a promptness and a regularity characteristic of their sturdy race. We have an appeal to make to these good Dundonians. We want one of them, or all of them, to undertake the reclamation of an erring brithter—brithter, we believe is guid Scottish. Scotsmen, and we say this in no sycophantic spirit, enjoy the reputation of being upright, honest, fair-minded, and fair-spoken men. Sheriff Campbell Smith is, we suppose, a Scotsman. We could heartily wish he were not. Sitting upon the bench of the Dundee Court, in connection with a case which we fully report in "Philately At Home and Abroad," Sheriff Campbell Smith delivered himself of a tirade against Philately and its votaries so false and mischievous, yet so weak and silly, that while it might impress the vulgar it would arouse in the mind of an intelligent listener nothing but a feeling of mingled pity and disgust. Our first thought was that the sheriff had been misrepresented, but as all the published reports of the case agree, this cannot be so. The *Dundee Advertiser*, commenting upon the sheriff's remarks, says:—

"Stamp collectors, who take themselves so seriously, who have their own organ in the press, their own 'column' in papers without number, their own nice little Greek name which looks quite like something taught at the Universities, may be expected to rage like the heathen over the remarks made upon them by Sheriff CAMPBELL SMITH yesterday. Stamp-collecting, the Sheriff says, 'is a botheration without any sensible purpose, except to amuse girls who are too young to play at blind man's buff.' Now, we believe, the Sheriff here makes a mistake and commits a profound injustice. Little girls (of course there may be exceptions) are, within their limits, the sensiblist little creatures on earth, and they take no interest whatever

in stamp-collecting. Little boys do, and men, otherwise grave; and to do the boys justice, if they can get eggs to collect, they are scornful of stamps. Something they must collect, or violate a law as deeply embedded in boy-nature as that one which makes a knife with six blades, a corkscrew, a toothpick, and something to take stones out of horses shoes, an essential of happiness."

We shall not "rage like the heathen"; we shall simply state, quite dispassionately, what we think of Sheriff Campbell Smith. Without knowing quite what a "botheration" is, we hand that epithet back to Sheriff Campbell Smith. It probably fits him as well as anybody. Then we are told that stamp collecting is "without any sensible purpose." Sheriff Campbell Smith, it is safe to say, makes this statement absolutely without any knowledge of the facts. We are inclined to think that the Sheriff himself is "without any sensible purpose," but we are not so bigoted as to say so on the strength of our own supposition. Philately, the Sheriff allows, may "amuse girls who are too young to play at blind man's buff." But why quote further? We characterise Sheriff Campbell Smith's utterances as false throughout, and as cowardly in the extreme. This man uses his position as a dispenser of justice, and his opportunity as absolute monarch of a public court, to slander a body of men, Scotsmen as well as Englishmen, any one of whom would probably compare well with Sheriff Campbell Smith in mental culture, and would certainly be found to excel this narrow-minded Dundonian magnate in tact and good feeling.

There is an aspect of this matter graver even than the one we have presented. In the course of his remarks concerning the frauds alleged against the prisoner at the bar, Sheriff Campbell Smith said he was glad that only Englishmen had been swindled!

And this in a British Court of Justice, from a Judge who is a Briton like ourselves. There are Scots, good patriotic Scots, who still acclaim the English rout at Bannockburn, and deplore the "dismal tale" of "Flodden's fatal field," where, as Scott too sadly puts it,

Shiver'd was fair Scotland's spear,  
And broken was her shield.

There are Scotsmen who feel like that. It is part of the Scottish character. But we think (and the thought gives us more pleasure than we could easily express) that in Highlands and Lowlands there is not another bigot like unto Campbell Smith. But this is a matter which we hope to see dealt with in the columns of some such influential journal as *Truth*.

HAVE we the truth at last? We publish elsewhere what purports to be the true story of the "find" of Nova Scotia remainders. It is somewhat of a surprise to learn therefrom that Mr. Donald A. King, perhaps the world's greatest authority on the subject of British North American Stamps, was the prime mover in this big "deal" with the Canadian Government; but we live, it seems, in a world of surprises. We publish also some more figures. These unfortunately are not official. We have no guarantee either that these figures are correct or that the stamps "found" exhaust the stock of the Nova Scotia stamps.

A contemporary, received just as we go to press, recommends these stamps as a good investment at present figures. Probably when prices touch bottom any subsequent movement will be upward. That is axiomatic, and good Capel Court logic. But have prices touched bottom? We should like to think so; but we would as lief invest in Turkish bonds as in unused Nova Scotia stamps at this juncture.

WE fear that many readers are in the habit of skipping our reports of philatelic societies, published under the headline "Doings of Societies." Good for Manchester! They thereby miss much interesting reading. The report in this issue of the Manchester Philatelic Society's most recent meeting is important and instructive. As befits a body strongly imbued with philatelic enthusiasm, our Manchester friends are discussing, with much earnestness and in great detail, the



question of Philatelic Exhibitions in general, and the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 in particular. Discussion of this kind, if it be thorough and dispassionate, cannot fail to be productive of very great good. We therefore direct the attention of every reader interested in exhibitions (which is another way of saying every reader we have) to the Manchester Society's report in this number, and to the one which will succeed it.

## Nova Scotia Remainders.

### THE STORY OF THE FIND.

#### FURTHER FACTS AND FIGURES AS TO THE KINDS AND QUANTITIES DISCOVERED.

AGAIN we have to ask: Is this the truth at last concerning the Nova Scotia find?

Writing to the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, of Portland, Maine, "Philatelic Rambler" says: "So many rumours regarding the cents issue of this interesting country have been in circulation of late, a few facts may be apropos to the occasion. The "find," which was probably the most valuable one ever known of unused remainders in the annals of philately, was made in Nova Scotia, principally through Mr. Donald A. King, of the Halifax Post Office, but its size has been greatly exaggerated, and far from being 200,000 sets, as some journals have given it, does not run into that number of *single stamps* and they do not come in full sets at all, both 10 and 12½c. values being short, and no 5c. at all.

These stamps had quietly been reposing in the Government vaults almost forgotten, since the confederation with Canada. Mr. King, an old-time collector (one of the best informed men living, on British North American stamps), took other philatelists into his confidence and bought the entire lot of the Government, receiving a guarantee that this was all the Nova Scotia stamps remaining.

A price was then put upon them, and they are sold in lots at \$60.00 and upwards, which price, they claim, will not be reduced any, but will soon be advanced. I find but six specimens of the 12½c., and 14 of the 10c., are supplied in \$60 lots, so the prospects for any drop in these values is doubtful.

Some few weeks ago I wrote an article on "Scarce Stamps" for the *Era* and mentioned among others the rarity and beauty of the 8½ and 12½c. values of this country. Never dreaming for a moment we were on the eve of one of the most important finds ever made.

The stamps are still just as beautiful (although some large holders of same may not think so). Taken all in all it is a good thing for the younger collectors and philatelists generally who can now have some prospects of completing this handsome set and while 8½c. value is down the prospects are that 5 and 12½c. will advance both used and new.

The find only includes 1c., 8½c., and 12½c. on *yellowish* paper, 2c. and 10c. on white paper.

Mr. J. W. Scott, of New York, quotes in full in his *Metropolitan Philatelist*, our first article on this subject; and explains that when he said the find consisted of 200,000 sets, he meant to say "200,000 stamps," which is, of course, a very different matter. The *Boston Stamp Book*, and other American journals

#### GIVE THE FIGURES OF THE "FIND,"

as follows:—

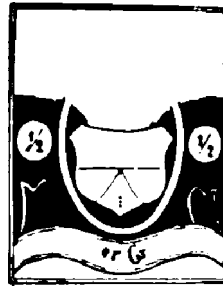
1 cent.,	on white paper,	52,000 stamps.
2 "	" " "	54,000 "
10 "	" " "	28,000 "
8½ "	" yellow "	54,000 "
12½ "	" " "	12,000 "

Unfortunately, there is so far no official corroboration either to these figures or to the fact that three of the values were found on the white paper and the other two on the yellow—a fact which must obviously have an important bearing on the values of "the others."

## The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Oldenburg.

By the Author of the "Secret Marks of Switzerland."

(Continued from page 19).



4.—The two hanging ends of the lower scroll are more curved than the upper ones; the split is deeper, especially the one on the left side. These ends are quite sharply bent inwards and do not touch the frame line of the stamp with their tips. The right end is more curved than the left one, and consequently the distance between it and the small oval over is decidedly greater than the same distance on the other side. It is also farther away from the outside line of the stamp.

5.—The lower scroll is almost entirely covered by the inscription, "Ein Halber Groschen," but yet, on the right and on the left, there is a narrow vacant spot between the inscription and the frame line of the stamp. In a counterfeit, which otherwise is very good, the last "n" touches the outside line. The letter "r" of "Halber" leans heavily towards the right; a prolongation of the line which divides vertically the coat of arms into two halves would strike the last part of this "r." The G, which is strongly inclined to the left, is, in position, the lowest one of all the letters; the "r," which follows it, is printed very close to it.

6.—There are no pearls underneath the lower scroll.

7.—The white surrounding line of the central oval is a little narrower than in the stamps of ½-groschen, especially in the first impression.

8.—The design of the crown and of the coat of arms is the same as that of the stamps of ½-groschen. In the first impression the outline and the details of both are extremely indistinct; the white cross above the crown is the most distinct feature. The upper arm of this cross is very short, and does not touch the surrounding line of the oval. The distance between cross and oval is about half of the width of the white oval line. Very little is to be seen of the crown, and not much more of the designs of the various fields of the coat of arms. Still, here and there some detail may be fixed upon and be of value in judging of the genuineness of the stamp. All these features are much more clear in the stamps of the second impression.

It is possible to recognise that the crown is strongly arched. Upon the arch on the left side a row of 8 pearls may be counted, while on the right side there are 9 or 10 of them in sight.

#### The Coat of Arms.

a.—In the first field, the upper one on the left, the lowest gold bar is very narrow, much narrower than the middle one or the two red bars. This is very evident from the fact that but one row of the dots which represent a gold color can be seen upon this bar, while upon the central bar two such rows are visible. There are, however, a certain number of counterfeits in which one line of gold dots only is visible upon the central bar.

b.—The golden cross upon the blue background in the second field, the one in the upper right corner of the coat of arms, is very similar in shape and position to that upon the stamps of ½-groschen. It is a little nearer to the right bounding line of the coat of arms. In several counterfeits, this cross is too symmetrical, not being more elongated than wide.

c.—The cross with the Bishop's mitre, which may be seen on the third field, comes nearer to the bounding line on the right and on the bottom; it is, however, very difficult to make it out, especially upon the stamps of the first impression.

d.—The division into squares of the fourth field of the coat of arms, cannot be sufficiently recognised to be described. Apparently there are five cross rows, the lowest one of which, however, can hardly be said to be a row.

The following number of more or less complete squares are to be seen, of a silver, or white colour:

In the first row, 3 squares.

In the second row, 2 squares.

In the third row, 2 squares.

In the fourth row, 1 square.

This same arrangement may be found upon a counterfeit, which otherwise, is not very good; a falsification which has succeeded much better, can be identified from the fact that the arrangement of the squares in the four rows is the following: 3, 2, 3, 2; this count applying to the white squares also.

2.—In most cases, the lion upon the fifth and last field is not recognizable; but from unusually clearly printed specimens, we may see that he touches the bounding line in front of him with his head and his crown, and that his long left forepaw, as well as the right hindpaw do not advance far out. The left hindpaw rests upon the lower line of the coat of arms. The middle portion and the tip of the tail touches the right boundary line. The lion does not stand very upright; his body stretches out almost horizontally, and his head is joined to his shoulders at a very sharp angle. On account of the blurred print of the stamps of the first impression, the lion upon them presents a more upright appearance than is really the case, when his design is made out.

The counterfeits of the stamps of  $\frac{1}{2}$ -groschen are quite numerous, and as we have already said, dangerous. As a usual thing, the inscriptions and the figures are too large; the position of the letters O and G in the word "Oldenburg," is not the correct one; the hanging ends of the scroll are too deeply split, especially the upper ends; their shape also is wrong. The better counterfeit, which we have mentioned, has its small ovals too oval and not rounded enough.

#### IV. 1 Groschen. Blue.

1st Impression: *a.* Pale light blue, light greyish blue, ultramarine.

2d Impression: *b.* Bright blue, Prussian blue, ultramarine in shades to very dark ultramarine.

The stamps of this value are especially noticeable for their great varieties of colors and shades. Even in the stamps of the second impression, great varieties of tints occur, and they can be increased in number almost indefinitely, if one wishes to take into account less important variations of tint. Sometimes we are tempted to classify a third impression. But upon the whole, four principal colors may be considered: bright blue, greyish green-blue, Prussian blue and ultramarine.

This stamp was printed from the same die as the 1 groschen of the second issue, so that their design is exactly the same, and all the peculiarities which we have mentioned while describing this former stamp, apply also here. With the exception of a few very pale specimens, and of a few others that are blurred, the design can be easily followed in all its details. Occasionally we find a few mistakes in the print, caused by the color failing to take effect; such slight errors may be especially noticed on the outside lines of the stamp, but no importance whatever can be attached to them.

Mr. Olut mentions an error of this stamp, and says that one entire sheet of them was in existence. The error consists in a double imprint; that is to say, a second blue picture of the stamp is visible upon its reverse, which is usually white. I mention this error, which must be a very great rarity, although I have never seen it myself.

The counterfeits belong to the same sorts as those which we have noticed before. One of the best ones is one in very dark blue, which I have seen often. In it, the inscription "Ein Groschen," is decidedly too large, and so also are the letters L D in the word "Oldenburg," and the lion is too upright. In another counterfeit, the lion has the correct horizontal position, but he wears much too large a crown. The inscriptions upon a third counterfeit are too small, etc.

#### IV. 2 Groschen. Brick-red.

1st Impression: *a.* Pale brick-red, with a very light tint.

2d. Impression: *b.* Vivid brick-red, with a dark tint.

For the peculiarities of design, I refer the reader to what I have said when describing the 2 groschen stamp of the second issue. The design is the same, and all of the peculiarities are distinctly visible.

(To be continued).

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



OUR readers are constantly endeavouring to catch us tripping, and—we like them for it. There is nothing like the dread of being hauled over the coals to stimulate an editor to good work. Thus, E.H.P., of Kennington, writes:—

You end a paragraph by saying that:—

"It is not unreasonable, however, to expect that there will be  
"far more buying than selling of used Nova Scotia for some  
"time to come."

Kindly pardon my pointing out that in these lines your meaning is not quite clear (at any rate to me), as to me it would appear that stamps (any stamps) if bought, must necessarily be sold, and so the amount of buying and selling will be equal.

Well, yes!—if our words be taken literally we are wrong, and our Kennington friend is right. But we wrote figuratively, and blissfully oblivious of the fact that we were giving utterance to an economic heresy. On the Stock Exchange it is possible, we believe, to buy things that are never sold and to sell things without having a purchaser for them, and it must have been something of this sort that was in our mind when we wrote the passage our Kennington friend quotes.

\* \* \*

More letters *re* Nova Scotia. Messrs. Courtenay Wells & Co., of Croydon, write:—

We are much obliged to you for your timely information as to the Nova Scotia stamps, which saved us making a losing investment. No one seems to have called attention to the unused copies of Newfoundland which are now flooding the market, which appear to be printed on a very different paper to used copies in our possession; probably both these finds emanated from the same source and unless some satisfactory explanation is soon offered, other stamp collectors besides ourselves will incline to the opinion that certain eminent firms *do sell reprints!*

We have many other letters couched in similar terms, but this is the last we shall publish; and we take this opportunity of mentioning that our object in printing some of the letters of thanks we have received has not been one of self-glorification. We have printed these letters partly because they justify our policy in the eyes of readers who may have thought that too much of the FORTNIGHTLY'S space was being given up to the question of the Nova Scotia "find;" and partly because we want all those who have so written to know that we do most heartily welcome and appreciate such words of approbation and encouragement.

As regards the Nova Scotia matter in general, we have dealt with it further in another part of the paper.

\* \* \*

There are indications that the study of English stamps is becoming more and more popular. "S.E.T.," a Sussex reader, writes:—

In reply to a correspondent writing to the "S.C.F." on April 18th, you promised to illustrate the various postmarks, I hope that you will soon be able to do so, as I take a great interest in the English column of the "S.C.F." but do not know which are the various postmarks, and I am sure there are many others like myself.

Probably "S.E.T." will not have to wait much longer now. We believe our Mr. C62 has the matter in hand. Another request, not quite so easily gratified perhaps, is that made by "W.S.H.," one of our many friends in honest Huddersfield:—

I should like to suggest to you the advisability of publishing in your "Stamp Collector's Fortnightly" a full list of English post cards, describing fully the different sizes of Arms, and also the difference between Government and Private Cards. The best list I have seen yet is the one published in the *Monthly Journal*, by Mr. Jepp, but it is not definite enough.

What enterprising philatelic *litterateur* will undertake to fill this little shipping order?

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Seebecks are Watermarked now.

It was recently announced by a New York firm that the stamps of Salvador were being fitted with that popular modern appurtenance, a watermark. The statement is confirmed by the latest issue of the *American Journal of Philately*, from which we glean that not only the stamps of Salvador, but also those of Nicaragua and Ecuador now bear—or should we say contain?—a watermark representing the "cap on pole" emblematical of liberty. Our illustration gives a slightly enlarged picture of the new watermark.



## Nova Scotias and the "New Collector."

With an ingenuity worthy almost any cause, the editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, uses the Nova Scotia "find" as propaganda for New Collectorism. Discussing the "find" and its effects upon the philatelic market, he says:—

Now the moral, if we may be allowed to point a moral, is a mighty plain one. We do not for a moment say this sort of thing is going to happen in the case of any large number of high-priced stamps. *But it might happen.* . . . . True, the highest experts among us know so accurately the number of stamps issued and accounted for in some cases, that a surprise packet of remainders tumbling from the sky is almost an impossibility. Our point is that very few of us the "highest expert" class, and that if stamp-collecting is to continue to be the harmless and instructive hobby of the masses, it would be far better that the great majority of men should simply be New Collectors. In the collecting of genuine new issues you can lose precious little, and you may gain a good deal. The word "remainder," which robs the Old Collector of his sleep at night, has no terrors for the New Man.

Nor for the New Woman, we presume? But apart from our contemporary's smart but meretricious line of reasoning, what woman, new or otherwise, would ever submit to bear the name of Old Collector. Mr. Brown, by his arbitrary differentiation of new and old, has ensured for himself the solid support of the softer sex.

The *P.J.G.B.*, by the way, comes to us in a slightly altered form this month. It has shed all its advertisements, these now appearing in a separate pamphlet to be known as the *P.J.G.B. Advertiser*. We doubt the astuteness of this new departure, but indubitably many readers of our contemporary will applaud it. There are some people who hate to have their reading matter and advertisements mixed up together; on the other hand there are many who subscribe to a philatelic journal simply for its advertisements. Both these classes Mr. William Brown will please, but there is one other most important class—the advertisers to wit—to which the innovation will not be an unmixing blessing. The advantages of an advertisement "facing matter" are not to be denied. We shall watch the *P.J.G.B.*'s experiment with interest, yet quite disinterestedly; for we have not the smallest intention of dividing our own supporters into two groups by the publication of a separate "Advertiser."

The stock features of our Salisbury contemporary go steadily on. Messrs. Brown and Skipton are nearly through with "The Stamps of 1890," having reached and completed Norway. We suggest that a larger instalment of this article be given if the compilers wish to keep pace with Anno Domini. "The Boys' Column" in the October issue, does not impress us greatly as a sample of philatelic teaching, although its occasional touch of parental solicitude captivates us completely. The statement that "twice two are four," in connection with the new stamps of Japan, brings before the mind's eye the "pointer" and the blackboard. One almost dreads that the *P.J.G.B.*, preserving its present initials, will one day bear as its title, *The Philatelic Journal for Good Boys!*

## The Boom in U.S. Revenues.

There is no doubt whatever that the boom in United States revenue stamps is real and widespread, so far as American philatelists are concerned. A great "find" of revenues in San Francisco, aggregating a catalogue value of upwards of £5,000 demands (and gets) extended notice in all the philatelic

journals, *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* devoting nearly a page to a detailed account of the haul. This is significant enough, but more instructive still are the rises in catalogue value, as revealed by the advance sheets of "Scott's 57th Catalogue." All our transatlantic contemporaries appear to think it necessary to devote a portion of their space to the subject of revenues.

The *International Philatelist*, of St. Joseph, Mo., gives an exhaustive article on the subject of "Document Stamps: What the Different Kinds were used for."

The *Rocky Mountain Stamp*, of Denver, publishes a similar article.

An elaborate and semi-official paper on the subject of revenues which originally appeared in the *American Philatelist* is to be published as a serial in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, by the special permission of the A.P.A.'s Literary Board.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era*, of Portland, Maine, and other American journals too numerous to mention, also give frequent evidence of the great popularity of the subject of revenue stamps "across the pond."

## A General Issue for the Australian Colonies?

Mr. Castle has felt called upon to reply in the *London Philatelist* to a report circulated by one of his fellow-members of the London Philatelic Society to the effect that Australasian, or as Mr. Castle calls them "Oceanian," stamps are at present practically a drug in the market. In a manner which is plausible without being exactly convincing, Mr. Castle seeks to show that though the stamps of the Australian Colonies are suffering from a temporary depression, that depression is purely temporary, and the causes that have led up to it "are likely to be but transient in their operation." One of the chiefest of those causes, in Mr. Castle's opinion, is "the extraordinary and volcanic impetus that has raised the West Indian stamps to be the fashion of the day."

It was the appearance of the general set of stamps for the Leeward Islands (Mr. Castle adds) that started the boom in West Indies. A similar issue for Australia is not beyond the bounds of possibility, and such an apparition. . . . would have a like effect upon the far more interesting group of oceanic stamps.

"Perhaps—p'r'aps not."

Only as regards used stamps does Mr. Castle allow that there has been any depreciation in the prices of Australian stamps. Unused Australians are better than ever they were; and, in summing up, the London Society's worthy Vice-President declares that these stamps are "as charming to collect, and 'as safe to hold,' as the issue of any other country under the sun."

Mr. Gordon Smith, in the same issue of the *London Philatelist*, deals at some length with the question of the two De La Rue dies, going over much the same ground as our Mr. Hilckes recently did in the columns of the FORTNIGHTLY. It is due, however, to Mr. Gordon Smith, to explain, as the Editor of the *London Philatelist* does in a special footnote, that this article of his has for some time past been crowded out, "owing to abnormal demands on our space"—an explanation which clears Mr. Smith of any suspicion of plagiarising his predecessors in this particular field—viz.: Mons. Grignard and Mr. Harry Hilckes. Captain Norris Newman's "Notes on the Cape Stamps" is a monumental piece of work, of which we may have more to say in our next "Review."

## Miscellaneous, but not to be "skipped."

*Stamps*, the new Yankee paper that is going to teach the young American idea how to collect, is out, but has not yet braved the perils of the Atlantic. At least no copy has arrived at 64, Cheapside so far.

With its issue dated September 26th the *Philatelic Chronicle*, of Birmingham, brought its fifth year of existence to a close. It is a paper we always read with pleasure.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era*, of Portland, Maine, is a sober and well conducted print, as befits a paper published in a Prohibition State. *Philatelic Rambler* in the latest issue to hand, lays stress upon the great rarity of the stamps of Newfoundland, "the worst managed colony England has." He says that Mr. George le Messorier, employed for many years at the St. John's Post Office, "never saw a Newfoundland orange or vermilion shilling."

*Le Timbre Poste* for October occupies itself chiefly with the recent Philatelic Exhibition of Geneva.

Of the *Herald Exchange*, of New York, we merely wish to say this: that the first number has made us very tired and sad. Again and again the question obtruded itself upon our weary brain, "why is this paper published?" And we have so many other and more important things to worry us just now. We hope the *Herald Exchange* will die—or get really well—quickly.

#### Christopher Columbus at Face Value.

Alas, poor Christopher! Likewise, How are the mighty fallen. Know we not the time when Christopher's special stamps, the Columbus issue of the United States, were lifted to dizzy heights by that abominable outcome of American inventiveness, a "corner"? But the corner collapsed, as corners will, and now you can buy Columbus at face value! In London, full sets from 1 cent to 5 dollars have changed hands at a few cents over the intrinsic worth of the stamps; for these Columbians, we need scarcely say, are still recognised by Uncle Sam as good for postage. Are the Columbians worth more than face value?—and if so, how much more? The *Evergreen State Philatelist*, a nice chatty little paper that speaks its mind and speaks it well, answers "yes" and "considerable" to these two questions. "Now is the time to buy Columbians," the *E.S.P.* tells us; "for when an unused U.S. stamp of an obsolete issue can be purchased at just what it could be procured for when current, then is the time to buy!" That's as may be. What is far more convincing is the statement that follows: "There was issued not one tenth enough of the dollar stamps to supply those who desired them." If that estimate is anywhere near the bull's eye, there is certainly a rise coming along in the higher value Columbians.

The "Critic" of the *Evergreen State Philatelist* has an indulgent eye and a kindly word for the FORTNIGHTLY. "For 'that tired feeling,'" he writes, "read the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY—not to produce it, as some American stamp journals do, but to make it vanish into thin air." Our friend is too kind, yet not kind enough. In one respect he does not do us justice. He says we drive away "that tired feeling," but do not produce it. Ah! how little does he know us! Tired feeling!—why some of our articles, especially the exposures of frauds, have made certain people so tired that they have straightway emigrated, leaving no address.

#### Ribbed Paper or not Ribbed Paper?

Much is being said and written concerning the alleged ribbed paper issues of Canada and the United States. Major Evans in a recent issue of the journal he so ably conducts has declined flatly to believe in them. "Our own idea (he writes) with regard to these stamps which are found upon so-called ribbed paper is that the paper was not ribbed at all before the stamps were printed, but owes its ribbed appearance to something that took place in the printing." This view the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, of New York, cordially endorses; and another excellent Transatlantic contemporary, the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*, speculates on the question thusly:—

What a nonsense is the ribbed paper discovery! I am convinced that the contractors (the American Bank Note Co.) never ordered ribbed paper to print on. The ribbed marks on some of the U.S. stamps (which by-the-way could be found on a large number of British Colonials of De La Rue make) could have been produced in two ways. First, and probably the true solution of the problem is the wear of the blanket on which the pulp was placed to dry in the paper machine. Secondly, the ribbed marks on the sheets of press-board used to put between the finished sheets of stamps before they were put into the hydraulic press to flatten them, were transferred or impressed on the sheets during the process of flattening the stamps in the hydraulic press. A good many U.S. stamps of the current issue, printed by the Bureau of Engr. and Printing, show ribbed lines.

## First Steps in Philately.

By PERCY C. BISHOP.

### IV.—HOW STAMPS ARE PRINTED.

FOR the purposes of a purely elementary article I may divide the methods of postage stamp printing into three:

1. Steel or copper-plate engraving.
2. Typography, or "surface printing."
3. Lithography.

Let me take these in order. For the printing of the early engraved stamps, such as the line-engraved series of Great Britain, steel was the metal used, but this is now almost entirely superseded by copper. For a simple explanation of copper-plate printing I think I cannot do better than quote the following from the "Briefmarken Journal Kalender": "The design of the stamp is either engraved by hand into the plate, as was the case with the Sydney stamps and others, or is produced by the photo-mechanical process, now the only one employed. The little grooves formed by the engraving are then filled with colour by the printer; the sheet of paper being then applied to this, the press does its work, the paper is forced into the grooves, and come out partially covered with the color, which consequently appears to stand out from the paper. It is very easy to recognize such a stamp. If it is held slantingly towards a strong light, the rays will fall upon the sides of the letters and other lines that are turned towards it, because these are on a slightly higher level than the surface of the stamp, while the other side of the design will remain dark. In fact, if a collector is possessed of a highly developed sense of touch, in passing his fingers over such a stamp it will feel rough to him. These stamps may be studied by the beginner in the first issue of Prussia, in the common rd. red of Great Britain, and the current stamps of Liberia, Costa Rica, North Borneo, etc."

In my second division, "Typography," I include two methods of printing which, though similar, are quite distinct. In the one, electrotypes are used; in the other, the design is made up of ordinary printers' type or "type ornaments." Here the style of printing is exactly the opposite of that just described. In engraving, the sunken portions of the die are inked; in typographic, or "surface" printing, the raised portions receive the colour. Consequently, when we hold a surface-printed stamp slantingly to the light the effect is the reverse of what happens when we so expose an engraved stamp. The rays of light will fall upon that portion of the stamp which is left untouched by the type, and the design will appear to be darker. Occasionally, the force of the printing will make some parts of the design stand out from the back of the stamp so that they can be plainly felt. This is noticeably so with many of the current English and Colonial stamps.

For examples of type-set stamps (stamps that are printed from ordinary printer's type, just as this article will be printed), I need only mention the quaint old stamps of British Guiana.

Lithography is not much favoured as a method of stamp production. The results are crude and unsatisfactory, the design appearing blurred and lacking the sharp well defined lines obtainable by other methods. Lithographed stamps are absolutely smooth, back and front; and in addition to this their rough, blurred unfinished appearance is usually sufficient to proclaim their character.

In a clever and exhaustive article in Nos. 39 and 41 of the FORTNIGHTLY, Mr. W. Kuhn went thoroughly into the subject of stamp manufacture. Reader who need something more than the very elementary notes I have given here are recommended to turn back to the numbers mentioned.

(To be continued.)

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, September 29th and 30th, 1896.

(Continued from page 11).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- crimson *	£1	2s.	od. and
a	ditto, used .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	..	..	1 0 0
a	ditto, used .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
A	6d. rose, perf. 15 *	..	..	7 5 0
b c	ditto, used, heavy postmark .. .. .	..	..	4 12 6
A	1/- single line * .. .. .	..	..	3 3 0
a b	1/- double line * .. .. .	..	..	4 12 6
A	1/- crimson, border * .. .. .	£1	2s.	od. and
a	ditto, used .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	Western Australia, first issue, 4d. blue, block of 40 *	20	0	0
a	ditto, 6d. grey .. .. .	..	..	1 2 0
a	ditto, 1/- dark green, rough perf., (Official	..	..	1 18 0
a	Württemberg, 18k. blue, imperf., no thread *	..	..	2 2 0
a	Zululand, 5 - carmine, no gum * .. .. .	..	..	1 16 0

Messrs. **BUHL & Co.**, October 6th and 7th, 1896.

a	Antioquia (1875), 10c. violet on laid, penmarked .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
b	British East Africa Co., ½a. pair, imperf. between, on entire .. .. .	..	..	2 15 0
a	½a. in manuscript on 3a. .. .. .	..	..	1 13 0
a	British East Africa (on B.E.A. Co.) 2 rupees .. .. .	..	..	2 4 0
a	ditto, 4 rupees .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0
b	ditto, ditto .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	British Guiana (1860), Official, 8c. rose * .. .. .	..	..	1 5 0
c	Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos red, fine but slightly thinning at top .. .. .	..	..	15 0 0
a	Cuba (1883), 20c. brown, double surcharge * .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
a	Great Britain, 10/- blue on bleuté, "Specimen" .. .. .	..	..	1 0 0
a b	£1 brown-lilac, Maltese Cross .. .. .	..	..	1 12 0
b c	Hanover, 10gr. green, somewhat faded, on piece .. .. .	..	..	1 12 0
a	Newfoundland, 5c. brown * .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	New Zealand, 6d. brown, N.Z. wmk., roulette .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0
c	Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, fine but slightly thinned in centre .. .. .	..	..	18 0 0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. black on green .. .. .	..	..	1 5 0
b	Philippines, first issue, 5 cuartos orange .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. * .. .. .	..	..	2 0 0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze, on entire .. .. .	..	..	1 16 0
a	(1850), 6 reales, blue, strip of 3 .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
b c	Tollima, first issue, 5c. black on brown, penmark .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf. .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
b c	Victoria, Registered, roulette one side .. .. .	..	..	1 5 0
A	Zanzibar, 2½a. on 1a. * .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	2½a. in red on 1½a. .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0

Messrs. **VENTOM, BULL & COOPER**, Oct. 8th and 9th, 1896.

b	Barbados, 5/- rose .. .. .	..	..	2 0 0
b	British Guiana, 1c. brown-red * .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
a	2c. orange, perf. 12, thick paper * .. .. .	..	..	1 5 0
a b	Canada, 10d. blue, thin paper .. .. .	..	..	1 2 0
c	12d. violet-black, "Specimen," fine but thinned .. .. .	..	..	2 6 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- bright green, pair .. .. .	..	..	1 15 0
a	1/- emerald .. .. .	..	..	0 19 0
a	Ceylon, Ten Cents on 36c. blue * .. .. .	..	..	1 9 0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA., pair .. .. .	..	..	5 10 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green, gum * .. .. .	..	..	1 18 0
a	ditto, no gum * .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
A	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- brown * .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
a b	Great Britain, 5/- rose, plate 1 * .. .. .	..	..	1 3 0
a	India, 2a. green * .. .. .	..	..	1 18 0
a	Service, 2a. black and lilac, pair * .. .. .	..	..	4 10 0
b	Japan, 45sen, carmine * .. .. .	..	..	0 18 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., very worn, pair.. .. .	..	..	3 0 0
a	Nevis, 4d., orange, engraved* .. .. .	..	..	2 0 0
a b	6d., grey-lilac* .. .. .	£1	12s.	od. and
b	ditto used .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	6d., olive-grey, litho, badly centred * .. .. .	..	..	14 0 0
b	1s. blue-green, perf. 13 * .. .. .	..	..	4 4 0
a b	1s. blue-green, perf. 15 .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
a	1s. pale green, litho, vert. pair * .. .. .	..	..	4 0 0
A	1s. purple, margin and control number * .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
a b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange * .. .. .	£1	1s.	od. and
A	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, on yellowish	..	..	1 10 0
A	ditto, 1d. plate 2, on bluish .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
a	ditto ditto ditto .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0
b c	ditto, 2d. plate 1, pair .. .. .	..	..	2 15 0
b c	ditto, 2d. plate 2, good margins but slight stain * .. .. .	..	..	13 0 0
a	ditto, ditto, used .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 4, on laid .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
b	ditto, ditto (bright shade) ditto .. .. .	..	..	1 0 0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 5 * .. .. .	..	..	4 4 0
a	ditto, ditto, used .. .. .	..	..	1 17 0
b	ditto, ditto .. .. .	£1	0s.	od. and
c	ditto, 3d. green, fine but cut at bottom, no gum * .. .. .	..	..	13 0 0
a b	Registered, blue and red, imperf.* .. .. .	..	..	1 12 0
a	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown .. .. .	..	..	1 0 0
a	8½c. green .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. black on green * .. .. .	..	..	1 0 0
b	second issue, ½sgr. black on green, no margins * .. .. .	..	..	3 3 0
b	third issue, ½sgr. green * .. .. .	..	..	1 2 0
a b	ditto, ½sgr. brown .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
b	Parma (1859), 80c. orange * .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
b	ditto, 80c. yellow * .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. .. .. .	..	..	1 3 0
b c	ditto vert. pair, on piece.. .. .	..	..	3 0 0
b	2d. blue, fine margins, tear in margin not reaching design .. .. .	..	..	6 10 0
a	2d. blue, star, perf. 14, clean cut * .. .. .	..	..	1 14 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * .. .. .	..	..	2 2 0
a	1/- lilac * .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star * .. .. .	..	..	3 10 0
a	1d. black CC., imperf. * .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0
a	1/- orange, CC., ditto * .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0
a	St. Vincent, ½d. in red on half 6d. yellow-green, block of 4, one without bar in surcharge * .. .. .	..	..	8 0 0
b	4d. yellow .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
b	4d. deep blue, star .. .. .	..	..	0 19 0
a	1/- slate, perf. about 15 * .. .. .	..	..	1 10 0
a	Spain (1850), 12 cuartos lilac * .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	(1854), 2 cuartos green .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0
a	(1869), 19 cuartos brown .. .. .	..	..	2 12 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. .. .. .	..	..	3 10 0
a	Geneva, 5c. green, large eagle .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
b c	Zurich, 6r. hor. lines .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	Trinidad, litho, (1d.), grey-blue .. .. .	..	..	1 0 0
b	5/- lake, perf. 12½ * .. .. .	..	..	1 6 0
b	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. black (type 7) * .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0
b	4d. blue * .. .. .	..	..	1 1 0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldo yellow on white .. .. .	..	..	2 0 0
a	United States (1868), 90c. blue, grill .. .. .	..	..	3 5 0
a	Victoria, Emblems, 4d. rose, no wmk., roulette * .. .. .	..	..	2 5 0
a	5/- blue on yellow .. .. .	..	..	3 10 0
b	ditto, vert. pair.. .. .	..	..	6 17 6
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line * .. .. .	..	..	3 10 0

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, October 12th and 13th, 1896.

a	Barbados, ½d. dark green, perf. 12 x 15 * .. .. .	..	..	4 10 0
a b	ditto * .. .. .	..	..	3 3 0
a	5/- rose .. .. .	..	..	1 18 0
a	ditto, "Specimen" .. .. .	..	..	1 4 0
a	Bermuda, 3d. fancy capitals on 1d. rose * .. .. .	..	..	1 8 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	British East Africa, ½a. in manuscript on 3a.	..	1	10 0
A	British Honduras, 6d. orange * ..	..	2	6 0
A	1/- grey * ..	..	2	5 0
b	British South Africa, £10 brown, strip of 4, fiscally used ..	..	5	15 0
a	Canada, ½d. rose, perf. * ..	..	2	6 0
A	10d. blue on thick, pair * ..	..	30	0 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red * ..	..	4	0 0
b	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	2	8 0
a	Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, imperf. ..	..	1	0 0
A	2/- blue, star, perf. * ..	..	1	10 0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA. * ..	..	2	16 0
b	Great Britain, ½d., plate 9, imperf. * ..	..	1	16 0
a	1d. red-brown, on Dickinson paper * ..	..	1	16 0
a	1d. red-brown, small crown, perf. 14, die 1 * ..	..	1	12 0
a	ditto, large crown, perf. 16 * ..	..	3	3 0
a	ditto, ditto, imperf., on bleuté * ..	..	1	9 0
a	another, deep shade * ..	..	1	9 0
a	1d. orange-red on white, imperf. * ..	..	2	0 0
A	1d. rose-red, ditto, ditto * ..	..	1	2 0
A	another, corner of sheet with plate number * ..	..	3	4 0
a	1d. black, reprint, inverted large crown, pair, corner of sheet with plate number * ..	..	4	5 0
A	1½d. lilac-rose, large crown, perf. 14, pair * ..	..	3	15 0
a b	a single * ..	..	1	4 0
A	1½d. red, large crown, imperf., on bleuté, pair * ..	..	2	10 0
b c	2d. blue, no lines * ..	..	1	4 0
c	2d. pale blue, ditto * ..	..	2	2 0
A	2d., plate 13, imperf., pair * ..	..	2	8 0
A	2½d. lilac-rose, plate 3, anchor * ..	..	1	0 0
A	3d. rose, small letters, plate 3, with dot, imperf. * ..	..	3	3 0
A	another, with trial perf. * ..	..	3	15 0
a	3d. plate 5, imperf. on blue safety paper, pair * ..	..	3	10 0
c	4d. rose on bluish, no letters, small garter * ..	..	2	18 0
c	ditto ditto, medium garter * ..	..	4	12 0
b	6d. violet, octagonal * ..	..	2	4 0
b c	ditto, a pair * ..	..	3	10 0
a b	6d. plate 2, hair lines * ..	..	1	2 0
A	two others, imperf. * ..	£1 8s. od. and	1	10 0
A	6d., plate 6, imperf. * ..	..	2	10 0
b c	6d. buff, plate 13, no perfs. one side ..	..	4	4 0
a	8d. brown, plate 1 * ..	..	1	10 0
a	9d. straw, plate 4, emblems * ..	..	1	10 0
c	10d. brown, octagonal, corner thin * ..	..	1	18 0
b	ditto * ..	£2 10s. od. and	2	18 0
A	10d. plate 1, imperf. * ..	..	1	18 0
c	1/- dark green, octagonal * ..	..	2	8 0
c	ditto, a pair * ..	..	2	14 0
a	1/- plate 3, hair lines, imperf. * ..	£3 0s. od. and	3	3 0
c	2/- brown, perforated initials ..	..	1	4 0
c	2/6, on bleuté, anchor * ..	..	1	12 0
b c	£1 brown-lilac, anchor, on bleuté ..	..	1	6 0
a	£5 orange ..	..	2	0 0
a	I. R. Official (1884), 1/- green ..	..	1	1 0
A	Levant, 40 paras on ½d. * ..	..	1	10 0
A	ditto, 12 pias on 2/6, on bleuté * ..	..	1	4 0
A	Lagoa, 2/6, brown ..	..	4	4 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. red orange, early, on entire ..	13	10	0
b	Natal, 4d. brown, perf., 12½ * ..	..	1	1 0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose on bluish * ..	..	4	0 0
b	4d. orange, litho ..	£1 18s. od. and	1	4 0
b	6d. grey-lilac, perf., 13, 2 copies ..	each	1	0 0
A	1s. dark green, litho * ..	..	1	2 0
a	ditto * ..	..	1	8 0
a	1s. pale green, litho ..	..	3	17 0
A	1s. purple, pair * ..	..	3	10 0
A	a single * ..	..	2	6 0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. orange * ..	..	5	5 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 2 ..	..	1	10 0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 1 ..	..	1	16 0
A	20s. blue, wmk., 5s. * ..	..	1	16 0
a	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue, on entire ..	..	1	16 0
a	ditto, penmarked, on ditto ..	..	1	12 0
a b	ditto, on ditto ..	£1 6s. od., £1 7s. od. and	1	11 0
a	Norway, first issue, 4sk. blue * ..	..	2	16 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	£1 0s. od. and 2 each	1	6 0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf., pair ..	..	4	0 0
a	a single ..	..	1	8 0
a	1d. rose, Q. and crown, perf., 13 * ..	..	1	6 0
a	2/6 scarlet, perf., 12 * ..	..	1	10 0
b	ditto * ..	..	1	3 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	£2 4s. od. and	2	8 0
a	ditto * ..	..	1	17 0
A	1/- lilac, pair * ..	..	1	18 0
A	ditto, single. * 5 copies ..	each	1	0 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. ultramarine, perf. 12½ * ..	..	1	6 0
A	6d. slate-blue, perf. 12½ x 14 * ..	£1 11s. and	1	14 0
b	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA. * ..	..	1	14 0
b c	1/- orange-brown, CA. ..	..	2	6 0
a b	St. Vincent, 6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12 ..	..	1	4 0
a b	Sierra Leone, 4d. blue, CC., perf. 14 * ..	..	1	5 0
b c	Tasmania, 1d. blue * ..	..	2	8 0
a	Transvaal (1877), 3d. mauve, red surcharge, thin paper * ..	..	2	10 0
b	Trinidad (1d.) red, litho. ..	..	1	3 0
a	1/- indigo, pair on small piece ..	..	2	4 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey, pair on entire, with a 4d. grey ..	..	5	0 0
a	2½d. on 6d. black, type 4 * ..	..	1	0 0
a b	4d. blue * ..	..	1	2 0
a	United States (1856), 90c. blue * ..	..	4	12 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, * two ..	each	1	5 0
a	ditto, used ..	£1 3s. and	1	5 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 ..	..	1	5 0
b	1/- crimson, single line, * two ..	each	3	0 0
a	1/- crimson border * ..	..	1	0 0
b c	Wurtemberg, 3k. orange, no thread * ..	..	1	0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY and Co., October 14th and 15th, 1896.

b	Barbados, 6d. vermilion, small star * ..	..	2	2 0
a	5/- rose ..	..	2	0 0
a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	..	1	3 0
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 12½ * ..	..	2	12 0
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 ..	..	1	6 0
A	Canada, 6d. purple-black ..	..	1	2 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- dark green * ..	..	1	13 0
a	Ceylon, 4d. rose, star, perf. ..	..	1	2 0
a	5d. purple-brown, CC. ..	£1 2s. od. and	1	6 0
b	2r. 50c. red-brown ..	..	2	10 0
a	Great Britain, 2½d., plate 3, orb * ..	..	1	6 0
a	10/- grey-green on bluish, anchor ..	..	1	7 0
a	ditto, on white, ditto ..	..	1	5 0
A	£1, Maltese Cross ..	..	1	3 0
a b	£5 orange ..	..	2	6 0
b	I. R. Official (1884), 1/- green, pair ..	..	1	10 0
b	Mauritius, Small Fillet, 2d. blue, medium early ..	..	1	0 0
a	Nevis, 6d. olive-grey, litho. * ..	..	15	0 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 ..	..	1	1 0
A	1/- purple * ..	..	1	14 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1 ..	..	1	0 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 4, laid paper, on entire ..	..	1	5 0
A	5/- purple, perf. 12½ * ..	..	1	3 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. green * ..	..	0	19 0
A	Russia, 3½ roubles, no bolts * ..	..	1	0 0
A	7 roubles, ditto * ..	..	1	3 0
a b	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown ..	..	2	12 6
a	St. Lucia, 1/- orange-brown ..	..	3	12 6
a b	ditto ..	..	2	4 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. black, perf. 12 x 15 * ..	two each	1	0 0
b c	4d. yellow * ..	..	2	2 0
a b	6d. bright green, CA, perf. 12 ..	..	1	5 0
a	ditto * ..	..	1	6 0
b	Trinidad, ½d. black on mauve, CA. * ..	..	1	18 0
A	Turks Islands, 1/- slate-green ..	..	1	9 0
a	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac on white ..	..	3	4 0
a	United States (1856) 90c. blue * ..	..	3	12 0
a b	ditto used ..	..	5	0 0
c	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow, fine but slight thinning ..	..	4	5 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown ..	..	1	3 0
a	1/- crimson, single line ..	..	4	7 6
a	1/- crimson border ..	..	1	2 0

**PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING NOV. 14th.**  
Auction Sales.

Nov. 2nd.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63-64, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.

Nov. 3rd, 4th and 5th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

Nov. 10th and 11th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely, each day.

Nov. 12th and 13th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely.

**M**OST of the Old Continental envelopes, many entire, for sale cheap, also some cards.—M. F. LEARROYD, 23, Croxteth Grove, Liverpool.

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**F**REE till December.—United States Specialist Exchange Club. Speciality: prompt monthly settlements. Try it! Particulars free.—D. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield.

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**W**ANTED.—Old Used and Unused English Stamps, a few rarities for Specialists. "Bazaar" Ref.—RIDLEY, Solicitor, Burgh, Lincolnshire.

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**B**EUCHANALAND.—Six used obsolete varieties, good condition, catalogued 5/7. Price, 2/9.—EDGAR, Bank Manager, High Wycombe.

**S**OUTH AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENTALS.—Collection 250 (made in colony). Value by Stanley Gibbons' Handbook (1894) £433. Price, £250.—REV. P. E. KAYNOR, School House, Ipswich.

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**D.** LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield, sends approval sheets of English plate numbers, priced 75 per cent below catalogue. Well worth a trial.

**T**HE Market value of the 12c. purple, 1872, United States, is 75 cents, but in order to largely increase the circulation of my Price List of Stamps, I will send one of these stamps and a copy of my List to anyone sending me 30 cents and the names and addresses of five or more collectors.

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No. 56—No. 4—Vol. III. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1896. ONE PENNY.

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"   "   "   5g. rose-red * .. .. .	..	0	7	0	"   "   "   CA., 12, 4d. blue .. .. .	0	12	6
"   "   "   5g. " pair * .. .. .	..	0	15	0	"   "   "   CA., 12, 6d. green .. .. .	1	15	0
"   "   "   10g. indigo .. .. .	..	0	3	0	Turks' Islands, CC., 14, 4d. blue, very fine and scarce	1	2	6
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"   "   "   perf., 18kr. orange, very fine .. .. .	..	0	11	6	"   "   "   perf., wmk. 5/-, 5/- violet .. .. .	0	8	0
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Great Britain, 5/-, plate 4, Anchor, block of 20; Portugal, 1st issue, 100 reis, pair; Ceylon, imperf., 8d. and 2/-, and perf., Star, 8d., used and unused; Cape, Woodblocks, 1d. and 4d., superb; Lagos, CA., 10/-; Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d., superb, and Large Fillet, 2d.; Canada, 6d., perf.; Nova Scotia, 1d., strip of 3, unused, and 1/- violet; U.S., 1856 90 cents, 1869 30 cents, block of 12, and very fine lot of Departmentals, including Justice, 90 cents, &c.; Barbados, very fine lot of unused; Dominica, 1/- CA., used; Montserrat, 4d., CA., (2); Nevis, very fine lot; St. Christopher, CA., 1d. lilac-rose, unused, 6d., gray, block of 4, and 1/- mauve, a sheet; St. Lucia, Star, 4d. and 6d., CA., 1/- orange, used and unused, &c.; St. Vincent, 1/- brown, 1/- rose, and 5/- rose, all unused, and others, Tobago, CC., 6d. (2) and CA., 6d. (2); Trinidad, fine lot of unused; Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d. rose, 1/- carmine, &c., &c.; S. Australia; perf. and roulette, 1/- brown, unused; Western Australia, 1st issue, 6d. bronze, &c., &c.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE SALE, Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** will hold **SALES OF RARE POSTAGE STAMPS** on November 30th; December 1st and 14th, 1897—January 5th, 6th, 19th and 20th; February 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; March 2nd, 3rd, 16th, and 17th; April 5th, 6th, 27th, and 28th; May 11th, 25th, and 26th; June 15th, 16th, 29th and 30th.

When possible Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** issue their Catalogues one month in advance, in order to circulate in America and on the Continent.

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Specialities in **RARE STAMPS,**  
**ENTIRE ENVELOPES and POSTCARDS.**

**Finest Stock of Postcards**  
 IN THE WORLD.

**APPROVAL SHEETS**

Against Cash Deposit or Satisfactory References.

**WANTED** and Good Prices given for all kinds of **RARE**

**STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS.**

Also United States, Common Colonials, Central and South American in Quantities.

To the Colonies, Stamps, Cash or Goods of any kind sent in Exchange. [3

**SPECIAL OFFERS IN USED SETS.**

*All Stamps in first-class condition and guaranteed genuine.*

	1	3	12
Argentine, 1880-90, fine set of 10 .. .. .	6d.	1/3	4/
Bermuda, ½d., ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- .. .. .	4/	10/	35/
British South Africa, obsolete set, ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8d. and 1/-, very scarce .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	17/6	—	—
Gambia, ½, 1, 2, 2½ and 4d., only fine copies .. .. .	1/6	4/	15/
Great Britain, 1d. black, 1d., imperf., 2d. blue, no lines, 2d. blue, 2½, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	2/6	6/	22/6
.. 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, light pmkd. copies .. .. .	2/	5/9	—
.. 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, ditto ditto .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Lagos, ½, 1, 2, 2½ and 4d., picked specimens .. .. .	1/6	4/	—
Malta, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 4d. and 1/-, ditto .. .. .	1/6	3/6	—
Niger Coast Provisionals, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	12/	—	—
Niger Coast, 2nd issue, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	3/6	9/6	—
Oil Rivers, 1st issue, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	10/	—	—
Queensland, ½, ½, 1, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	1/3	3/3	—
St. Christopher, ½, 1, 2½, and 4d., very scarce .. .. .	5/6	14/6	—
Sierra Leone, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 6d. and 1/- (obsolete), very scarce .. .. .	4/6	12/	—

Large Illustrated Price List of Packets, Sets, and Single Stamps will be published on 31st October. Copy sent Post Free to any address on application.

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** 53, WATERLOO STREET, **GLASGOW.**

## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1895-1897.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Committee:*

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, J. B. Camaschalla, & H. Atharley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

Meetings for the Season have been arranged as follows:—

**Nov. 16th.** Magic Lantern Display.

„ **30th.**—Eleventh Auction Sale.

**Dec. 7th.**—First Annual Dinner.

„ **14th.**—Paper: British Colonial Revenue Stamps, and Display of same, by W. Morley, Esq.

„ **20th.**—Paper: English. H. Hilckes, Esq.

**Jan. 11th.**—Twelfth Auction Sale.

Future dates will be published in due course.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The First Annual Dinner will be held on **Monday, December 7th**, at Kennan's Hotel. Tickets, 5/- each.

The Secretary will be greatly obliged if members will kindly advise him if they intend being present. On receipt of this notice a ticket will in due course be sent to them.

All philatelists and friends of members will be welcome.

### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Monthly Offers*, and *The Monthly Post*.

From France: *L'Avenir des Timbre Postes*.

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*, *Internationales Briefmarken Offer tenblatt*.

From the United States: *The Post Office*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Columbian Philatelist*, and *The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society*.

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico*.

From Buenos Aires: *El Filatelista*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

### MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The third meeting of the Session was held at the Grand Hotel. The President in the chair supported by sixteen members and one visitor.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed and the general business of the Society transacted, Mr. Duerst read his paper on the 1st issue of Austria and Lombardy-Venetia, and illustrated it by stamps from his collection.

It was pointed out that there are traces of a postal service in Austria as early as 1450-93, the time of the Emperor Frederic III. Giving most interesting historical facts, Mr. Duerst gradually traced the postal service and the uses it was put to, down to the time when the first stamps were issued, in 1850.

The printing, the colors, etc., all were explained. Steel plates were used, each sheet consisting of four panes of 60 stamps, five rows of twelve to each pane, the varying distances between the stamps, showing that more than one plate was used. As to the watermark, Mr. Duerst stated it to be in doubt, it never having been reconstructed. The varieties of the 1kr. printed on the back defective lettering,—varying textures of the paper, errors of color, etc., were all dealt with in detail.

The paper comes up for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Petri showed a very complete collection, his stamps being, without exception, magnificent specimens — ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Secretary*, Grassmere, Whitefield, near Manchester.

### EDINBURGH & LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The Third Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at the Stamp Bureau, 31, Frederick Street, on the evening of Monday, 2nd November, the President, Mr. Schnepel, presiding.

In addressing the members the President passed in review the work of the past session. Various papers on subjects of philatelic interest had been read (two of which had been published in the "S.C.F.," and one in the *Philatelic Record*). He looked forward to increased interest and usefulness in the coming session.

The Treasurer's Report showed the funds to be in a satisfactory condition.

The following were elected office bearers for the year, from 1st November:—*President:* Mr. W. Fish, M.A.; *Vice-President:* Mr. A. Smail; *Secretary and Librarian:* Mr. J. Mackay, 34, Frederick Street; *Treasurer:* Mr. Robert Kerr, 4, Hillside Street.

At next meeting Mr. Schnepel will read a paper on the stamps of Belgium.

The librarian has to thank Mr. F. G. C. Lundie for a copy of his Handbook to the German and Swiss Fiscals. Thanks are also due to the publishers of the *Philatelic Record*, the *Advertiser*, and the *English Specialists' Journal* for copies of these papers. All books and papers are laid on the table for the use of members at the meetings, and any books or periodicals of philatelic interest will be acknowledged.

Applications for membership, and all correspondence relating to the Society, should be addressed to the Secretary.

The Annual Subscription is fixed at 6/-, which includes a copy of the official organ, the "S.C.F." All subscriptions are due and date from 1st November.—J. MACKAY, *Hon. Secretary*.

### BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

This Society opened its 1896-7 Session by the members having a Supper at the Royal Hotel, Darley Street, Bradford, on the 13th of

October last. There was a good muster of members and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The menu contained many tempting morsels, as the following extracts from the same will show, viz.: Potage à la comp perf., Poulets à la emission Nouvelle, Ungezahute Schurdim, Lederal à la Gum Pap, Apple and Plum Pie on pieces of original plates, &c., &c. It was also stated in the menu that only original gums could be used.

The second monthly meeting of the Society was held on the 3rd November, at the Royal Hotel. Mr. Oliver Firth, the president, occupied the chair, and there was a good muster of members present. The evening was occupied by a display of the stamps of British East, Central and South Africa and Zanzibar. Mr. W. M. Gray opened the discussion on these stamps, which he illustrated with his splendid collection of these countries. He produced specimens of every known variety, in many cases having ships or blocks of the rarest types. The next meeting will be held on the 1st of December next, when Mr. Alkinson will send a paper on the stamps of Uruguay.—W. H. SCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*, 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

### PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

SESSION 1896-7.

*President:* Capt. G. H. W. Stockdale, R.F.; *Vice-President:* R. Tyeth Stevens; *Exchange Secretary:* H. Tucker, Junr.; *Treasurer and Hon. Secretary:* W. J. W. Miller; *Committee:* E. Milman, W. E. Harvey, F. A. Cocks, R.N.

The first ordinary meeting of the sixth session was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, October 7th, at 7.30 p.m. In the absence of the President the Vice-President took the chair. The Hon. Secretary read letters from the following members tendering their respective resignations, viz.:—Mrs. Mayne, The Very Rev. Monsgr. Bickerstaff-Drew, Miss Fowler, and Mr. E. Honeysett. All the resignations were accepted with regret. The Hon. Secretary also read a letter from Mr. A. E. L. Westaway, in which he accepted with thanks the Hon. Membership conferred on him at the previous meeting.

A discussion then took place as to whether the displays held by the Society should be opened at an earlier hour than 7 p.m. It was decided that this arrangement should, if possible, be carried out at the next display of stamps.

Mr. W. A. Walker, of Garfield House, Stoke, Davenport, was unanimously elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The second ordinary meeting was held at Society's rooms, 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, October 21st, at 7.30 p.m. There were seven members and one visitor present. Mr. Mayne in the chair.

Dr. M. H. Bulteel, of Durnford Street, Stonehouse, and Mr. W. Pryer, of Westwell Street, Plymouth, were unanimously elected ordinary members of the Society.

The Hon. Secretary then read a paper on the Stamps of Greece. He dealt with the early or French design only (i.e., up to the beginning of 1886). These consisted of five general issues and several minor ones. These five issues were: 1st, the Paris issue; 2nd, the 1st Athens issue; 3rd, the 2nd Athens issue; 4th, the 1876 issue; and 5th, the 1879 issue. The stamps of the two latter issues could always be easily distinguished from the others, as they were printed on toned paper whilst the stamps of the first three issues were printed on variously tinted papers. These latter could also be distinguished from one another partly by the colour, but chiefly by the printing of

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY . . .  
**MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

November 26th and 27th. December 15th, 16th and 30th. 1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 10th.

**November 26th and 27th.** A Fine Private Collection, including the following rarities:—Wurtemberg, fine unused, including the 7okr.; Lubeck, the error, used; Hanover, 10th thaler, unused, with wide net; Levant, 6 kopecs blue, used; Basle, very fine; Ceylon, 1/9 fine; Lagos, 2/6 brown and 5/- blue unused with gum; A fine lot of pence issue Canadian; Tolima, 1st issue, black on buff, a block of 4, pair and singles; a very fine lot of West Indies, including British Honduras, perf. 14, 6d. rose; 50c. on 1/-; 6d. yellow and 1/- grey, unused with gum; Nevis, 4d. rose, unused; 1/- yellow-green (2), etc.; St. Vincent, 4d. blue, perf. 12, wink. star, a horizontal pair imperforate between used on piece, probably unique.

## A Grand Lot of UNITED STATES,

comprising the following:—U.S. City Despatch Post; Govt. City Despatch; Carriers' Stamp, used; U.S. Mail prepaid on entires; 1845, 5c. varieties, with double lines at top and bottom; 1856, 90c. blue, used and unused; 1869 issue, complete issue and very fine; re-issue 30c. and 90c., unused; large and superb blocks of all the high values of the Columbus issue; Departmentals, complete, including duplicate sets of Justice and Executive; State, 2, 10 and 20 dollars; Queensland, fine pairs of 1st issue 1d. carmine and superb specimens of 6d. green; Victoria, 6d. orange, headed oval, on piece of letter, and an entire proof sheet (except 3) of the 2d. Queen on Throne engraved.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of collections and rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale.

### VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.

CATALOGUES of all Sales, and Terms, can be had on application to

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**MR. T. H. THOMPSON,**

OF

**Leeward Villa, Kilburn Park, N.W.,**

Begs to inform his friends and customers that he intends visiting

**LIVERPOOL, MANCHESTER & LEEDS, NEXT WEEK.**

AS FOLLOWS:

LIVERPOOL, at the Mitre Hotel, Church Street,  
on 16th and 17th.

MANCHESTER, at the Mitre Hotel, Cathedral Gates,  
on 19th and 20th, and

LEEDS, at the Great Northern Hotel, on the 21st.

Mr. T. will have a large and varied . . .

## STOCK OF STAMPS

with him for disposal, and hopes that as many as conveniently can will give him a call.

**W. B. KIRKPATRICK,** CLOSEBURN, . .  
BOURNEMOUTH.

(Member I.P.U. Committee, City of London Philatelic Club, etc., etc.)

OFFERS THIS WEEK,

## BRITISH EAST AFRICA,

		Surcharged on Company's Stamps.		s.	d.
½	anna brown .. .. .	used	.. .. .	27	6
1	.. green .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	27	6
2	annas red .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	40	0
2½	.. black on yellow .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	21	0
3	.. black on red .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	10	0
4	.. brown .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	7	6
4½	.. violet .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	15	0
7½	.. black on grey .. .. .	unused	.. .. .	17	6
8	.. blue .. .. .	used	.. .. .	12	6
1	rupee carmine .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	12	6
3	rupees slate violet .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	30	0
4	.. blue .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	40	0
2½	in red on 4½ violet (very rare)	.. .. .	.. .. .	55	0

		Surcharged on Indian Stamps.		s.	d.
½	anna green .. .. .	unused	.. .. .	0	6
1	.. plum .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	0	10
1½	.. brown .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	6
2	.. blue .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	6
2½	.. green .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	2	0
2½	in red on 1½a. brown .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	21	0
4	annas olive .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1	9
1	rupee slate .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	12	6
1	.. carmine and green .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	6	9
2	rupees carmine and brown .. .. .	used	.. .. .	13	6
3	.. brown and green .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	18	6
5	.. blue and violet .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	25	0
	Bechuanaland, ½d. to 1/- on British, set of 6, unused	.. .. .	.. .. .	8	0
	Zululand, ½d. to 1/- on British, set of 10, unused	.. .. .	.. .. .	30	0
	Lagos, 1/- orange, CA., unused, pair .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	10	0
	Zanzibar, surcharged on Indian, set of 11, unused .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	10	0

SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

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Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society.

No. 55.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1896.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### STRANGE STAMP CASE AT LIVERPOOL.

#### EXTENSIVE CHARGES OF PHILATELIC FRAUD.

THIS season is evidently going to prove as prolific in philatelic frauds as the last. No sooner is the Dundee case disposed of than our friends the Press cutters proceed to inundate us with reports of all sorts of lengths of a case of far greater magnitude.

On October 20th, before Mr. W. J. Stewart, at the Liverpool City Police Court, two respectably dressed young men, Edmund Forsythe and Ernest Atkinson, were charged with stealing a book from 131, Saxony Road, the property of Lucretia Briscoe, on the 27th inst. The allegation against the prisoners was that on the date in question the prisoners called at Mrs. Briscoe's purporting to inquire for apartments. One prisoner went upstairs with Mrs. Briscoe and the other remained in the front parlour. When they came down complainant noticed that Atkinson—the man who remained down stairs—looked somewhat bulky, but both went away, saying the lodgings were not suitable. The book was afterwards missed.

Detective-sergeant Wishart said he had been watching the prisoners for some days past, and arrested them at 1 p.m. on Wednesday. He charged them with stealing the book produced, and they made no reply. Witness had ascertained that on Wednesday, the 21st inst., prisoner Forsythe went to 101, Chatham-street and engaged apartments. He said he

would take possession of them on Friday the 23rd inst., and wished that if any letters came for him that they should be taken in until he came. He next turned up on Saturday morning, accompanied by Atkinson, whom he introduced as Mr. Jones, of Egremont, and whom, he added, he was staying with until the following Monday. He asked for and received several bulky letters from addresses in various parts of the country. They all came from stamp dealers, with the exception of a postcard which came from Forsythe himself, which was written as follows:—"Dear Dick—I have sent you a cheque for £15, your com. Hope you are well, &c." Prisoner then went to 2, Oxford-street, where the same *modus operandi* was repeated, a number of letters being sent to Forsythe, in the name of "Stephens," together with a postcard similarly worded as the other. Last Monday the prisoners went back to Chatham-street. Atkinson went into the house, and the other man remained in the street. Atkinson represented that Forsythe had gone to London, and asked for letters, but as there were none forthcoming he joined Forsythe, and both returned to 2, Oxford-street. Here Atkinson went to the house, and made the same representation as to Forsythe (or Stevens) having gone to London. From Oxford-street Atkinson went and engaged rooms at 35, Bedford-street, and 57, Falkner-street. At Bedford-street he gave the name of "Fred Alcock," and at Falkner-street he represented himself as "H. Iredale." Immediately on obtaining the rooms they sent off letters to different stamp dealers in London, Carlisle, and Northampton, asking for foreign stamps to be forwarded on approval to H. Iredale, 57, Falkner-street, and F. Alcott, 35, Bedford-street, each prisoner giving the other's name and address for reference. When witness (Wishart) visited the house in Falkner-street he found three letters and one postcard, two of the letters containing postage stamps, £1 18s. 4d. from one place, and £1 6s. from another place. He also found a book of stamps addressed to Forsythe, at 101, Chatham street, and which were valued at £5. The papers in their possession showed that the prisoners had been carrying on extensive stamp frauds all over the country. As a rule the prisoners only stayed about twelve days in each town. On the 27th inst., when the book was stolen, witness had seen them make calls at six different addresses with the ostensible object of securing apartments. The book was found sold at a broker's shop in Prescott-street. It seems that Forsythe is a medical student by profession, and the other prisoner is a shorthand writer. Most of the addresses which were in the prisoners' possession were found to have

been secured through the medium of a weekly newspaper devoted to exchanges and sales. At this point the prisoners were remanded.

#### A SIMILAR CASE IN ABERDEEN.

##### A SEQUEL TO THE DUNDEE CASE.

A SMART capture, says the *Aberdeen Free Press*, of October 27th, has just been effected by the Edinburgh police of a man who, it is alleged, under various aliases and at various places in the country, has been carrying on extensive frauds during the past few months. The practice of the man in question has been to advertise for rare foreign and fiscal stamps, which, having been forwarded to him for examination by unsuspecting persons, he has invariably appropriated without offering anything in the shape of payment in return. The arrest is of special interest in view of the fact that a number of the frauds were committed in Huntly and Aberdeen, and also because the Aberdeen city and county police have aided in the capture of what is regarded as a bogus stamp dealer. The history of the frauds, which have been carried on with considerable ingenuity, would appear to be as follows:—Towards the end of July last a communication was received by the police in Huntly from a lady residing in England, who desired information in regard to one named Alexander Anderson, who had written to her from Littlejohn Street in that burgh and obtained from her a number of valuable postal and fiscal stamps in response to an advertisement inserted by him in the "Stamp Dealers Monthly," a London publication. The lady having forwarded the stamps was in daily expectation of a reply in regard to them from Anderson, but although she made repeated enquiries by letter no reply was vouchsafed. The lady now suspected that something was wrong, hence her communication with the Huntly police. On enquiry being made by the police, it was found that a man named Anderson had during the month of June taken up his quarters at a lodging house in Littlejohn Street for one night, and, before leaving the following morning, made arrangements with his landlady, who, suspecting that nothing was wrong, agreed to receive letters addressed to her lodger, who represented that he was going his business rounds, and would be back before long to take possession of his correspondence. Soon afterwards numerous letters were delivered at Littlejohn Street, and Anderson, calling about a fortnight later, received them. The stamp dealer as on the former occasion, stayed for one night only. This and the fact that after Anderson's second departure additional letters had come to hand did not serve to allay the suspicions of the police, and they accordingly seized the letters which remained unclaimed. On examining a number of the letters the police discovered that all of them referred to collections of stamps, the proprietors of which had forwarded to Anderson in response to advertisements.

Full enquiry was now instituted throughout England and Ireland, and numerous charges against Anderson were soon forthcoming. In one instance a victim pointed out to the police in England that he strongly suspected that a man named James Wynd, who gave his address as Upperkirkgate, Aberdeen, and pretended that he had a tobacconist's business there, was in all likelihood identical with the man who had cheated him as Anderson. The south police, with all promptitude, indicated their suspicions that this was the case to the Aberdeenshire constabulary, who in turn brought the matter under the notice of the city authorities. Immediate enquiry left no doubt whatever that Anderson, of Huntly, and Wynd, of Aberdeen, were one and the same man, and that evidently a rather extensive system of fraudulent dealing in rare stamps had been going on. The Post Office authorities in the case of Aberdeen had got word of complaints regarding Wynd, and the day before the police received their information had seized a number of letters addressed to him and determined to return them to the senders. The police succeeded in discovering the names and addresses of a number of senders, and thus managed to keep the clue together. Further enquiries throughout England established additional cases on similar lines. A considerable period had now elapsed since Mr. Wynd's appearance in Aberdeenshire, and not a little difficulty was experienced in finding trace of

his whereabouts. After some search in various quarters, however, it was found that a man who had been in Edinburgh assuming the name of Herr Gastel was beyond question identical with the person wanted in Aberdeenshire, and a sharp lookout was kept for him at the Scotch metropolis. In the course of enquiries at Dundee made by the police there, complaint was received from a gentleman in that city on behalf of a friend living in England, who had forwarded stamps under the same circumstances to an address at Dundee. In this case the information had been received in sufficient time to allow of the police being beforehand.

On enquiry at a lodging-house it was found that similar arrangements to those at Huntly had been made. A close watch was made with the view of securing the stamp dealer when he should appear to claim his letters. The result was the arrest of a man named Keslow, who alleged that he had been the dupe of another person, for whom he had written letters to stamp collectors, and had not known that his employer's intentions were otherwise than honest. It was hoped that the stamp dealer might be caught, but efforts in this direction proved fruitless. On Sunday last, Detective Frew, of the Edinburgh police, succeeded in securing Herr Gastel at the temperance hotel in the Grassmarket, where, it was discovered, he had been in the habit of putting up. In Gastel's possession there were found a large number of foreign stamps, along with correspondence, showing that he had evidently been carrying on the stamp business in Edinburgh and Glasgow. Meantime the police have not found where the stamps came from, but it is expected that complaints will be received in course of time. Yesterday, Detective Sergeant Bruce, of the Aberdeenshire Constabulary proceeded to Edinburgh, and having taken over the prisoner, conveyed him to Aberdeen. It is expected that the man will be brought before the Sheriff for examination to-day. It may be mentioned, that while passing under the name of Wynd while in Aberdeen, the prisoner disposed of not a few of the stamps to dealers in the city.

#### NEW YORK HAS ITS STAMP CLUB NOW.

PHILATELIC New Yorkers have not allowed the grass to grow under their feet to any perceptible extent in connection with their scheme for the formation of a Collectors' Club. The club is now an accomplished fact; it has a house all to itself on Fourth Avenue, and our latest American mail brings us a catalogue of the first auction to be held at the new rendezvous by Mr. George R. Tuttle, of Newark, New Jersey, on November 18th. Why a New York club should go to New Jersey for its auctioneer is one of those things that no fellow can be expected to understand; but this is by the way. It says much for New York that a club can be suggested, promoted, and placed on its feet, all within six months; and it shows what a vast deal of philatelic enthusiasm is knocking about in the States.

While on the subject of American auction catalogues we beg to acknowledge with thanks receipt of Catalogues of Henry Gummel's 15th sale, and the Bogert & Durbin Company's 69th.

#### MR. "LEEWARD ISLANDS" THOMPSON ON TOUR.

It will be seen from a notice in our advertising columns that our friend, Mr. T. H. Thompson—"Leeward Islands" Thompson—is now making a tour of some of the principal provincial cities. He is at the present moment in Birmingham, and the following is a list of his further movements, so far as they are at present mapped out:—Liverpool (Mitre Hotel, Church Street), November 16th and 17th; Manchester (Mitre Hotel, Cathedral Gates), November 19th and 20th; Leeds (Great Northern Hotel), November 21st. If any readers of the "S.C.F." in the places named, wish to see Mr. Thompson, he will be pleased to make special appointments.

#### THE MAKING OF PHILATELIC "NEWS."

SOME long time ago—we don't know how long, but it seems years—we had the good fortune to be the first journal to announce the emission of the first type-written stamp—that of Uganda. This item was copied into all sorts of papers, of course without acknowledgment, and it is not too much to say that it has circumnavigated the globe at least. Now it

(the same little item) is dished up as being something quite new by a paper calling itself the *Quarterly Philatelic Circular*, and is thence quoted by the *Philatelic Record*. We don't blame the *Record*. These little sub-editorial slips will occur in the best regulated offices. But the sooner the *Q.P.C.* re-christens itself the *Philatelic Chestnut Roaster* or something of that sort the better for all concerned.

#### MORE NEW PHILATELIC SOCIETIES.

A SOCIETY for stamp collectors is contemplated in the North Wales district. Readers resident thereabouts should communicate with the Rev. J. H. Astley, Colwyn Bay. Another society is to be formed at Lincoln, for Lincoln and district. Mr. W. E. Asquith, 24, Altham Terrace, St. Catharines, Lincoln, has the matter in hand.

#### THE PRINCE OF NAPLES' WEDDING POST CARDS.

IN our No. 54, we made certain remarks concerning a then contemplated and now issued Prince of Naples Wedding Commemorative Post Card, about which we had received a handbill, bearing the name of Mr. Fiecchi, of Venice. We asked whether this was a genuine issue, or a daring fraud, and Mr. Fiecchi, with commendable candour and straightforwardness, answers us at great length and with much particularity. It appears that Mr. Fiecchi received from the Italian Government on October 6th, special permission to print and publish these cards, each one of which bears an inscription to that effect. The card is, of course, of a most "unnecessary" character, but we gladly acknowledge that Mr. Fiecchi's attitude in the matter has been perfectly honest and straightforward. The so-called "official" card, the one really issued directly by the Italian Government, is quite a different affair, being a Government speculation pure and simple. We gave some details of this in our No. 55, on the authority of our friend and correspondent, Mr. Fabri. Two millions were printed in five different colours! The official reason for this multiplication of tints (as communicated in Mr. Fiecchi's letter) is exceedingly rich. The State (it is announced) has published this card in five colours, for poetical reasons. ("L'Etat les cartes a publiques pour la poesie en cinq couleurs.") Can any doubt as to Italy's poverty longer exist?

#### STAMP THEFTS AT BOURNEMOUTH.

SOME time ago, when the packet of the City of London Philatelic Club was stolen, and we were enabled to recover a large number of the stamps, we gave it as our opinion how very important it was, that dealers should assist each other in such a case, and we freely admitted that we had been very pleased by the generous way in which the various dealers, who had bought these stamps from the thieves, gave them up to us without any question. A similar case has occurred within the last few days. It will be remembered that Messrs. Bright & Son, of Bournemouth, some time ago, prosecuted one of their employees, who was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment.

On the 3rd November, late in the evening, a gentleman called at our office with a large parcel of stamps at fairly cheap rates. It struck us that various stamps in this particular parcel must have been at one time the property of Messrs. Bright, seeing that many of the envelopes bore their address. We had our suspicions that these stamps were not obtained honestly, for reasons which we need not explain at length. We bought a few stamps, took the party's name and address, and at once communicated with Messrs. Bright, sending the stamps we had purchased, for their inspection, and asking whether they were their property. Next morning we received a wire that such was the case. Messrs. Bright's manager and the Bournemouth detective came up to London, succeeded in tracing the thief and arrested him. And this is what the Bournemouth papers have, so far to say upon the subject:

#### THE ALLEGED THEFT OF STAMPS.

Arthur Woolland, a respectably dressed youth, was charged on remand with stealing 660 Norwegian and various other stamps, postcards and envelopes, also five books, together of the value of £350, the property of Messrs. F. J. Bright & Son.

Detective-Sergeant Bowles said that on Wednesday last, at 8.30 p.m., in company with a man named William Coe,

(the party who sold Messrs. Hilckes & Co., the stamps), he went to 41, Digby Road, Finsbury Park and saw the prisoner. He said, "I'm told you sold this gentlemen a quantity of stamps for £55. I'm a police officer. Those stamps have been identified as stolen. How do you account for possession of them?" He said "I bought them in Cophall Avenue, in the street," but when asked from whom, said he did not know, having never seen the persons he bought them from before. He cautioned the prisoner and arrested him on a charge of stealing the stamps from Messrs. Bright and Son at Bournemouth. The prisoner repeated that he bought them in the street. He told the prisoner he would search his room, and that if he had any stamps he might as well show them. He replied, "I have not got a stamp belonging to me." In the room he found a book containing various stamps, post cards, and envelopes. He asked the prisoner how he accounted for the possession of them, and said he bought them in the street. Mr. Oliver, manager for Messrs. Bright was called in, and identified the stamps. Since then two boxes of stamps and six books were found. Prisoner stated that Mr. Oliver gave him some of the books which he received from Mr. Coe. Stamps to the value of £350 were recovered, and other people held more, and they refused to hand them over without a subpoena.

Supt. Foster asked for a remand till next Saturday. Some of the stamps bore the address of Messrs. Bright and Son. The prisoner was in the employ of Messrs. Bright and Son from October 1895 to October 1896.

Mr. Harry Trevanion, on behalf of the prisoner, applied for bail on the ground that if the prisoner was remanded till Saturday he would be removed to Winchester, where his friends would find it difficult to communicate with him in regard to his defence. The gentleman who instructed him adopted the young man when he was quite young and was anxious to do all in his power to provide for his defence, and was willing to come forward with bail for a reasonable amount on his behalf.

Supt. Foster opposed bail, and said it had come to his knowledge on Sunday night, that the prisoner, while lodging in Bournemouth, had sent a number of stamps to a certain young woman, to whom he was told he was engaged, in London. He regretted to have to say that, in his opinion, if the Bench granted bail the ends of justice would be defeated. The defendant was a junior clerk with a large firm in London and had been suspended from duty.

The Bench thought it was not their duty to allow bail.

It has been ascertained that a large number of Messrs. Bright's stamps have been sold to some of the principal London Dealers; but none of them seem to have taken the least trouble to discover whether or not the stamps offered were honestly obtained.

#### MORE STAMP DEALING BY P.O. OFFICIALS.

Our *Sydney Bulletin* brings us news of the latest little "deal" by Australian postal officials:

Following upon a philatelic outcry against unfair traffic in obsolete stamps by the Sydney postal authorities, comes a discovery of unauthorised and scandalous trading by certain individuals at Melbourne G.P.O. An unsuitable issue of 2/- stamps in dark green was made last year, and after eight days the issue was officially stopped, 150 sheets of unsold "specimens" being condemned to destruction. Immediately the stamp collector's price for the few specimens that had gone into circulation rose to a fancy figure, and dealers bought and sold them as genuine rarities. Meanwhile the condemned sheets were privately disposed of by two or more officers of the G.P.O., who, without absolutely robbing the Department—for they substituted ordinary 2/- stamps in place of the obsolete ones they were selling—made a shilling or eighteenpence premium on each item in the illicit deal. The craze for stamp collecting cannot survive many more revelations of this sort. Pretty soon the obsolete stamps that would, in the ordinary course of things, be most valuable, will become improperly common, like the five shilling Samoan stamps, postmarked without going through the post, or unpostmarked if the buyer prefers, and procurable at about the ordinary price of bananas.

"Unauthorised and scandalous" is good, and we thank the *Sydney Bulletin* for it. Like most of its contemporaries, the influential journal we quote speaks slightly of philately as



a "craze," and in a subsequent paragraph to that given, above, remarks that "philatelic fanaticism needs the romance of dirty unique specimens and fabulous prices to keep it going." However the *Sydney Bulletin* is good enough to admit that stamp-collecting "seems to have charms for many people, including Lord Rothschild and the Duke of York." We have to be thankful for small mercies from the non-philatelic press.

#### NEW STAMPS FOR CYPRUS.

CYPRUS brings us a new, but scarcely a novel set. In fact the new Cyprus stamps are quite similar to the old, except that the up-to-date De Le Rue parti-coloured arrangement is introduced. There are higher values, however, than the Cypriots have ever possessed before, the highest being forty-five piastres, or about five shillings English.

#### REPORT OF THE U.S.A. BUREAU OF ENGRAVING.

DIRECTOR CLAUDE M. JOHNSON, of the American Bureau of Engraving and Printing has issued his annual report. It is an appalling array of big figures. The production of postage stamps and other Government "paper" during the year has been as follows:—United States notes, bonds, and certificates, 14,130,819; national currency, 2,053,396; internal revenue stamps, 36,044,732; customs stamps, 214,000; postage stamps, 30,647,771; checks, &c., 1,959,877, making a total of 85,050,395, at a cost of \$1,469,359, or \$17.27 per thousand sheets, as compared with \$20.30 for the year 1895; \$23.73 for the year 1894, and \$25.35 for the year 1893. The average amount of work done by each employee is shown to have largely increased during the same time, the total amount being over 36,000,000 sheets in excess of 1893.

During the year postage stamps were delivered to postmasters in the following amounts:—Ordinary stamps, 3,025,481,467; special delivery, 4,666,270; postage due stamps, 19,348,714; newspaper, &c., 5,505,672; total number, 3,054,802,123. A saving for the year 1896 is shown of \$25,124 in the cost of the production of postage stamps.

#### J. W. PALMER, PHILATELIST AND POET.

THAT eccentric genius, Mr. J. W. Palmer, the only man in this or any other country endowed with the ability to sell a Brattleboro' stamp for double its nominal catalogue value, has broken out in a new vein. Like Silas Wegg of immortal memory, he has "dropped into poetry." And the occasion which has moved Palmer to woo the gentle muse is the long reign of our gracious Queen. In a poem—we suppose it is intended as a poem—headed "Victoria the Great," Mr. J. W. P. warbles thusly:

Among the blessings valued most,  
The blessings of the General Post  
Mark the reign,  
Now circling the wide world's girth,  
It puts a girdle round the earth,  
O'er land and main.

The Post is all men's friend,  
So may its benefits extend,  
And farthing stamps obtain,  
And Ocean Post  
Bring those near our hearts  
In foreign parts  
Nearer to our coast.

And in this year of 'ninety-six  
Other changes may we see—  
Changes for which PALMER long has agitated.  
May reprints be suppressed,  
And the stamp collector's pest  
Be utterly exterminated.

Then philatelists will raise  
Their voices loud in praise,  
For life for them will be serene;  
Then their shouts will ring  
Above all those that sing

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

We have not given the whole of Mr. Palmer's work, for the law of copyright is one that we hold dear; but readers who make a hobby of collecting literary eccentricities can get the complete masterpiece in Mr. Palmer's odd little journal, *Bric à Brac*. It is now whispered in well informed circles that the next list of birthday honours will possess a special and peculiar

interest for Mr. J. W. Palmer. Moreover, the feeling gains ground that the Poet-Laureateship has been given to the wrong man.

#### THE SWORN FOE OF PHILATELY.

MR. W. H. COUSINS, Secretary for Stamps and Taxes at Somerset House, is now about to retire from the Service. Throughout his career he has been singularly fortunate in the matter of promotion; indeed, since the Exhibition of 1851, when his ability was recognised by Royalty, he has had nothing but plain sailing before him. At the age of fifty he obtained the Secretaryship, when, thirteen years ago, it was vacated by Mr. Lacy Robinson, now Deputy-Chairman of the Revenue Board. Mr. Cousins could therefore remain for two years longer, until he reached the age of sixty-five if he liked; but after a service of nearly forty-six years he thinks he is entitled to get out of harness and claim his pension of £800.

His successor will probably be Mr. T. N. Craper, who has been Assistant-Secretary for the past fourteen years. The Office is worth £1200 a year. If Mr. Craper proves to be a broad-minded, tolerant man, his appointment will be a step in the right direction. It is said that Mr. Cousins' chief claim to distinction was his blind, unreasoning hatred of all things philatelic.

#### THE PARIS MURDER; AUBERT ON HIS TRIAL.

THE trial of the wine merchant, Aubert, and his mistress, Marguerite Dubois, for the murder of the young Parisian stamp-dealer, Eugene Delahaef, was begun at the Seine Assizes, on Monday last, October 26th.

According to the theory of the prosecution, Aubert induced Delahaef to go into his rooms under pretence of buying a valuable collection of stamps, murdered him for the sake of the price to be paid, and concealed his body in a trunk, which he conveyed by train to a small town in Brittany, and left at the railway cloak room. The odour from the box excited the suspicion of the railway officials, and led to the arrest of the prisoners.

The trial has been looked forward to with great interest, and the court was crowded. The table in front of the judge's tribunal was covered with articles connected with the crime. These included the box in which the body was found, a number of stamp albums, and the chopper with which the murder is alleged to have been committed.

Throughout the day's proceedings the woman Dubois remained perfectly cool, but Aubert from time to time entirely lost his self-control. Maitre Robert, his council, submitted that Aubert was insane and unfit to plead, but the Procureur of the Republic maintained that the accused's madness was feigned; and the judges, after deliberation, took this view and ordered the trial to proceed.

Aubert was comparatively quiet while the president questioned him on his past career, but when the interrogation turned upon the relations between the accused and Delahaef, Aubert relapsed into a state painful to witness. He literally foamed at the mouth. The female prisoner endeavoured to calm him, but without success.

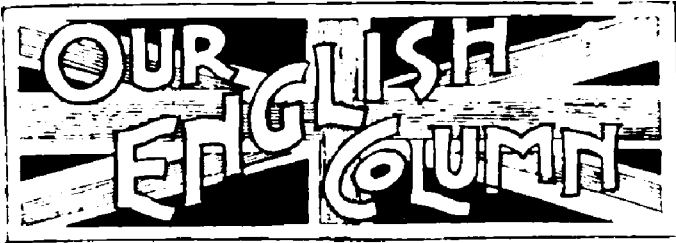
In the course of examination Aubert asserted that he used the chopper in self-defence, accidentally killing Delahaef.

The woman Dubois, in examination, declared that she had nothing to do with the murder, and that she helped Aubert to dispose of the body out of affection for him. She said: "I would do the same again." The trial abounded in sensational and dramatic incidents, and was closely followed from day to day by a densely crowded court. In the end Aubert was sentenced to penal servitude for life, and the woman to three years' imprisonment.

#### THOSE 5 PESETA CIBALTARS.

ONE of our readers sent out money to Gibraltar, in October, 1895, with an order for some 5 peseta stamps, which were then current. The Postmistress courteously sent a letter back saying that they were sold out and that no more could be had,—a new issue being then in preparation. The new issue appeared right enough, in the January following; but, as constant readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* will remember, a nice little block of 5000 5-peseta stamps were shortly afterwards sold by auction in Gibraltar. Has the Government any cognizance of this little deal?





By C62.

## MINOR VARIETIES OF THE LINE-ENGRAVED SERIES.

*(Continued from page 29.)*

I AM capable, I think, of as much forbearance to the square inch as anybody,—Long-suffering, thy name is C 62!!—yet I hardly like letting the following paragraph, from to-day's S.C.F. (Oct. 31st), pass without a kick at the Editors (figuratively, that is; their inches are too many for me to try it any other way). On page 32 they are reminded by a correspondent, that on April 18th they promised to illustrate the various postmarks. They try to console him thus,—“Probably ‘S. E. T.’ will not have to wait much longer now. We believe our Mr. C 62 has the matter in hand.”

My comment is, that I made the promise referred to by “S. E. T.” and with my M.S., which appeared in the “S.C.F.” on April 18th. I sent drawings, at the Editor's request, from which the illustrations should have been produced. *Possibly S.E.T. will not have to wait much longer now. The Editors have had the matter in hand for at least six months.*

## MINOR VARIETIES OF THE LINE ENGRAVED SERIES.

*The 1d. red-brown, imperf.—continued.*

B15. With double letters in angles. (All the copies in this list I have seen, most of them in duplicate. I shall be glad to make any additions to it, but I must see the stamps before doing so).

B over D on stamp A B.	Double I on stamp B I.
C " S " J C.	" J " J E.
F " I " F B.	" J " P J.
H " I " H B.	(one J is inv.)
I " D " D I.	" K " K I.
J over L, inv., on stamp J C.	" L " L D.
K " I on stamp K F.	" L " L A.
L " K " L L.	" M " M I.
M " D " M L.	" O " O J.
S " K " S F.	" O " O K.
Double A " K A.	" S " S J.
" C " C L.	(two different plates).
" D " D J.	" S on stamp S A.
" F " J F.	" S " S D.
" F " K F.	" T " T L.
" I " N I.	

In addition to these I have seen a double E in left hand corner, but have not noted the letter in the opposite angle.

B16. *Inverted Letters.*

I have the stamp S.C. with the S. inverted, and K.I. with the I inverted.

B17. *Rouletted by Archer.*

For notes on rouletted specimens of this issue see Dr. Bryant's articles in “S.C.F.,” Nos. 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, and Hilckes' Catalogue.

*Obliterations to be found in this issue.*

- B18. Maltese Cross in red (also in red and black).  
 B19. " " in blue  
 B20. " " in green.  
 B21. " " in black (common type, 17½ to 19mm.)  
 B22. " " " " with dot in centre.  
 B23. " " " " with straight sides.  
 B24. " " " " smaller (about 16mm.) with thick lines, and the lines of the inner diamond quite straight. All the copies of this type I have seen vary in height and width.  
 B25. Maltese Cross in black, large cross (20 to 21mm.)  
 B26. " " " " with number in centre (Nos. 1 to 12 are known).

The Maltese Cross obliteration was in general use through-

out the United Kingdom until May 1844, when a new series of obliterations was introduced, with separate types for England and Wales (this type was also used later for British Post Offices Abroad), Scotland, Ireland, and London. Stamps issued much later than 1844 may be found obliterated with the Maltese Cross, but the general use ceased in May, 1844.

*(To be continued.)**Another Wave of Dishonesty.*

WITH THE SAME MORAL AS BEFORE.

FOR obvious reasons little is said in the FORTNIGHTLY concerning the work of Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau. Nevertheless that organization is very much alive. Battling as we are against dark characters and deeds, we have to do most of our fighting in the dark. This number of the FORTNIGHTLY is saturated with philatelic crime. In no less than four different towns arrests have been made, in one case as the direct result of our own activity.

Again the well worn dodge of getting stamps on approval without the remotest of buying or returning them, is to the fore.

In each of the cases now brought prominently before the public by the action of the police, the accused men are quite “old friends” of our Enquiry Bureau. Our eye has been on them for quite a long time, and any one of the parties alleged to be swindled by these men might have saved themselves their present unhappy plight had they merely availed themselves of the sure remedy our Bureau offers.

Edgar Stevens, of 17, Setwell Road, Highfields, Sheffield now in prison, obtained stamps under the above name and the following:—

*Yours faithfully*  
*Edgar Stevens*

Richard Forsythe, Clare Field, W. White, Johnson, Henry Cordyce, Murray; giving the name of W. J. Murray also of Sheffield as his reference.

Stevens is a man who under the name of Cordyce tried to obtain from us a selection of some hundreds of pounds, and when we made enquiries we found he lived in one room, the rent of which he owed for the last week. We warned against this man in a recent number of the “S.C.F.”

*Faithfully yours*  
*Henry Cordyce*

H. Iredale, of 57, Falkner Street, Abercromby Square, Liverpool, also now in prison, did precisely the same transactions under the aliases of Ernest Atkinson, Cooper, and Alcott.

*Sincerely yours*  
*H. Iredale*

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 14, 1896.



THE time is more than ripe for a serious discussion of that most pressing need of the day—a confederation of all British philatelic societies and clubs. As in so many other things, philatelic Germany has shown us the way. Under present conditions much of the best work done, and many of the greatest benefits conferred, by our philatelic societies run to waste by reason of the lack of organisation. "All for all" should be the governing motto of our philatelic organisations, and though we are not such idle dreamers as to hope for any such Utopia as a complete democratisation of all the philatelic "talent" of the country, yet we do look forward with a certain confidence to the time when every society of stamp collectors in the United Kingdom will be in some way affiliated as a branch of one great Federation, or, to use the word that exactly describes the sort of thing we mean, "Bund." We have expressed this hope in the FORTNIGHTLY again and again, and on each occasion we have regretted that we of the "S.C.F." are very busy men with little or no time to devote to propagandist work. We are confident that some energetic philatelist, of sufficient influence to carry others with him, will come forward and grapple with this Federation problem. There need be no underground wire-pullings, or secret heart-burnings, as to what man or which society shall take the lead. This Federation idea is socialistic to an extent. It is a movement that needs no leader, but only workers, and the Federation, as we have mentally mapped it out, would provide no opportunity of private or public axe-grinding, but would be worked by all for the good of all. "Government of philatelists, by philatelists, for philatelists"—there you have it in a set phrase. We are all united in our love for our common hobby; it should be no difficult matter to make that unity real and tangible in the way we suggest.

An argument without an instance is to some people, beef without mustard. So let us take an instance. We submit that a member of the Birmingham Society would find it a convenience to be a member, by affiliation, of the City of London Philatelic club.

The Birmingham philatelist visiting London would thus find himself provided with a head-quarters which would prove a handy starting point for a tour of Philatelic London. Similarly a member of the C.L.P.C. would derive similar benefits from such an arrangement. Of course we do not suggest any restriction of the scheme to London and Birmingham; we only quote this instance because it is the one

that first occurs to us. The idea as we give it here is a diamond "in the rough" which we firmly believe can be so manipulated as to emerge from the workman's hands, resplendent a stone of the first water. But who will play the rôle of workman? \* \* \*

THE lay, or non-philatelic press is fond of having its shy at philately. Failing a good murder (good from the Pressman's point of view), or something new and startling in the way of a big gooseberry, the average newspaper man is apt to fly to philately, or rather "fly at" philately, as a means of filling up the chinks. Philately is so easily abused by one who has never experienced its charm, and as a general thing it can be lied about with absolute impunity, the philatelic readers of a daily newspaper being as a rule too busy or too lazy to defend their hobby.

Any newspaper, now-a-days, may be taken up in the almost sure and certain hope of the inglorious resurrection of some old anti-philatelic wheeze. Even the *Drapery World* has now joined the procession. Maybe there is a slump in socks. Anyhow, here is the *D.W.'s* par:

Speaking of Hilton, Hughes & Co., an extraordinary story has appeared in an American paper. This is to the effect that the downfall of the firm was due to Albert Hilton having a mania for stamp collecting! It is claimed that Mr. Hilton was so absorbed in his stamps that he neglected his business to attend to his collection. We do not know, comments the *Dry Goods Economist*, how much truth there is in the story, but it is very evident that Mr. Hilton did not succeed in capturing a sufficient quantity of the right kind of "stamps."

We strongly suspect that the Yank who originally penned this par "faked" it, simply to lead up to the melancholy little joke at the end. But let that go. It is now abundantly clear, you see, that Philately, in addition to all its own other dangers, leads to bankruptcy.

But there is more to follow. From the *Drapery World* to the *Daily Telegraph* is a far cry. The *D.T.* twits our hobby mildly in a column of type. The flagellation here is good-humoured and amusing withal, and is based on a most diverting yarn. Let the *D.T.* spin this in its own style:

It is not quite safe to leave the young "philatelist" any more than the young chemist entirely to the guidance of his own discretion, as the father of such an one has recently discovered. Asked by his own son for permission to sell or exchange a number of old postage stamps which had been discovered in a lumber room, he rashly coupled with his assent a suggestion that, with a view to obtaining a better price for the stamps, they should be sold without detaching them from the envelopes on which they were gummed. Unfortunately, he did not think it necessary to caution his son against including in the proposed transfer the letters contained within the envelopes, and hence, whether by inadvertence or through the natural indifference of a philatelist to anything but the outside of an envelope, a certain amount of extremely private correspondence passed to the purchaser by the sale. Two days afterwards Papa was informed by a lady, out of pure good-nature, that "the whole town was reading with intense interest some letters he had written before their marriage to his present wife." Well for him that it was his "present" wife, or the complications, already sufficiently serious, would have had an additional "kink." As it is, the writer of these doubtless impassioned effusions is much dissatisfied with the situation, and is said to have made "frantic efforts" to recover them. According to the latest advices, however, they have not yet been returned, and their uneasy author is now haunted by the hideous suspicion that their accidental possessor intends to place them at the disposal of the editor of some "Complete Letter-writer" for the purpose of publication.

So! Let us now see how we stand. Here are the various counts of the Press indictments!

- 1.—Philately leads to theft, murder, and all other crimes.
- 2.—Stamp collecting induces insanity (*vide* a recent article in a French paper).
- 3.—Our hobby indubitably leads anyone badly smitten with the philatelic habit to the Bankruptcy Court.
- 4.—Boys who collect stamps bring their parents into ridicule, if not disrepute.

Thus, philately is a most desirable hobby—to get away from. We quite anticipate, however, that thousands of people will keep on collecting stamps.

# Nova Scotia. Our Last Word.

"AN EXPLANATION" WHICH IS NO EXPLANATION.

THE MYSTERY AS TO QUANTITY STILL TO BE CLEARED UP.—WHY WERE CERTAIN DEALERS ADMITTED BY AN EARLY DOOR?  
A WORTHLESS GUARANTEE.

THE further we go into this Nova Scotia business the less we like it.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have at length come forward with the long promised "explanation," which is really no explanation at all.

As to quantity they will not give us any figures whatever. Like naughty boys they say, "It isn't us; it's the others." They seriously tell us that they have taken the responsibility of launching this great block of remainders without receiving any figures whatever as to the number found! If Messrs. Gibbons desire us to believe that statement, they must resign themselves at the same time to being regarded as very poor business men and as philatelists destitute of any particle of public spirit.

Messrs. Donald A. King and Arthur A. Bartlett, the two gentlemen who did the original "deal" with "the Provincial Secretary of the Government of Nova Scotia," thus write Messrs. Gibbons, under date October 1st, on the subject of the dimensions of the "find":—

We do not feel called on to take the dealers into our confidence, and give them details of the number of stamps we purchased; and so far as the collectors are concerned, we think they will scarcely find any grave cause for complaint, when we cheapen the set to them, as we do, and give them the queen of handsome stamps, the 8½ cents, at a quarter the price it has been selling at during the past year, and at the same time we guarantee never to lower the price.

This musty old argument about befriending the collector we have dealt with already. Forgers and Fakers adopt the same specious logic.

To return to the alleged explanation. We drew attention in previous articles to the fact that these Nova Scotia remainders were being offered right and left by other firms before Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' circular appeared. As to this Messrs. Stanley Gibbons say:

We arranged that this circular should be posted on the last day of August, and no lot was delivered until September 1st, when Messrs. W. H. Peckitt, Buhl & Co., Limited, Richard Senf, etc., had their lots either delivered or posted to them. Unfortunately, owing to delay in procuring the electros of the stamps for the heading of the circular, the issue of this was delayed a few days.

A few days!—nearly a week they mean; and all because of a few paltry electros, which we could guarantee to get made, on an emergency, within twelve hours. And why delay the circular for electros? Do Messrs. Gibbons imagine that there is any philatelist breathing who is unfamiliar with the design of the cents issue of Nova Scotia? Our friends in the Strand are simply too childlike and bland for anything. Their so-called explanation does not really touch any of the points raised by us.

#### WHAT WE COMPLAIN ABOUT.

Our complaint is that this huge remainder was placed upon the market in a most improper way. Portions of it were sold to various dealers without a word being said about remainders. We do not allege this against Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, but against the firm which were admitted by an early door, and turned their precedence to improper account. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Limited, on Messrs. Gibbons' own showing, had a parcel of Nova Scotia from them on September 1st. Very well. We have evidence which seems to argue that they were supplied on a still earlier date, but September 1st will serve. (We know of offers from Messrs. Buhl as early as August 26th.) The Gibbons circular, remember, was not sent out until September 5th. What did Messrs. Buhl do in the interim? They offered these stamps out at an advance of nearly 50 per cent. on Messrs. Gibbons' price, leaving to their customers to imagine for themselves how they came by such large parcels of these scarce stamps! Nothing had appeared in print on the subject, if we except a short and not very definite note in the *London Philatelist*, which by the way appeared on the 27th of

August. Well, stamp dealers are business men, and as such cannot resist a bargain. We believe that many of them nibbled freely at Messrs. Buhl's bait and bought for £150 the very lots which were offered a few days later in Messrs. Gibbons' belated circular at £103. A nice little "turn" that, we think, and all through being able to get in at the early door. Messrs. Buhl, we daresay, are now congratulating themselves upon their business alertness, but it is not a subject upon which they can expect to be very warmly congratulated by others.

#### A GUARANTEE WHICH IS WORTHLESS.

One more word regarding Messrs. Gibbons' guarantee before we dismiss it. In specially conspicuous black type Messrs. Gibbons go on to declare that on January 1st, 1897, the price of the Nova Scotia lots will be advanced. They also state that on no account will they sell the stamps for less than the prices publicly announced. This guarantee, if we are to construe it as such, is utterly worthless. Messrs. Gibbons may be able to answer for themselves, but they cannot answer also for the Scott Stamp & Coin Co. (the "sole agents," it now appears, for America and the West Indies); nor can they answer for Messrs. Bartlett and King. The two last named gentlemen, in the course of the letter we have already quoted, say, "We guarantee never to lower the price." This guarantee we regard as worse than worthless. Coupled with a frank statement of the quantities of stamps bought, we should perhaps be able to set some store by it; but, if we may presume to ask the question, simply *pro bono publico*, and without the faintest desire to be offensive, who are Messrs. Donald A. King and Arthur A. Bartlett, that their simple promise never to lower the prices of these stamps should be blindly accepted by the philatelic world? Mr. Donald King we know well as an able writer on the subject of the stamps of British North America; but Mr. King the philatelist, and Mr. King the remainder merchant, are two different people. Philatelically, we regard Mr. Donald A. King as having fallen from grace. Mr. Bartlett we know as a writer of voluminous and somewhat diffuse "Reminiscences." We have no evidence before us of the financial soundness of either of these gentlemen, and we venture to take their precious guarantee *cum grano salis*; and what would happen if either or both should die?

#### WHAT ABOUT QUANTITY?

The quantity of stamps constituting the remainders is still shrouded in mystery. We shrewdly suspect that the figures quoted from the *Boston Stamp Book* are entirely wrong. It has been stated authoritatively that the amount paid to the Nova Scotian Government was "nearly £9,000"; and it is also known that face value only was paid for the stamps. Now let us see what amount the numbers given in the *Boston Journal* will yield at face value.

52,000 stamps at 1c. (roughly)	..	£100
54,000 .. 2c. ..	..	210
28,000 .. 10c. ..	..	560
54,000 .. 8½c. ..	..	900
12,000 .. 12½c. ..	..	300

Total (about) .. £2070

Or less than a quarter of the sum actually paid over to the Government. We are afraid that there has been a great deal of hard lying in connection with this disgraceful business. Perhaps our estimate of about 750,000 will be nearer the truth after all.

More than this we shall not say, except a further word of warning to all: Leave these stamps severely alone!

This is our "last word" on the subject of the Nova Scotia remainders—until we have obtained possession of certain necessary official documents. Then we may turn back to this very regrettable page of philatelic history.

# TWIST EDITOR AND READER



WE have received many letters regarding the London Philatelic Exhibition and ourselves, letters which it is perhaps not expedient to publish. One short extract from the letter of a well-known Rochdale reader will serve to convey the general tenour of all.

I am disgusted at the ostracism shown Mr. Hilckes in connection with the forthcoming Exhibition in London. It seems to me a pre-arranged dealers' plan; but . . . perhaps he is well out of it! I admire his outspokenness amidst so much humbug and philatelic "side."

Collectors, we are glad to know, value our services and approve our independence. With possibly one exception the FORTNIGHTLY is the only English philatelic journal which has dared to be absolutely and fearlessly independent. We wonder whether any observant reader will guess the name of the one exception.

\* \* \*

A Leamington reader has made an elaborate compilation of the various perforations of Dutch, Belgian, and Austrian stamps, so far as they have come within his ken, and sends us the result for publication:

## HOLLAND.

Issue	Perfs.	12½ × 12, 13½, 13 × 14, 13½ × 14.
1864.		
" 1869.	"	13, 13½, 14.
" 1872.	"	14, 13½ × 13, 13 × 14, 12½, 12½ × 12, 12, 11½ × 12.
" 1876.	"	12½, 12½ × 112, 13½, 13½ × 13, 12 × 11½, 11½ × 12.
" 1891.	"	12½ only.

## Unpaid Letter Stamps.

1870.	"	13, 12½.
" 1881.	Type I.	Perfs. 12½, 12½ × 12, 13½, 13½ × 13.
"	" II.	" 13½ × 13.
"	" III.	" 13½.
"	" IV.	" ?

## BELGIUM.

" 1863.	Perfs.	12½ × 13½, 12½ × 13, 12½, 14½.
" 1866.	"	15, 14½, 14½ × 14.
" 1870.	"	15, 14.
" 1883.	"	14.
" 1884.	"	14.
" 1893.	"	14.

## Newspaper Stamps.

" 1863.	"	14½, 12½ × 13½.
" 1867.	"	15, 14½ × 14.
" 1869.	"	15, 14.
" 1884.	"	14, 13½ × 14.
" 1893.	"	14.

## Unpaid Letter Stamps.

" 1870.	"	15.
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## Railway Stamps.

" 1879.	"	14.
" 1882.	"	15½ × 14½.

## AUSTRIA.

" 1867.	"	9½, 9½ × 9, 11½, 12.
" 1883.	"	9 × 9½, 9½, 10, 10 × 10½, 10½, 10½ × 10.
" 1890.	"	10, 10½, 10½ × 10, 11½, 12½.
" 1891.	"	10.

Possibly, as our Leamington friend goes on to suggest, some FORTNIGHTLY readers may be able to supplement this list.

\* \* \*

Mr. Fred Hagen, the well-known Australian dealer, sends the following for publication:—

I notice that in the philatelic Journals for June, various strong and adverse comments have been made regarding Mr. Hoffmann's complaints against a firm of Stamp Auctioneers; no doubt in this particular case, the gentleman named was wrong; but I think I have a much more serious complaint against one of these firms.

On the 18th January, 1896, I wrote to Messrs. ———; forwarding them a varied assortment of stamps, good, bad and indifferent, which were unsaleable here. They belonged to myself and others of this city. I also forwarded a list of the stamps and stated that those of no value could be returned; I also desired that a marked copy of the prices they brought be sent me, and stated how they could remit.

Their acknowledgment of the receipt of my letter; was dated 7th March, 1896. Shortly after this I received their Catalogue, where in my lots were marked. This sale was to take place in April; but since then I have never heard from them regarding the sale, neither has any remittance come to hand, and the mail which arrived yesterday brought letters dated London, 24th July, so that over three months have elapsed from the date of sale.

I have had prior to this occasion a good many dealings with Mr. Hadlow; whose custom was to forward a marked copy immediately after the sale, and remit the proceeds within 14 days. This, I should imagine, is the custom of all the Auctioneers, and it seems to me that the firm in question have shown gross negligence.

Apparently I am not altogether forgotten by this worthy firm, as they send me another Catalogue of a sale they intended to hold in June. In it, to my surprise, I find several lots indicated as mine, and which I find is correct.

Prior to the receipt of this Catalogue I wrote them a pretty strongly worded letter. Therein I asked them to pay the money due me to a London house, by whom it would be cabled to Sydney. This they have not done.

Even the returns should before this have been remitted for the second sale, seeing that five weeks had elapsed from that date of sale up to the 24th July (the date of last mail received), but I suppose they have some queer ideas of doing straight forward business.

Probably they have an idea of continually stretching out my lots to spread over all time, and then make a settlement some years hence.

I am ventilating my grievances so that others may take warning and not trust too much to the good faith of certain firms of Auctioneers.

Apologizing for occupying so much of your valuable space.

Yours truly, FRED HAGEN.

\* \* \*

## THE STAMPS ON APPROVAL QUESTION.

It startles one rather to find that there are still a number of antediluvian frumps occupying positions as schoolmasters in various parts of this country, who keep alive the old fashioned antagonism to stamp collecting, and who discourage every tendency to philatelic study on the part of their charges. In the columns of the *Guardian*, a most excellent exponent of pigheaded bigotry of various brands, a correspondence has been in progress on the subject of "Stamps on Approval." The latest letter is interesting:

SIR,—Will you allow me through your columns, so widely read by schoolmasters, to ventilate the above subject?

Beneficial as stamp collecting is as a means of acquiring geographical information, the unsolicited despatch of approval sheets to young boys is fraught with danger. Since all schools are subject to this annoyance, my experience may be useful.

I merely notify to the sender that the sheet will only be handed to any duly accredited agent, and I take no notice of further usually threatening communications. The result is satisfactory, in that the nuisance is abated.

E. L. B.

E. L. B. we suppose is a schoolmaster. We should like to be within talking range of him for about ten minutes.

\* \* \*

We have at various times commented somewhat strongly upon the philatelic logrolling in America, of which Clifford Washington Kissinger has always been the head centre. That ill-advised young man is now a fallen star. Detected by Mr. Gremmel in the act of selling votes, and exposed by that gentleman in the *Post Office*, the "young man from Reading" has been "sent to Coventry" by every self-respecting American philatelist. Now that Kissinger is down we wish to say nothing that is bad concerning him. He has had his lesson and will profit by it. His great abilities—for indubitably, he is a youth of much intelligence, great perseverance, and almost indomitable will—his great abilities, we hope, will now be devoted to work which has in it more of honesty and sincerity than the training of an organised band of logrolling lick-spittles. On this subject an American correspondent writes:—

It may interest you and your readers to know that the reason Clifford W. Kissinger withdrew from the race for Secretary of the A.P.A. was because he was given to understand that he would other-

wise be expelled by the Association in Convention assembled for buying votes as per documents printed in the *Post Office*.

This we have no doubt, is true! In fact we had guessed as much before our correspondent's letter reached us. But having said so much, we intend to say no more. We think that our remarks have in some measure tended towards the arousal of public feeling in America against "Kissinger's gang." We hope we shall have no occasion to refer to this subject again. It is not our practice or our wish to assist any man downhill. It is when people are high up and prospering illegally that we prefer to do our kicking.

\* \* \*

J. B., Southport, a reader who looks upon his FORTNIGHTLY as "a boon and a blessing," draws our attention to the following contemptuous paragraph in a recent number of the *Christian World*:

In London, an Island of Reunion, 30 cent stamp fetched £68, and a Cape of Good Hope, 4d., red error, £24. Fools and their money are soon parted.

Not exactly the style of comment one expects from an avowedly pious journal, as our correspondent remarks. J. B., by the way, goes on to put a question: "How much of the original paper would warrant you describing a stamp as being 'on entire?' Why, the whole of the 'original paper,' of course! Ask us something more difficult!"

## The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Oldenburg.

By the Author of the "Secret Marks of Switzerland."

(Continued from page 32).

There are a very large number of counterfeits of this value; in two of them the colour is wrong, which makes them easy to identify. The first has a brownish and the second a rose-tint. In the first, the inscriptions and figures are too large; the lower scroll is stretched too straight, and the pearls form too regular a row. In the second, the inscriptions and figures are too small; the lowest gold bar in the upper left field of the coat of arms is much too broad; the pearls are wanting, and the entire background of the stamp is shaded. Again, a third counterfeit has too large figures; its pearls under the lower scroll are too heavily drawn; the hanging scroll end in the upper left corner is too far away from the frame line of the stamp; the body of the lion is too short and the animal assumes too erect an attitude. A further counterfeit, which is also printed with a rose-tint, has too large inscriptions, but too small figures; the ornaments are too far away from the small ovals that bear the value; the lion is a complete failure, etc. It is unnecessary to give any further differences, as all counterfeits can be branded as such, if the distinguishing marks which we have carefully noted are as carefully sought for.

### VI. 3 Groschen, Yellow.

1st Impression: a. Lemon.

2nd Impression: b. Dark Yellow.

In this value also, many varieties of tint might be chronicled. For example, brighter shades, and then the second impression furnishes us with specimens of a brownish yellow colour. This stamp was printed from the same die as the yellow 3 groschen stamp of the second issue; therefore, the description of the design has already been given. On account of the very light colour of this value, the details of the design are not easily recognized; but neither are they any plainer in the counterfeits, and when the latter case occurs, the differences will be the easiest to determine if the stamp is compared with the 3 groschen stamp of the second issue, because, in a general way, the counterfeits of this value are of the same character as the counterfeits of the other values.

*Note.*—I have already spoken of the so-called errors of stamps of the second issue, and I said that similar errors might be discovered upon stamps of the third issue. It is a natural result of the manner of the printing in colours upon white paper, which, from its very nature, does not allow the

details to stand forth distinctly; that in this issue the number of errors is apparently a larger one, and, it must be confessed, that it is easy to discover queer ways of spelling the words of the inscriptions. Now, it is not difficult, with a little good will and a little alter-help, to perfect such errors, and amateurs may procure many such "curiosities" that will make them very happy. Among others, we find the following more or less probable errors of print: "Oldendurg," "Oldenburg," "Olbenburg," "Oldenburo"; further: "Dritteb," "Drittet," and "Dritt." The latter stamp is a very curious one. I have had one in my possession for quite a number of years, and it is evident that the error is not a premeditated one. It is interesting to note that upon this stamp the right part of the lower scroll is misplaced; it seems to have been pushed upwards. Its lower frame is interrupted under the "t" and the "n," and is continued only a good deal higher up. The same thing takes place on the right side over the letter "G." The row of pearls below the scroll follow suit, and those on the right end of the row are higher up than the others. It is evident that at the moment when this stamp was passing under the press, a foreign body was accidentally introduced and caused the paper to move. There are also specimens upon which the following error can be seen: "Groschen."

### IV. Issue.

This issue appeared in 1862, and consists of five values: 1-3 groschen, green;  $\frac{1}{4}$  groschen, reddish-yellow; 1 groschen, rose; 2 groschen, blue; and 3 groschen, brown.

The coat of arms is simplified, consisting now of two fields only, and is surmounted by a ducal crown. Crown and arms are embossed in white on flat, coloured background. They lie in an upright oval, which is surrounded by a double frame. The latter is guilloched, or covered with a fine network, and bears in its upper part, in coloured letters, the name of the country, "Oldenburg." In the lower part of this frame the value is indicated in letters. Upon both sides of the large oval are white, small ovals, bearing the value in coloured figures.

The printing is in colour upon white paper. Engraved on steel. Perforated in lines, or rouletted.

a. Rouletted, small size, 12.

b. Rouletted, large size, 10.

There are no varieties of type in the stamps of this issue, but, as we have just seen, there are varieties in the mode of division. The smaller line perforation (12) was the first one; the latter and larger one (10) was not used before the year 1867.

Several differences of shade may be made in each value; but with reference to the design, it is hardly necessary to make a list of peculiarities, which might help to recognise the stamp as a genuine one. The manufacture of these stamps has been so carefully done, the details are so clear and the design so regular that it would be extremely difficult to make a list of such peculiarities. Down to the present time no counterfeits of the stamps of this issue are in existence; that does not mean, however, that none will ever appear. We will, therefore, give all our attention to the meshes of the network in the frame of the stamp, for these will surely be the guides in judging possible future counterfeits. These meshes are not always equally visible upon each specimen, their distinctness depending upon the clearness of the print of the stamp itself: yet, we are persuaded that the following description will, in course of time, become a valuable one.

### I. 1-3 Groschen.

a.—Rouletted, small size, bright green, green, very brilliant green.

b.—Rouletted, large size, green.

It is more difficult to recognise and count the smaller perforating lines used in the first impression than the longer ones, which were used in later impressions. In the latter stamps, and especially in the unused specimens sold after the stamps were no longer in use, it is quite easy to recognize the rouletted perforation; upon all sides of the stamps, and for each 2 cm. of length, 10 lineal perforations can be counted with ease.

(To be continued.)

## Our Review of Reviews.

WE welcome the *American Collector*, of Piney Creek, Maryland. Lillie H. Murray contributes to the September number an article headed, "A Beginner's Trouble," which is one of those articles that make you feel you want to sit down somewhere and do a hard think.

Words, words, words, but not one word that is quotable. That's the condition of the *International Stamp*, dated August 20th. From cover to cover the paper contains nothing but reports of Philatelic Societies' Conventions. We note however, that the paper has just been taken over by Mr. Eben S. Martin, of Minneapolis, who promises "articles by the best writers in America" in future numbers.

The great Paris Exhibition of 1900 is to have a philatelic section, it appears. *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* devotes much space to the subject. The Paris Philatelic Exhibition of 1892, our contemporary admits, was only a half success; but 1900!—ah, mon ami, 1900, nous verrons! (Hope we shall!) *L'Echo* is much improved.

### The Oldest American Stamp Journal.

A pretty little war of words has waged for some months past between the *Eastern Philatelist* and the *Philatelic Monthly & World*, as to which may fairly claim the dignity of being the oldest philatelic magazine published in the United States. The facts are all in favour of the *Philatelic Monthly & World*, which has appeared continuously for 22 years. The *Eastern Philatelist*, however, disputes the claim of the *P.M. & W.*, to be considered a magazine at all. "It is a mere 'house-organ' says Editor Pinkham, 'published simply to advertise the Bogert & Durbin Stamp Company.'" That may have been true of six months ago, but now the Bogert & Durbin Company's organ developed into a newsy, interesting, go-ahead publication; and in any case Mr. Pinkham is out of court, because the Bogert and Durbin Company quote both Webster and Worcester to show that "magazine" means "a periodical, publication, or pamphlet."

These journalistic asperities will occur, but one fails to see what good they do. Not long ago we had a similar contest in England, between the *Philatelic Record* and the *Stamp Collector's Journal*, the result being necessarily an easy win for Mr. Nunn. You may talk for ever, but no amount of argumentative word-twisting will upset the evidence of *Anno Domini*.

### Some Underpriced Bechuanaland Stamps.

Mr. G. F. Crowther, M.A., contributes a short article on the stamps of British Bechuanaland to the *Bazaar's* first Philatelic Supplement of the current season. In Mr. Crowther's opinion, many of the Bechuanaland stamps are undervalued at present catalogue rates. The last 1s. stamp is undoubtedly very rare, and the stamps of lower values are, Mr. Crowther contends, far less common than many people think.

Mr. L. Upcott Gill, in this same philatelic Supplement, gives a mass of correspondence concerning the

#### SOMERSET HOUSE PROSECUTION,

but the net result of all this letter-writing was communicated to FORTNIGHTLY readers some time ago by Mr. Gill himself. But the full correspondence now published contains one scrap of evidence which strengthens the suspicion recently aroused that the prosecution of the *Bazaar* was due in part, if not wholly, to the efforts of an anti-philatelic bigot connected with the Inland Revenue Department.

### How Stamps Deteriorate In Value.

This is an important matter, this question of the damage done to stamps by constant handling; and Mr. Charles E. Jenney deals with it seriously in an article he contributes to *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*. So many things tends to the deterioration of our stamps. For instance:

Many collectors neglect to soak the papers from the back of stamps when it seems likely to be pulled off easily and in tearing it off the stamp is torn. Hinges accumulate on the back and being in to much of a hurry or too lazy to use water, the stamp is torn or its

thickness decreased so that a watermark is undiscernable. Stamps printed in aniline ink are ignorantly put in water, and the colours run; or, such stamps having just the backs wetted, in being scraped with a knife are injured. A corner or a perforation becomes bent over on a stamp in the album. It is noticed and placed properly, but if it occurs twice or three times it is liable to drop off. A good many collectors when taking a stamp from a sheet, simply tear off a part of the hinge adhering to the sheet and mount the stamps thus in their albums. When this has occurred half a dozen times to the same stamp it has a "hump on its back" at the top which causes it to lean out from the page like a picture hung from a wall. The number of stamps one meets with a hole almost through where the hinge usually is placed is startling. I regard this as one of the best pleas for exchanging stamps loose instead of on sheets.

And beyond and above all this, are we so very certain, when we look back and see the mistakes of our predecessors in removing stamps from original covers, cutting envelopes round and square, etc., that we to day are not doing other unsuspected harmful acts to our stamps which will make them less valuable to the collectors of the next century?

### Wanted some Stamps, that was all!

It is the *Philatelic World*, of Calcutta, that spins this yarn:

A well-known missionary had occasion to give a description of his work in foreign lands to a large audience in a certain town. While speaking, he took particular notice of a boy who was listening with rapt attention to every word the lecturer uttered. The reason of the boy's interest was soon made clear. As is usual in such addresses, the missionary concluded with an earnest appeal for contributions, however small, and, thinking of his wide-mouthed listener, he added that even children might give their mite. When the meeting was over, the boy mounted the platform, and going up to the lecturer, said, "Please Sir, I was very much interested in your lecture, and—and—" Here he hesitated. "Go on, my little man," said the missionary. "You want to help in the good work?" "No—not that," was the boy's reply. "What I want to know is, have you any foreign stamps to give away?"

### The Plaint of a fair Philatelist.

Mr. E. H. Pinkham does not often send us a copy of his *Eastern Philatelist*, but when he does we are sure of something readable. To the latest number received Miss Amy L. Swift contributes an extraordinary article headed: "She, the Dealer, and the Idea." In this the sterner sex are represented as taking advantage of the "fair collector" in matters of exchange, and that dealers do not as a rule treat her sex with the same consideration as they would their own. The article concludes with an account of a well-known dealer attempting to cheat one of the fair sex who had gone to him to sell some stamps.

### Mr. Ewen's New Catalogue.

JUST before going to press we have received Mr. Ewen's Catalogue with a request to review. Time is too short to go through the book very carefully. A cursory glance, however, convinces us that the compiler has approached his work in the most patient and exhaustive manner, and if all the information given can be relied upon, it should be a valuable book for English specialists. We shall revert to this matter in our next issue, when, with the assistance of "C 62," we will carefully review it, but it would be unfair to the compiler as well as to ourselves if we were to attempt a review at such short notice.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING NOV. 28th.

#### Auction Sales.

- Nov. 16th and 17th. Mr. W. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely
- Nov. 17th and 18th Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 precisely.
- Nov. 18th and 19th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Nov. 26th and 27th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

*Class A*—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

*Class a*—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

*Class b*—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

*Class c*—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Mr. HADLOW, October 16th, 1896.

(Continued from page 36)

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf. *	..	1	1	0
a	Barbados, 1/- black, imperf. *	..	2	0	0
b	1d. blue, perf. 11½ *	..	1	0	0
a	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½ *	..	1	1	0
c	1 dollar, ditto, used, slight tear	..	2	12	0
c	British Guiana (1862), ¼c. blue, trefoil, no roulette *	..	2	6	0
b	Natal, 1/- mauve, no surcharge	..	1	8	0
b	Nevis, ¼d. rose	..	2	0	0
c	4d orange, litho., imperf., with large margins	..	4	4	0
a	6d. lilac-grey	..	1	6	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	..	1	14	0
b	1/- green, on bleuté	..	2	12	6
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	..	3	3	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	..	1	1	0
a	Trinidad, 4d. mauve, imperf.	..	1	3	0
A	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown	..	1	4	0
A	6d. rose, perf. 15	..	8	0	0
a b	1/- crimson, double line *	..	3	0	0

Mr. HADLOW, October 19th and 20th, 1896.

A	Antigua, 2½d. red-brown, CC., pair *	..	3	0	0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose *	..	4	0	0
c	British Guiana, first issue, 12c. blue, square, but cut in at top	..	7	7	0
b	British South Africa, £5 green, fiscally used	..	1	2	0
b	£10 red-brown, ditto	..	1	5	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. dark red	..	2	0	0
c	ditto, 4d. light blue, margins but slight nick	..	1	14	0
b	ditto, 4d. deep blue	..	1	16	0
b	Ceylon, 9d. brown, no wmk.	..	1	2	0
a b	1/- cold violet, no wmk.	..	1	1	0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, C.A., pair *	..	4	0	0
b	Great Britain, 1d. V.R. black *	..	8	8	0
b	10d. octagonal, die 4 *	..	1	0	0
a b	2/- brown	..	2	8	0
a	£1 brown-lilac, cross	..	1	3	0
b	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose	..	1	7	0
A	India, Service, 2a. black on short lilac, strip of 3 *	..	4	0	0
b	Levant, 20k. blue and red.	..	1	10	0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, late, on entire	..	1	10	0
c	Natal, first issue, 9d. blue, 28 x 31mm., slight tear	..	3	15	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose	..	1	4	0
a	4d. orange, perf. 15 *	..	2	4	0
b	ditto *	..	£1	4s.	and
a b	6d. grey-lilac on bleuté *	..	2	4	0
a	6d. grey-lilac	..	£2	10s.	£2
b	ditto, * seven copies	..	averaged	1	11
b c	ditto *	..	£1	and	1
a	ditto, used	..	1	8	0
b c	ditto	..	1	0	0
b	1/- green, perf. 15 *	..	1	12	0
a b	ditto, used, ten copies	..	averaged	1	2
c	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15	..	2	8	0
a	1/- purple *, two copies	..	each	1	12
c	New Brunswick, 1/- dull violet, dotted pmk. piercing paper	..	10	15	0
a	New South Wales (1888), 20/- blue *	..	2	2	0
b	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf.	..	1	18	0
b	St. Lucia, 1/- orange-brown, CA.	..	2	0	0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange-yellow	..	£1	3s.	od.
a b	1/- indigo *	..	2	10	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.			
		£	s.	d.	
a b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze	..	1	4	0
a	(1850), 12 cuartos violet *	..	1	10	0
b	(1853), 2 reales red	..	3	0	0
b	Sweden, 3sk. bco. green	..	1	1	0
b c	24sk. bco. red	..	1	1	0
b	Switzerland, Vaud, 4c.	..	11	10	0
b	ditto, 5c.	..	1	3	0
b	Zurich, 4c. vert. lines	..	8	0	0
b c	Tasmania, 1d. blue *	..	1	18	0
b	ditto, vert. pair, used	..	1	12	0
b	United States (1856), 90c. blue *	..	3	3	0
b c	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line	..	3	5	0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, no thread *	..	2	15	0
b	ditto, used	..	1	0	0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Oct. 26th & 27th, 1896.

b c	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	..	1	10	0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	£2 os. od.	£2	2s.	od.
a	ditto, "Specimen"	..	2	4	0
a	Brazil, 300r. black, sloping figures	..	3	0	0
a	British Columbia, 50c. violet, perf. 12½	..	1	1	0
a	British Honduras, 6d. yellow *	..	2	6	0
A	Dominica, 1/- carmine, C.A. *	..	2	12	0
a b	Fiji, 2d. red on 3d. (6c.) green, plain V.R. *	..	1	10	0
c	Great Britain, 9d. straw, hair lines, dirty	..	2	14	0
b	2/- brown	..	2	12	0
a	10/- grey-green, on blue, anchor	..	1	3	0
a	Holland, third issue, 10c. lake, perf. 10 x 10½ *	..	1	6	0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	..	2	6	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose *	..	1	10	0
b	ditto, used	..	1	9	0
a	4d. blue *	..	1	0	0
a b	6d. grey-lilac	..	1	0	0
a	6d. orange-brown	..	1	5	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	£1 1s. od., £1 4s. od.	and	1	5
A	1/- purple, pair *	..	3	3	0
A	ditto, a single *	..	1	12	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 2	..	1	8	0
a b	ditto, 2d. plate 3, on piece	..	1	7	0
a	ditto, 3d. on yellowish	..	1	12	0
a	(1888), 20/- blue *	..	1	10	0
a	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue, on entire	..	1	3	0
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. light green	..	1	5	0
a	8½c. green	..	0	14	0
a	St. Helena, 6d. ultramarine, perf. 12½ *	..	1	7	0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star *	..	3	0	0
a	(6d.) green, star	..	1	15	0
b	ditto	..	1	5	0
a	6d. lilac, CA., fiscally used	..	1	1	0
A	1/- orange-brown, CA. *	..	3	12	6
a	ditto used	..	2	17	6
a	St. Vincent, 4d. blue, no wmk. *	..	1	1	0
b	4d. orange	..	1	6	0
A	1/- rose-red, no wmk., perf. about 12 *	..	7	10	0
a	5/- rose-red, star *	..	11	10	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	..	1	14	0
c	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC., small stain *	..	2	4	0
b	ditto *	..	2	10	0
a b	ditto used	..	2	0	0
b c	6d. ochre, CA., gum-stained	..	6	5	0
a	Trinidad, 1/- indigo, no wmk., perf. 12	..	1	0	0
A	5/- dull lake, perf. 12½, pair *	..	1	14	0
a	United States, New York, 5c. black	£1 4 0 and	1	5	0
b	5c. brown, imperf.	..	1	1	0
a	(1856) 90c. blue *	..	3	3	0
b	(1868) 90c. blue, grill	..	1	0	0
b	(1869) 15c., no frame *	..	1	12	0
a	ditto, 90c.	..	2	2	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown *	..	1	0	0
A	ditto, used	..	1	0	0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson *	..	1	3	0
A	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	..	1	0	0
a	6d. rose, perf. 15 *	..	5	0	0
a	1/- crimson, double line *	..	3	10	0
A	1/- crimson, border	..	1	1	0



Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Oct. 28th and 29th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC...	1	7	0
a	Austria, <i>Journal</i> , 4k. red *	1	12	0
a	Barbados, 3d. reddish-purple *	1	0	0
a	Belgium, 5f. pale brown ..	1	1	0
b	British Central Africa, £10 brown *	10	0	0
a	British East Africa, ½a. manuscript, on 3a., pair	2	0	0
b	2½a. red on 4½a. violet, pair ..	2	12	6
a b	British Guiana (1862), 2c. yellow, crossed ovals, margins but no roulette ..	2	15	0
b c	ditto, 2c. yellow, pearls, cut close ..	2	0	0
c	ditto, 4c. blue, hearts and pearls ..	4	0	0
b	4c. blue, perf. 12½ ..	1	2	0
a b	Canada, 7½d. green, on piece ..	1	15	0
a	Cape, <i>Woodblock</i> , 1d. red ..	4	4	0
b c	ditto, 4d. blue ..	1	12	0
b	ditto, 4d. dark blue ..	3	0	0
A	Ceylon, ½d. lilac on white, imperf., block of 4 *	2	10	0
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk. ..	1	7	0
a	1/9 green, imperf. ..	2	10	0
a	Cyprus, 1/- green * ..	1	2	0
b	Egypt, 10 piastres slate ..	1	14	0
b c	Fiji, 2d. black on 6d. (12c.) rose, Gothic V.R. *	4	4	0
a b	2d. red on 3d. (6c.) green, plain V.R. ..	2	15	0
b	3d. (6c.) green, plain V.R., penmark ..	3	0	0
b	6d. (12c.) rose, Gothic V.R. * ..	1	2	0
a	ditto, penmark ..	1	0	0
b	ditto, plain V.R., penmark ..	1	0	0
b	Finland, 10p. brown on lilac, on laid (error) ..	1	10	0
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey, pair ..	2	7	6
a	Gambia, 1/- green ..	1	14	0
a b	Great Britain, 1/- green (D.K.), with circle round K. ..	1	4	0
a	Hungary, 3k. green, litho. * ..	1	12	0
b	India, <i>Service</i> , 2a. black on long lilac ..	1	2	0
b	Mauritius, <i>Post Paid</i> , 1d., medium late ..	1	10	0
a b	ditto, 2d., ditto ..	£1	11s.	od. and
c	<i>Largo Fillet</i> , 2d. blue ..	£7	15s.	od. and
a b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. ..	2	10	0
b	Nevis, 2½d. red-brown, CC. * ..	1	0	0
a c	4d. rose * ..	£1	4s.	od. and
a	ditto, used ..	1	10	0
b	4d. orange, engraved * ..	1	5	0
A	6d. olive-grey, litho. * ..	13	10	0
a	ditto * ..	11	5	0
a	ditto, used ..	9	0	0
a	6d. green, "Saint Christopher, Revenue" * ..	1	16	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 * ..	2	5	0
b c	ditto, used ..	1	0	0
b	1/- green, perf. 15 ..	1	2	0
a	1/- pale green, litho, corner margins * ..	1	10	0
A	1/- purple * ..	1	13	0
b	Newfoundland, 1/- orange, good, but cut close ..	10	0	0
b	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 1d., plate 1 ..	1	0	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1 ..	1	0	0
b	New Zealand, 2d. blue, wmk. N.Z., roulette ..	1	1	0
a	Nova Scotia, 5c. blue * ..	1	0	0
b	ditto * ..	1	10	0
A	Oil Rivers, 5/- violet on 2d. * ..	3	5	0
a	10/- red on 5d. * ..	7	10	0
b	Oldenburg, <i>third issue</i> , ½gr. yellow, cut close ..	1	5	0
a	Philippines (1863), 1r. dark violet "Habilitado por la Nacion" ..	3	0	0
b	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ..	1	9	0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	£2	4s.	od. and
a	St. Helena, 6d. slate-blue, perf. 12½ x 14 * ..	1	10	0
a	ditto, perf. 14 * ..	1	4	0
A	St. Vincent, 1d. rose-red, imperf. pair * ..	2	15	0
a	1d. red on half, 6d. blue-green ..	2	8	0
a	1d. black on 6d. yellow-green ..	2	2	0
a	1d. drab, star * ..	5	5	0
a	4d. orange-yellow * ..	2	4	0
n	4d. ultramarine, star * ..	2	15	0
a	4d. ultramarine, CA., perf. 12 * ..	4	10	0
a	1/- indigo, perf. 12 * ..	6	5	0
b	South Australia, 4d. perf. and roulette ..	1	12	0
a	Straits Settlements, <i>first issue</i> , 12c. red and green * ..	1	6	0
a	Transvaal, 6d. blue, imperf., red surcharge ..	1	6	0
a	Trinidad, 1/- purple-blue, perf. 11½ ..	1	2	0
a	5/- dull lake, perf. 12½, pair * ..	1	13	0
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. black, type 4 * ..	1	3	0
a	2½d. on 1/- prune, type 7 * ..	6	6	0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 1/- blue, type 6 * ..	10	5	0
a	4d. on 6d. black, type 8 * ..	2	10	0
a	4d. on 1/- prune, type 9 * ..	3	5	0
A	4d. blue * ..	1	7	0
A	1/- slate-green * ..	1	1	0
a	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow ..	3	10	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	£1	3s.	and
A	6d. rose, perf. 12, strip of 3 * ..	2	7	6
b	ditto, large V * ..	1	5	0
a	1/- crimson, single line * ..	3	12	6
b	1/- crimson, border, on bluish * ..	1	12	0
a	Western Australia, 6d. black ..	1	7	6

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., November 2nd, 1896.

a	Barbados, 1/- black, medium star * ..	1	1	0
a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	1	5	0
b	Bremen, 3gr. percé en scie ..	1	1	0
a	7gr. yellow, imperf. ..	2	10	0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf. ..	1	12	0
b c	British Guiana (1862) 2c. yellow, crossed ovals, cut close ..	1	18	0
b	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green, cut close ..	4	7	6
a	Canada, 7½d. green ..	2	14	0
a	Ceylon, 9d., imperf. ..	2	10	0
a b	Gibraltar, <i>first issue</i> , 1/- brown ..	1	16	0
c	Great Britain, 1/- green, octag., with gum, but split along one thread * ..	4	12	0
b	£5 orange ..	2	8	0
a b	Hanover, 10gr. green ..	1	16	0
b	Heligoland, ¼sch. roulette ..	1	5	0
b	Levant, 6k. blue * ..	1	0	0
a b	Nevis, 4d. rose * ..	2	10	0
a b	ditto, used ..	£1	6s.	od. and
a	4d. orange, engraved * ..	2	0	0
A	6d. olive-grey, litho, margin * ..	15	10	0
b	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15 ..	3	0	0
a	1/- green, ditto. ..	£1	2s.	od. and
A	1/- pale green, litho, pair * ..	3	17	6
a b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow * ..	12	0	0
a	6d. yellow, plus half a 3d. red, on piece ..	4	5	0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange * ..	1	0	0
b	6d. orange ..	1	5	0
b	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 3d. emerald ..	1	3	0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown * ..	2	2	0
a	ditto, used ..	1	4	0
b	Oldenburg, <i>second issue</i> , ½gr. green ..	4	0	0
a	Portuguese Indies, 300r. violet, block letters * ..	1	1	0
A	St. Lucia, 1/- orange-brown * ..	3	8	0
A	St. Vincent, ½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair * ..	3	0	0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red ..	3	5	0
a	South Australia, 1d. deep green, imperf., pair ..	2	0	0
a	Switzerland, <i>Geneva</i> , 5c. apple-green, large eagle, on piece ..	1	1	0
a	Vaud, 5c. ..	1	3	0
a	Zurich, 6r., perp. lines ..	£1	0s.	od., £1
h	Trinidad, 1/- indigo, pin perf. ..	1	4	0
a	Tuscany, 1 soldo yellow on bluish ..	1	5	0
b c	1 soldo pale yellow on white ..	1	5	0
b	9cr. dull lilac on white ..	2	4	0
a	United States (1856), 90c. blue * ..	3	15	0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	1	1	0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12 ..	1	1	0
a	1/- crimson, single line ..	3	7	6
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	1	16	0
a	Wurtemberg, 70k. violet ..	2	16	0
a b	70k. lilac-rose ..	2	8	0

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.—Pages of Two Columns.

For One Insertion—		£	s.	d.	For Six Insertions—		£	s.	d.	
Whole Page	..	5	0	0	Whole Page	..	per ins.	4	0	0
Half Page	..	2	15	0	Half Page	..	do.	2	5	0
Quarter Page	..	1	10	0	Quarter Page	..	do.	1	5	0
One-Eighth Page	..	0	15	0	One-Eighth Page	..	do.	0	12	6

Pages of Three Columns.

For One Insertion—		£	s.	d.	For Six Insertions—		£	s.	d.	
Whole Column	..	1	15	0	Whole Column	..	per ins.	1	8	0
Half Column	..	0	18	0	Half Column	..	do.	0	15	0
Quarter Column	..	0	10	0	Quarter Column	..	do.	0	8	6
One Inch	..	0	5	0	One Inch	..	do.	0	3	6

TERMS.—Strictly Cash with Order.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILKES & CO., LIMITED, by PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bourne-mouth, and Published at 64, Chempaide, London.



the stamp and the shading on the cheek of Hermes, whose profile formed the centre of the design.

The Paris prints could also be easily separated from the Athens prints in the 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80 lepta values as the latter prints, with the exception of the 1 lepton and 2 lepta, had numerals, 6½ mm. high on the back of each stamp, whilst, with the exception of the 10 lepta which had numerals 8 mm. high, the Paris prints had no figures on the back at all. In the same way the 1876 issue on toned paper might be distinguished from the 1879 issue, as the former (again excepting the 1 lepton) had figures of value on the back, whilst the latter had not.

The Paris prints were first printed in Paris in October, 1861, from electrotypes taken from a die engraved by M. Barre. They consisted of the 1 lepton and 2, 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80 lepta values, and the shading lines were very finely executed, giving the cheek of Hermes a beautifully rounded appearance. The shading lines on a level with the ear were composed of dots only, whilst those lower down end in dots.

As regards the first Athens prints he had always seen it stated that they were printed from the same electrotypes as the Paris prints, retouched; but as the same writers afterwards chronicled the 20 lepta pale blue from the worn Paris plate, this seemed to him an absurdity. He was of opinion that there were 2 sets of clichés taken from the original die, one for the Paris and one for the first Athens prints. If such were the case it might then be asked how it was that the shading lines on the cheek of Hermes were drawn right through in the first Athens prints, and consisted largely of dots on the Paris prints. This he said might be explained in two ways. First It was possible that the original die became worn after seven electrotypes had been taken from it for the Paris prints, and that the die was re-engraved; or, secondly, it might have been that the original die was similar to the 1st Athens prints, and that the electrotypes for the Paris prints were themselves touched up with a graver in order to make the shading finer. He was inclined to think the latter suggestion was the correct one, as he found a great variation in the shading lines of his Paris prints.

The first Athens issue was printed during 1862 and consisted of the same values as the Paris prints. There were two distinct shades of colour in the 20 lepta, but in the other values the colour varied very little. The 80 lepta was to be found with vermilion numerals in the back. The shading on the face was composed of lines only, all dots being absent. They were very finely printed, and the shading lines did not run into the other, as in the 2nd Athens prints. He presumed that the Greeks, fearing their 1st Athens plates would wear out, had electrotypes made from them, and that it was from these new electrotypes that the 2nd Athens stamps were printed.

The values of the 2nd Athens stamps were the same as those of the two previous issues, only there were several varieties of each value. Of the 1 lepton there was a peculiar variety with short shading lines on the face, and of the 20 lepta there was a pale blue stamp printed from the worn Paris plate. With the exception of a variety of the 1 lepton the stamps of this issue were very coarsely printed and sometimes the shading lines ran into one another to such an extent as to form an unbroken patch of colour on the cheek of Hermes. Stamps of this issue were some-

times found with errors in the figures on the back.

The 1876 issue was printed on toned paper with numerals at the back. There were six values, the 2 lepta having been omitted. Two new values, the 30 and 60 lepta, were added in this year. They were first printed in Paris and afterwards at Athens. The shading on the face of Hermes in the former was the same as that of the old Paris prints. Towards the end of 1876 (not 1877, as sometimes stated), the 20 lepta was printed in indigo on dark blue paper; and in 1878, the 10 lepta was issued in orange-red without numerals on the back. The 10 lepta was also known on buff paper; and the 5, 10, and 20 lepta were found with errors of the figures on the back.

The 1879 issue consisted of the 1, 5, 10, 20, and 40 lepta values. The 1 lepton was on yellow-buff and the others were on toned paper. The 5 lepta was also printed on yellow paper. In 1881 the 1 lepton and 2 lepta were issued on toned paper. The former was almost identical with the 1 lepton of 1876, though the latter was somewhat more heavily printed and the colour was slightly deeper.

He found, however, that the easiest way to distinguish used specimens was by the postmark, which in the 1876 issue had an inner as well as an outer circle, whereas in the 1881 issue the inner circle was almost always absent. In 1882 the colours of the 20 and 30 lepta were changed, the former being printed in carmine and rose-pink, and the latter in pale and deep blue.

The Hon. Secretary illustrated his paper with his own collection, and several other members brought their collections for the same purpose.

At the conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Secretary.—W. J. W. MILLER, Hon. Sec., 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

## PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

### Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of ½d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**ROMAN STATES**—A consignment of Baj Mezzo, grey and lilac for disposal. CAMASCHALLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. Bazaar Reference Ticket.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [10]

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A NUMBER of Duplicates for sale from 10/- to 4d. Cheap. Approval against Reference.—DRESSER, Boxley Heath, Kent. [1]

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**GRATIS**.—17 Columbus Issue United States Stamps Given Away Free to Collectors applying for Approval Sheets.—E. WOOD, 9, Hoxton St., London, N.

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(Continued on third page of Cover.)

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1/2d. red, plate 9 .. .. .	4/3	10/-
1d. rose-red, large brown, perf. 16 ..	2/6	8/-
2d. blue, large brown, perf. 16 ..	4/-	12/6
2 1/2d. rose, plate 17 .. .. .	4/3	12/6
4d. rose, small garter .. .. .	2/6	10/-
4d. rose, medium garter .. .. .	4/-	16/-

**REDUCTION IN SETS.**

1d. red	151 stamps	13/6	67/-
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3d. rose, 20	"	9/-	24/8
4d. orange, 10	"	2/6	7/6
6d. lilac, 8	"	4/3	12/4

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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 57—No. 5—Vol. III. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1896. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

- Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

# Rare Bargains.

### Revised List

	£	s.	d.
Denmark, 16s., rouletted *, fine, but torn ..	0	15	0
Gibraltar, 25c. on 2½d., used pair, one stamp showing the small 1 ..	1	5	0
" 25c. on 2½d., small 1, a very fine single ..	1	0	0
" " broken N in CENTIMOS ..	0	17	6
Hamburg, imperf., 1s. *, very fine ..	0	8	0
" " 1s., used, very fine ..	0	7	6
" " 3s. *, Prussian blue, very fine ..	0	9	0
" " 3s., used, very fine ..	0	9	0
Hanover, imperf., 10g. green, enormous margins, very fine ..	3	15	0
" imperf., 10g. green, fine colour, but cut close ..	2	0	0
Naples, imperf., 20g. lake, very fine ..	0	7	6
Sicily (Head), imperf., ½g. orange *, very fine ..	0	3	0
" " " 1g. olive green * ..	0	3	9
" " " 5g. rose-red * ..	0	7	0
" " " 5g. " pair * ..	0	15	0
" " " 10g. indigo * ..	0	3	0
" " " 10g. " pair * ..	0	7	0
" " " 20g. violet-black * ..	0	4	0
" " " 50g. red-brown * ..	0	7	6
Saxony (Head), imperf., 10g. blue, very fine ..	0	12	6
Wurtemberg, roul., 6kr. blue, superb pair * ..	1	15	0
" " 7kr. dark blue, very fine ..	0	9	0
" " 7kr. light blue, very fine ..	0	9	0
" perf., 18kr. orange, very fine ..	0	11	6
" " 2 marks buff ..	0	13	6
" " vermilion ..	0	11	6
Ceylon, no wmk. ½d. imperf. * ..	0	17	6
British East Africa, perf., 8a. grey * ..	0	17	6
" " 1 rupee grey * ..	0	18	6
Mauritius, 2c. on 4c. carmine, surcharged twice on entire original, very scarce. ..	4	10	0
" 2c. on 38c. violet ditto ..	4	10	0

\* MEANS UNUSED.

	£	s.	d.
Antigua, CA., 14. 1/- mauve *, very fine ..	1	5	0
" " 1/- " used, " ..	1	12	6
Barbadoes, ½d. green, small star ..	0	17	6
" small star, 3d. claret, very fine ..	0	17	6
Canada, imperf., ½d., superb pair and strip of three, on entire, five stamps ..	4	10	0
New Brunswick, imperf., 3d. red *, fine, but slight tear ..	1	10	0
Grenada, CA., 8d. bistre * ..	0	9	6
" CA., 1/- mauve ..	1	7	6
Newfoundland, imperf., 2d. orange *, no margins, but fine ..	1	1	0
" " 3d. green *, superb pair ..	0	15	0
" perf., 5 cents black, very fine ..	0	12	6
Nova Scotia, 5 cents, blue * (sale price 30/-) ..	1	5	0
Nevis, perf. 11½. 1d. vermilion, very fine and scarce ..	1	12	6
St. Christopher, CA., 14. 1/- lilac, very fine ..	1	10	0
St. Vincent, wmk. star, 1/- vermilion, very fine ..	0	12	6
" CA., 14. 4d. blue, very fine ..	0	14	0
" CA., 12. 4d. blue " ..	0	12	6
" CA., 12. 6d. green " ..	0	15	0
Trinidad, pin perf., 4d. lilac ..	0	17	6
Turks' Islands, CC., 14. 4d. blue, very fine and scarce ..	1	2	6
Virgin Isles, no wmk., perf. 12. 6d. *, very fine ..	1	10	0
" CC., 14. 2½d. brown, very fine ..	1	12	6
U.S., State Department, 2 dollars, minute tear, very fine, and exceedingly scarce ..	4	0	0
U.S., no wmk., 5¢ green ..	1	2	6
New South Wales, Sydney View, 1d. red, fine ..	1	10	0
" " " Plate I., 2d. blue, fine £3 and ..	4	4	0
" " " II., 2d. blue, fine ..	1	5	0
" " " 3d. green, fine ..	0	15	0
" " perf., wmk. 5/-, 5/- violet ..	0	8	0
New Zealand, imperf., wmk. N.Z., 1d. vermilion ..	0	12	6
" " " 2d. blue ..	0	8	0
" " " 1/- green ..	0	8	0

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France. Empire, 1 franc, superb unused pair. Great Britain, very fine lot of unused, in large blocks. Naples,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, cross, and 50 grani, Oldenburg, very fine lot. Saxony, 10gr., unused. Spain, 1851, 2 reales (2 fine copies); and 1853, 2 reales, unused. Switzerland, Vaud, 4c., and several other fine Cantonals. Wurtemberg, 18kr., with thread, unused; 70kr., and others. Cashmere, 1st issue, unused, blocks of 7 of  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna black, and 4 annas blue. Ceylon, 8d., 1/9, and 2/-, imperf. India, 1st issue, 4 annas, unused, &c. British East Africa, complete set, surcharged on Company's stamps. Cape wood blocks, very fine. Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., very fine, and others. Canada, imperf., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (3 very fine); a superb unused copy of the 12d. black; 6d., perf., very fine, superb; and 3d. on laid, unused. New Brunswick, 3d., pair and single, unused; 6d. and 1/-; and the Connell stamp, superb. Newfoundland, a magnificent lot including 2d., 4d., 6d., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2), 8d., and 1/- carmine-vermilion; and 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- orange-vermilion. United States, Periodicals, complete, &c. Barbados, imperf., 4d., on white paper, used. Montserrat, CA., 4d. blue. St. Christopher, CA., 4d. blue, unused. St. Lucia, 1st issue, 1d., 4d., and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, in mint state; CA., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Trinidad, pin perf., 1d., 4d. and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, and clear cut perf.; 1d. block of 4, all in mint state; superb lithographs, imperf., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d. rose and 1/- carmine, wmk. CC., 1d. green (1st type), complete sheet of 24, &c., British Honduras, 6d. yellow and 1/- grey. Nevis, very fine lot, including CA., 6d. green. New South Wales, very fine Sydney Views, &c. Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., fine background; 6d. orange; 5/- blue on yellow; Too Late stamp, unused, and others. South Australia, 1d., imperf., fine pair. Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. and 6d., very fine, &c., and many other rare Stamps.

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	1	3	12
Argentina, 1889-90, fine set of 10 .. ..	6d.	1/3	4/
Bermuda, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- .. ..	4/	10/	35/
British South Africa, obsolete set, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8d. and 1/-, very scarce .. ..	6/	17/	—
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. ..	17/6	—	—
Gambia, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., only fine copies ..	1/6	4/	15/
Great Britain, 1d. black, 1d., imperf., 2d. blue, no lines, 2d. blue, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine ..	2/6	6/	22/6
.. 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, light pmkd. copies ..	2/	5/9	—
.. 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, ditto ditto ..	6/	17/	—
Lagos, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., picked specimens ..	1/6	4/	—
Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 4d. and 1/-, ditto .. ..	1/6	3/6	—
Niger Coast Provisionals, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. ..	12/	—	—
Niger Coast, 2nd issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. ..	3/6	9/6	—
Oil Rivers, 1st issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. ..	10/	—	—
Queensland, $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. ..	1/3	3/3	—
St. Christopher, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 4d., very scarce ..	5/6	14/6	—
Sierra Leone, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/- (obsolete), very scarce .. ..	4/6	12/	—

Large Illustrated Price List of Packets, Sets, and Single Stamps will be published on 31st October. Copy sent Post Free to any address on application.

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 83, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.** [8]

## Doings of Societies.

## CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1896-1897

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

Hon. Librarian: Mr. C. Forbes.

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Hon. Secretary:

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The fourth meeting of the season was held on Monday, November 16th, at Kennan's Hotel, 64, Cheapside, E.C. Members present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, F. B. Carr, J. E. Joselin, J. B. Camaschella, H. W. Plumridge, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Atharley, H. Thompson, H. A. Macmillan, F. Vandenbroucque, D. Thomson, W. H. Chetwin, W. Brown, E. T. Patterson, G. C. Warden, Junr., and many visitors.

As duly announced in the "S.C.F.," our second Magic Lantern display was held, under the supervision of our vice-president, Mr. H. Hilckes.

The chief feature of these displays is that the actual stamps are thrown on the sheet in their original colours. The display was very successful, and great interest was evinced by the members present in many of the varieties shown. In the case of forgeries, the stamps were exhibited in pairs, the original and the forgery side by side, and the chief differences between the two were pointed out in a very able and explicit manner by the lecturer, Mr. H. Hilckes. Amongst these were: Ceylon 4d., 8d., 9d., and 2s.; N.S.W. 2d. and 6d., laureated head; Trinidad 4d., surcharged; "O.H.M.S.," the "V.R." 1d. black; Natal 1/- green, black, surcharge, Natal halfpenny on 1d., inverted, surcharge; also Western Australia 1d. yellow, 4d. green, and 1d. red, surcharged, I.R., I.R. 2 and I.R. 15s., respectively; Tasmania Fiscals with forged postmarks. In other cases stamps were displayed which showed peculiar varieties, such as the 2c. U.S. with caps 1, 6 and 15c. redrawn types; 10pf. Germany with bar across 1 of post, the two types of the "De la Rue" series of British Colonials: Transvaal 2d., broken plate; Gibraltar 25c. on 24d., two types of "5"; and Tasmania 1d., first issue, cancelled plate.

Stamps which have been reprinted were also shown including amongst others, various values of the stamps of Wurtemberg, Hamburg, Roman States, Ionian Islands, Argentine Rep., Alsace, Victoria, Queen on Throne, surcharged Reprint.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, Nov. 30th, when our Eleventh Auction Sale will be held.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The First Annual Dinner will be held on Monday, December 7th, at Kennan's Hotel. Tickets, 5/- each.

The Secretary will be greatly obliged if members will kindly advise him if they intend being present. On receipt of this notice a ticket will in due course be sent to them.

All philatelists and friends of members will be welcome.

## BARGAINS.

Natal, 4d. CC. 12 1/2 pair used	£1 5 0
S. Vincent, 6d. CA 12, pair, used	4 0 0
(Probably unique)	
Nevis, 6d. CA. 8s. pair unused	1 10 0
St. Kitts, 1d. CC unused	1 0 0
do. 4d. CA. used	0 8 6
do. 6d. CC 12 1/2 unused	1 0 0
do. 6d. CC. 14 pair ..	1 5 0
Nova Scotia, 1d 1851, used	1 5 0
Sweden, 5skbo. used	1 7 6
Russia, 7 roubles, 1884, unused	1 7 6
&c., &c.	

Cash with Order All in good condition.

D. ROTBERG, 60, BARTHOLOMEW ROAD,  
LONDON, N W [6]

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## Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

COLLECTORS invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first-class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from Robert Reid, Junr., 20, Lichfield Road, New Gardens. [1]

GRATIS—List 500 Sets, Packets, etc., Sheets, 4d stamp upwards; 250 superior mounts free to all ordering sheets. Agents wanted, good commission, besides valuable prizes. Many secured albums last season. Why not be among our smiling and satisfied customers? Particulars free—F. McAUSLAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. Established 1887. [1]

QUEENSLAND STAMPS.—1d., 2d. and 6d. Imperforate and all perforations on Government Officials at list prices. Not on originals, 25 per cent. discount off catalogue prices for all full face issues. Unique block of 3 imperf. 2d. on pair of original—superb specimen and postmarked November, 1860, price 150.—EDWARD COOPER, 1, Tank Street, Brisbane, Queensland. [2]

STAMPS of British West Indies, St. Helena, Cape Verde, Azores, British Central and East Africa, wanted in exchange for good South Africans. Basis, Stanley Gibbons.—E. BOOTH, Grahamstown, South Africa [3]

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. Bazaar Reference Ticket. J. KNASTER, Cambridge. [7]

STAMPS.—Cheap to medium, moderate prices. Specialty, approval sheets. Correspondence in English. JOHNSTON, Stamp Dealer, New Deer, Aberdeenshire. [3]

REGLAN, Swift, or any other make Gent's or Ladies' Bicycles offered in Exchange for only Good Stamps. Foreign export solicited.—KNASTER, Cambridge. [4]

EXCHANGE SOCIETY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.—THE LARGEST and BEST STAMP EXCHANGE in existence, conducted on RULES of EXCHANGE (PURE and SIMPLE). Subscription, 1/- per annum. Nearly 300 Members. Full particulars, and all information necessary for New Members, will be sent free on application to The Secretary, MR. C. FORBES, Hon. Secretary and Librarian, City of London Philatelic Club, 42, Strahan Road, London, E. Foreign correspondence desired with Dealers and Collectors. [1]

MOST of the Old Continental envelopes, many entire, for sale cheap, also some cards.—M. F. LEARON, 23, Croftth Grove, Liverpool. [2]

GIBBONS' 11th Catalogue delivered as published: (2-1) Part 1, Colonial adhesives, 1/6; Dec. (2-1); Part 2, other adhesives, 1/3, Jan. (1-1); Part 3, Entires, (1-1), Feb. complete, (1-1). Catalogue delivered altogether 3/6 prepaid.—HOMWOOD, 10, Park St., Dorset Square.

FOR Sale, the 5/- and 2/- Jamaica postage stamps, Price 8/- for both, post free. All good specimens, unused, in mint condition. Also Bisected Penny (pine apple) on the entire. Price 15/- each. Terms Cash.—D. P. FOUCHER, Office of the Island Treasury, Kingston, Jamaica. [1]

GRATIS: SET 5 BOLIVIA 1c. 20c., 10 purchasers "NOVEMBER" Packet containing 86 DIFFERENT stamps, including 3 France, unpaid (including scarce 30c.), Tunis, Mauritius, Obock, Chili, Sweden Official, Venezuela, Ottoman Empire, Travancore, Luxemburg, Brazil (new), England Official, Swan River, 3 Japan, Jamaica, Natal, W.S. (Columbian), 3 Queensland (new), 3 Egypt, Iceland, Hong Kong, Set 6 Switzerland (unused), &c. ONLY 9d., Selections sent on approval, liberal discount. JUST PUBLISHED (8th Edition), 36pp., Collectors Price List, FREE. Dealers' List, FREE, 16pp. Exchange List, 3d. "Monthly Offers" or Album Prospectus, 4d.—FISHER TITLEY & Co., Stamp Importers, Bath. [19]

## Advertiser is desirous of disposing of his valuable Collection of Foreign Stamps,

About 9,000 (or more) consisting of Sydney Views, splendid lot of Capes, Swan River, Van Deman's Land, Tasmania, Queensland, St. Vincent, Mexican, South Australia, Virgin Islands, Nevada, Mauritius, Barbadoes, Old Chili and Peruvian, Azores, New Zealand, Brazil, Nova Scotia, Oil Rivers, Natal, Trinidad, Canada, British Guiana, Nevis, Ceylon, Newfoundland, Nevis, Portuguese, French Colonies, &c. &c. Offers requested for the Collection complete—Address, H.A.P. Co. C. BIRCHALL, Advertisement Contractor, Liverpool.

WEST INDIAN SPECIALISTS' CLUB. No subscription. Monthly Settlements. Members see packet first in turn. Write for rules to DANIELS, "Springhaven," Eastbourne.

10,000 Varieties scientifically arranged in countries—About 9,000 (or more) consisting of Sydney Views, splendid lot of Capes, Swan River, Van Deman's Land, Tasmania, Queensland, St. Vincent, Mexican, South Australia, Virgin Islands, Nevada, Mauritius, Barbadoes, Old Chili and Peruvian, Azores, New Zealand, Brazil, Nova Scotia, Oil Rivers, Natal, Trinidad, Canada, British Guiana, Nevis, Ceylon, Newfoundland, Nevis, Portuguese, French Colonies, &c. &c. Offers requested for the Collection complete—Address, H.A.P. Co. C. BIRCHALL, Advertisement Contractor, Liverpool. [3]

SMALL Album, and 216 stamps, some rare, for sale, worth about £3, take £1. List of few good ones sent.—TAYLOR, Colham Bridge, West Drayton.

BRITISH East Africa, surcharged on Indian, obsolete, scarce, Bogota, Beira, Canada 8 cents, Cyprus, India 1 rupee, 3 Tunis, 6 Turkish, 15 varieties, 1/1.—SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

FREE to all applicants for sheets enclosing postage, 20 stamps, including Uruguay, Costa Rica, Mauritius, Argentina, Guiana, Peru and Deccan.—B. EASTERN STAMP Co., 37, Lucas Street, Commercial Road, E. [2]

THE STAMPS OF EUROPE.—A beautifully illustrated series of articles on the above subject, from the pen of that well-known expert, Mr W. A. S. Vestoby, was commenced in *The Bazaar* of Wednesday, November 4th, and will be continued on subsequent Wednesdays till completion. Every stamp collector should read these invaluable papers. Order through any newsagent or bookstall, or direct from the office. Three months' subscription, 2/2; post free from the office. 3/6. Office:—170, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

20,000 Mexican Fiscals to be disposed of cheaply.—CAMASCHELLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

BRAZIL, ALFRED SPEERS, Rua dos Guimoes, 67, Sao Paulo, Vice-President of the Sao Paulo Philatelic Club, desires to exchange Brazilian and other South American stamps for good Australians only. Requests also approval sheets for cash, with good discount and specimens of Philatelic Journals and Price Lists.

LANCASHIRE STAMP EXCHANGE.—Two years established. Only highly respectable Members wanted. For particulars write: MR JAMES W. MARSDEN, 11, Alpha Street West, Seedley, Manchester.

APPROVAL. British Colonials, old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Conningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [10]

VICTORIA.—A few copies of the rare 2/- yellow-green, issued September, 1895, offered at 25/- each, cash. These were only in use four days, and will be very scarce. Sent on receipt of P.O.O. only.—T. WERN, "Collector," Office: 18, Eastern Arcade, Melbourne, Victoria. [12]

WANTED.—English 1d. black, 2d. blue, 1840, also foreign stamps required.—HERBERT WAITS, 4, Gladesmore Road, Stamford Hill, London, N.

STAMPS sent on approval. Genuine bargains. Bottom prices.—FRANK SHOAT, 31, Rodnor St., Peckham.

10,000 Mexican stamps, present issue, to be sold cheap. Most useful for cheap sheets.—CAMASCHELLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

BRITISH East Africa on Indian. Special offer, all used on pieces of original. 4 anna, 1/-; 1 anna, 1/5; 1/2 anna, 2/3; 2 annas, 2/6; 2 1/2 annas, 3/6; also 3 annas, unused, scarce value. 5/- Cash with order. Postage extra under 10/-—FREDERICK WRAY, 4, Regent's Park Road, Finchley, London, N.

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BOURNEMOUTH.**

(Member L. F. C. Committee, & Vice of London Philatelic Club, etc., etc.)  
OFFERS THIS WEEK.

**BRITISH EAST AFRICA,**

Tobago, 1d. green, CA, unused	..	2	0	0
" 1d. " used	..	0	15	0
Antigua, 1d. blue, CA, unused	..	..	1	5
Montserrat, 2d. brown, CC, unused	..	..	1	10
" 2d. " CA, "	..	..	1	2
Grenada, 8d. brown, CA, unused	..	..	0	10
" 8d. " CA, used	..	..	0	12
" 1/- mauve, CA, "	..	..	1	7
Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CC, perf. 12½, used	..	..	0	17
" 6d. orange, "	..	..	0	8
" 1/2 ochre CC, perf. 14, unused	..	..	0	4
" 1/2 " CA, "	..	..	2	8
" 1/2 " " " used	..	..	0	10
Sierra Leone, 1d. blue, " "	..	..	0	15
" 2d. magenta, CC, perf. 12½, unused	..	..	0	16
" 4d. blue " "	..	..	0	10
" 1/- green " "	..	..	0	6
" 1/- green " "	..	..	0	25
" 1/- green " "	..	..	0	9
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" 4d. blue " "	..	..	0	30
" 2d. magenta " "	..	..	0	3
Barbados, 6d. orange, CC, perf. 12½, used	..	..	0	15
" 4d. vermilion, CC, " "	..	..	0	25
B. Honduras, 6d. carmine, CC, perf. 14, unused	..	..	0	80
" 6d. " " used	..	..	0	25
" 2c. on 6d. carmine, used	..	..	0	20
" 3c. on 3d. brown " "	..	..	0	22
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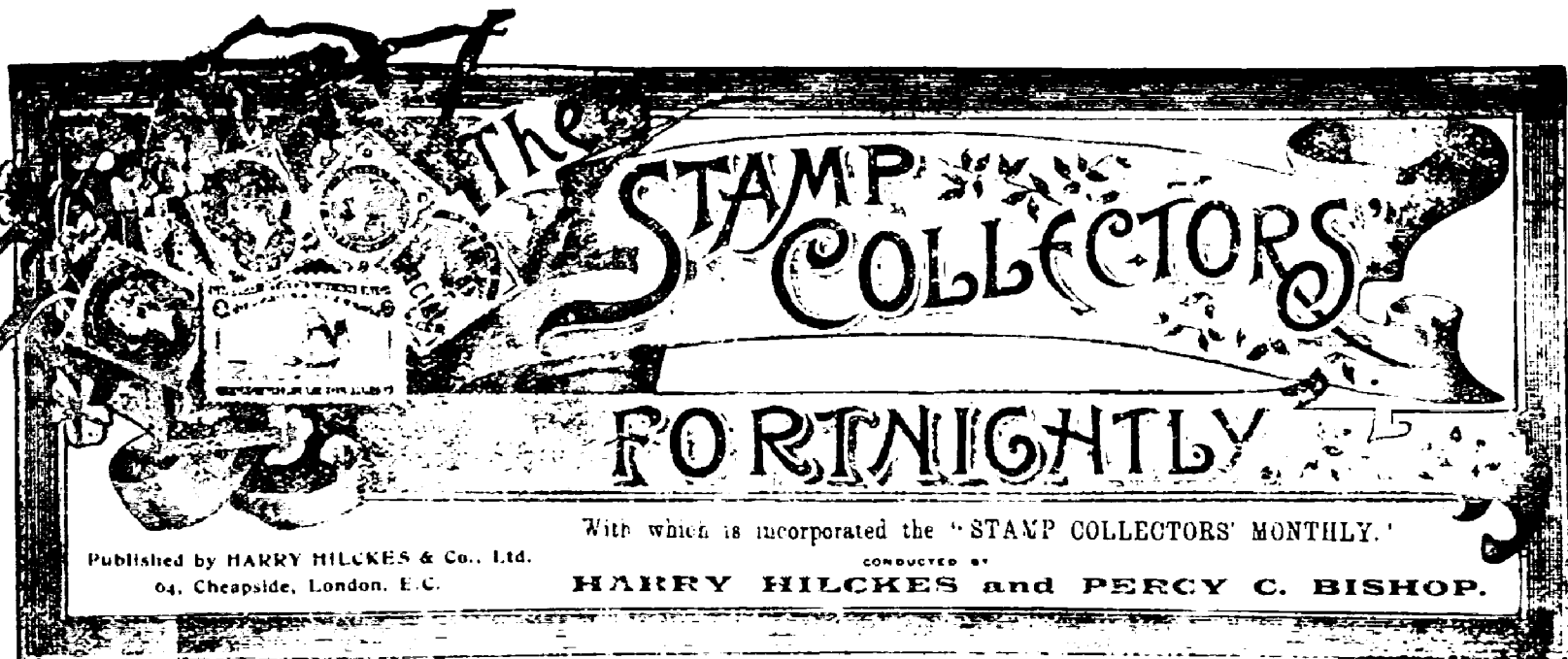
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No. 57.—Vol. III

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1896

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## SIX MONTHS FOR CUSTAV CASTEL.

SHERIFF ROBERTSON, of Aberdeen, had to deal on Monday, November 16th, with the case of Custav Castel, a German, who was charged with having appropriated for his own use foreign and other stamps of the value of £100, which he received on approval from various persons residing in different parts of the country. The scheme adopted by accused was to send people post-cards in which he asked them to send him stamps with the view to a possible purchase. Accused, who was represented by Mr. W. M. Sellar, pleaded guilty. Mr. Sellar said that Castel was a German, who came to this country about five years ago as a dealer in foreign stamps. For a considerable period he did well, but ultimately became to grief and was in straitened circumstances, and, unfortunately, resorted to this method of dealing. He regretted exceedingly that he had done this. His intention was to get some capital, but he was unfortunate. The Sheriff said it was manifest from the number of charges against Castel, which he had pleaded guilty, that he had a regular system of scheme for the purpose of defrauding the public. He took a somewhat unusual and out of the way manner of dealing, which might not be easily suspected. The case was a serious one, and accused succeeded in getting a considerable sum of money. He must go to prison for six months.

That was all the Sheriff said. He didn't get off any cheap sneers at philately like Sheriff Campbell Smith, of Dundee; nor did he air his hatred of the Sassenach. All of which

gives us a slightly better opinion of Scotch Sheriffs than we held a fortnight ago.

## HALFPENNY STAMPS MORE "SWACGER" THAN PENNY.

It is "the thing," the ladies' journals tell us, for the up-to-date, aesthetic girl to frank any letter she may write with two halfpenny stamps rather than one penny one. "The reason we read in *The Lady*, should be obvious. It is because the stamp is so extremely pretty, and just now of a very modish tint. The penny stamp, on the contrary, is quite official and commonplace, and does not make so bright a splash of colour on a grey or white ground as its less expensive neighbour. It is quite curious to notice how important small matters of this kind are made by some people."

Now the *Morning Leader* of November 18th, brings an interesting reply to these frivolous paragraphs in the shape of a letter from a Pioneer Club young lady: "It occurs to me to write the fair Pioneer, that the writer has overlooked an evil that will follow—the extra labour entailed on the already over-taxed employee of the Post Office. Every stamp passed through the office is stamped with ink; thus the using of two halfpenny instead of one penny stamp makes the stamping exactly double. Does it? We cannot prevent silly fashions from cropping up, but surely no right-minded person, least of all any member of your staff, would knowingly add to the burden of our workers for wages." This is a very sensible and praiseworthy letter; but whence on earth did Miss Christian Davidson derive her very positive information that the placing of two halfpenny stamps on an envelope means two clabs with the postmarking stamp?

## JUDGE PHILBRICK TRIES A PHILATELIC CASE.

At the Salisbury County Court on Thursday, November 12th—before, appropriately enough, Judge Philbrick, J.C.—William Brown, of St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury, stamp merchant, sued L. Rockliffe, of 33, Cheapside, London, also a stamp merchant, for £20 as damages for non-delivery of a collection of postage stamps purchased by him on or about January 21st, and father for £17, being the amount of a cheque drawn by defendant in favour of plaintiff on February 1st, and subsequently dishonoured. Mr. Jackson appeared for plaintiff; defendant did not appear, neither was he professionally represented.—It appeared that plaintiff actually paid £17 for the stamps, but that they were never delivered to him, and that defendant alleged they must have been lost in transit.—Judgment was given for the amount claimed.

### PHILATELIC PROSPERITY IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE return of Major McKinley has evidently brought about the revival of trade prosperity that was confidently looked for by our American cousins. The stamp trade shares in the general boom. Says the *Daily Stamp Item* of November 7th:—"Signs of philatelic prosperity are everywhere manifest. Every branch of the stamp business is booming. Not the least of the signs referred to is the evident success of many of the new stamp papers. There is only one exception that has come to our notice: Messrs. Watkins & Burba write that the *Kentucky Philatelist* has been refused second-class rates, and will therefore be discontinued."

### POLICE ABANDON A STAMP PROSECUTION.

WE are informed that the prosecution at Liverpool of two men charged with extensive frauds on stamp dealers has been abandoned by the police of that city on the ground that the alleged frauds were mainly perpetrated from London. The following extract from a letter received by one of the London dealers interested in the case will more clearly explain the position:—

The Prosecuting Solicitor for Liverpool now informs me that the Police Authorities here have decided not to incur the expense of a prosecution for the stamp frauds in Liverpool, as most of the frauds were committed from London. The accused will probably be handed over to the London Police in about a week's time.

But the London dealer referred to, who has already gone to considerable expense over the case, is thoroughly disgusted, and declares he will not move any further in the matter. He appears to have been badly treated by the police, and to have been left in the lurch by certain fellow-dealers who should have supported him in fighting the battle of the trade. If the accused be guilty, and yet get off scot free, what will this case be but a direct incentive to other rogues to victimise the stamp dealing fraternity? Little wonder that dealers in stamps are so often the chosen prey of the thief and the swindler!

### OFFICIAL STAMP DEALERS IN VICTORIA.

IN addition to our remarks on page 39 we have received the following by the latest mail from our Australian correspondent: Some rather shady transactions have been going on for some time, it appears, among certain officials in the postal and public service of the colony of Victoria, which has resulted in a departmental inquiry, and the suspension of Messrs. C. Morkham, comptroller of stamps; W. H. Sinnott, chief distributor; A. Coulson and H. C. Treyvaud for trafficking and illegally disposing of a quantity of obsolete stamps. When the mail left, on 20th October, only one of the culprits had been examined, but the evidence brought out showed that several sheets of the 1/6 blue (1889) issue, 4d. carmine with and without the "stamp duty" surcharge, and some of the yellow-green 2/- withdrawn in September, last year, after being in issue only a few days, were obtained by false representations, and disposed of to some of their friends and offered to dealers. The department appears to have been conducted in a very loose manner, and a searching inquiry is to be held, which will no doubt have the effect of preventing similar scandals in the future. We expect to send you full particulars by next mail.

### AN EASY GOING POSTMASTER.

OF British Honduras, a correspondent of *Modern Society* writes: "The postal arrangements are peculiar. I have been in one town for a month, and the post-office has only been open once during that time. When you want a stamp, or to mail a letter, you must hunt up the postmaster, who carries on a billiard saloon, and will sell stamps, deliver your letters, or register a letter all in the saloon, but the receipt for the registered letter you must write out yourself on any bit of paper which may be handy, the postmaster not even having a book for the purpose."

### MOURNING POSTCARDS.

THE Italian postal authorities, it is stated, have adopted the mourning postcard. Italians (remarks *Modern Society*) are proverbial for their frugality, and they have evidently

arrived at the conclusion that there is no sense in conveying the intelligence of the loss by death of their nearest and dearest relations to their sympathising friends through the penny post when a halfpenny post will answer the same sad purpose. The recipient of the mourning card, too, will be saved the terrible suspense incidental to the tearing open of the black-edged envelope in his or her anxiety to learn the contents, not to mention the consoling fact of his being thus able to save himself a halfpenny in tendering his profoundest sympathy by return.

### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

WE understand that the sheet of 3 pfennig Saxony, which was sold to Mr. Castle last summer, has been returned to the New York dealer who sold it.—*Philatelic Monthly & World*.

\* \* \*

HITHERTO the contract for the engraving and printing of Dominion notes and postage and Inland Revenue stamps has been in the hands of the British American Bank Note Company, of Ottawa. The Minister of Finance has, however, decided to terminate the contract next year, and tenders have been invited for the work. The contract will be for five years, from July 1, 1897, and it is stated to be worth about \$100,000 per annum.—*European Mail*.

\* \* \*

"FOR Cheek we think stamp collectors take the cake." That is the opinion of the *Shanghai Mercury*, which, by way of emphasis, gives the "cheek" a large "C."

\* \* \*

MR. S. CHAPMAN informs the *A. J. of P.* that the present watermarked paper used in Mexico is not giving satisfaction, and tenders are now being made for a different paper, to come into use as soon as the present stock is exhausted, which will probably be about the end of this year, or the beginning of next.

\* \* \*

DON'T pay high prices for postally used fiscals of Jamaica. The *American Journal of Philately* is in receipt of information to the effect that these are still obtainable, and what is more, still available for postage.

\* \* \*

THE most complete philatelic library in the world is owned by Mr. Tiffany, of St. Louis, United States. The library contains 50,000 different numbers, and its owner subscribes to every known stamp paper.—*Philatelic Chronicle*.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DEC. 12th.

#### Auction Sales.

- Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely each day.
- Dec. 2nd and 3rd.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely each day.
- Dec. 9th and 10th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 11th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.

### The Theft of Stamps at Bournemouth.

(SPECIAL BY OUR OWN REPORTER).

AT the Bournemouth Police Court on Saturday, November 14th, before Mr. T. J. Hankinson, Dr. Roberts Thomson, and Mr. J. Haggard, *Arthur Wooland* was brought up in custody and charged on remand with stealing 660 Norwegian stamps, various other stamps, postcards, and envelopes, and five books, together of the value of £350, the property of Messrs. Frederick John Bright and Son, at Bournemouth, between the 11th of November, and the 14th December, 1895.

Mr. Harry Trevanion appeared for the defence.

The first witness called was Mr. Francis Highy Oliver, manager in the stamp department at Messrs. F. J. Bright & Son, who carry on business in the Arcade, Bournemouth. He stated that the prisoner was employed in the stamp department, between the 11th November and the 14th

December, 1895, during which period witness was engaged in the compilation of a large catalogue of stamps, and during his absence the prisoner had charge of the department and access to the stamps. The witness then identified the contents of a number of books containing stamps, envelopes, &c., as the property of Messrs. F. J. Bright & Son, and formerly part of their stock. He also identified four of the books as Messrs. Brights' property, and the greater part of the contents of two boxes of loose stamps. Among the contents of the books were 660 Norwegian stamps, a sheet of 60 6d. Grenada stamps, and a number of Gibraltar stamps, 25 centimos. The stamps were missed at the last stock-taking. With regard to the Norwegian stamps there was only one dealer, in London, who, besides themselves, had a large stock of those stamps, and that dealer still had his stock, which was only equivalent to the number Messrs. Bright had lost, 900. The Grenada stamps were part of a quantity which they received on the 28th Nov., 1895. They missed one complete sheet from their stock in March last. Among the postcards and envelopes produced were some addressed to the firm, and which had never been sold by them. They did not usually sell the envelopes and postcards; in most cases they cut the stamp out of the envelope. The stocktaking in 1895 was in May, and in 1896 in May and June, and during those dates there was a deficiency of over £300. They usually came out £100 or £150 over on the year's working, but this time there was the great deficiency he had mentioned. Among the stamps in the boxes were some bundles of 100, which he was able to identify as bearing the private marks of the firm, which would have been removed if they had sold them. Two of the stamps in the boxes were purchased by the firm amongst other goods five or six years ago, and as they bore forged postmarks they were never sent out, but were considered unsaleable. The ordinary value of the stamps he had identified would be about £350, and the commercial value, to sell to collectors, about £600, that being of course if sold singly. He had never given the prisoner any of the boxes.

Cross-examined: When he engaged the prisoner he made enquiries as to his character, and the result was satisfactory. He entered their employ on the 11th November, 1895. Witness was not aware that on that day he received notice of an appointment from the London & India Dock Company. He did not give a month's notice to leave. He came on a month's trial, and on the last day of his month he intimated that he was not going to remain, but asked to be allowed to stay for two days to complete the week. Had he not done so, it was their intention to give him notice to leave. Stock was taken in the following May. In the meantime a man named Young was engaged for two or three months. When Young left some stamps were found missing, and Young was afterwards prosecuted by the firm and convicted. They missed a large number of stamps before Young left. The prisoner's principal duty was taking stamps from old books and placing them on new selection sheets, taking the different countries alphabetically. He commenced at the letter A and went down to about T. Prisoner had charge of, and access to the entire stock during witness's absence. There were two young ladies who assisted in the department. When stock was taken 900 of Norwegian stamps were missed. Of this number 660 had been recovered and 200 more had been seen. The books found in the prisoner's possession might possibly be books which he had emptied in the course of his duties, but witness certainly never gave him any of those books when they were empty. He adhered to his statement that there was only one other dealer who kept a large stock of the Norwegian stamps. Their stock of 61 Grenada Stamps consisted of £20 face value, and he had accounted for them all except one sheet. Young was in their employ at the time he missed the Grenada stamps. Messrs. Bright were in the habit, in the course of their business, of sending letters and postcards addressed to themselves so that they could get particular stamps and postmarks, but the envelopes and postcards were seldom sold as they were received. It was possible that a few postcards and envelopes addressed to the firm might have been sold. He was not aware that when prisoner came to Bournemouth

he brought stamps with him, but he was aware that he carried on business as a stamp dealer on his own account before he came to Bright's.

Mr. Trevanion: Copthall Avenue is a place where stamp dealing is carried on in a large way, isn't it?

Witness: In a small way.

Mr. Trevanion: Where dealers frequent and deal?

Witness: Dealers, no.

Mr. Trevanion: Well, men who have come into possession of stamps and want to get rid of them?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Trevanion: And don't you think it possible that the defendant might have purchased a number of these stamps at that place?

Mary Riggs, residing with her parents at Jefferson Avenue, Springbourne, said the defendant took lodgings at their house at the beginning of November, 1895. A week later he entered the employment of Messrs. Bright & Son, and when he came home of an evening after leaving work she had seen him take stamps from his pocket. At his request she assisted him in filing these stamps in books, and she now identified in the books produced some of the stamps she had placed there. On one occasion while at their house the prisoner sent a parcel away, but she did not know whether it contained stamps.

Cross-examined, witness admitted that she saw a good many stamps in the prisoner's possession during the week before he went to Bright's and that she helped him to sort and arrange those stamps. She could not identify in the books produced any of the stamps she saw before prisoner went to Bright's.

Anne Millbank, of 42, Digby Road, Finsbury Park, said the prisoner was her sweetheart. She identified the handwriting of a letter which she received on the 29th November, 1895, as the prisoner's. That letter accompanied a parcel containing the books, two boxes and stamps produced. One of the books was blank when she received it, and she fixed the stamps in it as they were now. There were a large quantity of loose stamps in the box, and she fixed some of them in the books. She handed the books over to the prisoner when he left Bournemouth and came to London. Since then she knew that the prisoner had sold stamps for £55, and that he had put £50 in the bank.

Cross-examined: Before the prisoner went to Bright & Son's he had a business of his own, and when he gave up that business he had a large number of stamps—some thousands. He took some stamps to Bournemouth with him. She could not say whether the stamps which she fixed in the books were stamps which the prisoner took to Bournemouth with him. They were contemplating marriage a few months ago, and it was with that object in view that he sold stamps to the value of £55. He deposited £50 of that amount in the bank, not in her name, but in the name of Mr. Millbank, and it was still in the bank standing in that name.

Mr. Rock, an accountant, stated that in consequence of a message left by the prisoner at a shop where witness had stamps for sale, he called on the prisoner in Digby Road. The prisoner showed him his stamps, and he purchased books 1 to 6, and boxes 9 and 10 for £55. Prisoner told him he had been years getting the stamps together, and that he had got a great number by exchange and through exchange clubs. Witness asked him about the Norwegian stamps, and he replied that he heard from a friend that they were likely to be good, and he sent to his friend and asked him to procure as many as he could for him. Witness had since sold a portion of the stamps he bought from prisoner to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Mr. Giwell and Mr. Court.

Cross-examined: He considered £55 a fair price for himself, as a collector, to give for the stamps, his intention being to sell some to a dealer, keep as many as he wanted for his collection and retain some for exchange. He had not had any dealings in Copthall Avenue for the last five or six years, and he had not been through the Avenue for three or four years, so he did not know whether it was now a place where large quantities of stamps were bought and sold. The postcards—the books addressed to Bright & Son, did not raise any suspicions in his mind, but he noticed it as curious, and asked

the prisoner about it. That was his first transaction in buying a big lot of stamps. He had seen envelopes for sale with the addresses on.

William Coe, accountant said he went with the last witness to Digby Road, to look at the stamps. They jointly offered the prisoner £50 for them, and purchased them for £55. The stamps were taken away by previous witness, who passed several books on to him. He went through them, took out what they considered the best stamps put them on sheets, tacked prices against them, and took them round to some of the dealers in the city to dispose of. Some were sold to Mr. Peckitt, Mr. Hilekes and Mr. Healey.

Mr. Trevanion: You afterwards went back to the defendant and asked him if he had some Niger Coast stamps for sale?

Witness: I did.

Mr. Trevanion: As a matter of fact within about five minutes of that he was arrested by the police?

Witness: He was.

George Frederick Thickbroom, residing at 13, Arundel Road, Stratford, Essex, said he had known the prisoner as a stamp dealer. The first time he met him since 1893 or 1894, was at the end of August or the beginning of September this year, when he met him accidentally in London Wall, when they spoke about some Zanzibar and British East Africa stamps. About ten days later he got a note from the prisoner and in October he purchased from him eight Gibraltar, 25 centimos stamps, paying 12/7 for them. The date on the stamps was 1894. He had since got rid of the stamps and had been unable to recover them.

Cross-examined: He had on many occasions sold and purchased stamps in Copthall Avenue. It was a place where stamps were bought and sold frequently. He had seen the prisoner there, but not since the beginning of 1894.

Harry Hixcox, assistant to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, 391, Strand, stamp dealers, produced stamps which he purchased from the witness, Rock, and, on the 27th October, he first purchased 30 Gibaltars for £3, and then other stamps for £5.

Cross-examined: He had never had any dealings with the prisoner.

The Managing clerk of W. H. Peckitt, 440, Strand, produced stamps which he bought from the witness Coe for £2 6s. 6d. ten days ago.

Harry Hilekes, managing director to Harry Hilekes & Co., Limited, 64, Cheapside, said he was formerly manager to Messrs. Bright and Son, of Bournemouth. On the 3rd November this year he bought some stamps and envelopes (produced) from Mr. Coe for £2 9s. 9d. He had his suspicions raised and bought them in order to have some evidence. He then at once communicated with Messrs. Bright & Son, and asked them if the stamps were their property. He forwarded the stamps, &c. at the same time.

Cross-examined: He did not think that while at Bright's he ever sold stamped envelopes and cards addressed to the firm. He did not like that sort of thing to go out of the office. His practice was to cut the stamp off the envelope and sell it without the address. He could not remember that he had ever purchased envelopes and postcards when at Bright's, addressed to people by name, but he might have done so in the course of business.

Thomas Henry Court, stamp dealer, 157, Great Portland Street, produced stamps which he purchased on the 3th November from the witness Rock for £3 9s. 6d.

By Mr. Trevanion: He had occasionally purchased envelopes, but not postcards, addressed to stamp dealers, but not very often.

Morris Givewb, stamp dealer, 88, Strand, produced stamps which he purchased on the 3rd November from Mr. Rock for £3 10s.

Detective-Sergeant Bowles stated that on the 25th March of this year, in consequence of the report of a loss of stamps at Messrs. Bright's he called on the prisoner at 35, Beversbrook Road, Tuffnell Park and asked him if he had had any dealings with a man named Young. He replied that he had not, and in answer to a further question said he had had no stamps since he gave up business some time ago. On Wednesday, the 4th November, he went with Detective-Sergeant

Kane, of Scotland Yard, and the witness Coe to 42, Digby Road, Finsbury Park and saw the prisoner. Prisoner admitted that he had sold a quantity of stamps for £55, and when asked to account for his possession of them said he bought them from persons in the street in Copthall Avenue whom he had never seen before. Witness told him he was going to search his room and therefore if he had any more stamps he might as well produce them. Prisoner replied that he had not got a stamp belonging to him. Witness searched the room and found a book containing stamps, cards and envelopes. Mr. Oliver was called in and identified these as the property of Messrs. Bright. Witness told prisoner that the four books sold to Mr. Coe had been identified by Mr. Oliver, and prisoner then said Mr. Oliver gave him the books, but this Mr. Oliver denied. Asked to account for the £55 he had received for the stamps, prisoner said he had banked £50 in his own name, and afterwards transferred it to his young lady's name. He afterwards took the prisoner to Bournemouth. On Saturday the 7th, after witness had told him that the stamps had been valued by Mr. Oliver at £350, the prisoner said, "For God's sake don't oppose bail on Monday, I want to get back to London. Bright has got all his stamps back, and Coe can have the £50. Do what you can for me to get back." On Monday, the 9th, witness was present at an interview between prisoner and his father. His father asked him what stamps he brought to Bournemouth, and he replied, "I bought three 70 packets. What Bright says is his I bought in a bundle in Copthall Avenue for £9 10s. after I returned to London."

This being the case for the prosecution, Mr. Trevanion said the prisoner would reserve his defence.

In reply to the formal charge prisoner said "I am not guilty."

He was then committed for trial at the ensuing Assizes.

On Thursday, the 10th November, the prisoner was brought before Justice Wills at the Winchester Assizes, when, under the advice of Mr. Temple Cooke, his Counsel, he pleaded guilty. Mr. Giles, for the prosecution, did not press the case and Mr. Cooke, appealing to His Lordship, stated that prisoner had been anxious to get married and hoped that as the whole of the property had been recovered, His Lordship would deal mercifully with the prisoner. As the case stood the only sufferer would be the prisoner himself, and Messrs. Bright having promised to refund the monies paid to prisoner for stamps sold, there would practically be no loss. The £55 received from Mr. Rock were still in the savings bank, which money should be returned to Mr. Rock. His Lordship then pointed out to the prisoner that he had placed someone who should have been very dear to him, although innocent enough, in a most dangerous position. He had lost his position in London by his dishonesty, which fact His Lordship took into consideration as a substantial portion of his punishment. The sentence would be four months hard labour.

Prisoner who seemed to feel his degradation most keenly asked to be allowed to have an interview with Miss Milbank, his sweetheart, which was at once granted.

Mr. Giles then applied to the Judge for an order to have the £50 now lying under the name of Mr. Milbank at the Finsbury Park branch of the Post Office Savings Bank to be handed over to the prosecution. His Lordship, however, doubted his power to do so, remarking that the prosecution had the civil remedy to fall back upon.

The witnesses were dealt with almost as severely as the prisoner. The many eminent and busy stamp dealers who journeyed down to Bournemouth and Winchester to give evidence were given their railway fares and the noble sum of 3s. 6d. per day. One of them remarked that it didn't pay for the cigars he smoked while waiting in the corridor of the court.

Joking aside, Messrs. Bright & Son write us: "We should be glad if you would add to your report that we desire it to be known that all the witnesses have come forward without any hesitation, and have, without exception, helped in every possible manner."



MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN'S NEW CATALOGUE :

A REVIEW BY "C O2," AND HARRY HILCKES.

AS mentioned in our last number, we have received a copy of Mr. Ewen's fresh Catalogue of British Stamps, with request for its review in these columns.

The work in question contains many new features, and compels our hearty admiration for the amount of patience and research shewn in it. As a book, —apart that is from its contents—there is a decided advance on the previous issues; the work is sewn instead of being wired, an innovation which will commend itself to all Philatelists who are also book-lovers; and when we say that the printing has been done by Messrs. Pardy & Son, any reference to the typography would be superfluous.

It is usually a wise thing to read the preface of a book in order to get an idea of the author's plan. This we have most carefully done, but on comparing the preface with the remainder, we found that, as is so often the case, the book declined to take the plan laid down for it. "Such is the cussedness of inanimate objects." The preface, besides misleading the Author as to the arrangement of his book, contains many very debatable passages, on some of which we venture to join issue with Mr. Ewen.

The first paragraph contains the following surprising sentence,—"Hitherto, no really complete catalogue has been published at a popular price." But surely Mr. Ewen has seen Mr. Morley's 1895 Catalogue, which was published at the very popular price of 1s., a work which we venture to think contains everything of value contained in the Catalogue under review, save postmarks, and in addition a very large amount of information, unattainable elsewhere, on fiscals, stationery, etc.

Mr. Ewen goes on to say: "Former editions, apart from their incompleteness, have been written for advanced specialists; the method of arrangement, and the inclusion of minor varieties, having tended to confuse and dishearten the beginner. Whereas the collector of thirty years ago ignored varieties of paper, watermark, and perforation, we, at the present day, not only collect these, but many collectors also devote much time and trouble to the study of every minor variety, whatever its nature. As opinions differ as to the collectability of many such varieties, we have in the present edition separated them from the regular or 'standard' issues. Minor varieties are frequently due to a speck of dust or a hair on the plate, or to the sheets of paper being placed upside down during the process of printing, thus causing the stamps to have an inverted watermark, or to some act of carelessness. Whether such varieties as these are really worth any attention at all is open to doubt, and we have excluded them from the principal catalogue, although they are fully described later on."

Here, then, is the plan of the book: "standard" issues are to be penned off from accidents and acts of carelessness to the intent that the beginner shall not be disheartened. Happy beginner! philatelic thought is mainly devoted now-a-days to smoothing his path for him! But "the best laid plans of men and mice, &c." Does Mr. Ewen fulfil his intention? The first two "standard" stamps listed have six sub-divisions, all being minor varieties of "doubtful collectability" according to Mr. Ewen. Poor happy beginner! So we find that watermarks of slightly different shapes, varieties of perforation within or without the margin, shades of colour, even specimen stamps, are included among the "standard" issues and not where we expected to find them, among the black sheep of "doubtful collectability." One variety, a very old friend, appears in neither "standard" or

"doubtful" group, we refer to the "K" variety of the 1/4-plate 2. This stamp Mr. Ewen valued, a year ago, at £5, but then, in a year there are many days, in a day many opportunities to change one's opinions, and—well—we hardly know whether Mr. Ewen has embraced one of these opportunities, or, whether the "K" has ceased to be a British stamp, but we do know that no catalogue of British stamps can lay claim to completeness with this "K" variety omitted from its list of "standard" varieties.

To proceed with our comment on the paragraph quoted above: Mr. Ewen compares latter-day collecting with the primitive methods of thirty years ago. Does he in all seriousness mean that we ought to talk of the "good old times" in stamp collecting, as well as in other things? Surely no serious philatelist ever thinks of regretting the days when the very existence of watermarks was ignored. The study of minor varieties may be troublesome to some, especially dealers, but the discovery of minor varieties forms the greatest charm of latter-day collection, and not only do they form a charm, but these minor varieties, in many cases, are the only means of determining certain important questions of issues and forgeries. Were it not for the collector of minor varieties it would be impossible, for instance, to distinguish between genuine and forged Swiss stamps. And, after all, has it yet been decided what is the one proper method of collecting? Nearly every specialist of one and the same country has a different way of going to work; one only collects unused, because he has a long pocket; another with a shorter pocket, devotes his whole attention to specimen stamps, or postmarks; again, another, with special facilities for obtaining stamps used abroad, makes a study of this branch. All, in our opinion, are equally orthodox, and on the same level as philatelists.

There are three lines in the preface which, for this reason, we consider absolutely uncalled for. Speaking of British Stamps Used Abroad, Mr. Ewen remarks—"these varieties are undoubtedly interesting, but to say that the postmark alters or decides the nationality of the stamp, as some collectors do, is ridiculous." On page 137, Mr. Ewen "hedges" somewhat on this subject: "The whole question turns on whether the country issuing the stamp received for its own use the whole or part of the revenue derived from the sale of it. If this was the case, then the nationality of the stamp was changed; but as a matter of fact the post offices of which we write were as much British as those established within the borders of the United Kingdom, the whole revenue derived from the sale of stamps going into the British exchequer

Mr. Ewen, like most youthful enthusiasts, is somewhat given to emphatic "obiter dicta." We, who are more used to parting our hair with a towel, are less certain about anything than we were when Mr. Ewen was in his cradle, we have ceased to dignify little freaks of fancy by giving them the name of opinions. We therefore forgive the "ridiculous" epithet. With reference to British Stamps used abroad, and their nationality, we accept Mr. Ewen's proposition: the whole question turns on the receipt of the revenue derived from the sale of the stamp. But we can hardly follow Mr. Ewen farther. His idea seems to be that if the issuing country takes the revenue, the nationality is changed, and as he asserts later that "the whole revenue derived from the sale of stamps goes into the British exchequer," he appears to prove there are no British stamps, "their nationality is changed." If this is so, why the Catalogue? We have in our possession a little problem in nationalities which we invite Mr. Ewen to decide. It takes the form of an entire letter posted in Kingston, Jamaica, and addressed to Morant Bay, Jamaica, stamped with four rd. rose-red English stamps, stars in top corners. The stamps are obliterated Aor, and the letter bears the postmarks of Kingston and of Morant Bay, dated on consecutive day. Now here is an instance where British stamps undoubtedly paid for the carriage of a letter between two foreign ports. Do these remain British stamps? Before leaving this subject we must confess that we should like some corroborative evidence that all the revenue from the sale of stamps goes into the British exchequer.

(To be concluded).

### General Notices.

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#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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One Year (26 numbers) post free ...	3	3
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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 28, 1896.



OUR Auction Summary has been very well received everywhere, and very kind remarks have been made, especially by the *London Philatelist*, *Philatelic Record*, *P.F.G.B.*, and the chief American papers. On this account, we are the more surprised to find that the book has received a somewhat severe handling in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* (which, by the way, has recently changed hands, and is now published in Leipzig). As this paper is edited on strictly philatelic lines, and as we think the criticism and the conclusions drawn from it are based on a wrong conception, we deem it our duty to reply. A prominent English collector, whose opinion is generally accepted in this country as most valuable on philatelic subjects, drew our attention spontaneously to this article in the following letter:—

I do not think the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, of 12th Nov. (just to hand), is at all just to your Auction Summary, which I believe is an honest and very praiseworthy endeavour to provide a financial guide for dealers and collectors. The prices—were the majority of stamps really fine to "mint"—would be far above those recorded, and in such cases the trade would buy them, i.e., the rarities, at higher prices than any recorded in your book. Please not to mention my name, nor identify me in any way, in replying to H. F. (who is a personal friend), but otherwise use the gist of this letter as you like. It is sent because I believe in fairness and because I don't think it a merited criticism.

Mr. H. F., the critic in question, finds fault with the Auction Summary because he misses various stamps put up for auction at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's on the 28th May, by Mr. F. A. Hoffman. It will be remembered by our readers that Mr. Hoffman charged Messrs. Puttick & Simpson with most dishonest practices, and in their reply they stated, backed by the opinion of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, that most of the stamps put up for auction by Mr. Hoffman, were in a very bad condition, "mended, torn, cut, and otherwise damaged, in fact such rubbish as we should be glad to get rid of at any price." The latter part of this description is that of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. It will therefore be easily understood that it is absolutely unimportant to collectors of Nova Scotia, for instance, to know that a damaged and torn copy of the 1s. was sold for £2 10s.—when at the same time a fine copy fetched nearer £20. We have left out this Nova Scotia stamp of Mr. Hoffman's, which fetched £2 10s. od., and in this connection the "*D.B.Z.*," charges us with having arbitrarily left out all cheap stamps and only included those specimens which realised high prices. This accusation absolutely amounts to a charge of dishonest cooking, and we emphatically object to it. If our readers will revert to pages 79 and 80, they will find we give the

realisation prices of 24 copies of the 1/- Nova Scotia, of which twelve belong to Class "a," i.e., superb copies; five belong to Class "b," being average copies; two copies were marked "b to c," being copies really closely cut, or in other ways a little under the average; and five copies belong to Class "c," which were damaged in some small way, slightly cut into, or otherwise blemished. The average of the first class comes to about £19 10s., whereas the five copies classed "b" average £15 15s.; the two Classes "b to c," average £9, and Class "c," which includes fine copies with some trifling defect, averages £14 10s., which goes to prove that our classification is correct. It is quite immaterial for any buyers of the above stamps to know that a dirty, torn, and otherwise rubbed copy was sold for £2 10s., or to make it more "understandable," if our friend the critic bought a pair of boots for 10/6, would he be influenced in buying by the price of 6d., at which the rag and bone picker had sold a pair to a tramp? Hardly!

We are at a loss to account for this wholly unreasonable criticism in a paper which we have consistently looked up to as a leader of German philatelic thought—a paper, moreover, between which and the FORTNIGHTLY the most cordial relations have subsisted. "New brooms sweep clean," but one does not like to see them sweeping away old friendships, to say nothing of old and cherished traits. The *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* must live up to its traditional integrity, or it will soon cease to occupy the honourable position to which our friend Dr. Brenkicke raised it by hard work and honourable tactics. \* \* \*

ALL the philatelic journals, within the sphere of influence of the new Triple Alliance—the Scott—Bartlett—Nova Scotia—condemn in chorus the articles that have appeared in the FORTNIGHTLY—condemn them without having read them. For, if they had read them, they would scarcely have the audacity to so wilfully misrepresent the object of the articles we have printed. "The FORTNIGHTLY (say some of them), objects to the Nova Scotia deal because the prices charged for the stamps are too high." "Hilckes (say others) is wild because he had no finger in the 'pie' himself." The *Mekeel* journals alone, of all the world's philatelic publications, give us credit for some singleness of purpose, and while praising us as news gatherers, endorse our view concerning the scandalous way this great "find" of stamps has been rigged and manipulated. In every article we have written on the subject of Nova Scotia we have made it abundantly clear that (1) we do not object to the "remainders" being offered for sale at fair prices; (2) we do not in these columns voice the sentiments of Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., but of Harry Hilckes and Percy C. Bishop, private philatelists; and that (3) what we object to about the Nova Scotia deal is the flagrant dishonesty that has been practised by various firms in "placing" the stamps. All this we have made clear again and again; but—there are none so blind as those that won't see. \* \* \*

It may not be generally known—to be truthful, it is not known at all—that our Christmas number is coming. The fact that we contemplated a Christmas Number has been kept carefully locked within the editorial breast. Now that it has passed from the contemplative stage into the stage of active preparation, we announce it to our little world. Know then, that our No. 59, timed in the ordinary course of events to appear on December 26th (Boxing Day), will really be published on Christmas Eve, early enough to be despatched in good time to reach every subscriber by the same mail as his Christmas cards. The Christmas FORTNIGHTLY will be quite a Christmas card in itself, for it will breathe frivolity and good cheer, and convey our sincerest Xmas wishes to the homes of all our friends. In addition to our usual features (none of which will be omitted or reduced in interest or length), we shall publish jokes, pictures, and stories, all Christmassy, and all with a touch of philately in them.

To our regular subscribers there will be no extra charge for this big Christmas Number; to advertisers space will be let at our usual rates.



## Notes on New Issues.

\*\* We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

All Stamps mentioned in the following paragraphs have been kindly sent by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

**Cyprus.**—In the new bi-colour type the  $\frac{1}{2}$  piastre has appeared.

$\frac{1}{2}$  piastre green value carmine (2d.)

**Great Britain.**—The ordinary English 10d. stamp has been surcharged  $\frac{1}{2}$  piastres, for use in Constantinople. (1/9).

**Holland.**—Queen's head.

50c. green head yellow brown (1/6)

1 gulden, mauve head grey green (2/6)

Unpaid, 1c. deep blue (2d.)

" 5c. " (3d.)

**Indo-China.**—A new type of rather pretty design has been introduced in this colony, it is very similar to the old French type, but the two figures of the central design evidently got tired from standing all these years and have now taken a back seat. So far the 5 franc has appeared in this type.

**Italy.**—A new design has been adopted for the 1 and 2 centimes to replace the old type, the present design has a white cross in centre of shield.

1c. dark brown (1d.)

2c. red-brown (1d.)

A slightly altered type is now being used for the 10c. brown (2d.)

**Johore.**—Owing to the death of the late Sultan a new set was of course necessary, which has just appeared. The stamps bear the effigy of the new Sultan, the type otherwise being similar to the old series.

1c. green.

2c. " value blue.

3c. " " purple.

4c. " " carmine.

5c. " " red-brown.

6c. " " orange.

8c. deep purple, value green.

**Labuan.**—The old plates of North Borneo for the 25c., 50c., and \$1, have been used to create a new issue for this colony, surcharged in heavy block letters "Labuan."

25c. greenish blue, surcharged black "Labuan."

50c. pale red " " "

\$1 deep blue " " "

**Seychelles.**—The old 45 cents has been used to manufacture a surcharge in thin capital letters, 18 cents. (1/6)

**Sierre Leone.**—It will probably be stale news to most of our readers that several of the values of the present type stamps have been supplanted by the well-known bi-coloured series. We have seen the following values:

1d. mauve and red (2d.)

2d. " orange (4d.)

2½d. " blue (5d.)

3d. " grey (6d.)

1/- green and black (1/9)

2/- " blue (3/6)

5/- " carmine (7/6)

£1 carmine on red paper (30/-)

**St. Helena.**—We are sorry to say that we have just received information to the effect that the handsome stamps of this island have also met with their death blow at the hands of the new type. We presume that the 1½d. stamp issued some little time back in the present design is withdrawn, probably the authorities found that this value was not wanted.

1d. carmine (2d.)

2d. orange (4d.)

2½d. blue (5d.)

5d. bright purple (9d.)

10d. brown (1/8)

**Tobago.**—A short time back a fresh supply of stamps was sent to this Island, containing among other values 6,000 (?) 1/- printed in error in the same color as the 6d. orange. It was at first reported that after 500 copies had been sold the remaining 5,500 were withdrawn from circulation and were to be destroyed, but it is now pretty evident that the entire consignment was bought by a London speculator, so collectors who purchased copies at fabulous prices on the supposition that there were only the comparatively small number of 500 on the market will have every reason to repent their haste. Various prices have been asked for these stamps, ranging between £16 down to 15/- each, and we strongly advise our readers to refrain from buying until reliable information can be obtained as to the exact quantity sent out, &c. During the past week this error was hawked all over London by men and boys who were evidently employed by the speculator engineering this little deal. Several men came to our office and offered us copies at £9 to £14 the dozen. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., whilst confirming the above, seem not to be aware that of the above 5,500 some at least have oozed out. How many is of course an open question, but we believe the lot will eventually appear on the market. Meanwhile the 1/- ochre has been again sent out, but the shade is said to vary slightly.

The above St. mps can be obtained of MESSRS. HILCKES & Co., LTD. at the prices mentioned in brackets.

## Forgers and their Work.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

### THE B.C.A. "POSTAL FISCALS" ARE FAKES!

HERE is news that will trouble some of "the clever ones," as Mr. Castle calls them. Those nice long "revenues used postally" from British Central Africa are sheer fake all through—that is to say, so far as their postal character goes. We have it on the authority of the B.C.A. Postmaster himself that none of the Revenues of that territory have ever been used for postal purposes. But let us give the correspondence in full, and let it speak for itself:—

Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Limited,

64, Cheapside, E.C.

DEAR SIRS,—We return herein the B.C.A. revenue stamp, which we have submitted to the Postmaster General of B.C.A., who is at present in this country on leave. We enclose a copy of his reply, which is a sufficient condemnation of all the so-called postally used B.C.A. revenues which have been offered for sale lately.

Yours faithfully,

Ipswich, Nov. 14th, 1896.

WHITFIELD KING & Co.

[ENCLOSURE.]

SIRS,—I have the honour to inform you, in reply to your enquiry of yesterday, that none of the Revenue stamps of British Central Africa were ever used postally.

The one you sent me has been taken off an old expired licence and has been improperly obliterated.

There is a special stamp issued to cancel Revenue stamps, and in addition, Revenue officers are instructed to write the date across the stamp.

In the case in question, the Revenue officer at Port Herald is also Postmaster, and the mistake has thus arisen.

I return the stamp sent for me to see.

I have the honour to be, Sirs,  
Your obedient servant,

(Signed) J. E. McMASTER,  
Postmaster General, B.C.A.

November 13th, 1896.

It only remains to advise all buyers of these *soi-disant* postal fiscals to demand their money back from the vendors.



### ANOTHER AFRICAN FAKE—OR RATHER, "SPECULATION."

From a valued Matabeleland reader we have received a most entertaining letter concerning matters philatelic in the Cape and Rhodesia, from which we extract the following:—

Did you hear of the 3d. on 5/- which was issued somewhere about April? There were a few sheets (eight, I believe) surcharged thus:

<p>—</p> <p>THREE PENCE.</p> <p>-</p> <p>five shillings</p>	<p>On each sheet one stamp had the "R" upside down. I mean to say inverted. The thing was done to order, and was entirely a speculation. All the stamps were taken to England to be put on the market. The surcharging was done by the Argus Printing Co., in Buluwayo.</p>
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To whose order was this "thing" done, we wonder?

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WE are becoming tolerably well case-hardened as regards unfriendly comments in contemporary journals, but the following, clipped from the November number of the *American Journal of Philately*, is rather more than we can swallow at one sitting:

#### THE ETHICS OF JOURNALISM.

In the October 17th number of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, under the head of "China's Postal System as it is," appear the following words: "In view of the promised establishment of a properly organized postal system for the Chinese Empire, it becomes interesting to look into the existing mail arrangements of that vast country. In the nick of time a long and most exhaustive article on this very subject appears in the *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*, of which a marked copy has been sent us by an esteemed continental correspondent.

It would appear from this that the editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY had gone to considerable pains and expense in translating the article spoken of, which appeared in *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*, but the fact of the matter is that they copied word for word the translation made for this journal by our Mr. Henry L. Calman. We ought to feel very much flattered that the able linguist, Mr. Harry Hillekes, should have seen fit to accept Mr. Calman's translation without altering a single word, but we would have supposed that ordinary decency should have required it to be stated that the translation was copied from some other source. However, our friend Mr. H. is so busy picking quarrels with everybody, in the four quarters of the world, who may be connected with the stamp business, that we suppose this little item of courtesy escaped his attention.

We wonder whether the editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY did really receive any copy of *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*!

Now, let us recite a few facts:

1. We *did* make extracts from Mr. Calman's translation of the article, omitting unwittingly to acknowledge the *American Journal of Philately*. We did not "copy the translation word for word," but that is only a small point.
2. We *did* receive a copy of *Der Ostasiatische Lloyd*, not from "a continental correspondent," as stated in our paper, but from Mr. David Benjamin, who, we believe, sent out marked copies to all our contemporaries, including the *A. J. of P.*
3. We *had* commenced doing the article into English when the *A. J. of P.*, came to hand with the work already done. We made extracts from our contemporary's version, and have a most vivid recollection that it was our intention to fully acknowledge the source whence those extracts were derived. Our contemporary reminds us, somewhat brusquely, that we did not. We'll, we will forget the bursqueness for one moment, and apologise.

But, having apologised for our forgetfulness, we shall be within our right if we castigate the *A. J. of P.* in our turn for its gross discourtesy towards us. A more unreasonable, a more malevolent tirade than the paragraph we have quoted it would be difficult to adduce in evidence against any existing periodical, even amongst the publications devoted to Philately. One would have thought that a mild reproach for not acknowledging the source from which we obtained our matter would have sufficed; but no, the *A. J. of P.* must go out of its way to suggest deliberate theft, and follow up this charge with personal reflections of the pettiest order. Were one half of what is here alleged true we should be unworthy to take down the FORTNIGHTLY'S shutters, much less fill its editorial chair.

We are, and have always been, most scrupulously careful to do the right and honourable thing in the way of acknowledging copied matter. The *A. J. of P.* knows that full well. Not a three line paragraph is copied into the "S.C.F." but the fullest acknowledgment is given of the source whence it came. Our contributors, our correspondents, and all such contemporaries as are not swayed by conflicting business interests, will testify to our unvarying desire to give honour where honour is due. This insolent article in the *A. J. of P.* has annoyed us intensely, and our pen has wandered too far perhaps in consequence. We have no wish to sow dissension or "talk back;" nor do we want to make any invidious suggestions, but a charge of this sort levelled against the FORTNIGHTLY is something we cannot, will not, brook.

\* \* \*

In another column the *American Journal of Philately* "replies" to our articles on the Nova Scotia question. The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., publishers of the *American Journal of Philately*, are "sole agents for America and the West Indies" of the syndicate controlling the sale of Nova Scotia remainders. We, by our articles on that subject in the FORTNIGHTLY, have seriously interfered with the sale of those stamps in this country and abroad.

Does the thinking reader begin to see light?

But why, oh why, could not the Scott Stamp & Coin Company be honest about it and make their dirty accusations side by side with their alleged "reply"?

We don't like the man who, having a grudge to pay off, seizes upon the first available pretext and uses that as a vehicle for his thunder.

There is a strong suspicion in our mind that something of the same sort is being done here in England, but of that more anon.

\* \* \*

"W. B. E." writes pointing out the serious decline in the prices fetched by certain stamps at recent auctions, and pertinently asks "where will it stop?" The stamps he names are, with one exception, West Indians, and unquestionably during the late boom many, if not all of these, were put up to prices above their true relative value, to which they are now falling.

There is no reason why the other stamp named, the Nova Scotia 8½c., used, should fall in value, save, perhaps, the fear of forged postmarks; but the recent rig has disgusted many collectors, who are giving up this country altogether, and feeling more or less shy about unused Colonials generally.

At present the fashion is for fine West Africans and unused Europeans, but recent events have given a feeling of insecurity to the market, which is resulting in lower prices. A few more such finds as the Nova Scotians—worked in the same way—and good-bye philately, or present price philately at any rate.

So much for the penny wise and pound foolish policy of greedy stamp dealers.

\* \* \*

Perhaps some reader learned in Patiala envelopes can help Mr. F. S. Cousins, of the Laurance Military Asylum, Sanawar, who puts this poser:



I have in my possession a  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna envelope. Patiala, the colour of which is green of so very dark a shade as to be nearly black. The envelope is unused and certainly does not look as if it had been tampered with in any way. Can you tell me if the variety is known? I have not yet seen it catalogued anywhere.

A Brixton reader chides us for "calling names," which, he says, is "not argument." Well, we allow that it is not argument, but it is a most useful adjunct thereto. A good argument loses half its weight if weakly put, and when we get on a good argument, we "push it along," as the Yankees say, with few qualms as to whether the terms we use are strictly parliamentary. Blunt Anglo-Saxon is good enough for us. As an instance, we contend that the crusade against the approval sheet trade, as carried on by dealers, is unreasonable, frumpish, out-of-date. We style the crusaders "antediluvian frumps," and their organ an "exponent of pig-headed bigotry." We regret that our Brixton friend thinks these epithets silly. They are the best we can do in this particular line, and we intend to stand by them.

The sending of approval sheets *unsolicited* by the addressee is perhaps objectionable, but the practice is not peculiar to the stamp trade. Moreover, it is not alone unsolicited sheets that the antediluvian frumps object to. They object to all sheets and to all stamps. For some mysterious reason they become imbued with a holy horror of stamps and stamp collecting, and no amount of cold reasoning will convince them that Philately is a fascinating science and a delightful hobby. That's why we call them antediluvian frumps.

Here is a letter which speaks for itself. We have not the pleasure of Mr. A. Schurtzgebels acquaintance, either personally or by correspondence, but the fact that he is after some philatelic rogue is sufficient introduction for us:

72, ANSELBY PARK, S.E.

26th October, 1896.

DEAR SIRS.—Attached is list of a parcel of missing Hawaiian unused P.G. Stamps, supposed to have been offered for sale about last Autumn. I am prepared to give a Reward of £2 to anyone who can identify the person who offered these stamps for sale or sold them. Should you have had such a parcel offered you, I would be obliged if you would communicate with me.—Yours truly,

A. SCHURTZGEBEL.

LIST.

1891.	1 set	21 P.G. stamps on card.
"	5 sets	" loose.
"	5 sheets	1 green P.G. stamps.
"	1 "	1 blue " 50 stamps.
"	1 "	1 purple " " "
"	1 "	2 brown " " "
"	1 "	5 dark blue " " "
"	1 "	6 green " " "
"	1 "	10 red " " "
"	1 "	10 black " " "
"	1 "	15 brown " " "

In answer to "L.B.," Dalston, we regret that the Indian stamps he refers to are bogus.

## First Steps in Philately.

BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

### V.—PAPERS THAT STAMPS ARE PRINTED UPON.

HERE is where many a young collector halts, perplexed. A difference of paper, he will often find, means a pretty stiff difference of price; yet for the life of him he can't tell one sort from another. I propose now to describe as simply and concisely as possible, the various kinds of paper employed in the manufacture of stamps. Brevity is necessary.

The two commonest papers are "wove" and "laid." Wove paper, one is almost inclined to think, should be re-named "ordinary" paper. The bulk of the paper manufactured now-a-days is wove. The FORTNIGHTLY is printed upon wove;

so are nearly all our newspapers, periodicals and magazines. It is paper of even texture, perfectly plain in every sense of the word.

"Laid" paper, on the other hand, is crossed with a series of white lines placed close together. Study a sheet of what is known as "cream laid" note-paper. That will more clearly show the nature of "laid" paper than anything I can write.

Two makes of paper that are productive of much confusion are "batonné" and "quadrillé." A sheet of "foreign note paper," as it is called, will show very clearly the system known as "batonné." Then there are "wove batonné" and "laid batonné." The watermarked lines of the batonné paper are placed about as far apart as the ruled lines of a schoolchild's copy-book. Between these lines the paper may be "wove" or "laid," and thus we get the subdivision already referred to. "Quadrillé" paper is watermarked in small squares. The current 15c. blue French stamp is on quadrillé paper.

These five varieties of paper comprise the more important sorts. It will only be necessary to describe very briefly the remaining varieties.

"Ribbed" paper, for instance, needs no description. It is ribbed, just as corded ribbon is ribbed.

"Pebble" paper, which has not been very extensively used for postage stamp printing, is a thin but tough paper; quite as thin as tissue, but a great deal stronger.

"Manilla" paper, made from Manilla fibre, is a strong but coarse paper of various tints, mainly used for envelopes and like stationery.

"Granite" paper, such as many Swiss stamps have been printed upon, is distinguished from other papers by the presence of minute fragments of coloured thread. These fibrous particles are sometimes so minute as to be undistinguishable by the naked eye.

"Silurian" paper resembles "Granite," but in addition to the fibres scattered about in the substance of the paper, the paper itself is tinted.

There remains only one notable variety of paper, and that is the celebrated "Dickinson," or silk thread paper, of which Major Evans, in his "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" (Stanley Gibbons, Limited), gives this most interesting account:

A special paper, with silk threads in it, commonly known as "Dickinson" paper, from its inventor, was used for the Mulready envelopes and letter sheets, for the embossed envelopes and letter-sheets which succeeded them, for the octagonal tenpence and shilling stamps of Great Britain, and also for the early issues of Bavaria, Schleswig-Holstein, Switzerland, and Wurtemberg, the first envelopes of Prussia, &c. Its peculiarity consists in its having a continuous thread of silk in its substance, the thread being embedded in the soft pulp during the manufacture of the paper.

This paper has never, to my knowledge, been successfully imitated by forgers of stamps, and the would probably find it impossible to obtain a supply of the genuine paper without arousing suspicion. Some very good imitations of the first stamps of Schleswig-Holstein were made years ago, and printed upon paper formed of two thin pieces gummed together, with a silk thread between them. The arms in the centre of these are nicely embossed, a heavy postmark is usually applied, and the whole forms a most deceptive imitation of stamps, used copies of which are of considerable rarity; the double paper, however, is rather thicker than that of the genuine stamps, and dipping in hot water separates the two layers and exposes the fraud.

To show what difficulty this paper presents to the forger, I may mention that in 1891 some excellent forgeries of the 12 kreuzers and 15 kreuzers of the first issue of Bavaria were found in circulation among collectors, and these, on being examined, turned out to be printed upon a genuine silk thread paper, which occasioned some surprise. There were subsequently discovered, in the possession of the same person, a large number of these forgeries and a certain number of small squares of paper, with a silk thread in each; and close examination showed that each of these pieces of paper had been a genuine stamp of small value, the impression of which had been removed, or very nearly so, in order, by this ingenious method, to obtain paper for imitations of the more valuable varieties of the same issue.

So much then for paper. I am now somewhat at a loss to know what topic to deal with next. Perhaps, some of our younger readers will oblige with a hint or two.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## A Much Injured English Envelope.

ASKS Mr. W. S. Webb, the writer of the *Philatelic Chronicle's* "Notes on English Stamps":

What's wrong with the man or machine, or both, that makes id. embossed envelopes? This is the third time I have had to notice their vagaries, and it must be the last, or we shall have errors *ad nauseum*. Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens (Vice-President of the Plymouth Philatelic Society) has kindly sent me for inspection a specimen of size "A" which has (in addition to the normal stamp) three other perfect impressions, and parts of two more overlapping. All these five accidental impressions are inverted. The envelope passed the post in February last, and, needless to say, presents a grotesque appearance.

## No More Runs on the Philatelic "Dairy."

Mr. C. J. Phillips, having announced in the *Monthly Journal* that "the Philatelic Dairy" will not again be published, the *P.F.G.B.* reminds us that this is the death knell of one of its few jokes. By a droll printer's error the *P.F.G.B.*, some eighteen months ago, informed the philatelic world that there was a great run on the philatelic dairy! Major Evans got about a column of editorial fun out of it. It was a very godsend to the major, as he would frankly admit, for those editorial columns in the *M.J.* take a deal of filling. The dairy joke is done for now, for the dairy itself is closed.

Major Evans, in his genial way, is always treading upon somebody's pet corn, but it is all done so good-humouredly that no one can be cross with him. At any rate the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* can't. The Major has lately been having his fling, however, at the young collector, and has gone perilously near to exasperating even the *P.F.G.B.* this time:

Talking of Major Evans (says our contemporary) brings us infallibly back to the *Monthly Journal* Editorials in the copy now lying before us. Our good friend is "going for" the Philatelic Boy, and his caterers—the caterers for choice. The Editorial *cravache* is flicking round with a vengeance. Who, in or out of the Strand, ever wanted boys to be fed "with a crop of gaudy chromo-lithographs and cheap remainders?" What is the name of the Philatelic Peabody, whose idea it is that "packets are to be distributed broadcast, and free, gratis, for nothing?" Who wants the boy to "fill his album with rubbish, made on purpose for him?" Such, indeed, are the problems presented to a startled public by this month's *Monthly Journal*. No kind Major Evans, we want none of these things. We want boys, and that still larger class of men who are boys in philately, to keep up heart and not despair because of the almost intolerable mass of minutiae introduced into modern stamp-knowledge, and the impossible prices asked for the stamps of old days. We want them to collect—not rubbish, we have never said that or hinted at it—but perfectly genuine postal issues, which as yet are to be had for modest pennies, and which have as much interest and possibly as much art and science in them as Nova Scotias before the fall.

Now had our friends of Salisbury properly understood the editorial articles in question they could have spared themselves all this fuss. Major Evans was not going for the English system of educating the young collector (had he done that we should have had something to say ourselves), but was really alluding to a recent New York experiment—the launching of a new paper called *Stamps*, with a packet of 100 stamps presented gratis to every annual subscriber. *Stamps*, as the *P.F.G.B.* is probably aware, is being edited by Mr. Crawford Capen, who, although indubitably a clever philatelist, is one of the chief rebels in the anti-S.S.S.S. camp. Hence the Major's strictures about albums "filled with rubbish" and packets "distributed broadcast, free, gratis, for nothing."

## Belgian 25c., Sunday Stamp—Two Types.

There are two types, the *Philatelic Monthly and World* tells us, of the 25c. Belgian Sunday stamp. In the first type the lower part of the "5" in the upper left corner curves around and forms a ball at the end, while in the second type the ball is missing. Both varieties come on the same sheet.

The *P. M. & W.*, in the issue under notice, administers yet another drubbing to its New Hampshire antagonist, the *Eastern Philatelist*—this time on a question of simple fact. The dispute between these two journals on the question of seniority we have already alluded to. Let us hope that the Bogert and Durbin Company's organ, having now conclusively proved its title to be regarded as the oldest existing American philatelic magazine, will quit squabbling and devote itself to its real purpose—the dissemination of useful philatelic information.

## Why is it?

Papers like the *Stamp Advertiser*, published at Southport, make us reflect upon the emptiness of mundane things, with a huge accent on the emptiness. The advertisements in the *Stamp Advertiser*, which are numerous and varied, make far more interesting reading than the two small pages of letter-press provided for those good souls who subscribe 9d. per annum towards the editor's board bill. Small as is the space allotted to the constant reader, there is scarcely a line of new or original matter, and not a word that can be properly called philatelic. Why is it such papers are published?

## A Criticism of the Hinge.

*Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* may usually be relied upon to furnish something readable. The October issue (which, by the way, begins the fifth volume), is no exception to the rule. In addition to other interesting articles we find "An Old Collector" writing on the subject of "The Best Hinge." He is of conservative tendencies, this "Old Collector." He remarks regretfully that the average boy's collection of to-day hasn't such a neat look as the average boy's collection of twenty years ago. Why is it? The "Old Collector" says it's all due to that modern fad, the hinge. Hear what he says:

I think hinges, as they are used to-day, are a nuisance for the boy collector, and for that matter for any other collector who is not exceptionally careful. In nearly all cases they are a good deal narrower than the stamp, and if they do not stick like fish glue it is impossible for them to hold a stamp tight and straight, even if placed so at first. The least rough handling makes a leaf of an album with stamps hinged in look like a branch of a tree in a storm of wind, the stamps, like the leaves, bending to all sides.

But, one asks at once, what will you do without the hinge? What will you use in its place? Our "Old Collector" has his answer pat and ready:—

The remedy is easy, and a good deal cheaper even than hinges. Buy ten (or even five) cents' worth of the very best dry gum arabic from your druggist, put it in a glass with a wide opening and put some water on it. Then get some fairly strong very thin paper; if you can get it, fine, thin linen paper will serve admirably, and cut it in pieces somewhat (but not too much) narrower and shorter than the average postage stamp. In placing stamps in your album, proceed as follows: Take the stamp in your left, the back up, and the gum brush, just a little moistened, in your right; then moisten a little part of the upper half of the back of your stamp and of the lower half of one of the little pieces of paper lying before you on the table. This will stick to your brush, and you will lift it, bringing it to the stamp so that the upper dry part of the paper covers the moist gummed spot of the stamps; press this slightly between thumb and forefinger of your left hand, relieving in the meantime the brush; place it with the moist part of the paper (hinge) down in your album, adjust it carefully and then press it slightly with the middle finger of your right hand. In this way you will be able to stick the stamps in your book quicker and easier than with the bent hinges, more accurately, and just as easily removed; and the work is done in a way that the least little handling will not show your stamps to one side or the other in disagreeable irregularity. Watermarks, if looked for at all, should be placed correctly at once, and in cases where it should be advisable to look on the full back of certain stamps, a very large hinge of the bent species can be used, well fastened along the whole upper edge of the stamp.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

*Class A*—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

*Class a*—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

*Class b*—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

*Class c*—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 48).

Messrs. BUHL & Co., November 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Afghanistan (1290), shahi brown on buff, penmark	1	1	0
b	(1293, tablet), shahi black, ditto	2	2	0
b	ditto, rupee black, ditto	1	12	0
a	Antigua, 1/- purple *	1	0	0
a b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf.	1	5	0
b	British East Africa, 4 rupees blue	1	1	0
b	British South Africa, £2 rose-red	1	5	0
a	£5 olive green, fiscally used	1	11	0
b	3d. on 5/- yellow	1	1	0
a	Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos brown	1	11	0
a	Canada, 6d. grey	1	0	0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. pale red, regummed *	4	15	0
a	Colombia (1862), 1 peso violet *	3	7	6
a	Congo, first issue, 5 francs violet *, two	each	1	0
b	Dutch Indies, Unpaid, 5c. yellow on white *	1	2	0
a	France, first issue, 20c. blue *	1	6	0
a	Great Britain, 10/- grey-green, cross	1	0	0
b	10/- grey-green, anchor	1	5	0
a b	10/- blue on blenté, "Specimen"	1	2	0
a	£5 orange	2	12	6
a	I.R. Official (1884), 1/- green	1	5	0
a	Hamburg, 7sch. orange, perf. *	1	4	0
b c	Hanover, 10gr. green, red gum stain *	1	6	0
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	1	3	0
b	10 dollars, rose, firm's initials perf.	1	9	0
b c	Mexico, Chiapas (1867) 2 reales black on rose, on entire	2	12	6
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	1	0
b c	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 13 *	1	1	0
a	1/- pale green, litho *	1	4	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate, 1, on bluish, pair	2	4	0
b	Orange Free State, 1d on 5/-, surcharge inverted	1	12	0
b	Peru, Local Provisionals, 1 sol. brown	2	6	0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star *	2	17	6
a	South Australia, 1/- orange, imperf., vert. pair	1	14	0
a	Spain (1855) 2 cuartos green, loops *	1	12	0
a b	(1856) 2 cuartos green, crossed lines *	1	1	0
b	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c.	1	6	0
b c	Tasmania, 1d. blue *	1	12	0
b	Trinidad (1d.) red on white, hor. perf. 15, vert. imperf., pair *	1	4	0
a	6d. green imperf.	1	10	0
a	1d. black in manuscript on 6d.	1	3	0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf.	1	4	0
b	10c. green, ditto *	2	10	0
b	(1856) 90c. blue *	3	3	0
a	Periodicals, 6 dollars *	1	4	0
A	ditto, 9 dollars *	1	18	0
a	ditto, 12 dollars *	2	4	0
a	ditto, 24 dollars *	3	5	0
A	ditto, 36 dollars *	3	15	0
b	ditto, 48 dollars, no perfs. at top *	3	5	0
b	ditto, 60 dollars, tiny stain *	5	0	0
b	Western Australia, 6d. green *	1	12	0
b	Wurtemberg, first issue, 18k. dull purple *	1	6	0
b	18k. blue, with thread	1	3	0
b	Zanzibar, 2½a. on 1½a.	1	0	0

Mr. HADLOW, November 9th, 1896.

b	Bremen, 10gr. black, perf.	1	14	0
a b	British Honduras, 2c. on 6d., perf. 12½	1	7	0
b	Canada, 12½c. blue, wmk.	1	0	0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Canada (1859), 1c. rose, imperf. *	1	6	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue	1	14	0
b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf.	8	0	0
b	Great Britain, 2/- brown	1	18	0
b c	ditto. . . . . £1 11s. od. and	1	12	0
a	2/- light blue *	1	10	0
b	Mauritius, Small Fillet, 2d. blue, late	1	1	0
b	Naples, ½t. blue, cross	3	7	6
b	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red *	7	12	6
a b	New South Wales, Laureated, 6d. brown, "Walls"	2	4	0
b	Nova Scotia, half 6d. dark green, on piece	1	4	0
b	6d. yellow-green	1	3	0
b c	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. green *	1	2	0
a	St. Helena, 6d. slate-blue, perf. 12½ x 14 *	1	10	0
b	Spain, Madrid, 3 cuartos bronze *	11	0	0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf.	1	12	0
a b	United States, (1869-1875), 10c. orange, no grill *	1	4	0

Mr. HADLOW, November 10th, 1896.

All stamps in this sale were on entires or large pieces.

a	Confederate States, Athens, 5c. purple, strip of 4, Reserve, £45.	45	0	0
b	France, 1 franc, orange, cut close	4	0	0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. medium, late	2	6	0
a	New Brunswick, half 6d. orange	2	5	0
a	6d. orange	3	15	0
b c	ditto, two copies, on one entire	6	0	0
A	Newfoundland, 4d. carmine-red	3	15	0
a	6d. orange	1	16	0
a b	Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green	£1 8s. od. and	1	9
b	half 6d. dark green	1	14	0
a	half 6d. yellow-green	2	12	6
b c	Queensland, 1/- puce. (long fiscal) heavy pmk	1	2	0
b	Spain, (1854) 2 cuartos green	1	2	0
A	United States, New York, 3c. blue, glazed paper	1	2	0
a	ditto, ditto, two others	each	0	18

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, Nov. 12th and 13th, 1896.

A	Afghanistan, (1288), abasi, black, pair *	1	0	0
A	(1291), ditto, pair *	2	0	0
A	ditto, ½ rupee, black, pair *	1	8	0
A	ditto, 1 rupee, black, pair *	2	2	0
A	(1292), sunar purple, pair *	1	16	0
a	ditto, abasi purple, pair *	1	14	0
a	ditto, abasi black, pair *	8	8	0
a b	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	0	0
a	1/- purple	1	0	0
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 12½ *	3	0	0
a	British Guiana, first issue, 8c., green, fine, cut seven sided, with good margins	31	0	0
b	(1853), 4c. blue, numerals framed	1	4	0
c	(1856), 4c. crimson, fine, but corners clipped, on piece	6	6	0
a b	66c. drab	£1 1s. od. and	1	2
a	Bulgaria, 5st. black on 30st. blue and orange	2	4	0
b	Canada, 7½d. green, cut close	1	14	0
b c	another, poorer, on entire	1	7	0
a	10d. blue, on thick paper	2	0	0
a b	10d. blue, on thin paper	£1 os. od. and	1	1
b	12d. black, fair copy, with Expert Committee's Report	22	0	0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- dark-green, pair	1	14	0
a	Ceylon, 9d. brown, no wmk.	0	16	0
a	10d. vermilion, imperf.	1	10	0
b c	Cordoba, 10c. black on laid, on piece	1	6	0
a	Dominica, 1/- lake, CC., perf., 14 *	0	19	0
c	1/- carmine, CA., rubbed	4	15	0
A	Fernando Poo, 50c. de p. on 5c. blue, surcharged inverted, strip of 3, on piece	5	15	0
b	Fiji, 6d. (12c.) rose, plain V.R.	1	0	0
b	2d. black on 3d. (6c.) green, plain V.R.	1	6	0
A	Gambia, 1/- green *	1	14	0
a	ditto, used	1	12	0
b	Gibraltar, first issue, 6d. lilac	1	0	0
a	ditto, 1/- brown	2	6	0
b	Great Britain, V.R. black, full gum, but not fine *	12	5	0
b c	1½d. lilac-rose on bluish.	1	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICE REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Great Britain, 2d. blue, no lines * ..	4 0 0
a	2½d. lilac-rose, plate 3, orb * ..	1 3 0
A	1/- salmon, plate 13, spray * ..	1 7 0
b	2/- brown £1 7s. od., £1 15s. od., £1 15s. od. and	1 18 0
a b	10/- grey-green, cross, o.g., but not mint * ..	21 0 0
a	£5 orange on bluish, "Specimen" ..	1 10 0
a	I.R. Official, 5/- rose, Accounts cancel ..	2 8 0
a	ditto, 10/- blue, postally used ..	3 10 0
a b	Grenada, 1/- blue and purple, error SHILLING ..	3 5 0
b	Hanover, 18gr. green, fine margins, gum stained ..	2 8 0
b	ditto, not such margins, ditto ..	1 5 0
A	India, 2s. black on short lilac, pair * ..	2 10 0
a	Japan, 1s. brown, twigs crossed, pair ..	1 7 0
b c	4s. brown, used, on entire post card ..	1 5 0
a	Labuan, 2c. on 16c., blue (rare type) ..	1 15 0
b	Mauritius, Small Fille, 2d. blue, cut close ..	0 19 0
a	Mexico, ¾r. black on brown, Gothic surcharge ..	1 15 0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. ..	1 0 0
a	4d. blue, CA. ..	3 0 0
b	Naples, ¾t. blue, cross ..	3 3 0
b	50g. lake ..	1 14 0
b	Natal, 1/- buff, 32 x 27mm) on piece ..	6 6 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	0 18 0
a b	4d. rose ..	1 12 0
A	4d. blue, CA. * ..	1 12 0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 ..	1 2 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow .. £1 18s. od. and	2 0 0
b c	ditto, cut very close ..	1 10 0
b c	1/- violet, good colour, but cut close £7 15s. od. and	8 5 0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. orange ..	1 1 0
b c	1/- orange, cut close ..	5 5 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1 ..	1 0 0
A	ditto, 1d., plate 2 .. £2 os. od. and	2 5 0
a	ditto, ditto ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, ditto .. 17/- 17/- and	0 9 0
a b	ditto, ditto, pair, side margin ..	2 5 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2 (?) ..	4 4 0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d., dark green ..	1 10 0
b c	1/- violet, cut close ..	8 0 0
a b	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf., pair on entire ..	2 12 6
A	1/- dull violet, no wmk., perf. 12, vert. pair * ..	2 2 0
a	(1875) 2/6 scarlet, pair * ..	2 2 0
A	ditto, 5/- fawn, pair * ..	2 10 0
a b	ditto, 10/- brown, pair * ..	3 10 0
a	ditto, 20/- rose, pair, very badly centred * ..	2 6 0
a b c	ditto, ditto, block of six ditto * ..	4 12 6
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	2 8 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA. ..	2 10 0
b c	1/- black and orange, a few perfs. clipped, otherwise fine * ..	3 0 0
a	ditto, used ..	3 7 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange-yellow ..	1 7 0
b	4d. dark blue, star, perfd. in badly * ..	2 2 0
a	4d. on 1/- vermilion ..	10 10 0
A	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12 ..	1 5 0
b	Shanghai, 1 cand. on 9 cand. blue * ..	1 18 0
b	South Australia, 6d. grey-lilac, perf. and roull. showing at bottom ..	1 10 0
a	Spain (1850), 10r. green * ..	4 4 0
a b	(1852), 2r. red ..	12 10 0
c	(1853), 2r. red, pinhole ..	6 10 0
b	(1854), 2 cuartos green ..	1 2 0
a	Switzerland, Vaud, 5c. ..	1 12 0
b	Winterthur, 2½r. ..	2 4 0
a	Zurich, 6r. hor. lines ..	1 4 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	0 17 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. carmine, wmk 2, penmark ..	1 10 0
A	Tobago, 4d. green, CA. * ..	1 5 0
a	Trinidad, 4d. grey-lilac, imperf. * ..	0 18 0
a	1/- indigo, imperf., pair ..	2 4 0
a	1d. grey-blue, litho. ..	1 14 0
a	1/- indigo, rough perf. about 15 ..	1 7 0
b	ditto ..	1 1 0
b	1/- purple blue, clean vert. perfs. ..	1 5 0
a b	1/- bright mauve, no wmk., perf. 13 ..	1 9 0
A	1/- bright purple, CC., perf. 12½ * ..	1 10 0
A	1/- orange yellow, ditto, ditto * ..	1 3 0
A	5/- dull lake, ditto, ditto * ..	1 2 0
a	Turks Islands, ¾d. on 1d. red (type 3) * ..	0 19 0
a	¾d. on 4d. grey ..	3 15 0
a	2½d. on 1/- prune (type 4) * ..	2 6 0
a	2½d. on 1/- dull blue (type 6) * ..	10 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICE REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. (type 1) * ..	1 9 0
a	¾d. on 1d. red (type 8) * ..	1 14 0
a	4d. on 1/- prune (type 6) * ..	3 12 0
a	4d. blue * ..	1 8 0
c	Tuscany, 6c. brown-red, slight neck ..	7 15 0
a	United States (1856), 90c. blue, penmark ..	2 10 0
b	(1869), 60c., badly centred ..	1 10 0
a	(1869-1873), 15c., no grill ..	2 17 6
a b	Victoria, Queen on Lion, 2½r. lbs. brown, engraved, block of 15, no gum * ..	19 0 0
c	Laurated, 6d. blue, wmk. 2 (Tasmanian type), cracked ..	5 5 0
a	Toi Lili ..	1 2 0
b	ditto ..	1 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12 ..	0 18 0
a b	1/- crimson, single line * ..	2 12 6
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	1 12 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, with thread ..	1 0 0
a	70k. violet ..	3 15 0
a b	70k. rose-lilac ..	2 15 0

Mr. HADLOW, November 16th and 17th, 1896.

a	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf. ..	10 10 0
b	8d. brown ditto, cut close ..	4 0 0
b c	9d. violet-brown ditto, on piece ..	1 12 0
b	10d. vermilion ditto * ..	2 0 0
b c	ditto, cut close * ..	1 6 0
a	1/9 green, ditto * ..	2 10 0
b	ditto, used ..	2 0 0
a	2/- blue, ditto ..	3 15 0
b	4d. rose, star, perf. * .. £1 2s. od. and	1 6 0
b	ditto, used ..	1 0 0
a b	8d. brown * ..	5 10 0
b c	ditto, used, heavy pmk. ..	2 2 0
b c	8d. yellow-brown, perfs., cut at bottom * ..	4 0 0
a	2/- blue * ..	1 9 0
b	5d. red-brown, no wmk. ..	1 8 0
a	6d. brown * ..	2 4 0
a	7d. emerald, CC. * ..	1 10 0
b	5d. brown ..	1 2 0
b	2 rupees 50c. * ..	4 0 0
b	ditto, used ..	2 17 6
a b	India, ¾r. red * ..	5 0 0
b	2s. green * ..	2 0 0
b c	Sarawak, 10c. Black on lilac ..	1 6 0
a b	ditto, 2s. green on long lilac * ..	2 0 0
c	ditto, 4s. ditto, 4r. but pin holes * ..	3 15 0
c	ditto, 8s. ditto, ditto, ditto * ..	6 0 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1 on yellowish ..	1 2 0
a b	ditto, ditto, on bluish ..	1 4 0
3b	ditto, 1d., plate 2, on bluish, vert. strip of 4 ..	4 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto, ditto, single .. £1 2s. od. and	1 10 0
b	ditto, ditto, ditto, pair ..	1 18 0
b	ditto, ditto, on laid, pair ..	1 14 0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 1, two .. each	1 4 0
a	ditto, 2d. plate 1, retouch, on piece ..	1 8 0
b c	Laurated, 8d. orange ..	1 4 0
a	New Zealand, 2d. blue on white, star * ..	2 12 0
b	2d. blue on blue, no wmk. * ..	1 6 0
a	1d. vermilion, pelure, imperf. ..	1 12 0
b	6d. black-brown, pelure, perf. * ..	3 9 0
a	6d. red-brown, perf., N.Z. wmk. * ..	4 12 6
a	4d. rose * ..	1 10 0
b	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. * ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, used ..	1 8 0

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	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<b>British East Africa, on English, ½ anna on rd.*</b> ..	0	11	0	<b>On Indian, 2 rupees on entire</b> ..	0	13	6
4 anna on 5d. ..	1	12	6	<b>Indian Stamps surcharged Zanzibar.</b>			
½ anna, 1 anna and 4 annas (complete set on part of original) ..	4	17	6	2½ in carmine on 1 anna 6 pies bistre *	0	13	6
<b>Company Issue, 8 annas, grey *</b> ..	0	17	6	½ anna green ..	0	1	3
8 " " used ..	0	18	0	1 " purple brown ..	0	1	9
1 rupee " " ..	0	18	6	1 " 6 pies bistre * ..	0	1	3
1 " " used ..	1	1	0	2 annas blue * ..	0	2	9
½ anna manuscript on 3 annas black on red	1	15	0	2 " 6 pies green ..	0	3	0
½ " " on 2 " vermilion	2	0	0	3 " orange * ..	0	2	6
<b>Company Issue surcharged British East Africa.</b>				4 " olive * ..	0	2	9
3 annas, black on red brown * ..	0	6	9	½ " 6 pies, 2a., 4a., and 12a., used together	0	19	0
4 " brown * ..	0	5	9	2½ on 1 anna purple-brown * ..	0	13	6
4 " " pair * ..	0	12	0	ditto used ..	0	13	6
8 " blue * ..	0	10	6	2½ in red on 2 annas blue ..	1	16	0
1 rupee, carmine* ..	0	13	6	<b>Current B.E.A., surcharged Zanzibar.</b>			
3 " purple * ..	1	9	0	½ anna green * ..	0	13	6
4 " blue * ..	1	12	6	1 " rose * ..	0	9	0
4 " blue, pair used superb ..	2	18	6	2½ annas deep blue and red ..	0	18	0
2½d. in red on ¼d., violet, superb used, exceedingly scarce.. ..	3	10	0	4½ " orange * ..	0	13	6
				5 " brown * ..	0	13	6
				7½ " mauve * ..	0	13	6

We have a very fine Stock of all Issues, used and unused, of B.C.A. and B.S.A.; also B.S.A. on Cape.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
**Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
**47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,**  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.**  
 A SPECIALITY.

The NEXT SALE takes place on 14th DECEMBER and will contain many Fine Stamps; to be followed by SALES on JANUARY 5th and 6th, when A VERY FINE COLLECTION will be offered, including:

France, Empire, 1 franc, superb unused pair. Great Britain, very fine lot of unused, in large blocks. Naples,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, cross, and 50 grani, Oldenburg, very fine lot. Saxony, 10gr., unused. Spain, 1851, 2 reales (2 fine copies); and 1853, 2 reales, unused. Switzerland, Vaud, 4c., and several other fine Cantons. Wurtemberg, 18kr., with thread, unused; 70kr., and others. Cashmere, 1st issue, unused, blocks of 7 of  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna black, and 4 annas blue. Ceylon, 8d., 9d., 1/9, and 2/-, imperf. India, 1st issue, 4 annas, unused, &c. British East Africa, complete set, surcharged on Company's stamps. Cape wood blocks, very fine. Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., very fine, and others. Canada, imperf., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (3 very fine); a superb unused copy of the 12d. black; 6d., perf., very fine, superb; and 3d. on laid, unused. New Brunswick, 3d., pair and single, unused; 6d. and 1/-; and the Connell stamp, superb. Newfoundland, a magnificent lot including 2d., 4d., 6d., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2), 8d., and 1/- carmine-vermilion; and 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- orange-vermilion. United States, Periodicals, complete, &c. Barbados, imperf., 4d., on white paper, used. Montserrat, CA., 4d. blue. St. Christopher, CA., 4d. blue, unused. St. Lucia, 1st issue, 1d., 4d., and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, in mint state; CA., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Trinidad, pin perf., 1d., 4d. and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, and clear cut perf.; 1d. block of 4, all in mint state; superb lithographs, imperf., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Virgin Islands, perf. 15, 6d. rose and 1/- carmine, wmk. CC., 1d. green (1st type), complete sheet of 24, &c., British Honduras, 6d. yellow and 1/- grey. Nevis, very fine lot, including CA., 6d. green. New South Wales, very fine Sydney Views, &c. Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., fine background; 6d. orange; 5/- blue on yellow; Too Late stamp, unused, and others. South Australia, 1d., imperf., fine pair. Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. and 6d., very fine, &c., and many other rare Stamps.

When possible Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** issue their Catalogues one month in advance, in order to circulate in America and on the Continent.

LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London.**  
 ESTABLISHED 1794.

**THOS. RIDPATH & CO.,**  
**STAMP IMPORTERS,**  
 12, CHURCH STREET,  
**LIVERPOOL.**

Stamps Bought, Sold & Exchanged

Specialities in RARE STAMPS,  
 ENTIRE ENVELOPES and POSTCARDS.

Finest Stock of Postcards  
 IN THE WORLD.

**APPROVAL SHEETS**

Against Cash Deposit or Satisfactory References.

**WANTED** and Good Prices given for all kinds of **RARE**

**STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS.**

Also United States, Common Colonials, Central and South American in Quantities.

To the Colonies. Stamps, Cash or Goods of any kind sent in Exchange. [1]

**SPECIAL OFFERS IN USED SETS.**

All Stamps in first-class condition and guaranteed genuine.

Argentine, 1889-90, fine set of 10 .. .. .	6d.	3	12
Bermuda, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- .. .. .	4/	10/	35/
British South Africa, obsolete set, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8d. and 1/-, very scarce .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	17/6	—	—
Gambia, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., only fine copies .. .. .	1/6	4/	15/
Great Britain, 1d. black, 1d., imperf., 2d. blue, no lines, 2d. blue, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	2/6	6/	22/6
.. 2/6, 5/- and 10/-, light pmkd. copies .. .. .	2/	5/9	—
.. 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, ditto .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Lagos, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., picked specimens .. .. .	1/6	4/	—
Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 4d. and 1/-, ditto .. .. .	1/6	3/6	—
Niger Coast Provisionals, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	12/	—	—
Niger Coast, 2nd issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	3/6	9/6	—
Oil Rivers, 1st issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	10/	—	—
Queensland, $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	1/3	3/3	—
St. Christopher, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 4d., very scarce .. .. .	5/6	14/6	—
Sierra Leone, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/- (obsolete), very scarce .. .. .	4/6	12/	—

Large Illustrated Price List of Packets, Sets, and Single Stamps will be published on 31st October. Copy sent Post Free to any address on application.

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 52, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.** [7]

Doings of Societies.

CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Session 1896-7.

President.

Mr. Harry Hückes and Mr. John J. Lane.

Hon. J. Lane and Mr. C. Forbes.

Hon. Treasurer and Secretary.

Mr. J. J. Jordan.

Committee.

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ... H. F. ... N. Z. ... G. ...

Hon. Secretary.

Mr. C. Forbes, 44, Strand, R. L. B., London, E.

The fifth meeting of the Season was held at Kenman's Hotel, Grosvenor Court, Chelsea, S. E. C. on Monday, November 10th. Members present: Messrs. H. Hückes, C. Forbes, J. J. Jordan, Theo. Philp, H. Thompson, L. B. ...

The following gentlemen were elected members: Messrs. W. Brown, G. ... L. E. ... A. W. ... J. ... and J. J. ...

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 14th, when a Paper on ... will be given by W. Mayhew.

Further Meetings have been arranged as follows:

Jan. 11th. Paper: English. H. Hückes, Esq. 25th. Twelfth Auction Sale.

Future dates will be published in the coming How. Lane's Reports.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 'The Street Collector's Fortnightly,' 'The Philatelic Review,' 'The Philatelic Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's and Artist's Monthly Organ.'

From Germany: 'Der Philatelic Brief,' 'Der Philatelic Anzeiger,' and 'General Anzeiger für Philatelie.'

From Italy: 'Revista Filatelica.'

From the United States: 'The American Philatelic Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's Journal,' 'The Philatelic Review,' 'The Philatelic Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's and Artist's Monthly Organ.'

From Sweden: 'Filatelliska Nyheter.'

All books and papers received will be on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of journals, books, and papers on philately, be kind to send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 44, Strand, London, E. W. I. Thanking the publishers for the same.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 14th, at 8 o'clock.

Every Philatelic Member desiring to take advantage of the special rates for stamps arranged for the benefit of the Club, should apply to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Jordan, 44, Strand, London, E. W. I.

Applications for membership and communications with reference to the Club should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 44, Strand, London, E. W. I.

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to sent to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, 44, Strand, London, E. W. I.

The Annual Subscription for the Club for 1896-7 is now open. London and Foreign stamps and literature are included in the subscription. The price is 10s. 6d. per annum in advance.

A Special Meeting of the Club will be held on Monday, December 14th, at 8 o'clock.

LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Liverpool Philatelic Society was held on Monday, November 10th, at the Liverpool Club. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Jordan. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

EDINBURGH & LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Edinburgh & Leith Philatelic Society was held on Monday, November 10th, at the Edinburgh Club. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Jordan.

The meeting was held at the Edinburgh Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

An interesting paper on the 'Scottish Postage' was read by Mr. J. J. Jordan. The paper dealt with the history of the Scottish Postage from the time of the Reformation to the present day.

The meeting was held at the Edinburgh Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Cambridge University Philatelic Society was held on Monday, November 10th, at the Cambridge Club. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Jordan.

The meeting was held at the Cambridge Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

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The meeting was held at the Cambridge Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

Several large Papers, of a total value of £250, were exhibited, from which the following were purchased: 'The Philatelic Review,' 'The Philatelic Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's Journal,' 'The Philatelic Collector's and Artist's Monthly Organ.'

The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

A vote of thanks to the President for the meeting was passed.

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Monday, December 14th, at 8 o'clock. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

The meeting was held at the Cambridge Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

The meeting was held at the Cambridge Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Sheffield Philatelic Society was held on Monday, November 10th, at the Sheffield Club. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Jordan.

The meeting was held at the Sheffield Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

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The meeting was held at the Sheffield Club. The following gentlemen were present: Messrs. J. J. Jordan, W. Mayhew, Theo. Philp, D. T. N. ...

ASHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Ashton Philatelic Society was held on Monday, November 10th, at the Ashton Club. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. J. Jordan.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
**Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
**47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,**  
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**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS.**  
**A SPECIALITY.**

The NEXT SALE takes place on 14th DECEMBER and will contain many fine Stamps; to be followed by SALES on JANUARY 5th and 6th, when A VERY FINE COLLECTION will be offered, including:  
 France, Empire, 1 franc, superb unused pair. Great Britain, very fine lot of unused, in large blocks. Naples,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornese, cross, and 50 grani, Oldenburg, very fine lot. Saxony, 10gr., unused. Spain, 1851, 2 reales (2 fine copies); and 1853, 2 reales, unused. Switzerland, Vaud, 4c., and several other fine Cantonals. Wurtemberg, 18kr., with thread, unused; 70kr., and others. Cashmere, 1st issue, unused, blocks of 7 of  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna black, and 4 annas blue. Ceylon, 8d., 9d., 1/9, and 2/-, imperf. India, 1st issue, 4 annas, unused, &c. British East Africa, complete set, surcharged on Company's stamps. Cape wood blocks, very fine. Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., very fine, unused. Canada, imperf., 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (3 very fine); a superb unused copy of the 12d. black; 6d., perf., very fine, superb; and 3d. on laid, unused. New Brunswick, 3d., pair and single, unused; 5d. and 1/-; and the Connell stamp, superb. Newfoundland, a magnificent lot including 2d., 4d., 6d., 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (2), 8d., and 1/- carmine-vermilion; and 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1/- orange-vermilion. United States, Periodicals, complete, &c. Barbados, imperf., 4d., on white paper, used. Montserrat, CA., 4d. blue. St. Christopher, CA., 4d. blue, unused. St. Lucia, 1st issue, 1d., 4d., and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, in mint state; CA., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Trinidad, pin perf., 1d., 4d. and 6d., block of 4 and pair of each, and clear cut perf.; 1d. block of 4, all in mint state; superb lithographs, imperf., 6d. and 1/-, &c. Virgin Islands, perf. 1s, 6d. rose and 1/- carmine, wmk. CC., 1d. green (1st type), complete sheet of 24, &c., British Honduras, 6d. yellow and 1/- grey. Nevis, very fine lot, including CA., 6d. green. New South Wales, very fine Sydney Views, &c. Victoria, 1st issue, 2d., fine background; 6d. orange; 5/- blue on yellow; Too Late stamp, unused, and others. South Australia, 1d., imperf., fine pair. Western Australia, 1st issue, 2d. and 6d., very fine, &c., and many other rare Stamps.

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FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

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 ESTABLISHED 1794.

**THOS. RIDPATH & CO.,**  
**STAMP IMPORTERS,**  
 12, CHURCH STREET,  
**LIVERPOOL.**

**Stamps Bought, Sold & Exchanged**  
 Specialities in RARE STAMPS,  
 ENTIRE ENVELOPES and POSTCARDS.  
**Finest Stock of Postcards**  
 IN THE WORLD.

**APPROVAL SHEETS**  
 Against Cash Deposit or Satisfactory References.

**WANTED** and Good Prices given for all kinds of **RARE**  
**STAMPS AND COLLECTIONS.**  
 Also United States, Common Colonials, Central  
 and South American in Quantities.

To the Colonies. Stamps, Cash or Goods of any kind  
 sent in Exchange.

**SPECIAL OFFERS IN USED SETS.**

*All Stamps in first-class condition and guaranteed genuine.*

Argentine, 1889-90, fine set of 10 .. .. .	6d.	3	12
Bermuda, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d., 2d., 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- .. .. .	4/	10/	35/
British South Africa, obsolete set, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8d. and 1/-, very scarce .. .. .	6/	17/	—
Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 1, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	17/6	—	—
Gambia, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., only fine copies ..	1/6	4/	15/
Great Britain, 1d. black, 1d. imperf., 2d. blue, no lines, 2d. blue, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, fine .. .. .	2/6	6/	2-7/6
.. .. .	2/6	5/	5/9
.. .. .	2/6	5/	10/- and 20/-, ditto
Lagos, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., picked specimens ..	1/6	4/	—
Malta, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 4d. and 1/-, ditto .. .. .	1/6	3/6	—
Niger Coast Provisionals, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	1/6	—	—
Niger Coast, 2nd issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 5d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	3/6	—	—
Oil Rivers, 1st issue, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 4d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	10/	—	—
Queensland, $\frac{1}{2}$ , $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1, 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/-, picked specimens .. .. .	1/3	—	—
St. Christopher, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 4d., very scarce ..	5/6	12/6	—
Sierra Leone, $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 2, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 3, 4, 6d. and 1/- (obsolete), very scarce .. .. .	4/6	12/	—

Large Illustrated Price List of Packets, Sets, and Single Stamps  
 will be published on 31st October. Copy sent Post Free to any  
 address on application.

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 22, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.**

## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1896-1897

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Committee:*

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, & H. Atharley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE fifth meeting of the Season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C., on Monday, Nov. 30th. Members present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, J. E. Joselin, Theo. Buhl, H. Thompson, F. B. Carr, H. Atharley, John B. Camaschella, F. Vandembroucq, W. Brown, H. W. Plumridge, N. Z. Dracachis, and three visitors, when our Eleventh Auction Sale was held.

The following gentlemen were also elected members: Messrs. W. Brown (Canonbury), F. E. Empson (Birmingham), A. W. Hounson (London), and J. J. Barclay (London).

The next meeting will be held on **Monday, December 14th**, when a Paper, on "British Colonial Revenue Stamps," and display of same will be given by W. Morley, Esq.

Further Meetings have been arranged as follows:—

**Jan. 11th.—Paper: English. H. Hilckes, Esq.**

**„ 25th.—Twelfth Auction Sale.**

Future dates will be published in due course.

#### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp Collector's Journal*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *Monthly Offers*.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, *Union*, and *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*.

From Italy: *Roma Filatelico*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Post Office*, *The Buckeye State Philatelist*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The Home Worker* (July to November), *The American Collector*, *Filatelie Facts & Fancies*, *The International Philatelist*.

From Sorocaba: *O Coleccionador de Sellos*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

#### EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

**RARETY PACKET.** All the Members of the lost packet having at last agreed, the recovered stamps (177 in number), are being prepared by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson for sale. Date will be advised as soon as fixed by them. A new packet will be started on its rounds as soon as 12 Members have sent sheets.

#### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should

be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

#### LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

AT the meeting on Monday, the 23rd Nov., there was a strong attendance of members who warmly took part in a discussion on "Used v. Unused Stamps." On a vote being taken, the Unused had a majority of one. The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. F. B. Bradbury and W. C. Taylor for their interesting papers which opened the discussion.—ORFORD H. CECIL, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 40, Shrewsbury Road, Oxton, Birkenhead.

#### EDINBURGH & LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fortnightly meeting of this society was held at 34, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, on Nov. 16th. The President, Mr. Fish, took the chair.

Mr. Schnefel read an exhaustive paper on the stamps of Belgium, and showed his collection of these stamps. He called particular attention to the cancellations of the first issue, which are similar in design and as interesting as the English, and London office cancellations of 1841.

An interesting letter from Mr. Sent was read, in which he stated that the zig-zag cross-bar cancellation, so common on most modern Belgian Stamps, was used in the Savings Bank Department only. On the motion of Mr. Smail the thanks of the society were awarded to Mr. Schnefel for his paper.

The usual fortnightly meeting was held at 34, Frederick Street, Edinburgh, on the evening of 1st December. The president, Mr. Fish, in the chair.

The November exchange packet was returned and settled.

The business for the meeting was a display of postcards. Mr. Smail showed his collection of various countries, mostly unused, including Holland, Spain, Heligoland, Russia, and a variety of British Colonials.

Mr. Kerr showed the postcards of Great Britain, complete, unused.

Mr. Fish showed a part of his extensive collection, including a fine variety of Argentine, Austria, and various South African Countries. The exhibition of the remainder was postponed till next meeting, which will be held on 14th December.—J. MACKAY, Hon. Sec.

#### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE eighteenth meeting of the Society, and first of the October term, was held in the rooms of Mr. E. W. Lee, on Friday, October 23rd, when five members were present.

Messrs. Porter, Maxwell and Brownscombe, the two latter of whom were present as visitors, were proposed for membership.

The second annual general meeting was held in the rooms of the President (Oscar Browning, Esq., M.A.) on Friday, November 3rd, when six members were present. The election of Messrs. Porter, Maxwell and Brownscombe was confirmed, and Mr. Hugh Gladstone was proposed for membership.

The Hon. Sec. read a statement of the proceedings of the society during the previous year, stating that there had been 22 members elected during this period, 14 of whom continue their membership. The Hon. Treasurer and the members of the Committee had resigned their offices in consequence of leaving the University.

Seven Exchange Packets, of a total value of £278 11s. 8d., had been circulated, from which the gross sales amounted to £42 5s. 6d.

The following officers were unanimously elected: *President*, Mr. Oscar Browning, M.A.; *Vice-President*, Mr. L. H. Walter; *Hon. Treasurer*, Mr. G. V. Maxwell; *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. H. D. Catling, B.A.; *Committee*, Mr. G. S. Davis and Mr. E. Griffiths.

A vote of thanks to the President for the use of his rooms concluded the meeting.

The twentieth meeting of the society was held in the rooms of Mr. E. Griffiths on Friday, Nov. 6th, when nine members were present. The chair was taken by the Vice-President. The election of Mr. Hugh Gladstone was confirmed. Mr. Davis agreed to prepare a paper on the British Colonies in South Africa, to be read before the Society on Nov. 27th.

At the twenty-first meeting, held in the rooms of the Hon. Sec., on Friday, Nov. 13th, the Hon. Sec. exhibited his collection of English, and gave some notes thereon.

In consequence of there being insufficient members present to form a quorum, no meeting was held on Friday, Nov. 20th.

#### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE third ordinary meeting was held Wednesday, November 3th, at the Albany Hotel. The President, Mr. J. H. Chapman, was supported by a good muster of members. After the general business had been transacted a general discussion took place on the forthcoming debate on Reprints, to be held Dec. 2nd. Finally Mr. Hunt kindly promised to take the affirmative side, and Mr. Sneath the negative side. The remainder of the evening was enjoyably spent by members exchanging their duplicates, and several lots were auctioned off, but not without keen competition. JAMES BRAMH, Hon. Secretary, 115, Gell Street, Sheffield.

At the fourth meeting, held Nov. 18th, at the Rutland Institute, Mr. J. H. Chapman, president, read his paper on "The Postage Stamps of Roumania." In the course of his remarks, Mr. Chapman showed that the stamps of this country were worthy of study, both by the beginner as well as by the advanced collector, and that although some of the earlier issues of the stamps are very rare, still, with a little perseverance, the collector could soon form a very complete collection. The lecturer proceeded to point out the difference between the stamps printed in Roumania and similar stamps printed in Paris, the latter being very fine specimens of the printers' art. He then went very minutely into the varieties of paper used in the manufacture of the stamps, and also into the different gauges of perforations, and the various watermarks. Some of these latter were embossed on the stamps, and not wove into the paper, as is the case with our English stamps. Mr. Chapman exhibited a large selection of stamps, illustrating all the varieties of paper, watermarks, &c., which enabled the members to readily follow the lecturer's remarks. At the conclusion of the paper Mr. Chapman exhibited his grand collection of the stamps of Roumania. These comprised nearly 400 varieties, and with the exception of a few of the earliest issues (before Moldavia and Wallachia were formed into a kingdom), his collection was complete.

#### ASHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

For November packets, members sent in 36 sheets value £128 13s. 11d. Sheets were divided into 2 packets and sent out for circulation on November 9th. Three new members joined last month, viz. Mr. Guy Hutson,

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY  
**MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

**At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.**

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

December 15th, 16th and 30th. 1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

December 15th and 16th. **A VERY FINE SELECTION OF WEST INDIAN STAMPS, AND OTHER COUNTRIES,** including the following Rarities:

BARBADOS, 1d. on half 5s., a fine pair, with two varieties of 7, and a single specimen, unused, 5s. rose. BRITISH GUIANA, first issue, circular, 12c., unused and cut round; 1851, 1 and 4c.; 1856, 4c. black on magenta, 3 specimens on entires, and a single cut square; 1853, 1c. vermilion, 2 fine blocks of 4; 1863, provisionals, 1c. (2 varieties), 2c. and 4c.; 1889, 2c., with red surcharge inverted; a fine lot of DOMINICAN; NEVIS, practically complete, including a fine used specimen of the 6d., lithographed; ST. CHRISTOPHER, complete, including provisional 1d. on 6d., with double surcharge; ST. LUCIA, 1s. black and orange unused, with gum, and fine fiscal postals; TOBAGO, a fine lot of provisionals, including 8 1/2d. on 6d. orange-brown, used on entire envelope; ST. VINCENT, a fine series; TRINIDAD, 1s. indigo-blue, perforated and unused, and several fine lithographed (blue); OLDENBURG, nearly complete; WURTEMBERG, fine unused; NAPLES, 1/2 tornese blue, and the 50 grana lake (unused, with gum); SPAIN, 1851, 2 reales, fine; SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 3d. in red on 4d., unused; SYDNEY VIEWS; sheets of early VIRGIN ISLANDS; made-up plates of NEVIS; early WESTERN AUSTRALIANS; VICTORIA, 5s. blue on yellow, superb specimens; INDIA, long service stamps; NOVA SCOTIA, 6d. dark green, unused and fine; NEWFOUNDLAND, 4d. orange, with fine margins; a fine lot of unused UNITED STATES; CANADA, 7 1/2d. green (fine); CAPE WOODBLOCKS; early MAURITIUS; and fine lot of unused ENGLISH; and many others.

December 30th.—A Fine Selection of Rare British, Foreign, and Colonial Postage Stamps.

January 13th and 14th.—A Fine Collection, including a Grand Selection of North American Splits on Entires.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of collections and rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale.

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## Zanzibar Provisionals, 1896

I HAVE secured a limited number of the following rare Zanzibar Provisionals, which I can offer at the undermentioned prices.

Of the 4, 5, and 7 1/2 annas, only 1800 sets were printed, and probably only the same quantity of the lower values.

Of the 2 1/2 on 2 annas, only 1920 stamps were issued, of which there are 384 only of the large type.

The following are the prices NETT CASH IN ADVANCE. No exchange accepted.

**Surcharged Zanzibar on B.E.A. Protectorate.**

3/4 anna black and green	} Used or Unused ..	1 SET.	3 SETS.
1 " black and red		s. d.	s. d.
2 annas red and blue		35 0	80 0
4 1/2 annas black and orange	} Unused ..	40 0	90 0
5 " black and bistre			
7 1/2 " black and lilac			
The Set of 6 values ..		70 0	167 6
1 anna black and red ..		16 0	42 0
2 1/2 on 2 annas red and black on blue ..		21 0	80 0
Pair of 2 1/2 on 2 annas, large and small sur. severed		63 0	165 0
2 1/2 annas on 1 anna plum, used, two types..		35 0	90 0

These Prices are Strictly Nett. No Discount.

**F. F. EMPSON,** 45, REGENT PLACE, BIRMINGHAM.

## W. B. KIRKPATRICK, CLOSEBURN, . . BOURNEMOUTH.

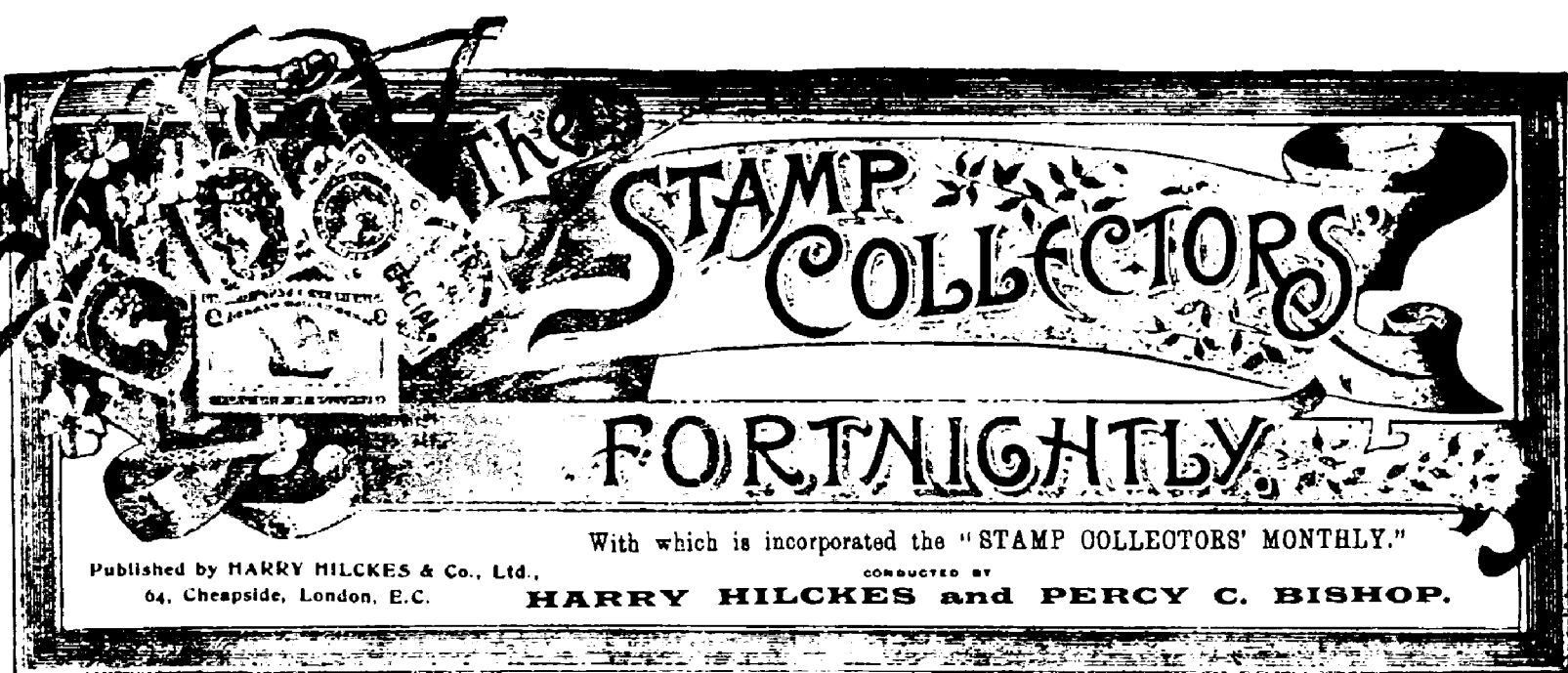
(Member F.F.U. Committee, City of London Philatelic Club, etc., etc.)

OFFERS THIS WEEK, £ s. d.

British South Africa, 2d. green, perf. 12 1/2, thick paper, unused ..	0 17 6
" " " " 4d. pale brown, perf. 12 1/2 ..	1 0 0
Gambia, 6d. blue, imp. CC., unused ..	1 10 0
" 6d. " perf. " " " ..	0 17 6
" 1/- green " " " " ..	2 10 0
Gold Coast, 3/4d. ochre " " " ..	0 4 6
" " 3/4d. " CA., used ..	0 10 0
" " 1d. blue " " " ..	0 15 0
Sierra Leone, 2d. magenta, CC., perf. 12 1/2 unused ..	0 17 6
" " 3d. yellow " " " ..	0 15 0
" " 4d. blue " " " ..	0 18 6
" " 1/- green " " " ..	1 5 0
" " 2d. magenta " perf. 14 " ..	0 4 0
" " 4d. blue " " " ..	1 10 0
" " 1/- green " " " ..	0 15 0
Barbados, 6d. orange, CC., perf. 12 1/2, used ..	0 15 0
" 4d. vermilion, CC. " " ..	0 6 0
" 4d. " " " unused ..	1 5 0
" 4d. carmine " perf. 14 " ..	1 1 0
" 4d. " " " pair ..	2 5 0
Montserrat, 2 1/2d. brown, CC. " unused ..	1 10 0
" 2 1/2d. " CA. " " ..	1 2 6
Grenada, 8d. brown, CA. " " ..	0 9 0
" 8d. " CA. " used ..	0 10 6
B. Honduras, 6d. carmine, CC., perf. 12 1/2, used ..	0 12 6
" 6d. " " " 14 " ..	1 5 0
" 6d. " " " 14 unused ..	4 0 0
Lagos, 1/- orange, CA., perf. 14, unused ..	0 5 0
Cyprus, 6p. drab, " " " die I. ..	0 6 0
" 6p. " " " " die II. ..	0 4 0
" 12p. orange, CA. " " " die I. ..	1 0 0
" 12p. " " " " die II. ..	0 15 0

Above are all fine copies.

**SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.**



With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1896.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## THE COLONIAL POST OFFICE SCANDAL.

GRAVE misconduct is charged against certain Government officials of Victoria, who are more than suspected of trafficking in the postage stamps of the Colony for their own pecuniary gain.

This is a matter of such high importance to philatelists that every scrap of intelligence concerning the same will be read with avidity. The *Australian Philatelist*, of October 26th, just to hand, thus comments upon the matter:

Despite the frantic exertions of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, I regret to say that quite a number of the recently reprinted Victorian stamps got out of the Postal Department without the word "Reprint" surcharged across the face of the stamps; said reprint being on V and Crown paper, are exact counterparts of the originals, except that they have a freshly-printed appearance. The following are the varieties I have seen:

- 1/6 blue, 1886 issue.
- 4d. and 1s., surcharged "Stamp Duty," 1885 issue.
- 9d. brown on rose, 1873 issue.
- 4d. grey, 1886 issue.

As the outcome of a second complaint on the above matter, made to the postal authorities by the Philatelic Society of Victoria, the Department determined to sift the matter to the bottom; and after many enquiries by "that fine body of men," the Victorian Detective Police, I learn that four Government officials, three of whom are in the Post Office Department, have been suspended from duty, and are to be called upon to appear before the Public Service Board, to

answer a charge of trafficking in stamps, &c. It is significant that one of the officials suspended is a member of the Philatelic Society of Victoria. This fact brings to my mind a piece of poetry that Mrs. V and Crown has hung up in the sitting-room, and which headed "Be careful what you say." Amongst other advice, it recommends people who live in homes of glass seldom to throw stones, and finishes with this advice: "Don't speak of others' faults until you have none of your own."

So far as the general Press is concerned, the following item in the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, of October 24th, is the latest piece of definite news we have received:

The Public Service Board has investigated the charge of trafficking in obsolete stamps preferred against Albert Coulson, formerly a postal official, but now in the Income Tax Department. Coulson admitted buying £15 worth of stamps and selling them at an advance on their face value. He said he did not think he was doing wrong. He had been a stamp collector for many years. The Board reserved its decision.

## NEW ZEALAND'S NEW DEPARTURE IN STAMPS.

The New Zealand Government, as constant readers of the "S.C.F." are aware, some time ago invited competitive designs for a series of pictorial postage stamps to represent the most striking landscape scenery and other features of the island colony. The designs came in, a selection was made, and the chosen designs now in London, to be presently placed in the engraver's hands. A glance at the sketches shows a variety of lakes, mountain peaks, geysers, hot pools, strange birds and trees. On the whole the artistic merit of the designs is more than respectable, and New Zealand should soon possess a really beautiful and characteristic issue. Loyalty at the Antipodes is too undoubted to make the disappearance of her Majesty's head from the public stamps of any bad significance. Indeed (remarks a writer in the *Scarborough Mercury*), it may well be doubted whether the effigies of the Queen put forth by more than one Colonial Post Office are not more libellous than loyal. In post-historic ages afar off a chance discovery of British and Colonial stamps of our day might lead to an ingenious reconstruction of Victoria, Queen and Empress, as a Deity wont to manifest itself in many places and in very different shapes and moods—a genial goddess in Canada, dull and impotent in New Zealand, sullen and solid in Victoria, young and fair in Queensland, without human attribute in New South Wales, and re-incarnated in the form of a divine swan in Australia.

### "THESE ARE THE ANTS THAT ATE THE STAMPS."

REUNION stamps are among the rarest, the *Golden Penny* tells its readers; and this is the fabled reason of their scarcity. Large remainders were lying in the Post Office, and would, in due course, have found their way into the market; but the white ants of the neighbourhood were attracted by the gum. So they entered and devoured the entire stock, and philatelists have been lamenting their voracity ever since.

Thus far the *Golden Penny*. All we wish to add is that the ants of Nova Scotia must be a pretty poor lot.

Mr. Webb's bright little journal, the *Australian Stamp Collector*, adds to this "an account of more recent developments." We give it in full, for to summarise it would be to crowd out interesting matter:

A well-known Melbourne collector, who was the possessor of a very fine collection of the postal stationery of the colony, became very anxious to add to his treasures, and being a personal friend of a late Victorian Premier, this gentleman's aid was solicited to try and obtain a few sets of the obsolete stamps of the colony which were known to be lying in the safe of the Postmaster-General's department. This wish being gratified, he no doubt considered that he could obtain further favours if he went about it systematically, and subsequent events showed that he wasn't far wrong.

In 1890, the large, rectangular 1/6 rose stamp was replaced by a neat design, of smaller size. These were printed in pale blue, of the same shade as the current 6d. After being in use a few months, the colour was altered to orange, in which tint it has been issued ever since. The 1/6 stamp is not a value that is much used by the public, and the colour being changed before dealers had a chance to lay in a stock of them, the blue variety soon went up in price. Within twelve months of their issue it is reported that an agent of Baron Rothschild paid £40 for a sheet of them which were only worth face value, £9. We are deeply sorry for the poor Baron, and regret he did not put his good "monish" in Panama Canal shares, or Buckley's Chance gold mines, instead of investing in wild-cat philately.

The collector before mentioned seems to have found no difficulty in getting about £60 worth of the 1/6 stamps reprinted in the obsolete colour, and while working at the blue, the obliging officials are stated to have put through a few sheets of the carmine 4d., '81 issue, for the "Stamp Duty" surcharge. Had this lucky individual kept the matter quiet, probably nothing would have been heard of it, but he offered some of the stamps to Melbourne collectors, and made no secret of the manner in which he had obtained them. The Philatelic Society had the subject under discussion, and waited on the Deputy Postmaster-General to protest against the reprinting business, and a promise was given that it shouldn't happen again. We believe they also wrote to other societies at home and abroad, warning them against the stamps and the person who procured them, but this does not appear to have had much effect, as the person who got them appears to have found no difficulty in disposing of his stock at satisfactory prices, and he recently returned to Victoria again. His appearance seems to have caused quite a flutter in the Melbourne philatelic dovecot, and the coincidental unearthing of sundry obsolete stamps in various quarters doubtless led some of the members of the Philatelic Societies to conclude that the Post-office department was being worked for another supply. The matter was mentioned to the Premier and some of the Ministers, who considered it serious enough to have it thoroughly investigated.

Perhaps it was rather unfortunate that the whole postal service of the colony is in bad odour just now, through the recent disclosures before mentioned, as the daily papers seem to have made things appear blacker than the facts justified. Moreover, as is generally the case when the average newspaper man starts out on philatelic subjects, the Melbourne scribes got a bit mixed over 1/6 greens, 4d. roses, and other things that even the pumpkin head of the agricultural editor failed to straighten out. One paper states that the Victorian postal department is "rotten wherever touched, and there ought to be no trifling over these scandals." We can endorse this sentiment, but unfortunately it will happen that the real culprits are the ones that will escape, for these things are not contrived and carried out by the boys who sweep the office.

Some time ago a regulation was made prohibiting post-office employees in Victoria from stamp-collecting. The prohibition should also be extended to the heads of the departments, some of whom appear to have been in the habit of overhauling the Post-office safes whenever their sisters, cousins and aunts desired certain rare stamps of the colony for their collections.

### A FORGERY FACTORY IN TASMANIA.

IN drawing attention to a dangerous forgery of the rare Tasmanian provisional, 2½d. on 9d. with double surcharge,

the *Australian Philatelist* says: "The original of this scarce error, of which only one sheet was ever printed officially, was in light blue, and of the first type of surcharge, with the 'd' close to the figure 2. It bore a second surcharge *inverted*, falling so irregularly on the sheet that in many instances the stamp bears a portion of two inverted surcharges, and rarely does it fall on the stamp so as to show the whole overprint." The forgery, it appears, consists of a genuine copy of the second type of surcharge, having an additional surcharged printed upside down. "This second surcharge (our contemporary goes on to say) differs from the original in several important particulars. (1)—The stroke at the top of the italic 'd' is curved instead of straight, as in the original. (2)—The 'd' of the fraction is perfect, that is with the sloping stroke at the top intact, in the original this stroke is worn away. And (3)—The printing is very faint as compared with the heavy black impression of the original."

The particular specimen of the forgery seen by the editor of the *Australian Philatelist* was used, and on entire envelope, which envelope bore the handwriting of a collector living at New Norfolk, Tasmania.

"We shall keep a sharp look-out," adds our Antipodean contemporary, "on the doings of this New Norfolk collector, and will not hesitate to fully expose him if further proofs can be obtained. He offers this stamp at the moderate (!) price of £1 5s. and as every sale he effects places him within the reach of the criminal law for obtaining money under false pretences, we trust that he will soon be brought to see the 'error' of his ways by means of a prosecution instituted by one of his victims."

### THE LATEST PHILATELIC "POME."

SOME easy editorial mendacity the *London Globe* has led *Moonshine*—cleverest of all the "comics," in the estimation of a great many people—to perpetrate the following stanzas:—

With emphasis fervent  
Forbade he his servant  
(On pain of dismissal) to lock up the plate;  
Nor his passionate yearnings  
That lights be left burning  
All night in his wine-cellar failed he to state.  
Ere he went to his slumbers,  
He sprinkled with numbers  
Of gems of great value his dressing-room floor:  
And he sighed, with a gurgle,  
"If burglars should burgle,  
They surely of booty will seek for no more!"  
Yet, despite his sagacious  
Precautions, the gracious  
Enchantment of Somnus was granted him not:  
And, his heart wildly throbbing  
With fear, he kept sobbing,  
"How sad is the wretched philatelist's lot!  
Will Bill Sikes (if, soft-creeping,  
He comes while I'm sleeping)  
Accept the inducements I've offered? *Not he!*  
With fanatical rapture  
He'll kill me to capture  
The Latest Rare Stamps 'neath my pillow that be!"

Mr. C. H. Nunn will have to bring out a new and very much enlarged edition of his "Garland of Philatelic Poetry" if this sort of thing continues.

### £10,000 IN CASH FOR A COLLECTION.

THE very extensive and fine collection of Mr. C. E.— was recently purchased by Mr. Jules Bernichon, the well-known Paris dealer, who paid £10,000 for it in cold cash. The collection contains English Colonies nearly complete, all unused and in finest conditions. Europe chiefly in pairs, blocks, and strips. Extremely fine are the collections of Lombardy, Venetia, France, England, and old German Duchies.

### A MORE-THAN-TWICE TOLD TALE.

It has often been asked why the German postage stamps do not bear the effigy of the Sovereign on them. Germany makes an exception to almost the general rule (remarks our most irreverent contemporary, *Modern Society*), because the King of Prussia, Frederic William IV., he who figured on the



stamps from 1850 to 1858, observed one day that his features were masked, obliterated, and defaced by the post office clerks, and he forbade them to have his portrait put on envelopes or stamps in future.

It is a story that has also been told of the Czars of Russia, and many other potentates, and its fascination (from an editor's point of view) consists in the fact that it is not likely to be contradicted by the parties chiefly interested.

\* \* \*

THE AUCKLAND Philatelic Society (New Zealand) has been wound up, the books and property distributed by ballot among the late members, and lists of defaulters are to be posted to all other societies throughout the world.—*Australian Stamp Collector*.

\* \* \*

THE EARL OF GLASGOW has become patron of the Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

\* \* \*

AS "AMERICAN" friend tells the *Australian Stamp Collector* that he saw the following written up on a post office way back in the States:—"The price of a 2c. stamp is two cents; licked and stuck, three cents. Any further information can be obtained from the Postmaster."

\* \* \*

IT has been rumoured that we may expect a new issue of Canada postage stamps, with new designs.—*New York Philatelist*.

\* \* \*

PHILATELY we have always with us, and it has long since passed from the fledgling state of a craze into the full-blown glory of a national institution. So says the *London Globe*.

\* \* \*

STRANGE philatelic items creep into the lay Press. The *Sunday Times* asserts that the wealthiest collector in the world is the Duc de Balliera. Who in thunder is the Duc de Balliera?

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DEC. 26th.

##### Auction Sales.

- Dec. 11th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely.  
 Dec. 15th and 16th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, at 5.30 p.m. each day.  
 Dec. 17th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely.  
 Dec. 18th.—The Philatelic Auction Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.  
 Dec. 21st and 22nd.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

### The Secret Marks of the Stamps of Oldenburg.

By the Author of the "Secret Marks of Switzerland."

(Continued from page 32).

If we now consider the guilloché double frame, we will notice that the network is extraordinarily fine. The meshes, which stand forth in colour, resembles dots of more or less regular shape and size. It is these meshes that we are about to study, calling them dots throughout the description.

In the stamps of 1-3 groschen, I notice that:

1st. Between the several letters of the word "Oldenburg," the coloured dots are arranged as follows:

a.—Between OL five small green dots, of which the lowest one is indeed by the side of the O, but not between O and L. (Frequently four dots only are visible.)

b.—Between LD two thick dots, the upper one being the thickest

c.—Between DE five very small dots; the three lowest ones stand close and exactly above one another. (There are often only two visible.) The two upper ones are a little farther apart.

d.—Between EN, two dots.

e.—Between NB, two dots.

f.—Between BU, five small dots which however, are not always all visible, because frequently the second dot, counting from the top downward, is missing.

g.—Between UR, two dots.

h.—Between RG, three dots, all situated high up between these letters. (Often only two can be seen.)

2nd.—In the same manner we can observe the dots between the letters of the values, inscribed upon the lower part of the frame.

a.—Between the letters of the word "Ein," there is no dot.

b.—In the word "Drittel," there is no dot between the three first letters; but between IT two dots are visible.

Between TT there are seven dots, but often five or six only are visible.

Among these there is one quite remarkable for its size.

Between TE there are two larger dots standing well up, and a much smaller one far below.

Between EL, two small dots, exactly in the middle, between the letters.

c.—Between GR there is no coloured dot to be seen; but a following period, thick and round, shows that the word is abbreviated.

3rd.—The network of the oval frame is so arranged that over the upper inscription, and under the lower one it allows a row of coloured dots to be seen. While the dots forming the upper row are drawn each in the shape of a half-circle, those of the lower row resemble small ovals, lying on their long side. The position and the shape of these dots vary according to the value, and may therefore be looked upon as excellent distinguishing marks for the future.

In order to lay a foundation for such observations, I will call the attention of my readers to the position of the dots under the G of the word "Oldenburg." Exactly under the foot of the letter G, which is flattened in its lower part, there is one of the green dots. If we now look at the one next to it on the right, we will notice that it would not be touched by a prolongation of the right lower point of this G.

#### II. 1-2 Groschen.

a.—Rouletted, small size, yellowish-red, reddish-yellow, dark reddish-yellow.

b.—Rouletted, large size, light yellowish-red.

1st.—The arrangement of the dots between the respective letters of the word "Oldenburg," is as follows:

a.—Between OL, three visible dots, of which the lowest one is situated away down.

b.—Between LD, two dots; the upper one is very large; sometimes high over this dot another one may be seen.

c.—Between DE, two dots, of which, however, the upper one is usually the only one visible.

d.—Between EN, two dots, of which, however, the upper one is usually the only one visible.

e.—Between NB, there is no dot.

f.—Between BU, two dots; the lower one being mostly very feeble.

g.—Between UR, there is no dot, or perhaps the slight trace of one.

h.—Between RG, two dots, of which, however, the upper one is usually the only one visible.

2d.—The arrangement of the dots among the letters in the lower inscription, indicating the value, "Ein Halber Gr., is as follows:

a.—Between the letters EIN there is no dot.

b.—Between HA, one dot is visible.

c.—Between AL, no dot is visible, or at the most only the faint trace of one.

d.—Between LB, three dots; two larger and one smaller one.

e.—Between the letters BER, there is no dot.

f.—Between GR, there is no dot.

In many of the specimens the dot-like meshes are very difficult to recognise; they are usually only indicated. This is especially the case with the light coloured stamps of the second impression.

3d.—The position of the yellowish-red dot under the G of the word "Oldenburg," is exactly the same as in the stamp of 1-3 groschen.

### III. 1 Groschen.

a.—Rouletted, small size, pale rose, rose, dark rose, red.

b.—Rouletted, large size, rose.

1st.—The arrangement of the dots in "Oldenburg" is as follows:

a.—Between OL, there are five dots.

b.—Between LD, there are five dots, among which one is remarkable for its size.

c.—Between DE, there are four dots; three near the top of the letters, and the fourth one away down.

d.—Between EN, there is one dot (sometimes one or two very tiny dots are visible over this one).

e.—Between the letters NBUR, there is no dot to be seen.

f.—Between RG there are four dots.

2nd.—The lower inscription: "Ein Groschen," is not followed by a period, as the last word is written in full and not abbreviated.

a.—Between the letters EIN, there is no dot.

b.—Here and there, between the letters of the "Groschen" dots are visible. They are in greater or less number, according to the greater or lesser degree of clearness of the stamp; but as, strange to say, the position of these dots varies in almost all stamps, they cannot be satisfactorily located. However, we may say that:

c.—Between OS, there is one dot, high up between these letters.

d.—Between EN, there are two dots, standing quite low down between these two letters.

3rd.—The red dot, which is situated under the G of the word "Oldenburg," is not this time situated exactly under the centre of that letter, but is a good deal farther to the left, so that the neighbouring dot on the right side is also in part under the G; at any rate, a prolongation of the right lower stroke of this G would cut this second dot in two.

### IV. 2 Groschen.

a.—Rouletted, small size, bright ultramarine blue, ultramarine blue, dark ultramarine blue.

b.—Rouletted, large size, ultramarine blue.

1st.—The arrangement of the dots in the word "Oldenburg," is as follows:

a.—Between OL there are five dots.

b.—Between the letters LD there are two large and several smaller dots (usually four or five).

c.—Between DE are two dots between the tops of these letters, and two dots between their feet; the lower one is very far downwards.

d.—Between EN there are two dots, one quite large and a very fine one.

e.—Between NB there are two dots.

f.—Between BT there are five quite fine dots, of which often only three or four are visible.

g.—Between UR there are two fine ones, of which the upper dot, usually, is the only one visible.

h.—Between RG there are four dots, of which very frequently only three are visible.

2nd.—The lower inscription reads: "Zwei Groschen," and is not followed by any dot; the arrangement of the dots among the letters is as follows:

a.—Between ZW there is a very distinct dot.

b.—Between WE there is another very distinct dot.

c.—Between EI there are two very small dots, of which, as a usual thing, only one is visible.

d.—Between the letters GRO there are no dots.

e.—Between OS and SC each, there are two dots standing low down and another one over the head of the letter S and to its right.

f.—Between CH is a dot, standing well down.

g.—Between HE, there is a dot.

h.—Between EN, there are two dots, of which the lower one looks more like a thin stroke than a dot.

3rd.—The position of the blue dot under the G of the word "Oldenburg" is exactly the same as in the stamp of 1 groschen.

### V. 3 Groschen.

a.—Rouletted, small size, light yellowish-brown, yellowish-brown, brown.

b.—Rouletted, large size, yellowish-brown.

1st.—The arrangement of the dots in the word "Oldenburg" is as follows:

a.—Between OL are three dots; two below, and above.

b.—Between LD, there are two dots, of which the upper one is remarkable for its size and heaviness.

c.—Between DE, there are usually three dots visible.

d.—Between EN, there are two dots, usually quite indistinct.

e.—Between NB and BU each, there is one dot.

f.—Between UR and RG each, there are two dots, which, however, are frequently invisible; in compensation, three dots are sometimes to be seen between the last two of these letters.

2nd.—The lower inscription reads: "Drei Groschen," and is not followed by a period, as the word "Groschen," is written in full.

a.—In the word "Drei," dots are visible only between the two central letters, RE, where there are two fine dots, often unrecognisable.

b.—Strange to say, the dots among the letters of the word "Groschen," are so often irregular that no description of them would fit a very large number of stamps. However, the following dots allow themselves to be located: Between the lower parts of the letters RO there is one dot; in the same position between the letters SC, there are also two dots, while a third one is frequently seen over the head of the S, to the right of it. Finally, there is a dot or rather a stroke between the letters EN.

3rd.—The position of the brown dots under the G of the word "Oldenburg" is exactly the same as in the stamps of 1-3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen.

As we have already said before, up to this time, no counterfeits of the stamps of this fourth issue have been discovered. When, in the beginning of the year 1868, the postal administration of Oldenburg passed into the hands of the North German Postal District, there were still on hand quite important numbers of the stamps of this last issue, and they were sold. Even at present, the cost of unused stamps of this issue is very low, in fact too low, when compared with the cost of the same stamps used. I wish to call the attention to the fact this relation of the prices of the used to that of the unused stamps is not at all in harmony with the numbers of stamps that were printed and those that were left unused, as quoted by Mr. Ohrt. According to him, we give the following table:

1-3 groschen.	400,000 printed and 40,000 left.
$\frac{1}{2}$ ..	240,000 .. .. 40,000 ..
1 ..	2,100,000 .. .. 45,000 ..
2 ..	380,000 .. .. 45,000 ..
3 ..	380,000 .. .. 25,000 ..

According to this, unused stamps of the fourth issue are scarcer than the used specimens, even if we allow that a very large percentage of the used stamps have been destroyed in various ways. Consequently unused specimens ought to command higher prices than used ones, although, perhaps, a majority of collectors prefer to collect stamps in their used

state. Now, on account of this preference for used stamps, and also because unused specimens can be bought very cheap, some counterfeiters have gone to the trouble of providing many unused stamps with a counterfeit cancellation mark. Only lately I, myself, escaped falling into the trap of buying a large number of 1-3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen stamps falsely cancelled by that well-known counterfeiter, Krippner. It will therefore be advisable to use prudence in buying used specimens of the stamps of this issue, especially those of 1-3 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen, which are the rarest.

I also wish to state that the colour of these two values is very sensible to chemical influence, so that frequently those of the green colour appear quite spotted. This is a result of the decomposition of the gum, but does not impair the value of the stamp. The yellowish-red of the stamps of  $\frac{1}{2}$  groschen is also very easily affected, and may go through various changes. Mr. P. Ohrt says that sometimes the edge of a closely cut specimen was again rouletted to make it look better. The best way to recognize such a *work*, which is nothing more nor less than a falsification, is to measure the stamp. The whole stamp measures 23.3 mm. in height and 20.3 in width. Any diminution of length in a specimen rouletted upon the four sides, would clearly indicate that the perforation was added afterwards.

THE END.



MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN'S NEW CATALOGUE :

A REVIEW BY "C 62," AND HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from page 53.)

TO turn now from the preface to the catalogue itself. The work is divided into two books. Book I. is the catalogue. Book II. contains a list of obliterations and postmarks. Book I. is "divided into two parts: I. Adhesives; II. Stationery. The former is further sub-divided as follows: (1) Line Engraved Series; (2) Embossed Series; (3) Surface-Printed Series; and (4) De La Rue Series."

So reads the heading on page 7. As a matter of fact, however, there is an additional Part II. which contains lists of Post Office Telegraph Stamps and Stationery; Part III. with lists of Fiscals (including a list of stamps "only collectable as curiosities," these being "allowed to prepay postage, though not endowed with franking power."); Part IV. containing Levant issues, Government departmentals and stamps overprinted for Private Firms; Part V. containing such minor varieties as are not included in Part I.; Part VI. of Proofs, Essays, &c., next follows an unnumbered part called a "Priced Catalogue of Stamps of which no regular issue was ever made." Part VII. contains Stamps issued by Private Persons with certain exclusions.

The short list we quote above is the only attempt at a table of contents. Index there is none.

We do not intend to go through the "parts" seriatim, but only to mention such points as seem to us to require notice.

We do not agree with the note on the 1d. black, that "The so-called 'bluish' paper is due to the impression showing through the paper." How can a black impression show blue through the paper? Mr. Ewen was the first to catalogue this variety (see his 1895 edition) valuing it at £1 1s; he now denies its existence! We notice on the same page that illustrations are given of two varieties of small crown watermarks. As each sheet required 240 of these, all necessarily differing somewhat, being hand made, we think these varieties

should not have been included in a catalogue which condemns the collection of ultra-minor varieties. Again, on page 13 there is a variety of the large crown, due undoubtedly to an "act of carelessness." Why is this classed with the "standard" issues? The same question applies to the "1½d. lilac, plate "1 (never issued)." There is a separate "part" for stamps not regularly issued.

We have received several letters from readers of the "S.C.F.," from which we take the following:

Referring to Mr. Ewen's note upon hairlines,—“One would think that with his experience, it must have struck him as remarkable that the hair should always have fallen in a perfectly straight line, and never have had its position on the plate altered in the process of cleaning and wiping. I wonder also he has never noticed how often similar lines are found on steel and copperplate engravings and etchings.

Another correspondent writes—"A word or two on Mr. Ewen's new catalogue. He calls it a standard catalogue. Is it? In it among other things good, he gives us a lot of new varieties; the minor ones he separates from the standard issues. Now, I was led to believe that the 'K' variety of the 1/- green was a 'standard' variety, *not due* to a speck of dust, &c., where is it? Where are the inverted watermarks only a few are left? Is '1½d. lilac, plate 1 (never issued)' a standard? I think you will agree with me that a 'standard' should keep its old loves, even if it takes up with new ones. I enclose a few notes on catalogues Nos. 4 and 5.—Page 4 of No. 4. "1d. red, rouletted by Archer, £8, £5; ditto, rouletted privately, 10/-"—Page 10 of No. 5, 1d. red "stamps rouletted privately are of no philatelic interest. Not more than 5 per cent. of the rouletted stamps are genuine Archers." Note.—He has no more to sell. Will he say the same of the Archer perforation, when he gets rid of those he now has? Catalogue No. 4, 108 c, 50/-; 153 b, £5. What has become of these, are they no longer of philatelic interest? It reads as if when Mr. H. L'E. E. has sold out his stock in hand, they are no longer of any philatelic interest to him and therefore not worth notice. He forgets that his future catalogues will be of no philatelic interest to collectors. It is no longer a catalogue of adhesives of Great Britain."

Another letter says—"I think a good catalogue should give us help. In Ewen's note on page 10 he says that not more than 5 per cent. &c., are "Archers" roulettes. Why not say that Archer's roulette is of 10 mm., others by private persons. Why these should not be of as much philatelic interest as, say 1½d. lilac, plate 1, I don't see. Page 12—is 1d. carmine our old friend 'rose-red,' or some other stamp, if not why change the name? Why are 1d. red always called perf. 14, when most of them are 14 by 14?"

We think these letters represent the feelings most English specialists will experience on examining the work under review. Two months ago, Mr. Ewen was advertising his 1895 Catalogue as *The Standard Priced, &c.*, now we have a new "Standard" set up, which declares about 50 per cent. of the last to be of "no philatelic interest," or "of doubtful collectability," or "only collectable as curiosities."

Our review so far has only extended over the first few pages of the book. If we do not proceed with the same fulness over the remainder, we must not be taken to agree with it. For instance, we see that the 10d. embossed is "said to have been issued without die number or W.W." In Mr. Ewen's last edition we find that this stamp is priced at £10, unused; £3, used. We refrain from comment!!!

Book II. is devoted almost entirely to Postmarks and Obliterations, and for this part of the work we have nothing but praise. The information given is not accurate in all respects, but considering how new this study is, the whole is a marvel of patience and research. We notice that this book is headed "by H. L'Estrange Ewen," if this may be interpreted, that book I. is not by him, we are bound to regret that this is not the case. Possibly we might have found fewer obvious criticisms had it been so.

Generally, while we think, as may be gathered from our remarks, that the work is very far from perfect, it contains so much information that it is sure to be of interest and value to every British Specialist.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

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Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 12, 1896.



Just too late, unfortunately, for inclusion in our last issue came the full prospectus of the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897—a clear, concise, and yet most comprehensive survey of the ground the executive committee propose to cover (we speak figuratively of course) in the July of next year. In sober fact, the ground will not be covered, but the walls and the cases. The exhibition, we may repeat, will be opened to the public on July 22nd, 1897, and will remain open until August 5th. The price of admission, of which, strangely enough, we find no mention whatever in the prospectus, will presumably be the popular one of a shilling, so that the show shall appeal to the widest possible class.

Intending exhibitors, to whom the charge for space will be threepence per square foot, will not be deterred from supporting the exhibition on the ground of any misgivings as to the safety of their treasures. For the prospectus states:

All stamps will be exhibited under glass in locked or sealed cases, night and day watchmen will be employed, and every possible precaution will be taken to secure Exhibits from damage or loss; but no personal responsibility will be undertaken by the Committee.

Then as regards insurance:

Arrangements have been made by the Committee for Insurance against loss by fire or theft of Exhibits while in the custody of the Committee, either before or during the continuance of the Exhibition, and after the close of the Exhibition, until despatched for return to the owners. An inclusive charge of 2s. 6d. will be made for each £100 insured. Owners of Exhibits desiring to insure, and pay the prescribed amount, will have the benefit of the policy effected by the Committee to extent of the value at which such exhibits are accepted for Insurance, but no personal liability is incurred by the Committee in regard to loss.

All who desire to exhibit—and we hope their name may be legion—are requested to lodge early information with the Secretary as to the nature and probable extent of their exhibits; and the latest date at which any exhibitor can be allowed to make up his mind is May 1st, 1897. The charges for space and insurance (if any) are payable by the exhibitor when sending in his exhibits. Furthermore, when the show is over, all exhibits will be returned free of charge to their owners by post or otherwise, but transmission will in all cases be at the sole risk of the owner—insurance in course of transit (if any) being paid by him.

There will be no dearth of prizes for successful exhibitors. In the various "classes" 13 gold, 43 silver, and 48 bronze medals, making in all 104 medals are offered for competition. Over and above these there are special prizes, including 7

gold, 16 silver, and 7 bronze medals offered by the London Society and various prominent individuals.

Finance, of course, has played an important part in the deliberations of the Executive Committee. A Guarantee Fund, which should meet with very general support has been formed on pretty much the usual lines adopted in such cases.

Promises of support (says the circular relating to this question) sufficient to justify the commencement of the arrangements for the undertaking, have already been received, but the Committee are desirous that all Philatelists interested in the movement shall have an opportunity of joining in the guarantee, and thus to secure their active support and interest in the work of the Exhibition. A careful estimate has been made of the probable expenses, and it is anticipated that they will be more than covered by the receipts from all sources, and that there will be a surplus for division amongst the guarantors after the return of the amounts paid by them. The Committee must, of course, be the sole judges as to the necessity for any expenditure, and of the correctness of the accounts; and when these have been completed, whatever money remains in hand will be divided between the guarantors in proportion to the amounts of their guarantees. If you should be willing to join in the guarantee I shall be glad to receive the annexed form duly filled up at your early convenience. Cheques for the first quarter of the guarantee should be made out to the order of W. B. AVERY, Esq., who has kindly consented to act as treasurer for the Exhibition, and all cheques should be crossed "London and Midland Bank."

Philatelists, on the other hand, who prefer to make a donation in aid of the funds, are not debarred from doing so:

The Committee will also be pleased to receive *subscriptions* towards the expenses from those who should prefer to give a donation in lieu of becoming guarantors, and the first part of the form will be found applicable to these cases. *Subscribers* will be entitled to one ticket of admission for each amount of one guinea subscribed, such ticket admitting the bearer to the opening ceremony, and on all occasions on which the Exhibition is open, including the right to attend any entertainments organised by the Committee in connection with the undertaking.

Here, then, in outline, is the Prospectus of the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897. It remains only to congratulate the Executive Committee on the promptness and thoroughness of their work, and to urge upon all readers of the FORTNIGHTLY in this country and abroad to give the Exhibition their heartiest support.

Finally, it should be stated that the address of the Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, for all communications relating to the Exhibition is 4, Lombard Court, London, E.C.

Some remarks inserted under the heading: "Another African Fake or, Rather, Speculation," in our last issue, on the authority of a valued, and we African Surcharges. have every reason to believe well informed, reader in Matabeleland, have provoked protests from a number of readers in this country who take exception to the statements made. Well, we like to hear all sides; that's our policy. A well informed reader contributes the following reply:

Your "valued Matabeleland reader," mentioned on page 56, is in a fog. To start with, I believe you will find that 50 sheets of 60 stamps were surcharged—they were not *all brought* to England for 1, as well as plenty of others, have received letters from Bulawayo franked with this variety. The *proof sheet* only had two inverted R's, and the two stamps in question are in collections in South Africa. I can supply names if required. The *eight sheets* that remained in the office, after all need of the provisional was over, were brought to England. Most things are done to the order of the *one* person in authority, but in this case the person who ordered them and the one who brought them were different ones. They were ordered by the only man in U.S.A. who has authority to order stamps. For the time being they were an absolute necessity, but they gave offence to some of the P.O. officials because they were forbidden to corner them. This accounts for the way in which most used copies are "smashed," many of them are almost covered with blots of ink. I do not write this because I have some to sell. I want some badly.

Which looks very like a complete upset of every allegation made by our "man on the spot." It is a trite saying that there are two sides to every story, but a simple statement of fact should admit of no variation whatever. Perhaps, we may have more to say on this most interesting subject in an early number.

### Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

**Azores.**—A new issue for the Colony of Angra, Horta, and Porto Delgado, will appear in January next.

**Congo State.**—In addition to the very pretty set issued in 1894, two new values have just reached us from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:

- 15 cents large rectangular, brown, centre black (1d.)
- 40 " oblong, green, centre black (9d.)

**Haiti.**—For some reason or other the well-known design of palm tree with hanging leaves has been slightly retouched. The appended photographs will explain the difference, which is chiefly apparent in the altered type in bottom label. The word "cent" at top is also different, the figures in the corners being added on each particular stamp on the plate naturally shows various differences, which are however for that reason unimportant.



2 cents reddish-brown (2d.)  
5 " greenish-grey (6d.)

**Holland.**—A new issue of Letter Cards has appeared here. Messrs. Schreuders & Co., of Gravenhage, has sent us the following:

- 3c. green, 70 x 117 mm.
  - 3c. " 73 x 140 mm.
  - 5c. blue, 70 x 117 mm.
  - 5c. " 73 x 140 mm.
  - 12½c. carmine, 73 x 140 mm.
- (The Set of 5, 2/6, post free.)

**Orange Free State.**—Mr. Epstein of Johannesburg has shewn us a new ½d., on the drie pence blue in annexed type. It is said that this value was surcharged for the sole reason of using up old stock, as a new issue is being prepared and may be issued on January 1st next.

Halfpenny on drie pence blue (4d.)

**Queensland.**—Mr. Smallbones has shown us a copy of the new issue 1d. Queensland with a "1" added in the two lower corners, the paper is also slightly thicker than the obsolete issue. We give a photograph of both types.



1d. dark orange red  
(retouched die) (1d.)

**St. Helena.**—Messrs. Bright tell us that a month before the old type was withdrawn a new supply of the 3d. had been sent in a decided bright red-violet. All remainders are of this particular shade, the old shade of the 3d. is therefore likely to become rare, unused.

1st Oct., 1896. 3d. bright red-violet.

**Seychelles.**—We are informed that the 36c. on 45c. was never properly issued. Those who applied for them five minutes after the opening of the post office on the morning

they were issued were told that they were all sold. As a matter of fact, the entire issue of 11,000 stamps were sold to a Chinaman for speculation. Meanwhile Messrs. Bright informs us that stamps of these Islands are in use at Zanzibar, but for what reason and whether they are really sold in Zanzibar for postage we are unable to say.

**Trinidad.**—Messrs. Bright tell us that all remainders of the obsolete issue have actually been burnt, which is a blessing!

**Venezuela.**—A series of stamps has appeared here, which for ugliness in design will be hard to beat. We append photograph which would be best described as a central design of nothingness, surrounded by a thin frame. The following values have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



- 5 cents, light yellow-green.
  - 10 " sky blue.
  - 25 " yellow.
  - 50 " light carmine.
  - 1 Bolivar, deep mauve
- (set of 5 stamps 3/6.)

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WE have been invited to give our opinion on "a somewhat difficult and delicate question of philatelic etiquette." We clothe these words in inverted commas because they are not ours. The question, in our opinion, is neither "difficult" nor "delicate." But we

have not yet explained what the question is. Briefly the facts submitted to us are these: A certain member of a certain exchange club saw another member of the same club offering stamps from the monthly packet belonging to that club to an influential firm of stamp dealers, at a discount of 25 per cent.

"Is this right?" asks the gentleman who brings the matter to our notice. Most emphatically it is not right.

"The club in question," our informant goes on, "is an exchange club of the older sort. I mean to say, the stamps in the packet are priced on an exchange, not on a cash basis; and when settling time arrives, balances are paid in cash, less 50 per cent. discount. Thus, you see, any member who can sell from the packet for cash, even at a discount of 25 per cent., is doing good business."

All which puts a still worse complexion on the case. It would, perhaps, be too much to say that the member selling stamps under the circumstances set forth by our correspondent, is guilty of dishonest conduct, in the sordid, police-court sense of the term dishonesty; but there is not the slightest doubt that he is morally defrauding each one of his fellow-members.

"All very well," your slipshod moralist may say, "but where's the harm? Who suffers? The stamps are put in the packet to sell; why not sell them? And if you make a little by helping a fellow-member to sell his stamps at the price at which he has agreed to sell them, where is the harm?"

Now these are questions that want a lot of answering. We could dispose of them satisfactorily enough, we fancy; but in a matter of this sort one likes a little moral support.

Won't one or two of our readers help us to pulverise these meretricious vapourings of the slipshod moralist? Postcards not refused.

\* \* \*

Our prophetic soul! How strangely some things that appear in print *do* read in the light of subsequent events. An enthusiastic student of the FORTNIGHTLY has dug out from our issue of August 10th, 1895, the following sapient item:

The *Philatelic Monthly* learns that a certain dealer in this country has laid away one hundred 8½c. Nova Scotia stamps in a safe deposit vault, not to be opened for three years, at the end of which time he expects to reap a rich reward for his patience.

Read in the light of recent revelations, this paragraph is, as our correspondent sagely observes, "calculated to make the little fishes stand on their tails and grin." We wonder what the price of 8½c. Nova Scotias will be when the dealer in question extracts his treasures from their hiding place? There are some people who think that prices will quickly recover, but they are not readers of the FORTNIGHTLY.

\* \* \*

We are happy to say that, despite the Nova Scotia "deal," and various other "benefits conferred upon collectors" by philanthropic folk in this and other countries, we do not feel the least bit pessimistic as to the future of Philately. Our hobby is now firmly established in popular favour, and its votaries are daily growing in number. Yet when our publishers get letters like this it makes them thoughtful:

DEAR SIRS,—I regret to say that the stamps of . . . interest me no more. Since the Nova Scotia and other episodes that you have exposed so fearlessly and so well I have given up all general collecting, and but for the fact that the specialising fever still holds me in a few countries, I should have abandoned philately altogether as a pursuit more suitable to the Heathen Chinee than to the less acute understanding of . . . Yours faithfully, ————

For obvious reasons we suppress the writer's name, the letter being addressed to our publishers and not to the editors of this journal. But we may mention that this is not the first expression of disgust we have received from influential and wealthy philatelists.

\* \* \*

Some idea of what a widespread hobby ours is, may be derived from a scamper through the pages of "Beardsley's Stamp Collectors' and Dealers' Address Book and Directory," a useful work, just produced by Mr. Herbert C. Beardsley, of St. Joseph, Mo., U.S.A. Nearly thirteen thousand names and addresses of stamp collectors and dealers living in all parts of the world are gathered together within the covers of this volume of 96 pages. Certainly, the printing is not of the best, but one does not need aestheticism in one's directories; and, here and there, Mr. Beardsley makes little mistakes such as one is almost bound to make in the topography of other countries. For instance, in Great Britain we find this interesting puzzle:

Lawrenson, E. Feddington . . . Middlesex.

Now, pity the poor letter carrier trying to find Mr. E. Feddington Lawrenson, in the County of Middlesex, which has a population of more than five millions! It is the story of the needle in the hay-stack over again. Stay, though! What is this bright idea that strikes the editorial noddle with a sickening thud. *Eureka!* the line should read:

Lawrenson, E. . . . Teddington, Middlesex.

They have the "intelligent compositor" in America, too, it seems. And here is another in the Beardsley book which should give the postal authorities of this country some trouble:—

Frederic, Harold . . . London, W.

Now, Mr. Harold Frederic is well-known to philatelists, and still better known to the great novel-reading public, but we have our doubts whether "London, W.," will find him. Even, "Garth, Douglas, Lincoln's Inn, London," should give our postmen some trouble. Take it all in all, however, this compilation of addresses is a monument to the enterprise and industry of its publisher. Mr. Beardsley deserves alike our thanks and our congratulations.

## First Steps in Philately.

BY PERCY C. BISHOP

### VI.—THE GRILLE, AND ALL ABOUT IT.

WHEN this present year of 1896 was a good deal younger somebody, whose name I forget and whose address I have lost, asked for information concerning the grille—the philatelic grille, of course. From that day to this our worthy printer has had, in what is technically called the "over-matter," a small paragraph defining the nature and the uses of the grille. It was a poor paragraph, but mine own. A cruel fate pursued it. Fortnight after fortnight that puny par tried its best to elbow its way into our column, only to be rudely rebuffed and sent back in sorrow to its "random." And just when it occurred to me that I really ought to be sending an ultimatum to Bourne-mouth, what should turn up in Cheapside but the *Evergreen State Philatelist* for November, containing a long and most elaborate article on the subject of the grille. The result is that my paragraph, to use again the expressive language of the composing room, is "killed," and I am borrowing all that follows from the able essay of Mr. Gordon C. Corbaley. The grille—the postage stamp grille—is an American institution. Let an American describe it. Mr. Corbaley writes:

The grille was a rectangle of square indentations into the paper, impressed at the back, and designed to break the fibre of the paper, causing it to readily absorb the cancelling ink and retain it so as to prevent washing and subsequent re-use.

There you have a comprehensive definition of the grille, its genesis and all about it, in less than fifty words. Altogether a model definition. In certain of the older catalogues and handbooks one sees the American grille referred to as "embossing," or "a square embossment." That is utterly wrong, as Mr. Corbaley has taken occasion to point out.

When grilling was first adopted by the American postal authorities, it was considered necessary to grille the stamps all over. The stamps so treated are now among the greatest of U.S.A. rarities. The first modification of this very drastic treatment was to grille a space measuring 15 millimetres square. Then the "grilled area," so to speak, was further reduced to 13 by 16 millimetres, and afterwards to 11 by 15.

In the proper study of American stamps the grille is a thing you can't get away from. It is every bit as important as the watermark in British Colonials. Mr. Corbaley, in the course of his very interesting article, tabulates as follows all the varieties of the grill measurements he has seen, heard of, or read about:

15 × 18m. . . . .	19 × 21 rows	13 × 21mm. . . . .	16 × 30 rows
13 × 16mm. . . . .	16 × 20 ..	12½ × 16mm. . . . .	15 × 20 ..
11½ × 15mm. . . . .	15 × 18 ..	11 × 13mm. . . . .	14 × 16½ ..
11 × 14mm. . . . .	14 × 17 ..	11½ × 14mm. . . . .	15 × 17 ..
11½ × 14½mm. . . . .	15 - 18 ..	12 × 14mm. . . . .	15½ × 17 ..
11 × 15mm. . . . .	14 × 16 ..	10½ × 14mm. . . . .	14 × 16½ ..
10½ × 14mm. . . . .	13 × 16½ ..	9 × 14mm. . . . .	12 × 17 ..
9 × 13mm. . . . .	12 × 16 ..		

Perhaps, it is stretching a point to introduce these minute grille variations into my "First Steps" articles, but while we are on the subject of grilles, it is as well, perhaps, to learn as much as we can. The pity is that the U.S.A. stamps have been so extensively supplied with forged grilles, forgeries which it is difficult, sometimes impossible, to detect.

### QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED.

To make this feature of the FORTNIGHTLY of the greatest service to the greatest number, we shall be glad to answer in it any questions of general interest that readers, young or old, may care to put. We don't guarantee that all questions asked will be answered. But where readers confine themselves to one side of the paper, and observe the usual rules as to clearness and brevity, we promise to do our very best.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Two-Dollar Columbians Go A-Begging.

SAYS the *Weekly Philatelic Era*. "In a recent number of the *New York Herald*, there is quite an interview with Albrecht Leowit, the man who is selling \$2 Columbians unused for \$1.85. Mr. Leowit puts up quite a ghost story about it, to the effect that a Harlem business man, a collector, tried to corner the stamps, and turned his whole estate into cash for that purpose, buying about \$125,000 worth. Then the hard times came on and he was unable to realize on his stamps. Then he died—whether on this account or not, is not stated—and his widow, finding herself in almost absolute want, is trying to sell her \$125,000 worth of stamps. We have always thought here that a man from Philadelphia was the one who worked the Columbian corner, but it seems not."

## Wanted, a Philatelic Bibliography.

An interesting, if not absolutely original, suggestion is put forward by the *Philatelic Californian* in its October number. Our contemporary suggests the publication of a universal index to all philatelic literature. A step in this direction is already taken by the numerous "Reviews of Reviews" now given in the various philatelic journals, but what the *Californian* wants is an out-and-out index to current philatelic literature, and by this, our contemporary means an index in which would be catalogued "all the contents of all the English, German, French, etc., as well as the American papers."

It should be a subject-index (adds the *P.C.*) rather than one of each of the several papers. These would lose their individuality and their contents show up in the several groups according to value and importance.

A grouping of the subjects might be suggested in this wise:

A.—Government edicts or publications concerning the issue of stamps, etc., the countries to be quoted in alphabetical order.

B.—Monographs on stamps of one country or group of countries, as, for instance the stamps of the Leeward Islands.

C.—Monographs on one or more issues of stamps of one country, e.g., "The Sydney Views."

D.—The description of single stamps.

Of course, as our contemporary goes on to observe, many of these groups would be so extensive as to involve a number of sub-divisions, especially Group D. The editors of the *Philatelic Californian*, who are not in a position to undertake the work themselves, submit the idea to the Literary Board of the American Philatelic Association, believing that body to be admirably qualified to perform the work.

The same issue of the paper under notice brings us two valuable contributions concerning U.S.A. stamps, and a well expressed object lesson on "Stamps as an Investment" by Mr. E. F. Gambs, based on an interesting reminiscence of stamp dealing in the early eighties.

## Stamps That Are Catalogued Too Low.

We all have our views as to catalogue prices, have we not? Mr. C. E. Severn, who pushes one of the most eloquent pens in the American philatelic world, has his views; moreover, he sets them forth in a short article contributed to Mr. H. C. Beardsley's *International Philatelist*. Some stamps are priced too high, some too low, especially the latter in Mr. Severn's opinion. He instances, as examples of stamps that are good to buy at present market rates, the first issue of Luxemburg, used; the 2rs. blue, Denmark, 1851; the 4s., 1854, of Norway; the 10c. carmine of the first issue, Dutch Indies, and many others.

Mr. Georges Carion writes for the *International Philatelist*, "A Reference List of the Stamps of Cochin China"—one of

his special fads; and the rest of the paper is devoted to editorial and other jottings, society reports, &c.

## "Guaranteed" Stamps with Forged Postmarks.

We notice in a recent number of the *Postwertzeichen Kunde* a very strong article on the reckless guaranteeing of valuable stamps. There is one well-known philatelist on the Continent who has been in the habit of examining all stamps promiscuously for a "consideration," we suppose. We refer to the guarantor whose mark "H." is found on so many stamps, which mark is not always a guarantee of genuineness, but sometimes quite otherwise. It is known that this guarantor's mark has been applied to unused stamps that have afterwards been supplied with forged postmarks. The number of reprinted Helgolands so treated now circulating as originals amongst collectors it is impossible to gauge. We strongly warn our readers never to blindly accept a guarantee of this sort, especially when found upon a stamp that is rarer used than unused.

In the same paper appears a remark concerning the new BRUSSELS EXHIBITION STAMPS,



the 10c. of which issue is illustrated here. This stamp, according to the journal under notice, is liable to be withdrawn from issue almost immediately, owing to a single error which has crept into the design. The word "Posternen" at the bottom of the stamp proper should read "Posterijen." How these mistakes do creep into commemorative stamps, to be sure! It makes one feel quite thoughtful.

## Schools of Philately next.

Writing to the *Bazaar* of November 6th, a writer subscribing himself "Sedang" commends himself to the following:

Commencing stamp-collecting late in life, I have been forcibly struck by two things, the difficulty and slowness of learning and the ease with which the art—or is it science? might be taught. I believe that a man with a knowledge of stamps, with evenings to spare, and a desire to turn them to account, might make a fair thing out of classes and private lessons for collectors. I do not suppose that one man would teach the whole art—or should I say science?—from the A. B. C. to the higher mathematics, but that one would take the "Preparatory" or "Beginners," let us say, whilst others would take the "Intermediate" or "Medium," and the "Final" or "Specialist." Such teachers would be a boon to beginners, if not for the more advanced collectors, and they would save their pupils more in money than the fees they charged, to say nothing of the invaluable time that is now lost. Take the matter of forgeries alone. Probably every collector, except the expert who has long since bought his experience in the orthodox manner and at the orthodox price, has in his collection some fudges, but if he had been "coached" in his early days, most of these frauds would have been known to him from the outset, and the extent to which it would be possible for him to be "had" would be reduced to a minimum, and that would have the additional advantage of putting at least one nail into the coffin of the, at present, large and lucrative trades of forgery-making and forgery-selling.

Such teachers as I have in mind *should not be dealers*—there should be no suspicion in the mind of a pupil that the teacher had any other end in view than teaching pure and simple: and he should not therefore buy or sell with anyone who simply came to him to learn.

Other points besides that of forgeries, which a beginner is slow to grasp by himself, will readily occur to every "medium" collector, and I have said enough to indicate a real want, and suggest a new industry. If I knew enough and had the time I would certainly give the notion a practical trial, and should have every confidence in its ultimate success. It remains to be seen whether the idea will be



taken up by competent persons, and if it be taken up how it will work out in practice. In the meantime, perhaps, those of your readers who are interested in the subject will give their views upon it.

"Sedang" is wrong in one point. Such teachers *should be dealers*, for dealers know the most. The suspicion of an ulterior motive on the part of the dealer-schoolmaster would be somewhat absurd, when you come to think of it. But for that matter the suggestion itself is a little absurd.

#### What Fools Some Mortals be!

The *Monthly Post* is small, but what there is of it is good. Moreover, we are happy to be able to add the *Monthly Post* to the list of philatelic journals courageous enough to be independent in connection with such matters as the Nova Scotia deal. As thus:

"How are the mighty fallen!" exclaimed one of our contemporaries when comparing the prices fetched by the 8½ cents, Nova Scotia, at auction last season and the current quotations of dealers. We think the words would apply both to the remainders and the manipulators of them. Messrs. Gibbons say they are selling the stamps fast, and perhaps they are; but in our opinion they are precious fools who buy them! When everybody has stocks of these labels, and each one is trying to undersell the rest, the prices will be scarcely satisfactory, we imagine. For our part, if we had money to throw away, we would as soon invest it in a few sets of Salvadors or Nicaraguas as these Canadian things.

The publishers of the *Monthly Post*, by the way, have lately removed to Boscombe, Bournemouth.

#### THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING WIDE-AWAKE

is well illustrated by the following story, which we clip from the same journal:

A shrewd schoolboy of philatelic propensities did a fine stroke of business at a place called Carbondale, Jackson Co., Illinois, where the postmaster had thirty perfect unused specimens of the 90 cent U.S., of 1869, catalogued by Scott at £7 each. The boy discovered these stamps, bought them at face value, and sold them a day or two later to the Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co., of St. Louis, at 48/- each, or £72 for the lot. Not a bad deal for a youngster of twelve, and doubtless a tremendous haul for the dealers in question, who will be able to make at the very least 100 per cent. profit on stamps in such steady demand! The face value of 30 stamps at 90 cent. each, is, of course, £2 16s. 3d., so that our readers can figure out the young trader's gain without much difficulty. See what can be picked up by just keeping one's eyes open!

#### Within a Maze of Strange Perfs.

"Ideal" gänge in hand, Mr. John W. Brame has been investigating the perforations of New Zealand stamps. In a letter to the *Australian Philatelist* he gives us the net result:

I tackled 1d. rose, current issue, and, after careful examination have compiled the following list, which may prove interesting, instructive, or perhaps only amusing:—1, perf. 10; 2, perf. 12; 3, perf. 10×12½; 4, 10×11; 5, twice perf. horizontally, 10×10 and 12½; 6, perf. 11½×12, wmk. (N.Z.) 5 mm. apart; 7, perf. 10, small flaw in top of frame; 8, perf. 10, square flaw in top of frame; 9, perf. 10, elliptical flaw near ear; 10, perf. 10×11, flaw as in No. 8; 11, perf. 10×11, flaw as in No. 9; 12, perf. 10, flaw as in No. 8, advertisement on back; 13, perf. 10, flaw as in No. 9, advertisement on back. I cannot find the perf. 11½ and 12×10 as quoted by Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

It is my opinion that most of the perforations, as 11 to 11½ and 12 to 12½, 13, which are found occasionally in single stamps, may be due in a great measure to the movement of the machine. I have for years been in a position to notice hundreds of whole sheets, and have often seen variations that could in no other way be accounted for. Note also the many hole spaces missed by the machine.

The comments of the *Australian Philatelist* on the Victorian postal scandal we have quoted elsewhere. The many other features of Mr. Hagen's journal are admirably arranged and full of interest for specialists of Australasian stamps.

#### New York's Latest Stamp Journal.

The *New York Philatelist* is the latest new arrival from "across the pond." Its behaviour so far is somewhat erratic. No. 1 comes in a large octavo shape; No. 2 is reduced by about an inch both ways, with scarcely an apology from the "editors and publishers," Messrs. Beringer and Herbst. These gentlemen, perhaps, do not anticipate that anyone will ever regard the *N.Y.P.* as worthy of being bound up when the volume is completed.

#### Forged Bermudas Postmarked to Order.

The following, which we quote from the *American Collector*, a bright and newsy journal, hailing from Piney Creek, Maryland, is fresh to us, and will probably be news to the bulk of our readers. It is from the pen of a Bermuda correspondent of the journal in question:

A short time ago a quantity of stamps in all respects an exact facsimile of the Bermuda present issue was received from Germany, at one of the post offices here. They were duly cancelled with the Bda cancelling stamp and mailed back again to the sender. What consideration was given to the canceller of these stamps I am unable to say. I am in correspondence with one of the leading philatelic firms in London, who have large business relations with the principal Continental dealers and hope to be able to get some specimens of the frauds in question. Should I succeed in so doing I will send you specimens of them and at the same time forward some to the Colonial Agent here in order that the office from which they emanate may be found out. I believe a question is shortly to be raised in the House of Assembly here. If so I will send you a copy of the article as reported in the local newspapers.

#### Madagascar War Postcards.

The *Gazette Timbrologique*, which has just entered upon its sixth year of life and usefulness, brings us the first instalment of a serial article on the subject of the different letter-cards and postcards used in Madagascar by the French expeditionary forces. The "Chronicle" of the *G.T.* is excellent, and the "Pêle Mêle" notes by Mons. Simplex maintain their wonted excellence. Yet it seems to us that the *Gazette Timbrologique*, though miles ahead of its rivals in the matter of artistic printing, is not quite the dream of typographical excellence that it once was.

#### Norway for the Young Collector.

The improvement we have noted in the literary contents of the *Stamp Collector's Journal* is being well maintained. The fourth of the series of articles headed "Countries to Specialise" is Norway, wherein many of the minor varieties of Norse stamps are described and enlarged illustrations are given of the "shaded" and "unshaded" posthorns. Another useful feature of the *S.C.J.* is the serial article headed "Varieties of U.S. Department Stamps." The "Justice" and "Navy" stamps are dealt with in the number under notice, which is dated November 15th.

#### Other Papers Briefly Mentioned.

*La Philatliste Française* has for some months devoted a generous proportion of its space to Mons. A. Renouard's study of the Stamps of France. The journal and telegraph stamps are dealt with in the November number.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era*, though a paper that we always read with a great deal of pleasure, has lately contained nothing calculated to set our scissors moving.

The mid-October issue of the *Revue Philatlique Belge* gives us a description of certain dangerous forgeries of Diego Suarez stamps.

The *Columbian Philatelist*, whose publisher has just removed to New Oxford, Pa., is one of the very few American stamp papers that dare to be independent. Says its editor: "We intend to run this magazine without admitting advertisements of questionable dealers; we cannot afford to write flattering notices of our advertisers to keep them with us; we shall exercise the right of criticising the methods of any one when he deserves it, whether he favours us with a big 'add' or not." The *Columbian Philatelist* is a journal after our own heart.

Mons. Maury's paper, *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, following the sentiment of the boulevards, devotes the bulk of its space to Russian stamps. The September number is quite a "Vive la Russie!" edition with its illustrations and advertisements of the Czar commemoration cards.

There seems to be little excuse for the publication of *Le Philatiste (Amersois)*, of which No. 1 is dated November. So many people, alas! bring out stamp papers nowadays without any very definite notion as to how they are going to be filled.

The *Evergreen State Philatelist*, of Hartland, Washington, we like for three reasons: it is punctual, it is independent, and—last, but not least—it prints every now and then a really valuable philatelic article.



# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

*Class A*—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

*Class a*—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

*Class b*—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

*Class c*—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (c).

Mr. HADLOW, November 16th & 17th, 1896.

(Continued from page 60.)

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
<i>a b</i>	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf., on piece, cut close left..	3 17 6
<i>b</i>	another .. .. .	3 7 6
<i>b c</i>	another .. .. .	3 0 0
<i>b</i>	1d. green, imperf. *	1 12 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used .. .. .	1 16 0
<i>b c</i>	1/- deep purple, star, perf. *	3 0 0
<i>c</i>	2d. blue, star, clean cut perfs. *	1 6 0
<i>a b</i>	1d. vermilion, no wmk. perf. 12½ × 13 *	1 12 0
<i>b</i>	6d. green, square perf. 13 *	1 12 0
<i>b</i>	½d. on 1d., pair .. .. .	1 16 0
<i>b</i>	1d. vermilion, script * .. .. .	4 17 0
<i>a</i>	1d. vermilion, Q and crown, imperf. pair *	1 12 0
<i>b</i>	½d. yellow, Q and crown, perf. 13 *	3 3 0
<i>c</i>	ditto, no wmk. (unchromed), pair *	5 0 0
<i>a</i>	1 - red-violet, burcè, fiscally used .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>b</i>	5 - rose * .. .. .	2 6 6
<i>a</i>	10 - brown .. .. .	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	Registered, perf. about 15, clean cut *	1 18 6
<i>b c</i>	Scinde, ½a. blue .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>b c</i>	½a. red .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>b</i>	South Australia, OS., 8d. reddish-brown .. .. .	3 0 0
<i>b</i>	Tasmania, 1d. blue * .. .. .	2 8 0
<i>A</i>	½d. orange, superb pair .. .. .	1 12 0
<i>b c</i>	½d. blue, serrated .. .. .	1 8 0
<i>2a 1b</i>	Victoria, first issue, 1d. red-brown, strip of 3 .. .. .	2 10 0
<i>a b</i>	ditto, 1d. brick-red, pair .. .. .	1 18 0
<i>b c</i>	ditto, 2d. grey lilac * .. .. .	1 8 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 3d. blue, type 2, pair * .. .. .	2 15 0
<i>A</i>	½d. orange, scip. perf., pair on piece .. .. .	4 12 0
<i>b</i>	Emblems, 2d. lilac, no wmk., perf. 12 .. .. .	2 0 0
<i>a b</i>	Beaded Oval, 3d. lake * .. .. .	1 5 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 6d. black * .. .. .	1 16 0
<i>b</i>	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, printed at back .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>a</i>	1/- red-brown * .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>a b</i>	½d. deep blue, imperf. .. .. .	5 0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, November 17th and 18th, 1896

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
<i>b</i>	British Honduras, 6d. yellow .. .. .	2 2 0
<i>a</i>	1 - grey .. .. .	2 2 0
<i>a</i>	Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos (4 reales) brown .. .. .	1 11 0
<i>b</i>	Canada, 6d. purple-black, perf. .. .. .	5 7 6
<i>b</i>	7½d. green, cut close .. .. .	1 4 0
<i>c</i>	Cape of Good Hope, 11/oodblock, 1d. rose-red, fine, but but slight thinning .. .. .	3 10 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, ½d. blue .. .. .	3 12 6
<i>b</i>	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., small margins .. .. .	4 0 0
<i>b</i>	10d. vermilion, ditto * .. .. .	1 5 0
<i>a b</i>	2 - blue, ditto, fine, but cut close left .. .. .	4 17 0
<i>a</i>	8d. brown, star, perf. .. .. .	2 12 0
<i>b</i>	ditto * .. .. .	3 16 0
<i>a b</i>	2 - blue, ditto * .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>b</i>	5d. purple-brown, CC. .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>b</i>	2 rupees 50c. red-brown .. .. .	1 16 0
<i>a</i>	Dominica, 6d. orange .. .. .	0 19 0
<i>b</i>	1/- crimson, CC., perf. 12½ * .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>A</i>	1 - mauve, CC., perf. 11 * .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>A</i>	1 - carmine, CA. * .. .. .	2 18 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used .. .. .	3 18 0
<i>a</i>	Gambia, 1/- green * .. .. .	1 13 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used .. .. .	1 14 0
<i>b</i>	Gold Coast, ½d. olive, CA. * .. .. .	1 2 0
<i>b</i>	Great Britain, 1d. red, plate 136, imperf., pair .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>a b</i>	2 - brown .. .. .	2 6 0
<i>b</i>	5 - rose on bluish, plate 1, block of 20 .. .. .	5 5 0
<i>b</i>	£1 brown-lilac on bluish, anchor, .. .. .	£1 14s. 6d. and 1 18 0
<i>a</i>	£5 orange .. .. .	2 10 0
<i>a</i>	Grenada, 1/- mauve, CA. * .. .. .	0 19 0
<i>a b</i>	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown .. .. .	1 2 0
<i>c</i>	Lagos, 10 - puce, heavy pmk. .. .. .	7 5 0
<i>a</i>	ditto "Specimen" .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>A</i>	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, medium, on large piece .. .. .	10 0 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, ditto, cleaned .. .. .	5 0 0
<i>A</i>	Montserrat, 1d. carmine, CA., perf. 12 * .. .. .	1 2 0
<i>a</i>	½d. blue, CA. .. .. .	£3 and 3 3 0
<i>a</i>	Nevis, ½d. rose * .. .. .	£2 7s. 6d. and 2 16 0
<i>b c</i>	ditto * .. .. .	1 2 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, used .. .. .	1 3 0
<i>b</i>	½d. blue * .. .. .	1 6 0
<i>a</i>	6d. orange-brown, two .. .. .	each 1 1 0
<i>b</i>	1 - green, perf. 13 .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	1 - dark green, litho * .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>A</i>	1 - purple, pair * .. .. .	3 0 0
<i>A</i>	ditto, a single * .. .. .	1 16 0
<i>A</i>	Newfoundland, 2d. lake * .. .. .	0 19 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, 8d. carmine-red .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>a</i>	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 2 .. .. .	1 11 0
<i>a b</i>	ditto, ditto, on laid .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 2d. dark blue, plate 3 .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, ditto slate-blue, ditto .. .. .	0 18 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 3d. green .. .. .	1 4 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, ditto, on piece .. .. .	0 18 0
<i>a</i>	5d. green, diadem, imperf. .. .. .	1 4 0
<i>a</i>	8d. orange, ditto, imperf. .. .. .	2 2 0
<i>2a 1c</i>	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, strip of 3 * .. .. .	5 10 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, a single * .. .. .	1 11 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used .. .. .	1 1 0
<i>a</i>	3d. blue, strip of 3 * .. .. .	4 5 0
<i>A</i>	6d. yellow-green .. .. .	1 10 0
<i>a</i>	ditto .. .. .	1 2 0
<i>a</i>	8½d. c. green, on white .. .. .	0 12 0
<i>b</i>	Oldenburg, first issue, ½t. rose * .. .. .	2 0 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, ½gr. green * .. .. .	1 4 0
<i>b</i>	second issue, 2gr. rose * .. .. .	3 12 6
<i>a</i>	third issue, 1gr. blue * .. .. .	1 5 0
<i>a</i>	Peru, ½ peso yellow .. .. .	1 12 0
<i>1c</i>	Portugal, first issue, 100r. lilac, pair .. .. .	3 10 0
<i>1b</i>	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf., 2 copies, on piece .. .. .	2 4 0
<i>b</i>	Roumania, 50b. with beard .. .. .	1 0 0
<i>b</i>	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. * .. .. .	1 12 0
<i>A</i>	6d. olive-brown, block of 4 * .. .. .	8 5 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, a single, used .. .. .	3 3 0
<i>A</i>	1/- lilac, sheet of 20 * .. .. .	19 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
a b	St. Christopher, ditto, 2 singles, used	..	each 0 17 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. blue, CC., perf. 12½ *	£1 5s. od. and	1 12 0
A	6d. slate blue, perf. 12½ and 14, pair *	..	2 16 0
A	1/- green, C.C., perf. 12½ *	..	1 7 0
A	St. Lucia, (4d.) blue, star *	..	1 18 0
a	ditto, used	..	1 10 0
a	(6d.) green, ditto *	..	1 4 0
a	ditto, used	£1 4s. od. and	1 5 0
a	6d. lilac, CA. *	..	2 6 0
c	ditto, used	..	2 0 0
a	1/- orange brown, CA. *	..	3 10 0
a	ditto, used	..	3 8 0
a	St. Vincent, ½d, in red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair *	..	2 18 0
a b	1d. pale green, star *	..	1 4 0
a	1d. in black on 6d. yellow-green, on piece..	..	2 3 0
b	4d. orange-yellow	..	1 1 0
a	4d. deep blue, star	..	0 19 0
a	4d. ultramarine, CA. *	..	3 5 0
a	6d. pale green, star, perf. about 15 *	..	1 1 0
A	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12, pair *	..	2 0 0
a	1/- slate, perf. about 15 *	..	1 10 0
a	1/- brown, mint, but badly centred *	..	5 10 0
a	1/- deep rose-red, perf. about 12 *	..	7 10 0
a	5/- rose-red, star * mint, but badly centred	..	14 5 0
a	South Australia, 1/- brown, perf., and roulet *	..	3 16 0
a	10d. black on yellow, perf. 11½, top and sides, 10, bottom, P.S. in black *	..	3 0 0
b	Spain (1852), 6r. blue	..	1 4 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, cut close *	..	1 10 0
a b	ditto, used	..	1 4 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA. *	..	9 0 0
c	do., used, fine but thinned	..	7 0 0
b	Trinidad, 1/- indigo, pin perf.	..	1 0 0
a b	1/- bright mauve, thick paper, perf. 13	..	1 7 0
2A	5/- dull lake, perf. 12½, strip of 3 *	..	2 12 0
b	Turks Islands, 4d. blue, CC. *	..	1 5 0
A	1/- slate-green	..	1 2 0
a	United States (1851), 5c. red-brown, imperf.	..	1 2 0
a	(1856), 30c. orange, vert. pair	..	1 6 0
a	ditto, 90c. blue *	..	4 7 6
a	(1861), 90c. blue *	..	1 0 0
a b	(1868), 90c. blue, with grill	..	0 18 0
b	(1869), 24c. ..	15/- and	0 19 0
a	ditto, 90c. ..	£1 18s. od. and	2 0 0
a	Executive, 10c. ..	..	1 11 0
a	Justice, 14c. ..	..	2 2 0
a b	ditto, 90c., badly centred	..	6 15 0
b	Navy, 7c. ..	..	1 1 0
b c	Victoria, 2d. lilac, fine ground, cut close	..	1 5 0
b	Too Late	..	0 19 0
a b	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC. ..	..	0 19 0
A	4d. on 1/- crimson *	..	1 4 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 15 *	..	4 15 0
b	ditto, slight stain *	..	3 15 0
b	1/- crimson, on bluish, double line *	..	2 12 0
a	1/- crimson, single line *	..	3 5 0
A	Western Australia, 6d. black-bronze	..	4 12 6
a	2d. brown on red	..	2 4 0
b	6d. grey-black ..	..	1 8 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, perf. 13½ *	..	1 0 0
b	18k. orange, roulette	..	1 1 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY and Co., November 20th, 1896.

b	Bergedorf, ¾sch. black on lilac *	..	2 15 0
b	¾sch. black on rose *	..	1 18 0
a	British Columbia, 25c. violet and yellow, perf. 12½ *	..	1 0 0
a	Canada, 10. blue, on thin paper	..	0 19 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. dark blue, fine, but slight thinning	..	4 10 0
c	Great Britain, 2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, lettered I, II, F, L	..	1 16 0
b	3d. carmine, plate 3, with secret dot, pair, o.g. *	..	14 10 0
a	8d. brown, imperf. *	..	5 15 0
a	1/- green, plate 2, die 2, mint, but no perfs. at right *	..	25 0 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	..	1 6 0
a b	Mauritius, Britannia, 1/- green, perf.	..	0 19 0
c	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA., fine, but slight thinning	..	2 6 0
A	Natal, 6d. grey, no wmk., strip of 4 *	..	3 15 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose	..	1 14 0
b	6d. grey-lilac on bluish	..	1 7 0
a b	6d. olive-grey, litho.	..	10 15 0
a	6d. orange-brown	..	1 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
b	Nevis. 1/- green, perf. 13, two	..	each 0 18 0
A	1/- purple	..	1 18 0
a	New South Wales, S. A. 1d., plate 1	..	1 12 0
a	ditto, 1d., plate 2 on lid	..	1 12 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2	..	1 5 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 3	..	1 10 0
b	New Zealand, 6d. brown, pin perf. ..	..	1 5 0
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green	..	1 5 0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. on piece	..	1 2 0
a b	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown	..	3 0 0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- orange-brown, CA. ..	..	2 18 0
b	1 " " Revenue," postally used	..	1 10 0
b	Sweden, 2½k. blue, red	..	1 1 0
a	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r., hor. lines, on small piece	..	1 3 0
b	Tasmania, 2d. green, serrations on two sides	..	4 0 0
A	Tobago, ¾d. on 6d. orange-brown *	..	1 3 0
a	Trinidad, 4d. grey, CA., perf. 14 *	..	1 9 0
A	Turks Islands, 1/- slate-green	..	1 10 0
b	United States (1856), 90c. blue *	..	2 14 0
b	(1861), 5c. mustard	..	2 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, used	..	1 1 0
a b	ditto, 90c. blue *	17/- and	1 1 0
b	(1868), 30c. orange, with grill *	..	1 1 0
a	ditto, 90c. blue, ditto	..	0 18 0
a b	(1869), 90c. ..	£1 10s. od., £1 12s. od. and	1 16 0
b	(1869-75, re-issue), 15c. ..	..	1 14 0
a	ditto, 24c. *	..	2 2 0
a	Columbus, set *	£3 8s. od. and	3 12 0
a	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	..	4 0 0
a	10d. grey	..	0 17 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. crown, CC. ..	£1 18s. od. and	1 8 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	..	1 10 0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, Nov. 26th and 27th, 1896.

b	Antigua, 6d. green, star, perf. 12 and 14 *	..	0 19 0
a	Barbados, 1/- black, large star *	..	1 10 0
a b	5/- rose	..	2 0 0
b	British Columbia, 50c. red and violet, perf. 12½	..	0 19 0
A	British East Africa Co., ¾a. in manuscript on 3a., pair, on piece	..	1 18 0
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 *	..	4 10 0
b	1/- grey *	..	2 15 0
a	50c. small on 1/- grey *	..	3 7 6
a	Canada, 7½d. green	..	3 3 0
b	ditto	£1 6s. od. and	1 14 0
b c	10d. blue on thick paper	..	1 1 0
a	ditto, on thin paper	..	1 16 0
b	Ceylon, 1 9 green, imperf. ..	..	1 14 0
a	1/- cold violet, no wmk	..	1 2 0
b	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA. *	..	2 12 6
a	Fernando Poo, 50c. de peseta on 5c. de peso lilac-blue, pair, on piece	..	4 0 0
a	Gambia, 6d. blue, no wmk., imperf. *	..	1 5 0
b	1/- green *	..	1 8 0
b	Great Britain, £1 brown-lilac. Cross	..	1 4 0
b	ditto, Anchor	..	1 10 0
b	£5 orange	..	2 4 0
b	£5 Official, 10/- blue	..	2 12 6
b c	Guinea, first issue, 300r. brown, small surcharge *	..	1 3 0
b	Hamburg, 7sch. yellow, perf. *	..	1 0 0
a	Hanover, ½th t. orange, wide net *	..	3 15 0
b	10r. green	..	1 16 0
a	India, Service, 2a. black on lilac, pair *	..	2 12 6
a	ditto, ditto, single, used	..	1 6 0

(To be continued.)

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Quarter Column	0 10 0	Quarter Column	do. 0 8 6
One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	do. 0 3 6

TERMS: Strictly Cash with Order.

Mr. S. A. Wood, Mr. A. Hartley. Two members resigned: Mr. W. E. White, Mr. Himschlie.

The rule of informing Secretary of the arrival and despatch of packets by means of a P.C. has been neglected so often that the Secretary is compelled to bring into force a new Act, viz.: after warning an offending member once and if rule not complied with after that warning, to dismiss offender from the club forthwith.

There are two vacancies to fill up, application to be made to the Hon. Sec., A. A. GRIERSON, Taunton Road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

#### MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE fourth meeting was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, Nov. 6th, the President in the chair, supported by 13 members.

Mr. Guybon Hutson Junr. (Glasgow) and Mr. J. C. Cadle (Cardiff) were elected corresponding members. Mr. Darlow drew the attention of the meeting to the remarks made by Sheriff Campbell Smith, as reported in the "FORTNIGHTLY," and by request the President read the comments thereon.

Mr. Beckton exhibited his collection of Western Australia and Fiji. The first issues were complete and included many rarities and varieties. Of Western Australia, a number of the 4d. blue unused, showing minor varieties, were exhibited and all the subsequent issues both used and unused, including the 4d. C.C., used, perf. 14 and the 6d. bleute, unused, &c. —ARTHUR H. HARRISON, Hon. Sec., Grasmere, Whitefield, near Manchester.

#### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

OCT. 15th—Messrs. T. Lockyer (Birmingham), and J. Bramah (Sheffield) were elected members.

The regulations for carrying on the International Society Exchange with the Barbados Philatelic Society were unanimously approved.

Mr. W. T. Wilson gave a most interesting and instructive Address on Philately and the Society in general, especially touching on what to collect and what to avoid in shades and colours.

Nov. 5th—The following were unanimously elected members: Messrs. C. F. Larmour (India), I. Knaster (Cambridge), G. H. Callf (Sussex), W. H. Maunder (Surrey), T. W. Peck (Birmingham), R. Kronmann (Denmark), W. F. Harvie (London), G. Gelli (Belgium), H. F. Lowe (London), H. Buckley (Norway), H. Tebbitt (France), Percy C. Bishop (London), W. J. Pattison (Newcastle-on-Tyne), O. Mangold (Germany), T. S. Parkison (Newcastle-on-Tyne), J. A. Margoschis (Birmingham), F. J. Buckler (Birmingham).

It was decided to purchase a "suggestion book" in which any member may enter his suggestions and difficulties on any philatelic subject. These will be answered by the Committee, or discussed at the next meeting.

Then followed the display of "Ceylon." Most of the rare varieties were shown in profusion, many of the pence issues being handed round in large blocks, the imperfs. in pairs and strips.

In connection with the above the Hon. Sec. desires to warn members against a recent fake which he has not seen mentioned in any paper. Some time since part of a proof sheet of the first issue 6d. on blue paper was found. It has no wmk. but some copies have had a star impressed in the gum. This simple expedient combined with the irregular transparency of the centre of the stamp and the similarity of the colour to the original 6d. on blue had

already deceived several fairly advanced collectors who had not given themselves sufficient time to examine the stamps carefully.

The November exchange packets have established another record, easily beating our own record of April 1st, when we circulated £4026 18. 2d. The total for November was £3426 10s. 9d.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL.

An extraordinary meeting was held at the Adelphi Hotel, Calcutta, on October 3rd. Mr. Stewart-Wilson presided. The accounts having been passed, the meeting discussed the question of Unnecessary Issues for the Native States. The Chairman called the attention of the meeting to a letter on this subject in a recent number of the "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY" which, though containing some unwarranted statements, was in the main a fair statement of the case. Finally a letter on the subject to be addressed to the Director General of the Indian Post Office was read to the meeting and approved.

A debate was then opened on the subject of a suggested PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR INDIA. The Chairman said the proposal was to have an authoritative Society for the whole of India, free of the trammels of exchange packets. Its duties will be to issue a monthly high class journal, to publish handbooks from time to time, to arrange for exhibitions, &c., &c. It seemed to him that if they could get most of the collectors all over India to join and form a regular Philatelic Society of India, they would be able to do much good. After the larger society was started they might either abolish the Bengal Society, or it might become the Calcutta Branch of the other institution, the Societies of the sister Presidencies and N. W. P. and Punjab also becoming affiliated to it. After much discussion the general principle was unanimously agreed to, and it was understood that Mr. Larmour would undertake the duties of secretary. The following committee was formed: Mr. Stewart-Wilson, Mr. F. Sassoon Gubbay, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Larmour and Lieutenant Madden.

The only other business before the meeting was to discuss the preliminaries for a Philatelic Exhibition.

It was unanimously resolved that some sort of rewards should be offered, such as medals (if possible), and diplomas, and that the exhibition should be held in Christmas week in the Art Gallery of the Calcutta Museum, if available. Last year's committee were re-appointed with Messrs. Lyall and Schiller, and arrangements promised for an impartial and uninterested jury to adjudge the awards.

The exhibition will be divided into the following classes: Class I. The most meritorious collection of India Proper. Class II. Of Indian stamps surcharged for use in Native States. Class III.—Of other Native States. Class IV.—Of English stamps. Class V.—The most meritorious collection of the following British Colonies: (a) Cyprus, (b) Mauritius, (c) Ceylon, (d) St. Vincent (e) Canada, and (f) Victoria. Class VI. The best fifty rare stamps. And class VII. Exchange Club packets.

#### PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

##### Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed, are inserted at the rate of 4d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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USED English.—Red imperfs. with double letter in corner. Blue Maltese Cross Postmark. Blue Town Postmark. Inverted watermark and hairlines, 14 and 16 perf. small crown; 16 large crown, red-brown on white paper. Numerous other varieties about half catalogue prices.—G. A. GOSSOLD, Hillside, Upper Helmsford Road, Bristol.

EXCHANGE.—Tuscany, Parma, Naples, against English Colonies, U.S.A., Ac. BASIS, Scott preferred.—GIACOMINI, Corso Umberto, Naples. 14

WANTED to change stamps. England and Colonial with stamps from Denmark and Iceland, rare with rare, always answered.—TH. V. ANTONISEN, Esbjerg, Denmark.

STANLEY GIBBONS' Album, published at 10/6, only slightly used, post free, 4/3.—HICKES 61, Cheapside, E.C.

WANTED "Army Official" errors "OFFICIAL" all values W. SCOTT, E. Piccadilly, Bradford.

EXCHANGE Wanted.—Used 50-200 United States, Canada or Newfoundland for stamps of any country.—Unused stamps returned for same value for value, satisfaction guaranteed.—GEORGE A. GARDNER, 20, Prescott Street, Lowell, Mass., United States. 13

1d. black, 1c. imperf., three kinds, one ivory head 2d. blue, no lines, ditto with lines, ditto perf., two kinds, one 24d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/2 also vaccination certificate for 2/6 cash. Collectors of embossed English 1d. envelopes will find a large selection with the SASTON STAMP CO., 35, Allwale Villas, Cannonbury, London, N. 12

COLLECTORS' duplicates on approval. Cheapest prices. References requested.—ROBERT REID, JUNR., 19, Chiswell Street, E.C.

NGER Coast Provisionals, 24d., 1/- each, with 5d., 3/- pair, used. Superb.—FRANK SIMON, 31, Radnor Street, Peckham.

QUEENSLAND STAMPS.—1d., 2d. and 6d. Imperforate and all perforations on Government Officials at list prices. Not on originals, 25 per cent. discount off catalogue prices for all full face issues. Unique block of 3 imperf. 2d. on pair of original—superb specimen and postmarked November, 1896, price £50.—EDWARD COOPER, 1, Tank Street, Brisbane, Queensland. 11

STAMPS of British West Indies, St. Helena, Cape Verde, Azores, British Central and East Africa, wanted in Exchange for good South Africans. BASIS, Stanley Gibbons, E. Booth, Grahamstown, South Africa. 12

I AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. Bazaar Reference Ticket.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. 16

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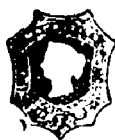
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1d. .. I, on blue paper, superb .. .. .	..	32
1d. .. II., with clouds, 1d. carmine on bluish, extra fine on part original .. .. .	..	50
2d. .. I., retouch fine with large margins on part orig. .. .. .	..	45
2d. .. III., deep blue, fine, early impressions, good margins .. .. .	..	35
2d. .. III., blue on laid paper .. .. .	..	40
Natal, 1st issue, 3d., fine large specimen on entire envelope, rare .. .. .		
.. .. .	..	37
Canada, 6d. imperf., fine margins .. .. .	..	25
Canada, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. green, fair margins .. .. .	..	70
10d. blue, fair .. .. .	..	75

Send to-day for large Illustrated Price List of Sets, Packets Rare Stamps, &c., Wholesale and Retail.

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 53, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.**



## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1896-1897

#### Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

Hon. Librarian: Mr. C. Forbes.

Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

#### Committee:

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, & H. Atharley.

#### Hon. Secretary:

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE sixth meeting of the Season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C., on Monday, Dec. 14th. The following Members being present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, W. Morley, D. T. Nops, H. Thompson, H. Plumridge, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atharley, G. C. Warden, L. Bruce, G. W. Housom, H. A. Macmillan, F. Vanden-Broucque, T. Wallace, D. Thomson, H. Chetwin, and J. B. Neyroud.

The large attendance of members was owing to the fact that Mr. W. Morley, the well-known dealer and collector of Fiscal Stamps, had promised to show a portion of his collection of British Colonial and United States Revenue Stamps, and to make a few remarks on the subject.

Three large volumes were displayed. The first volume shown contained the stamps of all British Colonies except Canada, the other two albums holding those of this country and the United States. Commencing at Antigua, and going through the various countries and islands to Zululand, Mr. Morley described fully many of the varieties, pointing out the rarer perforations, surcharges, papers, etc.

Many places such as the Australian Colonies, Canada, and the West Indies were practically complete, and in the case of Nevis made up plates were shown of the 1d. and 6d. values, used and unused. Much interest was shown by several of the members in the Beer duty stamps of Queensland. One member remarking that the size of the stamps apparently increased in proportion to the value of the cask.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Morley for the trouble taken by him in bringing and describing the stamps for the benefit of the members was proposed by Mr. C. Forbes and seconded by Mr. H. Hilckes, brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Mr. L. Bruce (London) was duly elected a member of the Club at the meeting held on November 30th (omitted from last report.)

Further Meetings have been arranged as follows:—

Dec. 30th.—No Meeting.

Jan. 11th.—Paper: English. H. Hilckes, Esq.

„ 25th.—Twelfth Auction Sale.

Future dates will be published in due course.

#### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Monthly Post*, *The Bazaar Supplement*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp Advertiser*.

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*, *Die Post*.

From Luxembourg: *Le Moniteur du Collecteur*.

From Austria: *Welt Post*.

From the United States: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The American Collector*, *International Philatelist*, *The Boston Stamp Book*, *American Philatelic Magazine*, *The Columbian Philatelist*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The Californian Philatelist*.

From Canada: *The Canadian Philatelic Magazine*.

Mr. Forbes also thanks Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen for a copy of his Catalogue of the Stamps of the United Kingdom.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

#### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

#### NORTH WESTERN STAMP EXCHANGE.

THE November packet, containing ten sheets of the value of £50 14s. 10d., was sent off 5th inst. Responsible collectors and dealers invited to join. For rules, &c., write to J. R. LERESCHE, 2, Mapesbury Road, Brondesbury, London, N.W.

#### PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE third ordinary meeting was held on Wednesday, November 4th. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) presided.

The Vice-President having informed the meeting that owing to pressure of private work, the Hon. Sec. would be compelled to be temporarily assisted in his duties, it was arranged that Mr. F. A. Cocks, R.N. should take charge of the Society's library, and the Vice-President should call the meetings, &c., pending the appointment of another member. The Hon. Sec. consented to continue the Treasurer's work and correspondence.

Mr. J. E. V. Morton, R.N. (Stonehouse), was elected an ordinary member of the Society; Mr. E. Honeysell (Stoke), Mr. G. Hutson (Glasgow), and Mr. K. Thakur (Bombay) being elected corresponding members.

The Vice-President introduced as the subject of study, the stamps of Gibraltar and Malta, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his own collection. An interesting discussion took place on the dies used for the production of the "De La Rue" series.

The fourth meeting was held Wednesday, November 18th.

The subject of study, the "stamps of Cyprus," was introduced by the Vice-President, who illustrated his remarks by his own collection, and showed specimens of the different dies of the De La Rue types for the information of members.

The fifth meeting was held Wednesday, December 2nd, 1896. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) presided.

Mr. J. R. Divett (Favistock), Mr. K. J. D. Edwards (Stonehouse), and Mr. R. S. Triggs

(Stonehouse), were elected ordinary members of the Society; Mr. W. G. Bowden (Cardiff), and Mr. R. R. Hoare (H.M.S. "Magnificent"), being elected corresponding members.

Mr. W. E. Harvey was appointed to assist the Hon. Sec. in accordance with the decision arrived at at the third ordinary meeting of the Society.

The subject of study, "The Stamps of Victoria," was introduced by Mr. H. W. Mayne, who, condensing his remarks into the space of one evening, referred only to some of the stamps of special interest, particularly those comprised in the "Tapping" collection. The members were shown, by specimens from his collection, the difference in the dies used for the 3d., 1st issue, and some very fine specimens of the stamps to which he referred, particularly noticeable among them being the 1862, 2d. lilac, wmkd. "Three Pence," which was in fine unused condition.

An interesting discussion followed, the Vice-President supplementing Mr. Mayne's remarks with some valuable information, illustrated by his collection. He pointed out that the stamps under discussion afforded one of the best fields for specialising, there being such a variety of perforations, and so-called "errors of wmk." He placed on view a fine specimen, on original envelope, of a very fine impression of the 3d., 1st issue, and stated that it was postmarked with probably one of the earliest dates yet discovered.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Mayne for his very interesting paper.

"The stamps of Norway" was decided upon as the subject of study for the next meeting, to be introduced by the Hon. Sec.—W. J. W. MILLER, Hon. Sec., 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

#### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Nov. 19. The following were unanimously elected members: Messrs R. Palmieri (Italy), L. S. Wells (London), G. H. Howe (London), C. M. Forster (Newcastle on Tyne), W. W. Blest (Kent), J. S. Noakes (Sussex), N. H. Withee (U.S.A.), A. G. Serghides (Turkey), and Lady Blanche Collen (India).

The Hon. Sec. then read his paper on "South Australian Officials" which was followed by a fine display of Departmentals and Officials, comprising the collection of Mr. M. Z. Kuttner (London), the stock books of Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Limited, including their specially arranged books from the "Castle Collection." Hearty votes of thanks were given to Messrs Kuttner, Stanley Gibbons and the Hon. Sec.

Dec 3rd. Votes of thanks were accorded Messrs Stanley Gibbons for a copy of their new handbook on "Barbadoes," P. Kohl for a bound copy of the new edition of his "Catalogue of the stamps of Europe," R. Hollick for "Hilckes' Auction Summary."

Messrs. Herman Lindberg (Sweden), C. A. Bornn (West Indies), and J. Graham Taylor (West Indies), were unanimously elected members.

The Hon. Treas. was authorised to add St. Vincent, Portuguese Indies, etc., to the Library, and have all necessary binding done.

Mr. A. Levy (Plymouth), then exhibited his fine collection of South Australia, Mr. M. Z. Kuttner (London), a fine collection of Postal Curiosities including a very fine uncut copy of Docwra's Penny Post. Mr. W. T. Wilson and others also exhibited some scarce and interesting curiosities, errors, old letters sheets, etc.

Notice. It will save needless correspondence if it is understood that foreign membership in the B.P.S. is no guarantee and should not be

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY

## MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

January 13th and 14th. A FINE SELECTION OF BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, including the following Rarities:

GAMBIA, a fine strip of five, 6d. blue, imperf.; GIBRALTAR, complete; NOVA SCOTIA, strips and pairs of 1d. red-brown, on entires and loose, several fine specimens of the 6d. light green and 6d. dark green, on entires and loose, several split 6d. used as 3d., on entires, 1/- violet, fine, and split 10c. on entires; NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½ vermilion, unused and fine, 8d. vermilion, used, and 6½ lake, used; NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. yellow, unused and torn, several split 6d. used as 3d., on entires, 1/- violet, half of 10c., used, on on piece; STATES, 1869, 30c. block of 12; BARBADOS, 5/- (2 fine); BASLE, 2½ rappen; fine GERMAN STATES, including rogr. Hanover, unused, Rare Oldenburgs, Bremen, Lubeck, Schleswig Holstein, &c.; a fine lot of WEST INDIANS, including St. Christopher, block of four, 6d. olive, unused; plates of 1d. NEVIS; DOMINICA, 1/-, CA., unused; VIRGIN ISLANDS, 6d., perf. 15, unused, an entire unused sheet of 1/- crimson, 1/- with single line border, unused, and 1/- with double line border, used; NEVIS, 1/- blue-green, unused, with gum; ST. VINCENT, CA., 4d. blue, perfs. 12 and 14, unused, 1d. drab, star, unused; fine unused blocks of 2½ and 4d., CC., MONTSERRATS, &c.; QUEENSLAND, 1d., imperf., two on entire, a fine pair of 2d. blue, imperf., and others; HONG KONG, C. and CC., 18c. violet, unused; two fine unused specimens NEW SOUTH WALES 1d., laureated, on blue; a fine unused pair BRITISH GUIANA; 1875, perf. 15, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12 cents, all unused, with full gum and in mint state; and many others.

January 28th and 29th.—A Very Rare Lot, including Newfoundland 2d. carmine vermilion, unused, with large margins, and superb, and the orange and carmine sets complete.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of collections and rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale.

**VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.**

CATALOGUES of all Sales, and Terms, can be had on application to

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL, & COOPER (Philatelic Department), 35, Old Jewry, LONDON, E.C.

Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 15,076. ESTABLISHED 1761.

## Unique ENGLISH RARITY FOR SALE.

2½d. lilac-rose, plate 2, wmk. anchor, on blue paper, superb unused copy with original gum.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1½d. current-unused with inverted wmk.	0	5	0
" " 2d. " " " "	0	5	0
" " 1d. Mulready Envelope-unfolded	1	5	0
" " New Catalogue of Envelopes and Cards	0	0	6
Cyprus, 6d. grey, very fine pair, used	4	2	6
" " 1/- green " " " "	6	0	0
Queensland, 2d. blue, small star, perf. 12, rarity	3	0	0
Sierra Leone, 5/- on 1/- green, provisional (not put in use)	0	15	0
St. Vincent, 1869, 4d. yellow, original green, superb copy	5	5	0
British Guiana, 4 cents blue, CC. unused (scarce)	0	15	0
British Bechuanaland, ½d. black (on Cape), error "ritish"	6	0	0
" " ½d. " double surcharge in red and black	3	0	0
Transvaal, 1d. on 4d. green, large surcharge used, rarity	6	0	0
" " 1d. on 4d. " small " inverted, unused	1	17	6
Zululand, ½ green (on Natal), double surcharged, unused	3	0	0

ALL FULLY GUARANTEED.

WALTER MORLEY, 186, West Green Rd., TOTTENHAM, N.

## W. B. KIRKPATRICK, CLOSEBURN, . . BOURNEMOUTH.

(Member I.P.U. Committee, City of London Philatelic Club, etc., etc.)

OFFERS THIS WEEK, £ s. d.

British South Africa, 2d. green, perf. 12½, thick paper, unused	0	17	6
" " " " 4d. pale brown, perf. 12½	1	0	0
Gambia, 6d. blue, imp. CC., unused	1	10	0
" " 6d. " perf. " " " "	0	17	6
" " 1/- green " " " "	2	10	0
Gold Coast, ½d. ochre " " " "	0	4	6
" " ½d. " CA., used	0	10	0
" " 1d. blue " " " "	0	15	0
Sierra Leone, 2d. magenta, CC., perf. 12½ unused	0	17	6
" " 3d. yellow " " " "	0	15	0
" " 4d. blue " " " "	0	18	6
" " 1/- green " " " "	1	5	0
" " 2d. magenta " perf. 14 " "	0	4	0
" " 4d. blue " " " "	1	10	0
" " 1/- green " " " "	0	15	0
Barbados, 6d. orange, CC., perf. 12½, used	0	15	0
" " 4d. vermilion, CC. " " " "	0	6	0
" " 4d. " " " unused	1	5	0
" " 4d. carmine " perf. 14 " "	1	1	0
" " 4d. " " " pair	2	5	0
Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. " unused	1	10	0
" " 2½d. " CA. " " "	1	2	6
Grenada, 8d. brown, CA. " " " "	0	9	0
" " 8d. " CA. " used	0	10	6
B. Honduras, 6d. carmine, CC., perf. 12½, used	0	12	6
" " 6d. " " " 14	1	5	0
" " 6d. " " " 14 unused	4	0	0
Lagos, 1/- orange, CA., perf. 14, unused	0	5	0
Cyprus, 6p. drab, " " die I.	0	6	0
" " 6p. " " " die II.	0	4	0
" " 12p. orange, CA. " " die I.	1	0	0
" " 12p. " " " die II.	0	15	0

Above are all fine copies.

SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.

A Merry Christmas to all our Readers!



# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY

## PORTNIGHTLY

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

- The Liverpool Philatello Society. | The City of London Philatello Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatello Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatello Society. | Rochdale Philatello Society. | Sheffield Philatello Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 59.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1896.

TWOPENCE.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### WHEN THE POST WAS IN ITS INFANCY.

WE have received from a colonial friend a most interesting postal publication—viz.: the "Postage Act, 13 Vic., No. 38, with regulations issued thereunder by the Governor and Executive Council for the Post Office Department, New South Wales." The book should be well worth the space it would occupy on a philatelist's bookshelf, for it affords much useful information as to the early postal arrangements of the Colony of New South Wales. One thing that strikes us as particularly curious is the fact that halfpenny postage were contemplated by the postal authorities of New South Wales as long ago as 1849, but no stamps of that denomination appeared until quite recently.

The book we have mentioned has been placed in the hands of our publishers for sale, should any philatelist entertain its purchase. The price is one guinea.

### THEFT OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN PARIS.

M. ARCHER, a Paris police commissary, has arrested several persons who are charged with stealing 10,000fr. worth of foreign stamps from M. L.—, a philatelist of the rue de Provence. For some time (our Paris correspondent informs us) this gentleman failed to discover the person who stole the stamps from his shop, but the other day, says the *Temps*, he

was informed by one of his confrères that a woman, Gabrielle Morlack, had tried to sell him part of the stolen property. The arrest of the girl Morlack, who is one of M. L.—'s employées, has resulted in the arrest of two *chiffonniers*, who are believed to be her accomplices.

### A MILLION USED POSTAGE-STAMPS.

You who light-heartedly commence to collect a million old postage-stamps, do you realise what a very big job you are embarking on? Here (says *Answers*) are a few statistics that may help you to realise it. To count them would take one person four weeks 3 days seven hours forty minutes, allowing 60 a minute, and ten hours' work a day.

If they had not been used, a million penny stamps would be worth £4,166 13s. 4d.

Joined together in one line their longest way, they would reach 15 miles 4,133ft. 4in.

They would cover an area of 5,200 square feet.

Supposing one person collected 50 a day, it would take him nearly 55 years to get a million. To do it in four months one must receive 10,375 a day.

They would fill 4,000 envelopes if they were sent in penny packets, and the postage of them would come to £16 13s. 4d.

### WHAT A STAMP COLLECTION DID.

THEY are telling an interesting little story in Toronto, which, if not true (remarks *Pearson's Weekly*), is certainly *ben trovato*. The receiving cashier of the Bank of British North America, when he was appointed, was required to give bonds to the amount of £2,000.

He did not find this a particularly easy thing to do, for he had no friends to whom he could go. In thinking over ways and means it struck him that perhaps his collection of stamps, made when a lad, might help him out of the difficulty, as he had some rare specimens. He accordingly hunted out his album, which had lain unregarded for over twenty years in an old drawer.

Then he made a catalogue, and sent it to a rich stamp collector of his acquaintance. In due course came a reply from that gentleman saying he was prepared to give the sum of £2,000 for the collection.

Dramatic coincidence!

The cashier thereupon took the letter and his stamps to the bank directors, and offered them as the security he was required to furnish. They were accepted, and the bank has had the stamp-book locked up in its vault ever since. An

estimate has just been made of the value of its contents, and the lucky cashier finds that his stamps are worth the snug little fortune of £7,000.

#### "MAY BE OF VALUE TO COLLECTORS."

We are indebted to "A Philatelic Southerner" for a specimen of the *Gibraltar Chronicle* of October 8th, containing the following:

#### PUBLIC NOTICE.

The following stamps of obsolete issues, which are unfit for use through the post, but may be of value to collectors, may be obtained on application at the Colonial Treasury, where the stamps can be seen daily during office hours:

194	specimens of 75 centimo stamp.
61	" " 1 peseta "
18	" " 5 " "

Offers for the purchase of any or all these stamps should be in writing, and should be addressed to the Cashier, Colonial Treasury. Offers will be dealt with strictly in the order in which they are received, and no offer under the face value will be excepted.

By order of His Excellency the Governor,  
H. M. JACKSON,  
Colonial Secretary,  
for Colonial Treasurer.

COLONIAL TREASURY,  
8th October, 1896.

#### THE VICTORIAN POSTAL SCANDAL.

ACCORDING to the latest mail advices, the Public Service Board has now communicated to the Government of Victoria the result of its investigation into the circumstances connected with the irregular traffic in obsolete stamps by officers of the Postal Department. The officers concerned were:—W. Morkham, accountant and controller of stamps; W. H. Sinnott, clerk in the accountant's branch; A. Coulson, clerk, now in the Income Tax Department; and H. C. Treyvand, letter-sorter, Geelong. They have been found guilty on some of the charges brought against them, and the board recommends reductions in their salaries. The board recommends that Morkham's gross salary of £750 (that is without the percentage reductions), be reduced to £700 per annum, from the date of his resuming duty; that Sinnott's salary be reduced from £485 to £375 per annum, from the date of his resuming duty; that Treyvand's salary be reduced from £175 to £160 for 12 months; and that Coulson's salary be reduced from £200 to £184 for 12 months. It is understood that the Cabinet, following the usual course, will adopt the recommendations of the board. Morkham has not been in good health for some time past, and is likely to apply to be retired from the service on that ground.

#### IT WILL BE AN IRISHMAN'S "RISE."

FROM the *Indian Daily News* we clip this instructive paragraph:—

Philatelists who go in for specimens of Native States stamps, will, writes the Lahore paper, be greatly excited to hear that all plates, dies, and seals used in the printing of Kashmir and Jammu State stamps, from the date of the earliest issue to the time of the supersession of the State Post Offices by the Imperial Post, have been recently destroyed by the Accountant-General of the State in presence of European witnesses. This, of course, was necessary, though it is said there have been no reprinting for the last fifteen years at least. Kashmir stamps will now go up largely in value.

Will they?

#### THE DUTCH QUEEN AND HER POSTAGE STAMPS.

*Modern Society* asserts that the young Queen of the Netherlands has been a passionate collector of postage stamps since she was eight years of age. Those bearing her own effigy are not wanting in her collection. It is related that, lately, Her Majesty reproached her President of the Council because the present Dutch stamps still bear her portrait when she was only ten years old. "I should like very much, my dear Minister, a new series of stamps which will show me to my people just as I am at present!" she is reported to have said. But the Dutch Ministers have decided that the new portrait of their Queen shall be engraved on certain State papers only on the occasion of her marriage.

#### STAMPS THAT ARE ON THE UP GRADE.

PROBABLY before the year is out the completed 57th edition of Scott's Catalogue will be with us. Meanwhile it is worth while to take a casual glance at the prices quoted in the sets of Advance Proofs—now almost complete—that have accumulated upon the editorial table. U.S.A. postage stamps have "gone up" here and there, but there is no rise that can properly be called sensational. With regard to Revenues the tune is a different one. Many of the scarcest Revenues have simply "jumped through the roof" in point of price. British North Americans do not appear to have suffered, in the estimation of Messrs. Scott, as a result of the Nova Scotia "deal." In South American stamps there is a notable upward tendency in Brazilians, Chilians and Uruguays, especially of the earlier issues. Norway is evidently a country that is going to boom, especially in the unused condition. Great Britain is very inadequately dealt with in the Scott Catalogue, plate numbers in many cases being simply enumerated, without any attempt at a differentiation of values. African stamps generally are moved up a little in consequence of increased demand; but as a general thing Scott's 57th Catalogue shows none of that reckless pushing-up of prices which has lately brought upon our hobby no small amount of criticism, from within as well as without.

#### A CANADIAN STAMP DEALER'S BANKRUPTCY.

THE doubts that were entertained as to the solvency of that old established dealer and publisher, Mr. H. F. Ketcheson, of Belleville, Ontario, proved well founded. "Rea," a correspondent of *McKeel's Weekly*, now tells us that Mr. Ketcheson is "engaged in removing his household effects from Belleville to Toronto, where he will in the future reside. Mr. Ketcheson's estate is now about wound up and the dividend declared by the assignee has proved anything but satisfactory to the creditors. It is estimated that after everything has been settled the estate will pay about six cents on the dollar. The total liabilities were about five or six thousand dollars. The assets realized about \$800, out of which had to be paid the assignee's expenses and charges and the solicitor's fees, the two amounting to about \$500, leaving for division among the creditors about \$300. Pity the poor creditor! Mr. Ketcheson is in receipt of a fairly good salary as a postal messenger, but as by Canadian law the salary of government employees cannot be attached, the creditors will be unable to obtain any further redress."

#### THE AMERICAN POSTAL MUSEUM.

THE Museum of the United States Post Office Department (writes Mr. J. M. Bartels) is well worthy of a visit by any philatelist having a few hours to spare in the nation's capital. It was opened to the public in October, 1894, and has been under the efficient supervision of Manager Slack, who has displayed excellent taste and judgment in arranging the numerous objects of interest in the comparatively small space allotted to the exhibit. The things of interest to stamp collectors are legion, and only a few of the most striking can be mentioned here. The walls of the large hall are mostly covered with frames containing the exhibit of stamps contributed by various governments to the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago. These were mounted and arranged by the late typographer, Mr. Rosser, and any philatelist using a blank album could glean many valuable points in regard to neat and effective designs for mounting his stamps. A number of new donations have been received of late and the most generous countries in this respect thus far have been Mexico, Japan and Sweden.

Truly a magnificent piece of work is the huge gilt frame containing thousands of U.S. proofs of the stamps printed by the American Bank Note Co., artistically arranged in numerous designs. The colours are blended in a way to produce a most striking effect which must, of course, be seen to be duly appreciated. One side of the wall is covered with frames containing entire sheets of India paper proofs of postage due and periodical stamps of the American Bank Note Company and Bureau Issues. U.S. entire envelopes are arranged in several large frames, and make a very good showing. The first U.S. postal card is displayed in nineteen

different colours, from which it would seem that a good selection had been made in adopting a rich brown shade. Mail coaches, postal uniforms, dating stamps, mail pouches, envelopes with strange addresses and curiosities of every kind, mostly displayed in cases under glass, take up the interior of the hall, and the whole forms a very creditable museum for the short time of his existence.

#### PLEBEIANS AND PATRICIANS OF PHILATELY.

COLLECTORS (remarks the editor of the *Philatelic Record*), have for some time been divided by common consent into three well defined classes, namely, General Collectors, Specialists and Speculants. Into this simple category most of us seem to fall, or are placed by our more zealous friends. The Speculant, of course, prefers being classed as a collector. Now we are, it seems, to be further subdivided. A German writer makes no less than seven classes, thus:—

- 1.—Beginners.
- 2.—Average ("mittlere" collectors).
- 3.—Serious collectors. (Collections worth £2,000—£5,000).
- 4.—Important collectors. (Collections worth £5,000—£10,000).
- 5.—Prominent collectors. (Collections over £10,000).
- 6.—"Hors pair" or "hors ligne." (Collections over £50,000).

This (as Mr. Nankivell adds), is positive, comparative, and superlative with a vengeance.

#### THE SPECULATOR HAS BEEN ALWAYS WITH US.

AMID all the talk that is going on about the speculator in philately, we are bidden to remember that philatelic speculation is no new thing. "So long ago as 1863 (the *Philatelic Record* reminds us), the Stamp Speculator was very much in evidence; a writer in the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* of that year calls attention to 'a practice' which 'has recently arisen among postage stamp collectors of laying up considerable numbers of obsolete and even current stamps.' This practice, the writer tells us, 'is grounded on the assumption that the TIMBROMAINE will continue in vogue for several years, and that before it goes out many stamps now comparatively common may become rather valuable to collectors;' and then he adds, 'we are acquainted with several persons who are thus storing French, Indian, and other common issues.'"

#### A DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.

WE are given to understand that the business now conducted under the name, Boolemann & Co., of Johannesburg, (Boolemann & Epstein) will after January 1st, 1897, be under the sole control of Mr. Epstein, who will trade as Epstein & Co. at the same premises as heretofore.

#### A SHORT CUT TO TAHITI.

ALTHOUGH the distance from the Pitcairn Islands to Tahiti is little more than a thousand miles, letters directed from one place to the other have to travel pretty well all round the globe before they reach their destination. A gentleman, who has travelled on a ship deputed to carry the mail matter of the Pitcairn Islanders vouches for this statement, and has given the *London Daily Mail* the following explanation of the anomaly:

"We left San Francisco (says he) in the ship *City of Hankow*, and were off Pitcairn Island on Christmas Day. Only about one ship makes the island, and as we should lose no ground by waiting a few hours, we hove to and signalled to the shore. Then the two boats came off with two loads of vegetables. The governor of the island came off and asked us to carry some letters to Tahiti.

"We smiled at first, but when he produced seven letters and told us that there was no other way to send them we consented and started on our journey again.

"Those letters were the cause of a good deal of inconvenience. When the captain landed at England he took the letters ashore and went to the postmaster. Then he was informed that he must make an affidavit, and must apply to the postmaster-general for sevenpence, the tariff for carrying letters from countries not in the postal union. Eventually the letters were handed in at the Falmouth post-office, after we carried them about 13,000 miles.

"From Falmouth they went to Southampton and were sent in the usual course of events to New York, another 3,000 miles. They then crossed to San Francisco, and were put on board one of the Australian steamers, and put off at the nearest point to Tahiti, their destination. The remainder of their journey was covered by a small boat. In all, the letters travelled a distance of over 25,000 miles, and occupied four months and a half en route."

#### THE POST OFFICE AS A BUYER OF STAMPS.

ENGLISH business men have often "kicked" about the percentage charged by the Post Office for cashing unused stamps—namely, 2½ per cent., or 6d. in the £1. What would they say to a deduction of 5 per cent., which is the amount hitherto charged in Canada? However, the new Postmaster General of the Dominion, the Hon. William Mulock, has commenced his term of office by making a very substantial reduction. "Five per cent. (the *Eastern Philatelist's* correspondent writes) is admitted to be too high, especially when it is considered that stamp vendors only make one per cent. on their sales. The Postmaster General has accordingly decided that from this the department will redeem stamps in sums of not less than a dollar at a discount of one per cent., the same discount which the vendors get. The stamps may be pasted upon sheets of paper and sent to the department at Ottawa, when a cheque for the amount of the stamps will be forwarded to the person sending them in."

We could very well do with the game one-per-cent. arrangement in this country, as many stamp dealers will readily allow.

#### LIBEL ACTION BY A STAMP DEALER.

MR. ROBERT MORRISON, who is a stamp dealer carrying on business at Tenby, has commenced an action for libel against the proprietor of the *Tenby and County News*, who published some references to Mr. Morrison's business which that gentleman regards as libellous. Mr. Morrison informs us that he is claiming £500 damages, and that the case will be heard at the next Pembrokeshire Assizes.

#### STRAY JOTTINGS.

IN the United States, 77 letters, &c., are delivered annually to each person; in the United Kingdom, 71; in Belgium, 51; in Switzerland, 46; in Holland, 43; in France, 42; in Germany, 30; in Austria, 21; in Italy, 14; and in Russia only 2!

GERMAN East Africa (says a writer in *Mckee's Weekly*) is a colony which "prohibits the sale of its stamps for collecting purposes." Perhaps there is also a law which compels the purchasers of same to use them for postage, otherwise we fail to see how this ruling of the local postmaster can be effective.

\* \* \*

IT is stated that some of the Japanese postmasters have requested that they be allowed to put the cancelling mark only on the edges of the Japanese war stamps, so as to avoid defiling the princely faces. To old-fashioned Japs it is specially displeasing to see foreigners putting portraits representing men of divine descent into their mouths and putting them on the envelopes with as much indifference as we employ with the face of our Queen. Some Japanese, if they use the stamps at all, must reverently lift them to their head, carefully wet the glue with pure water, and then utter a prayer as they reverently attach them to the envelope.

\* \* \*

The *Collector-Dealer* regards it as "generally understood" that the 5s. stamp of Malta will shortly go out of issue.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JAN. 9th, 1897.

- Auction Sales.
- Jan. 5th & 6th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.
  - Jan. 13th and 14th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, at 5.30 p.m. each day.

## Notes on New Issues.

\*\* We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

**British East Africa.**—Mr. R. Lerésche has received a copy of the I.B.E.A. Co.'s 3 anna stamp, written across in ink "½ anna" and initialled by postmaster and postally used.

\***Bulgaria.**—The current 5 stotinki in blue has changed colour, and now appears in a bright orange-red.  
5s. orange-red (2d.)

**Victoria.**—The 9d. carmine is now issued in a slightly different shade. Whereas the first printings were a deep full carmine, the later ones are more of a brick-red shade, no doubt in consequence of yellow being mixed with the printing pigment.

9d. yellow-carmine (1/6).

\***Cape of Good Hope.**—In conformity with the resolution adopted recently by the African Colonies to have uniform colours, this Colony has issued the ½d. stamp in a deep olive green shade, whereby the old ½d. black at last vanishes.

½d. green (1d.)

The stamps marked (\*) were submitted by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The prices in parenthesis are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers.

## The B.C.A. "Postal Fiscals."

WE have received the following interesting correspondence from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



[COPY.]

Brussels,

December 19th, 1896.

Sirs,—I have the honour to enclose for your perusal, a letter from the Postmaster of Port Herald, B.C.A. with reference to the Revenue stamps of that Protectorate.

You will note that the said Revenue stamps were never used postally, and that the cancellation of same with the postal postmark was, as I expected, a mistake on the part of the Postmaster, who, as Collector of Revenue of the same district, was supplied with two sets of obliterators, one for Postal and one for Revenue purposes, and in error used the postal obliterator for the Revenue purposes.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,  
(Signed), J. E. McMASTER,  
Postmaster General, B.C.A.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.,  
Ipswich.

[COPY.]

Surbiton, 18th December, 1896.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 14th inst, I have the honour to inform you that those long Revenue stamps you mention were never used postally, and the reason the date stamp appears on them was that having a large number of tax papers to issue in one day, it saved time, as it did away the necessity of writing in the date in ink on the tax papers.

I have the honour to be, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,  
(Signed) H. GALT,  
Postmaster, Pt. Herald.

The Postmaster-General,  
B. C. Africa.

Comment would seem to be superfluous. It shall suffice us to repeat our advice to buyers of these stamps to get their money refunded without delay.



By C62.

ONE of the strangest things about philately, to a comparative outsider, such as I am, is the peculiar sensitiveness to all outside criticism, coupled with an equally abnormal intolerance for all other philatelists' little fancies. I am led to moralize thus by a sentence in a letter I have just received from one of the Committee of the City of London Philatelic Club. "Is it not playing it rather low down to go into the question of what coloured ink the man had on his pad when he dabs his obliteration on it? Why not enquire the colour of the man's necktie; it would have almost as much to do with stamps." Perhaps so, but suppose I happen to feel interested in the ink? I can get up just as much enthusiasm over it as my friend can over any other branch of our hobby.

A few weeks ago, Mr. Way sent me a copy of the 2d., plate 13, lettered H.E., with a line running along the top of the H. Mr. Walker, now informs me that he has the same stamp without the line, so that the line on Mr. Way's copy must be the result of an accident.

*The Numbered M. Cross Oblit.*—Mr. Mackey has sent me a parcel of 90 entires with this obliteration, and Mr. Walker particulars of 6 more. I do not think it necessary or desirable to give a list of these, now. I am quite convinced that the theory I expressed in No. 55 is absolutely correct. I may, however, say that all these 96 letters, with one exception, were posted in London for delivery in the provinces,—the numbers clearly, therefore, had nothing to do with the delivery in London—that 60 of them were sent from Bedford Row, and bear examples of all the numbers except Nos. 4 and 12, and that there are six copies of the Lombard Street pmk. (Types 3 and 4, page 29) with the Nos. 2, 3, 5, 7-9, 11—the numbers therefore had no connection with the receiving office. I am very grateful to these gentlemen for their kindness in helping me to a settled opinion on this subject.

*Inverted Watermarks.*—Mr. Walker also reports 1d. plates 120 and 145 with inverted wmk. With reference to Mr. Walker's enquiry as to whether I think it is possible to make up his set of Mulready's with numbered M.X. obliterations, I can only say that "while there's life, there's hope."

*Approval Books.*—I wish I knew the address of the reader at Brixton who tackled the Editor of the "S.C.F." a few weeks ago, on this subject; the Christmas hamper he would get from me would surprise him.

I do not see how the practice of sending approval books, unasked, can be defended. In my own case the cost of returning unsolicited books is so heavy that I am unable to find any cash to spend on stamps. Some two years ago I sent 6d. to a London dealer for a certain stamp I wanted, up to the present that stamp has cost me about 12/6 in postage. The whole business I regard as a piece of gross impertinence, which brings no good to the dealer, and is a curse to the collector.

*Envelope Stamps.*—I have received from Mr. W. Morley a copy of his new catalogue of envelope stamps, which should be in the hands of every collector. The subject is exhaustively dealt with and the form and size of the work leave nothing to be desired. My ideal specialist catalogue has always been small enough to carry in a vest pocket, and Mr. Morley's is the first to realise my ideal. I am almost tempted to go in for envelopes in consequence.



## Interesting to Philatelic Experts.

### IODINE AS A FORGERY DETECTOR

It seems possible, from articles that have recently appeared in various newspapers, that iodine may play an important part in the detection of forgery, and that in certain cases it may be profitably applied to the detection of forged or "faked" stamps. The articles in question are based upon the investigations of an eminent scientist, Professor G. Bruylants, who, in 1893, held forth this subject before the Belgian Academy.

In the course of the address he then delivered (a report of which has been sent us by an esteemed correspondent) Professor Bruylants is reported to have said:—

Although my experiments were not carried out under the most favourable circumstances their results were satisfactory. A piece of paper was handed to me for the purpose of determining if part of it had been unequally and greatly wet, and if another part of it had been manipulated for the purpose of erasing marks upon it; in other words, whether this part had been rubbed. The sample I had to work upon had already gone through several experiments. I had remarked that the tint of paper exposed to the vapour of iodine differs from that which this same paper assumes when it had been wet first and dried afterwards. In addition to this, I realised that when sized and calendered paper, first partially wet and then dried, is subjected to the action of iodine vapour, the parts which had been wet take on a violet tint, while those which had not been moistened became either discoloured or brown. The intensity of the colouration naturally varied according to the length of time for which the paper was exposed to the iodine.

#### DISCOLOURATION BY WATER.

There is a very striking difference, also, when the water is sprinkled over the paper, and the drops are left to dry off by themselves in order not to alter the surface of the paper, complete dryness being produced at a temperature of 212 degrees. Thorough wetting of the paper will cause the sprinkled parts to turn a heavy violet blue color when exposed to the vapour, while the parts which were untouched by the water will become blue. If, after sprinkling upon a piece of paper and evaporating the drops thereon, this piece of paper is first thoroughly wet, then dried and subjected to the action of iodine, the traces of the first drops will remain distinguishable, whether the paper is dry or wet. In the latter case the traces of the first sprinkling will hardly be distinguishable so long as the moisture is not entirely got rid of, but as soon as complete dryness is effected, their outlines although very faint, will show plainly on the darker ground surrounding the space covered by the first drops. In this reaction water plays virtually the part of a sympathetic fluid, and tracing the characters with water on sized and calendered paper the writing will show perfectly plain when the paper is dried and exposed to the action of iodine vapour. The brownish violet shade on a yellowish ground will evolve to a dark blue on a light blue ground after wetting. These characters disappear immediately under the action of sulphurous acid, but will reappear after first the decolouration, provided the paper has not been wet, and the decolouration has been effected by the action of sulphurous acid gas. This process, therefore, affords means for tracing characters which become legible, and can be caused to disappear, but it will reappear again, or which can be used for one time only, and be cancelled for ever afterwards.

#### TRANSPARENCY TEST.

The usual method of verifying whether paper has been rubbed is to examine it as to its transparency. If the erasure has been so great as to remove a considerable portion of the paper, the erased surface is of greater translucency; but if the erasure has been effected with care, examination close to a light will disclose it, the erased part being duller than the surrounding surface, because of the partial upheaval of the fibre. If an erasure is effected by means of bread crumbs instead of indiarubber, and care is taken to erase in one direction, the change escapes notice, and it is generally impossible to detect it, should the paper thus handled be written upon again. Iodine vapours, however, show all traces of these manipulations very plainly, giving

their location with perfect certainty. The erased surface assumes a yellow-brown or brownish tint. If, after being subjected to the action of iodine, the paper on which an erasure has been made is wet, it becomes of a blue colour, the intensity of which is commensurate with the length of time to which it has been under the action of the iodine, and when the paper is again dried the erased portions are more or less darker than the remainder of the sheet.

#### IODINE AS A DETECTOR.

On the other hand, when the erasure has been so rough as to take off an important part of the material, exposure to iodine, wetting and drying result in less intensity of colouration on the parts erased, because the erasing in its mechanical action of carrying off parts of the paper, removes of the substances—fecula sizing—which in combination with iodine give birth to the blue tint. Consequently the action of the iodine differs according to the extent of the erasure. When paper is partially erased and wet, and when letters are copied, the same result, although not so striking, follows upon exposing it to the iodine vapour after letting it dry thoroughly. Iodine affords in certain cases the means of detecting the nature of the substances used for erasing. Bread crumbs or india-rubber leave yellow or brownish-yellow tints after iodination, and these are distinguished by striae or more intense colouration, erasures by means of bread crumbs causing the paper to take a violet shade of great uniformity. These peculiarities are due to the upheaval of the fibres, caused by rubbing. In fact, this upheaval creates a larger absorbing surface, and consequently a larger proportion of iodine can cover the rubbed part than it would if there had been no friction. When paper upon which writing has been traced with a glass rod, the tip of which is perfectly round and smooth, is exposed to iodine vapour, the characters appear brown on a yellow ground, which wetting turns to blue. This change also occurs when the paper written upon has been run through a supercalender. If the paper is not wet, those characters can be made to appear blotted out by the successive action of sulphurous acid and iodine vapour.

#### REACTIVE PROPERTIES.

Writing done by means of glass tips will show very little, especially when traced between the lines written in ink. The reaction, however, is of such sensitiveness that where characters have been placed on a piece of paper under others, they appear very plainly, although physical examination would fail to reveal their existence, but a somewhat lengthy exposure to iodine vapours will suffice to show them. If the wrong side of the paper is exposed to the iodine vapour, the characters are visible, of course, in their inverted position. If the erasure has been so great as to take off a portion of the substance of the paper, the examination of the writing may be regarded as impossible. In this case subjecting the reverse side of the paper to the influence of the iodine will bring out the reverse outlines of the blotted-out characters so plainly that they can be read, especially if the paper is placed before a mirror. In some instances, if the pencil writing has been strong enough, its traces can be reproduced in a letterpress by wetting a sheet of sized paper in the usual way that press copies are taken, placing it on paper saturated with iodine to be reproduced, and putting the two sheets in the letter book under the press, copies being run off, as usual in copying letters. The operation, however, must be very rapidly carried out to be successful. As a matter of fact, the certainty of these reactions depends entirely upon the class of paper used. Paper lightly sized or poorly calendered will not show them, while manipulations, of which, I think, description would be rather superfluous here, can interfere very materially with the results mentioned above. Another point consists in knowing how long paper will retain these reactive properties. In my own experiments, the fact has been demonstrated that irregular wetting and rubbing three months old can be plainly shown, as after this lapse of time, characters traced with glass rod tips could be made conspicuous. I have noticed that immersing the written paper in a water bath for three to six hours, will secure better reactions; but although these reactions are very characteristic, they are considerably weaker.

## New Philatelic Publications.

A BEGINNER'S HANDBOOK, BY MR. HINTON.

WE have nothing but praise for the booklet which Mr. T. H. Hinton, has written and Mr. E. Nister, of 28, Paternoster Row, has published, entitled "Hinton's Hints on Stamp Collecting." The titles of the three "Parts" into which this elementary treatise is divided, will serve to indicate its general character. They are as follows: Part I. "The Album and How to Mount Stamps in it"; Part II. "Stamps: their Manufacture, Method of Engraving and Printing"; Part III. "What to Collect." We have said the book is a praiseworthy effort, and it is—so far as it goes. The pity is that in many important respects it does not go far enough. One grave defect is the paucity of illustrations. The chapter devoted to perforations is the only portion of the book that is illustrated at all, and even here the illustrations are most inadequate. To our mind the ideal boys' stamp handbook would be simply crammed with pictures. One picture will do more than a mile of letterpress to bring home to a boy's mind what is meant by such things as, say, watermarks, surcharges, stamps printed tête-bêche, etc., etc. So far as it goes, however, the little book is unexceptionable; and its contents may be fittingly summed up in the words of Mr. Hinton's sub-title: "The 'A B C' of Philately." What with 'A B C' catalogues and 'A B C' handbooks, we are becoming quite scholastic in our philatelic literature, are we not? We ought to add that the price of Mr. Hinton's little book, which is put up in a neat cloth cover, is one shilling, at which price it can be obtained from our publishers.

\* \* \*

AN ALMANAC FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

To Mr. C. Stewart, of Darlington, belongs the credit of springing something very like a novelty on the philatelic world. An almanac in nothing very new, but a Stamp Collectors' Almanac!—and with the dear old final 'k,' too, which so many of us in these hustling days are too lazy to use. Mr. Stewart's publication is in sheet form and is evidently intended as a piece of mural decoration. It will please our Darlington friend to know that our review copy is now adorning one of the walls of the editorial sanctum. The 'S. C. Almanack' contains in addition to that which every almanac should contain, 'A few Dates in Philatelic History'; some 'Auction Reports'; a useful table setting forth the capitals, rulers, populations, and coinages of all the chief countries of the world; a 'New Issues Record'; a list of 'Stamps Condemned by the S.S.S.S.'; and finally a handy Directory of the Philatelic Societies and Associations of Great Britain. At the price of one penny it is a marvellously cheap publication—as philatelic publications go. We wish Mr. Stewart well of his novel venture.

\* \* \*

ANOTHER CATALOGUE FROM THE CONTINENT.

Messrs. Yvert & Tellier, of Amiens, printers and publishers of our brisk, go-ahead contemporary *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, have apparently gone into the stamp business, as the cant saying has it, "bald-headed." At least, we gather so much from the fact that Messrs. Yvert & Tellier have published a Catalogue, listing therein all known stamps, and pricing the greater number of them. It appears that some years ago, Messrs. Y. & T., entered the album publishing business, and the resultant album has been very widely advertised and in all the reviews we have seen has been very highly praised. Well, this Catalogue, it seems, is designed to act as a sort of companion to the Album. In short, having supplied an album, Messrs. Yvert & Tellier feel constrained to supply a catalogue to go with it, in order that buyers of the album may know how and where to buy the stamps to put in it. The next thing Messrs. Y. & T. must do is to supply themselves with a stock of the stamps quoted in the catalogue; but it is possible that they have done this already. It is not

our intention to review this catalogue thoroughly, for a casual glance through its pages has revealed so many short-comings that we do not care to go more deeply into it. The price of the book is two francs (1/8), and so long as you keep it closed it looks cheap at that.

\* \* \*

MR. O. FIRTH'S PHILATELIC HANDBOOK.

Written by Mr. Oliver Firth, and published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill, "Postage Stamps and Their Collection" is a work that is splendidly conceived, but indifferently carried out. The book, instead of being as its title page promises a practical guide to philately for all collectors, is simply a somewhat diffuse essay on stamp collecting, with many errors of omission and commission. The typography and general get up of the book are unquestionable. Mr. Upcott Gill for his part has done admirably well. Without examining Mr. Firth's book line for line, we may just enumerate a few instances of the kind of slipshod work that robs this handbook of much of its usefulness. The chapter on "Perforations" is marred by the ineffective blocks which accompany it. The illustration of the Danish roulette is—not to mince matters—ridiculous. The illustration of the roulette in coloured lines of Luxembourg has only this modest defect, that the roulette is not shown at all.

Harking back to page 20, we find some alleged varieties of the English Emblems watermark. This is nothing short of a wasted page, as any specialist of English stamps could have told Mr. Firth. Dealing with the all important question of "Reprints,"—a topic which he dismisses all too briefly—Mr. Firth asserts that stamp collectors have absolutely boycotted all reprints, *with few exceptions*. He goes on to say that one of these exceptions is the Royal Reprint of the 1d. black English stamp, printed in 1864 to oblige certain members of the Royal Family. This, emphatically is not an exception. It has been boycotted by most English specialists, and will doubtless continue to be so boycotted. In his reference to the reprints of Heligoland, Mr. Firth is equally unhappy. He speaks of errors and other things being religiously reproduced for the benefit of schoolboys. In only one instance has a real error of Heligoland been reproduced as a reprint, for the simple reason that in the originals of Heligoland only one absolute error exists. All the errors now discoverable in the so-called reprints are errors made by the "reprinters." As if this were not enough, our author goes on to say: "Some of the German stamps have also been reprinted, as in the case of the Thurn and Taxes issues of the Northern and Southern States." This is an absolute mis-statement of facts, as a simple glance at our publishers' catalogue of reprints would have shown the author of this book. There are no reprints of Thurn and Taxes.

We have not sought to point out every mistake, or every misleading statement discoverable in Mr. Firth's book, and we hasten to add that in many respects this "Practical Guide to Philately" will be read with interest by many of those people for whom the book is primarily intended. We shall not have written in vain if the few strictures we have passed are duly heeded by Mr. Firth when the time comes—as we hope it will come, and speedily—for the publication of a second edition. The book is published at 3/6 and is sold by our publishers at that price, post free.

A WESTERN philatelic paper proposes the riddle, "What is the difference between stamp albums and clocks?" and answers it as follows: "The latter points out the hours, the former causes us to forget them."

\* \* \*

A MODERATE yearly advance in the prices of stamps is better for philately than a big jump one year, and a relapse later, so says the *Daily Stamp Item*.

\* \* \*

It does not need to be an especially good stamp to be worth its weight in gold," says Philosopher C. E. Severn.



## Two Stamp Collectors.

(FROM THE LONDON Star).

"MY collection of foreign stamps is worth £250!" exclaimed Joseph Strangeway.

"And mine is worth as much!" retorted Edward Pennell, gloating over a particularly fine specimen among his "Colonials."

"I don't think either of you is far out in his estimate," said old Robert Macklin, the stamp dealer, who sat between the excited friends—occupying, indeed, the same position as did his private house with regard to the respective abodes of his two neighbours and fellow enthusiasts. "And if both the collections were combined in one, they would be worth at least £700!"

Strangeway and Pennell each drew a long breath.

"Could we not become partners and amalgamate our possessions?" asked Strangeway, his feeling of rivalry for a moment ebbing before the obvious advantages of such a prospect.

Pennell, although he also was tempted by the suggestion, was of too selfish a nature to entertain it. "No," said he, "my collection is my own, and I do not want any partner!"

"Very well, then," replied Strangeway, "you will find I shall soon leave you behind both in the number and the value of my stamps!"

Pennell did not deign to answer.

"I must be going now," said the dealer; "good night," and he left, accompanied by Pennell, who carefully carried off his stamp album.

If it had been possible for human eye to penetrate the not overthick walls of the suburban villas honoured by being the receptacles of the two valuable collections, an observer would have seen a couple of discontented and envious men storing away their postal property.

"Oh! if only I had Pennell's stamps," said Strangeway to himself, as he turned the key of his writing table.

"Oh! how I wish I had those obsolete specimens of Strangeway's!" sighed Pennell, as he locked up his album in a cupboard near the fireplace.

They neither of them retired to bed at once, but sat and moodily stared into their dying fires for some time before they put out the lights and furtively went upstairs.

In the centre house the dealer might also have been seen brooding over his fire. He, too, at last sought his bedroom with the air of an intending criminal.

At break of day Strangeway arose very quietly for fear he should wake his wife, and hastily dressing himself crept downstairs.

He cautiously let himself out of his back door into the garden, climbed the wall, crossed Macklin's enclosure, and entered that belonging to Pennell.

Strangeway was well aware that all the locks in the terrace being of the same cheap kind, the key of his back entrance would open the door owned by Pennell, and he made use of the knowledge—going tiptoe along the passage, he entered Pennell's front parlour.

He struck a silent match, and igniting a small piece of candle which he had brought with him, he proceeded to break open the cupboard in which Pennell kept his well-loved stamp collection.

He searched high and low, but in vain! The album was not there. Again he displaced everything within his reach without finding what he sought. It was only when he had overturned some small article which fell with what sounded to his guilty conscience as a mighty crash that he relinquished his purpose, and, discomfited and profane, retraced his steps to his own domicile.

He found his wife still sleeping soundly, and slid into bed beside her, thankful that, even if his burglarious intention had been frustrated, he had not been detected in his raid.

In the next house but one Pennell had been sleeping badly, and after turning about restlessly for two or three hours, he, as his neighbour had recently done, arose, put on his clothes, and stealthily descended the stairs.

He had no wife to be afraid of disturbing, but, like Strangeway, he was engaged upon an errand of which he was ashamed.

Also, like Strangeway, he produced a key from his pocket and noiselessly entered upon his rival's premises. He soon found the writing desk, in which he knew Strangeway kept his stamps. He broke it open, but no collection was there!

Disappointedly he slunk home, and once more got between the bedclothes.

When in the morning he came downstairs, the first thing which met his eyes was his fractured cupboard.

"They have stolen my stamps!" he cried; "my unique collection! It must have been that villain Strangeway!"

When Strangeway entered his parlour he beheld his writing-desk showing obvious marks of having been forcibly opened, and rushing frantically towards it he discovered that his collection had disappeared. "They have robbed me of my stamps!" he exclaimed. "Pennell must be the thief!"

They each went in search of a policeman, and after some difficulty each succeeded in finding one, and each was escorted by the representatives of the law that they met.

"I give this man in charge for stealing my stamps!" cried Strangeway to his policeman.

"I give this scoundrel in charge for thieving my stamps!" exclaimed Pennell to his policeman.

The policemen, worthy fellows, were nonplussed. They could get nothing sensible or coherent from the enraged collectors, so in order to obtain the opinion of a higher power they joined forces and conducted both Strangeway and Pennell to the police-station.

The superintendent there, after fruitlessly endeavouring to get at the bottom of the matter, lost all patience, refused to listen to either of the charges, and reprimanded the constables for having taken notice of complaints made by individuals so wanting in self-control.

Strangeway and Pennell had a vigorous argument in front of the police station, but were ultimately somewhat roughly moved on. Then, boiling over with rage, they rushed to unburden their unhappy fate to their mutual friend, Robert Macklin, the stamp dealer.

He was not at home. His housekeeper informed them that he had left very early that morning, and had not yet returned.

A presentiment of coming evil seemed to strike them. "He left very early?" asked Strangeway. "About what time?"

"About four o'clock, sir."

"Four o'clock!" cried Pennell, "that was just before I——!"

"Four o'clock!" shouted Strangeway, "that was just before I——!"

"He left a letter for you, gentlemen. He said it would do for either of you. Here it is!" They opened the letter and read:—

"Your collections are too good to be separated. I am going to unite them. Take my advice and give up stamp collecting, and go in for autographs. Here is one to start with.—Yours, if you can find him,

"ROBERT MACKLIN."

Strangeway and Pennell have given up stamp collecting.

CLAXSON BELLAMY.

## General Notices.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 26, 1896.



THIS issue of the FORTNIGHTLY should reach all our subscribers on Christmas morning. Without penning **A Merry Xmas.** any superfluous verbosity on the question of Christmas joys and Christmas ills, we should like every subscriber—and for that matter every non-subscriber—to accept this (the only intimation that our space will afford) as conveying our best wishes for a very happy Christmas, and after that a very prosperous New Year.

\* \* \*

OF all the English philatelic journals it has been left to the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* to criticise **The London Exhibition.** adversely the prospectus issued by the Executive Committee of next year's philatelic show. Our Salisbury contemporary, usually so docile in such matters, jibs at several points in the prospectus, albeit the objections are of the mildest character, most mildly put. Let us take them in order.

1.—Was it, or was it not, understood that the Sub-Committee or Executive Committee should refer the whole thing to the General Committee before issuing so definite and decisive a document?

Now as to this we are absolutely without feeling. We should think it an advantage that the Executive Committee should settle every important point off-hand, without reference to its cumbersome, not to say unwieldy, parent committee. There are so many old women of both sexes in the General Committee, that we should infinitely prefer such an arrangement. And when you come to think of it, what is the duty of an Executive Committee but to execute.

The P.F.G.B.'s next objection is:

2.—Why is the question of dealers' stalls shelved?

It is not shelved at all. We have just received from the Executive Committee the following document:

LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, 1897.

The Committee desire to announce that it is intended to allot fourteen stalls of various sizes, in the West Gallery of the Exhibition, for the use of members of the stamp trade.

The stalls will be let by tender, and full particulars, with plan, conditions of letting, and form of tender, can be obtained on application by letter to the Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, 4, Lombard Court, E.C.

No tender will be received after 27th February, 1897.

The tenders will be submitted, unopened, to a Sub-Committee, consisting of the following well-known stamp collectors, viz.: Messrs. W. B. Avery, Douglas Garth, E. D. Bacon, W. Dorning Bockton and T. Maycock, who alone will have any voice in the acceptance of tenders and the allocation of stalls.

Then comes:

3.—Why have not other philatelists been allowed the opportunity of offering prizes and medals in their own particular lines?

This we allow is the one objection out of the five raised by our contemporary which will hold water. We certainly think that some sort of an invitation should have been held out to all prominent philatelists in this country and abroad, to contribute in some way to the rewards which will be distributed among exhibitors at next year's show. The mistake—if mistake there be—is now, in our opinion, irremediable. Time, which is an all-important consideration, does not now admit of the issue of anything in the nature of a supplementary prospectus. The thing, as it is done, is in our opinion well done, but let us get on to the P.F.G.B.'s next objection:

4.—What is the function, if any, of the General Committee? Are any questions of finance or management to be submitted to it, and if so what are those questions?

This we cannot answer; more than that, we would not if we could. The General Committee have now appointed, in the mysteriously rapid way to which we have already drawn attention, an omnipotent Executive Committee of twenty men hewing submissively to all that is done by that Executive. For again we ask it: "What is the function of an Executive Committee?" If an Executive Committee is to be responsible for every detail of its work to the General Committee, then we have got to a pretty pass indeed. Lastly, the P.F.G.B. asks:

5.—What is the need for charging for show space? If the exhibits are worth collecting, arranging, displaying, reviewing, they are worth receiving with open arms as worthy treasures. Won't the gate money pay the rent and more?

Won't the gate money pay the rent, and more?

This we regard as the acme of silliness.

Who is there niggardly enough to cavil at the purely nominal charge of 3d. per square foot for exhibitors' space. We hope, as the P.F.G.B. suggests, that if the show be made popular in the highest sense, the shillings will flow in. We trust that not only will the shillings flow in, but that the show will be made popular in the highest sense. But we have our misgivings. We have all along feared that the show would not be made a popular one, as we understand the word "popular"; even now we are without any assurance from the Executive Committee that the central idea of the '97 Exhibition will be to attract the general public—and their shillings.

Our Salisbury friends must not forget that the Exhibition of 1890 was financially a failure. Naturally enough, the Executive of the present scheme desire to make the forthcoming Exhibition a success, both philatelicly and from an £ s. d. point of view. In the event of there not being that ample flow of shillings for which the P.F.G.B. craves, then the threepences paid by exhibitors will be found of great service in the building up of a satisfactory balance sheet.

\* \* \*

ANYONE with half an hour to spare may be interested, not to say amused, by comparing the prospectus **Then and Now.** of the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition with the official catalogue of the London Philatelic Exhibition held in 1890. It should be an easy matter, one would think, to break the record in the matter of English philatelic exhibitions. The show held at the Portman Rooms in 1890 was chiefly remarkable for a great conglomeration of uninteresting trivialities. Good stamps there were, of course, but nothing like the splendid show of good stamps which we feel confident will be in evidence next July. We do not wish to be understood as decrying in any way small exhibits, or exhibits of collectors of moderate means, but a philatelic exhibition should be an exhibition of stamps and other postal stationery, and we hope no valuable space will be wasted this year upon brass letter weights commemorative of Rowland Hill, or penholders used by defunct celebrities, or books of curious addresses, or sword-bayonets used by guards to protect parcel coaches. Such postal relics and oddities may be all very well in museums, but we hope that the Executive Committee of next year's London Philatelic Exhibition will not crowd out any exhibit of stamps, be it never so humble, for the sake of including little trumpery curios which have no place in the affections of the stamp collector. In many ways—it might be invidious to particularize—the London Exhibition of 1890 was very far from being a perfect exhibition. Perfection, of course, is among the unattainables, but if it is possible to approach perfection, we feel confident that next year's show will do it. The Executive Committee have the men; they will soon get the money, and it is notorious that they have the sympathy and good-

will of philatelists all over the world. If the comparison of the 1890 catalogue with this year's prospectus has afforded us amusement, we feel quite confident that the exhibition itself will show a still more gratifying advance upon its predecessor.

\* \* \*

Most of our readers will remember our reply to an attack on our Publishers' "Auction Summary" made by the *D.B.Z.* The book was slated for not reporting the prices fetched by a number of poor copies consigned to Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, by Mr. F. A. Hoffmann, of Paris (see page 54). Our reply sufficiently answered the specific cases quoted against our Publishers' book, by the *D.B.Z.*, but in

the current number the attack is renewed. Quoting the apparently low prices fetched at the same sale (28th May last), by some 14 lots, it blames us for not chronicling them! Of these 14 lots, no less than nine contained two or more stamps, and as our readers well know we have for very good reasons, never professed to chronicle such lots. Of the remaining 5 lots, Messrs. P. & S., mark 3 as "fair," and this is surely sufficient to warn their customers that the specimen has some drawback. The two stamps still remaining are a Maltese 1d. on blue, which fetched 12/- and a French Empire 1 franc, which went for 14/-. If such be the best the *D.B.Z.*'s critic can bring forward to support his case, then that case calls for no refutation from our side, but fails of its own inherent weakness.

## The Political Exile.

### HIS STAMP STORY.

I MET the old gentleman at an obscure cafe kept by a person with a name ending in a. His white hair and dreamy eyes appealed to me: was he poet, philosopher, or anarchist? I demanded of myself. He sipped sweet fluid and water, and looked into the distance when he looked not into his tumbler.

"Can Monsieur spare the *Daily Telegraph*?" I inquired at length. His elbow was on it.

Answer he gave me none in words—only in smiles, the courteous removal (temporary) of his romantic Tyrolean hat and the sliding of his elbow.

I mentioned the weather. He exclaimed "Caramba!" glanced with contempt at the fog beyond the gas-lit window, and shrugged his shoulders.

"The fellow has a history," I said to myself. "I am convinced of it."

For weeks I tried to win it from him, vainly—ever polite, occasionally even monosyllabically colloquial, he was never communicative. The more I failed the more I yearned.

At length, one drear March evening, success rewarded my attempts; though, as usual, unexpectedly.

Jonathan, my little only son, was the unconscious agent of my success. I took him with me to the cafe, and with the ingenuousness of boyhood he spread upon the marble-top table a number of foreign postage stamps, for which he had that day bartered a seven-and-sixpenny toy locomotive. Dixon, minor, he said, had parted with them.

"And done you, my boy," I remarked severely. "I do not sympathise with the stamp mania."

"Not he, father," said the lad, "for there's a Debilitated Republic among them, a 'twenty centavos.'"

"That makes no difference, you silly child," I retorted.

Then I started, for the old gentleman had suddenly become animated.

"Will you allow me to see it, my infant?" he inquired of Jonathan, with a sweet smile and an outstretched hand.

"I'm no more an infant than"—

"Hold your tongue, Jonathan," I said severely, interrupting the lad, "and give the gentleman the stamp."

"I don't mind lending it him," said my boy.

But the old gentleman wasn't interested in it after all. He returned it immediately, with a bow to Jonathan, who looked at me and grinned.

Shocked at my son's manners I bade him gather up his rubbish and take the 'bus home. When he had gone I glanced at my mysterious neighbour, and, noticing a smile on his tawny face, smiled back. Then, to my joy, he moved near to me, and said:

"My friend, there is a little tale about that Republic. Perhaps you like to hear it?"

He spoke in a funny foreign way.

"I should, indeed, monsieur," I replied.

"Well, then, I meet you to-morrow with a thing I show you and then I tell it."

The morrow came at length, in spite of my extreme impatience, and at 6 o'clock precisely the old gentleman entered the cafe and his eye greeted mine. We shared one little table, and I paid for both.

Then he pulled out a pocket book, and from it took a postage-stamp with "Republica de Debilidad" on it, and a girl holding a mirror to a man—not full figures, but from the waist upwards only. There was a reflection in the mirror.

"I beg, be careful," said the old fellow, as he passed me the stamp and a reading-glass. "It is my board and lodging for one year."

"What is?" I asked with a stare.

"The stamp. I shall tell you; but first regard the 'espejo'—how do you say that thing?" He pointed.

"Oh yes, the mirror. Why its a devil's face, not a man's!" I exclaimed. And such it was, with horns to it.

"Yes, my friend. And Don Alphonso Exema was a devil—at the heart.

"Really, Monsieur," I remarked, "I am bewildered. How is it board and lodgings for you; and why doesn't his proper face appear in the mirror, cocked hat and all?"

The old gentleman sipped his pink stuff and said again, "I shall tell you."

"I was of the administration," he proceeded quite proudly. "I hold the portfolios of Treasurer and the Post and Telegraphs. We enjoy our beaux jours. All is prosperous, and the military forget the arts of war. But (with a shapely finger-tip on the face of the man in the stamp) that miserable spoil everything. He spend all the taxes on his own joys; he travel and make debts, leaving promise-notes on the State; he do worse yet, for he become a vile traitor and made a plot to annexe us to the next Republic. We know nothing till it is too late.

"One morning he tell me it all in his cabinet, with a cigar in the mouth. He advise me to do like him and steal from the people. I refuse and denounce him. But what good that, when we have all the army in his place ready to support him? 'Don Miguel' he say, 'you are ordered to surrender into my hands all the postage-stamps you possess. For the treasury he care nothing, because it have nothing in it. Then I return sad, with the colonel of the State, and give up the stamps. I know not what happen to me, and if I would not do best to accept a Yankee offer of a clerk place in his goods store. I collect my little papers to go, when I find one sheet of stamps of this kind, only without the face in the mirror. They was proofs and nothing more. I think a thing all at once. It mean revenge. I go to the State print place, where the man was my friend, and I order him to send to me the engrave-man. 'Make me a devil's head in the glass,' I say to him, 'and I will take all responsibility.' By the evening he do it, and make the proof into stamps, all like this one. At seven o'clock we send the mail by Government steamer to Salvador. I receive the 'devil stamps' by five, and at six I get order from the President to

give up the portfolios that night. That not surprise me. But no matter, I think, if I get revenge before I suffer. And then what do I do my friend, but stamp all the Republic mail that night with the new stamp? Caramba! what good it do me? There was seven letters—two to Europe and three to New York; and they carry the compliment of Don Alphonso's truthful soul-portrait into three continents.

After I do that I pack my portmanteau, and give a sailor two dollars to row me into the Republica Indiana, three miles away. I hear a gun go when we are escaped, and know that there is no more a Republica de Debilidad.

"They receive me well as a refugee, and I come in time to Habana, and so after to Londres, the home of all unfortunate ones; and here I am, and I have the pleasure to drink to your health, sir."

"Did ever anyone hear such a yarn as that?" methought the gentle old man stopped and put his glass to his lips.

"But"—I began.

"Ah yes," he exclaimed, with a shake of his head and a laugh. "I have not satisfy you yet, I see. It is still the stamp that trouble you; you not understand it. But I shall finish. I put in my little bag the ninety-three more stamps with the devil like this, and when I come to Londres I go to a man. Our Republic has received money from him before, and so I know him. I tell him all, and show him what I have. He go pale with admiration. Then he embrace me, and lock the door; and enfin, my friend, it is true what I say, that they are my board and lodging. He pay me two hundred sterling the year for my life in exchange for those little bits of paper. It is riches and I am content."

With that the old gentleman proceeded to light a cigar, and I thought to myself how shamefully I had been deceived. I went no more to the cafe owned by the man with the final letter "a" to his name. One can meet liars anywhere.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



EVERY tittle of evidence that reaches us is in support of the stand we have taken on the question of the Nova Scotia Reminders. The American mail brings us many letters from trans-atlantic readers, all of whom unanimously endorse our "platform," so to speak, and

give us information which goes to show that the Nova Scotia question in America is a far more flagrant scandal than it has been in this country. One correspondent in the State of Iowa, writes as follows:—

I must say that I consider your paper the most newsy and desirable of all that come from foreign shores; and especially desire to commend your stand upon the question of Nova Scotia remainders. Market here "rigged," and every person, collector, dealer or speculator who could be "worked" was loaded up with these stamps.

Our correspondent's name, did we publish it, would lend added weight to this luminous extract from his letter, but in the absence of any authority from him, it is obviously impossible to append his signature to his communication. But what does his letter show? It shows that in America the same discreditable tactics have been adopted by persons interested, directly or indirectly, in the flotation of the great horde of Nova Scotia stamps.

\* \* \*

Evidently, the stamps of South America, so long cold-shouldered by the philatelic community, are coming slowly but surely into public favour, or, at any rate, the stamps of some of the more reputable States. A Bradford correspondent, whose letter may be cited as evidence of this, writes as follows:—

I hope that you will eventually see your way to publishing a few articles on the stamps of the more "solid" South American Republics, such as the Argentine and Uruguay. These countries have been very much neglected by both collectors and article writers, and information is very difficult to obtain as to the reasons for the various issues and surcharges.

As an example, I may say that I examined eight or nine years of recent stamp journals, and could find absolutely nothing of interest on the stamps of Uruguay, while the index to English Stamp Magazines from the earliest times up to 1890, only mentions two articles (one a review) on this country!

Perhaps we may do as he wishes one of these days. Our publishers are holders of a very fine stock of the better class South American stamps, and we should thus have ample opportunity of properly dealing with the subject. Our Mr. Hilckes is himself a lover of Uruguays, and has a private collection of these stamps which is almost absolutely complete. It seems certain that the next boom—if boom there be, will take the form of an appreciation of the values of Uruguays, Brazilians and Chilians.

\* \* \*

The following interesting letter from Mr. James N. Frith needs neither introduction nor comment:

"EALFPENNY" ON 6d. NATAL.

ERROR OR VARIETY?

Which is it? The *Monthly Journal* (S. G. & Co.), for July, 1895, stated:—"A correspondent in South Africa assures us that the letter E in the error Ealfpenny on 6d. is neither more nor less than a broken letter H. We have not a copy of this variety at hand, but we are quite willing to take our correspondent's word for it more especially as he acknowledges that the H is broken in such a way as to make a very excellent, in fact, a capital E."

This view appears to have been generally accepted as the correct one and the stamp is now usually referred to as a "variety" and not an "error." Nevertheless from the opinions expressed to me by two men practically acquainted with printing type to whom I shewed my copy which is an exceptionally clear one. I am led to believe that the general opinion is not a correct one. They said that not one man in fifty "in the trade" would take the letter for a broken H, or in fact for anything but an E, adducing as evidence the fact that the upright of the letter is of a different body to that of an H, and also that the centre stroke is differently placed in the two letters. This can be seen by placing a straight edge on the central bar of the H in the two stamps on either side of the error when the central stroke or "feather" of the E will be seen to stand well above the point where the straight edge intersects it.

I hope you will ventilate the matter in your columns and so perhaps be the means of preventing what is probably entitled to rank as a full fledged "error" being relegated to a back seat as a common or garden "variety."

\* \* \*

Our friends, the Bombay Philatelic Co., write us as follows regarding the Zanzibar Provisionals.

Altogether 1800 stamps, that is 30 x 10 of each 4½, 5, and 7½ annas were printed on B.E.A. of those values, and 120 x 16 = 1920 of 2½ on 2 annas, 1536 in the small type and 384 in the large type. Very few were sold or used, as the stock of Indian stamps, ordered telegraphically, came before the next mail left, eleven days later. The Postmaster withdrew them from use and may re-issue them if the Sultan's head is delayed so long that the small lot of India received is exhausted. There is no speculation, as the utmost precaution was employed to prevent dealers from making a run, and none were sold to them either before or after withdrawal. The Postmaster is not responsible for the delay in the arrival of the Sultan's head and he is at his wits end. He did his best to do without further Provisionals but there were no stamps left, absolutely. The demand for low values is enormous as one recent mail brought only 1,200 letters to India. These facts may be useful to collectors interested in these stamps.

What law-breakers we are—we philatelists! It occurred to our publishers only the other day when serving a customer with a parcel of unused English, that they held no license from the Postmaster-General for the sale of English postage stamps. The law of the country lays it down very distinctly that no unlicensed person shall sell unused English stamps, albeit the law in this respect is broken every day and in every street by tobacconists, chemists and innkeepers who "oblige" their patrons in this way. But can a stamp dealer be said to "oblige" the purchaser of plate numbers?

Furthermore, it is a nice point whether the stamp dealer could satisfy an English judge—some of whom want a deal of satisfying—that as the customer pays at least “double face” for his unused English he is obviously not buying them for postal purposes. It would not surprise us to see in the near future another vexatious Somerset House prosecution based on this system of unlicensed sale of postage stamps by stamp dealers.

From amid the vast amount of twaddle anent Philately appearing in the general Press, it is a real treat to be able to single out an occasional spasm of lucidity. The following, which appears in a comparatively new weekly journal, *Ancolotes*, is fairly correct in almost every particular. It must be the work of a philatelist:—

#### HOW STAMPS ARE FORGED.

##### COLLECTORS, TAKE NOTICE.

The following are some of the varieties of tricks practised on postage stamp collectors by unscrupulous persons:

1.—Ordinary perforated stamps with exceptionally wide margins have their perforations trimmed off, and such stamps are offered as rare unperforated stamps.

2.—Ordinary perforated stamps with wide margins are re-perforated with the rare perforations. This is frequently done by means of an ordinary hand-punch.

3.—Where stamps are printed in the same colour, with slight changes in lettering, the rare varieties are made by piercing. For instance, the 1 franc French empire is made by taking the 80 centimes, dark carmine, with the bottom label from the 1 franc of the Republic.

4.—Bi-coloured stamps, with the centre reversed, which are extremely rare, are made by cutting out the centre and reversing it on another copy of the same stamp. For instance, the 1869 United States 15-cent, 24-cent, and 90-cent have been made by this process.

5.—By chemical means the colour is changed; for instance, the 10r. blue of Brazil is changed into the 10r. black.

6.—Stamps which have been cancelled by pen and ink have their cancellation marks removed by chemical means, and these stamps are then sold as unused.

7.—Counterfeit cancellations are frequently made on genuine stamps which have been surcharged “reprint” or “specimen.”

8.—Counterfeit surcharges are extremely common. They can be made on an ordinary printing press.

9.—False watermarks are sometimes made by printing the stamps with woodcuts, using a certain kind of oil, or they are made by pressing the design of the watermarks on the stamp and then removing a portion of the paper by rubbing with pumice stone.

10.—Very rare stamps of which a portion have disappeared have had these portions added.

\* \* \*

The question of Nova Scotia, already briefly alluded to above, we are constrained to revert to, on account of the receipt of the following letter from an eminent English collector:

DEAR FORTNIGHTLY,—It has surprised me that nothing has appeared in your columns in reply to the very mean and disgraceful “half-statements” contained in Mr. E. J. Nankivell’s “London Letter,” to the *American Journal of Philately*. As a mere looker-on perhaps I see more of the game than the actual players, at any rate, it seemed to me directly I read Mr. Nankivell’s very dubious remarks that the firm of Buhl & Co., Limited, afraid or unwilling (or both) to reply in their own organ to your strictures in regard to the Nova Scotia “rig” had adopted the roundabout course of slaying H. H. and Co. *via* their Mr. Nankivell in the *A. J. of P.* As a fellow member of Nankivell’s in the London Society (where, *entre nous*, he is not too well liked, and is occasionally openly laughed at as an agitator of the gas bag order) I think he is not acting up to the traditions of his society in thus making himself the catspaw of his employers. Messrs. Buhl & Co. would have been doing the manly and honest thing had they replied direct. Indeed, I may tell you that several people whom I have heard discussing the matter have said they wondered Buhl’s did not sue you for libel. Had that come about I doubt not you would have made a good fight, and there’s no doubt in my mind as to which side public sympathy would take. With the compliments of the season, if not “too previous.”

Yours, &c., H—

In justice to ourselves we print this letter here at the risk of offending the writer. We have the best of reasons for knowing that this letter from an amateur philatelist of some

position and no small wealth is written in perfect sincerity, and represents the spontaneous sympathy and good will of one who knows and appreciates the sincerity with which we of the FORTNIGHTLY have worked for the welfare of philately and its true votaries. It is true that we have not replied in any way to the gratuitous observations of the *American Journal of Philately*’s London correspondent; nor should we have replied at all had not the above letter shown us that something of the sort was expected of us. Even now it is not incumbent upon us to say much. We are able to put two and two together (although our correspondent seems to have done us the injustice of thinking otherwise), and we recognise the significance of the fact that Mr. E. J. Nankivell, the writer of the very abusive references to our publishers, which have graced or disgraced, the columns of the *A. J. of P.*, is the editor of the *Philatelic Record*—the organ of Messrs. Buhl & Co., who figured so prominently in our articles concerning the Nova Scotia “deal.” The suggestion made by our correspondent, that Messrs. Buhl & Co. were afraid to openly reply to us, seems, in the circumstances, to be the only logical conclusion at which one can arrive. As to the hint that a libel action was once on the tapis, that simply amuses us and nothing more. We have tried hard not to be uncharitable over this matter either in thought or action, and Mr. Nankivell has only himself to blame for the fact that we are driven to accuse him of a line of conduct that will not enhance his reputation as an upright and straightforward journalist. If he can show us that he has not made himself the vehicle of a mean and despicable scheme of revenge by meaningless abuse of our publishers, we shall be the first to give him fair play; but if the cap fits—then he must wear it.

\* \* \*

Here is an unhealthy sign of the times, if you like!

LADY wishes to exchange her collection of stamps, 4,100 varieties, many rare, for up-to-date cycle, light, with mud-guards. Address— etc.,

\* \* \*

In reply to “R. C.” of Brooklyn, whose letter has very stupidly hidden itself beneath a pile of auction catalogues for some weeks past, we should say that the stamp he first describes is unquestionably a fiscal of either Spain or one of the Spanish colonies. The Canadian bill-stamp, which R. C. describes as being “more like a plate than a stamp” and as being on “slightly glazed paper” is very probably a common transfer picture from one of the penny books of such things that are published for the amusement of children. This at any rate is the only likely explanation of R. C.’s further statement that the design is reversed.

Regarding the 1d. lilac Inland Revenue stamp of Great Britain, this is still good for postage and when so used becomes of course a collectable stamp. In the uncanceled condition, however, it is not a postage stamp—or at any rate is only a postage stamp on sufferance.

Lastly, “R. C.” there are no reprints of the 3d. green triangular of Newfoundland, but—there may be! Don’t speak too loudly of such things as these, for there are superstitious philatelists who hold that “if you talk of the devil—”

### A Big Number of “Mekeel’s Weekly.”

The latest number we have received of *Mekeel’s Weekly News* is a big one—a sort of advance Christmas number, containing all the Christmas announcements of the C. H. Mekeel Co.—and simply bursting with interesting matter, conveyed in the happiest style of a talented staff. Not the least attractive feature is the weekly Review, compiled by Mr. S. B. Hopkins, who seems to have the knack of conveying the greatest amount of interesting information in the smallest space. From his notes in the number under notice, we gather that the collecting of philatelic literature in the United States has attained such a pitch as to necessitate the publication of a special journal, entitled *The Philatelic Literaturist*. Surely! this is carrying the thing to rather an absurd point!

## First Steps in Philately. .

BY PERCY C. BISHOP

### SOME QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

*Why are the latter issues of Confederate States Stamps so common in the unused condition, being in some cases much easier to get than used specimens? W. J. B.*

Now this question baffled me for a long time, but everything comes to him who gives up looking for it, and just as I ceased to look for an explanation of the above phenomenon, I come upon a short article contributed by Mr. Hubert F. Lowe to the defunct *Stamp Collectors' Monthly*. Mr. Lowe wrote thus: "The reason for the existence of such a number of unused specimens is known to few. They are not, as has been stated, reprints, but came into the market in the following manner. In the Civil War in the States (1861-63), the Confederates were vanquished by the Northern Army, and after one of the battles the soldiers of the Northern side looted the confederate States Post Office, seizing the unused stamps which they found. As the Confederate States Post Office was "bushed," to use an Americanism, these stamps turned out to be worth little more than waste paper, and numbers of them found their way into the hands of stamp dealers at exceedingly low rates."

\* \* \*

*What are the "Porte de Mar" stamps of Mexico? Why were they created and for what purpose? Tyro.*

This is an easier one. "Porte de Mar" stamps, briefly, were used for sea postage, as the expression *porte de mar* indicates. By a decree issued in January, 1875, by the Chief Postmaster of Mexico, the various postmasters of the Republic were ordered to charge treble the amount of inland rate for letters sent across the ocean. This extra charge was made to meet the "Porte de Mar," the charges of the French and English packet steamers. In compliance with the decree, these increased rates were charged; but many difficulties arose, partly by the negligence of the post-office officials, and partly by the stupidity of the Mexican public. Therefore the authorities decided to issue special stamps for this sea-postage, and it was given out that letters going abroad should bear the amount of the domestic rate in ordinary stamps, and the sea-postage (Porte de Mar) in the special stamps. Such is the origin of the famous Porte de Mar stamp.

\* \* \*

*What does "Counterfeits Postally Used," in Scott's Advanced Catalogue, mean? Phillapatelly.*

It means just what it says—counterfeits postally used—forgeries that have been used on letters as genuine postage stamps. Very many instances of such use are on record.

\* \* \*

*What should good hinges cost, and how should one apply them to the stamp? J. B. S.*

In stamp hinges there is nothing better than the best, which sounds Irish, but isn't. Moreover, the "best" is the cheapest in the end. "The main qualities of a good hinge," remarks Mr. J. M. Bartels, in a short article contributed to *Mekkel's Weekly Stamp News*, "are pure gum and thin tough paper, which will peel off readily without tearing either stamp or hinge. A few words in regard to their use may not be amiss, as it seems to be a matter little understood, even by collectors of some experience. Do not bend them exactly in half, but place just as small a portion as is necessary to hold the stamp firmly on the back of same near the upper edge, so that you can turn it up and see watermarks, &c. If the hinge is a fair sized one (as it should be), it will not be necessary to lick the whole of it, as a portion of the gum left will save time and trouble when you want to remount your stamps. The practice of sticking one hinge on top of another should be avoided, as it is apt to spoil the smooth and neat appearance of the stamps when they are placed in the album."

## Latest from Samoa.

From Facts and Fallacies.

SINCE September 20th, 1886, Mr. John Davis, of Apia, Samoa, has been by the grace of Malietoa Laupepa, not only postmaster, but practically the entire post-office department of that island country. His position is a parallel in a small way to the privilege enjoyed by the principal house of Thurn and Taxis for hundreds of years, until about 1868, throughout the greater part of Germany and Austria. In his independent position it is remarkable that he has created but one single issue of postage stamps, with a few surcharges actually made necessary by the exigencies of the time; and for this conservative and unselfish action we think all philatelists ought to be thankful.

In the *Samoa Times* of Saturday, September 19th, we find a report made by apparently envious malevolent persons, who seek to oust Mr. Davis from his position. That our readers may be fully apprised of the plans of these persons, we publish the document in full, as it forms an interesting chapter of postal history. In all probability the scheme will not succeed, as the editorial comments in another portion of the paper from which we quote ably sustains Mr. Davis against the machinations of his enemies.

"If ever the circular board of Apia should listen to the report of Moors and Greysmuhl," says the *Times*, "the philatelic brotherhood may prepare themselves for any amount of new and speculative issues from this small island kingdom."

The following is the full text of the report on postal arrangements, which is addressed to the Consula Board of Apia:

The undersigned have been deputed by the municipal council to give to you certain information concerning its desire to establish a public post-office to handle in coming and outgoing mails, and generally to transact such other business as is usually done in situations of this nature. We state as follows:

Owing to the inability of the Samoan Government to collect its taxes as provided by the Berlin General Act, it found itself in a bankrupt state not long after its inauguration. That it might preserve its existence, a part of the municipal funds were used. At a subsequent date a portion of the revenues of the municipality were apportioned for the uses of the Samoan Government under certain conditions.

As the revenues of the municipality had not been more than sufficient for its uses even in its most prosperous day, it soon found itself straitened for means to carry on its administration, and to preserve in proper repair such public works as it had established in better times. The present council finds that it cannot contemplate the construction of new roads, of public buildings (which are badly needed), or a wharf at its bonded warehouse; all its funds and more are consumed in the maintenance of its present staff of officials, and in the conservation of such public works as necessity compels it to keep in order.

Under such circumstances it behoves the council to practice the strictest economy, to collect with proper care all sums which may be rightfully due to it, and to make available every possible asset which it can justly command.

Since the establishment of the council it has been the opinion of most of its members (and this opinion has been largely shared by the general public) that the postal system of Samoa was one of the assets of the Apia municipality, and that it was a source from which a considerable revenue might be derived without increasing the expenditure of the administration. It was thought that the same officers whom we now employ at excellent salaries might do this work, and that all the revenue which would be derived from it would be clear gain to the municipal organization.

It was thought that the sale of cancelled stamps would be an asset of very considerable value, for it was noted that cancelled stamps of Samoa have been placed on sale in London, Sydney and San Francisco, and in doubtless many places unknown to the members of the council. It is thought that a steady and valuable income can be derived from such a source as this, for the actual cost of the issue of the stamps must be but little.

We note that the Berlin General Act provides that a postal system may be established by the municipal authorities, and this is spoken of as a local postal system.

(To be concluded).



# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Record of "The Record."

THE issue of the *Philatelic Record* now before us is that dated December, 1896, but before this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY is in the hands of our readers, another *Record* will have made its appearance. Mr. Nankivell has at length succeeded in clutching Father Time by the forelock. Henceforward the *Record* will appear on or about the 25th of the month previous to the month whose date it bears, as is the custom in the magazine-publishing trade.

This number of the *Record* concludes the first volume of the new series; and high praise is due to Mr. Nankivell for the manner in which he has built up a high-class philatelic magazine out of the slender and somewhat antiquated materials ready to his hand. It was once the favourite boast of Mr. Theodor Buhl that the *Philatelic Record* was the only high-class philatelic magazine. He got a good deal laughed at over that bold assertion, for people knew of the existence of such papers as the *London Philatelist*, the *Monthly Journal*, and the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. Our modesty does not restrain us from adding that the FORTNIGHTLY was not then in existence. The new *Record* is, in our opinion, miles ahead of the old. It may have sacrificed a little of its old time dignity for up-to-date smartness, but the change, on the whole, has been most beneficial. In the first part of his editorial notes this month, Mr. Nankivell gives us his programme for 1897; which year we gather is—if editorial promises go for anything—to register a further advance in the allround excellence of the *Philatelic Record*.

Mr. Grant R. Francis, we learn, is to contribute a series of articles descriptive of the stamps of the United States, from 1847 to the present day, dealing extensively with the "Plate Dots" and other minor varieties. This announcement does not come well upon the top of the contempt which Mr. Nankivell has recently poured out upon the study of "Plate Dots"; but let that go. The *Record* is to be further distinguished during 1897, by the publication of a series of illustrated interviews.

## Curious Post-Offices.

Mr. Nankivell ought really to have known better than to give us the article which immediately follows his Editorials in the December number. It is headed "Curious Post-Offices," and represents one of the most remarkable collections of "faked" paragraphs that we have ever seen. The story of that strange post-office in the Straits of Magellan is sheer "fake." We are assured by a seafaring friend that absolutely there is no such post-office. Probably, there is little foundation for many, if not all, of the other stories which Mr. Nankivell has dished up for our delectation. As a practical journalist who knows something of Fleet Street tricks, our friend of the *Record* must have had his tongue in his cheek when he prepared that article.

## The Early Stamps of Switzerland.

The *American Journal of Philately* of New York comes to hand with its usual punctuality, bringing us an exhaustive article on "The Early Issues of Switzerland," the joint work of Mr. John N. Luff and Mr. Joseph S. Rich. At our first glance, we were inclined to "slate" the article as a re-hash of those which have appeared in the FORTNIGHTLY from the pen of Herr von Girsewald, but as the authors in their preface very frankly admit that their work is based upon that of the eminent philatelist in question, our critical hand must be stayed.

The paper is in some respects supplementary to that which ran through so many issues of the FORTNIGHTLY, and is worthy of the attention of all students of Swiss stamps.

## BELGIUM'S NEW COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS.

Mr. Jules Bouvez, who seems to have become a regular contributor to Messrs. Scott's paper, now writes on the subject of the new commemorative stamps of Belgium, issued to boom the Brussels Exhibition of next year. In the

course of his article, Mr. Bouvez informs us that these stamps have, up to the present, been used principally for the purposes of receipts and commercial papers, as well as for Savings Bank purposes, and, he remarks, "everything leads us to believe that very few of them will be used to prepay letters for abroad. Observers attribute this to various causes, but the principal one is to be found in the discredit which has been thrown on these stamps, and the misleading articles concerning them published by the Belgian Press. Thus several newspapers declared that the stamps for the Brussels Exhibition could not be used for the prepayment of letters going abroad: that France and Germany had refused to recognise them, and that any correspondence prepaid by means of these stamps would be taxed as unpaid on reaching its destination."

## "For what we shall receive—"

*L'Annonce de Timbrologique* of Brussels is a journal we always read with a great amount of pleasure. In a note concerning the Brussels Stamp Exhibition, Mr. Dethier informs us that the printing order for this issue is no less than ten millions. Then he goes on to say: "The Executive Committee has decided to celebrate this remarkable success by the issue of another series of a new and piquant design." These, we are given to understand, will be of higher values. Thus the Belgian Government, commencing in a modest way, is setting forth upon a campaign of enrichment by postage stamp similar to that of little San Marino. It is a very smart notion doubtless, and the Belgian Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, worthy Mr. Vandenspeereboom, is probably shaking hands with himself upon the success of his venture, but it is a small trade at the best, and one would have thought that Belgium would be above such sharp practices.

## A Nondescript Publication.

Why the *Stamp Advertiser* is published at all is, we think, a question we have already asked before. It is a nondescript sheet—it is neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring. It contains a page and a half of reading matter, some of which is stale, and most of which is wholly unreliable, and about ten pages of advertisements, including, we regret to say, the announcement of at least one person of doubtful reputation.

## A Journal for Junior Collectors.

We have received a circular which promises us—or, should we say, threatens us—with yet another new philatelic journal. It will be called "the Junior Collector," and will be published by Mr. G. E. H. Tillett, of Norwich, a gentleman whose name is quite new to us. We think it possible that the FORTNIGHTLY may claim to have suggested this venture to Mr. Tillett. We are sorry if it is so—for Mr. Tillett is obviously not the right man to publish the "Junior Collector." It is essentially a paper which should be published by a firm of stamp dealers of some importance, having available the means of disseminating all the latest news and being able from the resources of their large experiences, and their stock, to teach the young collector that which he wants to know. Nevertheless, we are far from wishing to treat Mr. Tillett's venture in any wet-blanket spirit, and shall look forward with curiosity to the publication of his first number; and we sincerely hope that he will be able to surmount the very considerable difficulties that must confront him.

## The "E.S.J." re-appears.

After an absence of four months or so, our neat little friend, the *English Specialists' Journal* drops in upon us again, and promises to make its regular monthly visits until July next. We cannot say that this December issue is a really good number. It is not. One notable item it contains is a paper on "The Stamp Stationery of Great Britain," contributed by Mr. Oliver Forth; and this we regret to say we have not yet had time to read.



### Indian Native State Stamps.

Lieutenant Madden's paper on "Indian Native State Stamps," recently read before the Philatelic Society of Bengal is interestingly reviewed; several valuable articles are translated from foreign journals; Mr. Gilbert Lockyer, under the headline of "Something of Value," pens something which is of no value whatever; and all the stock features of the *Record* are in the neighbourhood of their usual quality.

### American Collectors of English Stamps.

It is significant that the *Eastern Philatelist* for November contains the first instalment of a serial article on "The Stamps of Great Britain," contributed by Mr. Fred B. Woolston. Mr. Woolston's object is to provide an elementary guide to the stamps of this country, and so far as this first instalment takes us, he seems to have succeeded fairly well.

### How Catalogues are Made.

"How a catalogue is made, and how one should be made," is a headline that naturally rivets our attention, and as the article that follows it is an attempt to "lift the veil" as regards the inner secrets of catalogue-making, it is worthy of a careful reading. It will be conceded that it has never been the policy of the FORTNIGHTLY to join any conspiracy of silence as to the tricks of the trade—if tricks there be. Evidently the policy of our contemporary coincides with ours, as the revelations in the article under notice will testify. The writer, Mr. Edmund S. Smiley, writes as follows on the subject of the compilation of the 56th edition of Scott's catalogue:

The 56th edition of the Standard Catalogue was made by a combination of methods, and a discussion of some of these methods may be our immediate duty. First, a collaboration with European cataloguers was determined upon, particularly with the Stanley Gibbons Company, of Great Britain. This was of some avail, and somewhat desirable, but this forced the prices of the stamps of Great Britain. Next, the publishers showed marked generosity in asking advice as to pricing the stamps of the British West Indies, British North America, and United States revenues, of dealers prominent in their several specialities, with large stocks at stake and prejudice as a natural factor in the quotation of prices. This advice was, we understand, generally accepted by the cataloguers as good and desirable authority, and there were no wide differences of opinion. This led to prices which, in view of the market, were quite irrational, and forced sales now prove this to be true. Some prices, too, were fixed by the "evidence of things unseen," and not by careful enquiry. Some, it would seem, were adjusted by courtesy to large holders of certain stamps. Perhaps this accounts for the raising of the lake Newfoundland prices from year to year in consideration of the Massachusetts syndicate which holds these stamps in the sheet. This is generous, but general opinion has been that these stamps were too high a year ago, and that the supply is sufficient to last a year or two more.

Finally, some prices, probably a great part, were fixed with reference to the Scott Company's own stock. And owing to the fact that there is peculiar pleasure in growing rich on paper, this probably has not lowered the price of stamps which the Scott Company were so fortunate as to possess. Some stamps which are priced very low, too, enable the publishers to purchase reasonably, so great is the influence of the catalogue. But this seems not to have been extensively tried, and the trend of prices is not conservatism but optimism of the purest grain. The catalogue is supposed to reflect the actual state of the market, but any one who knows the inside of things knows that it anticipates almost invariably. Sometimes he thinks that prices are forced up simply from force of habit. Who would think of charging 85c. for the 6c. 1869, used?

All this, as Mr. Smiley puts it, goes to show the utter incompetency of any one firm to prepare a catalogue which shall in every way correctly reflect the actual condition of the market,—which, after all, is a fact we have from time to time insisted upon.

"Counterfeits I have seen," by Mr. S. B. Hopkins, "The danger of Minor Varieties," by a gentleman with a fancy pen name, "Canadian Notes," by Mr. R. E. Weldon, and a luminous article on "American Stamps" by Mr. Crawford Capen, form the remainder of the contents of a most excellent number of Mr. Pinkham's paper.

### The "Bazaar's" New Supplement.

Very rich in elaborate illustrations is the latest philatelic supplement issued by the *Bazaar*, especially as regards Mr. Slade's article on Cosmopolitan Postcards. We are afraid that even "Old File" would declare that this is not philately, but if it is not the rose, it is very pleasantly near it.

The consistent neglect from which the stamps of Brazil have suffered is partially broken in this supplement by a short article on "The Re-drawn Brazilians of the issue of 1890." The writer says:—

It will be noticed that the catalogues (Gibbons, Bright, Albrecht, Scott), though all mentioning the stamps, do not give any hint as to how to tell them. Now the full series (*i.e.*, the two sets) includes the 20, 50, 100, 200, 300, 500, 700, and 1000 reis, most of them being in two or more shades. Gibbons gives the first set from 20 to 300 reis inclusive, and the re-drawn set from 50 to 1000 reis inclusive; Scott only mentions the 100 as re-engraved; Albrecht, the 50, 100, 200, and 300 as re-drawn; Bright, the 50 to 1000 as re-engraved. The catalogues, therefore, are not unanimous on the subject. Taking Gibbons' list to be correct, it will be seen that, of the two sets, the only ones that overlap are the 50, 100, 200, and 300; for the 20 does not appear in the second list at all, and the high values (500 to 1000) are not in the first list. We have never taken much interest in these stamps; but, as far as we can discover from an inspection and comparison of the two sets, there certainly does not seem to have been a re-engraving or re-drawing of the design.

We have closely examined a number of stamps of both sets, kindly furnished by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, and all that we can note is, that in the so-called re-engraved stamps, the lines have been simply deepened. In die 2 of the English 1d. even more than this was done, and yet in that case it is only known as "retouched"; therefore the Brazilians of second set—50, 100, 200, and 300 reis—would possibly be also preferably designated "retouched." If the said stamps had really been re-drawn, we think it hardly possible that certain of the engraver's directing-lines, secret marks, &c., would appear in exactly the same places in both sets, as they do. However, the information desired by our correspondent is, how to tell the two sets apart; and we can only say (bearing in mind that we speak now of the 50, 100, 200, and 300 reis, which are found in both sets) that the lines are weak in the first set, so that some of them might almost be mistaken for lithographs, and they have, generally, a somewhat blurred appearance. All the stamps of the second set are unmistakably *taille-douce* engravings, and the lines have been so deeply cut that they are rarely blurred, while the ink stands up well from the paper. The perforation seems to be rather mixed. We have found the following: Perf. 13: first set, 20, 50, 200, 300 reis. Ditto, second set, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 reis. Perf. 11½: 500, 700 reis. Perf. 13½ × 13: first set, 100 reis. Perf. 13½, first set, 20 reis. Perf. 13½ × 14: first set, 50 reis. Perf. 14 × 13: second set, 300 reis. If any reader who makes a speciality of these stamps will give us the benefit of his researches, to supplement and correct, if necessary, the above remarks, we shall be pleased to publish the information.

Mr. Alder Ridley writes on "Unused Fiscals," warning collectors against unprincipled persons who have been offering cleaned, pen-marked fiscal stamps as genuine unused ones. This warning of course, applies only to fiscalists—now almost an unknown quantity we should think.

### The Stamps of Thurn and Taxis.

An article in a recent number of Mr. Heitmann's *Illustrirte Briefmarken Zeitung*, deals most interestingly with the history of the Thurn and Taxis postal administration up to the date when it was amalgated with the German Imperial Post. It would occupy too much space to go into details here, but the article is a most exhaustive one and may be commended to all students of German stamps.

### A Strange New Publication.

Mr. Charles S. Quinton, of Southsea, springs a strange new publication upon us. It is called "The Collector-Dealer," with the sub-title "Philatelic Miscellany." The precise object of this publication we have vainly endeavoured to ascertain. The strangest part of it all is the inscription on the cover "Issued occasionally." Either Mr. Quinton is a very lazy man or, like the American wag, he has been recommended by his medical adviser not to work between meals.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state; if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.*, with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, Nov. 26th and 27th, 1896.

(Continued from page 72).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Lagos, 2/6 brown *	..	..	.. 3 17 0
b	5/- blue *	..	..	.. 8 5 6
b	Nevis, 4d. rose *	..	..	.. 1 16 0
a	ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 1 14 0
b	ditto ..	..	..	.. 0 18 0
a b	4d. blue *	..	..	.. 1 6 0
b	6d. grey-lilac *	..	..	.. 1 10 0
a	6d. green, St. Christopher Revenue, on small piece..	2	2	0
b	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15	£2	10s. and	3 5 0
b	1/- blue-green, ditto ..	..	..	.. 1 16 0
a	1/- purple *	..	..	.. 1 14 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	..	..	.. 1 7 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	..	..	.. 1 4 0
b	6d. yellow-green, penmark ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
a	8½c. green on white ..	..	..	.. 0 16 0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf., pair	..	..	.. 3 10 0
a	6d. green, imperf. ..	£1	15s. and	1 18 0
b	ditto ..	..	..	.. 0 17 0
A	2/6 scarlet, block of 4 *	..	..	.. 4 8 0
a	5/- fawn, block of 4 *	..	..	.. 7 10 0
a	10/- brown, block of 4 *	..	..	.. 8 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac *	..	..	.. 0 18 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. slate-blue, perf. 12½ × 14 *	..	..	.. 1 5 0
a	6d. blue, perf. 12½, strip of 3 *	..	..	.. 5 12 6
a	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, used fiscally ..	..	..	.. 1 1 0
a b	1/- black and orange fiscal-postal, error SHILDING *	..	..	.. 2 0 0
b	St. Vincent, 1d. drab, star, badly perfd. *	..	..	.. 1 18 0
b	1d. black on 6d. yellow-green ..	..	..	.. 2 4 0
b	4d. yellow ..	..	..	.. 1 3 0
b	4d. dark blue, star ..	..	..	.. 0 19 0
1a 1c	4d. ultramarine, star, pair, imperf. between, on piece, one torn ..	..	..	.. 5 0 0
a	1/- brown ..	..	..	.. 0 19 0
b	Schleswig-Holstein, Holstein, 1864, 1½sch. blue, rouletted 3 sides, on small piece ..	..	..	.. 1 0 0
a	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. ..	..	..	.. 4 10 0
a	Vaud, 5c. ..	..	..	.. 1 12 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. pale blue *	..	..	.. 2 10 0
b	ditto, used ..	£1	12s. od. and	1 16 0
a b	Tobago, first issue, 5/- grey-black *	..	..	.. 2 17 6
b	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on buff, penmark ..	..	..	.. 1 4 0
b	ditto, block of 4, ditto ..	..	..	.. 5 0 0
a b	ditto, vert. pair, ditto ..	..	..	.. 3 0 0
a	ditto, a single, ditto ..	..	..	.. 2 0 0
a	Trinidad, 5/- dull lake, perf. 12½ *	..	..	.. 1 0 0
a	Turk's Islands, 4d. blue *	..	£1 0s. od. and	1 4 0
b	United States, United States City Despatch Post, 3c. black on green, glazed ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
b	ditto, 3c. black on blue, glazed ..	..	..	.. 2 2 0
b	New York, 5c. black, signed *	..	..	.. 1 6 0
a	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 1 8 0
b	ditto, ditto, variety with double line at top, penmark ..	5	5	0
a	ditto, ditto, variety with double line at bottom, signed *	..	..	.. 5 10 0
a b	Baltimore, Government City Despatch, 1c. black ..	..	..	.. 0 13 0
b	ditto, 1c. red, on piece with an embossed 3c. ..	..	..	.. 1 18 0
b	Carrier, blue on pink ..	..	..	.. 4 4 0
a	New York U.S. Mail Prepaid, 1c. black on yellow, pencil mark, on entire ..	..	..	.. 2 2 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	United States, ditto, 1c. black on rose, ink spot for postmark, on entire ..	..	..	.. 2 2 0
b	Providence, 5c. black *	..	..	.. 0 16 0
a	(1851), 5c. brown, imperf. ..	£1	5s. and	1 8 0
b	(1856), 1c. blue, unbroken oval *	..	..	.. 2 10 0
a	ditto, 9oc. blue ..	..	..	.. 5 10 0
b	(1868), 9oc. blue, with grill ..	..	..	.. 1 6 0
a b	(1869), 24c., five copies ..	..	..averaged	0 18 6
a	ditto, 24c., two grills ..	..	..	.. 1 10 0
a	ditto, 9oc. ..	..	..	.. 2 10 0
a b	ditto, ditto, good but badly centred ..	..	..	.. 1 14 0
a b	(1869-1875 reissue), 15c. ...	£1	5s. and	1 12 0
a b	ditto, 30c. ..	..	..	.. 2 14 0
a	ditto, 9oc. *	..	..	.. 5 10 0
a	(1872), 24c. violet *	..	..	.. 2 2 0
a	Periodicals, 9c. black *	..	..	.. 2 2 0
A	ditto, \$ 6 *	..	..	.. 0 19 0
u	ditto, \$ 9 *	..	..	.. 1 12 0
A	ditto, \$12 *	..	..	.. 2 2 0
u	ditto, \$24 *	..	..	.. 2 15 0
A	ditto, \$36 *	..	..	.. 2 12 6
u	ditto, \$48 *	..	..	.. 3 10 0
u	ditto, \$60 *	..	..	.. 4 7 6
u	Executive, 1c. *	..	..	.. 1 13 0
u	ditto, 2c. *	..	..	.. 1 8 0
u	ditto, 3c. *	..	..	.. 1 6 0
a	ditto, 6c. *	..	..	.. 2 6 0
u	ditto, 10c. *	..	..	.. 1 16 0
u	Justice, 24c. penmark ..	..	..	.. 2 7 0
b	ditto, 30c. ..	..	..	.. 2 12 6
b	ditto, 9oc. *	..	..	.. 8 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 7 15 0
a	State, \$10, penmark ..	..	..	.. 9 15 0
a	ditto, \$20, ditto ..	..	..	.. 8 15 0
b	Victoria, 2/- green, roulette ..	..	..	.. 1 18 0
b c	5/- blue on yellow, vert. pair ..	..	..	.. 8 5 0
b	ditto, two singles ..	£2	15s. od. and	3 3 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	..	..	.. 1 16 0
b	6d. black-bronze ..	..	..	.. 1 14 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. orange, perf. *	..	..	.. 1 5 0
a	7ok. violet *	..	..	.. 3 3 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Nov. 30th & Dec. 1st, 1896.

b	Bahamas, 1d lake ..	..	..	.. 1 1 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose ..	£1	6s. od. and	1 10 0
A	British Columbia, 25c. orange, perf. 12½ *	..	..	.. 1 3 0
a	ditto *	..	..	.. 0 19 0
a	British East Africa, 4r. blue (on Co.'s stamp) on piece	..	..	.. 1 4 0
a b	5r. green, ditto, ditto ..	..	..	.. 1 15 0
b	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue, white line *	..	..	.. 1 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 0 18 0
a	British Honduras, 6d. yellow *	..	..	.. 2 5 0
a	1/- grey, pair ..	..	..	.. 4 8 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. dark blue, on entire	4	6	0
b	Dominica, 1/- crimson, CC., perf. 12½ *	..	..	.. 1 0 0
A	1/- lake, CC., perf. 14, pair *	..	..	.. 1 11 0
A	1/- carmine, CA., *	..	..	.. 3 0 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green *	..	..	.. 1 15 0
a b	ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 1 8 0
a	Great Britain, 10/-, Anchor, on white ..	..	..	.. 1 9 0
b	£1 brown-lilac, 3 crowns *	..	..	.. 2 14 0
a	£5, on bluish, "Specimen" ..	..	..	.. 1 11 0
a b	I.R. Official, £1 brown-lilac, 3 crowns, "Specimen"	1	18	0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet ..	..	..	.. 0 17 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 2d. blue, medium ..	..	..	.. 2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, cut close ..	..	..	.. 1 12 0
b	Britannia, 4d. black on green ..	..	..	.. 2 12 0
b	Half Penny in black on 9d. mauve, reversed surch. *	..	..	.. 1 15 0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. ...	..	..	.. 3 0 0
b c	ditto, slightly soiled ..	..	..	.. 2 2 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose *	..	..	.. 1 19 0
a	ditto, used ..	..	..	.. 1 9 0
b	6d. grey-lilac ..	..	..	.. 0 19 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13, two ..	..	..	.. each 1 1 0
a	1/- purple *	..	..	.. £1 15s. and 1 16 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow .. ..	1 13 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 2 .. ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 2d. plate 1 .. ..	1 14 0
a b	ditto, 3d. .. ..	0 18 0
b	Laureated, 8d. orange .. ..	1 5 0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green .. ..	1 1 0
b	6d. dark green .. ..	1 6 0
a	8½c. green on white .. ..	0 15 0
a	Philippines (1854), 10c. deep carmine * .. ..	1 9 0
a	St. Christopher, 4d. blue, CA. * .. ..	6 5 0
a	6d. olive-brown * .. ..	2 6 0
b c	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star * .. ..	1 12 0
a	(6d.) green, ditto, used .. ..	1 10 0
a	6d. lilac, * two .. ..	each 2 2 0
a	1/- orange-brown, CA., pair * .. ..	7 12 6
c	ditto, a single, ink stained .. ..	1 16 0
a	St. Vincent, 6d. green, CA., perf. 12 * .. ..	1 3 0
a	1/- brown .. ..	0 19 0
a b	5/- rose-red, star * .. ..	13 0 0
a	Switzerland, Winterthur, 2½r. .. ..	3 3 0
b	Zurich, 6r., hor. lines .. ..	1 2 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue .. ..	2 16 0
b	(1870), 4d. blue * .. ..	1 6 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. .. ..	2 12 0
a b	Tolima, first issue, 5c. on blue wove, block of 16, penmark .. ..	8 0 0
b	United States, 5c. brown, imperf. .. ..	0 19 0
b	(1861) 90c. blue * .. ..	2 6 0
a	(1869) 15c. no frame * .. ..	1 8 0
a	ditto, 90c. .. ..	2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto .. ..	1 6 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	0 19 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson * .. ..	1 1 0
a	ditto, used .. ..	1 2 0
a b	6d. rose, perf. 15 * .. ..	4 10 0
b	1/- crimson, double line .. ..	4 4 0
a	1/- crimson border * .. ..	£0 15s. od. and
a	Western Australia, 6d. grey-black .. ..	1 10 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., December 2nd and 3rd, 1896.

A	Antigua, 1/- purple * .. ..	0 18 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose .. ..	2 2 0
A	Belgium, 5f. red-brown * .. ..	1 6 0
b	ditto, used .. ..	0 17 0
b	5f. pale brown .. ..	0 18 0
b	Bolivia (9 stars) 500c. black .. ..	2 6 0
c	British Columbia, Vancouver, 5c. rose, imperf., large margins, but creased.. ..	17 0 0
b	British East Africa Co., ½a. manuscript on 2a. .. ..	2 6 0
b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamps) 2r. on piece .. ..	1 2 0
b	ditto, 3r. ditto .. ..	1 6 0
b	ditto, 4r. ditto .. ..	£1 6s. od. and
a	ditto, 5r. .. ..	1 10 0
b	2½a. red on 1½a. (India) .. ..	0 17 0
b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, star, perf. .. ..	1 10 0
b	Colombia (1862), 1 peso violet on bluish .. ..	3 5 0
a	Confederate States, Athens, 5c. plum .. ..	7 0 0
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey .. ..	1 8 0
b	Great Britain, 2/- brown .. ..	1 14 0
a	10/- grey, Anchor .. ..	1 18 0
b c	Hanover, 10gr. pale green, on piece .. ..	2 2 0
b	Labuan, one dollar, in red manuscript, on 16c. blue * .. ..	11 10 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., worn, vert. strip of 4 .. ..	5 10 0
a	Mexico (1868), 12c. black on brown.. ..	2 6 0
b	Monaco, first issue, 5fr. * .. ..	2 0 0
b	Naples, ½t. blue, cross, on entire journal .. ..	4 8 0
b	50g. lake .. ..	1 1 0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved .. ..	0 18 0
b	New South Wales, Diadem, 5d. green, imperf. .. ..	1 18 0
c	Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, fine, but slight thinning .. ..	19 5 0
b	Philippines, 2 reales blue (1862), Habilitado, &c., inverted * .. ..	4 10 0
a	Portuguese Indies (1883), 6r. green, provisional, 33 lines .. ..	1 0 0
a	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts * .. ..	1 10 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star * .. ..	2 2 0
b	South Australia, 9d. violet, perf., printed on both sides .. ..	3 15 0
b	4d., perf. by roulette, with a common, on piece .. ..	1 6 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. .. ..	3 3 0
a	Vaud, 5c. .. ..	1 4 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. carmine, wmk. 2, penmark .. ..	1 8 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. * .. ..	2 7 0
b c	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on buff .. ..	1 3 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Tolima, 5c. black on blue laid, penmark .. ..	1 3 0
a	Trinidad, ½d. black and lilac, CA. * .. ..	2 0 0
a	Tuscany, 80c. in dull orange (so-called colour of 3 lire) .. ..	4 15 0
a b	United States (1869), 24c. .. ..	1 1 0
b	Periodicals, \$12 * .. ..	1 3 0
c	ditto, \$24, fine, but pin-hole * .. ..	2 6 0
a	Victoria, 10d. slate, apparently imperf. .. ..	0 12 0
Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., December 10th, 1896.		
a	Antigua, 6d. green, no wmk., perf. 1½ × 14, pair * .. ..	2 12 0
a	1/- purple * .. ..	0 14 0
a	Barbados, 1/- black, medium star * .. ..	1 4 0
a	5/- rose * .. ..	4 15 0
A	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½ * .. ..	0 19 0
b	British Guiana (1876), 4c. crimson .. ..	10 0 0
a	(1860), 1c. dark brown .. ..	1 10 0
a	Canada, 6d. purple-black, perf. * .. ..	10 10 0
b	7½d. green .. ..	1 5 0
b c	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, cut close .. ..	1 16 0
A	1/- emerald .. ..	1 6 0
a	Ceylon, 2/- blue, star, perf. .. ..	1 2 0
b	2r. 50c. red-brown .. ..	2 12 0
a	Dominica, 1/- carmine, CA. * .. ..	2 16 0
a	Great Britain, 2d. blue, no lines * .. ..	1 10 0
c	ditto, fair but thinned * .. ..	1 1 0
a	2/6 on bluish * .. ..	1 10 0
b	10/- grey, Anchor .. ..	0 19 0
u	£5 on bluish .. ..	2 2 0
a	Heligoland, ½sch. roulette * .. ..	1 1 0
a	1sch. ditto * .. ..	1 2 0
b	India, Service, 2a. green on long lilac .. ..	2 2 0
a	Labuan, 12c. carmine, CA. sideways .. ..	5 0 0
a	6c. on 16c. blue .. ..	8 0 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early .. ..	8 0 0
c	ditto, ditto, earliest, cut into .. ..	4 7 0
b	ditto, ditto, worn, pair on piece .. ..	1 16 0
u	ditto, 2d. early * .. ..	34 0 0
b	Natal, 1/- green, black surcharge, with 2 common, on entire .. ..	6 15 0
b c	Nevis, 4d. rose .. ..	1 0 0
b	ditto, used .. ..	1 18 0
a	6d. grey-lilac * .. ..	2 4 0
a	1/- green, perf. 13 .. ..	1 4 0
a	1/- green, perf. 15 .. ..	£1 3s. and
a	1/- pale green, litho., pair * .. ..	3 17 6
a	ditto, a single * .. ..	1 12 0
a	1/- purple .. ..	1 18 0
b c	New Brunswick, Connell, perfs. cut two sides * .. ..	9 5 0
a	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red * .. ..	11 0 0
a	8d. carmine-red .. ..	1 1 0
a	New South Wales, 5d. green, imperf. * .. ..	4 0 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown .. ..	1 0 0
a b	6d. dark green .. ..	1 10 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr. green * .. ..	2 0 0
A	third issue, 2gr. red, on small piece .. ..	1 1 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * .. ..	2 6 0
A	1/- lilac * .. ..	0 18 0
A	ditto, used .. ..	0 15 0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange * .. ..	3 0 0
b	Straits Settlements, Perak, 2c. vert., on 4c. rose * .. ..	each 1 2 0
A	two copies .. ..	1 2 0
A	Turks Islands, 1/- slate-green * .. ..	1 2 0
b c	Victoria, 2d. lilac, fine ground, cut close .. ..	1 10 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line * .. ..	3 10 0
b	1/- crimson, single line * .. ..	3 0 0
a	Western Australia, 1/- brown .. ..	1 0 0

(To be continued.)

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accepted as such owing to the Society's inability to make such strict enquiries as with home members who see the packets. References are required and enquiries made about all foreign members, but as they do not see the packets they are elected much more easily in many cases than if they resided in the British Isles.

**EDINBURGH & LEITH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

The usual fortnightly meeting was held on the evening of Monday, 14th December, the Vice-President, Mr Smail in the chair.

The business of the evening was a continuation of display of Post Cards by the President, Mr. Fish, who showed a very fine collection of nearly all countries, including among others the error of Austria, a very complete set of Denmark, British Bechuanaland, Orange Free State, &c. Mr. Kühn also showed a comprehensive and well arranged collection.

It was agreed to hold the Annual Dinner on the evening of Saturday, 9th January, 1897.—J. MACKAY, Hon. Sec.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**  
[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**10,000** Varieties scientifically arranged in countries sent on approval. Good references required.—DARLOW, Stamford Street, Altrincham. [1]

**BELGRAVIA** Exchange Club.—Genuine Collectors wanted. Particulars MAYNARD, Brewer Street, Belgravia, S.W. [5]

**EXCHANGE.**—Tuscany, Parma, Naples, against English Colonies, U.S.A., &c. Basis, Scott preferred.—GIACOMINI, Corso Umberto, Naples. [1]

**STANLEY GIBBONS'** Album, published at 10/6, only slightly used, post free, 4/3.—HILCKES, 64, Cheapside, E.C.

**10,000** Mexican Fiscals to be disposed of cheaply. CAMASCHIELLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

"GOVERNMENT Parcels" and Indian "Service," per 100. Cash or Exchange.—W. MAUNDER, Merton Park, Surrey.

**OFFERS** wanted for pane of 60 Selangor stamps, 2 cents on 21 cents green, showing the different surcharges. GLASS, 21, Bolsover Street, Portland-place.

**£100** Or highest offer. Red triangular Cape, CC. wmk. used, fine.—PEARSON, Westbourne Stamp Club, 58, Queen's Road, Bayswater.

**AT ONCE.**—For sale, an Album of 1,000 stamps, besides postcards.—Write to 456-61, Chancery Lane.

**APPROVAL.**—Good Duplicates, quarter to half catalogue.—MISS WATSON, Stanwix, Carlisle. [2]

**WHOEVER** sends me a good mixture of stamps of his country, receives in exchange a similar number of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Austria and Hungary, rare against rare.—PAUL STADTLER, Nuremberg, 113, Wiesenstrasse. [3]

**SEYCHELLES** Stamps and Envelopes, cheap.—MRS. RIGAND, The Elms, Surbiton.

**LIST** 500 sets gratis. Bargain packet, 80 different, 6d., includes scarce Hayti, Selangor, United States unpaid and special delivery. Sheets 3d. stamps upwards. Agents wanted, good commission. Albums to hold 5,000, 2/6. To those who call, 4d. less Superior mounts, 6d. per 1000.—F. McAUSLAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. Established 1887.

**35,000** Penny red unassorted numbers, &c. Price 11/. Postal Order the lot; 5,000 Penny red, imperf. price 15/. the lot.—CHARLES NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

**GRATIS.**—A set of 20 United States given away free to Collectors applying for approval sheets. Wanted 1d. red, plate 225, from 4/ to 7/6 paid.—CHARLES NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

**100,000** Well mixed Holland stamps, 10-15 kinds, old and new issues, 28/- per 100,000. Cash, carriage paid, satisfaction guaranteed. Address—R. HOLLAR, Rotterdam, Holland. [2]

**50** BRITISH Colonials, all different, including Canada, Cape of Good Hope, new issue, 24d. blue, Ceylon, Guiana, Hong Kong, India, wmk. Elephant's head, 4 anna and 1 anna O.H.M.S. Jamaica, Mauritius, 2 and 4 cents, Natal, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland obsolete, Tasmania, 1d. and 2d., Western Australia, &c., post free, 1/1.—RILEY & Co., 105, High Holborn, W.C.

**GREAT** rarity in pairs. Virgin, 1/-, single line border, unused, full gum, horizontal, superb, £10. British South Africa on Capes, 3d. to 6d., 25/.—TURNER, Ifley Road, Oxford.

**EXCHANGE** Wanted—Used 50—200 United States, Canada or Newfoundland for stamps of any country—Unused stamps returned for same value for value, satisfaction guaranteed.—GEORGE A. GARDNER, 20, Prescott Street, Lowell, Mass, United States. [2]

**1** D. black, 1d. imperf, three kinds, one ivory head 2d. blue, no lines, ditto with lines, ditto perf. two kinds, one 24d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- also vaccination certificate for 2/6 cash. Collectors of embossed English 1d. envelopes will find a large selection with the SANTOS STAMP Co., 35, Allwene Villas, Cannonbury, London, N. [1]

**STAMPS** of British West Indies, St. Helena, Cape Verde, Azores, British Central and East Africa, wanted in Exchange for good South Africans. Basis, Stanley Gibbons.—E. BOOTH, Grahamstown, South Africa. [1]

**I** AM desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. Bazaar Reference Ticket.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [5]

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**APPROVAL.**—British Colonials, old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. ENOCH WESTON, 98, Canningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [8]

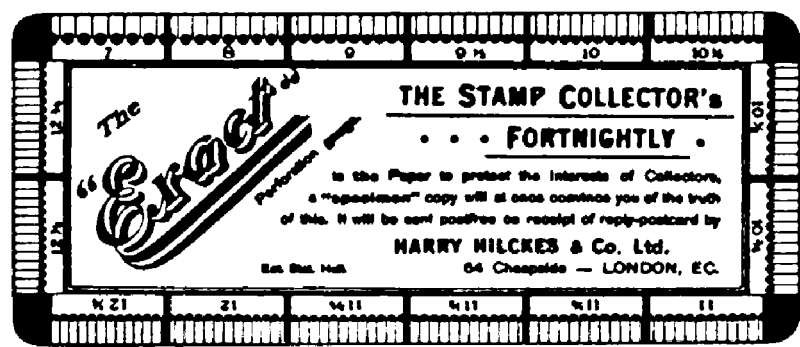
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**COLLECTORS.**—We have a large assortment of old postage stamps, used and unused to sell on retail at about 25 per cent. under catalogue prices. We desire to receive want list and are also prepared to send on approval against good references or P.O.—PAUTREMAT & NOBLLIE, 67, Boulevard du Hainaut, Brussels. [2]

**BARGAIN** List free.—20 Argentine, 1/9; 35 Australian 1/-; 16 Australian, 3d.; 20 Denmark, 7d.; 40 France, 1/6; 8 Gold Coast, 2/-; 5 Lagos, 1/3; 20 Norway, 7d.; 20 Portugal, 1/2; 20 Russia, 5d.; 48 Spain, 2/3; 35 Sweden, 7d.; 10 Uruguay, 1/-; 50 British Colonies, 1/-; 50 Entire Postcards, 2/2. All different, postage extra. Collections purchased.—CHAS. THURSTON, Stratford-on-Avon.

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1862	4d. red, small letters, per doz.	..	8	0
1869	3d. pink, per doz.	..	2	0
	4d. red, 7-12, per doz.	..	2	0
	6d. violet, 5-9, per doz.	..	4	0
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	2d. blue, ten sets	..	7	6

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[10

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" 30 "	..	1	0
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Transvaal, 10/- obsolete	..	3	0
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Mauritius, 15c. brown	..	0	3
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## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 60—No. 8—Vol. III. SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1897. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Cambridge University Philatelic Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Roohdale Philatelic Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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wmk. star, 1d. dull rose and 6d. green, 2 stamps	8 6	6/-
" CC. 12½, 1d. red and 6d. green, 2 stamps	8 6	6 6
" CC. 14, 1d. red, 4d. blue, 6d. green, 3 stamps	12/6	8/9
" CA. 14, 2½d. brown and 4d. blue, 2 stamps	8/3	5 9
" CA. 14, ½d. green, 1d. carmine	..	..
2½d. blue, 4d. red-brown and 6d. green, 5 stamps	..	11/- 8/6
* " CA. 14, similar set unused	..	9/- 6 9
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wmk. CC. 14, 1d. mauve, 2½d. brown, 4d. blue and 6d. green, 4 stamps	..	21/ 15/6
" CA. 14, ½d. olive and 2½d. red-brown, 2 stamps	..	6/3 5/-
" " ½d. green, 1d. carmine and 4d. grey, 3 stamps	..	6/3 5/-
* " CA. 14, ½d. green, 1d. carmine, 2½d. blue and 4d. grey, 4d. stamps	..	6. 4/9
<b>Montserrat.</b>		
wmk. CA. 14, ½d. green, 1d. carmine, 2½d., blue and 4d. mauve, 4 stamps	..	16 6 10 6
" CA. 14, 2½d. brown	..	40/- 20/-
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wmk. CA. 14, ½d. green, 1d. carmine-red, 2½d. blue and 4d. grey, 4 stamps	..	16/- 12/6
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wmk. CC. 12½, 6d. green	..	6/- 5/3
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" single	..	..	0 3 6
Gibraltar, 25 centavos on 2½ blue, short I	..	..	1 0 0
" 25 centavos on 2½ blue, broken N	..	..	0 17 6
Switzerland, imperf., 1 franc lilac, superb copy on piece of original	..	..	0 5 6
*Wurtemberg, perf., 5 marks blue and black	..	..	0 7 6
Japan, 1 sen. brown, crossed twigs (without characters)	..	..	1 17 6
Hong Kong, \$1 on 96c. brown-red (without Chinese characters)	..	..	0 7 6
British Guiana, CC., 12½, 4c. ultramarine (exceedingly scarce)	..	..	3 0 0
*Orange Free State, " Halve Penny" on 3d. blue, block of four, showing error, no stop after " Penny"	..	..	0 10 6
* " ditto, block of four, showing error " Penny"	..	..	0 15 0
*New South Wales (wmk. 5/-), 5/- purple	..	..	2 10 0
" " ditto, used	..	..	0 15 0
*Nevis, perf. 11½, 1d. vermilion, very rare	..	..	1 17 6
" ditto, used, very rare	..	..	1 12 6

—◆◆◆—

## Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,

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## Doings of Societies.

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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

No Meeting has been held since the publication of the last report.

A further Meeting has been arranged as follows:—

**Jan. 11th.—Thirteenth Auction Sale.**

Future dates will be published in due course.

### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The Monthly Post*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, and *Monthly Offers*.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, *General Anzeiger für Philatelic*.

From the United States: *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The Columbian Philatelist*, and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The Post Office*.

From India: *The Philatelic World*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

### LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE first meeting of the season 1896-97 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 23rd October, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. A. Odell and Mr. G. J. Bailey, both proposed by Mr. J. V. Painter, and seconded by Mr. C. H. Worthington; and Mr. B. Loewy, proposed by the Secretary, and seconded by the Assistant Sec., were elected members of the Society.

A long discussion then ensued on the work of the season, and it was determined that the course adopted last season should be followed in the present season.

The Secretary referred to the forthcoming Exhibition to be held next year, and it was resolved that special prizes should be offered by the Society, if acceptable by the Exhibition Committee, to be awarded by any exhibitor under the age of sixteen years; for the best exhibit by any amateur, not a member of the Society; for the neatest and best arranged exhibit shown; and for the best exhibit of stamps in the finest condition. Power was also given to the members of the Council on the Executive Committee of the Exhibition to add two further prizes if they thought fit.

The second meeting of the season was held at Effingham House on Friday, the 30th October, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Adolf Rosenberg, proposed by Mr. Ehrenbach, and seconded by Mr. Castle, was elected a member of the Society.

Mr. Ehrenbach opened a discussion on "Minor Varieties of Stamps," reading notes which he had prepared on the subject. In these he called attention to the danger of multiplying varieties by collecting examples of stamps showing minute differences from the standard, due to trifling accidental causes in the manufacture, and not accounted for by actual variations in the dies or plates. Many of the members present took part in the discussion, and the opinion was generally expressed that the inclusion of such minor varieties in catalogues should be discouraged.

At the third meeting, held on November 6th, Mr. R. Ehrenbach displayed his fine unused collection of the stamps of Russia, Poland and Russian Levant.

The fourth meeting was held on November 13th, when Mr. Castle read a paper on the "1858 and 1859 Issue of the Stamps of Austria and Lombardy," in which, after some remarks as to the history of the Austrian stamps, he gave a full description of all the stamps of the issue under consideration, with particulars of the differences distinguishing the types. In dealing with the newspaper stamps Mr. Castle explained that, although in case of most of the reprints of the general issue the second type only was found, he had specimens of the newspaper stamps, which he believed to be reprints of the first type, a matter which appeared to call for further investigation and information, which was not yet forthcoming.

At the sixth meeting, held on November 27th, Mr. Nankivell read a paper on the subject of Transvaals, which provoked an animated and interesting discussion.

\* The seventh meeting was held on December 4th, the attendance being an unusually full one.

No ordinary business was taken, but the evening was devoted to a magic lantern display of stamps by Mr. T. Ridpath, who very kindly gave his services and lent his lantern and slides, many of which were prepared specially for this occasion. The stamps were all shown in their natural colours, and Mr. Ridpath was highly complimented on his success in the preparation of the slides.

The descriptions were given by Messrs. M. P. Castle, E. D. Bacon, H. R. Oldfield, R. Ehrenbach, Gordon Smith and J. A. Tilleard, and the display proved eminently interesting and instructive. Amongst the stamps shown were the two types of the 1858 issue of Austria; genuine and forged copies of the 4 cuartos stamps of the Spanish issues 1860-1864 and 1867; the original and the re-engraved dies of the first penny English; and the 5/- I.R.

Official (genuine and forged); specimens of the blue Naples, arms, and cross; the 1 scud Papal States, and the 10 kop. Finland of 1854 (both genuine and forged in each case); a described by Mr. Castle. Amongst those described by Mr. Bacon were the original and reprint of the 20c. stamp of the first French Republic; the ½a. red, Indian stamp, and the proof in the same colour of the ½a., with arches; genuine and forged illustrations of the 1s. 9d. Ceylon; three varieties of the first 2d. stamp of Victoria, and a pair of the second 2d., one showing the variety with the broken steps; two varieties of the 15c. of the 1861 issue of the U.S.A.; and the 6d. brown, laureated stamp of New South Wales (genuine and forged).

Mr. Ehrenbach described genuine and forged examples of the 3pf. (first issue) of Saxony, the same of the 30kr. stamp of Thurn and Taxis, and of some of the Hanover stamps; the two plates of the 6kr. brown, Bavarian stamp; the 240 (block letters) of Uruguay, both genuine and forged; and the 3kr. lithographed Hungarian adhesive stamp, with a forgery made out of the envelope stamp of the same type.

Mr. Oldfield undertook the description of the Swiss stamps, including the five types of the 6 rap. Zurich; genuine and forged specimens of the same stamp, and of the 5c. Neuchatel and the 15c. of the Federal issue.

The two types of the general Colonial plates were described by Mr. Gordon Smith, and Mr. Tilleard undertook the description of the two plates of the 1d., and all the plates of the 2d. Sydney View; a new error in the Mashonaland 1½d. post card, discovered by Mr. Ridpath; an original V.R. 1d. English, and a finely-engraved forgery of the same stamp; and the two dies of the third design of the 4a. stamp of India.

On the motion of Mr. Castle, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, the best thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Ridpath for his valuable services, and for the most interesting display he had given.

### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING of this Society was held in Bird's Restaurant on the evening of Wednesday, 2nd December, Mr. J. H. Chapman in the chair. There were present fourteen members and two visitors.

It was decided to hold future meetings at Bird's Restaurant as the rooms the Society has hitherto occupied have been found too small.

After the election, as members, of Dr. Sococles and Mr. Boote, a debate on "Reprints" was opened, Messrs. Hunt, Sneath, Chapman, Bradley, and others taking part in the discussion. In the course of the debate it was shown that reprints are simply reproductions of stamps which have become obsolete, as these reprints, however, are printed from the original dies and plates, it is often very difficult to distinguish between an original, or genuine stamp and a reprint. It was contended that this often opened the door to fraud, as an unscrupulous person might sell reprints as genuine stamps to any one not so well versed in the subject.

Having thoroughly discussed the question in all its bearings a resolution was unanimously passed that "The Sheffield Philatelic Society is of opinion that all reprints should be legibly marked as such." The Librarian was instructed to purchase on behalf of the Society, "Reprints" published by Hilckes & Co.

# Good Colonials

STATE At 33½ to 50 per cent.

WANTS. below Gibbons'.

Selections on approval to responsible parties.

**D. ROTBERG,** 69, BARTHOLOMEW ROAD, LONDON, N.W.

## PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

**Note Change in the Rate.**  
 [Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of ½d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**DELGRAVIA** Exchange Club.—Genuine Collectors wanted. Particulars MAYHEW, Brewer Street, Delgravia, S.W. [4]

**STAMPS**—Breaking Old Collection, largely Unused. Discount 40 per cent. on catalogue prices. Selections sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.—H., 23, Croxteth Grove, Liverpool. [2]

**100,000** Well mixed Holland stamps, 10-15 kinds, old and new issues, 25/- per 100,000. Cash, carriage paid, satisfaction guaranteed. Address—K. HOLLAR, Rotterdam, Holland. [1]

**STANLEY GIBBONS'** Album, published at 10/6, only slightly used, post free, 4/3.—HILCKES, 64, Cheapside, E.C.

**A GENUINE BARGAIN**—Complete Sets, 1d reds (except 225) 4/-, £2 per doz sets.—D. LLOYD, Stowe, Lichfield.

**PHILIPPINES**, rare and common. 15 to 35 per cent discount from Seaf. Also Telegraph, Revenue, etc.; used: 1896 Post Cards, 2c, 3c; laid, 2c, 3c; wove, 5/- post free.—RICARDO A. REYES, Quotan 15, Manila. Good Terms for Dealers.

**SIERRE LEONE**, 1896, 1d, 2½d, 1s, 2s, set 4/3. Cyprus, 1882, 30 paras, ½, 1, 2 and 4 piastres, 2/6. St. Vincent, 2½d on 4d, 12/6. Grenada, 8d, 1882, 7/6. Gibraltar, 5 pesetas, 7/6. Cyprus, 1882, 12 piastres, 20/-; Mauritius, 50 cents green CC, 1/6. Malta, 5/- CC, 6/3. Newfoundland, 13c orange, 5/-; 24 cents blue, 1/4. Bahamas, 1d, 2d, 4d, 6d and 1s; set 2/5. Gibraltar, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40 and 50, 1/5. Queensland, ½, 1d, 2½d, 4d, 6d and 1s, 3/6. Tobago, ½d, 1d, 2½d, 4d, 6d and 1s, 3/6. Nova Scotia, 2½c green, 5/-; Falkland Island, CA, ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 4d, 6d and 1s, 4/-; Bermuda, CC, ½d and 6d, 1/1. St. Vincent, ½d, 1d, 2½d, 4d, 5d, 6d and 1s, 3/9. Nova Scotia, 1, 2 and 8½ cents, 7/- all unused, mint state, terms cash with order, postage extra under 5.—Address, W. F. WADAMS, 110 Soho Hill, Birmingham, (member Birmingham Philatelic Society). Bankers: London and Midland.

**WHOEVER** sends me a good mixture of stamps of his country, receives in exchange a similar number of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Austria and Hungary, rare against rare.—PAUL STAEDTLER, Nuremberg, 113, Wiesenstrasse. [2]

**SEYCHELLES** Stamps and Envelopes, cheap.—Mrs. RIOAND, The Elms, Surbiton.

**COLLECTORS**.—We have a large assortment of old postage stamps, used and unused to sell on retail at about 25 per cent. under catalogue prices. We desire to receive want list and are also prepared to send on approval against good references or P.O.—PALTRMAT & NOBLIE, 67, Boulevard du Hainaut, Brussels. [1]

**APPROVAL**.—British Colonials, old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. FIGUAS WESTON, 98, Conningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [7]

**REGLAN**, Swift, or any other make Gent's or Ladies' Bicycles offered in Exchange for only Good Stamps. Foreign export solicited.—KNASTER, Cambridge. [2]

**I AM** desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. *Bazaar Reference Ticket*.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [4]

**APPROVAL**—Good Duplicates, quarter to half catalogue.—Miss WATSON, Stanwix, Carlisle. [1]

**EXCHANGE Wanted**—Used 50—200 United States, Canada or Newfoundland for stamps of any country—Unused stamps returned for same, value for value, satisfaction guaranteed.—GEORGE A. GARDNER, 20, Prescott Street, Lowell, Mass., United States. [1]

**INTERNATIONAL Philatelist**, Best American paper at price 1/-.—HERBERT C. BEARDSLEY, St Joseph, Mo., U.S.A. [5]

**PHILIPPINE** Postage, Telegraph and Revenue Stamps, 50 to 35 per cent under catalogue. Advanced Cash in Bank Notes or good References. **NOVELTY**: 1896 issue, POSTAGE, Complete set of 12 stamps, unused, 5/7; Same, used (1c except), 2/5. **TELEGRAPHS**, complete set of 11 stamps (1c to 10 pesos). £5; Set of 7 stamps, 1/7. Postage extra.—RICARDO A. REYES, Quotan, 15, Manila. Liberal Discount to Dealers. References on application.

**ENGLISH** 150 2½d lilac-rose plate numbers, price £6 the lot; 1d red, wmk small crown, perf 16, 3/5 100; a set of 20 United States given away Free to Collectors applying for my cheap Approval Sheets, English and Foreign Stamps.—CHARLES NISSEN, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

**DUPLICATES**—Medium and Good, for Disposal 50 to 75 per cent discount.—COLLECTOR, 38, Beltring Road, Eastbourne.

**SPECIAL** Assortment for Small Dealers, Wholesale List Free.—COOPER, 65, Harborton Road, Highgate, London [3]

**GREECE**—60 Varieties of Adhesives, unused and unused, scarce perforations, &c. Price 5/-, worth double. Approval deposit.—GEORGE HERBERT, Manseville, Idmiston Road, West Norwood.

**PICKED** Specimens of Common and Medium Stamps Very Cheap. Collection Wanted.—COLLECTOR, 72, Charleville Circus, Sydenham [2]



































**RARE** Duplicates for Sale—West Africans, West Indians, Pence Canada, Pence Ceylon, U.S.A., and other rarities, used and unused. All very fine copies at very reasonable prices. State wants.—EDWARD HYAM, 46, Cornwall Road, Bayswater, London.

**MEXICO**—Two 1884 Cards, 2 error, 4 each.—CAMASCHALLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

**VENEZUELA**—A set of General "Miranda" recent issue for sale.—CAMASCHALLA, Forest Hill, London, S.E.

**COLLECTORS** invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first-class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from Robert Reid, Junr., 20, Lichfield Road, Kew Gardens. [2]

# India-Rubber Stamps.

																
White Paper	Blued Paper	Die.	Large.	Medium.	Small.	1	2	4	6	8	1	2	3	4	10	
																
Reprint	Perf. 12	Perf. 14	unused			SIX PENCE	ONE PENNY	THREE PENCE	FOUR PENCE							
Perf. 10	Perf. 12½	Perf. 18	roul	Laid		ERROR	ROSE PAPER	N.Z.	11½ x 12½							
Perf. 11½	Perf. 13	used	Wove			PERF. 10½	PERF. 11	10 x 12½	12½ x 10½							
(All Actual Size).																
PROVISIONAL NO WMK																

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# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY  
**MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,**

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

**At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.**

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

1897—January 13th, 14th, 28th and 29th. February 10th, 11th, 25th and 26th. March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 14th, 15th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

**January 13th and 14th. A FINE SELECTION OF BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS,** including the following Rarities:

GAMBIA, a fine strip of five, 6d. blue, imperf.; GIBRALTAR, complete; NOVA SCOTIA, strips and pairs of 1d. red-brown, on entires and loose, several fine specimens of the 6d. light green and 6d. dark green, on entires and loose, several split 6d. used as 3d., on entires, 1/- violet, fine, and split 10c. on entires; NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½ vermilion, unused and fine, 8d. vermilion, used, and 6½ lake, used; NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. yellow, unused and torn, several split 6d. used as 3d., on entires, 1/- violet, half of 10c., used, on on piece; STATES, 1869, 30c. block of 12; BARBADOS, 5/- (2 fine); BASLE, 2½ rappen; fine GERMAN STATES, including 10gr. Hanover, unused, Rare Oldenburgs, Bremen, Lubeck, Schleswig Holstein, &c.; a fine lot of WEST INDIANS, including St. Christopher, block of four, 6d. olive, unused; plates of 1d. NEVIS; DOMINICA, 1/-, CA., unused; VIRGIN ISLANDS, 6d., perf. 15, unused, an entire unused sheet of 1/- crimson, 1/- with single line border, unused, and 1/- with double line border, used; NEVIS, 1/- blue-green, unused, with gum; ST. VINCENT, CA., 4d. blue, perfs. 12 and 14, unused, 1d. drab, star, unused; fine unused blocks of 2½ and 4d., CC., MONTSERRATS, &c.; QUEENSLAND, 1d., imperf., two on entire, a fine pair of 2d. blue, imperf., and others; HONG KONG, C. and CC., 18c. violet, unused; two fine unused specimens NEW SOUTH WALES 1d., laureated, on blue; a fine unused pair BRITISH GUIANA; 1875, perf. 15, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 12 cents, all unused, with full gum and in mint state; and many others.

**January 28th and 29th.—A Very Rare Lot, including Newfoundland 2d. carmine vermilion, unused, with large margins, and superb, and the orange and carmine sets complete.**

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of collections and rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, at least one month before the date of Sale.

**VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.**

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Telegraphic Address: "VENTOM," LONDON. Telephone Number, 15,076. ESTABLISHED 1761.

## A FEW GOOD THINGS.

All Stamps used, in first-class condition, and guaranteed genuine.

	s.	d.
Nevis, 4d. rose	60	0
" 6d. grey, unused and very fine	70	0
" 1/- green, perf. 13	45	0
" 4d. orange, " 15	30	0
" 1/- green, " 15	45	0
" 1d. vermilion, 1879, perf. 11½, very scarce	30	0
" 4d. blue, 1882, CA., perf. 14	17	6
New South Wales, Sydney Views.		
1d. plate I, no clouds	35	0
1d. " I, carmine, fine impressions	30	0
1d. " I, on blue paper, superb	32	6
1d. " II., with clouds, 1d. carmine on bluish, extra fine on part original	50	0
2d. " I., retouch fine with large margins on part orig.	45	0
2d. " III., deep blue, fine, early impressions, good margins	35	0
2d. " III., blue on laid paper	40	0
Natal, 1st issue, 3d., fine large specimen on entire envelope, rare	37	6
Canada, 6d. imperf., fine margins	25	0
Canada, 7½d. green, fair margins	70	0
10d. blue, fair	75	0

Send to-day for large Illustrated Price List of Sets, Packets Rare Stamps, &c., Wholesale and Retail.

**ROBERT S. GRAY, 53, WATERLOO STREET, GLASGOW.**

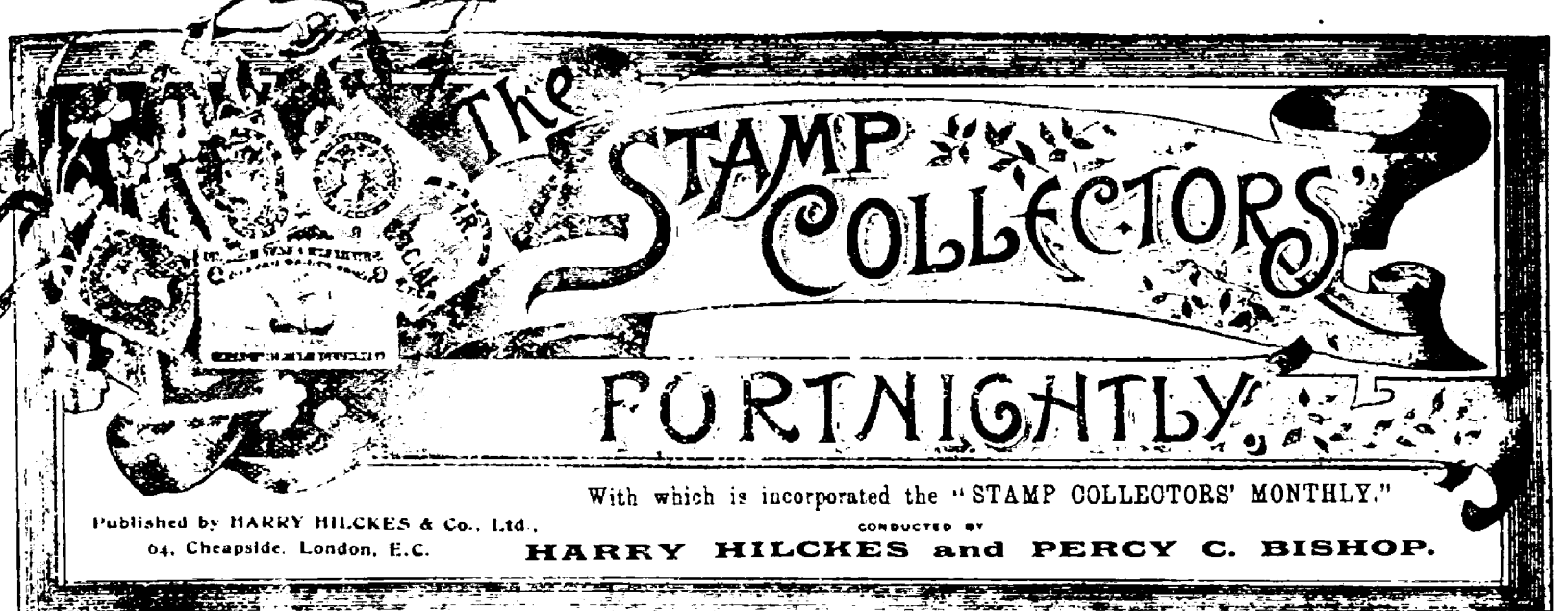
## W. B. KIRKPATRICK, CLOSEBURN, . . BOURNEMOUTH.

(Member I.P.U. Committee, City of London Philatelic Club, etc., etc.)

	£	s.	d.
Barbados, ¼d. green, CC., perf. 12½, unused	..	0	6
" 4d. vermilion	..	1	5
" 6d. orange	..	3	10
" 1/- purple	..	1	12
" 4d. carmine, CC., perf. 14	..	1	2
" 6d. orange	..	0	6
" 1/- purple	..	0	10
" 5/- ochre	..	1	7
Gambia, 6d. blue, imp. CC., unused	..	1	10
" 6d. " perf. " " "	..	0	17
" 1/- green " " " "	..	2	10
Gold Coast, ¼d. ochre " " " "	..	0	4
" " ¼d. " CA., used	..	0	10
" " 1d. blue " " "	..	0	15
Sierra Leone, 2d. magenta, CC., perf. 12½ used	..	0	17
" " 3d. yellow " " unused	..	0	10
" " 4d. blue " " "	..	0	18
" " 1/- green " " "	..	1	5
" " 2d. magenta " perf. 14 " "	..	0	4
" " 4d. blue " " "	..	1	5
" " 1/- green " " "	..	0	10
Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. " unused	..	1	10
" 2½d. " CA. " " "	..	1	2
Grenada, 8d. brown, CA. " " "	..	0	7
" 8d. " CA. " used	..	0	10
B. Honduras, 6d. carmine, CC., perf. 12½, used	..	0	12
" 6d. " " " 14 " "	..	1	5
" 6d. " " " 14 unused	..	4	0
Lagos, 1/- orange, CA., perf 14, unused	..	0	5
Cyprus, 6p. drab, " " " die I.	..	0	10
" 6p. " " " " die II.	..	0	5
" 12p. orange, CA. " " die I.	..	1	5
" 12p. " " " " die II.	..	1	10

Above are all fine copies.

**SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.**



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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

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 The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
 Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 60.—Vol. III

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## OFFICIALS WHO DABBLED IN STAMPS.

VICTORIAN CLERKS AND LETTER SORTERS PUNISHED FOR "IRREGULAR TRAFFIC."

WE are now in possession of fuller information concerning the enquiry that has been conducted in Melbourne with regard to the trafficking in postage stamps, alleged against certain Victorian postal officials. The Melbourne newspapers of November 6th bring us the following full report of the proceedings:—

The Public Service Board has now communicated to the Government the result of the investigation of the circumstances connected with the irregular traffic in obsolete stamps by officers of the Postal Department. The officers concerned were Messrs. W. Morkham, accountant and controller of stamps; W. H. Sinnott, clerk in the accountant's branch; A. Coulson, clerk, now in the Income Tax Department; and H. C. Treyvaud, letter sorter, Geelong. They have been found guilty on some of the charges brought against them, and the Board recommends reductions in their salaries.

The charges concerning Mr. Morkham were as follows: (1) Improperly trafficking in stamps; (2) allowing to be removed from the "spoils" 31 sheets of 2/- light green stamps, withdrawn from issue in August, 1895; (3) improperly giving to certain persons, especially one Friedman, undue facilities for the purchase of obsolete and reprinted stamps; (4) selling at their face value to Friedman large quantities of obsolete and reprinted stamps; (5) selling certain reprinted stamps at their face value to Friedman after the sale of such stamps had been forbidden by the Postmaster-General; (6) making untruthful and misleading statements concerning the above matters when questioned by the Postmaster-General; and (7) negligence and carelessness in the discharge of his duties. The Board finds that the fifth and seventh charges have been proved, but not the others. Two additional charges were formulated: that Mr.

Morkham did not properly distribute or account for stamps received from the Universal Postal Bureau, and that he was negligent in the discharge of his duties, inasmuch as he did not place in the official album specimens of these stamps. These charges are also considered proved, and the Board recommends that Mr. Morkham's gross salary of £750 (that is, without percentage reductions) be reduced to £700 per annum from the date of his resuming duty.

Mr. Sinnott has been found guilty on all the charges brought against him, namely: Improperly trafficking in stamps; removing certain stamps from the Department at various times; replacing them with other stamps of current issues, and selling the same at a price above face value for his own benefit; arranging with Coulson to sell certain of such stamps for him, and to share the profits; writing to various persons letters signed "C. W. Watkins," and negotiating for the sale for his own benefit of certain stamps; arranging with Treyvaud to receive such letters at Geelong, and forward them to him; arranging with Treyvaud for the sale of certain stamps at a price above their face value; and making untruthful and misleading statements to the Postmaster-General. The Board recommends that his salary be reduced from £485 to £375 per annum from the date of his resuming duty.

The charges against Mr. Treyvaud were:—(1) Assisting Sinnott in improperly trafficking in obsolete stamps, by taking charge of, and delivering to Sinnott certain letters which were left at the Post Office, Geelong, addressed to C. W. Watkins; (2) alone, or in conjunction with Sinnott, improperly trafficking in such obsolete stamps; and (3) making certain untruthful and misleading statements concerning the above matters to a person instructed by the Postmaster-General to enquire into the same.

The Board finds the first and second charges not proved, and the third proved, and recommends a reduction of salary from £174 to £160 for twelve months.

Mr. Coulson was also charged with acting in conjunction with Sinnott, but is only found guilty of making untruthful statements when under examination, and the Board recommends the reduction of his salary from £200 to £184 for twelve months.

It is understood that the Cabinet, following the usual course, will adopt the recommendations of the Board. Mr. Morkham has not been in good health for some time back, and is likely to apply to be retired from the service on that ground.

## DEATH OF MR. GILBERT LOCKYER.

With the deepest regret we chronicle the death, in his 58th year, of Mr. Gilbert E. Lockyer, well known as an enthusiastic philatelist and a painstaking writer on subjects connected with our hobby.

"Mr. Lockyer's illness," says the *London Philatelist*, "was very sudden, as we are informed that, although he had been in delicate health for several years, he was in his normal condition until within a few days of his end. Mr. Lockyer, who was an architect and surveyor, had secured high esteem

and respect in the wide circle of all who were acquainted with him or his writings. He had been for many years, and was to the day of his death, a member of the London Society, which body, at their meeting on the 18th of this month, passed a feeling tribute to his memory.

"Mr. Lockyer was an indefatigable student of and writer on stamps; always a careful and conscientious Philatelist, the collections he had formed were always replete with evidences of close study and complete knowledge of his specimens. The stamps of the English Colonies were always favourites of his, while his collection of Mexicans, which he had continued up to the last, must be one of the finest in the world. He was for many years a frequent contributor to the Philatelic journals; and it is indeed sad to read, in the current (December) number of the *Philatelic Record*, an article from a pen that we little expected would never be handled again.

"The most important work produced by Mr. Gilbert Lockyer was "Colonial Stamps; also those of Great Britain," published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co., at 8, Gower Street, in 1887, which was the precursor of the series of Handbooks published of late years by that firm, or rather, its successors. "Colonial Stamps," written ten years since, could obviously hardly be up to the measure of our standard of knowledge to-day; but at the time it was a careful and clever *resumé* of all that was then known of our Colonial Stamps, enriched by Mr. Lockyer's own extensive experience, and dominated throughout by the great accuracy and conscientious study that was so characteristic of the man. We can but tender, on behalf of all sections of Philatelists, our sincere sympathies to his relatives on the loss of so good and true a man in all his undertakings."

To this eloquent tribute to the memory of a great philatelist we desire to add our own expression of the deepest regret. Death, alas, has been all too busy of late years in the ranks of philatelists at home and abroad.

#### THE NEW EDITION OF THE A.B.C. CATALOGUE.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON inform us that the new edition of their A.B.C. Catalogue will be published in April. Many illustrations will be re-engraved; the book will be better printed; many other improvements being contemplated to make the book perfect as far as possible.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JAN. 23, 1897

##### Auction Sales.

- Jan. 11th. Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Jan. 12th and 12th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.
- Jan. 13th and 14th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.
- Jan. 19th and 20th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.

## The Year that is Dead.

[A RETROSPECT.]

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-SIX was a rare year for Philately, as a glance through the crowded pages of the FORTNIGHTLY suffices to show. At the opening of the year the Society for the Suppression of Speculative Stamps was in the full glow of its early strength. It does not appear to be quite so strong now, but perhaps one cannot reasonably expect that the high standard of energy attained by the Society in its early days could be permanently maintained.

Grim Death—always a busy worker in the early months of the year—snatched from our midst, on January 13th, 1896, a great philatelist; for on that day there died, at Cairo, the eighth Earl of Kingston, who so ably filled the presidential chair of the Philatelic Society of London.

In the same number of the FORTNIGHTLY we reported the

conclusion of the Government prosecution at Cardiff—a prosecution instituted for the purpose of checking certain thefts of stamps which had notoriously been carried on in the Inland Revenue Department. The case gave us an interesting side-light upon the vast numbers of unused Inland Revenue stamps that came into the philatelic market to be finally sold at sensational prices in the auction room. Arthur Williams, the clerk proved to have falsified Government requisites as a means of obtaining the coveted stamps, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment with hard labour.

At about this time, the question of the commercial morality of the philatelic community became somewhat acute. The Enquiry Bureau, instituted by our publishers as an experimental remedy, was welcomed warmly by such philatelists as were not subject to trade jealousy. Many evidences of the activity of the Bureau were soon forthcoming; and many were the promising plots our publishers were able to nip in the bud. The capture of Alexander Ross, *alias* D'Avricourt, in Paris, checked the nefarious practices of an accomplished scoundrel; and nearer home many others of his kidney were effectually stopped from further fleecing the stamp dealing fraternity.

In our issue of February 22nd, we recorded the advent of Messrs. Bright's long-promised A.B.C. Catalogue, and, as was fitting, spoke highly of this new candidate for popular favour. We think now, as we thought then, that Messrs. Bright would have done well to follow the plan adopted by Messrs. Gibbons, of separating the adhesive stamps from the envelopes and postcards. Possibly, our Bournemouth friends will have decided in the meantime to adopt this scheme of arrangement in their next edition. The A.B.C. Catalogue was remarkable for two notable innovations. In the first place, the stamps of Great Britain were given priority over those of all other countries; in the second place, common stamps were, for the first time in an English catalogue, priced at less than 1d. each. As to the expediency of this latter innovation, opinions are divided, but there can be no doubt that Messrs. Bright scored heavily from the point of view of common sense; for is it not absurd that stamps like the 15 centimes of France, and the 10 kreutzer of Austria should be priced at 1d. each?

The interesting legal tussle between Mr. Mortimer, the well-known stamp dealer, and a Mr. Roberts, as to certain stolen stamps, brought us an authoritative article from a legal correspondent concerning the law as it applied to this particular case. This gentleman shewed that unless stamps were purchased in market overt, the buyer was not protected; and, unfortunately for Mr. Mortimer, the stamps in this case were not purchased in market overt. It seemed hard at the time, and for that matter it seems equally hard now; and many letters to the FORTNIGHTLY from thinking readers testified to the fact that public sympathy was all on Mr. Mortimer's side.

In our issue of April 4th, we reported the perfecting of the Tintometer—a device conceived and constructed by an eminent brewer who had found in his business an urgent need of the exact differentiation of colour. Before a big meeting of the City of London Philatelic Club, Mr. E. J. Wall delivered a most entertaining lecture on the subject of "Colour in general, and the uses of the Tintometer with regard to colour in particular." It is a sorry reflection on the much-talked of enthusiasm of philatelists that from that day to this no further word has been said or heard on the question of the Tintometer. Our Mr. Hilekes followed Mr. Wall with a magic-lantern lecture that shewed a distinct advance in the art of philatelic lanternology. The stamps were shewn on the screen by means of reflected light, the actual stamps being placed within the lantern, thus securing absolute fidelity as to every detail of design.

This same month of April, was in many other respects a very eventful one. The Postmaster of New South Wales shocked the philatelic universe by launching upon the stamp market a great number of official reprints—official forgeries would be the better word—of New South Wales Stamps, each one cancelled with a fancy postmark imparting to it some semblance of authenticity. In this month circulars were

issued announcing Philatelic Exhibitions to be held at Geneva in Switzerland, and at the Hague in Holland, provoking from the FORTNIGHTLY an Editorial article headed "Why does London wait?" an article which, as all the world now knows, was destined to bring about great results. In this same month too, the City of London Philatelic Club suffered a terrible loss by the theft from the counter of the Leadenhall Street Post Office, of an Exchange Packet containing stamps valued at about £200 nett. The robbery was indubitably due to gross carelessness on the part of a postal official: yet in response to a requisition from the Club secretary, the Postmaster General refused to refund more than five pounds, the amount he is compelled to refund under the regulations governing the Registered Letter Department of the British Post Office. Another notable event as we then thought-- was the formation of the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited. So highly did we approve of the scheme as mapped out in the beginning, that we devoted two whole pages of our issue dated May 2nd to this venture, and in addition to this we inserted in every copy of our paper the prospectus issued by the Directors of the New Club. We regret that, if all we hear be true, the Philatelic Club and Exchange is very far indeed from justifying the hopeful predictions we then committed to paper.

By the following month the idea of holding another stamp exhibition in London had so caught the popular fancy that a meeting was called, and it was definitely resolved by the leading collectors and dealers who assembled at that meeting, that something should be done. About this time Continental philatelists were much exorcised on the subject of the forged Austrian "mercuries," concerning which, we were able to print a series of interesting articles from an esteemed German correspondent.

In July came the eighth German Philatelic Congress, held this time at Cologne. The publication of the 5th edition of Senf's catalogue (the previous edition of which provoked a most unwarranted attack by Messrs Stanley Gibbons) was the signal for a chorus of eoniums in the English Philatelic press, the extraordinary pains to which we had gone to combat the ridiculous assertions made in the previous year, having apparently acted as a healthy deterrent among people and firms disposed to mix up their business interest with their literary criticisms.

Again and again it was suggested in the FORTNIGHTLY that an English Philatelic Congress be held annually upon the same lines as the German Philatelic Tag, but nothing came of it, nor, if the truth must be told, has anything definite yet resulted from our frequent suggestions.

Coming to September, we find ourselves in the midst of the great Nova Scotia trouble, which is a matter of such recent date that it need scarcely be alluded to in detail here. The Exhibition scheme by this time had got well under way, numerous meetings having been held, and a very representative General Committee appointed.

Any review of the Philatelic events of 1896, would be incomplete without a brief reference to the prosecution of the "Bazaar" newspaper at the instance of the Inland Revenue Authorities. That prosecution has had vexatious results for philatelic writers and publishers alike.

In all modesty too, we may be permitted to point out several important changes that have been made in the conduct of the FORTNIGHTLY, and numerous new features introduced. In its present form, we honestly believe it to be as nearly as possible a perfect philatelic newspaper; and we are happy to be able to add that the letters of our readers are calculated to encourage us in that belief.

### Latest from Samoa.

*From Facts and Fallacies.*

*(Concluded from page 84).*

WE contend that the following meaning and intent attaches to this word "local," namely: That the municipal council may receive and deliver to vessels within this harbour all mail matter which may arrive for local delivery, or which may be collected locally for export, but that the municipal

council is not authorized to establish any system of postal delivery or collection beyond its own limits as defined by treaty.

It was undoubtedly contemplated that a postal system might be organized by the municipal authorities, and it certainly could not have meant that a local messenger or express system should be established between the different quarters of a town so small as this, or that the council should go beyond its borders into territory over which it has no control, and there establish a system of post for the benefit of people who contributed little or nothing at all to its support.

Having as we think successfully shown the consular board that we rightfully claim the sole control of the public postal system for the municipality, we proceed to state the desires and intent of the council if it is ultimately decided that our contention is correct.

We propose to direct our collector of customs to make all proper arrangements with the Postal Union, whereby we may receive and send away such mails as we may wish to handle.

We propose to ask one of the treaty powers to print for us, and at our expense, such stamps as we may find that we may need for the purposes of this business.

We propose to have a portion of the stamps cancelled and held ready for sale to collectors and others at a uniform price of one half their face value, and we will take care to regulate this business so that there can be no possible fraud in connection with it.

We propose to handle the whole subject in a businesslike way, and by careful attention to detail to give general satisfaction.

We propose to employ the remaining portion of this year in completing our arrangements so as to enter upon the year 1897 perfectly prepared to satisfy all reasonable requirements.

We ask the prompt attention of the circular board to this matter, and also its cordial assistance.

For the information of the circular board we may state that the present postmaster, Mr. John Davis, is acting by virtue of an appointment received by King Malietoa, and dated December 20th, 1886, the following being a correct copy of the same:—

APIA, SAMOA, December 20th, 1886.

"Malietoa, King of Samoa, do hereby appoint Mr. John Davis, of Apia, to be postmaster for the Kingdom of Samoa, and give him full power to enter into any arrangement with the countries he may consider necessary for the forwarding and delivery of letters and mail matter to and from this country. Also hereby acknowledge the postage stamps hereto affixed as the Samoan postage stamps.

"MALIETOA, King of Samoa."

As the present king was dethroned and deported from Samoa, and as his authority came actually to an end in 1888, the undersigned declare it their belief that at that time the above appointment became null and void. It has never been renewed since the return of King Malietoa to power, and we contend that even had the king any intention to make such an appointment, the Berlin Act provides otherwise and is paramount.

E. A. GREVSMUHL.

H. J. MOORS.

In regard to the contention of Moors and Grevsmuhl that the appointment of Mr. Davis as postmaster is void through the exile of Malietoa in 1887, the *Times* says: "We have only to point out that, in the first place, Malietoa did not abdicate his throne nor in any sense voluntarily relinquish the rights and privileges appertaining to his position as chief executive of Samoa: and in the second place, having created an office it cannot be made void except by himself or with his consent. The effect of the treaty powers having brought Laupepa back to Samoa was to renew and consolidate his kingship. We claim that, in reality, there was no time during his majesty's involuntary exile that he ceased to be King of Samoa. We repeat that Malietoa gave Mr. Davis his appointment and none but Malietoa can take it away."



### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 9, 1897.



WITH the view of throwing dust in the eyes of the philatelic public, many stamp journals have been circulating statements intended to discredit the **Lies about Nova Scotia** articles we have published on the subject of Nova Scotia. Thus Major Evans writing in the December issue of the *Monthly Journal*, says:—

Most of the excitement about this affair seems to have been occasioned by some funny person offering in jest sets of these stamps at half a-crown the set, to a person whose sense of humour was not equal to the occasion. It is well to state once for all that no serious offer of sets at 2/6 was ever made.

Now it is a most unfortunate thing that Major Evans, however well-informed he may be on most questions concerning the collection of stamps, knows nothing whatever about this Nova Scotia deal beyond what his friends in the Strand may have deemed it expedient to tell him. His statement that the offer of sets at 2/6 was made in jest is a misstatement. The offer of sets at 2/6 was made in dead business earnest. The man who made it was prepared to take our publishers' order there and then. *But* the order was to be for 25,000 sets. That is a little detail which has apparently escaped the attention of the good people who have been industriously circulating this statement about offers made in jest. We do not know what clumsy idiot may have been perpetrating a stupid joke of this sort on other people, but we have the best of all reasons for knowing that the offer to our publishers was made in perfect good faith, and that, had business resulted, the 25,000 sets would have been forthcoming. We could give chapter and verse for all this, but we shall not. Instead, we will give our reasons for not doing so. In the first place we have been asked not to do so by the parties concerned; in the second place, the offer of the sets was made to our publishers *sub rosa*, the gentleman who made it impressing the fact upon our Mr. Hilleke before opening the subject; and lastly the explanation would prove a long story, and would take up space which we feel sure our numerous readers would prefer to see devoted to some subject of more general interest. Until we saw this Nova Scotia fable in the *Monthly Journal*, we did not deem it worthy of serious notice; *but* when a foolish statement of this sort is adopted by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons as a weapon wherewith to answer the strictures we have passed upon them, it is high time for us to step in and nail it to the counter.

Mr. T. H. HINTON, whose little work—*The A.B.C. of Philately*—has already been noticed in our columns, has been criticised in a contemporary on account of a misstatement with regard to the use of the words "surcharge" and "overprint." Mr. Hinton writes:—

A stamp is said to be surcharged when it has some addition written or printed on it after it has been completed ready for use. When a

new wording or value is added to the stamps before issue—as in the case of the stamps of Saint Helena—the stamp is said to be overprinted.

Here Mr. Hinton is undoubtedly wrong. The words as philatelists at present use them have one and the same meaning. In a word they are synonymous terms. All the same we could wish Mr. Hinton were right. What he describes as the use of these two words by philatelists might very well be true without any serious misuse of the Queen's English. We think it was Mr. Westoby who some time ago devoted an article to the subject of the poverty of a philatelist's vocabulary. Mere paucity of words is not the worst of it; many philatelic terms are made to serve absolutely wrong meanings, and of these the word "surcharge" is an admirable case in point. The reform of the philatelic vocabulary suggested by Mr. Westoby could very well be commenced by assigning to the words "surcharge" and "overprint" the distinct meanings attributed to them by Mr. T. H. Hinton. We make no doubt whatever that other suggestions to the same end could be provided by many readers of the *Fortnightly*.

The full report we print under the heading "Philately at Home" of the result of the Victorian Postal Philatelic Scandal makes satisfactory reading for all true Philatelic friends of philately. That Government Officials should abuse their privileges to the extent of trafficking in postage stamps for their own personal gain is an abomination and utterly intolerable. Mr. M. P. Castle, whose name has always been so closely identified with the study of Australian stamps, is not unnaturally joyful concerning the result. It looks upon this official snubbing of official stamp dealers as a hopeful indication of the rehabilitation of Australian stamps from the point of view of the philatelic specialist. Unnecessary issues and official rigging are the two evils which have combined to depreciate the stamps of the Australian Colonies in the eyes of philatelists. The one evil has received a severe check, and the other, as Mr. Castle suggests, the philatelists of England and of Australia must endeavour to remove by their own individual efforts.

In our last issue we devoted some space to the criticisms passed upon the Exhibition Committee by the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and before going further we wish to point out that one or two somewhat absurd mistakes that crept into that article resulted from the fact that we wrote in haste and on the eve of going to press. For instance, we said that on the General Committee were many old women of both sexes; and, though we are not sure that this droll blunder was of our own making, we hasten to explain that what we meant to imply was that some of the gentlemen composing the Committee would be more correctly described as old women. One or two other similar mistakes in the article referred to, were not ours, but those of the intelligent compositor. So much for our past sins. The immediate object of this present article is to draw attention to the fact that the criticisms appearing in the *P.J.G.B.*, are able, and, we think, satisfactorily answered in the current issue of the Philatelic Society's official organ. With regard to the only objection raised by the *P.J.G.B.*, which we considered serious, Mr. Castle writes as follows:—

Any philatelist or dealer could have—and had an equal opportunity to have—tendered medals for competition, with the list of donors announced in the prospectus. The Committee will, we understand, however, be pleased to receive additions to the lists of prizes, which will be announced with the same degree of publicity as accorded to their predecessors. The prospectus was urgently required, and its appearance was long delayed by the vast amount of work entailed in its conception—during which period it was open to any one to kindly donate prizes.

All the other points raised by our Salisbury contemporary are just as satisfactorily replied to, and, to conclude, the *P.J.G.B.* is deservedly rebuked for its description of the prospectus as "most disappointing," and for its further statement that the "grave disappointment" occasioned by the prospectus is

"growing." We hope there will be no more of these petty criticisms, but that all will now combine loyally and work together for the success of this year's Exhibition. The time for raising objections is passed, for what is now done cannot well be undone. It may be that we have our own objections to the way in which the Exhibition is being promoted, but we are going to save them until the show is over, when they can do no harm to what is after all intended to be for the benefit of all classes of philatelists.

### Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

**Brazil.**—The unpaid letter stamp of 200 reis is now issued in a pale lilac colour, as the specimen submitted to us by Messrs. Bright & Son proves. The type has not been altered. 200 r. pale lilac (C.).

**Ecuador.**—Some more commemorative stamps have appeared here in two designs of which we append illustrations. It seems peculiar that the lower values should appear in such a big size (our illustration being half the size of the original). The following are the values which have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.



- 1 centavo carmine (large size)
  - 2 .. blue (sm. li size)
  - 5 .. green (large size)
  - 10 .. pale yellow (small size)
  - 20 .. brick red (large size)
  - 50 .. violet (small size)
  - 1 sucre deep yellow (large size)
- (Set of 7 stamps post free, 9 6).

**Ecuador.**—Messrs. Monteith sent us a copy of the 1896 issue, 50 centavos, violet-grey, surcharged in capital letters DIEZ CENTAVOS in red.

50 centavos violet-grey, surcharged in red DIEZ CENTAVOS.

**Zanzibar.**—This unfortunate island seems to be afflicted by a kind of stamp rash. Now the French post office has a turn at issuing a surcharged series; the following are the values kindly submitted to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. The surcharge is on the current French stamps in Indian currency:—

- 14 annas red, surch. on 15c. blue (5d.)
- 2 .. black, surch. on 20c. brown on green (6d.)
- 3 .. " .. on 30c. brown (10d)
- 4 .. " .. on 40c. vermilion (1 1/2)

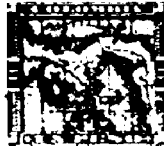
At last the regular issue, with the portrait of the new Sultan, has appeared. They are printed, we believe, by Messrs. De la Rue & Co., and show a very peculiar, albeit pretty, idea in the way of printing, the flags above the Sultan's head being printed in deep vermilion. We have seen so far:—



- 1 anna deep blue, flags red
- 3 .. grey-blue ..

The prices in parenthesis are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers.

**Panama.**—The very well-known map design of this country has at last been completed by the issue of a 1 peso stamp in deep carmine. The specimen submitted to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. has been engraved in taille douce, no doubt by the American Bank Note Company.



1 peso deep carmine (4/9).

### The New "Gibbons."\*

PART I.—THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

WE have received from Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited the first part of their new priced catalogue, which, in accordance with an announcement made some weeks ago, will be published in three vols., the first dealing with adhesive stamps of the British Empire, the second with the adhesive stamps of foreign countries, and the third with the "entires" of the whole world. Part I. of this new "Gibbons" now lies before us. As frontispiece Messrs. Gibbons give us comparative illustrations of the two De La Rue types of British Colonial stamps, similar to those given some months ago in the "S.C.F." Between this frontispiece and the catalogue proper, we find no less than forty pages devoted to introductory matter, much of which might be eliminated without serious loss. Messrs. Gibbons have put themselves to extraordinary pains to print introductions in a large variety of foreign languages, which seems in the highest degree absurd when one comes to think that the catalogue proper is in English alone. Following these polyglot introductions come a list of abbreviations used in the catalogue, some of which by the way are not abbreviations at all. Then there is an explanation as to how the various sizes of envelopes are indicated; but where is the need for this in a book dealing exclusively with adhesives? Turning the page we come upon "Perforations of Letter-cards" another wasted page. The next feature is a very fair foreign money table, to which the publishers prefix a note to the effect that in countries where there is a gold standard, the par value varies very little from the exchange value, but in countries where there is a silver standard the exchange value is much less in some cases, being very little above half the par or nominal value. How delightfully vague is this, and how much more practical and sensible it would have been to indicate just those countries (there are very few of them) which have a silver standard. The dictionary of technical terms is exhaustive and well-arranged.

As this volume deals exclusively with the British Empire, it follows as a natural consequence that the stamps of Great Britain are given priority of place. In this way do Messrs. Gibbons adroitly evade all suspicion of following the lead of their newest rivals, Messrs. Bright, of Bournemouth. After Great Britain, the various British Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates follow in strictly alphabetical order. The Native States of India are very properly grouped alphabetically, under the generic headline "India"; but Griqualand comes under the G's, and in all other cases, with the sole exception of the Straits Settlements, every British possession, however insignificant, occupies its proper alphabetical position.

In this number of the FORTNIGHTLY we do not propose dealing with the prices given in this book.

The binding and get up of the new "Gibbons" are better than the 1895 edition. The blocks are small and atrocious. The illustrations of Strait Settlements stamps are the acme of ugliness and bad workmanship—the stamps themselves we mean, not the surcharges, which are most excellent. There is, by the way, one very noteworthy improvement in this new edition of Gibbons' catalogue, and that is the introduction of nearly 2000 illustrations of surcharges. These illustrations, so far as we have examined them, seem to be absolutely exact. Excellence in this respect will compensate for a number of sins in other directions, and on account of these surcharged pictures alone, we have no hesitation in

\* Can be obtained from Messrs. Hildes for 2/- post free.

pronouncing Part I. of the new "Gibbons" catalogue to be a book worth buying.

But is it worth its price? Why Messrs. Gibbons presume to charge 2/- for a single part of their three-volume catalogue passes our comprehension. "Bright" we can buy, complete, for 1/6; "Scott," complete, for 2/-; and "Senf," complete, for 2/3; and each of these books will make more than two of the volume under notice. Shillings are small things to quibble about, but we think Messrs. Gibbons would have been well advised to charge a lower price for the book.

In the current number of the *Monthly Journal* Mr. Phillips waxes exceeding wroth over the iniquitous practice indulged in by some dealers of selling Gibbons' catalogue at a discount, and something is said with regard to the intention of the firm to render this cutting of price practically impossible. We cannot quite see why Messrs. Gibbons should object, since the wholesale price paid to them by the dealers must be the same whatever happens; but possibly it is the wish of the publishers of this catalogue to keep the sale of the book as much as possible in their own hands, and by selling it direct, keep themselves in touch with the great body of the philatelic community. It is a selfish policy, but selfishness is not an uncommon attribute of business men. We think, however, it would better further the business ends of Messrs. Gibbons if this catalogue were published at a fair price—a price, say, which would just recoup the expenses of publication. For why should a trader make a profit on his price list?

### \* \* \* Review of Reviews. \* \* \*

#### Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News.

A PAPER which is never tired of improving itself, comes to hand now clothed in bright scarlet with an enormous picture of a penny Gambia stamp in its north-east corner. The contents are bright and interesting as ever, the principal contributors being Mr. S. B. Hopkins, Mr. C. E. Severn, Mr. J. M. Bartells, and that most industrious New-Yorker, Mr. "Iberius" Andreini. From Mr. Severn's Chicago letter, we note that the *Times-Herald* of that city has been delivering itself of stupid articles concerning philately, headed "Decline of the Philatelic Fad" and so on. In the editorial columns of the *Weekly*—the work we believe of Mr. Isaac Mekeel—there is something interesting concerning \$5,000 REVENUE STAMP. This stamp, it appears, was issued solely on account of the big mortgages arranged between the U.S.A. Government and the Great Pacific Railroads. How copies of the stamp could have leaked out is not known, and unless *Mekeel's Weekly* is misinformed no used copy of this stamp now exists in any collection. Nor is it likely that the stamps on the expiring mortgages will pass into collector's hands, though the holders of the deeds would be able to sell them to philatelists for quite a small fortune. Even the proofs of the stamp, of which only a few are to be obtained, sell readily at prices approaching twenty pounds each. Why this \$5,000 is never chronicled in any of the philatelic catalogues is a puzzle to *Mekeel's Weekly* and to us.

#### New U.S.A. Stamps Coming.

"Once more" says the *Evergreen State Philatelist*, "let us urge everyone to complete their set of current U.S.A. stamps. We need not be surprised at a complete change in the near future."

With the number in which this paragraph occurs, the *E.S.P.* completes its sixth volume. It is an entertaining and enterprising paper, and the number at present before us is an excellent sample of what its publishers can do. Mr. S. E. Miller gives his advice to would-be publishers of philatelic journals, which is simply the historic advice given by Mr. Punch to those about to marry.

#### Grilled on both sides.

The writer of "U.S. Notes" in the *Evergreen State Philatelist* tells us that an American firm is advertising a copy of

a three cent stamp of the 1868 issue, which shows a portion of a grille on each side of the stamp. They are asking \$5 for it. The writer adds:—

While speaking of grille oddities, I have in my own collection a specimen of the same issue which shows either wholly or in part three impressions of the grille, in fact I have shown it to collectors who took it for an all over grille. Another curiosity in the grille line which passed through my hands several years ago was a three cent green, each corner of which showed a portion of a grille. The specimen, I believe, now graces an Eastern collection, and I didn't get the prices wanted for the two grilled specimen either.

#### Philatelic Journalism in "the Dominion."

Last year (says the Canadian correspondent of *Mekeel's Weekly*) there was but one stamp paper in Canada; this year gives promise of being honored by the birth of half-a-dozen or more. There are now published, or announced, the following: the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine*, the *Canadian Weekly Stamp News*, the *Ontario Philatelist*, the *Philatelic Advocate*, *Stamp Lore*, the *All-Around Stamp Advertiser*, the *Dominican Philatelist*, and the *Halifax Philatelic Magazine*. This is a pretty fair crop for so early in the season. How many of them will see New Year's day, 1898?

#### Journalistic Amenities in the Fatherland.

Sometimes we think the libel law of England is a very good thing. It appears that some differences of opinion have lately arisen between certain philatelic personages in the Fatherland, and the amount of bad language that has lately bestrewn the pages of our German contemporaries is something deplorable. Any five lines of any one of the articles we refer to would be libellous in this country; and that is why we think that the English libel law is, in certain contingencies, a good thing.

#### Forgeries in Germany.

Some things they do better on the continent. Quite recently the German detectives have run to earth a smart scamp who was just about to "plant" a large lot of forgeries of the current German stamps. Thus was a huge swindle nipped in the bud.

#### A Cluster of Rare Old Moldavians.

MR. PHILIPP KOSACK, of Berlin, informs the *London Philatelist*, has become the fortunate possessor of a "piece" which he boldly describes as the most interesting in philately. It consists of an entire letter sheet, with the following stamps on it, all in fine condition but, alas! cut round.

#### MOLDAVIA.

1 copy 81 parale.  
1 copy 27 ..  
2 copies 168 ..

This obviously makes up the triple 108 p. rate, and the presence of these four stamps together on one letter is certainly as interesting as rare. We have not as yet heard the price asked (adds the *London Philatelist*) and cannot guess within a hundred or two!

#### Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

EVERYWHERE, the Philatelic Lantern Lecture is gaining in popularity. The Philatelic Society of Victoria are shortly to have an exhibition, covering New South Wales, Victorian, and South Australian stamps; the slides for the latter having been prepared by Mr. F. C. Krichauff, of Adelaide.

Our suggestion of holding a stamp exhibition at Omaha during the Trans-Mississippi Exposition in 1898 has been favourably spoken of by several papers. If Omaha secures the '98 conventions, it will be an especially fitting occasion.—*Trans-Mississippi Stamp*.

The Philatelic Publishing Company, of Fentham Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, announce the early publication of *The British Stamp Directory*, price one shilling. The book is to include both collectors and dealers. (See advt.)

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *ferf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 88).

Mr. W. HADLOW, December 11th, 1896.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
a	Boer Republic (1887), £1 * ..	£1 and 1 3 0
b	British East Africa (on Co's stamp), 4 rupees ..	1 3 0
b	Jamaica, Fiscal Postal, 1½d. blue, on piece ..	1 1 0
a b	Mauritius, 1 - green, imperf., pair * ..	3 3 0
a	Natal, 6d. grey, rough perf., block of 4 * ..	4 0 0
a	Norway, 12ore, light green * ..	1 1 0
b	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ..	1 0 0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. ..	1 3 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line * ..	3 3 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, December 14th, 1896.

b	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC. ...	0 19 0
b	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf. ...	2 2 0
b c	Barbados, 5/- rose ...	1 12 0
b	Bremen, 7gr. yellow, imperf. ...	2 10 0
a	British Columbia, 25c. yellow, perf. 12½, pair * ..	2 6 0
a	ditto, a single * ..	1 3 0
b	British East Africa, 2½a. in red on 4½a. ...	1 7 0
b	British Guiana, 4c. blue, perf. 12½ ..	1 6 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue ..	3 0 0
b	4d. blue, roulette, on piece ..	1 11 0
a	Ceylon, 1/9 green, imperf. ...	2 6 0
a	1/- cold violet, no wmk. ...	1 4 0
a	France, First Issue, 20c. blue * ..	1 9 0
b	Empire, 1 franc carmine * ..	1 5 0
b	Hamburg, 4s. green, imperf. ...	1 10 0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown ..	0 17 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. worn ..	1 10 0
b	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	1 0 0
b	6d. grey-lilac ..	18/- and 1 1 0
a	6d. bronze ..	1 4 0
a b	1/- green, perf. 15 ..	1 2 0
a	1 - yellow-green ..	1 0 0
a	1/- lilac * ..	1 15 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow ..	3 7 6
b	St. Christopher, 6d. olive brown * ..	1 10 0
a	1 - lilac * ..	0 18 0
b	ditto, used ..	16/- and 0 18 0
b c	1/- olive, "St. Kitts, Nevis Revenue" used postally ..	0 16 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA, bank cancel ..	1 3 0
b	1/- orange-brown ..	3 4 0
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC * ..	2 0 0
b c	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow, heavy pmk. ...	2 6 0
b	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC. ...	0 18 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, printed at back ..	1 18 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Dec. 15th and 16th, 1896.

b	Barbados, 1d. on half 5/- rose, pair, showing both types, surcharge right to left, perfs, cut at top ..	15 0 0
c	ditto, a single, left half of 5/-, surcharge left to right, small nick * ..	14 0 0
a	5/- ochre * ..	0 18 0
c	British Guiana, first issue, 12c. black on blue, cut to shape * ..	10 10 0
b	(1851), 1c. magenta * ..	4 17 6
b c	ditto * ..	4 0 0
b	ditto, 4c. deep blue, cut close ..	2 12 0
a b	(1853), 1c. vermilion, strip of 4, on entire ...	5 10 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
a	British Guiana, 4c. blue, on entire ..	17/- and 1 0 0
a	ditto, ditto ..	1 0 0
a b	ditto, 4c. dark blue ..	1 0 0
b	ditto, 4c. numerals framed, on piece ..	1 10 0
c	(1856), 4c. magenta, 43x38mm., used on back of envelope, and torn in opening ..	8 10 0
c	ditto, ditto, 43x37mm., a poorer copy, similarly damaged ..	6 0 0
b c	(1862), 1c. rose, pearls ..	5 5 0
c	ditto, ditto, crossed ovals, no roulettes ..	2 4 0
c	ditto, 2c. yellow, crossed ovals, ditto ..	2 2 0
c	ditto, 4c. blue, trefoils, fine but ditto ..	7 0 0
b	96c. drab ..	£1 and 1 2 0
a	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 * ..	3 17 6
b	Canada, 10d. blue on thin. ...	1 5 0
a	Ceylon, 9d. brown, no wmk. ...	1 3 0
b	Fernando Poo, first issue, 20c. brown * ..	1 4 0
b	Gibraltar, second issue, 1 - bistre ..	1 3 0
a	Great Britain, 9d. straw, plate 4, emblems * ..	1 16 0
a b	£1 brown-lilac, cross ..	1 7 0
a	£1 brown-lilac on bluish, "Specimen" ..	2 10 0
a b	£5 orange on bluish ..	2 4 0
b	India, Service, 4a. green on lilac ..	2 5 0
a	Montserrat, 1d. carmine, C.A., perf. 12 * ..	0 16 0
b	4d. blue, C.A. ...	2 10 0
b	Naples, 50g. pale lake * ..	3 5 0
b	4t. blue, cross ..	3 17 6
b	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, cut small, on entire ..	1 3 0
b	Nevis, 1d. rose * ..	1 18 0
a	ditto, used ..	1 14 0
a	6d. grey-lilac * ..	1 18 0
b	ditto * ..	1 10 0
a b	ditto, used ..	16/- and 1 2 0
b	6d. grey, litho. ...	12 12 0
a	6d. red-brown ..	1 6 0
a	1 - green, perf. 13 ..	1 10 0
b	ditto ..	£1 and 1 2 0
a	1 - green, perf. 15 ..	1 17 6
b	ditto ..	1 5 0
a	1 - dark green, litho. * ..	2 2 0
a	1/- lilac * ..	2 0 0
b	New Brunswick, Connell proof ..	2 6 0
b	Newfoundland, 1d. orange ..	2 0 0
a	12 - 8d. carmine, pair * ..	2 2 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. plate 4, on laid, strip of 3, on entire ..	2 12 6
b	ditto, 3d. green ..	1 0 0
b	New Zealand, first issue, 1d. deep carmine ..	1 1 0
b	6d. brown, on thick, roulette ..	1 7 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	1 4 0
c	6d. dark green, fine but tiny tear * ..	4 6 0
a	6d. yellow-green ..	1 15 0
c	ditto, good, but thinned ..	1 6 0
c	ditto, ditto, small tear ..	1 5 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 3gr. brown ..	1 4 0
a	Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1 real blue, on piece ..	8 0 0
b	Parma, 80c. yellow * ..	1 12 0
a	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ...	1 17 0
a	1/- dull violet, no wmk., perf. 12 * ..	1 4 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	2 5 0
a	1 - lilac * ..	0 18 0
a	1d. on 6d. green, with one complete and two part surcharges, ? fiscally used ..	1 8 0
a b	St. Lucia (1d.) blue, star * ..	2 10 0
b	6d. lilac, CA. * ..	2 0 0
a	1 - black and orange * ..	3 15 0
a	ditto, very deep shade * ..	4 8 0
a	1 - orange brown, penmark ..	1 0 0
a b	St. Vincent, 3d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair * ..	2 8 0
b	ditto, similar pair, perfs. cut one side * ..	1 12 0
a	1d. black on 6d. yellow-green ..	1 16 0
a	4d. yellow ..	1 4 0
a b	4d. deep blue, star ..	£1 12s. od. and 1 14 0
a	6d. yellow-green, no wmk., perf. about 15, on entire..	0 19 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	
		£	s. d.
b	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, star, perf. about 12	2	6 0
a	6d. bright-green, CA., perf 12	0	17 0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1c. bronze, penmark (1850), 10c. green	1	4 0
b	(1851), 2c. red, fine, but slight tear	2	13 0
a	(1854) 6c. blue	18	0 0
a	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r., fine, but small hole	1	18 0
b	Neuchatel, 5c., two copies	3	15 0
b	Vaud, 5c.	1	6 0
b	Zurich, 6r., hor. lines	1	10 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue	1	7 0
a	Tobago, ½d. on 6d. orange-brown, variety figure farther from word, with an ordinary	1	14 0
a	Trinidad (1d.) purple-brown on bluish	1	2 0
a	Litho. (1d.) green-blue, early	0	16 0
b	ditto (1d.) blue, early	2	12 6
a	ditto (1d.) blue, late	1	8 0
a	ditto (1d.) green-blue, late, on piece	1	14 0
a	ditto (1d.) red	1	18 0
b	4d. grey-lilac, imperf.	1	5 0
a	6d. emerald, perf. 12½	1	3 0
a	1/- purple-blue, thick paper	1	8 0
a	1/- purple, CC., perf. 12½	5	10 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on ¼d. grey	1	4 0
b	Tuscany (1853), 1 soldo pale yellow on white	3	5 0
a	United States (1856), 90c. blue	5	0 0
b	(1868), 90c. blue, grill	3	7 6
b	(1869) 90c.	0	16 0
a	Columbus, set complete	1	16 0
b	Executive, 2c. carmine	3	0 0
b	Victoria, Emblems, 2d. lilac, no wmk, roulette	1	5 0
a	10d. slate	2	0 0
b	5/- blue on yellow	0	15 0
a	Virgin Islands, ½d. orange	£2	15s. od. and 3 7 6
b	1/- crimson, single line	2	5 0
a	Württemberg, 7k. blue, roulette	2	8 0
		1	12 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, December 17th, 1896.

a	Afghanistan (1200), shahi purple	1	6 0
a	Antigua, 1/- lilac	0	15 0
b	Barbados, 6d. orange, star, imperf. with 3 good margins, (pmk. June 30, 1873), on piece	0	16 0
b	Belgium, 5fr. pale brown	1	0 0
b	British East Africa (on Co's stamp), 4r. blue 17/- and	1	0 0
a	British South Africa, £5, fiscally used	0	17 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. purple-brown, no wmk.	1	4 0
a	Congo, first issue, 5f. violet	1	1 0
b	Fiji, 1d. (2c.) blue, plain V.R.	1	10 0
a	6d. (12c.) rose, ditto	1	3 0
b	2d. red on 3d. (6c.) green, Gothic V.R.	1	5 0
c	6d. (12c.) rose, ditto, pmk. piercing	1	0 0
b	France, 1f. vermilion, fine but cut close at bottom	7	0 0
b	French Colonies, 4c. grey	0	16 0
a	Madeira, first issue, 20r. brown, percé en scie, pair	2	0 0
b	Monaco, first issue, 1fr. imperf.	1	2 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. on yellowish	0	16 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. orange	2	0 0
b	Spain (1852), 2r. red, colour a little faded, otherwise fine	9	15 0
a	(1854), 6r. blue	1	0 0
b	Straits Settlements, Perak, 2c. vert. on 4c. rose	0	18 0
A	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on buff, penmark	2	10 0
b	Victoria, Queen on Throne, 2d. litho., broken steps	1	12 0
a	10d. slate	1	1 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., December 21st and 22nd, 1896.  
Centenary Sale, the first on record.

a	Barbados, 5/- rose	2	0 0
b	ditto	1	4 0
a	Belgium, 5f. pale brown	1	5 0
b	Bremen, 3gr. percé en scie	0	18 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf.	2	0 0
a	Brunswick, ½sgr., percé en scie	1	10 0
a	2sgr., ditto, on entire Money Order card	0	19 0
b	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso light brown	1	0 0
a	1 peso blue	1	1 0
a	2 pesos blue	0	18 0
a	3 pesos green	4	10 0
c	4 pesos red, good but slight tear	13	0 0
a	4 pesos (4 reales) brown	1	10 0
a	5 pesos orange	17	10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
b	Canada, 6d. purple-black, perf.	7	0 0
a	ditto, used	5	10 0
a	7½d. green	2	16 0
a	10d. blue, on thin	1	6 0
b	Capo, Woodblock, ¼d. blue	£1	10s. od. and 1 14 0
a	1/- emerald	0	10 0
a	Ceylon, ¼d. rose, imperf.	15	0 0
a	8d. brown, ditto	24	0 0
a	9d. violet-brown, ditto	£3	0s. od. and 3 5 0
a	1/9 green, ditto	2	6 0
a	2/- blue ditto	3	15 0
b	9d. brown, no wmk.	1	0 0
b	Dominican Republic, ½ real, black on green	2	4 0
c	France, 1fr. orange, good but thinned	5	0 0
b	French Colonies, 4c. grey	1	3 0
a	Great Britain, 1¼d. lilac-rose, block of 1	5	5 0
a	8d. brown	4	7 6
a	2/- brown	2	4 0
a	£1 brown-lilac, cross, telegraph cancel	0	19 0
a	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf.	1	16 0
b	9sch. yellow, ditto	3	6 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	£1	10s. od., £1 10s. od. and 1 14 0
a	Heligoland, 3pf.	2	12 0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, ¼d. black on green	3	2 6
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	1 0
A	1d. carmine, CA., perf. 12, block of 4	3	3 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. * two copies	each	0 18 0
a	ditto, used	0	18 0
b	¼d. rose	2	12 0
b	ditto	2	2 0
a	ditto, used	1	18 0
b	¼d. orange, litho., two copies	each	0 17 0
A	¼d. blue, pair	2	10 0
a	ditto, a single	1	5 0
b	6d. grey-lilac on bluish	2	12 0
a	6d. grey-lilac	3	0 0
a	ditto	£1	12s. od. and 2 0 0
a	ditto, used	18/-, 19/- and	1 0 0
b	ditto, a pair	1	18 0
A	6d. grey, litho.	13	5 0
A	6d. green, pair	13	15 0
a	1/- green, perf. 13	3	5 0
a	ditto, used	17/- and	1 0 0
a	1/- green, perf. 15	£3	15s. and 4 0 0
a	ditto, used, three	each	£1 1s. and 1 3 0
a	1/- blue	1	12 0
a	New Brunswick, half 3d. with a 6d. on piece	4	0 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange	1	0 0
b	ditto	0	16 0
a	6d. orange	2	0 0
b	6½d. carmine	5	17 6
b	8d. carmine	0	17 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 2, on laid	1	3 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2	1	5 0
b	ditto, 3d.	1	0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red brown	1	2 0
b	6d. dark green, two copies	each	1 5 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr. rose	1	12 0
b	Philippines, first issue, 5 cuartos orange	1	2 0
a	(1875), 2c. blue	1	5 0
a	Portugal, 240r. mauve, straight l'al el	2	15 0

(To be continued.)

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## FORTNIGHTLY

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No. 61—No. 9—Vol. III. SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1897. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

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4d. green, CA. ..	..	21/-
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(Britannia) 4d. grey, CA. ..	..	6/6
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## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1896-1897

#### Vice-Presidents:

Mr. Harry Hilckes, and Mr. John J. Lane.

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#### Hon. Secretary:

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The fifth meeting of the Season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, on Monday, Jan. 11th, the following Members being present: H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, F. B. Carr, J. E. Joselin, D. T. Nops, T. H. Thompson, H. Thompson, H. Atharley, J. B. Camaschella, H. Plumridge, D. Thomson, F. Vandembroucq, E. W. Hounsum, T. Wallace, H. A. MacMillan, when our Fourteenth Auction Sale was held.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

At the Committee meeting held previous to the sale, it was proposed by the Secretary "That the City of London Philatelic Club offer a Gold Medal at the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition for the best collection of Used British Colonial Stamps," this was seconded by Mr. H. Hilckes, and unanimously carried, the Secretary being authorized to make necessary arrangements, *re* the same, and report at the next meeting, also to write to the Secretary of the Exhibition.

The next meeting will be held on Jan. 25th.

#### HON. EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT'S AND TREASURER'S REPORT.

Will members kindly note that sheets for the Exchange Packets should be sent in by the 25th of the month. Any member of the Club can have the Packets sent to him on application, also that in future all sheets and subscriptions should be sent to MR. J. E. JOSELIN, Hon. Ex. Supt. and Treas., 81, Bennerley Road, New Wandsworth, London, S.W.

#### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Bazaar Philatelic Supplement*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*, *The Advertiser*, *Stamp Gossip Gems*, *Monthly Offers*.

From Belgium: *Le Philatèliste*.

From Italy: *Roma Filatelica*.

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelic*, *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, *Internationales Offertenblatt für Philatelic*.

From the United States: *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Home Worker*, *The Herald Exchange*.

From India: *The Philatelic World*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

#### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

#### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

DECEMBER 17th.—Display, U.S.A.

Messrs. Sallo Epstein (Transvaal), C. C. Morency (Canada), W. M. Thompson (N.S.W.), A. Schlachter (U.S.A.), were elected Members.

Then followed the display of the stamps of U.S.A., including the collections of Messrs. Pimm, Stephenson and Johnson, with some fine selections belonging to the President, including a superb set of current type engraver's proofs from the matrix dies and a fine lot of *loc.* of first issue.

January 7th.—Paper, "Cape of Good Hope," by G. Johnson.

Messrs. R. Dalton (Bristol), W. A. Abraham (British Guiana), T. H. Nicolle (N.S.W.), J. H. Smyth (N.S.W.), Paul de Smeth (Belgium), E. H. Atchley (Bristol), Mario Pires M. B. de Lima (Portugal), were unanimously elected Members.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for their Catalogue, and to Mr. W. C. Stone for two annual numbers of the "American Philatelists."

The Hon. Sec. then read his paper on the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope.

#### HULL AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

OCTOBER 6th, 1896.—The usual meeting of this Society was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on this date. The President (E. W. Drury, Esq.) in the chair. There were 14 Members present.

The evening was devoted to a display, by the President, of his collection of the stamps of the German States, and a discourse thereon.

The collection was an exceedingly fine one and contained all the various States, such as Hanover, Bremen, Saxony, Hamburg, Schleswig Holstein and others practically complete, and included the rarities, with great varieties of shades, postmarks, etc. All the stamps were choice specimens and were very tastefully mounted.

The Members expressed their appreciation of the display and notes, and a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Drury for the same.

November 3rd, 1896. The usual meeting of the Society was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on this date. The President (E. W. Drury, Esq.) in the chair. Fourteen Members were present.

The evening was occupied in examining Mr. A. P. Stephenson's collection of the stamps of Mexico. The collection, numbering several hundred varieties, was a very interesting and comprehensive one, and contained many very desirable specimens of the early issues. Mr. Stephenson also shewed a

fine collection of Mexican stamps on entire envelopes, which had been kindly lent for exhibition by Mr. W. T. Wilson of Birmingham. Among them were several very rare and curious examples of the latitude allowed by the postal authorities of that country, several envelopes having only  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  stamp affixed, and which had done duty to that proportion of its face value. At the close, hearty votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Wilson for their exhibits.—Hon. Sec., JAMES BURN, 11, St. Luke Street, Hull.

#### PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE sixth ordinary meeting was held on December 16th, 1896. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine Members and two Visitors. Dr. Pooley, Plymouth, was elected an ordinary Member of the Society.

On the proposition of Mr. Mayne, seconded by the Hon. Sec., it was resolved that a display of stamps be held upon the date fixed upon for the second ordinary meeting of the Society in the month of February, several members present promising to send exhibits.

The subject of study, the stamps of Norway was introduced by the Hon. Sec. (Mr. Miller), who illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his collection. He considered it an ideal country for the collector with only moderate means at his disposal. There were a few errors which were not all generally known, and he had found a number of varieties which he had not seen chronicled. He considered nearly all the unused stamps of the early issues were much under-valued at present catalogue prices, and was of opinion that on the publication of the new catalogues, they would be found to have at least trebled their value.

#### BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE December meeting of this Society was held on the 1st of that month, Mr. George Park occupying the chair. The formal business of the meeting having been disposed of, Mr. H. W. Atkinson gave a paper on the stamps of Uruguay, which was illustrated with a very nice collection of this country. Mr. Atkinson at the outset stated the great difficulty he had experienced in getting any information regarding the postage issues of this country. He, however, imparted a good deal of information to the members present, and it was the universal impression that Uruguay deserved more attention than it had hitherto received at the hands of Philatelists.

The January meeting was held on the 12th of that month, the President (Mr. Oliver Firth) occupying the chair, a large number of Members being present. The Hon. Sec. reported that the President had presented to the Society a copy of his new work on "Postage Stamps and their Collection," as had also Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen of his new English Catalogue and Album, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of part I. of their new Catalogue. Resolutions were duly passed voting the best thanks of the Society to the donors for their kind presents. After the election of three new Members the President gave a paper in the largest size registered envelope of Great Britain. The paper was extremely interesting and instructive, showing great research and labour. On the termination of the paper a display of English took place. The next meeting will be held on the 2nd February, 1897.—W. H. SCOTT, Hon. Sec., 1, Piccadilly, Bradford.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**DELGRAVIA** Exchange Club.—Genuine Collectors wanted. Particulars MAYNARD, Brewer Street, Delgravia, S.W. [3]

**STAMPS**—Breaking Old Collection, largely Unused. Discount 40 per cent. on catalogue prices. Selections sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory references.—H., 23, Croxteth Grove, Liverpool. [1]

**WHOEVER** sends me a good mixture of stamps of his country, receives in exchange a similar number of Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Austria and Hungary, rare against rare.—PAUL STAEBLER, Nuremberg, 113, Wiesenstrasse. [3]

**APPROVAL**—British Colonials, old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Conningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [6]

**DEGLAN**, Swift, or any other make Gent's or Ladies' Bicycles offered in exchange for only good Stamps. Foreign export solicited.—KNASTER, Cambridge. [1]

**I AM** desirous of purchasing rare Stamps (Europe, Colonials and U.S. American), and exchange my duplicates. *Bazaar Reference Ticket*.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge. [3]

**COLLECTORS** invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first-class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from Robert Reid, Junr., 20, Lichfield Road, Kew Gardens. [1]

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**SPECIAL** Assortment for Small Dealers. Wholesale List Free.—COOPE, 63, Harberton Road, Highgate, London [2]

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**ARMY OFFICIAL**, Errors wanted. Good price given.—COLLECTOR, 6, Devonshire Terrace, Carlisle. [13]

**TO ENGLISH SPECIALISTS.** A few unused stamps of the English and Irish Magnetic Telegraph Co. of 1853. Genuine originals having control letters and numbers, with gum.—M. FRANCIS, Matre House, Cherry Lane, Walton, Liverpool.

**ARMY OFFICIAL**—3d., 1d., 2 1/2d., free 7d. Transvaal 3d. grey, mint, error shafts 6d.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Conningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

**MOROCCO** and **GIBALTAR** Stamps to be had at moderate prices; apply for price list to Mr. J. BARUGEL & Co., Tangiers (Morocco). [3]

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**GOLD COAST**, 3d. olive, CA., unused, O.G., 35%, catalogued Scott £4. Three English "Army Officials," 3d., 1d. and 2 1/2d. 6d. post free. Cheap approval sheets.—MOORE, 7, Maple St., Nottingham.

**ST. VINCENT**, 1837, 1d. rosy lake, very fine, used, 20% (Scott, 20); Bright, £4. Natal, 2d. blue, "Postage" 3 1/2mm, 17/5.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Conningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

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**BRAZIL**—Send Post Card, Letter Card, or Official Envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian. Any Country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and French.—ANTONIO DE CAMPOS SERNA, Limeira, Estadode Sao Paulo, Brazil. [13]

**BRAZIL**—Send Postcard, letter card or official envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian. Any country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish French.—ANTONIO DE CAMPOS SERNA, Limeira, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil. [13 alt]

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" " 4d. blue " " "	1	5	0
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" 2½d. " CA. " " "	1	2	6
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No. 61.—Vol. III. SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1897. ONE PENNY.

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**Philately at Home and Abroad.**

**MR. EWEN'S ENGLISH CATALOGUE.**

MR. WALTER MORLEY informs us of a few corrections that might be made in Mr. Ewen's English Catalogue, additional to those included in the FORTNIGHTLY'S review of that book. In the first place, the 24d. plates two and three on blue paper, were issued from the surplus registration sheets. Again, the broad Maltese cross postmark is stated by Mr. Ewen not to exist with the cross at the top of No. 3, but Mr. Morley has had copies with the cross at the top of this number on specimens of the 1d. red. With regard to the fiscal stamps, the 6d. watermarked anchor with the perforated 14 is omitted.

**A NATIONAL STAMP SOCIETY FOR INDIA.**

The proposal of many eminent philatelists in our Eastern Empire to found a Philatelic Society of India on national lines appears to be gaining new adherents daily. An outline of the ground that the projectors propose to cover, which has already been briefly indicated in the FORTNIGHTLY, now appears in the current issue of the London Society's organ, signed by Messrs. C. Stewart Wilson, A. A. Lyall, E. Sassoon Gulbay, T. E. Madden, & C. F. Larmour—than whom no five better men could be found to carry this scheme to a successful conclusion.

**THE GREAT REPRINT QUESTION.**

In our society reports will be found a notice of the last meeting of the Sheffield Philatelic Society, which is interesting from the fact that a resolution was unanimously passed to the effect that Reprints should in every case be marked as such. The feeling has been steadily growing for years that some such course as this should be adopted. It is not sufficient that leading stamp dealers should abandon the sale of Reprints, it is necessary that the smaller dealer should be prevented from driving a profitable trade in what are morally frauds.

**A WONDERFUL THING, THE POSTAL SYSTEM!**

The young postmaster of an eastern village was hard at work in his office, when a gentle tap was heard upon the door, and in stepped a blushing maiden of sixteen, with a money order which she desired cashed (says the *Detroit Free Press*.) She handed it, with a bashful smile, to the official, who, after closely examining it, gave her the money it called for. At the same time he asked her if she had read what was written on the margin of the order.

"No, I have not," she replied, "for I cannot make it out. Will you please read it for me?"

The young postmaster read as follows: "I send you \$3 and a dozen kisses."

Glancing at the bashful girl, he said: "Now, I have paid you the money, and I suppose you want the kisses."

"Yes," she said, "if he has sent me any kisses, I want them too."

It is hardly necessary to say that the balance of the order was promptly paid, and in a very scientific manner.

On reaching home the delighted maiden remarked to her mother.—

"Mother, this post office system of ours is a great thing, developing more and more every year, and each new feature seems to be the best. Jimmy sent me a dozen kisses along with the money order, and the postmaster gave twenty. It beats the special delivery system all hollow."

**THE VERY LAST OF THE CASHMERE STAMPS.**

From the *Statesman*, of Calcutta, we clip this very welcome scrap of information:

Philatelists who go in for specimens of stamps issued by Native States will be greatly excited to hear that all plates, dies, and seals used in the printing of Cashmere and Jummoo State stamps from the date of the earliest issue to the time of the suppression of the State Post Offices by the Imperial Post, have been recently destroyed



by the Accountant General of the State in the presence of European witnesses.

This simply confirms the information we had already received by mail from an esteemed Indian correspondent; but it is grateful and comforting to have the good news confirmed in cold print, and on such excellent authority.

#### ILLNESS OF THE REV. R. B. EAREE.

In the *Bazaar*, of January 1st, appears the following paragraph: "We much regret to state that the Rev. R. B. Earée, of Misserden Rectory, Cirencester, is very ill, and quite unable at the present time to undertake the work of examining and reporting on stamp collections. We would ask our readers therefore not to send Mr. Earée any stamps for examination until we announce in our columns—as we hope we shall be able to do shortly—that he has regained his usual health and is prepared to again take up his work."

#### TO BE TAKEN WITH A GRAIN OF SALT.

THE latest story from "the other side": Mrs. George Wilson, of Birmingham, New York, has a unique curio in the shape of a bedroom set—bedstead, dresser, washstand and chairs—decorated with postage stamps of every known civilised country on the globe. Mrs. Wilson has been collecting stamps for the past seven years, and the number has reached over half a million, 862,000 being the number. The value of these stamps has been estimated at £720. All of these stamps have been carefully washed, dried, and pasted on after the style of a crazy patchwork quilt, and represent large patience and a great amount of labour. There are seven pieces of furniture in all decorated.

#### MONTENEGRO AT IT AGAIN.

MONTENEGRO is still busily gunpapping, aided doubtless by the Lord High Gunpapper of the Principality. In remembrance of the recent marriage of Princess Elena, together with the recurrence of the 200th anniversary of the foundation of the dynasty of the Petrovich-Niegshi, the State of Montenegro has had a new postage stamp engraved. It represents the monastery of Celtigne, destroyed by the Turks in 1714. It had been constructed by Danilo, proclaimed Vladika of Montenegro in 1696, which means the spiritual and temporal head—a title and office which has remained since then in the family Petrovich until Danilo I., predecessor to that of reigning prince. The new postage stamp will thus have a national historical character, "which" (so say the dear old daily newspapers) "render it sought after by collectors."

The strange part of the whole business is that Reuter's Telegram Agency thought this a good enough piece of news to cable to the English newspapers.

#### A STAMP DEALER IN BANKRUPTCY.

WILLIAM PICKERING JONES, of Chapel Road, Worthing, carrying on business as the South Coast Stamp Company, came up for public examination at the Brighton Bankruptcy Court on January 8th. His liabilities were put at £282 13s. 11d., and his deficiency at £210 16s. 10d. The debtor's answers to the Official Receiver showed that during his rather long life he had had a somewhat varied career, having been in business as a grocer, wine and spirit merchant, auctioneer and house agent, the occupier of a private farm,— "a half-bred gentleman," as he described himself, amid laughter,—a volunteer in the Zulu campaign, agent for various Ship Companies, estate manager, and, finally, a dealer in foreign stamps, by which, as he put it, he made some pocket-money. His main resources would, however, appear to have been drawn from an income derived through his wife. The debtor was put through a long and severe examination by Mr. Buckwell, solicitor, who appeared for a money-lending concern in Brighton called the Provincial Union Bank. From them he obtained £40, repayable by instalments, the total amount to be returned being £60, of which he had paid £20. He gave no security. Mr. Buckwell said remarks were sometimes made about the rate of interest charged by the Bank, and he wished to show that sometimes they were "had." With this object he quoted

letters written by the debtor which, as Mr. Buckwell suggested, bore the construction that the debtor had an income of £40 a year. The debtor admitted that he had had a preliminary visit from a representative of the Bank, to whom he referred as "a smart young fellow," and that the young man had looked over his house with his permission, though he would not say that he allowed this with the intention of leading him to suppose that the furniture was the debtor's. He supposed that the visitor looked over it "to please himself." (Laughter). The Registrar: In preference to going a walk on the Pier. (Renewed laughter). Asked if he had shown the young man stamps that were described as being worth £200, he said he did not know what he showed him; but the prices of the stamps were all marked, though it was always usual to deduct 25 per cent. or so from the marked prices. Mr. Buckwell: Did he ask you what your private income was? The debtor: Really, I can't charge my memory; I have been an auctioneer 20 years; I was not born yesterday. Mr. Buckwell: That is the opinion the Bank have come to,—that you were too old for them. (Laughter). The debtor: I am ready for the next world, I believe. (Renewed laughter). Mr. Buckwell also questioned the debtor as to certain jewellery, pictures, valuable fishing tackle, and so on to which the debtor had referred to in his letters to the Bank, but the jewellery seemed to consist of a chain which he had sold, and the fishing tackle to some rods worth 6d. a piece. Eventually the debtor, who appeared to be in weak health and had been allowed to remain seated, said he felt faint, and the Registrar suggested that in the debtor's state of health the examination had lasted long enough. Mr. Buckwell said he had other questions to put, but, in view of this intimation from the Registrar, he would postpone them. The further hearing was then adjourned until February 4th.

#### "THE TIMES" ON PHILATELY.

In connection with the publication, by Mr. Upcott Gill, of Mr. Oliver Frith's new Handbook, the *Times*, the great and only "Thunderer," thus delivers itself upon our hobby:—

"Most school-boys go through the stamp-collecting phase as a matter of course, just as they keep rabbits or white mice, and catch the measles. But the hobby is by no means confined to these youthful enthusiasts. Many serious persons have taken it up of late years (the origin of the practice is not believed to date back for more than half-a-century), and the result has been to raise philately to a high place among the minor sciences, which the modern mania for collecting has brought into being. Mr. Oliver Frith provides in "Postage Stamps and their Collection" a handbook that will be useful to the amateur, and serviceable as a work of reference on account of the long and fully illustrated chapter about "Stamps to Look For." It treats of all the matters upon which the beginner needs advice and instruction, not neglecting even such a small question as the best method of "sticking in." The exact derivation of the word philately is a moot point, but Mr. Frith remarks casually that it is derived from the Greek words indicating exemption from tax. The statement would be of more value to the young collector if it were further elucidated. A great many people who have no stamp-collecting ambition might be enrolled philatelists upon such a definition as this."

Even the *Times*, you see, must have its joke occasionally.

#### A LITTLE LESSON IN SPECULATION.

THE *Joker*, of all papers in the world, has taken to enlightening its readers concerning the intricacies of the stamp market. Thus, under the heading "For Amateur Stamp Collectors," in its issue of January 14th, our jocular contemporary says:

It is not so much in the big sales where the amateur stamp collector scores. These he should leave to the dealers, who frequently pay big prices for the sake of the advertisement they derive from the purchase. Of course, few private collectors could afford to pay £340 for even the famous rare Mauritius, or £60 for the rare twelve cents blue, 1850, British Guiana. Where the collector makes money is in the stamps which, whilst not exactly rare, are, by accident or otherwise, slowly going up in value.

A stamp collector, smart and shrewd and content with decent profits, will find that even in a year stamps go up tremendously in value. A year or two ago an Oldenburg, 1859, ½gr., black on green, was quoted at £4; now you can get £8 for it—an increase of 100

per cent. A Sweden, 1855, 24sk. red, was bought for 8d. in 1876; in 1892 sold for 16s.; and now I can get 36s. for another of the same kind. Here is a Mexico, 1864, stamp which, in 1892, I bought for £3; now I can get £10 for that very same stamp. For a Western Australia here—two penny red unused stamp of 1855—I can get £10; whereas in 1892 I only paid £4 for it. A Newfoundland 1s. scarlet unused, of 1857, now sells for £18; three years ago it only stood at £7 10s. Another good rise in value is that found in the 1s. New Brunswick 1857 stamp, which I bought in 1892 for £4; now I can sell it for £15.

**SOMETHING ABOUT GIBRALTAR ENVELOPES.**

MR. THORNTON has shown us a very curious error in the Registered Envelopes of Gibraltar. When the currency was changed from English money to Spanish, the Registered Envelopes 2d. were surcharged 20 centimos. This was done by Messrs. De la Rue. When the surplus of the re-called envelopes came back to Gibraltar, the number was found sufficiently large to necessitate their being also surcharged with the new value; as it did not seem worth while to send these to England they were done by a local printing office in the annexed type. Among this lot of re-



LOCAL SURCHARGE.



LONDON SURCHARGE.

called envelopes, 17 of the first issue were found (the well-known Barbados envelope) surcharged in black, Gibraltar, and these also received the local type of surcharge. So far as we know only one copy has actually been used and we have actually seen same. The other 16 were no doubt sold in some way, anyhow they got out of the possession of the Post Office. We attach the regular type of surcharge as employed by Messrs. De la Rue for comparison.

**POST OFFICE FACTS AND FANCIES.**

DURING the year 1895-6, according to the Forty-second Annual Report of the Postmaster-General, 1,834,200,000 letters have been delivered in the United Kingdom, an average of 46.8 to each person. Placed endways (remarks *Pearson's Weekly*), these letters would have extended for 159,218 miles 6 furlongs, allowing an average of five and a half inches to each envelope. 314,500,000 post cards, dealt with in the same way, allow an average of 8'0 to each person and would have extended 22,336 miles 5 furlongs 4 yards. Ninety-five per cent. of the total number of inland letters passed for one penny.

No fewer than 6,331,086 letters and 1,016,005 post cards were "returned"; and the value of the property found in letters which were opened in the Returned Letter Office exceeded £580,000. The letters posted without any address were 31,879, of which 2,133 contained property of the value of £3,860.

During the year, altogether 3,030,527,000 postal packets, inclusive of letters and post cards, have been delivered; 10,900,963 money orders have been issued; 64,076,377 postal orders have been issued; 11,384,977 deposits have been made in the Post Office Savings Bank, and 4,102,059 withdrawals; 78,839,610 telegrams of all descriptions have been forwarded.

When it is remembered that each letter, card, &c., involves the use of the date stamp at least twice, some idea of the magnitude of this part of the work may be gained, when it is stated that the date stamp was used during the last year no fewer than 6,076,511,036 times. Working eight hours per diem, and stamping at the rate of sixty per minute, it would have taken one official 606 years to stamp all the documents; or nine officials, working at the same rate, having begun when the Queen came to the throne, would not yet have compassed their task.

During the year, 1,896,824 licenses have been issued. It is interesting to note that 8,405 were issued allowing the owners of carriages to inscribe upon them their armorial bearings; and 232,505 were issued for four-wheel carriages "under 4cwt." or "with two wheels," at 15s. each. The muzzling order notwithstanding, there has been a steady increase in dog licenses—1,205,615 during the year, an increase over

1894-5 of 53,025, and nearly twice the number issued ten years since.

264 new Post Offices, and 1,087 new letter-boxes have been added during the last year. There are now 27,622 letter-boxes, and 20,398 Post Offices in the United Kingdom.

In the 630 post towns of England and Wales there are in the aggregate, 2,448 mails from London, and 2,220 mails to London. Where there is only one town that receives letters from London but once a day, there are fourteen that send their letters to London but once every twenty-four hours.

**THOSE MYSTERIOUS UGANDA STAMPS.**

IN an early issue of the *FORTNIGHTLY* we gave an illustration of a curious stamp used in Uganda by English Missionaries. We have now seen an envelope with the stamp in the annexed design, in which the letters "V.R." would seem to indicate the adoption of these stamps by the British Authorities. We should like to know something more about the actual use of these stamps.

V. 96. R.

20.

Uganda.

**PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING FEB. 6th, 1897.**

**Auction Sales.**

- Jan. 25th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Jan. 26th and 27th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.
- Jan. 28th and 29th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.
- Feb. 2nd and 3rd.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.

*Forgers and their Work.*

BY HARRY HILCKES.

**URUCUAY.**

HOW very obliging these forgers are, to be sure! Hardly have collectors directed their attention to a new country when obliging Mr. Rogue does ditto. There has been a great demand for Uruguay stamps during the last six months or so, and the supply of the rarer issues being very much behind the demand, the deficiency has been promptly supplied by the forging fraternity. We have seen one of the most magnificent forgeries possible of the 240 centesimos, thin letters, of which an illustration is attached. A very good test is the



GENUINE.



FORGERY.

shape of the "E" in "CORREO," on the right-hand side, which is rounded at top and bottom in the forgery, but perfect in every way in the genuine stamp. The eyebrow on the left is straight in the forgery, but very well curved in the original. The "S" in "CENTESIMOS" is ill-shaped in the forgery, and the face in the sun is especially badly drawn. The forgery we have seen is printed in a red-vermilion shade, which, I believe, is extremely rare in the original, but, of course, there is no reason whatever that the forgery should not exist in a genuine shade, since there are certainly quite six genuine varieties of shade in this stamp.

Since writing the above we have seen similar forgeries of the 80, 100, and 120 centesimos. All, we believe, emanate from Paris.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WE have received from Mr. Cyril H. Crosse, one of the most constant of our readers in India, the following definite and conclusive information regarding the Buluwayo provisional stamps:

I note in the number of the "S.C.F." just received, that you say you are unable to ascertain the number of the Buluwayan provisionals.

I received a complete set from Buluwayo directly they were issued, and my correspondent tells me that the following were the exact numbers issued; my correspondent is a high government official.

The following are the numbers—

Of the ½d. on Cape	..	..	100 sheets, 120.
" 1d. "	..	..	150 " "
" 2d. "	..	..	75 " "
" 3d. "	..	..	11 " "
" 4d. "	..	..	37½ " "
" 6d. "	..	..	16½ " "

Of the 1d. on 4/- B.S.A.C., only 18 sheets of 60 stamps each; and the 3d. on 5/- B.S.A.C., 50 sheets of 60 stamps each.

\* \* \*

It is refreshing to read such letters as the following, recently received from a valued correspondent in Australia: "I consider the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY one of the best Stamp Journals I have ever seen. Very outspoken and fearless—too much so I think sometimes, as such articles as you sometimes publish must make you very bitter enemies. You do rub it in to—of—but I think he fully deserves all he gets particularly about—and reprints."

We acknowledge that our articles have made us very bitter enemies, who however being afraid to meet us in open fight do everything to get at us from behind some convenient hedge.

\* \* \*

Here is a somewhat damaging criticism of a certain exchange club, contributed by a reader who has been invited to join the same. We think we could name the club, but perhaps that would be hardly fair.

I have received (writes the reader in question) an invitation to join a Stamp Exchange Club in which the main feature is "Exchange pure and simple," that is, there are to be no money payments at all (except fines, the ultimate destination of which is not mentioned) and a member is only to take stamps from the packets to a value not exceeding his "credit," that is, the sum already due to him for stamps taken from his sheets by other members. It occurs to me that it would be interesting to know how such a club was ever started. At its first formation no one could have "credit," as no stamps had been taken, and, consequently, according to the rule, no one could ever take any. Is not this rather like the Irish railway rule for preventing collisions, that, when two trains approach each other on the same line of rails, neither of them is to proceed until they have safely passed each other.

Seriously speaking, does not such a rule as this operate most unfavourably. I may not have a large stock of duplicates, and, consequently, very few of my stamps may be taken, and my "credit" will be very small. The packet may contain a stamp which I am particularly anxious to acquire for my collection, but its price is one shilling higher than my total "credit." I am not allowed to pay this shilling in cash and take the stamp, but must let it alone; and my opportunity is gone, possibly never to return.

This seems to compare disadvantageously with the rule of ordinary clubs.

Perhaps the secretary—or secretaries, if there be more than one—whom this cap fits will come forward with something in the nature of a reply to these strictures.

To our criticism of Mr. Oliver Firth's philatelic handbook, "R.S." adds the following:—

It may have caught the eye of some of your readers that Mr. Oliver Firth in his book on stamps and their collection, published by Gill, states that stamps cut from telegraph forms may be affixed to parcels or letters. This occurs on page 184, among the addenda and corrigenda (?). Now these stamps cut out won't pay the postage or part of it, and the matter bearing them is treated as unpaid. Of course the stamps may be affixed but only in the sort of way that a label is to a box.

## The New "Gibbons."\*

PART I.—THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

(Concluded).

WE now come to the all-important question of prices. It seems, and is, a difficult thing to fairly criticise the prices given in another dealer's catalogue, but as "Gibbons" is not only a priced list of the firm's stock, but is also universally regarded as a standard guide to the market values of stamps, we think that a different method should have been followed from that adopted by Messrs. Gibbons. Some time ago they advertised that the prices in their catalogue would be based on their own stock. Now this in our opinion is wrong. Messrs. Gibbons may be short of certain stamps which others possess in profusion. In such a case according to their rule they would price those stamps high. Again, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons may have hundreds of a certain stamp which other dealers do not possess at all or in only a small quantity. To price that stamp low just because they have a large number of specimens is very obviously wrong.

We cannot agree with Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in the pricing of the stamps of the Leeward Islands. There is no doubt that during the last six or eight months Leeward Island stamps have not been in such demand as previously. They have been selling indifferently at auctions, and the dealers have not found them a very remunerative "line." It seems to us to be ridiculous to price the 1/- Dominica, C.A. at £5 when the stamp sells regularly at auction at prices ranging from £2 10s. to £3. Many other Leewards, what we may call common rarities, stamps worth from 5/- to 15/-, are undoubtedly overpriced in this catalogue, and to show that we are right in saying this we may mention that in the last two numbers of the FORTNIGHTLY our publishers have advertised various Leeward Island stamps at considerably under Gibbons' prices, and it may be noted that no orders whatever have been received, whereas in a previous number an advertisement of British East African stamps produced such results that our publishers were cleaned out within a week.

In Queensland the dies of the Star watermarks are undoubtedly mixed, but this after all is perhaps only a printer's error. However, we think that more scrupulous care should have been taken in revising the prices. There are some very annoying mistakes. For instance the 1/- Granada, mauve, is priced at 5/- used and unused, whereas it should have been 25/- or 30/-.

In Cape of Good Hope the 1/- yellow-green is priced, used, at 5/-, which no doubt is meant for 15/-, and the 1d. triangular red on blue paper is marked 3/6, used, and the white paper at 4/-. Surely the blue paper is vastly the rarer stamp of the two.

Africans are very fairly priced, and here in some cases we should imagine that Messrs. Gibbons have erred on the side of modesty. The Gambia 4d. C.C. is priced 7/6, used and unused, but we venture to say that the unused stamp is worth four of the used any day.

We need hardly go further into the question of prices, but will content ourselves with reiterating that the present "Gibbons" is a vast improvement on the last. Mistakes there will be always in such a work, and if Messrs. Gibbons can see their way to using different blocks in their next issue they will get a long stride nearer perfection.

\* Can be obtained from Messrs. Hildes for 2/- post free.



By C62.

MR. GWYNN sends me for inspection, a copy of the 1d. undated envelope stamp on white laid paper, in orange-yellow instead of rose. The colour is exactly that of the India envelope stamp 4 annas and 6 pies. I am not up in envelopes and their wily ways, so the variety is quite new to me. Perhaps some reader can tell me whether it is generally known, Mr Morley does not catalogue it.

Mr. Mackey has run to earth a perfect copy of the Maltese Cross with a circle in the centre. I have had more or less blurred copies of this variety, but none sufficiently clear to allow me to say, without doubt, that it was a circle. Has Mr. Mackey met with the M: Cross without the centre diamond, that is, composed of two lines only? I have one copy, but I want more evidence than one copy affords.

Mr. Fanshawe sends me a tracing of the "Rannoch Penny Post" 1840. There were several hundreds of these postmarks in use, therefore I do not think any special interest attaches to this particular one. Every collection of English stamps should, in my opinion, contain examples of all the various types of obliteration used, and I therefore congratulate Mr. Fanshawe on the very fine copy he has of this somewhat scarce type.

ENGLISH STAMPS USED ABROAD.  
(Concluded).

D 27-28-29-30. I have seen the undernoted stamps with these obliterations. I believe all these numbers were first used by offices in England and as the date of their first use abroad is not known, the list must be taken for what it is worth.

- D27.  
AMOV (?)  
1d., plate 92.  
4d., plate 11.
- D28.  
KIUNG CHOW (?)  
1d., plates 92, 103, 120, 121.
- D29.  
HANKOW (?)  
1d., plates 74, 78, 80, 86, 95, 96, 99, 100, 102, 103, 105, 106, 108, 115, 117, 118, 121, 124, 134, 135, 145.
- D30.  
HIOGO (?)  
1d., plates 79, 102, 107, 110, 114, 115, 118, 124.
- D87.  
IQUIQUE.  
6d. grey, plate 12.  
10d., plate 1.  
1/-, plate 8.
- E53.  
PORT AU PRINCE.  
4d., plate 15 (verm.) 17 (crown).  
1/-, plate 13 (green), 13 (salmon; spray).
- E88.  
COLON (Chili).  
4d., plates 14 (orange), 15 (verm.)  
1/- green, plates 5, 11, 12, 13.  
2/- blue.

- F69.  
SAVANILLA.  
4d. brown, plate 17 (garter).  
1/- green.  
2/- blue.
- F83.  
ARROYO (Porto Rico).  
2 1/2d., lilac-rose, plate 16.  
4d., plate 15 (verm.)
- F84.  
AQUADILLA.  
4d. (vermilion), plate 15.  
10d. red-brown.  
1/- green, plates 7, 8, 11, 12.
- F85.  
MAYAQUEZ (Porto Rico).  
4d. plate 4.  
1d., plates 156, 185.  
1 1/2d., plates 1, 3.  
2d., plate 14.  
3d., plates 7, 11, 16.  
4d., plates 12, 13, 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion).  
6d., plates 11 (dark buff), 15 (grey).  
10d., plate 1.  
1/-, plates 4 to 11 (spray)  
2/-, plate 1.  
5/-, plate 2.
- F87.  
SMYRNA.  
4d. green (1830).  
1d. lilac.  
1d., plates 158; 160.

- 1 1/2d., plate 1.  
1 1/2d. venetian-red. 1 1/2d. lilac.  
2d., plates 14, 15.  
2d. rose (1880).  
2 1/2d. lilac-rose, plates 1, 2, 4 to 17.  
2 1/2d. blue, plates 18 to 23.  
2 1/2d. lilac (1883).  
4d., plate 11 (spray), 17 (crown), 20 (lilac and carmine).  
4d. green (1883).  
5d. violet-black (1886).  
6d., plate 14 (spray), 17 (crown), 20 (lilac and carmine).  
9d., plate 4 (spray).  
10d., plate 1.  
1/-, plate 13 (green), 13 (salmon, spray).  
1 - green. (1880 and present issue)

FSS.

- PONCE (Porto Rico).  
1d., plate 187.  
3d., plates 19, 20.  
1d., plates 13, 14 (orange), 15 (vermilion).  
6d., plate 12 (buff), 12, 15 (grey).  
10d., plate 1.  
1 - plates 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12.

G06.

- BYAROV.  
4d. green  
1d., plate 184.  
2d., plate 13, 14.  
2d. rose (1880).

- 2 1/2d. lilac-rose, plates 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17.  
2 1/2d. blue, plates 17 to 23.  
2 1/2d. lilac (1884).  
4d., plates 11, 12 (orange), 15 (vermilion), 17 (garter and crown).  
5d., violet-black, 5d. (1884).  
6d., plates 11 (dark buff), 11 (buff), 12, 16 (grey).  
10d., plate 1.  
1 - green, plates 9, 13.  
1/- salmon, plates 13 (spray), 14 (crown).  
2/- blue.  
5/-, plate 1.

942.

- LARNACA (Cyprus).  
1d., plate 181, 201.  
2d. rose (1886).  
2 1/2d., plates 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21.  
4d. sage-green, plate 16

969.

- NICOSIA (Cyprus).  
2 1/2d., plate 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16  
4d., plate 13, 14.

O \* O.

- CRIMEA.  
1d., small crown, perf. 16, die I.  
1d., small crown, perf. 14, die II.  
1d., large crown, perf. 14.  
2d., small crown, perf. 16.

English Telegraphs Booming.

THE philatelic prophets predict a boom in the Telegraph stamps of Great Britain, and it is said that the knowing ones are quietly buying up these interesting labels at fair prices. Holders of these stamps have now apparently a good opportunity of unloading on profitable terms, or of holding for a further rise. Dear! dear! we are getting quite Capel Courtish in philately, are we not? with our talks of rises and falls and booms and what not.

Articles on the Postmarks of Great Britain.

A LONG-PROMISED FEATURE of the FORTNIGHTLY is shortly to appear—that is, a series of interesting and exhaustive articles on the Postmarks of Great Britain, by our esteemed and painstaking friend, "C62." The first of these articles will appear in our No. 62; but that issue of our paper will not be numbered "C62" on that account, as a wag has irreverently suggested. The articles have been in course of preparation for some considerable time, and we can confidently promise those of our readers who specialise the stamps of our own country, a feast of reason and a flow of postmarks. Yes, that is a trifle mixed, but no matter. What we mean to say is that the articles will be well and fully illustrated.

It was formerly the custom for philatelic journals to chronicle the new issues of stamps as they appeared from the different countries. The publishers now-a-days have all they can do to chronicle the many new issues of stamp papers as they appear.—"E.R.H." in the *New York Philatelist*.  
PHILATELIC New Yorkers are talking of a Stamp Exhibition now.

### General Notices.

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#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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One Year (26 numbers) post free ...	3	3
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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 23, 1897.



It has seldom been our misfortune to have to deal with such an obstinate subject as the anonymous writer in the *D.B.Z.*, who ran foul of our publishers' "Auction Summary." Whether the person in question is unable to understand plain English, or whether he won't understand it, we do not know. Our readers will remember our leader in No. 59 on this subject. Now, this anonymous Mr. F. accuses us of superficial work, because, forsooth, we do not quote in our "Summary" the prices of stamps which were not sold in single lots. There is no doubt that Mr. F. has absolutely no knowledge of London Auctions, and he evidently speaks of things he does not understand. Any man with a grain of common-sense will understand that when a lot is put up for auction, containing, say, an 18kr. Wurttemberg, an 18kr. Baden, and three common Bavarian stamps, that such a lot cannot be taken into consideration when compiling such a book as our publishers' "Auction Summary," because, say, if this lot fetched 15/-, how much should be apportioned to the Wurttemberg, how much to the Baden, and how much to the rest? It would be much better if Mr. F. would confine his remarks to things he understands, and not interfere in matters about which he shows such gross ignorance. We may mention that it was Mr. F., and Mr. F. only, who had any fault to find with the "Auction Summary." The *London Philatelist*, in its last number, was good enough to take up the cudgels for us in the matter, as follows:—

#### AN UNJUST CRITICISM.

We have had occasion to review Messrs. H. Hilckes & Co.'s *Auction Summary*, and to cordially commend it. We regret to find that this opinion is not shared by an esteemed Continental contemporary the *Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung*—which holds that it is quite unreliable as to prices recorded. We should not presume to traverse our German friend's criticism were it not based upon an absolute misapprehension. The writer in the *D.B.Z.* accuses Messrs. Hilckes of purposely omitting low-priced stamps, such as those belonging to Mr. Hoffman—which were the occasion of a dispute—and others in Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's sales, in order to swell the aggregate prices. The real reason for these omissions is that the specimens were so far below normal condition that the realized prices would not afford a true reflex of price. We have a fairly accurate knowledge of the London Market, and can assure the *D.B.Z.* that not only are the *Auction Summary* prices not unduly high, but that almost without exception the better stamps that are

in fine condition would be bought by the London dealers themselves for resale—certainly at no reduced prices. The real fact is, that of all the vast quantities of stamps submitted to London auctions only a small portion is in the finest condition, or the *Summary* of prices would show far higher. The next time that a really choice collection is disposed of at auction, our friends at Berlin will find that Messrs. Hilckes & Co. have "naught extenuated, or aught set down in malice!"

The *D.B.Z.* used to be the official organ of the Berlin Philatelic Society, but we have a greater opinion of its members than to think the stupid remarks of the Mr. F. are the opinions of a body of men whom we esteem very highly as first rate philatelists.

\* \* \*

THE editorial article in our last number headed "Lies about Nova Scotia" has given rise to the following correspondence—correspondence which we think will be of some interest to such readers as have carefully followed our articles on the subject of the Nova Scotia remainders:—

To the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Sirs,—I regret to see that you have thought it right to refer in the last number of your paper, to some statements made by me in the *Monthly Journal*, as "Lies About Nova Scotia."

As this is a very strong term to apply to statements, which you say in the same paragraph were made by me, in ignorance of the true facts of the case, I feel that I am justified in asking you to furnish me with evidence that my statements were erroneous, by producing proof, first: that anyone ever made your publishers an offer of 25,000 sets of Nova Scotia stamps at 2s. 6d. per set; and second: that the person who made the offer possessed 25,000 sets of these stamps.

Awaiting the favour of your reply,

I remain,

Sydenham,

Your obedient servant,

Jan. 12th, 1897.

EDW. B. EVANS.

Dear Sir,—We have your letter of 12th inst. and in reply thereto beg to say that your regret is shared by us. What we wrote was written after mature consideration of the subject, and every word in our article we must adhere to. If any reference to yourself in our editorial has given you pain believe us it was not intended; but if you will be so good as to re-read same you will see that we scrupulously avoided any reflection upon yourself. We did not even charge Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. with lying, but merely stated that they had repeated a lie circulated by an American contemporary.

Regarding the double request contained in your letter, allow us very respectfully to point out that you are not "justified in asking" anything of the sort. You argue from a wrong standpoint altogether. You have seen fit to state that the offer to our publishers of sets of Nova Scotia stamps at 2/6 was made in jest, in fact was a plant. We have retorted "that statement is a mis-statement." That reply of ours would be regarded by most people as being tantamount to a challenge to yourself to substantiate the very positive statement you have made.

If you have not so regarded our reply kindly understand now that we challenge you to prove or to adduce some reliable evidence in support of the assertion made in your article.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITORS OF THE  
STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

MAJOR E. B. EVANS, Sydenham.

It is possible that this correspondence will have to be "continued in our next." Major Evans, we feel sure, will with characteristic courtesy, do his best to meet us. He is such a genial antagonist, that we could wish him, in the present instance, a better and stronger case than the series of lying rumours upon which the editorial article in the *Monthly Journal* was based.

## Plate Numbers of the Stamps of France.

WITH SOME SUGGESTIONS TO SPECIALISTS OF FRENCH STAMPS.

BY GEO. P. GRIGNARD.

PLATE Numbers have acquired of late so great an importance in the eyes of Philatelists, and more especially in those of Specialists, that I venture to give to your English readers a few details on the Plate Numbers of the Stamps of France, details which I have been the first to publish in France, in the *Revue Philatlique*, a paper belonging to the Société Française de Timbrologie.

We all know that the plates now in use in France are composed of 300 stamps, divided into three horizontal rows of four panes, each containing 25 stamps 5x5 square. The full printed sheet is however cut in half, vertically, before being supplied to the post offices. The vertical margin between each pair of panes in the half sheet of 150 stamps (6 panes of 25 stamps in two columns of 3 panes each) is just 10mm. wide, and the plate number, 4½mm. high, is printed in the middle of this margin, opposite the second horizontal rows of each pair of panes, i.e., the plate number occurs once for every 50 stamps.

The plate number in question is not necessarily the number of the plate, inasmuch as several plates of a same denomination may and do have this same plate number in fact the number is the *last* figure of the year in which the plate was or is in use.

The introduction of this plate number in the French plates dates from 1891. Thus the first number of the series is "1" standing for 1891. Then appeared number "2" in 1892, "3" in 1893, etc., in all the denominations from 1 centime to 1 franc inclusive. The 5 franc stamp is the sole exception, it only appeared with No. 4 in 1894, and still continues to bear this number. It has been reported that this latter stamp is no longer printed since 1894, but that it is still supplied scantily from stock, to the more important post offices.

The 15c. blue on plain paper, the 35c. black on orange and the 75c. rose or carmine on rose were suppressed *before* the appearance of the plate numbers and consequently do not bear any. On the other hand, the 15c. blue on chemically quadrilled paper, the 50c. carmine on rose and the 75c. dark brown on yellow were always printed from numbered plates.

The 75c. brown on yellow, having lately become obsolete, will not be found with number "7" (1897), or any subsequent number.

The postage due stamps of France, the stamps of Monaco, Tunis, and the postage due stamps of the French Colonies are printed from plates of the same pattern as the ones above described and also bear plate numbers similarly arranged, but my intention is to speak, in this note, simply of the French postage stamps.

The best way, to my mind, to collect these plate numbers is shown by the following illustration, which speaks for itself.



The plate number is between two stamps belonging to two panes. A curious fact is that the 5 franc stamp is almost invariably supplied to the post offices 50 or 75 stamps at a time, in single vertical rows, so that it is a very rare occurrence to come across two horizontal rows from which can be secured the plate numbers as shown by the illustration, the number is either to the right or to the left of one stamp and very seldom supplied between two panes.

## Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

**B.S.A.**—We understand from a very reliable source that the British South Africa Company have had some disagreement with their printers, and have consequently withdrawn their contracts from same. It is stated that the plates were slightly re-drawn before being handed over to the new printers. This would be practically a repetition of what has happened with the U.S.A. stamps when the Continental took over the old plates from the National Company, and added the famous secret marks.

**Jamaica.**—Mr. E. A. De Pass kindly informs us that the stock of all stamps above 3d. is exhausted, and that the new issue of 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, will be on C.A. paper, perf. 12½. This is rather surprising news, as, so far, we do not remember a single British Colonial stamp wmk. C.A., perf. 12½. It is either C.C., perf. 12½, or C.A., perf. 14.

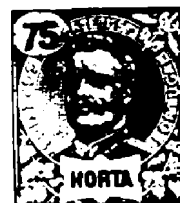
**Liberia.**—Mr. H. L. Hayman has kindly submitted to us the new set for this Republic, just issued. The characteristics of the last issue have been maintained, and even the designs closely resemble those of the first set printed by Messrs. Waterlow. We append photographs of only five of the values, as some of the colours do not lend themselves to photographic reproductions. We believe that a separate plate was used for each value.



- 1 cent mauve. Palm tree in centre.
- 2 .. brown. Hippopotamus, in black. (see illust.)
- 5 .. black-brown. Elephant, in black.
- 10 .. yellow. President's head, in black.
- 15 .. violet-black. Negress in centre. (see illust.)
- 20 .. vermilion. Landscape in centre.
- 25 .. green (see illust.) (see illust.)
- 30 .. black-blue. Landscape in centre.
- 50 .. flesh brown. Head of Liberty, in black. (see illust.)

(Complete set of 9 stamps, 7/6).

**Portuguese Colonies.**—Messrs. Bright & Son have sent us the new issues for Funchal and Horta, while from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we get sets from Angra and Ponta Delgada in addition to the two Colonies already named. All are in the annexed type. The following values have appeared in each of the four Colonies.



- 2½ reis grey.
- 5 .. orange-red.
- 10 .. green.
- 15 .. brown.
- 20 .. mauve.
- 25 .. blue-green.
- 50 .. blue.
- 75 .. red.
- 80 .. violet.
- 100 .. blue on blue.
- 150 .. brown on straw.
- 200 .. claret.
- 300 .. blue on pink.
- 500 .. black on blue.

(Complete set of 13 stamps, 4/-).

Perak.—The 5c. stamp of the tiger's head type has been surcharged "Service," in black, for official use.

5c. Service, black on mauve and yellow (—).

St. Helena.—Messrs. Bright & Son send us the ½d. of the new type.

½d. green (—).



Tobago has felt called upon to perpetrate a new provisional in the shape of the ¼d. revenue stamp, surcharged "½d. postage" in black in two lines.

¼d. black on mauve (—).

Transvaal.—We have now to chronicle the twopenny stamp of the bi-coloured series (value in green).

2d. green and brown (—).



Zanzibar.—Supplementing the remarks in our last number, Messrs. Clarke & Co., kindly send us the 8 annas in the same type as before, again with the peculiarity of flags in red.

8 annas olive green, flags in red.

We have seen also the 7½ annas, mauve and red.

The prices in parenthesis are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers.

## The Evolution of Philately.

AN ARTICLE CONTAINING SOME SENSE AND MUCH NONSENSE.

PHILATELY, or stamp collecting (writes E.D. in the *Queen*), is a science which may be termed a comparatively recent one, for it is only within the last forty years or so that it has pushed itself to the fore. The name of the first collector is hidden in oblivion, but there are many who claim to have collected stamps ever since they were used in this country.

In former days, this was considered the schoolboy's own particular pastime, and many a good and rare stamp has been bartered for a stick of toffy or a bag of marbles. The writer of this paper laid the nucleus of a fine collection by satisfying a schoolboy's wish for a pair of skates, in exchange for his stamp book, which contained many treasures.

But now it is looked upon, and rightly, as a science, for to be a collector in any sense of the word entails a great amount of study, and takes up much time and patience. Apart from the interest there is considerable knowledge to be gained from the pursuit. It rubs up one's geography, and brings home to one's mind the varying politics of the different nations. The stamps of the Transvaal are witnesses of the vicissitudes of fortune that much disturbed district has undergone, while the French page is a history in itself, bearing on its face first of all the wild head of liberty, then the milder features of the Emperors, reverting to the Republic again, and finally adopting the two figures of Liberty and Commerce. Changes of currency, too, may be noted, and a lesson in colour may be taken from the infinite variety of shades which exist among stamps. Many of them, as examples of engraving and colour, are really works of art.

An enormous sum of money is often bound up in the pages of a stamp album; perhaps the most valuable collection is that belonging to Baron Ferrari, of Paris, which is valued at something like £250,000. Mr. Rothschild's and the late Czar of Russia's collections each ran into six figures, and it is reported that the last mentioned is carried on by the present Czar. *Apropos* of this, a French stamp collector proffered a request to the Czar that he would enrich his collection by

sending him a set of Russian locals. The Frenchman was rewarded, for, without loss of time, the Emperor complied with the request and forwarded the desired stamps to the happy recipient.

Another very different story, illustrative of the lengths to which the passion for collecting may carry one, is that which was recorded in the Press not long since of the murder of a Frenchman in a railway carriage for the sake of the stamp collection which he was supposed to have with him. Some single stamps are sold for fabulous prices, as, for instance, the old blue twopenny Mauritius 1848 issue, at £140; the Post-office Mauritius will go for £600 the pair; the ugly old British Guiana, 2c., black on rose, if cut to shape, will realise £250 more if unused and whole, while the early American locals are worth large sums, the 20c. St. Louis of 1845 being quoted at £500. So difficult, indeed, is it to acquire many, even of the less extraordinary types that several collectors are now confining themselves to one Continent only, in despair at ever attaining even a tithe of all the stamps issued. The English stamps in themselves present a large field for collecting operations, so many issues are there, and so many different water-marks and platemarks; the issue of 1864, the common perforated red penny, having between 100 and 200 platemarks, Nos. 132, 153, and 225 being the most difficult to find. The latest addition to the list of English stamps comes from the War Office, which issued in September a set of the ordinary ones now in use, surcharged with the words Army Official. When penny postage first came into use, a few of the leading newspapers and periodicals had the value stamped on the paper itself in red and black ink, and these now represent a considerable value, besides being interesting. The *Illustrated London News* and the *British Banner* were two of the publications that followed this custom.

The rarest stamp in the world it would seem is the Battle-boro' stamp, of which there are only a few specimens in existence, and even the appearance of it is unknown to a great many collectors. In noting new issues, mention may be made of the Japan war stamps—really artistic productions: the French stamps which are to commemorate the visit of the Czar to Paris; the Italian issue to memorialise the marriage of the Heir to the Throne, and the Brussels stamp, which is produced to signalise the Exhibition of 1897. It would be as well, perhaps, for those who are lacking any of the Cyprus stamps to complete their collection as soon as possible, for though the rumour that we have relinquished Cyprus has been authoritatively contradicted, still it may at any time pass out of our possession and then the present issue would become of great value.

Forgeries are the *bête noir* of the genuine collector. The Italians and the Belgians are among the worst offenders in this respect, nor is the wideawake Swiss behindhand. But, nevertheless, many a good stamp may be picked up in tobacco shops abroad for a mere song, being bartered by sailors in exchange for tobacco. Foreign collectors, too, confide their wants to the postman, who in his turn becomes a collector for his patron's sake, and in this manner stamps otherwise inaccessible, such as unpaid letter stamps, are procured. London letter carriers, at one time, tore off the stamps from the letters, and did it continually, in spite of all the punishments that were devised. Another stumbling-block exists in the many issues which come out merely for the sake of raising money—speculative stamps, such as those issued to commemorate different exhibitions.

Forgeries must not be confounded with retouched plates. Many of the American stamps have been printed from re-engraved or slightly altered dies, and present a trifling difference from the original, which sometimes offers a difficulty to the beginner. The stamps of 1873 and 1882, U.S.A., are samples of retouching.

The best method of mounting the specimens is either by attaching them to the leaves of the album by stamp hinges made on purpose, or by inserting them in slips. Some prefer to use loose leaves for their stamps, others pin their faith to an album. Of the latter, perhaps, the most satisfactory, taking them all round, and the most economical, are Senf's and Schwaneberger's, both reliable and exact.



# Our Review of Reviews.

## The "Record" up to Time.

ALTHOUGH Mr. Nankivell does not appear to have quite fulfilled his promise as regards the date of publication, he has certainly made good progress, for here already is the January *Record*. And a capital number it is. The least meritorious item is the first instalment of the promised paper on the "Stamps of the United States," by Mr. Grant R. Francis. "Minor varieties," writes Mr. Francis, "have been so little sought after hitherto by English Collectors that it is quite possible to pick up real rarities at the price of the veriest rubbish, when one knows what to look for." This may, or may not, be true; but we think the latter, for the very exhaustive articles published some time ago in the *FORTNIGHTLY* should have been sufficient to instruct English collectors what to look for in the way of minor varieties of U.S.A. Mr. Francis, though he describes fairly well the minor varieties of the 1851 and 1855 issues, neglects to do that which is absolutely essential to such an article—that is, give illustrations of those varieties. Mr. Nankivell's interview with Mr. E. D. Bacon, the eminent philatelist, who is arranging the Tapling collection at the British Museum, makes interesting reading.

The *Philatelic Record*, we regret to see, is raised again to its old price of 6d. per number, or 5/- per annum, post free, without any corresponding increase in either size or the excellence of the journal. We very much doubt the wisdom of this policy.

## No Daily Stamp Paper Now.

We wish to add our voice to the chorus of regret evoked by the death of the *Daily Stamp Item*, of St. Louis, U.S.A. The little paper was always bright, and every page bore testimony to the increasing enterprise of its publishers, the C. H. Mekeel Company. The successful daily paper devoted to Philately is one of the things of the let-us-hope-not-too-distant future, but at the present day it is impracticable, and Messrs. Mekeel have had the courage to say so. Now that the *Item* is no more, our St. Louis friends will devote all their energies to their weekly journal, which is, undoubtedly, one of the most widely-circulated philatelic journals in the world.

## How Not To Do It.

From *Philatelic Facts and Fancies* come words of wisdom. Our San Francisco contemporary points out that though the future of our hobby depends upon the development of the young collector, yet some of the methods adopted by some of the teachers of the young idea are wrong-headed and ill-advised. It is pointed out that a prominent American dealer is advertising, as a new and up-to-date article, a stamp album, which is at least 3 years old, and in many respects is ludicrously obsolete. This, as our contemporary shows, is calculated to do much harm. "Boys frequently do not think very deeply when they read a thing, and it is therefore possible that, when reading this advertisement, they will be satisfied with the statement that the album in question is at least six months later than any other album, as the advertisement expressly states. Is there not a great deal of danger that a small boy obtaining an album like this will be lost to our ranks by the very disgust such a book must give him?" There is; and it is unfortunate that in this country also there are dealers who do not scruple to foist spurious articles on the young and unsuspecting beginner.

## Should "Gumpaps" be Catalogued?

A somewhat important question is touched upon, perhaps all unconsciously of its importance, by "Draco," a contributor to the *Weekly Philatelic Era*. "Draco" discusses at some length an article emanating from the pen of an eminent New York philatelist on the subject of the inclusion of the Olympian stamps of Greece in the new catalogue of the

Scott Stamp and Coin Company. He defends the action of the Scott Company on the ground that a catalogue is not merely a price list, but something more—and he is right. A catalogue, as we philatelists understand it, is a guide more or less reliable to the market values of stamps; and it will seem to most thinking men ridiculous in the extreme that a catalogue publisher should be expected to differentiate between stamps which should and stamps which should not be collected. We can find every excuse for the inclusion in the catalogue of such stamps as "Seebecks" or the Grecian Olympic stamps, or the "Baby Boris" stamps of Bulgaria; but there are other so-called stamps which it is in our opinion little short of fraud to catalogue and price. We have in our mind the Chinese, Scandinavian and other local stamps, illustrated and priced in the 1895 edition of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue, for these are not stamps at all. Probably, when the second volume of the new "Gibbons" makes its appearance we shall find that these offending items have been eliminated. But to resume, as "Draco" points out the Olympian stamps of Greece are a legitimate postal issue—not legitimate in the S.S.S.S. sense of the word, but legitimate in so far as they were issued by the Grecian Government to prepay mail matter, and furthermore, have actually done postal service for some considerable period. Under such circumstances, neither the Scott Company nor Messrs. Gibbons' dare omit these stamps from the catalogues they publish. It is absurdly unreasonable to expect them to do so.

## The World's Philatelic Centres.

"Rambler," a frequent and industrious correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, has much to say concerning the great philatelic centres of the world, and the world in general, but of America in particular. Chicago he is inclined to look upon as a model city, philatelicly; and he proudly draws attention to Mr. Castle's expressed opinion that nowhere will the travelling philatelist meet a more cordial and pleasant reception than in the "windy city." As regards Europe he says there is such a difference of opinion that it is impossible to say whether London or Paris is the more important of stamp centre. It will be interesting to know whose opinions they were which exhibited such an unfortunate difference. In this hemisphere there is apparently very little doubt that London is the most important of all stamp centres.

Mr. Jewett's lively little weekly contains many other suggestive paragraphs and articles to which we should draw attention if we had the space.

## Praise from "The Oldest."

We are constrained to look upon the *Philatelic Monthly and World* as a most intelligent and discriminating journal. For does not the *P. M. and W.* allude to the *FORTNIGHTLY* as the "leading English Stamp Journal." There are other papers in this country and elsewhere which have not the same high opinion of our journalistic standing; but let not this fact discourage our worthy transatlantic contemporary, and other friendly journals. It is no uncommon thing for one to be right where fifty are wrong.

## That \$5,000 Revenue Stamp—Does it Exist?

We had reason in a recent review to devote some space to a description of the creation and use of a \$5,000 Revenue stamp of the United States. Since then various other articles have appeared in the American papers throwing some doubt on the existence of such a label. The statements made are most conflicting. A short article in the *Philatelic Monthly and World* of January deals with all the evidence, pro and con. It appears that the *American Journal of Philately* quoted from the *New York Herald* as long ago as 1873, the following announcement:—

The Internal Revenue Bureau is now ready to furnish stamps of the denomination of \$5,000 for the use of Corporations.

Furthermore a Boston daily paper in a recent article on stamps states most positively that two copies of the \$5,000 Revenue stamp were used on a mortgage of the Union Pacific Railroad Co. In addition to this the writer of the article under notice reports that a gentleman holding an influential position in the railroad world asserts that he has seen a copy of the stamp used on a commercial document. As against all this, Mr. R. R. Bogert, about 9 years ago, applied to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for positive information as to whether such a stamp had ever been created, and the reply received was to the effect that no such stamp had ever been issued by the department.

#### The Bazaar's latest Supplement.

We have before us another excellent philatelist's supplement to the *Bazaar*. Mr. Westoby gives us an article this time on the colour problem, pointing out the many anomalies that occur in the classification of colour in connection with philately. Mr. G. West of Bristol in reply to an article by Mr. T. W. Thompson gives us a number of interesting examples of early English letters—letters, that is belonging to the period preceding the institution of the Penny Post. Mr. Joseph Burnett writes on the subject of the stamps of Greece from the point of view of a generalist. Mr. H. A. Slade again contributes a sheaf of short articles, and other writers are Mr. A. J. Pal Thorpe, Mr. J. P. F. Turner, and Mr. F. B. Troup. Mr. Westoby's elementary guide to the stamps of Europe is also continued. Altogether a most excellent supplement—the best this season by a very long way.

#### The Victorian Postal Scandal.

Thus the *Sydney Bulletin*, of November 21st, on the subject of trafficking in postage stamps by Victorian postal officials:

A general belief that no punishment worth mentioning can happen to any influential Melbourne misdemeanant is confirmed in the result of a Vic. Public Service Board enquiry re the illicit sale of obsolete stamps by G.P.O. officials. The enquiry disclosed pettifogging jobbery and corruption, and serious betrayal of trust among certain post-officers who drew substantial salaries not so much for the work they performed as on account of the trust placed in them. They were paid to be honest per regulations, and they broke their contract with the department. Being required not to sell stamps that had gone out of public issue, they did sell such stamps for the advantage of particular dealers, and in one instance, at least, the delinquent sold them for his own profit likewise. It was a dirty business as far as the evidence threw light upon it. Probably a more searching and less sympathetic enquiry might have shown it dirtier. The Public Service Board passed gentle sentences on these gentleman, convicted of betraying their trust under circumstances which gave them no excuse for not going straight. The highest paid officer of the crowd received "actual punishment" to the extent of a forfeiture of about 12 per cent. on his salary for one year, whilst the chief distributor of stamps, who was proved to have made money out of his delinquencies, got off with a fine (payable in what is practically easy instalments) equivalent to £385—his salary being reduced from £485 to £375 for a period which will entail that amount of loss. A subordinate officer, who acted in conjunction with him as a stamp trader, was fined £16, whilst another and almost innocent subordinate officer was handicapped—as horse-reporters would say—at two pounds less. The inevitable snort of public contempt followed this judgment by the Public Service Board, after which Premier TURNER was requested to make a few remarks on the subject in the House. Premier TURNER's opinion of P.S.B. justice was expressed indirectly. He didn't say that a fine of £90 for the chief offender was a scandalously cheap get-off for the gentleman, but he said that the delinquent was no longer fit to preside over the stamp department, or to take the position of Deputy P.M.G., which would have been given to him shortly but for the recent revelations. As for the most severely fined offender, said the Premier, he was properly shifted to another billet inasmuch as he wasn't fit to distribute stamps, and his accomplice couldn't be allowed to remain in the Income-tax office, "where secrets are supposed to be kept," and would have to serve the State in some other Government department. These remarks amounted of course, to a suggestion that the P.S.B. is unfit to adjudicate in important trials of public servants, therefore the Premier's confession that the P.S.B. is a despotic power, whose sentences the Government is powerless to amend, was just what *The Bulletin* has learned to expect. Every insult heaped upon common justice in Smellbourne seems to be the outcome of an unfortunate mistake by which something that ought to happen (and which would surely happen else-

where) is debarred from coming to pass. Right, in Smellbourne, is always regretting its inability to rectify Wrong. Acts of Parliament invariably fail in the one most important particular. There is ever a serious flaw in the regulations, a fly in the legal amber, or something or other that prevents influential offenders from being satisfactorily dealt with. And the uninfluential persons, who don't offend, are beginning to want fair play.

#### Anniversary of the Penny Post.

January 10th being the fifty-seventh anniversary of Rowland Hill's Penny Post, most of our daily and weekly papers contained some reference to that auspicious event. Of all these articles perhaps the most interesting was that which appeared in the *Weekly Dispatch*, and which we reproduce in full here. It affords a striking picture of the rapid growth and present magnitude of the postal system.

Fifty-seven years ago to-day (Sunday, January 10th), Rowland Hill's plan for a general penny postage was put into operation, after having encountered much prejudice and ridiculous opposition. This, however, was not the first occasion that a penny post had existed in London. During the reign of Charles II. a penny post was established in the Metropolis by private venture, and in 1680 very extensive local postage facilities were provided. Letters were carried, registered and insured for a penny. There were hourly collections, and ten deliveries a day in the centre and six in the suburbs. There were between 400 and 500 receiving-houses and wall-boxes, which, for London as it then was, was a very large number. The venture was put down as prejudicial to the revenue. The rates of postage had been previously fixed at 2d. the single letter for any distance under 80 miles, 4d. up to 140 miles, 6d. for any longer distance in England, and 8d. to any place in Scotland.

#### REMODELLING THE POST OFFICE.

In 1710 the Post Office was remodelled and put on the footing on which it remained until the times of the reforms of Sir Rowland Hill. A General Post Office for these kingdoms and the colonies was established under one head and under the name of her Majesty's Postmaster-General. The rates of postage for single letters were: England, 3d. if under 80 miles and 4d. if above; and 6d. to Edinburgh and Dublin. In 1837 Rowland Hill introduced his plan for a general penny postage, and on January 10, 1840—fifty-seven years ago to-day—the rate of postage for all single letters weighing not more than 4oz. was reduced to a uniform charge of one penny. Postage stamps were introduced in the following May, and the much abused Parliamentary franking system was abolished. From the time of the first establishment of the Post Office in 1660, members of both Houses of Parliament had enjoyed the privilege of sending and receiving letters through the post without payment.

#### STARTLING STATISTICS.

The growth of the work of the postal department is very startling, as is shown by the following figures: During the year 1839, the twelve months previous to the introduction of the penny post, 82,563,000 letters were delivered in the United Kingdom. This represented three per head of the population. Note the effect of the change. In 1840 the returns more than doubled, no fewer than 169,000,000 letters passing through the post, or seven per head. The thousand million was reached in 1875, and ever since, with one exception, the returns have increased year by year. The exception referred to was in 1894-5, when 1,770,900,000 were compared with 1,811,800,000 during the previous twelve months. During the past official year, 1895-6, no fewer than 1,834,200,000 letters passed through the various post-offices in the United Kingdom. This mammoth number is exclusive of postcards—which in 1895-6 numbered 314,500,000; books &c., 672,300,000; and newspapers, 149,000,000.

Curious incidents occur in connection with the Post Office even now, and the confidence of the public in its ability to do anything does not appear to diminish. On a recent occasion a confident lady of Greenock requested a telegraphist to write out a message and dispatch it to her home to the effect that she would not return till morning, and handed a large door key to be sent with the message for the benefit of her lodgers. On being informed that the key could not be sent by telegraph, she replied that if the key could not go there would be no use in sending the message, and the department was compelled to confess itself beaten.

#### HONOURS FOR SIR ROWLAND HILL.

Sir Rowland Hill became secretary to the Postmaster-General in 1846, and then received a public testimonial. He was knighted in 1860, when he received a grant of £20,000 and £2,000 pension. He died on August 27th, 1879, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. A statue to his memory stands at the Royal Exchange, and was unveiled by the Prince of Wales in 1882.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 96).

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., December 21st and 22nd, 1896.

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC.	13/-	and	0 17 0
A	4d. blue, CA.	5	2	6
A	6d. olive-brown	2	0	0
a	ditto, used	3	0	0
a	1/- lilac	17/-	and	0 18 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	2	0	0
b c	(6d.) green, ditto, perf. in	1	6	0
a	1/- orange-brown	3	0	0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. drab, star	4	0	0
a	Schleswig Holstein, first issue, 2sch. rose	1	8	0
a b	South Australia, 2d. red, SA. and crown, perf. 10 by roulette	1	8	0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze, penmark	1	5	0
b c	Straits Settlements, Johor, 2c. on 24c. green, CENST, fair, but perfs. somewhat clipped at bottom	3	7	6
a	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. vertical lines	1	6	0
A	Trinidad, Litho., 1d. blue, medium	1	10	0
A	5/- lake, perf. 12½, block of 4	6	5	0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldo yellow on bluish, on entire	1	2	0
b	9cr. dull lilac	2	10	0
A	United States (1847), 5c. brown, pair	3	15	0
b	(1851), 5c. brown	0	17	0
a	(1856), 90c. blue, penmark	2	8	0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard	2	13	0
a	ditto, ditto, used	0	19	0
b	(1868), 90c. blue, grill	0	16	0
b	(1869), 90c., badly centred	1	3	0
a	(1869-1875, re-issue), 15c.	1	10	0
a	ditto, 24c.	2	0	0
a	Columbus, set	£3	10s. od. and	3 14 0
A	(1894), 5 dollars, no wmk., block of 4	5	10	0
a	State, 20 dollars, penmark	5	5	0
b c	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	0	0
A	4d. on 1/- crimson, pair	2	2	0
A	6d. rose, perf. 12, block of 6	4	10	0
a	ditto, a single	0	14	0
a	1/- crimson, single line	£3	and	3 15 0
a	ditto, used	2	12	6
b	1/- crimson, double line	3	3	0
a	Western Australia, 4d. carmine, CC., perf. 14	4	0	0
b	Wurtemberg, 70k. lilac-rose	1	16	0
a	70k. violet	3	4	0
Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, January 5th and 6th, 1897.				
a b	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC.	1	4	0
A	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no wmk., perf. 16 × 14½, block of 6	17	0	0
A	6d. grey-violet, ditto, perf. 16, pair	8	0	0
b	Barbados (4d.) red on white, imperf.	1	8	0
a	5/- rose	£1	17s. and	2 3 0
a b	Bavaria, 1k. black, pair	1	0	0
a	Brazil, 300r. green and orange, roulette	2	7	6
a	British Central Africa, £1 blue	1	13	0
A	£2 red	2	6	0
a	£5 olive-green	5	0	0
a	£25 black and blue, "Specimen"	1	13	0
a	British Columbia, 25c. orange, perf. 12½, strip of 3	2	12	0
a	ditto, a single	0	17	0
b	British Guiana (1851) 1c. magenta	3	10	0
b	(1853), 4c. blue, white line, pair	1	13	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown	0	15	0
a	ditto, 4c. blue, perf. 15, block of 4	6	10	0
b c	(1861), 2c. yellow, pearls, italic T in TWO, roulettes 3 sides	8	15	0
c	ditto, ditto, ditto, no roulettes, used	3	0	0
c	ditto, ditto, crossed ovals, ditto	2	2	0
b	4c. blue, perf. 12½	4	15	0
a	ditto, used	1	12	0
a	British Honduras, 6d. yellow	2	16	0
A	1/- grey	2	16	0
a	ditto	2	0	0
A	British South Africa, 10/- green, pair	1	8	0
a	£1 blue	1	10	0
a	£2 red	2	4	0
b	Canada, 3d. vermilion, on laid	2	10	0
a	7½d. green	£2	18s. od. and	3 0 0
a	10d. blue, medium paper	0	17	0
b	10d. blue, thin paper	13/-	and	0 15 0
a	12d. black, on laid, with gum	67	0	0
a	4d. rose, perf.	0	14	0
a	6d. grey-violet, perf.	4	15	0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. dark blue	3	10	0
b c	ditto, 4d. light blue	1	10	0
a	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf.	14	0	0
A	1/9 green, ditto	3	10	0
c	2/- blue, ditto, good but tear in blank corner	2	10	0
b	5d. purple-brown, CC.	1	5	0
a	Congo, first issue, 5fr. violet	0	17	0
a	Cuba (1856), Y½ on 2r. red, crossed lines	1	1	0
b	Cyprus, 1/- green	1	6	0
a b	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA.	£2	10s. and	2 12 0
a	1/- lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14, vert. pair	1	8	0
a	France, Empire, 1fr. carmine, pair	2	16	0
a	French Colonies, Guadeloupe, Unpaid, first issue, 40c. black	1	12	0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	2	5	0
a b	ditto, used	1	16	0
a	Great Britain, 1d. red-brown, die 1, small crown, perf. 14	0	16	0
a	1d., plate 116 (Cardiff), imperf.	3	3	0
7a 1c	3d., plate 4, spray, block of 8	23	0	0
6a 3c	1/-, no letters, block of 9	11	15	0
a	1/-, plate 3 (hair lines), imperf.	1	4	0
b	£5 orange, telegraph cancel	£1	18s. and	2 4 0
a	Hanover, 3/- thaler, coloured net	0	14	0
b	Heligoland, 1½sch., perf.	1	1	0
b	India, 4a. red and blue	2	0	0
b	Ionian Islands, 2d. lake	0	16	0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium early, on entire	5	0	0
b c	ditto, 2d. blue, medium, on piece	4	8	0
a	Britannia, 4d. black and green	2	16	0
A	ditto, 1/- green, imperf., block of 8	12	0	0
b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC.	0	15	0
a b	ditto, used	0	15	0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, cross, on piece	3	17	6
a	Natal, 6d. grey-lilac, no wmk., block of 6	5	0	0
a	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac	2	0	0
b	ditto	1	5	0
b	6d. green, fine, but slight red ink stain	7	15	0
b c	1/- green, perf. 13	0	19	0
a	1/- yellow-green	3	7	6
a	1/- lilac, two copies	each	1	12 0
c	New Brunswick, 1/- violet, very fine, but very slightly thinned at one spot	19	15	0
a	5c. brown, Connell	19	0	0
A	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-red	4	10	0
b	2d. orange, large margins	1	1	0
a b	ditto, not such margins	0	16	0
a	4d. carmine-red	3	5	0
a	4d. orange, large margins	3	10	0
b c	ditto, no margins	1	10	0
A	6d. carmine-red	8	0	0
a b	6d. orange, large margins	2	12	6
b	ditto	1	5	0
a	6½d. carmine-red	10	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a b	Newfoundland, ditto *	..	7	0 0
a	8d. carmine-red, pair ..	..	1	10 0
a	ditto, a single ..	..	0	13 0
b	1/- carmine-red, good margins three sides..	..	20	0 0
b	1/- orange, no margins, two copies ..	each	7	0 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, vert. pair..	..	2	0 0
b	ditto, ditto, on bluish, pair ..	..	1	12 0
b	ditto, 1d., plate 2, on bluish, pair..	..	1	18 0
a b	ditto, ditto, ditto ditto, vert. pair..	..	1	18 0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 1, worn ..	..	0	19 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2 ..	..	2	0 0
b	ditto, 3d. green on bluish, pair ..	..	1	14 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single ..	..	0	17 0
a	ditto, ditto, on yellowish ribbed ..	..	3	3 0
a	(1885), 10/- red and violet *	..	1	1 0
b	(1888), 5/- violet *	..	0	18 0
a	ditto, 20/- blue *	..	1	16 0
b	New Zealand, half of 1/- green on bluish, used on entire (August 31st, 1858), but stamp has been cut out and replaced ..	..	10	0 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	..	1	6 0
a	half of 6d. yellow-green, on piece ..	..	1	10 0
a	6d. yellow-green *	..	6	5 0
a	ditto, used ..	..	1	14 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, 1/2gr. green *	..	5	0 0
a	ditto, 2gr. rose ..	..	1	6 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	..	1	1 0
b c	third issue, 1/2gr. orange ..	..	1	16 0
b	ditto, 1/2gr. green *	..	1	16 0
a	ditto, 2gr. red ..	..	0	17 0
a b	Pacific Steam Navigation Co., 1r. carmine, on laid	..	1	6 0
b c	Philippines (1854), 1r. faded blue ..	..	0	15 0
b	ditto, 2r. green ..	..	16/- and	0 17 0
a	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ..	..	2	10 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive brown, pair *	..	4	0 0
A	ditto, a single ..	..	2	4 0
a	1/- lilac-rose, pair *	..	1	15 0
a b	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac ..	..	2	5 0
c	ditto, somewhat thinned..	..	1	14 0
a	1/- black and orange ..	..	3	3 0
a	1/- orange-brown ..	..	3	0 0
b c	ditto ..	..	1	14 0
b	Saxony, 10gr. blue *	..	0	16 0
b	Schleswig Holstein (1865), 4sch. bistre ..	..	0	18 0
b c	Spain (1851), 2r. red, fine margins, but slightly rubbed	..	14	10 0
b	ditto, ditto finer, but small margins ..	..	14	10 0
b	(1853), 2r. red *	..	8	0 0
b c	Switzerland, Basle, 2 1/2r. ..	..	3	4 0
b	Geneva, small eagle, 5c. yellow-green, on piece	..	1	0 0
b	Neuchatel, 5c. ..	..	2	0 0
c	Vaud, 4c. fine, but top margin slightly mended ..	..	15	0 0
a	Winterthur, 2 1/2r. ..	..	2	12 0
a	Zurich, 6r., vert. lines ..	..	1	2 0
a	ditto, 6r. hor. lines ..	..	1	8 0
b c	ditto, ditto ..	..	0	16 0
b	Poste Locale, 2 1/2r. cross framed, pair	..	2	0 0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	..	3	12 6
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf. ..	..	1	10 0
A	Litho, 1d., dark blue, early, on entire ..	..	5	10 0
a	ditto, 1d. bright blue, ditto ..	..	3	10 0
A	1d. rose, pin perf. block of 4 *	..	7	0 0
A	ditto, ditto, pair *	..	3	0 0
A	4d. dull violet, block of 4 *	..	10	10 0
A	6d. green, block of 4 (3 vert.) *	..	6	0 0
A	ditto pair *	..	5	10 0
A	1d. rose, perf., clean cut 15 1/2, block of 4 *	..	5	0 0
a	6d. yellow-green, ditto, used ..	..	1	4 0
a	6d. emerald, thick paper, perf. 13 ..	..	0	17 0
b	1/- grey-lilac, CC., perf. 12 1/2 ..	..	0	13 0
a	5/- dull lake, perf. 12 1/2 ..	..	1	2 0
a b	Turks Islands, 1d. on 6d. black, type 8 ..	..	0	18 0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf. ..	..	1	11 0
a	(1856), 5c. brown, type 1 ..	..	0	18 0
b	ditto, 90c. blue *	..	2	18 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard, with a common on entire ..	..	1	2 0
b	(1869), 30c. * ..	..	1	13 0
a	ditto, 90c. ..	£2 8s. and	4	0 0
a	Columbus, set complete *	..	3	7 6
a	U.S. Mail Prepaid, 1c. rose-red, no letters, on small piece ..	..	1	16 0
a b	State, 2 dollars *	..	2	6 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Victoria, Queen on Throne, 2d. brown, engraved *	..	0	17 0
a	6d. orange, serrated ..	..	1	0 0
b	Bearded Oval, 6d. orange ..	..	3	12 6
b	10d. slate ..	..	0	15 0
b	5/- blue on yellow, two copies ..	each	3	0 0
b	Too Late *	..	2	8 0
A	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, first type. CA., sheet of 24 *	..	14	14 0
b c	4d. on 1/- crimson ..	..	1	5 0
a	Western Australia, 6d. black-bronze ..	..	3	7 6
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. violet ..	..	1	0 0
b	18k. blue, thread *	..	2	0 0
a	18k. blue, no thread ..	..	0	18 0
c	70k. lilac-rose, fine, but small tear ..	..	2	5 0
a b	70k. violet, large but irregular margins ..	..	3	3 0

Mr. HADLOW, January 11th, 1897.

a	Antigua, 6d. green, no wmk., pair *	..	1	7 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose *	..	2	10 0
a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	..	1	4 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue ..	..	1	14 0
b c	ditto, 4d. blue ..	..	1	0 0
b	Canada, 7 1/2d. green ..	..	1	10 0
a	10d. blue, on thin ..	..	0	18 0
b	Ceylon, 2/- blue, imperf. ..	..	2	10 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- bistre *	..	1	16 0
b c	Great Britain, £5 orange, fine but perfs. clipped one side ..	..	1	8 0
b	2/- brown ..	..	2	0 0
b c	India, Service, 6a. 8p., no perfs. bottom *	..	1	4 0
b	Natal, first issue, 1d. blue ..	..	1	10 0
b	Newfoundland, 8d. carmine-red *	..	0	15 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, two vert. pairs ..	each	2	2 0
a b	ditto, ditto, two hor. and one vert. pair ..	each	2	4 0
a	ditto, ditto, vert. pair, early ..	..	2	10 0
a	ditto, ditto, a single ..	..	1	2 0
a b	ditto, 1d., plate 2, three copies ..	each	1	1 0
b	ditto, ditto, deep carmine ..	..	1	4 0
a b	ditto, ditto, on laid ..	..	1	6 0
b	ditto, ditto, on blue, pair ..	..	1	14 0
b	ditto, ditto, two singles ..	£1 1s. and	1	2 0
a & c	ditto, ditto, pair ..	..	2	8 0
a & b	ditto, ditto, pair ..	..	2	10 0
a & b	ditto, 2d. plate 1, medium, vert. pair ..	..	1	18 0
a	ditto, ditto, ditto, two singles ..	each	1	5 0
a	ditto, ditto, early ..	£1 18s. and	2	6 0
a b	ditto, ditto, slate-blue, pair ..	..	2	0 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1, retouch ..	..	1	0 0
b	ditto, ditto, deep blue, ditto ..	..	1	8 0
A	ditto, 2d., plate 2, early ..	..	2	12 0
A	ditto, ditto, medium ..	..	1	10 0
a b	ditto, ditto ..	15/-, 18/- and	1	1 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 3, slate-blue, very worn ..	..	1	0 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 3, first retouch ..	£1 and	1	2 0
a	ditto, ditto, violet-blue ..	..	1	3 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 3, second retouch ..	..	1	10 0
a b	ditto, ditto, 5 copies ..	averaged	0	19 0
b	Laureated, 2d., stars, WALES ..	..	2	12 0
b	ditto, 2d. blue on blue, early, no wmk. *	..	1	0 0
b	ditto, 3d. green, wmk. 2, reserve £12 ..	..	12	10 0
b	New Zealand, 1/-, star, imperf. *	..	1	4 0
a	6d. red brown, N.Z., perf. *	..	1	1 0
b	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf. ..	..	1	5 0
a	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac, CA. *	..	2	2 0

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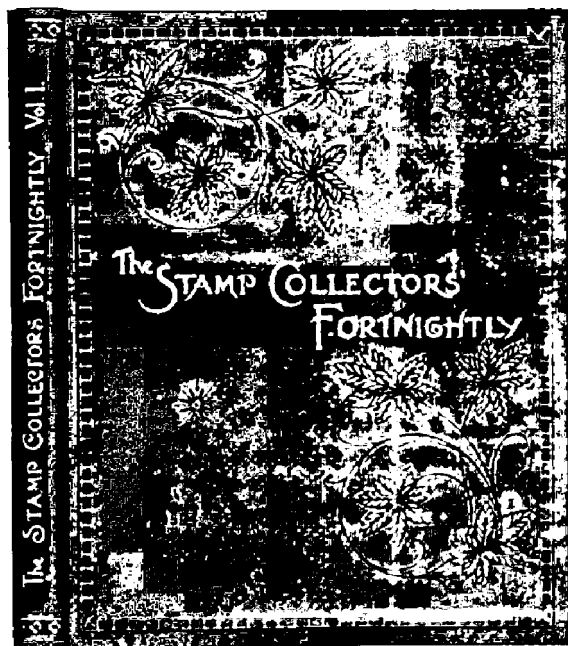
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" 118. 3 " violet .. .. .	20	0 12
San Marino, No. 4, 20c., 1877 .. .. .	2	6 0 6
" 8, 5 on 10, 1892 .. .. .	3	6 0 0
5 on 10, in. sur., very rare	4	0 0
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Peru, No. 146, 50c. green .. .. .	5	0 0
No. 147, 50c. red .. .. .	8	0 0
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Egypt, No. 51, 10 piastres .. .. .	3	6 2 2
Colombia, No. 66, 50c. green .. .. .	4	6 2 6
Falkland, 1d. brown, no Wmk. (also in blocks) .. .. .	5	0 0
Straits, 30 on 32 .. .. .	4	0 1 6
N.S. Wales, O.S. 7½ .. .. .	15	0 4 0
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Tasmania, 1864, 6d., No. 44 .. .. .	6	0 2 0
(Also in blocks of 2 to 6).		
Iceland, 50 aur., Service .. .. .	1	0 0
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Siberia, Unpaid 3c. violet, No. 401 .. .. .	5	0 1 6
1865, 24c. green, .. .. .	6	10 0 5 0
1880, 24c. pink, .. .. .	17	7 6 2 6
3c. black, .. .. .	13	1 6 0 6
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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 62—No. 10—Vol. III. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Roohdale Philatello Society.

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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The eighth Meeting of the Season was held on Monday, January 25th, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C., the following Members being present: C. Forbes, J. E. Joselin, J. C. Camaschalla, H. Thompson, H. Atharley, D. T. Nops, F. Vandenbroucque, E. W. Hounsum, L. Bruce, J. B. Neyroud, J. C. Warden, Jnr.

Mr. J. C. Rose (Reading) was duly elected a Member.

The Next Meeting will be held on **Monday, February 8th**, when our **Fifteenth Auction Sale** will be held.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, Stamps, The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, The Monthly Post.*

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelic.*

From United States: *The Boston Stamp Book, The Metropolitan Philatelist, The American Collector, The Weekly Stamp News, The Evergreen State Philatelist, The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society, The Rocky Mountain Stamp.*

From Sorocaba: *O Collectionados do Sellos.*  
Mr. Forbes also thanks the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. for a copy of their Catalogue.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

The seventh ordinary Meeting was held at 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, December 30th, 1896, at 7.30 p.m. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by ten Members and two Visitors.

Mr. Mayne introduced the subject for study, "Some of the Stamps of Great Britain." His remarks were confined to the Mulready envelope and its caricatures, the 1d. V.R. and the line engraved series, of which he showed some good specimens. An interesting discussion followed. The Vice-President exhibited a copy of the 1d. imperf., printed in blue, and stated that the authenticity of this stamp had been doubted by experts; but in a valuable collection which had recently changed hands, there was, he believed, a similar variety found. A vote of thanks on the proposition of the Vice-President, seconded by Dr. Bulteel was heartily accorded Mr. Mayne.

The eighth ordinary Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 13th. The Vice-President (Mr. R. T. Stevens) in the chair, supported by nine Members, one Hon. Member, and four Visitors. Dr. C. E. Rendle, Plymouth, was elected an ordinary Member of the Society.

Mr. Mayne continued his remarks from last meeting, on the stamps of Great Britain, dealing with the 3d. and 4d. of the surface printed series, showing specimens of the different printings, and pointing out the different wmk., plate numbers, and shades of colour.

An interesting discussion followed. The Vice-President showing some very unusual shades of colour of both the 3d. and 4d. values and giving a very interesting description of the processes employed for the engraving and printing of both the line engraved series and surface printed stamps.—W. J. W. MILLAR, *Hon. Sec.*, 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

The fifth meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, November 20th, 1896. The President in the chair supported by 17 members and 3 visitors. Mr. N. Wanstaff was elected a member and Mr. C. Taylor (Liverpool), a corresponding member. Mr. Beckton read the first part of his paper on the "Stamps of Greece," giving interesting details from the Postal Decrees, also fully describing the printings of the 1st issue. Messrs. Beckton and Abbott exhibited their collections.

The 6th meeting was held on Friday, Dec. 4th. The president in the chair supported by 14 members. Mr. Duerst announced that the *London Philatelist* would, in future, be forwarded direct to members by post. Mr. Beckton continued his paper. He gave the later printings in detail and explained by means of his collection (which was displayed in the frames belonging to the Society) the differences by which they could be distinguished.

At the conclusion of the paper, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Beckton.

The 4th annual dinner took place at the Grand Hotel, on Friday, December 18th, 27 being present. Mr. Beckton in a short speech, made special reference to the coming exhibition in London. The latter part of a most enjoyable evening was devoted to music and songs.

The 6th meeting of the session was held on Friday, January 8th, 1897, the president in the chair and 16 other members present. Mr. W. Brown (Salisbury), was elected a corresponding member. Mr. F. A. Prout (Stockport), tendered his resignation, which was accepted with regret.

The Hon. Sec. read the first part of his paper, dealing with the shilling issues of Norway, and pointed out the varieties, the types and the mode of printing the various issues. Messrs. Harrison's and Beckton's collections illustrated the paper.—ARTHUR H. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*, Grasmere, Whitefield, Near Manchester.

# ENQUIRY BUREAU.

**WE** have now made arrangements to extend the operations of this institution to India. The expenses of course, connected with this country, are higher than those enquiries for Europe. We will accept two of our Tickets for every one enquiry in India and Ceylon until further notice.

We remind our readers that the subscription to our Bureau is 2/6, and a book of five tickets, 10/6. A small reduction is made on books containing a larger number of tickets.

N.B.—An enquiry in India will take about 40 days, if such enquiry reaches us at latest Friday morning.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**BELGRAVIA Exchange Club.**—Genuine Collectors wanted. Particulars MAYHEW, Brewer Street, Belgravia, S.W. [2]

**APPROVAL.**—British Colonials, old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [3]

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**NEWFOUNDLAND** 3 and 5 cents, free to applicants for sheets, enclosing postage. **EASTERN STAMP Co.**, 37, Lucas Street, Commercial Road, E.

**MAURITIUS**, unused, 8c. CA. blue, 15 and 16 cents chocolate. Catalogued Bright, 7/6, my price, 1/6. Newfoundland, 10c. ship, 3d. blue 1/6.—MARTIN, 37, Lucas Street, Commercial Road, E.

**10,000 PERSIAN.** Grand mixture, ten varieties, all obsolete, 4/- hundred.—KING, Working Men's Club, South Teddington.

**BRAZIL.**—Send Post Card, Letter Card, or Official Envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian. Any Country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and French.—ANTONIO DE CAMPOS SERRA, Limeira, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil. [12]

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**THE** British Colonial Stamp Exchange, established 1895. 42 members, few vacancies, two packets monthly, particulars free. Secretary—C. J. M. LEHNER, 50, Buckingham Palace Road, London.

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**ALBUM.**—Over 4000 hinged, cheap. Reference or deposit.—MUNRO, 242, Springburn Road, Glasgow.

**GOOD** medium stamps from 33 to 50 per cent. below catalogue. Good references essential.—Address, THETA, Great Eastern Rectory, Dummond.

**ARMY** Officials.—Complete sets post free, 7d.—COLES, Ardbeg, Oban.

**MOLDO** Wallachia, 1862, unused, 6b. carmine, 30b. blue, 1/3; Roumania, 1894, 1 lieu, 6d.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 98, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

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**BELGRAVE EXCHANGE CLUB.**—The February Packet dispatched on the 2nd contained 3,500 good medium stamps, value £65 nett. Catalogued nearly £180. Genuine collectors wanted.—SECRETARY, Mayhew, Brewer Street, Victoria, S.W.

**NIGER COAST**, erased plate, unused 3d., 2d., 1d., 6d., the pair 1/3. Good duplicates of British Colonials for disposal. References required.—C. BRIDGMAN, Pershore Road, Selly Park, Birmingham. Member Birmingham Philatelic Society.

**MULREADY ENVELOPES AND WRAPPERS.**—Wanted used or unused copies of the above for my collection. Kindly state plate numbers and price to J. R. HESKETH, Bankfield, Ashton upon Mersey, near Manchester.

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**TO ENGLISH SPECIALISTS.**—A few unused Stamps of the English and Irish Magneti, Telegraph Co of 1851. Genuine originals having control letters and numbers with gum.—M. FRANCIS, Rake House, Cherry Lane, Walton, Liverpool.

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New South Wales, Sydney Views.		
1d. plate I, no clouds	3.	5
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1d. " II., with clouds, 1d. carmine on bluish, extra fine on part original	5.	0
2d. " I., retouch fine with large margins on part orig.	4.	5
2d. " III., deep blue, fine, early impressions, good margins	3.	5
2d. " III., blue on laid paper	4.	0
Natal, 1st issue, 3d., fine large specimen on entire envelope, rare	3.	7
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Canada, 7½d. green, fair margins	7.	0
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Barbados, 4d. green, CC., perf. 12½ unused	0.	6.	0.
" 4d. vermilion " " "	1.	5.	0.
" 6d. orange " " "	3.	10.	0.
" 1/- purple " " "	1.	12.	6.
" 4d. carmine, CC., perf. 14 " " "	1.	2.	6.
" 6d. orange " " "	0.	6.	0.
" 1/- purple " " "	0.	10.	6.
" 5/- ochre " " "	1.	7.	6.
Gambia, 6d. blue, imp. CC., unused	1.	10.	0.
" 6d. " perf. " " "	0.	17.	6.
" 1/- green " " "	2.	10.	0.
Gold Coast, 3d. ochre " " "	0.	4.	6.
" " 4d. " CA., used	0.	10.	0.
" " 1d. blue " " "	0.	15.	0.
Sierra Leone, 2d. magenta, CC., perf. 12½ used	0.	17.	6.
" " 3d. yellow " " unused	0.	10.	0.
" " 4d. blue " " "	0.	18.	6.
" " 1/- green " " "	1.	5.	0.
" " 2d. magenta " perf. 14 " "	0.	4.	0.
" " 4d. blue " " "	1.	5.	0.
" " 1/- green " " "	0.	10.	0.
Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. " unused	1.	10.	0.
" 2½d. " CA. " " "	1.	2.	6.
Grenada, 8d. brown, CA. " " "	0.	7.	0.
" 8d. " CA. " used	0.	10.	6.
B. Honduras, 6d. carmine, CC., perf. 12½, used	0.	12.	6.
" 6d. " " " 14 " "	1.	5.	0.
" 6d. " " " 14 unused	4.	0.	0.
Lagos, 1/- orange, CA., perf 14, unused	0.	5.	0.
Cyprus, 6p. drab, " " " die I. " "	0.	10.	0.
" 6p. " " " " die II. " "	0.	5.	0.
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" 12p. " " " " " die II. " "	1.	10.	0.

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**SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF ALL COUNTRIES READY to suit all classes of Collectors, with good Discount off Catalogue Prices.**

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 May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th.    June 16th.

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PUBLISHED IN APRIL.

THE

2nd EDITION.

# "A.B.C." Descriptive Priced Catalogue

OF THE

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# The STAMP COLLECTORS

## FORTNIGHTLY

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.  
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CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

- The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 62.—Vol. III SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1897. ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### PHILATELY IS OLDER THAN WE THINK.

MANY persons think (writes "Uncle Ben." in *Genes*) that the philatelic mania, as it has often been called, is a comparatively new one, but turning over the pages of the second volume of *Punch* (the number for Valentine's Day, 1842), I find it stated that the "ladies of England have been indefatigable in their endeavours to collect old penny stamps; in fact they betray more anxiety to treasure up Queen's heads than Harry the Eighth did to get rid of them." Then follows this poem upon the prevailing epidemic:—

When was a folly so pestilent hit upon,  
As folks running mad to collect every spit-upon  
Post-Office stamp that's been soil'd and been writ upon?  
Oh for Swift! such a subject his spleen to emit upon,  
'Tis said that some fool in mustachios has split upon  
The rock of a bet,  
And, therefore, must get,  
To avoid loss and debt,  
Half the town as collectors, to waste time and wit upon,  
Bothering and forcing their friends to submit upon  
Pain of displeasure  
To fill a peck measure  
With the coveted treasure  
Of as many old stamps as perforce can be lit upon,  
To paper a room, or stuff cushions to sit upon,  
Do, dearest Punch, let fly a sharp skit upon  
This new pursuit, and an ass's head fit upon  
The crest of the order of Knights of the Spit-upon.

### TROUBLE AT THE JERMYN STREET CLUB.

THE COMMITTEE RESIGN AS ONE MAN, AND HERE IS THEIR VALLEDICTORY MESSAGE.

THAT there has lately been "a little rift within the lute" as regards the internal arrangements of the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, 40, Jermyn Street, W., is now a fairly open secret.

This concern we warmly "backed" on its formation in April, 1896, as all constant readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* are aware. So justited was our praise of the idea—and we still regard the "idea" as irreproachable—that the club got together quite a comfortable little membership on the strength of the *FORTNIGHTLY*'s recommendation alone.

Our regret, therefore, is the sener that the Jermyn Street scheme, which was full of bright promise, has apparently "petered out."

We have spoken of "a little rift" at Jermyn Street. There have been two committees at work there, one the Board of Directors, were financially interested in the concern; the other, the "Committee of Management," elected, or perhaps we should say "chosen" from among the members. It has evidently been the story of the two kings of Brentford over again. The two governing bodies have not hit it off at all well. The policy of the Directors has not been the policy of the "Committee of Management." The result is a general strike on the part of the latter body, who in the following terms proclaim their determination to have nothing further to do with Jermyn Street:

PHILATELIC CLUB AND EXCHANGE,  
40, Jermyn Street,  
26th January, 1897.

To the Editors STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

DEAR SIRS.—As our names have been extensively advertised in connection with the above Club, we having been elected by the members as the Committee of Management, desire to make known to philatelists generally that we have resigned our membership. We therefore are no longer responsible in any way whatever for the management of the Club, and our connection with it has entirely ceased.

(Signed) H. HOUSTON BALL,  
BRUCE CORNFORD,  
W. G. HAWKINS,  
SAMUEL RAWSON,  
W. R. UMERVILLE RIDOUT,  
W. T. WILLETT.

**SELLERS OF UNUSED ENGLISH, BEWARE!**

It was in a large well-known tavern. Never mind the name. Still (says the *Morning Leader*) if anyone should be curious to know it he may find a guide in the fact that not many yards away is an equally well-known post-office. An old gentleman was reading a morning paper. A reporter of *The Leader* was standing close by (of course he had only just stepped in to know the time). Suddenly the old gentleman with the paper grew irate, threw it on the ground, and, stamping his foot, cried out:

"Well, if that isn't too bad! Why it's stupid, against their own interests, such asinine grandmotherly tommy r—"

"Why, what is it?" asked the *Leader* man.

"What is it! It makes me tired—that's what it is. Why, they say now that it's illegal for one man to oblige another with a penny stamp, and that it isn't to be allowed. Did you ever hear anything like it? Fancy just finishing an important letter, and then finding you've got no stamp and all the offices are close! Your next door neighbour may have a pocketful literally wearing out for the want of being used, and you've either got to ask him to give you one out and out or lend you one on an I.O.U. or go without, for buy one of him you daren't."

"Whoever says so?"

"Here it is plain enough. This paragraph says it. What's more natural if you run out of stamps than to drop in at your usual pub, and see if they've got one to oblige you with. Think of it on Sunday nights, say, when there aren't any post-offices open anywhere. Suppose a thought of something you ought to have done slips into your head during church, while you're praying about the things that you've left undone; and then after all you've to go and forget it again just because nobody's allowed to oblige you with a stamp lest some Postmaster-General might lose his commission on the penny! Pretty how-do-you-do, that is, in a free country!"

"But who has told you all this?"

"Read it for yourself. Here you are."

The old gentleman, too overcome with anger and excitement to talk any more, handed over the paper, pointing to a paragraph which the reporter had already seen and smiled at. The paragraph was to the effect that so extensive had the illicit sale of stamps in public-houses become that the sub-postmasters had found their commission dwindling; they had therefore protested, and St. Martin's-le-Grand had intimated to the publicans they were not to oblige their customers any longer in this way during the hours the post-offices were open.

It is somewhat singular, by the way, that only a number or so back, we were commenting on this very practice of people "obliging" each other with postage stamps in connection with a question raised as to the legal position of stamp dealers who sold unused English stamps to collectors. Perhaps the issue of the order to publicans prohibiting the sale of stamps to customers will be followed by a similar order to stamp dealers. Who knows?

**THE ERROR ISSUE OF TOBAGO STAMPS.****OFFICIAL ENQUIRY TO BE HELD.**

*The American Journal of Philately* clips the following from a newspaper published in Tobago:

"We understand that there has been considerable excitement among stamp collectors both here and at home over the recent error issue of Tobago shilling stamps.

"It is rumoured that a stamp collector has laid a complaint in the matter before His Excellency the acting Governor and that correspondence is now proceeding. It appears that the old stamps went out on September 30th and the error issue came in on the 1st October.

"After the stamps were sent out from home it was discovered that they were wrong in colour and an order was issued by the Secretary of State, it is said, stopping their circulation. This was received in Tobago on or about the 8th October, and there were then only a few hundred stamps out. This issue was stopped and applications that were made for stamps were refused on the 23rd and 24th October.

"However, for some reason or other, the stamps were re-issued and His Honour Commissioner Low, Magistrate Walker and other officials bought up a large number of the stamps.

These are the allegations brought to the notice of the acting Governor."

And it is in consequence of these allegations, we presume, that Mr. H. Clarence Bourne has just left Trinidad for Tobago, under the acting Governor's commission, to hold an enquiry into that colony's postal affairs generally, and also with special reference to the issue and sale of the stamps showing the error of colour.

**A FEW SMALL POSTAL REFORMS.**

FROM February 1st various new regulations have been in force concerning postal and money order charges. Postal communication is such an important item in the routine of a philatelist's life that it will be well to detail these little reforms here. Some of our readers may have missed them in the daily papers:

Private post cards for inland transmission, if posted unpaid, will in future be charged only twice the postage of a post card, or 1d. instead of 2d., twice the postage of a letter.

Newspaper packets found to contain enclosures admissible by book post will no longer in all cases be charged double the book rate, but will be sent forward and charged as parcels, plus a fee of one penny, if this involves a lower charge than the unpaid book rate.

Parcels marked "registered," but dropped like ordinary letters into a letter box, and packets containing coin, watches, or jewellery, which are posted unregistered, will be charged twice the usual registered fee, or 4d. instead of 8d., as hitherto.

The maximum dimensions of inland letters and book packets will be raised to 2ft x 1ft. x 1ft., the dimensions now in force for letters in the postal union. As, however, large packets cannot safely be transferred to or from trains in motion by the mail bag apparatus, the Postmaster-General reserves to himself the right of keeping back such packets for dispatch by a subsequent mail.

**THE COLLECTORS' CLUB OF NEW YORK.**

WITH the happiest possible prospects the Collectors' Club, of New York, has started life in its own building at 351, Fourth Avenue. Such names upon the Board of Governors as those of Messrs. William Herrick, Charles Gregory, J. W. Scott, J. M. Andreini (Secretary), H. L. Calman, H. E. Deats, and John N. Luff, form of themselves an ample proof that the Club will be well and wisely conducted. The various Committees, too, are composed of men who are the Castles and Ehrenbachs of American philately. We have just received a neatly contrived pamphlet describing the measures taken for the incorporation of the Club, and listing the resident and non-resident stockholders.

**THE "A.B.C." CATALOGUE—1897 EDITION.**

ONE volume is now no longer sufficient, it seems, for an up to date stamp catalogue. Messrs. Bright & Son, in announcing the new edition of their "A.B.C." Catalogue, which is to appear in April next, state that it will be in two volumes, the first listing all adhesive stamps, the second all "entires." The prices will be Vol. I, 2s.; Vol. II, 1s.; or the two parts bound together, 2s. 6d. There will also be an edition de-luxe, the two volumes bound together, price 5s.

**THE PRICE OF GIBBONS CATALOGUE.**

*The American Journal of Philately* for January is well up to time with a review of Part I. of the New Gibbons Catalogue. Had our New York contemporary paraphrased the *FORTNIGHTLY* review it could not have more faithfully echoed our sentiments as regards this catalogue. Says the *A. J. of P.*: "The illustrations of the surcharge are very good as a general rule, but the types of the stamps themselves are simply abominable." Again, on the question of the publishing price our contemporary says: "The price of this little book of 150 pages is two shillings, or 50 cents in our money, which appears very high to us in view of what is furnished both by Senf and by our own publishers." Our readers will recollect that we have more than once commented upon the absurdly high price fixed for the new "Gibbons." It is a small matter perhaps, but "trifles make the sum of human things" in philately as in everything else.



**PHILATELIC EVENTS FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING FEB. 20th, 1897.****Auction Sales.**

- Feb. 18th and 19th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m., precisely.
- Feb. 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.
- Feb. 10th and 11th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.
- Feb. 16th and 17th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.
- Feb. 15th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely.

**Tapling Collection.**

The Stamps now on view at the British Museum are those of South Australia and Tasmania.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



TAKING pity upon our condition of uncertainty concerning the stamps of Uganda, "F. E. H." writes:

Re your remarks on Uganda stamps in the FORTNIGHTLY of January 23rd. Under date, "Mengo, Uganda, via Mombassa, October 4th, 1896," a friend of mine, whose brother is in Uganda,

received a letter of which the following is a quotation:

"As regards stamps, we have none here except the locals, of which I enclose a few. They are used for postage in the country, and the values on them are cowrie shells, of which 200 go to the rupee now. There are two issues of them, the old issue is used up now. They are printed on the type-writer as you can perceive. I am the official printer and get nothing for my pains."

The stamps are printed in rows, each row increasing in value downwards. Those received by me differ from the illustration given in your number of January 23rd, 1897, in having no stop after the figure of value. The used stamps are erased with a X. They are printed with purple ink on very thin paper.

Our good friend Mr. Forbes, who as Secretary and Librarian of the City of London Philatelic Club, needs no introduction to the great bulk of our readers, apparently accepts the remarks of a correspondent on the subject of "exchange pure and simple," as applying to his own club, the Stamp Collectors' Exchange Society. He writes:—

I notice in the last issue of your paper a criticism on a certain Exchange Club, carried on under "Rules of Exchange," no name is mentioned, but being Secretary of the "Stamp Collectors' Exchange Society," which is carried on under these principles, I beg to point out to you that I shall be pleased at any time to give full information with reference to the working of the Exchange.

I may state that the "Stamp Collectors' Exchange Society" has been in existence since May, 1890, has a membership of over 200, and, so far as I can judge, has given every satisfaction to the members up to the present date.

Kindly insert this letter in your next issue.

I am, dear Sirs,

We give this reply with much pleasure, despite the very patent fact that it is really no reply at all to the points raised by our former correspondent. One matter, which must have mystified many people, we are in a position to explain personally. "How," many people might ask, "did the members of this 'exchange, pure and simple' Society commence exchanging one with the other, if the rules say that no member may remove stamps from the sheets until he has a 'credit.' How would the original 'credit' be obtained?"

Well, it appears that when the S.C.E.S. was first started (by Mr. H. A. MacMillan, we believe), a fictitious 'credit' of

5s. was given to each original member, in order that business might be commenced right away. It is to be hoped that those original members, by their business rectitude, justified this very touching evidence of faith!

Mr. Forbes, fortunate man, tells us that the working of his Society "has given every satisfaction to the members." That should be sufficient evidence, either of the excellence of the system or of the administrative skill of—Mr. Forbes.

\* \* \*

"W.E.S." invites us to explain this little mystery. He has a 5 reis Funchal stamp—9, rather the half of one, cut diagonally from left top to right bottom. It has been used in that condition and bears the postmark "Funchal, Madeira—4 Jan. '93." Nothing so very mysterious about this, one would think. The stamp, or, rather, the half-stamp has probably been used genuinely enough, but whether it represents an official issue or simply represents the "try-on" of an artless philatelist and the forbearance of a lazy postal official—that's another story altogether. Perhaps "W.E.S." means that the mystery consists in the fact that this half-stamp is not catalogued. He need not worry about that. There are many whole ones that suffer from, or enjoy, the same oblivion.

Can any reader confirm or contradict this?

I am informed that the British South Africa Company's 1896 stamps are already obsolete, there being a fresh issue. F.E.P.

It is a trite saying that a young lady's postscript is invariably the most important part of her letter; but we think that as much can sometimes be said of male correspondents. At any rate, the following, which forms the "fag-end" of a Sheffield reader's communication, strikes us as being far more important—or, at any rate, far more gratifying—than anything else the letter contains.

Whilst I am writing, I beg to thank you for your invariable outspokenness in the "FORTNIGHTLY," and may say that your remarks have helped myself and many other small collectors a great deal, who would otherwise have given up this most delightful hobby and study. It is to be hoped that after the exposures recently made, that a little more straightforward dealing may be expected, at least from the older and better firms of stamp dealers, surely.

At least you are doing your best to "clear the air" of all shady dealings, and are deserving of all credit in the matter.

Mr. Hubert Buckley, a well-known dealer of Norway, writes us as follows in defence of Locals of that country:

Though not a collector or dealer in Scandinavian locals, I must say that I think you are rather too sweeping in saying they "are not stamps at all."

These stamps were used by private firms, who were allowed to collect letters and deliver them in the same town, irrespective of the Government postal service, until they were suppressed.

Owing to the fact that the dies and cancelling stamps are in private hands, they have been in many cases mercilessly reprinted "while you wait" for the benefit of innocent tourists to the "land of the midnight sun," and have therefore fallen into dis-favour.

Some of these are of great rarity, however, and form an interesting subject of study to several collectors of A1 standing, and I personally believe that the increasing interest in Scandinavian regular issues will to some extent touch these hitherto abused bits of paper.

We metaphorically extend the right-hand of good fellowship to *Stamps*, the little monthly philatelic magazine just started by our friend Mr. F. L. Heygate, of Rushden. The first number of *Stamps* is, we feel sure, not the best that Mr. Heygate can do. Indeed, our confrère explains that his first number was "rushed" a little, owing to exigencies of time. It is better to be up to date with an indifferent number, than to come out with one that is excellent in all respects other than the sovereign one of punctuality. *Stamps*, we note, is to be absolutely "independent," and, we presume, will slate a bad thing or commend a good thing fearlessly—just as the FORTNIGHTLY does.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of 3d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

	s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	0	9

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

LONDON, FEBRUARY 6, 1897.



It is an appalling picture that the *Metropolitan Philatelist* of New York presents to us under the heading "Possibilities of the Postage Stamp." It appears that a Mr. A. B. Harris, of Springfield, Mass., has written to the Honourable John Sherman,

Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, suggesting that there shall be a Government issue of coupons and bonds at a low rate of interest, being payable *daily*, and that the bond shall have attached to it interest coupons, in the shape of one cent postage stamps. The idea, regarded from the point of view of financial manipulation, is an exceedingly cute one. Mr. Harris's idea being that the Government shall take advantage of those periods in the life of Wall Street when money is going cheap, but however we may commend the idea when seen through a financier's spectacles, it cannot be truthfully said that it would be acceptable to philatelists. For just imagine the number of varieties that would be created were this scheme adopted. A one year bond, bearing interest payable daily, would have attached to it no less than 365 stamps of a one cent, two cents, or three cents denomination, according to the value of the bond. Each of these stamps, according to Mr. Harris's scheme, would have to bear upon it a separate date. Thus, by a stroke of the pen, the Secretary of the United States Treasury has it in his power to create 365 extra varieties of every denomination of United States postage stamps. We hope he will be merciful as he is strong, and that he will stay his hand.

THE *Monthly Journal*, the trade circular published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, devotes six columns of its issue dated January 30th, "Once More *Nova Scotia!*" to that ever fruitful subject of philatelic conversation, the STAMP COLLECTORS'

FORTNIGHTLY. As our copy of the circular in question is only just to hand (and this is the afternoon of February 3rd!) we are unable in this number to deal in an adequate manner with the wild farrago of nonsense about Nova Scotia, penned by—whom?—certainly not by Major Evans. With great regret we must keep Stanley Gibbons, Limited, waiting for the *coup de grace* till our No. 63 appears. It will be soon enough, we think; and probably they will think so by the time our last word is read.

### Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

Through a regrettable mistake we omitted in our last number to credit Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., with the following New Issues chronicled; Tobago, Transvaal, Perak.]



**Belgium.**—The 10 centimes of the Exhibition stamps to commemorate the International Exhibition, which will take place this year in Brussels, and which was issued last year has now been shown to us by Messrs. Bright & Son in a deep-brown lilac shade, but we notice that the Belgian Postal Authorities have not taken the trouble to correct the spelling error in the word *Postieren* (*Postieren*).

10c mauve (2d)

**Greece.**—Our Athens correspondent writes: The designs of the new Greek stamps to come into circulation by the 1st of March, have not pleased the authorities, who have now instructed the Court painter, Mr. Gilleron, to draw some new designs, which will be sent to Paris for printing. The new stamps are wanted for the 1st of March, to replace the Olympians but I am afraid they will not be in time.

**Orange Free State.**—The change of colour predicted by us some time ago has at last taken place. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have now sent us the ½d. printed in orange-yellow.

½d. yellow.

**Samoa.** Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., have sent us the current 2½d. in a new colour—this time in a brownish black shade. The perforation is now, however, 11. Watermark as before. On the New Zealand paper, with small star and N.Z.

2½d. brown-black (5d.)



**Transvaal.**—The series has been added to by two more values, sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. We have, however, a shrewd suspicion that the 10c will have to be altered as it is spelt without an "s," but whether done on purpose or not, we are of course unable to say.

3d. deep mauve, value in green (6d.)

10c dark brown (15/-).

**Zanzibar.**—We have now received the higher value of the new issue. The type is somewhat larger but closely resembles the design given in our No. 60.

11. ultramarine (flags in red).

The prices in parentheses are those at which the stamps can be supplied by our publishers.

#### IS IT ANOTHER TOBAGO ERROR?

Much remarks a writer in the *New York Philatelist* has been said in the philatelic papers of the one shilling Tobago orange, error, but as yet nothing has been mentioned of the sixpence, which we have seen in a *light brown* shade. The colour of the 6d. stamp, which has been current, is orange. Whether this new shade is an error, or will be used in future in place of the orange, cannot be discovered at present.

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

→ FIRST ARTICLE. ←

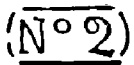
(NB.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

READERS of our "English Column" will have noticed the interest taken in this subject. Judging by the letters received, about nine-tenths of the British Specialists are enthusiastic Postmark collectors. The Editors therefore have decided to issue at once the following notes, which were prepared some six months ago for our Publishers' new Catalogue. In these notes an attempt has been made to summarise all the information at present obtainable, and to present it in a form which it is thought will be acceptable to all collectors. It is to be regretted that so little is known of the dates of the introduction of the various obliterations, but these, and all other shortcomings, may possibly be amended in some future list. Messrs. Philbrick & Westoby's valuable book, on "The Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain," has been freely used in the compilation of these notes.

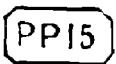
*Old Local Postmarks.*—The early issues will often be found with the postmark "Penny Post" in script letters, in red, blue or black (Type 1). This signifies that a letter meant for the General Post Office, and franked with a Government stamp, was dropped by mistake into one of the local pillar boxes (see "P. & H." for an interesting account of the pre-adhesive stamp period). Other varieties of postmark, which doubtless belong to the same system, may be found. Type 1 is taken from a copy of the 1d. red-brown, which bears in addition the 1844 Obliteration and was used 25th April, 1846. Type 2 is taken from a copy of the 1d. red-brown; and Type 3 from a copy of the 1d. black;—neither showing any other obliteration. Type 1 may be found with the Maltese Cross in addition to the script postmark; and Type 4 with the letters "Py.P." instead of "P.P." as shewn.

*Bidford Penny Post*

Type 1.



Type 2.



Type 3.

## THE MALTESE CROSS OBLITERATION.

The first official notice issued on the subject of Obliterations was dated 25th April, 1840, and was as follows:—"It has been decided that Postage Stamps are to be brought into use forthwith, and as it will be necessary that every such stamp should be cancelled at the Post Office or Sub Post Office where the letter bearing the same may be posted, I herewith forward for your use an obliterating stamp, with which you will efface the postage stamp upon every letter despatched from your Office. RED COMPOSITION must be used for this purpose, and I annex directions for making it, with an impression of the stamp. As these stamps will come into operation by the 6th May, I must desire that you will not fail to provide yourself with the necessary supply of Red Composition by that time.

Directions for preparing the Red Stamping Composition :



Type 4.

1lb. Printers red ink.  
1 pint of linseed oil.  
Half pint of the droppings of sweet oil.  
To be well mixed.

Judging from the number of shades of red which may be found in the early obliterations, these instructions were not strictly adhered to. Type 4 given above, is a facsimile of the "impression of the stamp" mentioned in the official notice. It is said that this "impression" is all that was sent with the notice, and that the failure to send the obliterating stamp itself, thereby causing the postmasters to make their own obliterations from the "impression," is the reason for the many shapes of the Maltese Cross. (Mr. Philbrick is my authority for this statement).

Shortly after the issue of the above notice (about June, 1840, see P. & W., p 58), the obliteration in black was introduced, and together with the obliteration in red ink, was used until February, 1841, when the latter was discontinued. The earliest dated copy I have seen of the obliteration in black was used at Knight Rider Street, 31st August, 1840, and while I have seen many examples used in London during 1840, I have not yet seen the obliteration in black, used out of London, before February 15th, 1841.

The Maltese cross obliteration in black, continued in general use throughout the United Kingdom until May, 1844, when it was superseded by new and distinct types for England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland. Stamps issued much later than 1844 may sometimes be found with the Maltese cross obliteration. I have seen the 1d. red-brown, dies 1 and 2, the 1d. rose-red, and some of the 1d. plate numbers, but I am quite unable to obtain any information as to the circumstances of their use.

The Maltese Cross obliteration varies in size from 17 to 20mm. There are a very large number of varieties of which the principal are :

Type 4 —As illustrated in official notice.

.. 4a—Similar to (4) but measuring 20mm. or over. This variety is rarely met with.

.. 4b—Similar to (4) but with dot in the centre.



Type 4c—Similar to (4) but with circle in the centre.



.. 4d—Similar to (4) but with straight sides.



.. 4e—Smaller and with thicker lines; the arms less deeply indented. I have seen one copy of this variety without the centre diamond.



.. 4f—With very short arms.



.. 4g—With arms very deeply indented.

(To be continued).

# Our Review of Reviews.

## What are Guide Lines and Guide Dots?

PHILATELISTS hear and read a great deal about engravers' guide lines and dots, without getting any very clear notion as to the purpose or utility of the same. A writer in the *Philatelic Californian*, who conceals his identity under the modest *nom de plume* of "W." gives us some insight into this matter. It is when the plate from which the stamps are to be printed is in the preparatory stage that the guide lines and dots are brought into play. The engraver will mark off the plate into the requisite number of spaces by means of fine lines or dots, so placed as to enable him to adjust the various dies with absolute accuracy. In the manufacture of postage stamps to day, there is no need for guide lines or guide dots. Machinery has changed all that. What was once done entirely by hand is now performed by machinery which is all but automatic in its action. It is in connection with United States stamps principally that we have become acquainted with engravers' guide lines and dots, but as the writer under notice points out, many stamps of other countries—notably those of Hamburg, Bremen, and Oldenburg—show traces of the engravers' preliminary marks, traces which are so characteristic, that in many cases they serve the philatelist as a means of distinguishing genuine stamps from forgeries.

## A Paper That Has Come To Stay.

Unless our diagnosis of the *Philatelic Messenger* is an utterly mistaken one, this new American paper is one that has come to stay. As the Governor of North Carolina might have said, it is a long time between issues. For the *Philatelic Messenger* is a quarterly. But in certain circumstances this may be looked upon as an advantage. Much of the space in the number now before us is devoted to the price list and other announcements of its publisher, but when this is put aside there is a very fair residuum of good philatelic reading, including a very creditable article, headed "The First Type of the Stamps of Greece."

## Philatelic "Gains" of 1896.

Under some such headline as this the *Philatelic Record* in its earlier days was wont to tabulate in the early months of each succeeding year the new issues of the preceding twelve-months. The new brooms in the *Record* office have swept away this old costume, but it is one that Mr. Arthur Maury, of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* still keeps up. With his issue dated December, 1896, Mr. Maury circulates a neat and very useful pamphlet of 32 pages, entitled "A Descriptive Catalogue of the Stamps, Envelopes and Postcards issued during 1896." The little catalogue is fully illustrated, and every stamp is priced, most of them in both used and unused states. It is an idea that might well be copied by some go-a-head dealer in this country.

## Is there really a Slump in Prices?

"M," a correspondent of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, ridicules the alleged slump in philatelic prices. Although his contribution contains a vast amount of nonsense concerning "the croaking of certain publishers," it contains also a modicum of sense, as thus:

If anyone wishes to test the state of the market let him send an order for his 'wants' to some of the publishers of our standard Catalogues and note how many he gets. Even in stamps cat. at 10/- or less he will not get in many cases one tenth of his wants. I will give two instances out of thousands. I want a certain var., it was catalogued at 3d. by two catalogues, 4d. by another. I applied to all—offering more than catalogue if they could supply—but I have not got one yet. Another var. is catalogued at 15/- to 50/- in last catalogues it was priced at 5/- to 20/-—but not one was to be supplied—and a dealer is offering £10 a copy for it. This is the state of affairs that some publishers call a 'slump.' We shall have a 'boom' shortly, and if anyone has been foolish enough to be

misled by croakings which are often absolutely untrue, he will sadly regret the step he has taken. The S.S.S.S. is doing good work by pointing out unnecessary issues, and that is quite sufficient. It will be for the good of all if publishers will in future let collectors please themselves a little more. Sit on the speculator and the croaker, and we shall be a happy family.

This issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, by the way, has a thin and woe-begone appearance, the *Review of Reviews*, to mention one instance, being reduced to a mere two pages.

In its review of Part I. of Stanley Gibbons' New Catalogue, our Salisbury contemporary diffidently echoes the general opinion that many of the prices are too high. It adds, very justly, that the Catalogue is a great improvement upon the previous edition. In a paragraph in "The Boys' Column," the lie is repeated, that the offer of sets of Nova Scotia stamps to our publishers at 2/6 per set was made in jest.

## BARGAINS STILL TO BE PICKED UP.

It is an excellent notion of the *P.J.G.B.'s*, that of giving a budget of news from various provincial philatelic centres. In this January issue a Carlisle correspondent contributes the following:

If Collectors will only keep their eyes open what bargains can be picked up in the stamp line! Only recently in this good old Border city, a pair of 7½d. Canada imperf. on the original was found among some old correspondence in a lawyer's office. An enterprising collector made them his own in exchange for a sovereign. A strip of 7 d. blue without lines on entire, 10d. Canada, Pence Nova Scotias, to say nothing of black 1d. and old English by the dozen, all have been picked up here by Collectors from friends who are the happy possessors of old correspondence.

## Forged Stamps of Japan.

In the *Boston Stamp Book*, a sumptuous little paper from the "Centre of Culchaw," Mr. George Maximilian writes interestingly on the subject of "Japan's Counterfeits." It appears (it very much appears) that Mr. Maximilian was at some time or another instrumental in preventing the importation into America of a great number of Flowery Land forgeries. He describes in detail a number of forgeries of the various issues of Japan, but he appears to have nothing to say as to the official recognition which the forgery business receives in the Land of the Chrysanthemum. There, the forging of stamps is not only winked at, but, according to well-accredited rumour, is regulated and controlled by Government officials. But all these, so so speak, official forgeries are marked with small Japanese characters, indicating "forgery" or "imitation." Of this, Mr. Maximilian says nothing, but possibly he is reserving this part of the subject for the second instalment of his article, announced to appear in the February issue of the *Boston Stamp Book*.

## Home-made Stamp Hinges.

"W.S.P.," a writer in the January number of the *Evergreen State Philatelist*, advises collectors to make their own hinges, and for the guidance of his fellow philatelists he describes a successful experiment of his own in this direction:

The paper used (he writes) was typewriter manifold, a tough onion skin, size 8x13, and the gum pure dextrine. Put the gum in a wide-mouthed bottle, put on some hot water and shake until entirely dissolved. If too thick, thin until like mucilage. Tack the paper to a board or to the wall with a thumb tack at each corner, and with a flat camelhair brush, such as is used with a letter press, give the paper a coat of the prepared gum. When dry give another coat, and then let it dry thoroughly. After doing ten or fifteen sheets, take them together, and with a No. 12 or 14 wad-cutter, cut them as closely as possible. The result will be a lot of good hinges circular in form and convenient in size.

This method makes as good hinges as any that you can buy, and far cheaper. From 1500 to 2000 can be made from 5c. worth of paper and 3c. worth of dextrine.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 108).

Mr. HADLON, January 11th, 1897

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	St. Vincent, 1/- vermilion, perf. about 12 *	5 7 6
a	6d. yellow-green *	1 6 0
a	Scinde Dawk, ½a. scarlet, cut round	1 0 0
b	Switzerland, <i>Poste Locale</i> , 2½r. framed cross *	2 5 0
a	Victoria, <i>Emblems</i> , 2d. grey-lilac, no wmk., roulette, pair	1 12 0
a	ditto, a single	0 16 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., January 12th and 13th, 1897.

b	Afghanistan (1291), abasi black	1 10 0
b	Antigua, 2½d brown, CC.	1 1 0
b c	British Columbia, 10c. blue, imperf., pair	4 4 0
b c	British East Africa, 1a. on 2d.	1 4 0
b	½a., in manuscript, on 2a.	2 2 0
c	British Guiana (1862), 2c. yellow, crossed ovals, good but no roulettes	2 3 0
b	96c. drab	1 0 0
a	British South Africa, 1/- yellow (on Cape) *	0 18 0
a	ditto, broken A *	0 18 0
a	£10, fiscally used	1 6 0
b	Canada, 6d. purple, on thin	0 17 0
b c	7½d. green	0 18 0
a	(1868), 1c. red, on laid	1 16 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, <i>Woodblock</i> , 1d. light red	2 12 6
b	ditto, 4d. light blue	1 12 0
a	Congo, <i>first issue</i> , 5f. violet *	0 18 0
a	Fiji, 6d. (12c.) carmine, plain V.R.	1 1 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green *	2 0 0
b c	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CA. *	5 15 0
b	Great Britain, <i>I.R. Official</i> , (1885), 1/- green	1 5 0
a	Hanover, 10gr. green	2 2 0
a	3pf. grey net *	1 16 0
b	India, <i>Service</i> , 2a. black and lilac	1 6 0
a	Naples, 50gr. lake	1 10 0
b	Natal, <i>first issue</i> , 3d. rose	1 1 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC.	1 1 0
a b	4d. rose	1 8 0
a	6d. green, Revenue, St. Christopher, used postally	1 12 0
b c	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue *	3 15 0
a	Russia, 3k., ground of 5k. *	0 16 0
a	3½r. no bolts *	0 16 0
a	7r., ditto *	1 2 0
b	ditto *	0 14 0
a	St. Lucia, (1882), 1/- orange, pair on piece	2 12 6
a	Spain, (1850), 6r. blue	1 7 0
a	(1851), 6r. blue	1 1 0
a	(1854), 6r. blue	0 16 0
b	ditto, 2c. green	1 6 0
a	Switzerland, <i>Genève</i> , 5c. small eagle, two	each 1 4 0
b	Tolima, <i>first issue</i> , 5c. black on blue, pair, worn, pen-mark	1 10 0
b	(1880), 5 pesos, yellow *	1 0 0
a	Turks Island, 2½d. on 1/- plum (type 6) *	1 12 0
a	United States, <i>Periodicals</i> , "Specimen" set	5 0 0
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12	1 1 0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, Jan. 13th and 14th, 1897.

a	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC. *	1 15 0
a	1/- lilac, pair *	£1 6s. od. and 1 10 0
a	Barbados, 1/- black, large star *	1 6 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Barbados, 5/- rose	2 0 0
a	Bremen, 10gr. black, percé *	1 8 0
b c	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue *	1 1 0
a	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso, brown	1 10 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA. *	3 5 0
a	Gambia, 6d. blue, CC., imperf., strip of 5	5 10 0
b	Great Britain, 9d. bistre, plate 4, flowers *	1 8 0
c	another, tiny tear *	1 6 0
b c	Hanover, 10gr. green	0 16 0
b	Madeira, 24or. mauve, straight labels	0 17 0
A	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC., two blocks of 4 *	each 4 8 0
A	4d. blue, CC., block of 4 *	2 18 0
a	ditto, a single *	0 15 0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, cross, on piece	4 4 0
A	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC., block of 4 *	5 5 0
A	2½d. brown, CA., block of 6 *	4 15 0
A	ditto, block of 4 *	3 5 0
a	4d. rose	1 10 0
a	4d. orange, engraved	16/-, 17/- and 0 18 0
a	4d. blue, CA. *	1 8 0
a	6d. grey-lilac *	1 8 0
a	ditto, used	1 0 0
a b	1/- green, perf. 13 *	1 7 0
b	ditto *	1 2 0
a	1/- blue-green *	3 15 0
a b	1/- light green, litho. *	1 3 0
a	1/- lilac, block of 4 *	7 0 0
h	New Brunswick, 3d. red *	2 12 6
a	half 10c. red, on piece	1 0 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 1 0
a	6d. orange	1 14 0
b	ditto	0 18 0
a	6½d. carmine-red *	10 10 0
b	6½d. lake	1 8 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	0 19 0
a	1c 6d. yellow-green, pair, on piece	2 5 0
a b	ditto, a single	1 10 0
b	ditto	£1 1s. od. and 1 4 0
a	6d. dark green, with a 3d., on entire	£2 6s. od. and 2 8 0
b	ditto, alone, on entire	2 4 0
a	8½c. green, two	each 0 11 0
a	half of 10c., on entire	£1 1s. od. and 1 2 0
a	Oldenburg, <i>third issue</i> , 3gr. yellow	1 6 0
a	1c 1c 6d. Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf., two on entire, one cut out and replaced	2 8 0
b c	2d. blue, imperf., pair	3 17 6
b	1/- bright violet, no wmk., ? *	1 1 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown, CA. *	1 18 0
A	ditto, block of 4 *	7 0 0
b	St. Lucia, (4d.) blue *	2 0 0
a	ditto, used	2 0 0
a	(6d.) green	2 4 0
a b	6d. lilac, CA. *	2 6 0
b	1/- orange-brown, penmarked	1 5 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. black, comp., perf. *	0 15 0
b	1d. drab, star *	1 2 0
h	4d. blue, no wmk., pair *	1 6 0
a	4d. bright blue, CA., perf. 12 *	£2 15s. od. and 3 3 0
a	4d. ultramarine, CA., perf. 14 *	3 15 0
b	Switzerland, <i>Basle</i> , 2½r.	3 6 0
a	Tobago, 4d. green, CA. *	1 6 0
a	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ *	1 0 0
c	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey, used, with half 4d. grey, on piece	1 10 0
a	4d. blue, CC. *	1 1 0
b	ditto *	0 17 0
b	United States, (1856), 90c. blue, perf., cut one side	1 11 0
b	ditto, 1c. unbroken oval	0 17 0
a	(1861), 5c. pale brown *	2 0 0
a b	(1869), 90c.	1 15 0
b	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	2 12 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12 *	0 19 0
a	1/- crimson, single line *, two	each 3 10 0
b	1/- crimson, double line	3 7 6
a	1/- crimson, border, entire sheet of twenty *	15 0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, January 19th and 20th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	<b>Afghanistan</b> , (1868), violet, cut round * ..	3 15 0
b c	(1870-71), dotted circle, sunar black * ..	1 0 0
a	ditto, ditto, pair, sunar and abasi black * ..	2 14 0
b	ditto, ditto, abasi black * ..	0 16 0
a	ditto, plain circle, abasi black, strip of 5 * ..	4 5 0
a	(1871-2), 6 shahi purple * ..	6 5 0
a	ditto, ditto, pale shade * ..	4 5 0
a	ditto, ditto, used, piece out ..	4 0 0
a	ditto, rupee, purple * ..	6 15 0
a	ditto, ditto, pale shade * ..	4 4 0
a	ditto, ditto, used, cut square ..	4 5 0
a	(1873-4), abasi black * ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, rupee black * ..	1 0 0
a	(1874-5), sunar black * ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, abasi black * ..	£1 12s. od. and 1 14 0
a	tablet, sunar black * ..	£4 os. od. and 4 5 0
a	ditto, abasi black * ..	4 15 0
a	ditto, vert. strip of 3, one rejoined, one half-rupee, two rupee, purple ..	11 10 0
A	<b>Barbados</b> , 4d. red, no wmk., block of 4 * ..	5 5 0
a	5/- olive ..	1 4 0
A	<b>Belgium</b> , 5f. red-brown ..	1 8 0
b	<b>Brazil</b> , sloping figures, 18or. on greyish * ..	4 0 0
A	<b>British Guiana</b> , (1851), 1c. magenta ..	5 5 0
b	ditto, 4c. blue ..	5 15 0
a	(1856), 4c. magenta, 29 x 37 mm. ..	2 0 0
a	(1860), 1c. pink, pair * ..	7 0 0
b	ditto, ditto a single * ..	2 2 0
a	<b>Buenos Ayres</b> , 1 peso, brown * ..	3 3 0
b	2 pesos, blue * ..	2 18 0
b	3 pesos green * ..	5 12 6
c	5 pesos orange, fair but thin * ..	11 10 0
b	4 reales brown * ..	2 12 6
a b	<b>Canada</b> , 3d. red * ..	1 12 0
b c	<b>Ceylon</b> , 1/9 green * ..	1 19 0
a	<b>Gambia</b> , 6d. blue, imperf., CC. * ..	£1 2s. od. and 1 3 0
a	<b>Grenada</b> , 1/4d. violet, OSTAGE * ..	0 15 0
b	<b>India</b> , first issue, 2a. green * ..	1 0 0
b	(1856), 2a. green * ..	1 12 0
a	Service, 6a. 8p. slate * ..	3 7 6
a b	<b>Jamaica</b> , 1/- brown, imperf., pine apple * ..	0 16 0
a	<b>Japan</b> (1872), 10sen. pale green, on thin laid * ..	1 12 0
a	<b>Labuan</b> , EIGHT CENTS ON 12c. carmine * ..	1 6 0
b	<b>Levant</b> , 6kop. blue * ..	0 19 0
a	<b>Luxemburg</b> , first issue, 18gr. rose * ..	1 4 0
b	ditto ditto * ..	0 18 0
a	<b>Madeira</b> (1871), 24or. violet * ..	1 10 0
a b	<b>Mexico</b> , Eagle, 3c. brown * ..	4 5 0
b	ditto, 1/2r. brown * ..	1 16 0
b	<b>Montserrat</b> , 4d. blue, CA. ..	3 3 0
a	<b>Naples</b> , 20g. pale lake, pair * ..	2 2 0
a	<b>Nevis</b> , 4d. orange, litho. ..	1 3 0
a	4d. blue, CA. * ..	1 7 0
a	6d. grey-lilac ..	1 0 0
a b	1/- green on bleuté ..	1 8 0
b	<b>New Brunswick</b> , 6d. yellow ..	1 15 0
b	<b>Newfoundland</b> , 4d. orange * ..	1 10 0
b	6d. orange * ..	5 5 0
A	8d. carmine-red * ..	0 18 0
a	ditto * ..	0 15 0
a b	1/- orange ..	12 15 0
1a 1c	<b>New South Wales</b> , Sydney, 1d., plate 2, on laid, pair ..	1 19 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single, on yellowish ..	1 1 0
a	ditto, ditto, on bluish ..	1 0 0
c	ditto, 2d., plate 2, early and fine, but pinhole ..	1 7 0
a	ditto, ditto, late ..	16/- and 0 18 0
a b	ditto, 2d., plate 3 ..	14/- and 0 15 0
b	ditto, ditto, on laid ..	0 18 0
a	ditto, 3d. emerald on bluish, pair ..	4 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single ..	1 6 0
a	(1880) 5/- violet * ..	1 0 0
a	<b>New Zealand</b> , 1d. red on blue ..	1 1 0
a b	<b>Nova Scotia</b> , 1d. red-brown * ..	1 12 0
a b	6d. yellow-green * ..	4 10 0
b	1/- violet ..	15 0 0
b c	<b>Pacific Steam Navigation Co.</b> , 2r. blue, on laid * ..	1 12 0
b	<b>Philippines</b> (1863), 1r. violet * ..	1 18 0
b	ditto, 2r. blue * ..	2 0 0
b	<b>St. Lucia</b> , (4d.) blue, star * ..	1 19 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
b	<b>St. Vincent</b> , 1/4d. on half 6d. yellow-green * ..	1 1 0
A	1d. rose, imperf. no wmk., pair * ..	9 0 0
a b	1d. on 6d. yellow-green * ..	3 5 0
a	6d. blue-green, no wmk., perf. about 12, block of 10 * ..	8 5 0
b	6d. blue-green, ditto, perf. about 15 * ..	1 4 0
a	1/- indigo, no wmk * ..	2 5 0
a	1/- slate, perf. about 15 * ..	2 0 0
b c	<b>Shanghai</b> , 1 cand. rose, gum stained * ..	2 0 0
a	<b>South Australia</b> , 2d. carmine, imperf. * ..	1 1 0
a	<b>Turks Islands</b> , 1/4d. on 4d. grey * ..	3 17 6
a	2 1/2d. on 6d. block type, 4 * ..	1 8 0
a	4d. blue. CC. * ..	1 1 0
a	<b>United States</b> , (1856), 30c. orange * ..	0 16 0
a	ditto 90c. blue * ..	3 17 6
b	(1868), 24c. grey-lilac, grill * ..	1 1 0
b	(1869), 24c. * ..	1 16 0
a b	ditto, 90c. * ..	2 0 0
a	(1869-1875 re-issue), 90c. * ..	5 5 0
a	(1870), 6c., grill * ..	1 0 0
b	ditto 7c. ditto * ..	0 16 0
a b	ditto 15c. ditto * ..	1 10 0
a b	ditto 24c. no grill * ..	0 16 0
b	ditto 24c. ditto * ..	0 17 0
a	<b>Columbus</b> , set * ..	3 12 6
a	<b>Agriculture</b> , 12c. * ..	1 7 0
a	<b>Executive</b> , 1c. * ..	1 5 0
A	ditto, 2c. * ..	1 4 0
a	ditto, 3c. * ..	1 5 0
a	ditto, 6c. * ..	2 7 0
a	ditto, 10c. * ..	1 12 0
a	<b>Justice</b> , 24c. * ..	2 6 0
a	ditto, 30c. * ..	4 10 0
A	ditto, 90c. * ..	9 0 0
a	<b>Navy</b> , 7c. * ..	1 14 0
a	ditto, 90c. * ..	1 12 0
a	<b>State</b> , 90c. * ..	1 12 0
a	ditto, 2 dollars * ..	2 17 0
u	ditto, 20 dollars * ..	7 15 0
u	<b>Periodicals</b> , 9c. * ..	1 16 0
a	ditto, 6 dollars * ..	0 19 0
A	ditto, 24 dollars * ..	2 5 0
A	ditto, 36 dollars * ..	3 0 0
A	ditto, 48 dollars * ..	2 14 0
a	ditto, 60 dollars * ..	3 16 0
u	<b>Virgin Islands</b> , 6d. rose, imperf., no wmk, pair * ..	1 15 0

Mr. HADLOW, January 25th, 1897

a	<b>Argentine</b> , 8c. on 10c. green, double surcharge ..	0 16 0
a	<b>Canada</b> , 6d. violet-black on laid ..	0 18 0
b	7 1/2d. green ..	1 8 0
a	10d. blue, on thin ..	16s. and 0 19 0
a	10d. blue, on medium ..	1 2 0
1a 1c	<b>Ceylon</b> , 10d. orange, imperf. pair ..	1 18 0
1a 2c	1/- lilac, imperf., strip of 3 ..	1 18 0
a b	2/- blue, imperf. ..	4 3 0
a	<b>Great Britain</b> , 1/4d. rose, plate 1, imperf. pair ..	1 14 0
a	1d. orange, large crown, perf. 14, pair * ..	2 6 0
a	1d. red-brown on bluish, small crown, perf. 14, die 2, pair * ..	2 4 0
a b	1d. carmine, plate 191, imperf., vert. pair ..	2 8 0
a	3d., plate 4, no wmk., imperf. * ..	1 0 0
a	6d. pale mauve, plate 6, spray * ..	1 12 0
a	9d. bistre, plate 4, flowers * ..	1 0 0
a	2/6 on bluish * ..	1 10 0
b	5/- rose, plate 1 * ..	1 1 0

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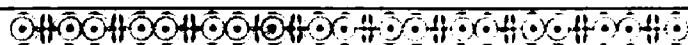
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THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**  
PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")  
No. 63—No. 11—Vol. III. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1897. ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Roohdale Philatello Society.  
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### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The ninth Meeting of the Season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C., on Monday, February 8th, the following Members being present: C. Forbes, H. Hilckes, J. E. Joselin, F. B. Carr, D. T. Nops, T. H. Thompson, H. Thompson, H. W. Plumridge, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atharley, J. C. Warden, Jr., H. A. MacMillan, J. B. Neyroud, D. Thomson, E. W. Hounsom, F. Vandembroucq, L. Bruce, and one visitor, when our Fifteenth Auction Sale was held.

The following gentlemen were duly elected as members: L. Rothbarth (London), G. Gilbert (London).

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

**Feb. 22nd.**—Display, "The Stamps of Peru," by T. W. Hall, Esq.

**Mar. 8th.**—Paper, H. Hilckes, Esq., "English Postmarks."

**Mar. 22nd.**—Third Magic Lantern Display.

**April 8th.**—Sixteenth Auction Sale.

The Secretary would like to point out that he will be pleased to send, on receipt of request, to the friends of members or other gentlemen interested in philately, tickets for the **MAGIC LANTERN DISPLAY** but an early application for the same will oblige.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

At the forthcoming **London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals** will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, Monthly Offers and The Advertiser.*

From Italy: *L'Etoile Philatelique.*  
From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie, Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt, and Briefmarken Börse.*

From United States: *The International Philatelist, The Philatelic Monthly, The Columbian Philatelist, The Weekly Stamp News, The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society, Filatelic Facts and Fancies.*

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico.*

### STOLEN PACKET.

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson realised at their sale Feb. 16th and 17th about £40, for stamps recovered. Accounts will be rendered to owners in due course.

### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

### PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The ninth ordinary Meeting of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, January 27th. The President (Captain G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E.) in the chair, supported by seven Members.

Mr. A. W. Shield, Plymouth, was elected a Member.

The subject for study, "The Stamps of Great Britain," was introduced by Mr. Mayne, being a continuation of his remarks from last Meeting. He dealt with the 6d. and 1/- values, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of specimens from his collection, pointing out the different wmk.s., plate numbers and shades of colour. An interesting discussion followed, and the President exhibited his collection of the stamps under notice for the information of Members.—W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*, 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

Jan. 21. The following were unanimously elected members: Messrs. G. F. Hughes (Transvaal), F. C. Krichauff (South Australia), J. Debray (Belgium), E. Lintelo (Belgium), A. Mattana (Gibraltar).

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner (London), then exhibited his collection of the stamps of South Australia which was extremely interesting and instructive to the members present.

Feb. 4th. Lieut. Col. A. Ely (Devonport), and R. W. M. Corbet Esq. (Oswestry), were elected members.

Then followed the display of the stamps of Trinidad.

The packets for January totalled £3,360 9s. 5½d. and included some very fine selections from some of the Foreign and Colonial members.

### MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The 8th meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel, on January 22nd, the President in the chair, supported by eleven members. The resignation of Mr. T. L. Marsden was accepted with regret. Mr. E. W. Bramwell (Chorlton-cum-Hardy), was elected a corresponding member.

The Hon. Sec. read the continuation of his paper upon the stamps of Norway. He pointed out the means by which the printings might be distinguished in the 1877 and later issues, and gave an account of the modes of printing adopted in Norway for the later issues. Mr. Harrison received a hearty vote of thanks upon the conclusion of the papers.

The 9th meeting took place at the Grand Hotel, on February 5th, the President being supported by ten members. Although regretting the unavoidable absence of Mr. J. H. Abbott, the committee had arranged that the evening should not be unprofitably spent, to attain this the following gentlemen volunteered to give short papers and invited discussions thereon.

The Hon. Sec. read a short article on the stamps of Iceland.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. Duerst) followed, with concise notes and useful information on the issues of Romagna.

Mr. Petri gave a detailed account of the cancellations upon the Modena stamps, illustrating his paper, with facsimile drawings, and the President (Mr. W. Dorning Beckton) took for his subject, the articles appearing in certain Philatelic papers on the stamps of the United States, giving a very instructive, if severe, criticism upon them.

Before the close of a most enjoyable evening, it was announced that Mr. Duerst had accepted the Editorship of the "Philatelic Journal" whereupon he received the hearty congratulations and best wishes of all.

### THE COLLECTORS' CLUB.

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The sixth Meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club house, on January 11th. President Herrick in the chair.

Minutes of the last Meeting read and approved.

The Secretary was instructed to thank the London Philatelic Society for their kind donation of books for the Club Library.

The Secretary read letters from Mr. E. Stanley Gibbons and from the Secretary of the Archaeologic and Numismatic Society, thanking the Club for courtesies rendered.

The Secretary was directed to acknowledge with thanks, a catalogue received from Mr. H. L'Estrange Ewen, London, and a file of the **STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY**, from Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., London.

The thanks of the Club were likewise extended to Mr. Chas. DeWitt Drew and Dr. Paul Allen for gifts of unframed engravings, etc.

Upon ballot the following candidates for Membership were unanimously elected:

H. B. Wesselman, 150, Broadway; N. M. Kaufmann, Marquette, Mich.; Chas. Steigerwalt, Lancaster, Pa.; C. A. Needham, Hamilton, Ontario.

Subscribing Members previously elected:

C. P. Krauth, Pittsburg, Pa.; Joseph Holmes; Robt. S. Lehman; William Alexander Smith, Junr.; J. B. Chittenden; Angel M. Trujillo; Robt. L. Courson; Fred. V. Green; Dr. Jas. H. Stebbins, Junr.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

(Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.)

**ELGRAVIA** Exchange Club.—Genuine Collectors wanted. Particulars **MAYHEW**, Brewer Street, Gravina, S.W. [1]

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**INTERNATIONAL** Philatelist, Best American paper at price 1/-.—**HERBERT C. BEARDSLEY**, St. Joseph, Mo., U.S.A. [2]

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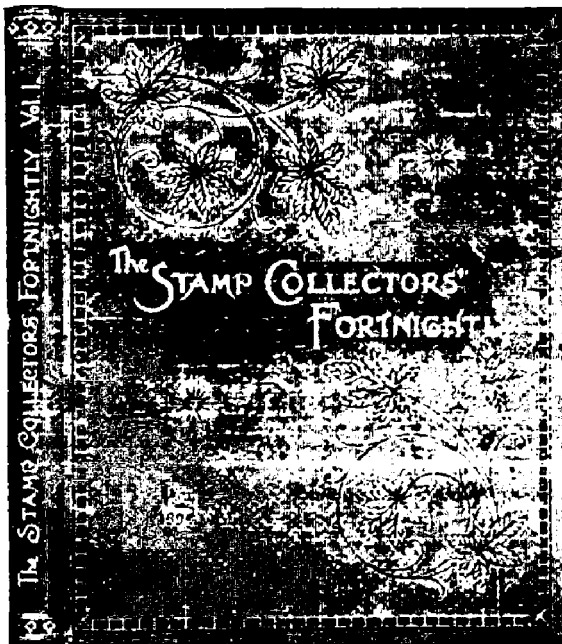
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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

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Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society.

No. 63.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### MR. E. D. BACON AND THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

PHILATELISTS will have read with much satisfaction the Press announcement that the Treasury has consented to the insertion of a sum of money in the Estimates of the British Museum, for the completion of the work of arranging the Taping collection. Mr. Taping left a certain sum to be expended in mounting and arranging the collection so as to make it available for reference, but all this money has been used, and there is still a great deal to be done before the work can be said to be accomplished. Mr. E. D. Bacon, who has been entrusted by the Trustees with the duty of placing the specimens in order, calculates that it will still take over two years before his work in this respect is completed. The collection fills three large wooden cases, deposited in an immense iron safe, and its present market value is estimated at not less than £80,000.

### A WRINKLE FOR PUSHING STAMP DEALERS.

MR. E. T. PARKER, of Bethlehem, Pa., U.S.A., is working an idea that might well be adopted by energetic dealers in other countries. The idea takes the form of a "Want List" for the stamps of a particular country—in Mr. Parker's case it is the U.S.A. Revenue Stamps.

### CLOSED FOR ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS.

SAYS *Truth*. "A letter in a local paper asserts that it was the other day impossible to obtain a postal order at Staverton office in Devonshire, because the office stamp had gone to be

repaired, and the nearest available office where an order could be obtained was three miles off, at Totnes. The writer adds that this is the second time within a short period that the same thing has occurred. What a state of things in a Department making millions of profit per annum! Is this the usual course of things? Are no village offices provided with a duplicate instrument to meet the event of the office stamp getting out of repair?"

### BLACK SHEEP IN THE PHILATELIC FOLD.

We have been favoured with a copy of the "Black List," published by Mr. J. Schafer, Turn-Magurelle, Roumania. As its name implies, this book contains the names and addresses of all those shady characters who have proved in the past to be most undesirable people to know. Naturally such a list is bound to show a few mistakes, but considering the magnitude of the work, the errors are very few indeed, and most of the names contained in the list are known to us as those of very "doubtful" persons. Not only are these shady customers listed, but in many instances a short resumé is given of each "black sheep's" personal record. In addition to all this there is a very exhaustive list of all the German Societies, and of a large number of foreign ones; but, as regards the latter, we think the author might have been more exhaustive. The book concludes with a list of all those experts who are willing to examine stamps—a list which, in itself, is most valuable. Altogether the book is very useful and well worth the 1s. 3d. charged.

### ARE WE TO HAVE A SPECIAL "HOSPITAL" STAMP.

The *Daily Mail*, for some time past, has been vigorously agitating for the issue of a special postage stamp, in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. A representative of that newspaper called at the G.P.O. the other day, and was informed by the Duke of Norfolk's private secretary that the question was "under consideration."

It was, however, pointed out that the cost of such a stamp would necessarily be considerable.

Sir Savile Crossley, one of the hon. secretaries of the Prince of Wales's Fund, expressed the opinion that the Post Office could do a great deal towards forwarding the objects of the fund, and that the suggested Hospital Stamp would be an excellent medium for raising money, as it would be something more than a mere receipt for money paid.

Other officials who were seen expressed a most favourable opinion of the suggested co-operation of the G.P.O. by the issue of a special stamp. One gentleman said that the Postmaster General wanted waking up.

"What is really the root of the whole matter is this. The Duke of Norfolk, although he is on the committee of the Prince of Wales's Fund, is afraid to take any decisive step, and he wraps himself in what he perhaps deems an impene-trable armour of red tape. The post offices of the United Kingdom would offer exceptional facilities to those who wished to contribute. Why shouldn't that department throw in their weight in aid of the cause? Of course they say it would create a precedent! But that is a fair example of the way they try to evade their duty.

"That most conservative of public institutions the Bank of England has done everything in its power to help. Rooms have been provided in the bank building, and the printing and clerical staff are practically at the disposal of the committee. It is certainly time the G.P.O. woke up; if they don't soon, Ascension Day will arrive and they will still be considering the matter

"They talk about the cost of anything they might do by means of which the public could pay their subscription into the post offices. Well, I think the Treasury would not hesitate to make a grant to defray any such costs. It is a national cause, and one unprecedented in this country's history; and I think you will find that public opinion will make that apparently decrepit and fossilized institution the G.P.O. awaken to the fact that it, too, will have to show the same loyalty as the other Governments departments."

#### SOME STAMPS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

A good friend and constant reader of the FORTNIGHTLY, Mr. S. W. Herbert, of Knightsbridge, South Australia, in the course of a letter received in November last, writes:



"About five years ago our Government called for designs for new 2d. and 5d. stamps. I tried, but was not successful. I had my efforts lithographed, and now send you five of the designs I submitted."

The above reproductions give but a poor idea of Mr. Herbert's designs. It will be understood readily enough that after making "process" blocks by photographing from somewhat rough lithographic prints our friend sent us very little of the delicacy and finish of the original design remain.

It will not perhaps be overwhelming Mr. Herbert with extravagance of praise if we venture to say that his designs are equal to many that have been adopted and used by Australasian Governments.

#### LIMELIGHT ON PHILATELY AT ESSEX

Duly armed with a ticket (writes a FORTNIGHTLY representative) I wended my way to Essex Hall to see the "Limelight Exhibition," organized by the International Philatelic Union. The meeting commenced at seven o'clock, but as there was a counter attraction in the shape of a Stamp Auction by Messrs. Cheveley & Co., Part I. of an interesting programme was nearly dealt with ere I managed to put in an appearance. I however arrived in time for the refreshments, which was an

undoubted blessing. I daresay the readers of the "S. C. F." will remember that a short time back the City of London Philatelic Club held a very successful meeting, when many interesting varieties and forgeries of stamps were shown.

At the meeting in question, the actual stamp was mounted on a piece of cardboard, inserted at the back of the machine (I call it a machine as I do not remember its technical cog-nomen) and reflected directly on to the sheet.

At the I. P. U. meeting photographs of the stamps were thrown on the sheet. Needless to say that by the former process the varieties, &c., appear much more distinctly on the screen, although I am much inclined to think that the intense heat to which the stamps are subjected whilst in the lantern is anything but beneficial to them.

Mr. Oldfield was to have taken the chair, but owing to his unavoidable absence, Dr. Marx reigned in his stead.

Mr. Ridpath skillfully manipulated the machine itself, and Messrs. E. D. Bacon, J. A. Tilleard, E. J. Nankivell and R. Ehrenbach took turns in describing the peculiarities of the various stamps shown.

It was rather a pity that the lecturers had not made themselves thoroughly conversant with the working of the slides before the actual exhibition. As it was, they seemed overwhelmed by seeing the stamps which they had examined in miniature, as it were, suddenly magnified to hundreds of times their usual size. This little idiosyncrasy was especially noticeable in Mr. Ehrenbach, who, when suddenly confronted by a genuine and forged specimen of the Monte Video 240c., was evidently somewhat exercised in his mind as to which was the genuine and which was the forged stamp. Mr. Ehrenbach at first endeavoured to conceal his confusion by describing the stamps in such an indefinite way that his audience could please themselves as to which was right and which was wrong. At last, however, a bold member cut off the lecturer's moral retreat by loudly asking which was the genuine stamp? Mr. Ehrenbach was for the moment floored, but quickly recovering his presence of mind, pointed to one of the stamps in the futile hope that no more inquisitive questions would be asked.

Once more he was doomed to disappointment, and a friendly controversy was commenced by Mr. Ridpath, who to prove that he was correct, triumphantly produced the slide labelled "forgery."

At the conclusion of the meeting hearty votes of thanks were passed to the various gentlemen who had assisted in carrying out a most interesting programme.

[The above report, written for our last number, was unfortunately crowded out. Eds. S.C.F.]

#### THE MASTER IN LUNACY SELLS SOME STAMPS.

Many people have pronounced the mania for stamp collecting to be a craze, and some few have been inclined to look upon it as a symptom of insanity. The latter would probably be gratified (says a writer in one of the weeklies) to see a sale of stamps at Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's the other day announced as "by order of the Master in Lunacy." If, however, the collecting of stamps may be considered to be an evidence of weak intellect it would appear the collectors have some method in their madness, for the sale above alluded to realised as much as 1,160l.

#### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO NEVER STAMP LETTERS.

It is a singular fact that the letters addressed by the Sikh police in Singapore to their kindred in India and those that they receive in return are almost invariably minus any postage stamps. One of their European officers noticing this asked one of the men the reason for this universal omission, and it was explained that the native postman's ideas of honor concerning the delivery of native letters are restricted to towns. Should the epistle be addressed to a man in a village some miles from the office, the postman duly takes the letter and starts off, but after going a little way slips into the nearest patch of jungle and throws it away thus saving himself any further trouble in the matter. If the letter, however, is unstamped the unhappy postman must deliver it at its destination, as he is bound to produce on his return a receipt for the fine imposed for the omitted stamps.

## A Stamp Cleaner's Confession.

THOMAS WEBB, OF MELBOURNE, ARRESTED FOR FRAUDULENTLY CLEANING VICTORIAN STAMPS.

[From the Melbourne *Australasian*, of January 9th.]

THE Melbourne police have discovered that for some time past a big business has been done in obliterating the marks from revenue stamps, so as to render them available for second use. They got the hint from the Philatelic Society, which fancied that the number of rare and unused stamps on the market was suspiciously large. A stamp collector named Mouldon sold a quantity of stamps to a member of the Philatelic Society. These were found to be stamps which had been submitted to a process, and cleaned after cancellation. The stamps were returned to Mouldon, who is blind, and he in turn sent them back to the man from whom he had purchased them—Thomas Webb, a stamp dealer and printer, of the Eastern Arcade. In the meantime Webb had sent to the Post Office for exchange one £10 and one £2 duty stamp, both of which were apparently unused. Knowing that some peculiar fraud was being worked in the stamp business, the officer in charge did not immediately exchange the stamps, but told off Detective White, of the Post Office, to interview Webb. The interview took place, but White could get nothing from Webb which was important to the investigation, and it was apparently dropped. The two stamps and a number of others of smaller value were submitted for analysis to Mr. C. R. Blackett, who found that nearly all of them had been tampered with. Acid had been used to cleanse from them the ink stains, and so thoroughly had the cleansing been done that the difference could not be detected, even with the aid of a strong glass. The application of acids in the laboratory alone sufficed to show traces of the obliterated ink.

Detective Macmananny who was then given charge of the case, interviewed Webb as a would-be buyer. He bought 16/- worth, and for the sake of evidence got a receipt, which read:—"Received 16/11 for 11 unused Victorian obsolete stamps, and one New South Wales stamp.—T. Webb." All of these stamps were submitted to Mr. Blackett for analysis, and nine out of the eleven were found to have been cleansed by acid after having been used.

Macmananny paid another visit to Webb, taking with him marked money, so that there should be no loop-hole of escape for the stamp vendor. Four more stamps—treated with acid—were purchased for 15/-, and each of the coins paid to make up the amount was marked peculiarly under the eye of the Queen—the detective facetiously observing, as he subsequently drew attention to this fact, that many things were done under the eye of the Queen without the fact being patent at the time. The case was now complete, and Macmananny secured warrants for the arrest of Webb and for the searching of his premises, and armed with these summarily wound up the investigation last evening. Detective-sergeant Ward and Detective McWilliams were in Macmananny's company at the time, and Webb was not a little astonished when he learned the reason of Macmananny's sudden devotion to philately, and his lavish expenditure of money for obsolete stamps. At first he denied the charge laid against him, but when the marked money was turned out of his pockets, and he was informed of the chemical experiments which had been made with his stamps, he owned up, and made the following confession:—

### THE CONFESSION.

In his confession, Thomas Webb states: "I am a printer and stamp dealer, carrying on business at 18, Eastern Arcade, off Bourke Street, Melbourne. I remember seeing in a book I was reading how inkmarks could be erased from stamps. I tried to see how it would act, and I found in certain cases it was impossible with the naked eye to notice any difference between the cancelled stamps so treated and the unused stamps. Finding it so successful the idea came to my mind that I would treat cancelled stamps as above

stated, and sell them over the counter as 'unused' to collectors.

"About July, 1896, I sold to a stamp collector named Mouldon, who is a blind man, about £20 worth of Victorian unused and used stamps. The latter went through the solution. I got their face value, less 10 per cent. Some time after selling Mouldon the stamps he called on me and stated that he had been informed that some of the stamps had been cancelled and afterwards cleaned. I did not wish to get into any trouble, and therefore paid Mouldon for the stamps.

"I also remember that, about the month of July last year, I sold to the distributor of stamps at the G.P. Office, Melbourne, about £3 10/- worth of 'used' stamps treated by me in the solution, and sold by me at face value, less 5 per cent. I also remember in October, 1896, forwarding to the controller of stamps, G.P. Office, Melbourne, two stamps, namely, £10 and £2, for exchange with other stamps. The £10 stamp was cancelled, and I cleaned it by putting it in the solution. I also remember Detective White, of the Post-office, calling on me regarding Mouldon's stamps. He told me that stamps had been sold to the Post-office that had been cleaned. I remember Detective Macmananny calling on me on four different occasions, and on three he purchased stamps. Some of the stamps I sold him as 'unused' were cleaned by me.

"I would like to state that I have tried stamps of other colonies by placing them in solution, and I found that the colour of the stamp would run, and thereby spoil the design of the stamp, but on the other hand I had no difficulty with the Victorian stamps. In my opinion there are several collectors of stamps in Melbourne to-day who clean cancelled stamps and take or send them to various post-offices and get them post-marked. The stamps are thus increased in value to collectors. I myself have had them post-marked.

"I admit that the 28 stamps found on me at the time of my arrest by Macmananny have all been cleaned. I intended them for post-marking. I will add that I have cleaned about 400 stamps altogether. Some of them I have destroyed, others I have sold, and I have also sent a number to different parts of the world.

(Signed) THOMAS WEBB.

"Witness, P. Macmananny."

### WEBB'S STOCK-IN-TRADE.

After placing Webb under arrest, the detective searched his shop, and impounded all the stamps found in it. Then they went to his residence at Palmero Street, South Yarra, and there found a great many more. Some were placed in books ready for sale, while others were soaking in the solution of acid, in preparation "for sale or exchange." Altogether, the face value of the stamps found could not be less than £500. Webb followed up his confession by the statement that he intended to plead guilty, and then added a few words of advice, which the Government will probably act upon. He said—"The Victorian stamps are the easiest in the world to manipulate, except the Transvaal stamps. Between these two there is not much to choose. Either of them can be cleansed of ink marks by the roughest and readiest means, and the process, if carefully carried out, can scarcely be detected, even by the analyst. The stamps of other colonies do not so easily lend themselves to manipulation. When put in acids their colours run, and the designs are spoiled. The Victorian colours do not run, and the acid makes no visible impression upon the stamp itself. If the Government wants to stop this manipulation of its stamps it will have to print them with different ink—Fugitive ink would be good."

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



TO warn constant readers of the FORTNIGHTLY against the insecurity of the registered letter system of the British Post Office seems almost a work of supererogation, considering the amount of space we devoted to the subject at the time of the City of London Philatelic Club's

loss of a valuable exchange packet. Nevertheless, we gladly print the following communication from Mr. James N. Frith:

The accompanying correspondence may serve to warn philatelists (collectors and dealers alike), who send their stamps through the post in other than the official registration envelopes, of the risk they run in so doing.

Postage stamps enclosed in private envelopes may be registered, and, if it affords any satisfaction to the sender, may be insured also, but no compensation will be paid by the postal authorities for loss or damage.

While on this subject it is interesting to compare the insurance rates for stamps charged by the post office and the railway companies respectively, as under:

#### Post Office.

2d. for the first £5 and 1d. for each additional £5. No compensation beyond £50. No legal liability.

#### Railway Companies.

(For Great Britain only) 3d. for every £25 up to £500—above £500 by special arrangement.

The correspondence referred to by Mr. Frith consists of the following "question" and "answer," the answer being, naturally, of the evasive and unsatisfactory character usually cultivated by Government officials:

[COPY].

To the Secretary of the General Post Office.

*Compensation for loss or damage of an Inland Postal Packet on which a Registration fee has been paid.*

SIR,—

I despatch parcels of rare foreign stamps from time to time by registered letter post, using as a matter of convenience unstamped envelopes of private manufacture. These are accepted without demur at the post office, whether the letters are simply "Registered," or when an additional "Insurance" fee is paid.

I observe regulation IV. on the back of the "certificate of posting of a Registered Postal Packet," state that "no compensation will be paid in respect of any Registered Postal Packet containing money unless such money be enclosed in one of the official Registered Letter Envelopes sold at any post office . . . . The term money includes . . . stamps."

This announcement is clear and precise, but surely where the letter is insured and the envelope is equal in quality of material and construction to the official ones, and such envelopes I refer to, compensation would be paid?

If I am mistaken in this view may I respectfully suggest that the rule in question should be relaxed, or on the other hand that envelopes containing stamps and declared or marked as such be refused for Registration or Insurance in other than the official envelopes as at present it is only after paying the fees and receiving a receipt that one finds that the contract made is void through an informality.

The matter is one of interest to a considerable section of the public, and I propose to publish your reply presuming that you have no objection to that course being adopted.

I am, etc.,

JAS. N. FRITH.

Chester, January 13th, 1897.

[COPY].

General Post Office, London,

Registered No. 23636/97.

SIR,

9th February, 1897.

I am directed by the Postmaster-General to refer to your letter of the 13th ultimo, and, in expressing regret that some accidental delay should have occurred in answering your questions, to inform you that the interpretation which you put upon the regulation quoted is correct, viz.: that under the conditions published in the Post Office Guide, the Postmaster-General is precluded from entertaining any claim for compensation in respect of the loss of a registered letter or

its contents, where such contents consist of postage stamps, and have not been enclosed in one of the registered letter envelopes sold by the post office.

This regulation was framed after most careful consideration, and in what was considered to be in the interests of the public and of the post office; and, as you will, it is felt sure, understand, it would be impossible to concede exceptions such as those which you suggest without practically making the rule a dead letter.

As regards your alternative suggestion that envelopes containing stamps and declared or marked as containing such, should be refused on presentation at a post office for Registration or Insurance in other than official envelopes, I am to state that the Postmaster-General has no power to prohibit the registration of stamps in private envelopes.

It may be also suggested to you whether it is wise to indicate on the outside of an envelope the nature of enclosures which, as you point out yourself, are of exceptional value.

I am, etc.,

LEWIN HILL.

At first glance this official reply seems to settle the matter; but there is one little point that obtrudes itself upon us and will not be denied. The point is this: Did the postal authorities, in framing the regulation in question intend the words "postage stamps" to be interpreted in their ordinary sense?—or in their philatelic sense?—or in both? Ordinarily, when one speaks of "postage stamps" there is no implied reference to philately; and as a matter of cold fact the majority of stamps that would pass from one philatelist to another through the post are bits of paper, that, strictly speaking, have no intrinsic value, outside of Philately. It is our opinion that the regulation, when originally framed, was not intended to apply to "postage stamps for collections," and we suggest to our friend Mr. Frith, the expediency, now that he has "got his hand in" in the matter of putting posers to Government officials, of presenting this view of the subject to the modern Circumlocution Office in St. Martin's-le-Grand. If he acts upon this suggestion promptly, it may be possible to give the official reply some time before the beginning of the next philatelic season.

\* \* \*

W. H., of Wellington, Salop, would adopt a short way with all catalogue makers. He would appoint a Committee of "real and earnest collectors," selected from the membership of the London Philatelic Society and set them to work on the compilation of a catalogue which should be "taken by collectors one and all as the standard they would abide by either for buying or selling."

This suggestion is one of our oldest friends. We are constantly coming across it, and without the slightest desire to discourage our Shropshire friend, we must confess that it begins to tire us. The idea is unfortunately impracticable; we wish most heartily that it were not. Let us tabulate a few of the arguments against it:

(1). Although it would not be impossible to select a Committee of Philatelists competent to do the work, it would be a matter of sheer idioecy to expect them to agree as to one half of the prices to be fixed.

(2). The Committee of Philatelists, however well informed, could not be expected to possess that knowledge of the actual conditions of the stamp market which only a dealer of long and varied experience can command.

And (3). It would be no easy matter to induce the whole philatelic community to accept the catalogue, when issued, as "the standard of prices for both buying and selling."

You see one Philatelist will think very highly of a stamp which his neighbour regards as worth little or nothing. And it is not unnatural to suppose that a member of the suggested Committee "interested" in a certain country would want that country boomed. It is a wicked world.

\* \* \*

There is tidings of comfort and joy from the Transvaal. *South Africa*, a journal which seems to be at great pains to show that President Kruger is not addicted to the "gunpap" habit, assures us that "henceforth, the designs" of the stamps of the South African Republic "will remain stationary."

(Concluded on page 127).

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

## → SECOND ARTICLE. ←

(NB.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

Type 4h—With deeply indented arms, and with a number in the centre in place of the diamond.



The numbers used run from 1 to 12 inclusive. Notwithstanding Mr. Ewen's assertion to the contrary, all are known with a small cross at the top of the obliteration, the No. 3 is usually found without this, but I have seen three copies used in February, 1844. This variety was used in the

London Chief Office together with the ordinary variety (type 4), from May, 1843 to 1844.

The Maltese Cross obliteration may be found in shades of red, in black and blue-black, in light and dark blue, in green and in violet. I have seen several instances where both the red and the black obliteration has been used on the same stamp. It is somewhat dangerous to make any assertion about obliterations; but I am certainly of opinion that with the exceptions of the red, black, and perhaps the blue-black obliterations, all these colours were used unofficially, and probably by accident. Generally speaking, from 1840 to 1844 the date postmark of the despatching office was struck in colour, and I think that the varieties of colour noted above arise from the error of striking the obliterating stamp on the wrong pad. Many experiments were made during 1840 to secure an ink for obliterating purposes which should be indestructible (see P. & W., p. 58), and it is very probable that the blue-black is the result of one of these official experiments.

A reader of the "S.C.F." recently reported a copy of the Maltese Cross obliteration with the letter "R" in the centre. I do not know what this was used for, unless to signify registration.

### OBLITERATIONS OF 1844.

In May, 1844, a new series of obliterations was introduced, with different types for England and Wales, London, Scotland, and Ireland. These remain in use at the present time, but are gradually being superseded by the combined obliteration and postmark, which will be noted later. Up to 1853 the obliteration and postmark were struck separately, but in that year—December 28th is the earliest date I have seen—the two were combined and struck together.

#### For use in England and Wales.

All the types for use in England and Wales are oval in shape, either horizontal or vertical, and consist of the office number with parallel straight lines above and below, with curved lines at each end. Type 5 was in general use up to 1854 and is in use at some offices at the present time. There are many varieties of this type, of which I may note the following:



Type 5.

Type 5a with 2 lines above and below, 2 at each side.



" 5b with 2 lines above and below, 1 at each side.

" 5c with 2 lines above and below, 2 at each side. The lines being

joined making two continuous lines round the office number. (This variety is extremely scarce. I have seen two copies, the office number in each case being 173, and the stamps rd. red-brown imperf.)

Type 5d with 3 lines and below, 1 at each side (Office No. 132 will usually be found thus).

- " 5e with 4 lines above and below, 2 at each side.
- " 5f .. 2 .. .. and 4 below .. .. "
- " 5g .. 3 .. .. and 4 below .. .. "
- " 5h .. 3 .. .. and 5 below .. .. "
- " 5i .. 3 .. .. and 2 below .. .. "

Type 5j with 3 lines above and 2 below, 1 at each side.

- " 5k .. 4 .. .. and 3 below, 2 .. .. "
- " 5l .. 5 .. .. and 4 below, 2 .. .. "
- " 5m .. 2 .. .. and 4 below, 1 .. .. "
- " 5n .. 4 .. .. and 2 below, 1 .. .. "
- " 5o .. 3 lines above and below, 1 line on left, 2 on right.

This type (5) may be found in black, red, blue, green and violet. The size of the obliteration varies from 13 to 24mm. in height; from 18 to 27mm. in width; and the height of the figures from 5 to 6mm.

From 1854 to 1863 many variations appear: the lines were at first thinner and much wider apart, then followed very thick lines until the obliteration was nearly equal in height and width; the size varied from 19 to 27mm., and the figures from 6 to 11mm.



Type 6.

Type 6—With three thin lines above and below.

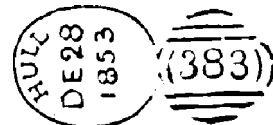


Type 6a.

" 6a—With four thick lines above and below.

" 6b With four thick lines above and 3 below.

" 6c—Connected with oval dated postmark. This type is said to be known in the same colours as type 5.



Type 6c.



Type 7.

In Type 7, introduced in 1863, the height exceeds the width, and this type has continued in use to the present time. As in the previous types the size of the obliteration varies considerably.

Type 7a with 4 lines above and below, 2 at each side.

- " 7b .. 4 .. .. and 3 below, 2 at each side.
- " 7c .. 3 .. .. and 4 below, 2 .. .. "
- " 7d .. 4 .. .. and 5 below, 2 .. .. "
- " 7e .. 3 .. .. and below, 2 on the left, and 1 on the right-hand side of number.

Type 7 may be found in black, blue, purple, and red. The blue is fairly common on stamps issued from 1868-75, and 1880-84. The purple: I have only seen on the later rd. plate numbers, with office numbers 155 and 466 (Buxton and Liverpool). The obliteration in red I have only seen on the present rd. blue. Type 7 may be found used at Liverpool (466), with the lines above or below broken to make room for the letters N., E., S., or W.; and in other cases (Birmingham, for example), for figures, referring to the number of the sub-office at which the letter was posted. Type 7 was usually connected with the circular dated postmark, and the two struck together.

The office numbers used in England and Wales (and in the British offices abroad, all of which used the same types), run from 1 to 999, 001 to 099, A01 to K80.

(To be continued).

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 20, 1897.



ELSEWHERE we have pulled to pieces the attack made upon this journal by the monthly trade circular of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. In reality the attack is no attack, but a weak attempt at a defence of the questionable tactics adopted by various influential stamp dealers in this country in placing the Nova Scotia remainders. The object of the *Monthly Journal's* article is ingeniously betrayed in its penultimate paragraph:—

The distribution of the Nova Scotia stamps has been dealt with in a business-like way, and in spite of the strenuous efforts that have been made to spoil the sale, we have every reason to believe that the results have been perfectly satisfactory to our publishers; and this is the best possible answer to those who still believe that any sets were being hawked about at 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., 4s., or even at 5s., "in comparatively small quantity."

We are not aware that anyone has "made strenuous efforts to spoil the sale" of Messrs. Gibbons' precious remainders, or of anything that is theirs; but we certainly have strained every nerve to keep the philatelic public *au fait* with the disgraceful "rigging" that has been going on in the dispersal of these stamps. In what we have done we have sought to serve the public—that, in fact, is what the "S.C.F." is here for—not to injure Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. There was once a French King, who, if the story be not apocryphal, cried: "L'état?—c'est moi!" Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, perhaps, think, if they do not say: "Philately?—why, that's us!" But we view Messrs. Stanley Gibbons from the other end of the telescope and in our purview of the Nova Scotia question, they represent a mere fly on the wheel. An unfortunate position for them; but we place the interest of the philatelic public above that of mere individuals. Our immediate business, however, is not with Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, but with their "house organ," the *Monthly Journal*. That periodical to which we issued a challenge to prove the "lies about Nova Scotia" to which it had given currency in this country, has made a weak effort to do so, but has signally failed. Evading the real issue, it has rambled aimlessly through six columns of type with charming inconclusiveness, and then, preparing, like an actor, for "a good exit" has struck an attitude and exclaimed, in effect: "We have spoken. This is our last word about Nova Scotia. We shall take no further notice of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

But this policy is one that we do not propose to permit. The *Monthly Journal* has gone too far to retreat. It must now come out into the open and fight fair. It must prove what it has said, and it must reply straightforwardly and satisfactorily to all the charges made in this journal against the sellers of the Nova Scotia remainders.

And if this be not done, then we shall brand the *Monthly Journal* as an unreliable, scurrilous, cowardly publication, and we shall commend it to the cordial distrust of every honest philatelist.

### London Philatelic Exhibition.

SINCE the issue of the prospectus, the following further medals have been offered to the Committee and will be awarded according to the decision of the judges.

By the City of London Philatelic Club: one gold, one silver and one bronze medal, for the three best collections of used Postage Stamps of the British Colonies, shown in any sort of album.

By Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.: one silver and one bronze medal, for the two best collections of Postage Stamps in use on 1st January, 1890, or issued since that date, shown in any kind of album.

By Messrs. W. Brown and S. C. Skipton: a silver medal for the best collection of the surcharged Postage Stamps of the Straits Settlements (Bankok, Johore, Pahang, Perak, Selangor, Sungeijong, and Negri Sembilan).

By Mr. Gordon Smith: a silver medal for the best collection of the Departmental Surcharged Stamps of South Australia (not including the O. S. Surcharges).

### Forgers and their Work.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

#### FORGERIES OF BULUWAYO PROVISIONALS.

JUST as we go to press with this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have submitted to me for my opinion a set of B.S.A. on Cape stamps, from ½d. to 1s. The stamps, I consider, are forgeries pure and simple. I have it on the highest possible authority that only one printing of the surcharge was made; that no re-setting ever took place, and that any type not agreeing with the specimens printed early last year are of necessity forgeries. The stamps appear to be genuinely postmarked. It is now possible that the forger sent his stamps to Buluwayo to be returned to him postmarked, or, on the other hand, perhaps somebody connected with the Post Office out there is implicated in this business. We give very carefully prepared photographs of the genuine and the forged. The best test is the very sickly looking "a" and "p" in "company;" the "y" is also much narrower, but unfortunately it is covered by the postmark on our photograph. Other differences will be found on studying the photograph.

BRITISH  
SOUTH AFRICA  
COMPANY.

GENUINE.



FORGERY.

I am willing to examine and report upon these stamps at the rate of 1/- for the set of seven stamps.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING MARCH 6, 1897. Auction Sales.

- February 24th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.
- Feb. 25th and 26th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.
- March 1st.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely.
- March 2nd and 3rd.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.
- March 6th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m., precisely.

#### Tapling Collection.

The Stamps now on view at the British Museum are those of South Australia and Tasmania.

# © We still say "Lies about Nova Scotia."

Again We Challenge Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to Prove their Words.

ALSO WE DIRECT THEIR ATTENTION TO CERTAIN CHARGES MADE BY US AND CONVENIENTLY BLINKED BY THEM.

WE ought to feel flattered! Six columns in the *Monthly Journal* all about U.S. We repeat, we ought to feel flattered. But we don't. Nor do we feel injured. It would take something a little more influential than the trade circular of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to affect us one way or the other.

The tremendous article we allude to, is, we assume, not the personal work of the editor of the *Monthly Journal*. Indeed, the total lack of literary style compels that assumption.

To our nuttons, however. The *Monthly Journal* seeks to prove:—

1.—That an offer of 25,000 sets of Nova Scotia stamps was made to our publishers (which is precisely what we told them nearly six months ago!)

2.—That the person who offered the stamps did not have them to sell.

3.—That we never stated until January 9th that the offer at 2/6 was for such a large quantity of sets; and

4.—That this number of sets was never really believed in by our publishers.

As regards the first of these four points we must allow that the *Monthly Journal* scores most brilliantly. With a splendid marshalling of its argumentative forces this great organ of private opinion conclusively proves that we did have an offer of sets of the Nova Scotia stamps at 2/6 per set. The fact that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are able to prove that what we said six months ago, and have repeated at intervals ever since, is *true*, is a striking testimony to the value of personal investigation, backed up by a judicious exercise of the arts of bribery and corruption.

The second contention in the list just shows the terrible depths of ingenuousness to which the greatest of men can descend. "Did not have them to sell," forsooth! This sort of reasoning tires us. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons themselves "do not have any to sell" when customers wish to buy from them at catalogue rates those stamps which, for business reasons, are priced at low rates in the Gibbons' catalogue. A stock-jobber does not need to have stocks and shares on his person or in his office, in order to be able to sell them. Messrs. Gibbons aver that the person who offered our publishers 25,000 sets of the Nova Scotia remainders at 2/6 per set, could not have supplied the stamps had his offer been closed with. They simply put that forward as an unsupported statement. They could not prove it if they tried from now till Doomsday; and they do not try!

The third item is an unimportant detail. We believe we stated at the outset that the offer of 2/6 per set was for 25,000 sets, but we are not going to search our file to settle the point. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons say we did not mention the fact and we will take their word for it. Much comfort may they derive from the discovery of this damning fact. While on this point, however, it may be pointed out that the *Philatelic Record* of October, 1896, stated: "One dealer asserts that he has been offered thousands of sets at 2/6 per set"—a statement which shows that the extent of the offer to our publishers had not been kept a very profound secret. But there! the point is a trivial one.

For their fourth contention Messrs. Stanley Gibbons can find nothing better than the absurd statement that the offer of 25,000 sets of Nova Scotia stamps was "never really believed in by our publishers." The mind of the ordinary man shrinks, appalled, from this fresh evidence of the audacious enterprise of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Thought-reading exhibitions were never much to our taste; so we will leave these gentlemen in undisputed possession of their fourth hypothesis. Far be it from us, humble men that we are, to pretend to any superior knowledge as to our own mental calisthenics at any given period.

Summing up the six columns of matter devoted to this subject of ourselves, in the *Monthly Journal*, we find that Messrs. Gibbons have succeeded in one thing. They have proved that six months ago we spoke the truth in stating that we had been offered 25,000 sets of the Nova Scotia remainders at 2s. 6d. per set. In every other point they have failed miserably, unless one of their aims was to make themselves appear supremely ridiculous in the eyes of the whole philatelic community, in which case they are to be congratulated upon a phenomenal success.

It is, perhaps, scarcely necessary for us to say that we adhere steadfastly to every word we have said or written on this subject of the Nova Scotia remainders. Our cause is a just one; we have truth behind us, but in front we have a foe that fights us on the old Red Indian principle—a kick and a run. For at the end of its extraordinary article the *Monthly Journal* says:

The matter of the Nova Scotia "find" is here closed . . . . . Of statements in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, so long as it is conducted as hitherto, no notice of a similar kind will ever be taken by us again.

This, which looks at first glance like a pretty exercise in high-horse riding, is really only the parting shot of the man who fights and runs away. Were we disposed to be cynical, we might say with perfect truth that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' awful threat to take no further notice of the FORTNIGHTLY would be entirely their loss, not ours. It is a delightfully easy matter to string a number of wholly unsupported and largely mendacious statements together, and then say to your opponents: "That is all we have to say, thank you. Good day. We shall not proceed any further in this matter. You can say whatever you like in reply, but we shall not answer you. For us, the matter is here closed."

This, we say, is delightfully easy, and the selection of such a trump card by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, is of a piece with their charming ingenuousness in other respects. But we do not intend to allow the matter to be closed here and we do not propose Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to sneak off like a snarling cur with a half-told tale between its legs.

#### CHARGES THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ANSWERED.

The proprietors of the *Monthly Journal*, in seeking to disprove our statement that our publishers, Messrs. Harry Hülkes & Co., Limited, were offered 25,000 sets of the Nova Scotia stamps at 2/6, have conveniently closed their eyes and ears to all our other statements concerning the manipulation of the "find" in this country. There are none so blind as those who won't see; none so deaf as those who won't hear. It suits the policy of our friend the enemy, to select one count of our indictment for the purpose of their defence; and, even this one count they have failed to disprove.

But, pursuing this legal metaphor, it may be urged against us that upon us, as the accusers, rests the onus of proof. Very well. We cheerfully accept that view of the case.

We can prove up to the hilt all the allegations we have made against Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and other firms and persons in regard to the disgraceful policy of reticence and "manipulation" adopted in connection with these Nova Scotia stamps—allegations which, for very good and sufficient reasons, have remained unanswered by the firms in question.

#### WHAT WE COMPLAIN ABOUT.

As we wrote in our issue of November 14th, 1896, and as we repeat now, our complaint is that this huge remainder was placed upon the market in a most improper way. Portions of it were sold by various dealers, before the issue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' circular, without a word being said about remainders. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Limited, on Messrs. Gibbons' own showing, had a parcel of Nova Scotia



from them on September 1st. Very well. We have evidence which seems to argue that they were supplied on a still earlier date, but September 1st will serve.

The Gibbons circular, remember, was not sent out until September 5th. What did Messrs. Buhl do in the interim? They offered these stamps out at an advance of nearly 50 per cent. on Messrs. Gibbons' price, leaving to their customers to imagine for themselves how they came by such large parcels of these scarce stamps! Nothing had appeared in print on the subject, if we except a short and not very definite note in the *London Philatelist*. Well, stamp dealers are business men, and as such cannot resist a bargain. We believe—nay, we know—that many of them nibbled freely at Messrs. Buhl's bait and bought for £145 the very lots which were offered a few days later in Messrs. Gibbons' belated circular at £103. A nice little "turn" that, we think, and all through being able to get in at the early door. Messrs. Buhl, we daresay, have been congratulating themselves upon their business alertness, but it is not a subject upon which they can expect to be very warmly congratulated by others.

These and other matters of grave irregularity already alluded to by us at great length Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have never attempted to explain. Why? Is it because they are not capable of being satisfactorily explained? That we fear is the impression that will be left upon the minds of all straightforward men.

#### THIS MAY NOT BE OUR LAST WORD.

Again and again, in the "S.C.F.," we have written "our last word" on the Nova Scotia question, only to stultify ourselves by reverting to this vexed question by the pressure of fresh revelations. Messrs. Gibbons, we are afraid, will have to stultify themselves in the same way; for we await, and the philatelic public await, their explanation of the very questionable things that have been done in connection with the Nova Scotia "find."

### 'T'wixt Editor and Reader.

(Continued from page 120).

Says our orange-coloured friend *Answers*:—

The latest fad for preserving old postage stamps is by using them as a decoration for furniture.

The stamps are secured to the different articles with the aid of glue, and are then covered with heavy varnish. When the varnish is dry, the articles thus adorned can be washed without injury.

Besides preserving the stamps the varnish serves to brighten the colours, and gives the wood an appearance of having been inlaid.

A well-known London barrister has a houseful of furniture decorated in this way, the articles having a very pretty effect, besides being of considerable value, on account of the rare nature of some of the adhesive bits of paper gummed on.

Among the collection is a light rosewood chair covered with some of the rarest stamps in existence, and estimated at five times its weight in gold. This article, which is covered all over except one leg, bears a collection that has taken twenty years to accumulate, and when finished will be as valuable as if it were studded with gems.

There is only one fault to find with this paragraph, if true. Instead of "a well known London barrister," it should read "a well known London idiot." The man who can wilfully glue rare stamps on to rosewood furniture and wash them over with a thick coating of varnish, ought to be kept under proper control.

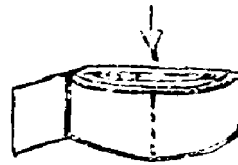
\* \* \*

Here is important news with regard to the current stamps of Jamaica. Mr. D. P. Fouché writes:—

It may be of some interest to you to know that the 1/-, 2/-, and 5/- CC. Jamaica are not now obtainable. By a recent order of the Government the fees hitherto payable to the Judicial Court in cash are now paid by stamp, and the entire stock of 1/-, 2/-, and 5/- CC. have been stamped across "Judicial" to be used for the purpose. Many persons made a rush to get unused specimens, but were too late.

Unused specimens without the surcharge we presume Mr. Fouché means. For the stamp obviously becomes a fiscal on the application of the overprint, and would not be likely to afford a satisfactory philatelic "deal."

## First Steps in Philately.



NOW the great majority of philatelists prefer their stamp hinges ready made, and I am not blaming them for that but I have discovered that there are certain advantages about cutting your own hinges from the Benrath and Franck rolls. In the first place there is cheapness—a strong recommendation. Another advantage is that hinges of almost any size can be obtained. The cutting is a very simple operation and can be done with surprising rapidity when one gets into the swing. Pull out from your tin box a length of gummed paper measuring, say, from 20 to 24 inches. Roll this up, as shown in our rough sketch, in folds of about one inch in length. Then, with a sharp pair of scissors, cut the roll in halves at the centre, shown in our sketch by means of a dotted line. The result gives you some twenty or twenty-four hinges of whatever dimensions you may have arranged for. It is many ways a handy idea, and on the score of cheapness alone (for some 6,000 pure gum hinges may be had in this way for a shilling!) may be confidently commended to young philatelists.

\* \* \*

#### MORE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

*Can you tell me why envelopes and post cards are now so much out of fashion among collectors? Also please tell me of some good album for these.—W.E.W.*

This correspondent unconsciously supplies the answer to his own question. It is just because there is no good album for entires that entires are so consistently neglected by the great body of philatelists. Various methods of mounting and displaying envelopes and cards have been suggested, but the ideal way is yet to be found. Until that time comes "entires," we fear, will continue to be cold-shouldered. "Era," the writer of some "Notes for U.S. Collectors," contributed to an American contemporary remarks: "The neatest device I have seen yet is plain envelopes of a size larger than the one to be mounted, neatly glued on the page with the flap on the outside and the specimen slipped into the pocket thus made. The holder is then labelled with the number and description of the specimen. The only objection to this system is that the collection cannot be examined without removing each specimen from its cover,"—a fatal drawback.

*How can I clean some stamps I have just bought, many of which are dirty and discoloured?—J. W. O.*

If it is simply dirt there is scant hope of a complete cure. The stamps may be lightly printed over with a camel's hair brush dipped in pure water; or may be lightly rubbed with indiarubber (of good quality), or dry bread crumbs, in which case great care must be experienced not to wear away the surface of the paper. If there is a discolouration due to atmospheric influence, a solution of peroxide of hydrogen must be applied with a soft brush. Our publishers supply a special preparation of the peroxide at one shilling per bottle.

\* \* \*

*Which was the first "Commemorative," or Unnecessary Issue?—H. S.*

Well, we have seen it suggested quite recently that the French stamps of 1863, bearing head of Napoleon with the newly added laurels, is entitled to this honour (?). However, the first avowed commemorative postal issue was undoubtedly the special post card issued at the Guildhall, London, in 1890, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of Penny Postage.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Our Newest Contemporary.

**STAMPS**, the new journal edited and published by Mr. F. L. Heygate—we referred to it briefly in our last issue—is evidently going to make a speciality of good articles by well-known philatelists. The first number, dated January 30th, brings us "Evolution in Stamp Collecting; a Paper for Beginners," which is from the pen of the Rev. Hayman Cummings, Vice-President of the Oxford Philatelic Society. Mr. Cummings looks forward to further startling developments in scientific philately. "There is scope," he says, "for absolutely every fad to which human nature is prone"; and human nature, he thinks, will be increasingly prone to the philatelic fad as time goes on. Mr. Cummings traces the evolution of philately from what we may call the Lullier period up to the present day. In some respects he leans to the aesthetic side of stamp collecting, for in describing the various ways in which stamps are mounted and classified, he lays stress on the artistic beauty of a well-arranged album. "There is a great fascination," he remarks, "in a fine array of pairs, and those who have opportunities of looking over a choice collection in pairs and strips, or blocks, must acknowledge that such a combination reaches nearly to the perfection of philatelic display."

## British Stamps, the Stamps of the Future.

Mr. Ewen, in the January issue of the *English Specialists' Journal*—a better number by far than its predecessor—waxes enthusiastic on the subject of English stamps. The past, by which he means the past year, is satisfactory, and the future he regards as full of promise. "There is now no doubt whatever," says he, "that British stamps are the stamps of the future." Australians may be fashionable for a season, and West Indians or West Africans all the rage for a time, but English continue to be popular, and will probably soon receive more attention than all the other countries and colonies put together. It is becoming increasingly difficult to collect with any satisfactory result the stamps of the whole world, and the more apparent this difficulty becomes the greater the number of collectors who lay aside or sell their general collection and go in for English.

The *E.S.J.* contains a second instalment of Mr. Oliver Firth's paper on the stamp-stationery of Great Britain, an article on "Perforated Cancellations" by Mr. R. Bradshaw Smith, and its usual "Notes of the Month" and other stock features.

## English 3d. and 6d. lilac—varieties.

The *Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* of January 23rd, contains more of the "Chronicle" than of the "Advertiser"—an agreeable change. Mr. Webb, in his notes on English stamps devotes some space to the 3d. and 6d. lilac, with value surcharged in carmine. These stamps, as he remarks, stand quite by themselves as a distinct issue, and Mr. Webb confesses to a weakness for seeing them so shown in an album, instead of being tacked on to the tail ends of the varieties of the 3d. and 6d. stamps down to the 1880 issue. More interesting are his remarks on the varieties of surcharge occurring in these stamps. As thus:

Why I dilate thus upon these stamps this month is that by a letter from Mr. W. E. Haynes, of Worthing, my attention has been called to the fact that there exists two distinct varieties of surcharge, occurring alike on both stamps, and, as far as I can at present judge, the two types are to be found in about equal numbers. The difference is, that in some stamps the two dots under "d" are further from it than on others, by about the diameter of a dot, so that in one type the vertical space between dots and "d" measures  $\frac{1}{4}$  mm., and in the other,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. The dots being in both cases the same distance apart. Mr. Morley's 1896 catalogue notes one or two errors of place in these dots; but I think no journal or catalogue had yet recognised two regular types. The difference, once noted, is

sufficient to be easily detected on good specimens without the aid of any instrument.

In another paragraph Mr. Webb tells us that he has noticed a slight alteration in the material used for the current penny English postcards. The card, he states, is now slightly paler, smoother, and more transparent, although not thinner than hitherto. He adds that slight differences are observable in the present printing of the letter cards.

The second of the *Philatelic Chronicle's* interviews is with Mr. Richard Hollick—most popular of Brummagem philatelists.

## A Feast of Departmentals.

No-one interested in the Departmental stamps of the United States can afford to miss his *Philatelic Californian*. That enterprising journal from the Far West gives, in its January number, the second instalment of a most exhaustive article on these stamps, full of useful facts and figures. It will be concluded in the February issue.

## A STAMP THEFT IN VERMONT.

The same number of the *Philatelic Californian* contains a notice regarding the theft of a collection of stamps mounted in Volume I of Scott's 1894 album. The collection includes all countries alphabetically from Austria to Liberia, as well as the United States, and all the current British Colonials in the unused condition. Mr. F. A. Stevens, of Portland, Maine, U.S.A., who signs the notice in question, asks, that if any stamps likely to be removed from this album are offered for sale by any person hailing from St. Johnsbury, Vermont, or elsewhere, a communication may at once be addressed to him on the subject.

## "Full of Emptiness."

Very little better than Number I, is Number II, of *Stamp Gossip*, the new monthly paper published by Mr. Graves, of Bury St. Edmunds. Apart from the page devoted to new issues, there is practically nothing that is new between the covers of this journal. It is only fair, however, to give the publisher the credit of his good intentions. In his Editorial notes, he writes: "We invite anyone who can communicate interesting matter to submit short articles concerning our hobby." We trust that unemployed philatelic writers, if any such there be, will hasten to the aid of Mr. Graves, if only to enable us to give *Stamp Gossip* a better review.

## Shall We Collect Chronologically?

At first glance philatelist who reads this headline will retort "Why, that is what we do already." But it is not. When we allude to chronological collecting we mean collecting that is chronologically throughout, and not merely in regard to each distinct country. In the *International Philatelist* and other transatlantic journals many articles have appeared, some favouring, some criticising this method. Mr. H. B. Briggs, in a recent number of Mr. Beardsley's paper, brings a damaging fire of criticism to bear upon the suggestion. He points out the special album would be needed, and shews that even if these were provided the system would lack convenience and would need the use of an index almost as voluminous as the album itself.

## The Patriotic French Philatelist.

*La Philatéliste Française*, the monthly publication of Mr. Th. Lemaire, is greatly improved in printing and general get-up. The remarkable thing one notices in looking through journals like this is that French philatelic papers, almost without a single exception, devote the majority of their space to French stamps. The fact is significant as shewing that the French philatelist is patriotic in his stamp collecting. Mr. G. Ackein contributes to *La Philatéliste Française* a most enthusiastic article on Philately generally. It fills three pages, but we are not conscious that it teaches us anything that we have not known since we stuck our red Germans in an exercise book. One regrets to find such flagrant space-filling in a journal of such high order as that of Mr. Lemaire's.

### In questionable taste.

We think we have referred more than once to a series of editorial squabbles between the *Philatelic Monthly*, of Philadelphia, and the *Eastern Philatelist* of Newmarket, N.H. There has been a long standing dispute between these two journals as to which could justly claim the honour of being the oldest philatelic publication in the United States—a dispute which results, in the mind of every impartial observer in favour of the Bogert and Durbin Co's journal. Probably some of our readers are not aware of the fact that in America there is a system of postage known as second class mail rates, under which system newspapers are sent through the post at a rate calculated on the bulk of the whole sending, this rate being the absurdly moderate one of one cent per pound weight. Of course this is a very great privilege—a privilege which our readers may the better understand if we state that if the same method applied in this country we could publish the *FORTNIGHTLY* at a ¼d. and still reap a fair profit. Well, *The Philatelic Monthly* is one of the papers which enjoys this privilege. *The Eastern Philatelist* is another, and in the January issue of the last named journal we find a protest by Mr. Editor Pinkham against the possession of the privilege by *The Philatelic Monthly* on the ground that the Philadelphian journal does not fulfil the conditions imposed by the United States postal authorities. It is a somewhat unworthy exhibition of jealousy between Editors, and apart from that is a matter of very questionable taste on the part of Mr. Pinkham.

This, however, to use a cant phrase, does not "do away with the fact" that *The Eastern Philatelist* is a good paper, containing a remarkable assortment of well-written articles, by such well-known contributors as Crawford Capen, Edmund Smiley, Charles Jenney and Amy Swift.

### We are all Heretics, it seems.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, dated January 28th, is remarkable for an extraordinary article by Mr. W. H. Wilson, headed, "Philatelic Heresies." Mr. Wilson is a thorough-paced rebel; or as he would probably put it himself, he is a man of independent thought and action. In the first place, he repudiates the right of any association or body of philatelists to dictate to Governors, to Postmasters, or to *him*, what shall constitute a postage stamp. That is his first kick, and it is perhaps the least unreasonable of all. If he stopped short at this no one could accuse him of undue obstreperousness, but when he goes on to tell us that our study of the variations, of surcharge, of perforation and of paper, is all stupidity and wasted energy, then we think it high time to stop reading Mr. Wilson's effusion. If he really believes what he writes, then we are all heretics—in his eyes. Mr. Wilson probably will never know what an arch-heretic he is—in our eyes. For it is given to few men to see themselves as others see them.

It seems trite in the extreme to praise *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*. Of all our American exchanges it is the one we should least like to miss. And if we penned a whole page of praise we could scarcely say more than that.

### This has a Suspicious Look.

*Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, quoting from *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, draws attention to what looks like an official job. "Iberius," of New York, has stated that sets of U. S. Periodical stamps of the old types and shades, 1c. to \$60.00, printed by the Bureau of Engraving, have been placed on the market by a syndicate of dealers, who undertake to guarantee that only fifty sets have been printed. The face value of these sets is about \$205.00. The price asked from collectors is \$125.00. Dealers generally do not undertake this class of business for their health, and *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* therefore asks the question, how much did the dealers pay for these sets? To whom did they pay it, how much did Uncle Sam get for his stamps, and by whose authority and for what reason were these fifty sets printed?

United States enthusiasts brag about that country never having a surcharge. Quite true, but what is a legitimate surcharge compared with such made-to-order trash as this?

### Hafez Hamed: A Twice-Told Tale.

The story, as *Bric-a-Brac* admits, is not a new one, but it is good enough to bear repetition. Thus it runs:

Stamp collectors in all parts of Europe are just now considerably excited over the very recent discovery that a couple of rogues have been swindling them most outrageously. It appears that Afghanistan stamps are dear to the heart of all collectors. The first stamp ever used in that country appeared in 1870-71 (Mohammedan date 1288), during the reign of Shere Ali. It is a large circular stamp with the head of a tiger in the centre, and the value written in characters above this head. Other issues appeared in subsequent years, but all such stamps are extremely scarce, and therefore valuable.

The brilliant idea of personally profiting from these facts occurred to one Hafez Hamed, who arrived in Paris some short time ago, and proceeded to the old Stamp Exchange in the Avenue Gabriel, Champs Elysees, where he informed buyers that the ex-Postmaster-General of Cabul had arrived in Marseilles, but that in one of his trunks, still retained at a port in the Persian Gulf, were stamps of the early issues, particularly those issued in 1293, and valued at from 123 to a 1,000 francs. Hafez said he had written to the ex-Postmaster-General to telegraph to the port and have his trunks forwarded without delay, and that immediately on their arrival he would be in a position to furnish collectors with some rare stamps. Just nine days later a letter reached Hafez, stating that the luggage had arrived, and very soon afterwards the Afghan stamps were in the market.

Of course they were bogus, which fact was soon discovered, thanks to the shrewdness of an English gentleman living in Paris, who, knowing that it was impossible for a vessel to come from the Persian Gulf to Marseilles in nine days, made a close study of one of the stamps. He got Hafez to write for him the address of the Postmaster-General of Cabul, and this address was made in characters that neither Dgemel ed Din, 'the learned Afghan,' nor any Arab, Egyptian, or other Oriental in this city could read. They all said that not a single postmaster in Afghanistan would be able to do so either. Moreover, some of the stamps were obliterated in red ink, and the postmark was almost as visible on the back as it was on the front of the envelope. Now, as a matter of fact, postage stamps in Afghanistan are not sold to the public as in Europe; it is the invariable rule for the natives to take their letters to the office, and money with them to pay the postage; the stamp-seller takes both letter and money, and having first torn off a piece of the stamp, sticks it on the envelope, and the operation is ended. This method, known to the Paris collectors, was overlooked by Hafez Hamed and his accomplices; hence the forgery was very soon discovered, and Hafez had to seek refuge in flight.

### A Stamp which is no Stamp.

It is possible that some readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* have seen in old stamp albums—perhaps have possessed themselves—some quaint looking labels, whose design consists simply of a large white cross on a coloured ground. In old albums these labels are to be found in the pages devoted to Austria and Austrian Italy. Many people think they are rare stamps, a delusion which has been fostered by the fact that Lallier and other old album-makers carefully left spaces for these curious bits of paper. As a matter of fact they are not stamps at all. *Hobbies*, in its weekly budget of stamp notes—contributed by one of the editors of this paper—explains the origin of these mysterious labels. It appears that the Government printers of Austria, in preparing certain of the early stamps of that country, found that each sheet of stamps "added up" awkwardly in point of value. That is to say, the total value of the sheet involved the use of a tiresome fraction. Arithmetic not being the strongest of their strong points, these gentlemen remedied this state of things by the very simple, yet very cunning device of inserting one "dummy" stamp or more in each sheet. And these mysterious labels that bear a white cross on a coloured ground are the "dummies" in question.

### A Noteworthy Innovation.

Mr. Henry Gremmel, the *Post-Office* tells us, intends introducing into his next price list of United States stamps, soon to be issued, a great improvement in the way of pricing. The stamps will be priced in three columns instead of two, as heretofore, the three columns will be headed unused; used, first quality; used, second quality. This is something very welcome in the way of a new departure, an idea which we hope will be universally adopted by the publishers of catalogues and price lists.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 116).

Mr. HADLON, January 25th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s	d.
a	Montserrat, 1d., perf. 12 *	..	..	0 16 0
a	Mauritius, magenta *	..	..	0 18 0
b	Nevis, 3d. rose ..	..	..	1 6 0
b	6d. bronze ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 ..	..	..	1 4 0
a	Newfoundland, 5c. brown *	..	..	1 0 0
b	St. Vincent, 6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12 *	..	..	1 2 0
b	Sandwich Islands, <i>Inter Island</i> , 1c. black on white, only H A in left label *	..	..	1 2 0
a	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ *	..	..	1 2 0
a b	United States (1856), 9c. blue, no perfs. right	..	..	1 0 0
a	Western Australia, 1d. carmine, CC., perf. 14	..	..	1 1 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., January 26th and 27th, 1897.

a b	Afghanistan, (1291) shahi, purple on buff *	..	..	0 15 0
b	Baden, <i>Landpost</i> , 12k. yellow ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	Bavaria, 1k. black *	..	..	1 2 0
a	12k. lilac, perf. ..	..	..	1 8 0
a	British South Africa, ( <i>on Cape</i> ) 1/- yellow *	..	..	0 14 0
a	ditto, ditto, broken A *	..	..	0 15 0
a b	Canada, 6d. purple on thick paper, on piece	..	..	1 4 0
b	Cape, <i>Woodblock</i> , 1d. red ..	..	..	1 18 0
b	Cyprus, 30 paras on 1d., double surcharge, one inverted	..	..	2 2 0
b	French Colonies, 4c. grey ..	..	..	0 16 0
a b	(1877) 15c. purple-brown, (? error), good margins and anchor postmark ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown ..	..	..	1 7 6
b	Madeira, 50r. green, imperf. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	80r. orange, ditto ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	100r. lilac, ditto ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange *	..	..	1 0 0
a b	8d. carmine-red *	..	..	0 16 0
a	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 1d. plate 2, pair	..	..	2 6 0
b	Oldenburg, <i>first issue</i> , 48gr., green ..	..	..	1 2 0
b	<i>third issue</i> , 1gr. blue ..	..	..	1 6 0
b c	ditto, 3gr. yellow *	..	..	2 0 0
a b	Roumania, (1876), 5 bani, blue (error) *	..	..	2 2 0
a	St. Christopher, 24d. brown, CC. *	..	..	1 1 0
b	St. Lucia, (4d.) blue, star *	..	..	2 15 0
b	1/- black and orange *	..	..	3 10 0
b	Straits Settlements, 8c. black on 12c. puce	..	..	0 15 0
b	10c. on 6c. lilac, double surcharge *	..	..	1 6 0
a	Switzerland, <i>Geneva</i> , 5c. yellow-green, on piece	..	..	0 18 0
A	Tolima, <i>first issue</i> , 5c. on buff, penmark ..	..	..	2 10 0
a b	ditto, ditto, pair, on piece, ditto ..	..	..	4 0 0
a	Trinidad, 5/- dull lake, perf. 12½ ..	..	..	0 18 0
b	United States, (1856), 5c. red-brown *	..	..	1 1 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. red-brown *	..	..	1 0 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson *	..	..	0 19 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, no thread ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	18k. yellow, roulette ..	..	..	1 0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., January 27th, 1897.

b	Bahamas, 4d. rose, CA., perf. 14 *	..	..	4 0 0
a	British Bechuanaland, 3d. red., large "Protectorate" *	..	..	0 15 0
a	British East Africa, ( <i>on Co.'s stamps</i> ) 4 rupees blue, pair ..	..	..	2 4 0
a	British Guiana, (1860), 1c. red-brown ..	..	..	1 1 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s	d.
b	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. steel-grey *	..	..	0 14 0
a	1/- emerald ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	Ceylon, 2c. brown, perf. 12½ ..	..	..	1 1 0
b	4c. grey, ditto ..	..	..	0 17 0
b	Great Britain, 2/6 on bluish *	..	..	0 16 0
A	Heligoland, 5 marks, sheet of 25 *	..	..	12 10 0
a	Holland, (1867), 5c. blue on bluish, small perf., block of 6 *	..	..	3 0 0
a	Natal, <i>first issue</i> , 3d. rose *	..	..	3 2 0
a	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac ..	..	..	1 5 0
a	1/- pale green, litho *	..	..	1 16 0
b c	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, cut very close ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 1d., plate 1 ..	..	..	1 5 0
a b	ditto, 2d., plate 2 ..	..	..	1 5 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 3 ..	..	..	0 17 0
a b	ditto, 3d., emerald ..	..	..	1 18 0
b c	<i>Diadem</i> , 2d. blue, imperf., wmk. 5, strip of 4, stained by age *	..	..	5 0 0
a	New Zealand, 6d. red-brown, star *	..	..	1 3 0
a	6d. red-brown, N.Z. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Portuguese Indies (1872) 20r. red on wove, strip of 4, with common Indians, on entire ..	..	..	5 5 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. carmine, pin perf. 3 sides ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	4d. blue (second type), no perfs. at bottom ..	..	..	1 2 0
A	Turks Islands, 4d. on 4d. grey *	..	..	3 3 0
c	United States, (1861), 3c. pink *	..	..	4 0 0
a	Victoria, (1864), 2/- blue on green *	..	..	0 15 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, Jan. 28th and 29th, 1897.

b	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf. ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	4d. on 6d. violet ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Barbados, (6l. vermilion, star, imperf., pair *	..	..	1 8 0
a b	5/- rose, £1 14s. od., £1 17s. od., £1 18s. od. and 1d. on buff 5/- rose, pair showing both types, surcharge right to left, perfs. cut at top ..	..	..	16 0 0
b	Bremen, 10gr. black, percé ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	British Guiana (1851), 4c. deep blue ..	..	..	3 7 6
a	Canada, 10d. blue on thin paper ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., cut rather close ..	..	..	7 15 0
a	9d. violet-brown ..	..	..	4 6 0
a	2r. 50c. red-brown, perf. 14 x 12½, vert. pair *	..	..	8 0 0
b	Fiji, 2d. red on 3d. (6c.), Gothic V.R. ..	..	..	1 18 0
A	France, <i>Presidence</i> , 10c. buff, strip of 3 *	..	..	4 17 6
A	ditto, ditto, pair *	..	..	3 7 6
a	French Colonies, 4c. grey ..	..	..	1 2 0
b	Great Britain, <i>the V.R.</i> , pair with side margin, cancelled with Maltese cross, one in red and one in black ..	..	..	20 0 0
b	4d. rose, plate 8, imperf., on piece ..	..	..	1 3 0
a b	(1862) 6d. deep lilac *	..	..	0 18 0
b	10d. brown, octagon, plate 3 *	..	..	1 7 0
a b	2/- brown ..	..	..	£2 and 2 2 0
a	ditto *	..	..	4 0 0
b	£1 brown-lilac, cross ..	..	..	1 4 0
A	India, <i>Service</i> , 2a. black and lilac, pair *	..	..	2 11 0
b	Levant, 6k. blue *	..	..	1 0 0
b	Luxemburg, 37½c. brown *	..	..	0 16 0
c	Mauritius, <i>Large Fillet</i> , 2d. blue, nick of ¼th. inch at bottom, fair otherwise ..	..	..	8 0 0
b	<i>Britannia</i> , 4d. black on green ..	..	..	1 18 0
a	Nevis, 4d. rose ..	..	..	1 16 0
b	ditto ..	..	..	£1 1s. od. and 1 3 0
a	4d. orange ..	..	..	0 18 0
a b	ditto ..	..	..	15/- and 0 16 0
b	ditto, litho, on piece ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, penmark ..	..	..	3 3 0
b	ditto, no margin ..	..	..	1 10 0
b	1/- violet, fine, good margins 3 sides, just touched on 4th ..	..	..	20 0 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. carmine-red, fine, but small ink-spot on margin ..	..	..	38 0 0
a	2d. orange *	..	..	1 12 0
b c	ditto *	..	..	1 0 0
a	2d. lake, pair *	..	..	2 2 0
a b	ditto, a single *	..	..	0 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Newfoundland, 4d. carmine-red * ..	..	13	10 0
a b	4d. orange ..	..	2	7 6
a	6d. orange * ..	..	12	10 0
A	ditto, used ..	..	5	0 0
a	6d. carmine-red * ..	..	11	0 0
a	8d. carmine-red ..	..	3	0 0
b c	ditto ..	..	1	5 0
a b	1/- carmine-red, fine but small margins ..	..	10	0 0
b	1/- orange, large margins ..	..	17	0 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2, early ..	..	3	15 0
a	ditto, ditto, worn, penmark ..	..	0	15 0
a	ditto, ditto, plate 5, 6 segments in fan ..	..	1	12 0
a	Diadem, 5d. green, imperf. ..	..	2	0 0
a b	ditto, 8d. orange ditto ..	..	2	6 0
b	ditto, 8d. yellow ditto ..	..	2	4 0
a b	New Zealand, 2d. vermilion, lozenges ..	..	2	12 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	£1 5s od. and	1	6 0
a b	ditto ..	..	1	2 0
a	6d. dark green ..	..	2	17 6
a	8½c green ..	..	0	13 0
a	Oil Rivers, ½d. red on half 1d., pair * ..	..	1	6 0
a	½d. blue, block, on 2½d. * ..	..	1	1 0
a	½d. red, sans serif, on 2½d. * ..	..	1	6 0
a	½d. carmine, block, on 2½d. * ..	..	0	19 0
a	1/- violet on 2d. * ..	..	1	4 0
a	ditto, pair, one inverted * ..	..	9	5 0
a	10/- red on 5d. * ..	..	8	0 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, ½gr. Bremen postmark ..	..	4	0 0
a	third issue, ½gr. moss green * ..	..	4	10 0
a b	ditto, ½gr. green * ..	..	1	10 0
a b	ditto, ½gr. brown * ..	..	1	1 0
a	ditto, 1gr. deep blue * ..	..	2	2 0
a b	Portugal, first issue, 5or. green, full gum * ..	..	6	0 0
b	Queensland (1875), 2/- blue * ..	..	0	18 0
a	ditto, 5/- rose, pair * ..	..	3	15 0
a	Reunion, 30c. black on bluish, uncancelled copy on entire ..	Reserve £50, 50 0 0		
a	ditto, penmarked on entire ..	Reserve £50, 50 0 0		
These two stamps were sold at Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale of Sept. 24th and 25th, 1896, for £62 each.				
b	Roumania, 50 bani, beard * ..	..	0	10 0
b	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange * ..	..	2	17 6
a	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow * ..	..	2	6 0
b	4d. dark blue, star ..	..	1	0 0
a	4d. ultramarine, star, perf. 12 * ..	£4 and	4	4 0
a	1/- brown * ..	..	3	17 6
a b	Saxony, 10gr. blue * ..	..	1	0 0
b	Schleswig Holstein, 1½sch. blue, wide net ..	..	1	8 0
b	Sierra Leone, 5/- on 1/- green, Treasury cancel ..	..	1	2 0
b	South Australia, 4d. purple, V and crown wmk., printed at back ..	..	3	10 0
b	Spain, (1852), 2 reales red ..	..	7	7 0
a b	ditto, 6 reales blue ..	..	1	10 0
c	Switzerland, Zurich, 4r. slightly cut into and slightly thinned ..	..	13	0 0
b	ditto, 6r., hor. lines * ..	..	3	5 0
b c	ditto, ditto * ..	..	1	10 0
b	10r. black, red and yellow, cross showing parts of border * ..	..	2	0 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue, vert. strip of 3 * ..	..	20	0 0
a	ditto, a single * ..	..	5	15 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	1	4 0
a	Thurn & Taxis, second issue, 9k. yellow, no margins * ..	..	1	18 0
b	Trinidad, 1/- purple, CC., perf. 12½ * ..	..	1	4 0
b	United States, (1856), 90c. blue * ..	..	3	10 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard ..	£1 and	1	3 0
a	(1870), 30c. black, grill * ..	..	1	16 0
a	Columbus, set * ..	..	3	7 6
a b	Periodicals, 24 dollars * ..	..	2	6 0
b	ditto, 36 dollars * ..	..	2	12 6
b	ditto, 48 dollars * ..	..	2	2 0
a	ditto, 60 dollars * ..	..	3	7 6
a	Victoria, Queen on Thorne, 2d. red-brown, engraved, strip of 4, no gum * ..	..	7	10 0
a	10d. grey ..	..	0	18 0
b	5/- blue on yellow ..	£2 8s. od. and	2	15 0
a	1d. green on drab, pair * ..	..	1	14 0
a	1d. green on yellow, pair * ..	..	1	1 0
a	2d. mauve on buff, vert. pair * ..	..	0	17 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- pale brown ..	..	4	0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, February 2nd and 3rd, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Afghanistan, (1291), shahi purple on buff * ..	..	0	15 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose, pair * ..	..	14	14 0
a	Brazil, Sloping figures, 18or. on greyish ..	..	3	3 0
a b	Bremen, 7gr. yellow, imperf. ..	..	1	1 0
a	ditto, large margins ..	..	2	4 0
b	British Columbia, 10c. perf. 12½ ..	..	2	10 0
a	25c. ditto, pair * ..	..	1	12 0
a	1 dollar, ditto, pair * ..	..	7	10 0
a	ditto, two singles, used, each ..	..	3	3 0
a	British Guiana, (1853), 4c. blue, white line, on entire ..	..	0	19 0
b	(1860) 1c. red-brown * ..	..	0	19 0
b c	(1862), 2c. yellow, crossed ovals, fine, but no roulettes ..	..	2	4 0
a	ditto, 4c. blue, hearts and pearls, part gum, full roulettes * ..	..	13	0 0
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey ..	..	2	10 0
a	British South Africa, £5 green, vert. strip of 4, fiscally used ..	..	3	5 0
a	£10 brown, block of 3, ditto ..	..	2	12 6
b	Brunswick, first issue, 3sgr., red * ..	..	1	15 0
a	Canada, ½d. rose, perf., on piece, ..	..	1	0 0
A	6d. purple-black, perf. * ..	..	16	0 0
a	7½d. green * ..	..	11	10 0
b c	ditto, used, large margins, but heavy postmark ..	..	1	7 0
a b	10d. blue, on thick, very slight crease * ..	..	5	10 0
a	10d. blue, on thin ..	..	1	4 0
b	ditto ..	..	0	15 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue ..	..	2	6 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	..	1	2 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. purple-brown, CC. ..	..	1	3 0
b	8d. brown, cut close right side ..	..	14	0 0
a	Congo, 5 francs lilac * ..	..	0	18 0
A	France, Empire, 1fr. carmine, pair ..	..	2	2 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green ..	..	2	0 0
a b	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- bistre ..	..	2	9 0
b c	Great Britain, 2/- brown..	..	1	1 0
a	10/- grey on bleu-té, anchor ..	..	1	12 0
b	ditto on white, ditto ..	..	1	12 0
a	10/- grey, cross ..	..	1	3 0
b	ditto, two pairs ..	£1 16s. od. and	2	0 0
a	10/- blue on bleu-té, "Specimen" ..	..	0	16 0
a	£1 lilac-brown, cross ..	..	1	14 0
b	Hamburg, 9sch. yellow, imperf. ..	..	0	18 0
a	India, ½a. red, pair with bottom margin * ..	..	11	0 0
a	Service, 2a. black and lilac ..	..	1	15 0
a	Jamaica, half of 1d. blue, on entire ..	..	0	19 0
a	Labuan (1881), 6c. on 40c. amber, inverted * ..	..	2	4 0
b	Levant, 6k. blue * ..	..	1	2 0
A	Madeira, 50r. green, imperf. * ..	..	0	16 0
A	100r. lilac, ditto * ..	..	1	0 0
b	240r. lilac, curved labels, perf. ..	..	0	19 0
c	240r. lilac, straight ditto, tiny tear ..	..	1	4 0
b	Mauritius, Small Fillet, 2d. blue ..	..	1	1 0
a	Greek Border, 1d. red, vert. pair ..	..	6	6 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single ..	..	1	4 0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	..	0	18 0
a	Natal, first issue, 6d. green (33 x 46mm.), on piece ..	..	5	5 0
c	ditto, ditto, two others, clear but cut, £1 8s. od. and ..	..	1	18 0
c	ditto, 9d. blue, cut into top and bottom ..	..	4	0 0
c	ditto, 1/- buff, very clear but cut into, on piece ..	..	5	0 0
b	1/- green, curved black surcharge ..	..	3	10 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CA. * ..	..	1	0 0
b	4d. rose, two ..	each	1	6 0
a	4d. orange, engraved * ..	..	2	2 0
a b	ditto, no gum * ..	..	1	12 0

(To be continued.)

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# Postage Stamps AND Their Collection.

A PRACTICAL HANDBOOK ON THE STUDY OF  
PHILATELY FOR ALL COLLECTORS.

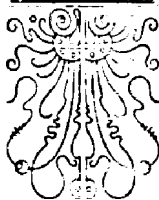
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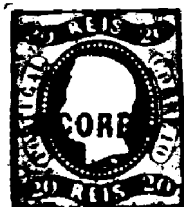
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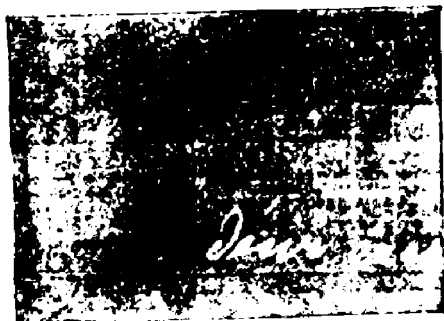
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*Hon. Secretary :*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The tenth Meeting of the Season was held at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, the following Members being present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, J. E. Joselin, H. Thompson, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atharley, F. B. Carr, D. Thomson, E. W. Hounson, Theo. Buhl, G. C. Warden, Junr., H. Chetwin, F. Vandembroucq, G. Gilbert, H. A. Mac-Millan, J. B. Neyroud, H. W. Plumridge, L. Bruce, and two visitors.

The great event of the evening was the display of the Stamps of Peru, by T. W. Hall, Esq. (of the London Philatelic Society.) interspersed by interesting notes of the many types of the early emissions and the various provisionals of the later issues.

A vote of thanks to Mr. T. W. Hall was proposed by Mr. H. Hilckes and seconded by Mr. Forbes.

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

Mar. 8th.—Paper, H. Hilckes, Esq., "English Postmarks."

Mar. 22nd.—Third Magic Lantern Display.

April 5th.—Sixteenth Auction Sale.

The Secretary would like to point out that he will be pleased to send, on receipt of request, to the friends of members or other gentlemen interested in philately, tickets for the **MAGIC LANTERN DISPLAY** but an early application for the same will oblige.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

At the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals

will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, The Philatelic Record, The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, The Collector-Dealer, The Stamp Collectors' Almanack, The Monthly Post, The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.*

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie, Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt, and Der Briefmarkenhandler Offertenblatt.*

From Russia: *The Stamp.*

From United States: *The American Journal of Philately, The Boston Stamp Book, The Home-Worker, The Evergreen State Philatelist, The Rocky Mountain Stamp, The Metropolitan Philatelist, The American Collector.*

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

The tenth ordinary Meeting of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 10th, 1897.

Mr. H. W. Mayne in the chair, supported by seven Members and two Visitors.

The minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed, and the receipt of the usual publications was reported.

Mr. A. M. Watkins, Stoke, was balloted for and elected an ordinary Member of the Society.

The Vice-President (Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens), having been unexpectedly called to London, the subject of study, the stamps of Barbados, which was to have been introduced by him, was unavoidably postponed.

The Chairman, Mr. Mayne, gave the Members an interesting account of how he commenced stamp collecting, and at the close of his remarks was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.—W. J. W. MILLER, *Hon. Sec.*, 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

**HULL AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

FEBRUARY 2nd.—The usual Meeting of this Society was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on this date, the President (E. W. Drury, Esq.) in the chair. There were 15 Members present.

The evening was devoted to a general display of British Colonial stamps. Mr. J. G. Smithson exhibited a fine collection of West Indians and the obsolete stamps of the Leeward Islands, also a good collection of Mauritius, Ceylon, &c. Major E. H. Johnson exhibited some British African Colonies including Cape of Good Hope and British African Companies.

February 16th.—The usual Meeting of this Society was held at the Grosvenor Hotel, Hull, on this date. The President (E. W. Drury, Esq.) in the chair. Eleven Members present.

There was a fine display of the stamps of Hamburg. Some very beautiful and rare specimens were shown by the President and Major Johnson and the Hon. Sec., with a great variety of postmarks, etc.—JAMES BURN, *Hon. Sec.*, 11, St. Luke's Street, Hull.

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**SET OF 12 FINLAND.**

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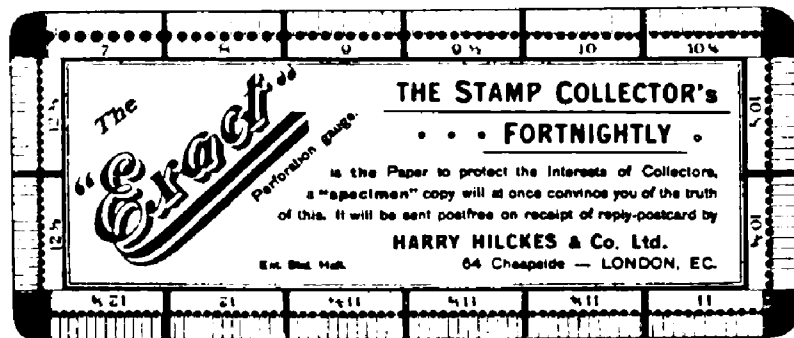
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PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed, are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.— Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

APPROVAL—British Colonials, Old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 95, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush, W. [3]

INTERNATIONAL Philatelist, Best American paper at price 1/-.—HERBERT C. BEARDSLEY, St. Joseph, Mo., U.S.A. [1]

BRAZIL—Send Post Card, Letter Card, or Official Envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian Any Country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and French.—ANTONIO DE CAMPOS SERRA, Limeira, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil. [10]

WANTED.—Exchange 50-200 stamps of one country, variety for variety, quantity for quantity. Also entire for United States, Canada and Newfoundland.—GEORGE A. GARDNER, 20, Prescott St, Lowell, Mass., United States. [1]

GOLD COAST, Lagos, Sierra Leone, C.A., used 4, 1, 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2, 3, 4, 6d. in dozens only 33 1/2 per cent under catalogue.—MR. F. DAVIES, 10, Howard Road, Cricklewood, N.W.

125 Penny Black English 37 6, first P.O. has them—ELLIOTT, 103, Moscow Drive, Liverpool

SMALL Dealers' Special Assortments. Wholesale list free.—COOPER, 65, Harberton Road, Highgate, London. [3]

GOOD Collections of Stamps taken in part payment for modern freehold houses, East or West Croydon. COURTNEY WELLS & Co., 53, London Road, Croydon.

100 Servia 1/6, 100 Bulgaria 1/7, 100 Roumania 8d, 100 Finland 8d, 100 Luxemburg 10d, 100 Sweden Official 10d, 100 Turkey 1/7, 100 Argentine 1/6, 100 Mexico, 100 Ecuador, 3/7, 100 Ecuador 1866 to 1892, 5/- Wholesale list free.—COOPER, 65, Harberton Road, Highgate, London.

BREAKING Collection started 1878, at half-prices. Write or call, 13, Brewer Street, Victoria, S.W. 2

CYPRUS, 12 piasres orange-brown, die 2, mint state, 22 6; Tobago, 1/- green, unused, 30/-; Canada, 10d, 25/-; Nevis, C.A., 1/- lilac, mint state, 40/-; all superb copies. Many other rarities equally cheap. State wants or list sent.—EDWARD HYAM, 46, Cornwall Road, Bayswater.

10,000 VARIETIES, value 1d. to £2, scientifically arranged in countries, sent on approval. References required.—DARLOW, Stamford Street, Altrincham.

APPROVAL—We have some nice cheap Sheets of clean Medium Stamps for collectors, chiefly used. KIRBY & Co., 32, Antonio Street, Bottle, Liverpool.

VENICE—Card of the Exhibition 1895 unused 8d. San Marino, cards 10 and 15c. (green) letter card, 20c. used 1/- Italy 1893, unused, cards, 15 and 15c.—15c. brown 10d. 1896 card of the wedding Savoja-Petrovitch used 24th October, 8d. The 7 pieces 2/10. All prices post free. Payment by money order.—POLLI LEWIS, Via Ore 5, Milan, Italy.

MOROCCO—Two new Courier Services were established in December last. Alcazar-Quazzan, seven stamps for 2/- Tetouan-Chechouan, seven stamps 2/- Apply to J. M. BENCHIMOL, Tangier, Morocco. [2]

OFFERS wanted.—St. Vincent's, used Nov 16, 17, 24, 37, in Gibbons 1897, Dominica 3 and 7-11; Brewer Street, Pimlico.

APPROVAL—Many Bargains, some rare, half and third catalogue prices, also book mixed stamps 4d. to 1/- each, averaging 60 per cent. below catalogue, extra discount 7 1/2 per cent. 10/-, 12 1/2 per cent. 20/- Wanted early unused Europeans.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 95, Coningham Road, Shepherd's Bush.

PICKED Specimens of Common and Medium Stamps, very cheap. Collection wanted. COLLECTOR, 7, Charleville Circus, Sydenham. [2]

GIBRALTAR and Morocco Stamps supplied at very cheap prices by CARL FRANK, Safi, Morocco. Please apply for Price List. [2]

ENGLISH Entire Embossed Envelopes from 1841 to date, also adhesives. Selections sent. English stamps of many kinds. A large variety of entries.—SANTOS STAMP CO., 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury, London. [12]

UNITED STATES 1895, 21 at 1/9, 25 9/-, Columbus 22 8/- each. Selections cheap, on approval. Cash or exchange, offers requested.—WILLIAM STAMP CO., 4, Gladesmore Road, Stamford Hill, London.

OLD PENNY RED ENGLISH on bits of Envelope, 500 for 1/- Letters in all corners. H. PEARSON, 58, Queen's Road, Bayswater

THE "S.C.F." "Lick Creation" Packet 8d. 80, all different, includes Bahamas 1d, Niger Coast, Newfoundland 1c, Porto Rico, Sandwich Isles, U.S., 10c, Travancore. List, over 500 sets gratis. Sheets 4d. stamps upwards. Prizes besides discount. Mounts 1000 6d. post free. Bright's Cat 2/0, Gibbons' 6/-, Firth's Book, 3/- all post free.—A. F. McANUSAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. [4]

UNUSED 100c, 100c, Gibraltar, 1/- order, 13 each, 10 6. HOMEWOOD, 2, Truro Street, N.W.

COLLECTORS invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from ROBERT RYD, JR., 20, Lichfield Road, New Gardens. [2]

SALE of a Superb Collection of Valuable British and Colonial Stamps, &c., duplicates from the extensive collection of C. M. Pelham Burn, Esq., Prestonfield House, Mr. DOWELL will sell as above, within his rooms, No. 15, George Street, Edinburgh on Saturday, 20th March, 1897, at Twelve o'clock. The Collection is arranged in lots of uniformly high value, many consisting of British, Colonial and American Stamps in unused condition. Catalogues will be forwarded on application.

MAKE HASTE! Our Stock is to be sold! Orders with remittance or references are only attended to. We offer post free and registered collection, to different stamps Gibraltar & Morocco, 2/-

Table with 3 columns: Stamp Name, Price, and Wholesale Price. Includes entries for Gibraltar 1890, Morocco (French post), and Mazagan-Marrakesh.

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WANTED. English and French Colonials. Approval Sheets. Value for value. Registered only. Common stamps refused. BEST REFERENCES. 6 Price Lists Free. Agents Wanted.

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See last number for Colonial Series.

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY).

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

March 11th, 12th, 30th and 31st. April 8th, 9th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

**MARCH 11th and 12th.**—By order of the Executors of the late GILBERT LOCKYER, Esq., his fine Collection of "BRITISH COLONIALS" and a Specialists' Collection of the "STAMPS OF SWITZERLAND," etc., including the following rarities:

GREAT BRITAIN, 2d. blue, no lines, unused and very fine. SAXONY, 3pf. red (2). FINLAND, error, unused with gum. TUSCANY, 2 soldi, unused with full gum. SWITZERLAND, Basle used on piece. DOUBLE GENEVA (2) on original envelope stamp used as an adhesive, Yaud, 4c., a grand specimen, used on piece; 5c. 2 pairs, Zurich, 4 rappen (3), and several 6 rappen, a grand lot of the later issues including made up plates of most values. A fine lot of CEYLON, including a grand specimen of the 3d. imperf. VANCOUVER ISLAND, 5c. rose, imperf., used on piece, superb. UNITED STATES, a fine lot. NEVIS, 1st issue complete, unused and fine. BAHAMAS, no wmk., perf. 13, 4d. rose, unused. ST. VINCENT, 1d. rose, imperf., a magnificent unused pair with enormous margins, C. and CA. 4d. blue, unused. TURKS ISLAND, 1/- prune, cut, a fine lot of provisionals including 2½d. on 1/- blue, 2½d. on 1/- prune and other scarce surcharges. BRITISH GUIANA, 1861, 1c. superb, 1862, provl. 1c. border of grapes, 2c. border of pearls. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- violet (2). BUENOS AYRES, 3 pesos green, 4 pesos brown, unused, 5 pesos orange, fine and others. TRANSVAAL, a very fine lot including the error "Transval" unused with gum, 3d. lilac-red, surcharge and wide roulettes and other rarities. A grand lot of SYDNEY VIEWS and LAUREATEDS, several unused, 1863-69, 2d. blue, wmk. 5, an unused pair with gum, and many others.

### VALUATIONS MADE IF REQUIRED.

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PUBLISHED IN APRIL.

THE

2nd EDITION.

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OF THE

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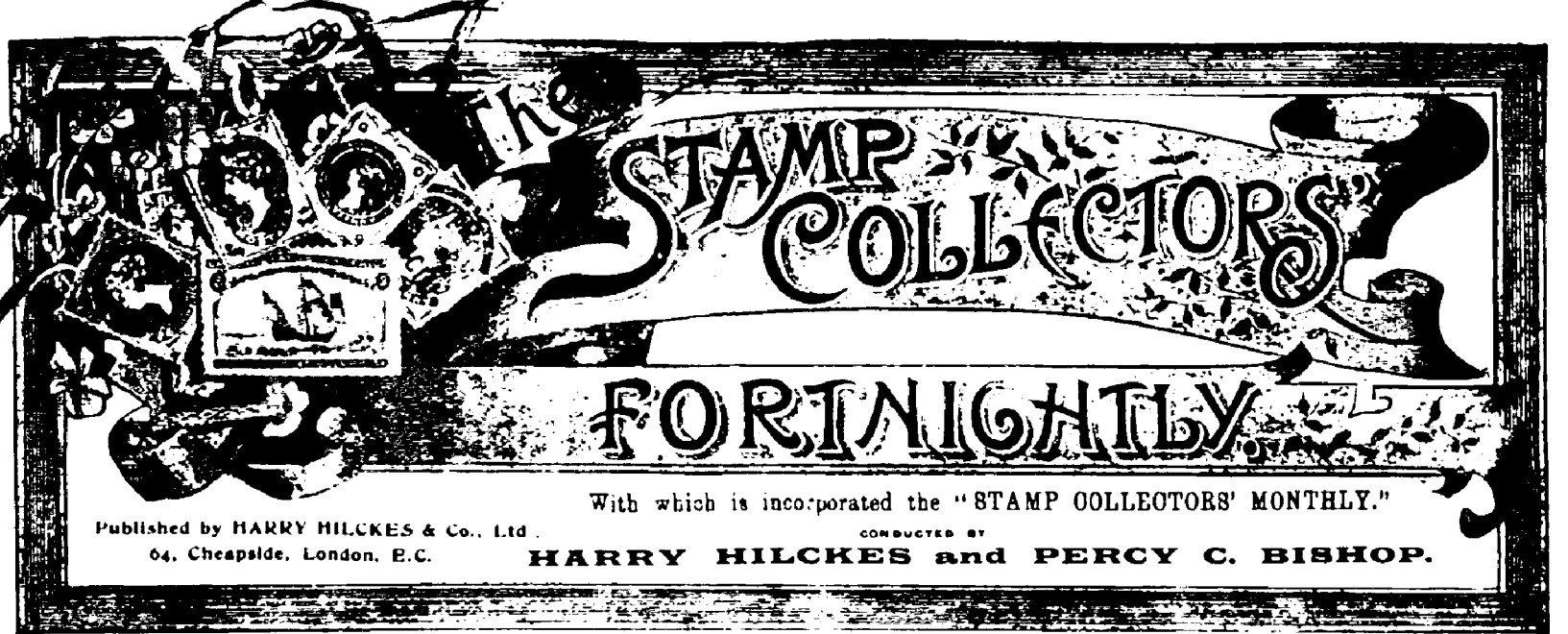
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

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The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 64.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

### JERMYN STREET CLUB MAY BE WOUND UP.

It now appears that the secret of the recent "rift in the lute" at 40, Jernyn Street is that the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, is on its last legs. A notice has just been issued calling a meeting of Shareholders for Monday, March 8th, to consider the position of the Club, and, "if deemed desirable," to pass a resolution to the effect that the concern be voluntarily wound up in accordance with the Companies Acts, and with Mr. Arthur Reginald Stanes as liquidator.

### A PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR BRISTOL.

We are glad to be in a position to announce that the preliminary arrangements for the formation of a Philatelic Society at Bristol are now completed. We hope to give in our next number full details as to the officers, membership, times of meeting, &c.

### TOO MANY WHEELS WITHIN WHEELS.

We greatly regret to see that the editor of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has allowed one of the contributors to his otherwise admirable causerie of provincial stamp gossip, "Wheels within Wheels," to vilify the Liverpool Philatelic Society. Had the criticism been an open one, and signed by its writer, no objection could have been raised; but our Liverpool friends warmly resent covert attacks by writers whose pen-names give no indication of their identity.

### AN AUCTION DATE ALTERED.

We are requested by Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper to draw attention to the fact that they have altered their sale advertised for the 14th and 15th April, to the 8th and 9th April.

### STAMP CLEANING FLUTTERS THE OFFICIALS.

With regard to the arrest of Thomas Webb, of Melbourne, for the alleged fraudulent cleaning of stamps, the latest news by cable is as follows: "In connection with the alleged stamp frauds, the Postmaster-General has communicated with the Government Analyst, with the object of ascertaining whether it is necessary to change the character of the colours used for printing and obliterating, so as to check this class of manipulation. Webb, the man accused of the frauds, has been remanded for a week."

### THE "HOSPITAL" STAMP SCHEME.

MR. F. C. COUPEES, writing to the *Daily Mail*, says: "In reference to the stamp scheme in connection with the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund, why not make the stamp purchased become a letter enabling the purchaser (or the one to whom the purchaser might give it), to have treatment at any hospital, a fresh stamp being required for each visit? This would be a gain to the hospitals, as letters, as a rule, entitle patients to attend perhaps for months, or, until a cure is effected. The stamps could be affixed to the page of a book kept for that purpose in each hospital, such book to go to the G.P.O. periodically, when the officials could cancel each page by their stamp and pay to the hospital authorities the amount represented by the stamps so cancelled. By this means the hospitals would be benefited in equal proportions to the number of patients in attendance, thereby preventing the difficulties of distribution which must occur under a general fund."

Issued and used as Mr. Coupees suggests, the stamp would, of course, have no "postal" character at all.

### IS FISCAL COLLECTING ON THE INCREASE?

SINCE the commencement of 1897, our well-known Belgian contemporaries, *Le Timbre Post* and *Le Timbre Fiscal* have been amalgamated to form one paper. There is some speculation as to what this change may mean, some people arguing that it indicates an increase in the ranks of the fiscalists. Be this as it may the change is one that should be welcome to all subscribers to Mons. Moens' paper. There was something ridiculous in the publication of two separate papers both of which could be—and as a matter of fact, were—printed by a single turn of the press.

**THE COOLGARDIE CYCLE POST.**

MR. HEALY, of Coolgardie, has given the *Australian Philatelist* a description of the Cycle Express founded by him, and alluded to in the "S.C.F." some months ago. The operations were brought to a close last year by the extension of the Government mail service.



The cycle postal service was first started in 1893, but no adhesive stamps were used during that year, the letters prepaid being handstamped with the word "paid."

In 1894 regular cycle mails were despatched to Widgiemulla (51 miles), Norseman (120 miles), and Dundas (140 miles). Both letters and telegrams were carried at charges varying from 6d. to 5/. The through record trip was again made by Bamlett, who, with fully 80lbs. weight of

mail matter on his bicycle, accomplished the distance in 12 hours.

In April, 1895, a regular cycle mail was despatched to Menzies, 110 miles, and the service was afterwards extended to Niagara, 135 miles, the charges being 2/6 and 5/.

When the Lake Darlot gold rush started, Hamblin, the champion mail cyclist, was despatched. The distance was 280 miles, and for some months the service proved the most remunerative of all, over £50 per trip being received.

In June, 1895, a regular cycle mail was despatched to Mount Margaret, Yerilla, Goore's Puzzle, &c., the through distance being 200 miles.

The Hannan's mail was started in October, 1895, during the boom. Several of the leading brokers, who were dissatisfied at the delay in the transmission of Government telegrams, suggested that this service should be opened, and the results justified the enterprise, several instances of cyclists beating the telegrams having occurred. A charge of 2s. 6d. each was made for messages, or a weekly subscription of 10s. 6d.

As early as June, 1895, the first supply of stamps was running short, and a new series was ordered consisting of three values, 6d., 2s., and 5s. Owing to vexatious delays these stamps did not arrive till June, 1896. By this time nearly all the routes formerly served by Healy's express were taken over by the Government, only the Mount Margaret and northern localities remaining open to the camel and cycle expresses.

The cycle post was finally abandoned in December last.

**SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF.**

OUR readers will remember the little note in No. 62, under the heading Nova Scotia, in which we stated that we would reply to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' attack in our next number. The engineer of this find, Mr. A. A. Bartlett, on reading that note, sent us the following letter, which, by the way, was not sufficiently prepaid and cost us 2d. to receive. It is, however, worth a good many twopences:—

Charlottetown,

Feb. 18th, 1897.

Harry Hilckes, Esq.

Dear Sir, Take the advice of one whom you have tried very hard to injure financially, though with poor success, and leave Major Evans alone. Don't run your neck any further into the noose than you have it in already, for I am in a position to give the most incontestable proof that no person living could have provided you with 25,000 sets of Nova Scotia stamps, and your mythical offer had no more stability than had a rope of sand. At this stage in the game anything further that you can say, will only do me good, and you harm; therefore I can scarcely be accused of having selfish motives to prompt me in telling you, that you will best conserve your own interests in letting Nova Scotian remainders severely alone.

Yours truly,

A. A. BARTLETT.

**ALLEGED FORGERY BY AN AUCTIONEER.**

AT Bow Street Police Court on Monday last, March 1st, Laurence Hubert Rockliffe, auctioneer (formerly trading as the London Philatelic Company), was charged before Mr. Lushington with forging and uttering a cheque. Mr. G. A. Scott prosecuted. Mr. Warburton defended. When the case was called an attempt was made to settle it. Mr. Warburton said the facts were admitted, but the prisoner

had no intention to defraud. The prisoner was quite willing to hand over to the prosecutor the amount in dispute, subject to the Magistrate's approval. Mr. Lushington, after carefully considering the written information drawn up before the warrant was issued, said the case must proceed. Thomas Henry Court, the prosecutor, said he was a stamp dealer, trading as the Philatelic Auction Company, of Great Portland Street. Last September he engaged the prisoner as an auctioneer. It was his duty to sell stamps by auction, but he had no authority to receive money. On December 9th, he sold some stamps to Mr. Giwells, of 88, Strand, for £33 5s. An account was sent to the purchaser, and it was then found that prisoner had received a cheque for that amount (less £2 5s., which was said to be owing by him), and had not accounted for it. He endorsed the cheque as manager, which he had no right to do. In cross-examination, witness admitted that prisoner had previously received cheques for stamps sold, and endorsed them quite openly. It was not true, however, that he had offered prisoner a partnership in the business. Mr. Maurice Giwells, of 88, Strand, stated that he gave a cheque to the prisoner in settlement of the account. Mr. Lushington ordered a remand.

**HOW STAMPS ARE BOUGHT IN TURKEY.**

AT the post office in Constantinople things are not hurried. When a man wants a stamp, something like the following scene is enacted. The purchaser approaches the counter, and after a series of very low and obsequious salaams, lays his right hand upon his heart and says:

"May this gracious morn prove a most happy one for thee, sir."

The official returns the salutation, and asks:

"What commandest thou?"

"Wouldst thou vouchsafe thy servant several stamps with which to send letters to America? As thou mayest know, my son Abdullah Effendi, the glass merchant of Ak Serai, is abiding at this moment in Chicago, and his family are desirous of communicating with him. Though I myself know not how to write, yet there is the son of my brother, the pipebowl manufacturer, skilled in the art, and he hath promised to oblige me in this matter."

"Very well, O worthy sir, but how many stamps dost thou desire?"

"Ah, my precious jewel, how many thinkest thou I should take? One will hardly suffice, as he doth not intend to return at present. Therefore, I pray thee, give me two."

"Excellent—excellent! Here they are. May I request the sum of four piastres in payment?"

"What sayest thou, my gentle lamb? Three piastres I always paid—never more. This was but a year ago, when Abdullah was at Paris, even at"—

"You are quite right, effendi; but the prices have changed. They cost more to-day."

"In very sooth, O apple of mine eye? Then the charge hath been increased?"

With this the Turk produces an intricately-knotted purse, and draws forth a bundle of paper money.

"Nay, nay, my adorable gem!" protests the official. "We accept no paper. Thou must pay in silver."

"What, thou refuseth paper! And wherefore? Is it not good money? Does not the Sultan guarantee its payment? Well, since thou declinest it, I will pay thee in copper."

"Nay, effendi, we take no coppers either. Thou must give me silver."

"Silver! I have it not. I pray thee take this copper, and thou shalt have some additional."

"I cannot do it, effendi. It is forbidden."

"Well then, thou shalt have silver. Here it is—the latest mintage."

"Accept my overflowing thanks, my exquisite turtle-dove."

"Allah be with thee, and increase thy shadow mightily!"

"Farewell, effendi. May thy beard grow to an exceeding great length!"

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WE have received an extraordinary and quite characteristic communication from Mr. Jack Phillips, the worthy postmaster of Amoy. Time was when Mr. Phillips was so incensed against the FORTNIGHTLY that he wrote us a curt letter which for terseness and pithiness rivalled the

best efforts of Julius Cæsar. "You are on the committee of the S.S.S.S." wrote Mr. Phillips; "kindly cancel my subscription to your paper." Could you have a more delightful example of cause and effect than this? By some means we managed to pacify Mr. Phillips, and now he and the FORTNIGHTLY are firm friends again. He seems to love us for our very sins. Under date January 12th, Mr. Phillips sends us a printed statement of the amount of mail matter which passed through the Amoy local post office during 1896. From this document, it appears that the total of the Amoy local postal traffic was 20,427 pieces of mail matter, made up of 10,308 letters, 6,873 newspapers, 2,420 parcels, and 826 registered letters and packages. But the object of the printed statement is not only to set forth these figures, but also to shew that the same amount of mail matter sent per English post would have cost something over £200, whereas all that the modest Mr. Phillips of Amoy charged his clients was a trifle over £80. All honour to this philanthropist of Amoy, we say. Fortunate indeed are the business men who reside within his sphere of influence. Would that we had a Phillips of Amoy in the Cheap-side district.

But there is one thing which the Amoy postmaster has omitted to do; he has omitted to issue a printed statement shewing the amounts received from stamp dealers and philatelic speculators as payments for consignments of Amoy stamps. Mr. Phillips makes a great boast of having saved much money for the traders in his district, but if he has saved that money at the expense of the philatelic community, we submit that he has been simply robbing Peter to ingratiate Paul.

From a Burnley reader we get the following interesting letter concerning Mr. Forbes' Exchange Club, the Stamp Collectors' Exchange Society, and with special reference to its principle, "exchange pure and simple."

DEAR SIR,

I have noticed the remarks on this head and Mr. Forbes' letter in your recent numbers.

I am afraid Mr. F. will only be able to make out a poor case. I have had dealings with this Society, so know something of it, not much, true, but enough to satisfy me.

A very little reflection will suffice to convince your readers that if every member is in "credit" before he can even see the packet (according to rule), somebody else must be in "debt" to a similar amount. Who this fortunate individual may be I leave you to guess.

In my own case, after being accepted by the Secretary as a "Member," I at once sent a sheet of stamps and, naturally, wanting to get into credit soon, I put some good stuff on it, mostly unused Colonials, and in about a month the sheet came home, 47 of the stamps out of 50 being cleared off. I examined the packet carefully for exchanges, but of the veriest rubbish I ever saw those packets be at all. The monthly packet visited me six or eight times before my "credit" was rubbed off, and this at a cost for postage account of about 5d. a time.

I have made a rough calculation that some one or other is being cheaply supplied with from £150 to £200 of capital in stamps, but happily, none of mine at present.

Yours affectionately,

Pure but not Simple.

Although we insert the above letter, we do so with some considerable reluctance, for we think that the point made by "Pure but not simple" is a very feeble one; but as we think we have mentioned before, we should have liked our friend

Mr. Forbes to reply in greater detail, fully defending the system on which his Exchange Society is run. There may of course be other clubs conducted on the same lines, but Mr. Forbes is, so far, the only secretary who has found that the cap fits. For ourselves, we are by no means convinced that the system of exchange under notice is in practice, but we should like further evidence. For after all, this is a matter of no so small importance to the philatelic public.

Mr. Henry Gummel, of New York, sends us his 1897 price list of U. S. A. and other stamps. It is a neat and well-arranged booklet, and, as stated recently in our Review of Reviews, it contains a notable innovation, the prices being arranged under three headings: unused, used first quality, and used second quality.

It is perhaps high time that we ceased giving Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. gratuitous advertising in this paper; but the following letter from a Kensington reader is so instructive that we cannot resist it:—

Whether the price, 5/-, of the 1/- Grenada of 1883 is a misprint or not I do not know, but 5/- fully represents the price Messrs. Stanley Gibbons ought to charge for the stamp. Last year I saw myself a letter of theirs to a correspondent in the West Indies saying that they were short of the 1/- stamp, and offering the magnificent sum of 3/6 apiece for them.

Our correspondent's assumption that a stamp bought by a dealer for 3/6 should be re-sold for not more than 5/- is as interesting as it is ingenious. Only two things are possible; either the price given in the new Gibbons' catalogue is a misprint as we have surmised, or Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are still "short" of this 1/- Grenada stamp, and have priced it low in order to buy low, which is popularly supposed to be the usual low-down game of the cataloguer.

By the way, the *Collector Dealer*, one of our newest contemporaries, has a few words to say on this question.

"Say! going down the Strand? Call at 391, and get some 1/- violet Grenadas, at 5/-"

"How many?"

"Buy the shop out."

Concerning home-made hinges, about which we had something to say not long since, "Collector" writes as follows:—

DEAR SIR,

In your last issue I noticed a cutting from an American paper dealing with this subject and advocating the use of "dextrine." May I ask what is dextrine? I may be very ill informed, but have always understood this word was used to designate that corrosive preparation of potato starch which has ruined more valuable stamps than all the ladies and schoolboys put together, and which, in consequence, philatelists hold in great abhorrence. This abominable composition destroys not only the colours of stamps, but even the tissue of their paper as well. Yet we frequently find the mounts sold by high-class dealers coated with this villainous stuff!

What therefore is badly wanted by collectors is some simple test whereby they could ascertain the purity, or the reverse, of all adhesives or adhesive papers offered them? Any chemist who devised such a test would be conferring a great boon upon stamp collectors of all classes.

Mounts are of course easily and cheaply made if we can only obtain pure gum arabic, the purer the better, and innocuous paper. With regard to this latter the writer over the water advocates type-writing paper, though why he assumes that kind to have less "fixed oxygen" and therefore "chemically pure," I am at a loss to imagine.

## PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING MARCH 20, 1897.

### Auction Sales.

March 8th. Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m., precisely.

March 9th and 10th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.

March 11th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at The Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 6 p.m. precisely.

March 11th and 12th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.

March 16th and 17th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

#### SUBSCRIPTION RATES. s. d.

One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ½d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 6, 1897.



WHEN on the Continent recently, we found that a number of prominent dealers and collectors felt sorely aggrieved with the Executive Committee of the London Philatelic Exhibition for sending out the circulars relating to the Exhibition in English only. And we think the complaint is a just grievance. If we are not mistaken, it was intended to make the Exhibition an International one, and to give as many facilities to Foreign Exhibitors as possible.

We should be very sorry to see a paucity of foreign visitors as a consequence of this neglect on the part of the Advertising Committee. To remedy this we would suggest that advertisements in French and German should appear in the various advertising sheets on the Continent, giving a kind of summary of the Prospectus. Owing to the Advertising Committee's omission, very little is known abroad concerning the Exhibition, in proof of which we may mention that the very date seems to be unknown; for it is a singular thing that this year's Philatelic Congress (Philatelisten Tag) is fixed for the same time as the London Exhibition! This would surely not have been the case had the principal German philatelists been well informed concerning the arrangements made. Unfortunately it now seems inevitable that quite a large number of foreign philatelists who would otherwise have visited London in July next, will be debarred from doing so.

\* \* \*

MORE bad news from Jermyn Street! When we gave publicity recently to the valedictory letter of the Committee of Management we hoped that the resignation of those gentlemen portended nothing of a more serious character than a little friction between Directors and Committee. It is now evident, however, that worse has happened. The Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, is apparently in the lowest of low water. A notice has just been issued to all holders of shares in this concern, convening a meeting on Monday next, March 8th, at the registered offices of the Company, 40, Jermyn Street, W. The notice intimates that the business of the meeting will be to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass certain resolutions which are formally set forth. The first of these suggested resolutions provides for the voluntary winding up of the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Acts. The second appoints the new Secretary of the Club, Mr. Stanes, as

liquidator; and the third gives the liquidator power to sell the property of the Company and to make the best terms he can with the Company's creditors.

It is with the keenest regret that we note the decline and fall of what promised to be an admirable philatelic institution. Just as we were the first to assist the Jermyn Street scheme with our pen and influence, so we are the first to deplore its untimely end. For "end" it evidently is. When "winding up" is talked of in connection with a concern like this, there is little left to hope for. But why is it that a venture which was so hopeful at the outset now needs "winding up?" Why did it ever "run down?" We fear that it is the old, old story of incompetent management by well-meaning but inexperienced persons.

### Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

Zanzibar.—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have now been able to send us a complete set of this new issue as follows:

½ anna green, flags in red.	
1 .. dark blue, flags in red.	
2 .. red-brown .. ..	
3 .. steel gray .. ..	
4 .. deep green .. ..	
4½ .. yellow-orange.. ..	
5 .. golden-brown.. ..	
7½ .. mauve .. ..	
8 .. olive .. ..	
1 rupee blue .. .. (larger size).	
2 .. yellow-green .. ..	
3 .. purple .. ..	
4 .. magenta .. ..	
5 .. olive-brown .. ..	



British East Africa.—For some occult reason, some of the above sets of Zanzibar have been surcharged British East Africa, and the following values have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King as being so treated:

½ anna green.	4½ anna yellow-orange.
1 .. dark blue.	5 .. golden-brown.
2 .. red-brown.	7½ .. mauve. }
3 .. steel grey.	

Further, the 1 anna and 3 annas have, in addition, been surcharged 2½ in red. We wonder whether the Zanzibar Post Office is managed by a philatelist? It would account, perhaps, for a good many of the recent postal atrocities.

China.—Here is good news wrapped up in a bad cover! Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. write us: "The Imperial Chinese Post is now in operation, but as the new stamps are not ready the remainder of the old Customs stamps, with values in candelins have been over-printed with fresh values in cents for the new service." As the stock was only expected to last a few weeks we suppose they are all finished before now. "You will be glad to learn," Messrs. Whitfield King continue, "that all the local posts in China have been suppressed with the sole exception of that of Shanghai."

Jamaica.—Our friend, Mr. Fouché, of Kingston, advises us now that the new issue of the 1/-, 2/-, and 5/- are out. He reports them to be of same colour but different shade to the old ones, but watermark is now C.A., perf. 14.

Japan.—Since the gold standard is now adopted for this country, we shall, in all probability, see a new set of stamps in the altered currency.

Panama.—The 50 cents has been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., in a rich brown shade.

50 cents deep brown.

For illustration see No. 60, page 93.



# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

## → THIRD ARTICLE. ←

(N.B.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

For use in London and District.

The 1844 obliterations for London were of two kinds. The first, generally known as the "City" type, consisted of the office number in a diamond, surrounded by a varying number of straight lines, the whole being oval in shape; the second, called the "Suburban" type, was similar, but with the office number enclosed by a circle.

"City" Type.—The number of broken lines at the sides varies from three to ten, the lines above and below from one to three. The diamond varies from 8 to 20mm. in height, and from 10 to 16mm. in width. The figures are from 4 to 8mm. high. This type is used exclusively in the chief office. I have only seen it in black and green, though it is said to exist also in red, violet and blue.

Type 9.



Type 9 may be found with from 5 to 14 lines. The illustration is taken from a stamp used in 1851.

Type 9a.



Type 9a. is taken from a stamp used in 1865.

Type 9b.



Type 9b. is taken from a copy of the 1d. rose red.

Type 9c.



Type 9c. is the type now in use (Aug. 1896).



9d.



9e.

Type 9d. is taken from 1d. plate 106 (in use 1867-70). This is the only copy of this variety I have seen.

Type 9e. I have only seen with Nos. 34, 42, 43, 44, 46 in the centre, and on the stamps in use 1869-73.



9f.



9g.

Type 9f. is without the "diamond" round the number.

Type 9 is known without the number in the centre; with R.L.B. (Returned Letter Branch) in the centre in place of a number; with the figures 1 & 2 horizontal instead of vertical (9g.); with A1 in the centre (9h). The numbers used in this series is said to run from 1 to 107 inclusive, but I have seen one copy bearing the number 120.



9h.

"Suburban" Type.—This type of obliteration appears to have been introduced for use in the London Postal District, other than the Chief Office. The numbers 1 to 49, were so used; the numbers from 50 upwards were, from some unknown date to 1874, used in the Chief Office. In 1874, and since that date, the numbers 50 to 76, have been used according to the original intention. The numbers 76 to 104, are now used in the chief office. As with the previously-mentioned types, there exists a great diversity in the size, figures, and number of lines.



Type 10. = 2370

Type 10 was used in 1851.

" 10a " July, 1853.

" 10b " July, 1896.

" 10c. Nearly circular in shape (similar to 9b).

Type 10 exists in black, blue, red, green, and violet. The number of broken lines vary from 6 to 13, and the size of the circle from 10 to 15 mm. Type 10b may be found without the figure below the circle, and with the number only in the centre; with two lines above and below, and with four, five, or six broken lines at the sides. I have seen one copy of Type 10 in which the figures were enclosed in a horizontal oval instead of a circle.



10a



10b.

Obliterations with District Letters.—In 1856, London was divided into postal districts, each with a head office, as follows:—E.C., E., N., N.E., N.W., S., S.E., S.W., W., W.C. Each district used a separate series of numbers for obliteration.

These numbers, so far as I know them, are as follows:—

E.C. 50 to 97 (as type 11d). 1 to 63 (as type 11h).

E. 1 to 39. N. 1 to 28. N.E. 1 to 20.

N.W. 1 to 29. S. 1 to 23. S.E. 1 to 32.

S.W. 1 to 60. W. 1 to 59. W.C. 1 to 37.

These numbers vary considerably from the list given by Mr. Ewen; but while my list may not be complete, that is, each district may use higher numbers, the numbers I give are those I have actually seen.

I am unable to find whether these districts were formed at one time, or whether the system grew out of a smaller scheme. The N.E. and S. districts do not now exist, and I have not seen either of these obliterations on stamps issued before 1863 or after 1880. Collectors will find it extremely difficult to obtain single specimens of these two districts, without attempting to make a complete set.

Besides the districts mentioned above, certain London branch offices used a distinguishing obliteration. These, with the numbers used, are as follows, and here again I cannot vouch for the completeness of my list of numbers.

L.S. (Lombard St.) 1 to 8. C. X (Charing Cross).

P. (Paddington). 1 to 21. G.S. (Gracechurch St.) 1 only.

M.L. (Mark Lane). S.M.P. (St. Martin's Place).

T.A. (Throgmorton Avenue). B.S. (Bedford St.)

(To be continued).

## Nova Scotia—the True Figures.

MR. J. W. SCOTT, of New York, in his latest *Weekly News Letter*, reports that the exact amount paid to the Nova Scotian Government for the now famous remainders was \$17,977, and that the stamps were probably made up of the following quantities: 94,000 each of the 1c., 2c., and 8½c. stamps; 47,000 of the 10c. stamp, and 23,500 of the 12½c. stamp. We shall deal further with this item of news in our next number.



# Our Review of Reviews.

## Common Stamps at High Prices.

**C**RAMMED with matter more or less interesting is the *Philatelic Newsletter* of Mineapolis, U.S.A. Some remarks by the editor, Mr. J. W. Achard, on the subject of the mixed reception accorded to the 57th edition of Scott's Catalogue are well worth quoting here.

If ever a publication has received advertising and at the same time castigation, such a work is the 57th edition of the Standard Catalogue. Berated and lampooned because of the seemingly inconsistent raise in prices, it has become well-known before its issuance. The collector and dealer as well have taken a hand in the thrashing, and it would seem as though no one cared to raise his voice in defence. It strikes us that much of the criticism is merited and that many of the stamps which are comparatively common have been boosted beyond their normal values. We belong to the number who believe that the proper listing can be found in auction sales to a large extent. We believe that the proper standard of prices will always be had there, because supply and demand are elements that largely enter into and control the prices which ordinary, sane people will give for the more obsolete and rare specimens. A stamp which is perfect in all particulars is only worth what people will pay for it. What is true in other business ventures should be applicable to the stamp world.

Many other topics of current interest are well discussed, and there are one or two highly instructive articles.

### A DROLL MENU.

The Mineapolis Philatelic Society, of which Mr. Achard's paper is official organ, recently held its first annual banquet. The menu, which we doubt not proved good eating, certainly makes droll reading. Here it is:

#### BLUE POINTS.

(Strip of Six, on Original Cover)

#### CELERY.

(Trimmed)

#### SOUP.

(Original Gum)

#### ROAST YOUNG TURKEY.

(For Offices in the Levant)

#### BAKED SWEET POTATOES.

(Confederate Locals)

#### GREEN PEAS.

(Seebecks)

#### POTATO SALAD.

(Several Varieties, Well Mixed)

#### ZEPHER CRACKERS.

(From Windward Islands)

#### APPLE PIE.

(Cut Diagonally and Used as a Provisional)

#### ROQUEFORT.

(Obsolete)

#### WATER CRACKERS.

(Tough Wove Paper)

#### PUNCH.

(Watermarked Wavy Lines)

(Porous)

(Cuban Reminders)

#### COFFEE.

#### CIGARS.

## National Society for India.

The *Philatelic World* of Calcutta opens its December number with the announcement that Mr. Larmour and his colleagues in their scheme for establishing the Philatelic Society for India have decided that they will, at all events, run the projected Society for a year "experimentally." Mr. Larmour goes on: "That is to say, we shall be prepared to meet the expenditure which may be incurred in working the Society for one year after crediting the subscription of 20 rupees per annum to be paid by each member. We do not anticipate that this fee will be otherwise than very insignificant, and feel sure that the result will be that 1898 will see the Philatelic Society of India on a sound and independent basis." So mote it be.

The *Philatelic World* is always excellent. We note a well stocked column devoted to forgeries and reprints, and an instructive article headed "The Amateur Dealer."

## A Hobby within a Hobby.

In America the fad of collecting anything and everything that can by any stretch of imagination be called philatelic literature is being carried to somewhat absurd lengths. We have received the fourth number of a publication known as the *Philatelic Literaturist*, issued by Messrs. Doughty & Page. The paper consists simply of the catalogue of an auction sale of philatelic books and journals held by the publishers. The whole thing is taken very seriously indeed. There is a long list of "Terms," comprising such matters as the manner in which bids may be made, the minimum and maximum bids permissible, and the condition of the various lots included in the sale. All the papers mentioned in the list, we are assured, are in "the finest condition." There are no torn copies, no copies surcharged "specimen" by rubber stamp, and all are innocent of those flippant comments with which some people are wont to decorate their reading matter. If this sort of thing goes on, there will certainly have to be a vocabulary of the philatelic literature business, just as there is a recognised vocabulary for stamp auctions. We may not say that a stamp journal is "o.g.," though we have seen various respectable publications with edges undoubtedly "perf." It all seems a little absurd, but let us not condemn it too hastily! Philately itself seemed very silly at first.

## A Philatelic Examination Paper.

The second number of Mr. Quinton's nondescript publication, the *Collector-Dealer* is to hand. Its *raison d'être* is still shrouded in mystery, unless its object be the very obvious one of advertising the wares of Mr. Charles S. Clinton, who is a bookseller, stamp dealer, printer and publisher. Still, taking the *Collector-Dealer* as we find it, one has to admit that it makes bright and acceptable reading. Someone whose identity is concealed beneath a pen-name, sends the editor the following poser in the shape of a philatelic examination paper:—

1.—Estimate the value (a) for selling purposes, (b) for buying purposes, of the sign "—" in any priced catalogue of stamps you are acquainted with.

2.—Should you consider it the duty of the S.S.S.S. to look after these signs, as they may be of a dangerously speculative nature? Answer fully.

3.—At what period from the date of publication should you reasonably expect to buy stamps from the publishers at their catalogued rates.

4.—Do you know of any instances of stamps depreciating in value in the interval between the publication of an old and a new edition of a catalogue, and of their being sold by the cataloguers at the depreciated rate? Name the catalogue, give as many instances as you can, and authorities where possible.

7.—Distinguish between 'Nova Scotia remainders' and 'unnecessary issues.' What is the difference, broadly speaking, between the following:—Unnecessary and speculative issues, remainders, reprints, bogus stamps, and forged ditto? What claim has either to be considered a postage-stamp.

6.—A De la Rue stamp has had two dies. How many lives altogether has it? Will it, in your opinion, Die I. day, or will it ever Die II. soon.

7.—What is the power of a magnifying-glass capable of showing beyond dispute the difference between these two dies? How many minor varieties will it be possible in course of time, at this rate, to collect—and where will it all end?

8.—Should you consider the collector of postmarks a philatelist? If so, explain how and where philately comes in.

For answering all these questions the editor is promised the gift of "a lovely new Seebeck."

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**, February 2nd and 3rd, 1897.

(Continued from page 128).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s d.
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved	0 14 0
a	6d. lilac-grey *	2 2 0
b	ditto *	1 7 0
a	6d. bronze-grey, used	0 18 0
a	6d. green *	7 12 6
a b	6d. orange-brown	0 19 0
a	1/- green, perf. 13 *	4 4 0
a	1/- green, perf. 15 *	5 15 0
a	1 - lilac *	1 10 0
B	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, small margins	1 14 0
a	Connell, proof ..	1 14 0
a b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	£1 5s. od. and 1 7 0
b	ditto, used ..	1 10 0
b	4d. orange ..	£1 10s. od. and 1 12 0
b	6d. orange, large margins, two ..	each 2 0 0
b	ditto, small margins ..	1 6 0
a	6½d. carmine-red, large margins *	11 10 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 1, on yellowish..	1 4 0
A	ditto, 1d., plate 2, ditto ..	2 16 0
b	ditto, ditto, ditto ..	0 16 0
a	ditto, ditto, on bluish ..	17/- and 1 1 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2 ..	1 18 0
b	ditto, ditto, worn, large margins ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 3 ..	16/- and 1 1 0
b	Diadem, 2d. blue, imperf., wmk. 5 *	3 7 6
b	ditto, 5/- purple, perf. 10 by 12 *	3 0 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue ..	1 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, strip of 3 ..	4 10 0
a	ditto, a single ..	1 6 0
b	6d. yellow-green *	5 10 0
c	Oldenburg, second issue, ¼gr. green, somewhat thinned*	3 17 6
b	ditto, 1gr. blue *	0 17 0
b	third issue, ¼gr. green *	0 19 0
b	ditto, ¼gr. brown *	0 19 0
a	Queensland, 2,6 scarlet, block of 4 *	7 10 0
a	5/- fawn, block of 4 *	6 5 0
a b	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. *	1 8 0
b	ditto, used ..	0 12 0
A	6d. olive-brown, block of 4 *	6 15 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.), blue, star ..	£2 and 2 8 0
a b	4d. black and yellow, CA., perf. 12 *	2 7 0
A	6d. lilac, CA. *	2 6 0
A	1/- black and orange *	6 0 0
b c	1/- orange-brown ..	1 15 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange-yellow ..	1 6 0
A	4d. blue, no wmk., block of 4 *	4 4 0
A	4d. ultramarine, CA., perf. 12 *	4 15 0
a b	4d., ditto, perf. 14 *	4 0 0
A	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12, pair *	3 12 6
a	1/- indigo *	4 0 0
b	1 - vermilion, star, perf. about 12 *	4 0 0
a b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., pair ..	1 16 0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ..	1 14 0
a b c	Switzerland, Basel, 2½r. fine, but very slightly thinned	5 10 0
a	Vaud, 5c., on piece ..	1 3 0
a	Zurich, 6r., horizontal lines, on piece ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, ditto ..	1 3 0
b	ditto, 6r. vert. lines, on piece ..	1 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue ..	2 10 0
a b	ditto ..	1 17 0
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	3 12 0
a	Trinidad, Litho, 1d. green-blue, late, on piece ..	3 15 0
a	United States, New York, 5c. black, penmark ..	1 6 0
a	(1856), 90c. blue *	3 10 0
b	(1861), 5c. mustard ..	0 19 0
a b	ditto, 90c. blue, pair, badly centred *	3 7 6
b	(1869), 24c. *	2 12 0
a	Victoria, Queen on Throne, 2d. red-brown, engraved, strip of 5 *	6 10 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, perf. 15 ..	1 0 0
b	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	0 17 0
b	ditto, used ..	0 15 0
a b	6d. rose, perf. 15 *	3 17 6
a b	1/- crimson, border ..	14/- and 0 18 0
b	1/- crimson, double line *	3 17 6
a	1/- crimson, single line *	3 5 0
b	Western Australia, first issue, 4d. blue, roulette ..	1 16 0
a b	Zululand, 5/- carmine *	2 18 0

Messrs. **BUHL & Co.**, February 8th and 9th, 1897.

b	Antioquia (1875), 1c. black on white laid *	1 2 0
a	Bolivia (1867), 5c. lilac ..	1 0 0
b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), 2 rupees red ..	1 5 0
b	ditto, 3 rupees purple ..	1 0 0
b	ditto, 4 rupees blue ..	0 15 0
a	ditto, 5 rupees olive-green ..	1 0 0
a	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown *	1 8 0
b	British South Africa, 1/- yellow (on Cape) *	0 16 0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, 5/- orange, CA. ..	1 1 0
b	Congo, first issue, 5r. violet ..	0 14 0
b c	Danish West Indies, first issue, 3c. red, roulette ..	1 12 0
b	French Colonies, 4c. grey ..	1 2 0
b	Gold Coast, 20/- green and red *	6 12 6
b	Hanover, 10gr. green *	2 0 0
a	Naples, ¼t. blue, cross, on entire journal ..	4 5 0
b	50gr. lake ..	1 2 0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved ..	0 16 0
a	Newfoundland, 1/- lake ..	1 2 6
a	New Zealand, 4d. rose *	1 5 0
A	Philippines (1854), 2r. green, block of 3 ..	3 15 0
a	ditto, 10 cuartos rose ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, 5 cuartos orange ..	1 2 0
b	(1875), 25c. blue *	1 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. ..	1 1 0
b	Schleswig-Holstein, 4sch. bistre ..	1 10 0
a	Straits Settlements, Perak, 2c. vert. on 4c. rose, narrow E ..	0 16 0
b	ditto, ditto, broad E *	0 15 0
a	Trinidad, red on blue, imperf. *	0 16 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12 ..	1 10 0

Messrs. **VENTOM BULL & COOPER**, Feb. 10th and 11th, 1897.

b c	Antioquia (1874), 5 pesos rose ..	0 16 0
a	(1876), 5c. green, on laid, background of crossed lines two copies, penmarks ..	each 1 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, ditto, plain ground ..	1 15 0
a	ditto, ditto, ditto, penmark ..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 10c. lilac, penmark ..	2 0 0
b	Bahamas, 1/- green, perf. 12½ ..	0 15 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose ..	1 18 0
b	Bremen, 2gr. orange, perf., on entire ..	1 4 0
b	3gr. blue, imperf., on entire ..	0 14 0
b	5gr. rose, perf. on entire ..	1 1 0
a	10gr. black, ditto, ditto ..	3 0 0
b	55gr. green, ditto, ditto ..	0 18 0
a	British Columbia, 10c., perf. 12½ ..	2 12 0
a	British Guiana (1862), 2c. yellow, pearls, wide margins but no roulette ..	4 10 0
b	4c. blue, perf. 12½ ..	2 0 0
a b	British Honduras, 50c. small on 1/- grey *	3 3 0
a	Canada, 6d. lilac, on thick ..	1 6 0
b	7½d. green ..	1 14 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
b	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. lilac, roulette	2	5 0
a	1/- emerald	0	18 0
a b	Ceylon, 1/9 green, imperf.	4	0 0
a	8d. brown, star, perf.	2	10 0
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk.	1	12 0
b	ditto	0	15 0
b	5c. on 24c. purple brown	1	9 0
b	16c. lilac, CA.	1	0 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, perf. 12½	0	15 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1	17 0
a	Gold Coast, 20/- green and red, penmark	1	12 0
a	Great Britain, 1/- salmon, plate 13, spray	1	1 0
a b	2/- brown	2	0 0
b	5/- rose, plate 1	1	16 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green, on piece	2	6 0
b	ditto, not on piece	1	10 0
a	Labuan, 12c. carmine, CA. sideways	4	10 0
a	1 dollar, in red manuscript, on 16c. blue	10	10 0
b c	Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d., fair, but cut very close	10	10 0
b	Small Fillet, 2d., very late	0	15 0
b	Britannia, 4d. black on green	3	10 0
a	Mecklenburg Schwerin, 2sch. grey-lilac	2	15 0
c	Moldavia, 81 paras blue, cut square, fair, but thinned	95	0 0
a b	Nevis, 4d. rose	2	17 6
a	4d. orange, engraved	2	8 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	1	2 0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	1	0 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	13	0 0
b	ditto, penmark	1	10 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange	2	0 0
b	ditto	1	4 0
b c	4d. orange, large margins	1	6 0
a	8d. carmine-red	0	16 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. plate 2	0	16 0
b	ditto, 3d. green	1	5 0
b	North German Confederation, first issue, ½gr. rose (error), roulette	1	0 0
a b	Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green, £1 1s. od., £1 3s. od. &	1	4 0
b	Oii Rivers, ½d. green block on 2½d.	0	17 0
A	½d. green, sans serif on 2½d.	1	5 0
A	½d. blue block on 2½d.	0	19 0
a	½d. red, sans serif, on 2½d.	1	8 0
b	½d. carmine block on 2½d.	0	18 0
a	1/- violet on 2d.	1	16 0
A	1/- red on 2d.	1	16 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. green	1	9 0
c	Philippines, first issue, 5 cuartos orange, engraved, good but small nick	5	10 0
a	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf, strip of 3	78	0 0
2a 1c	ditto, a pair and a single, on piece	24	0 0
c	6d. green, imperf., part gum, somewhat thinned	12	0 0
a b	ditto, used on piece	1	18 0
b	ditto, ditto	1	10 0
b c	ditto, ditto	£1 and	1 5 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	2	0 0
b	(6d.) green, no perms. one side	£1 2s. od. and	1 5 0
a	1/- black and orange	5	5 0
A & a	St. Vincent, 1d. rose-red, imperf., pair	7	0 0
b	6d. yellow-green, no wmk., clean perf. 15½, surface flaw in paper	18	0 0
a	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12	1	6 0
b	Shanghai, first issue, 1 cand. blue	1	0 0
b	Spain (1851), 6r. blue	0	17 0
a	Sweden, 24sk. bco., pale red, on entire	1	12 0
b	Switzerland, Geneva, 5c. blue-green, on piece	1	2 0
b	Neuchatel, 5c.	1	7 0
2b 2c	Tasmania, 1d. blue, vert. strip of 4, corners of strip clipped, on piece, penmark	8	10 0
a	ditto, a single, postmark	1	11 0
a b	Tuscany, 3 lire dark yellow, fine but cut close	60	0 0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf.	2	6 0
b	(1856), 90c. blue	3	0 0
b	Newspapers, 5c. blue with blue border	1	14 0
b	Periodicals, 9c. black	1	12 0
b	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	3	0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line	3	12 6
A	Western Australia, 6d. golden bronze	7	15 0
a	6d. black-bronze	2	18 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, no thread	18/- and	1 0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., February 15th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	
		£	s. d.
A	British Bechuanaland, £5. "Specimen"	0	16 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green	2	4 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA.	4	0 0
a	Fernando Poo, 50c. on 5c. pair, on piece	3	15 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	2	16 0
b	Great Britain, 6d. brown, plate 12	1	0 0
a	10/- grey, anchor	1	12 0
a b	£1 lilac-brown, cross	1	7 0
a	ditto, "Specimen"	0	14 0
b	L.R. Official (1885), 1/- green	1	4 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., medium early	8	0 0
a b	Nevis, 4d. rose	3	5 0
b	4d. orange, engraved	0	14 0
b	4d. orange, litho.	0	17 0
b	1/- yellow-green	2	4 0
a	1/- yellow-green, on laid	50	0 0
a	Newfoundland, 1/- lake	0	17 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1/- plum, large margins	16	10 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown	4	5 0
b	St. Lucia, 1/- orange-brown	2	10 0
b c	Saxony, 3pf. red, fine, but slightly thinned	6	0 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC.	3	17 6
b	Turks Islands, 4d. blue	1	4 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- single line	4	0 0
a	Wurtemberg, 70k. rose-lilac	4	0 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, February 16th and 17th, 1897.

a	Antigua, 1/- lilac	0	17 0
a b	Bahamas, 1d. lake, perf. about 15	1	6 0
a	Barbados, 1/- black, imperf., pair	4	15 0
a	British Bechuanaland, 2/- green, "Protectorate"	2	6 0
A	5/- green, ditto	3	15 0
b	British Levant, 40 paras on ½d. red	0	16 0
b	Canada, 6d. dark violet	0	17 0
b c	7½d. green, part gum, somewhat discoloured	5	15 0
a	10d. blue on thick	0	19 0
b	12d. black, "Specimen"	2	10 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red	2	10 0
b	ditto, 4d. blue	1	12 0
a b	ditto, 4d. light blue	1	10 0
a	3d. red on blue, PENC.B.	1	1 0
a	ditto, THE.EE.	1	6 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. purple-brown, CC.	1	12 0
a	Confederate States, Petersburg, 5c. red, on entire	1	15 0
b	Great Britain, the V.R., just touched at top, otherwise mint	11	10 0
a	India, 4a. red and blue, pair with blue dividing line, 18mm. apart	1	6 0
a	2a. green, no wmk.	3	12 0
b	Service, 2a. green on long lilac	1	10 0
b	ditto, 4a. ditto	2	14 0
b	Ionian Islands, 2d. carmine, on entire	1	12 0
a	Japan, first issue, 500 mons pale yellow-green, on laid, block of 8	7	15 0
a	Malta, ½d. on bluish	1	1 0
b c	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., medium early	2	2 0
b	ditto, 1d., medium	1	5 0
b	ditto, 1d., ditto, large margins	1	15 0
a b	ditto, 1d. on bluish, worn, block of 4	11	0 0
a	ditto, 1d. ditto, on piece	1	9 0
a	ditto, 1d. on white, large margins	1	2 0
a	ditto, 2d., medium early	8	15 0
c	ditto, 2d., ditto, tiny tear	3	10 0

(To be continued.)

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No. 7. Roumania (scarce), obsolete, Russia, St. Lucia (scarce), St. Vincent, South Australia, Spain, Sweden, Transvaal, Tiavancore (scarce), Trinidad (1883 obsolete), Turkey, U.S.A.

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ditto, used... ..	0	2 6
<b>B.S.A.</b> , 3d. on 4/- yellow, unused ...	0	17 6
<b>TRINIDAD</b> , perf. 13, thick paper, 1/- bright violet ...	3	10 0
*6d. grey, 1883, unused ...	0	1 9
*1/- pale brown, 1883, unused ...	0	3 6
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<b>N.S.W.</b> , 6d., registered, wmk., reconstructed sheet of 50, all fine specimens ...	20	0 0
<b>NOVA SCOTIA</b> , 5c. blue, unused ...	0	17 6
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White Paper Blued Paper Die. Large. Medium. Small.

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(All Actual Sizes.)

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Unused, Set of 6 on Cape, ½d. to 6d.	15	0
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" " used " " " "	20	0
3d. on 5/- B. S. A., unused " " " "	15	0

<b>Great Britain, £5, very fine</b>	42	0
<b>B. Bechuanaland,</b>		
1/- on English, unused (cat. 7/6)	3	0
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CAPE, Triangular, 4d. on blue, block of 2,		
very fine	6	0
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NEVIS, 4d. orange, litho., very fine	23	0
" 6d. grey	27	0
N.S.W., Sydney View, 3d. green	14	6
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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 65—No. 13—Vol. III.      SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1897.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

- Bristol Philatelic Society.    Cambridge University Philatelic Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society.    The City of London Philatelic Club.    Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Sheffield Philatelic Society.

## Special List for the Month.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Finland, first issue, 1 mark buff ...	0	12	6	Dominica, CC., 12½, 15 mauve ...	1	1	0
Hamburg, 7 sch., yellow perf. 10,6 to ...	0	13	6	Virgin Isles, CA., 6d. violet, unused pair	0	19	6
Wurtemberg, imperf., 18kr. blue, no silk thread ...	1	7	6	Tobago, CA., 14, 4d. green ...	1	1	0
Jamaica, 2½, unused, <i>obsolete</i> ..	0	4	6	Nevis, CA. 14, 6d. red-brown, unused ...	0	12	6
" 5/- " " " ...	0	12	6	St. Vincent, star, 4d. blue ...	0	16	0
Dominica, 6d. green, CC., 12½ ...	0	17	6	" CA., 14, 4d. blue ...	0	15	0
British South Africa, 2d. and 4d., thick paper, perf 12½, the pair... ..	0	5	0	" CA., 12, 4d. blue ...	0	14	0
India, imperf., 4 annas red and blue, with blue line, superb unused specimen ...	3	15	0	" CA., 12, 15 vermilion, unused	1	2	6
Hong Kong, 1 dollar on 96c., without Chinese characters ...	0	7	6	U.S., 1869 issue, 30 cents, (eagle) unused	1	10	0
Japan, perf., 45s. carmine ...	1	1	0	Barbadoes, no Wmk., 1/- black strip of 3, unused ...	1	1	0
British East Africa, 8a. grey, unused ...	0	15	0	Tasmania, pin perf., 2d. green, (first type), two fine copies on original paper ...	20	0	0
" " " 11. grey, ..	0	17	6	St. Christopher, CC., 14, 2½d. brown, unused ...	1	5	0
Sierra Leone, CC., perf. 12½, 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d. and 1/- fine set ...	1	15	0	Newfoundland, 6½d. lake, unused, large margins ...	0	9	6
British Bechuanaland, £5, fiscally used	0	17	6	St. Helena, CC. 12½, 6d. ultramarine ...	0	12	6
Nova Scotia, 5 cents blue, unused ...	1	5	0	Bolivar, 1882, 5p. and 10p. ...	0	14	6
U.S. Columbus, 2 dollars ..	0	9	0	British Guiana, 1862, 1 cent brown ...	1	10	0

### SPECIAL LINE!

CYPRUS, Die II., 30p., ½, 1, 2, 4, 6 and 12 piastres, unused ... *the set* 1 2 6

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## Doings of Societies.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

Committee for Season 1896-1897

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Committee:*

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, & H. Atherley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE eleventh Meeting of the above was held on Monday March 8th, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C.; the following Members being present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, G. C. Warden, W. Morley, H. Atherley, F. B. Carr, N. Z. Dracachis, L. Bruce, E. W. Hounsum, J. B. Camaschella, F. Vandembrouque, and G. Gilbert.

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

**Mar. 22nd.—Third Magic Lantern Display.**

**April 5th.—Sixteenth Auction Sale.**

The Secretary would like to point out that he will be pleased to send, on receipt of request, to the friends of members or other gentlemen interested in philately, tickets for the **MAGIC LANTERN DISPLAY** but an early application for the same will oblige.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

At the forthcoming **London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals** will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, The Philatelic Record, The Stamp Collectors' Journal, and Stamps.*

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie, Internationales Briefmarken Offer-tenblatt.*

From Austria: *Welt Post.*

From United States: *The Post Office, The International Philatelist, The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society, The Columbian Philatelist.*

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

### GENERAL NOTICES.

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

### STOLEN PACKET.

At last this matter has been finished all stamps recovered were sold by Messrs. Puttick and Simpson, which sum, together with £5, received as compensation from the Postmaster General, has been divided among the members interested after deducting the amounts paid to various dealers for the recovery of the stamps, and a few postages in connection with this matter. £40 1s. 3d. has thus been divided, making it 4.27 in the £1 on the value of the original sheets. A detailed statement of the account has been sent to every member interested and by the time this reaches the members, they all should have received their cheques.

### BERWICK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON Friday Evening last, a meeting was held in the Gunners' Room of the Artillery Hall, Ravensdowne, of persons interested in stamp-collecting, with the object of forming a Philatelic Society for Berwick and district. Mr. A. Tower-Robertson presided. After the matter had been fully discussed by the gentlemen present, it was agreed, on the motion of the Chairman to form a Philatelic Society for Berwick and District. The Chairman was appointed President of the Society, and Mr. T. W. Morris was chosen as honorary Secretary and Treasurer. The following Committee was also elected—Messrs. W. A. Logan, D. Donaldson, J. A. Miller, C. M. G. Cook, A. Lounton, Junr., and J. Watson. It was proposed that the meetings of the Society should be held bi-monthly, and it was left in the hands of the Committee to draw up rules, to procure a suitable room as a place of meeting, and to make all the necessary preliminary arrangements for the opening meeting to be held next week. The annual subscription, we are informed, will be a very nominal one, while youths over 15 years of age will be admitted to membership at a reduced rate. We understand that already the use of several philatelic magazines have been promised the members.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

FEBRUARY 18th.—Paper, "Mexico," Mr. W. T. Wilson. Messrs. P. M. Bright (Bournemouth), J. R. Dammann (Norway), and Major G. H. W. Stockdale, Plymouth, were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Wilson then gave his paper on 'Mexico.' Omitting most of the information than can be readily obtained from Catalogues, he almost entirely confined his remarks to subjects that are at the present time being investigated, as the relative position of the stamps on the sheets in the early issues, the various plates used in printing them, the chronological sequence of the plates, the Habilitados, etc., etc. The paper which was illustrated throughout by his collection, was ample evidence of the immense amount of work that has been done and is being done here and in Mexico under great difficulties to elucidate the knotty problems connected with these most interesting issues.

March 4th. Messrs. W. W. Westwood (Birmingham), J. J. Carroll (U.S.A.), A. W. Batchelder (U.S.A.), A. F. Cooke (Hawaii), W. H. Hodgson (London), and Mrs. Mayers (Barbados), were unanimously elected members. A large number of applications were postponed or rejected.

Mr. R. Hollick then read his paper on "Used stamps and why I prefer to collect them." This was followed by a spirited discussion in which most of the members present took part, from which it was evident that most preferred to have *both* used and unused. Mr. Hollick afterwards gave a display of his

collection of West Indian stamps, showing nearly all varieties used and unused.

*Notice to Members.*—It was decided that the name of A. Schlachter (U.S.A.), elected on December 17th, should *not* be entered on the list of Members; one of the reasons being that he has not complied with a necessary part of the rules.

### BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

*President:* Mr. P. J. Lloyd.

*Hon. Secretary:* MR. R. DALTON.

A MEETING was held, March 13th, at the residence of Mr. Dalton to form the rules, elect a committee and propose members.

The members present were Messrs. C. E. Gardner, J. H. Reynolds, Dr. J. P. Bush, E. F. Broderip, J. Perrott, F. C. Fisher, A. H. Dingwall, F. Ellison, D. H. McPherson, R. B. Hanson, J. P. Way, J. W. Stooke, T. C. Cartwright.

Dr. Bush, Mr. Broderip and Mr. Ellison were elected on the Committee.

At the next meeting, Thursday, March 18th, the remainder of the Committee will be elected, also nine other proposed members will balloted for.

Application for membership, copies of rules, &c. should be made to the *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. R. DALTON, Nansloe, Carnarvon Road, Bristol.

### LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the Meeting on Monday, February 22nd, Mr. W. C. Taylor read a Paper, "Stray Notes on Philately." An animated discussion followed on various points in the Paper, and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Taylor.—ORFORD H. CECIL, *Hon. Sec. & Treas.*

### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE 8th ordinary meeting of the above Society was held in Bird's Restaurant. Eleven members being present.

The President took the chair.

Mr. Bramah gave his paper on "Stamp Collecting from his boyhood," which contained some very interesting items and clearly showed that Mr. Bramah knew what a stamp was even in his schoolboy days.

Mr. Bramah also exhibited a fine display of British South African stamps in complete pages of 60, from 4d. to 1/-; also inverted watermarks of the 3d. and 8d.; and he explained the watermarks on the entire sheets, as they are not all alike; and the question arises, which are going to be the most valuable, those with part of mark on, or without? For instance, on the 4d. value there are 14, 15, 16 stamps with part of mark out of 60; 3d. value there are 29, 31, 36 stamps out of 60 with mark on; 8d. value there are 33 with mark on out of 60.

Mr. Chapman moved that the best vote of thanks be given to Mr. Bramah for his interesting paper on reminiscences of stamp collecting and also for his fine display of British South African Stamps which were unique. Mr. Hunt seconded it and was supported by Mr. Sneath and Mr. Peace.

The ninth Meeting of the above Society was held in Bird's Restaurant, 10 Members present.

The Secretary thought we ought to be making up our minds as to what steps we are going to take in respect to the forthcoming London Exhibition, it was decided that the question should come up at the next Meeting.

Mr. Hunt very kindly brought his display of Americans and Australians, and they were greatly admired by the members who took a great interest in viewing them, and Mr. Hunt must have felt very pleased to have seen the

interest manifested, for it is only here and there where such displays are met with, for instance, Cuba complete, and splendid sets of St. Vincents, St. Lucias, Turks Islands, Tobago and a 5/- grey-blue of Tobago, unused, watermark CA, not catalogued, Virgin Islands, very fine Nevis, West Indian, Pacific Navigation, U.S. Uruguay almost complete, U.S. Americans, complete set of all Departmentals; also splendid show of Australian, Queensland, New Zealand, Western Australia, amongst the latter a fine 2d. orange with fine margin.

Best vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Hunt by the Secretary and seconded by Mr. Sneath, and passed unanimously.

The 10th ordinary meeting of the above Society was held at Bird's Restaurant, 11 members present. The president, Mr. Chapman took the chair.

The Secretary brought forward the question as to what steps we were going to adopt with respect to the forthcoming London Exhibition, it was decided that Messrs. Chapman, Hunt, Sneath, Bramah, be elected as a committee to go into the matter and bring information to the meeting March 17th. Mr. Peace gave a paper entitled "The Use of Adhesive Stamps." He pointed out how easy it was now to pay tax upon letters to what it was in olden times, and the essayist pointed out in his paper that a Dutchman was the first to devise a stamp or prescription with the seals of the states for receipts, legal documents, business and official papers and his plan was adopted and came into force in 1624, and though there is a great difference between stamped paper for revenue purposes and adhesive stamps for prepayment of letters, yet he thought the former method suggested the latter; Mr. Peace in the course of his paper also mentioned that in 1653 a Frenchman started by Royal Commission a private post for people to send their letters to or from any part of Paris, and the stamp or ticket used bore the portrait of the King, and the price was one sou; the essayist also gave other valued information and he was accorded the best thanks of the meeting.

New members elected: Lady B. Collen, Simla, India. Proposed by Mr. Bramah, seconded by Mr. Chapman.

The 11th meeting of the above Society was held at Bird's Restaurant, 12 members being present. Mr. Chapman, the President, occupied the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Lady B. Collen, Simla, India, was duly elected a member, Mr. T. B. Deakin, of Sheffield, proposed by Mr. Bramah, seconded by Mr. Hunt, Mr. E. D. Martin, Falmouth, proposed by Mr. Sneath, seconded by Mr. Chapman.

In confirming the minutes of the previous meeting, Mr. Bradley pointed out that in spite of the generally accepted theory that the first cancellation of the 1d. blacks was in black ink, he possesses undoubted evidence to the contrary and Mr. Bradley promised to give a paper dealing with the various early cancellations of English along with a display on April 20th. Mr. Taylor read a paper on stamp collecting, what to collect and what to avoid.

In the course of his remarks he pointed out the countries which he considered most profitable to collect, and he drew the attention of beginners to the numerous pitfalls, such as forgeries, reprints, seebecks, etc., which the collector would be wise in leaving alone. Mr. Taylor was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, which brought a very enjoyable evening to a close, the best of things won't last for ever.

**WARRINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A GENERAL meeting of the Society was held on 19th February, when there was a good attendance of members present.

Mr. Herbert Woods read a paper on the stamps of Great Britain, illustrating it with specimens from his own collection.

The reading of the paper was followed by a discussion in which most of the members present took part and ultimately, on the proposition of Mr. P. Silcock, seconded by Mr. John L. Tunstall, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Woods for his paper.

Several members brought their collections of English to the meeting and great interest was taken in the various exhibits.—HERBERT WOODS, Hon. Sec., Moore, Warrington.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

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SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

**THE CHARGE AGAINST A STAMP AUCTIONEER.**

AT the Old Bailey, on Friday, March 12th, before the Common Sergeant, Laurance Hubert Rockliffe was charged with forging and uttering a cheque.

Mr. Germaine, opening the case for the prosecution, produced an agreement showing that the prisoner Rockliffe agreed to act as auctioneer to Mr. T. H. Court for a sum of £5 per sale, in addition to which he was to receive a commission on any business he introduced.

On December 9th, 1896, a sale was held at 63-64, Chancery Lane on behalf of the Philatelic Auction Company, with Rockliffe as auctioneer. In this sale Mr. Giwelb, of 88, Strand, bought stamps to the extent of £33 5s., he did not take them away with him.

On the 11th inst., the prisoner called on Mr. Giwelb, and told him he would deliver the stamps personally. Mr. Court, the prosecutor, agreed to let Rockliffe deliver the stamps, but instructed him not to collect the cheque, as the purchaser would no doubt remit by post. However, when the prisoner handed the stamps to Mr. Giwelb he asked for a cheque at the same time telling the purchaser that he could deduct the sum of £2 5s., as an instalment of the debt he owed him. This was agreed and the money paid £31, which the prisoner said he would make all right with the Philatelic Auction Co.

The prisoner being pressed for cash and wanting money to pay off a debt, did not hand this cheque to his employer,

Mr. Court, but took it with some gold amounting to £40 in all to a Mr. Pike, solicitor, of Lincoln's Inn, to whom he owed about £80.

This cheque was presented at Child's Bank by Mr. Pike and duly paid. Mr. Giwelb had made the cheque payable to the Philatelic Auction Co. The prisoner endorsed the cheque as Manager to the Philatelic Auction Co. On returning he told Mr. Court that Mr. Giwelb was not in. The prosecutor not receiving a remittance from Giwelb for stamps bought, wrote him a letter on the 15th asking for payment; this he handed to a Mr. McKenzie to post, but, however, it did not reach its destination. A second letter was written which Mr. Court posted himself. This duly reached Mr. Giwelb, who immediately answered stating that he had handed the cheque to Rockliffe.

Prosecutor at once taxed Rockliffe with this, and prisoner admitted having received the cheque, and told Mr. Court that he had paid it away, but that he would make it all right with him in the end.

Mr. Germaine, counsel for the prosecution, called Mr. Court, who said he had known prisoner about five years, had engaged him as an auctioneer only, and that certainly he was not a partner as indicated. The prosecutor stated that he had never given the prisoner authority to endorse cheques in any way, or even to collect accounts. Mr. Court was previously in the employ of Messrs. Brinsmead, the piano people, but stated he had been in the stamp trade for about twelve years, and had owned the shop in Great Portland Street, since April last.

Mr. Warburton, cross examining the prosecutor for the defence, produced an account book in order to prove that the prisoner and prosecutor were partners in the business, and that Rockliffe shared the expenses.

Prosecutor stated that this was not the case; that prisoner was only employed by him as auctioneer, but that he had since made an arrangement that prisoner should receive a certain percentage of the profits derived from each sale after deducting a certain sum each week for office expenses, etc., so that his average earnings per sale would amount to about £3.

Counsel pointed out that prisoner had endorsed two previous cheques in the same manner, one for £60 and the other for £12, but that he had handed the whole of the proceeds to his employer, Mr. Court, and informed him that he had endorsed the cheques. Several other witnesses were sworn, including Mr. Theo. Buhl, Mr. Giwelb, Mr. Pike, and Mr. Welshman (prosecutor's assistant).

Mr. Warburton then addressed the Jury for the defence, contending that prisoner was a partner in the business, and that as he had previously endorsed cheques in this manner, to the knowledge of the prosecutor, he saw no reason why in this case it should be considered a crime, as the only difference was that the first two cheques were accounted for promptly, whereas the one in question was not.

Mr. Germaine followed with a strong speech for the prosecution, in which he endeavoured to prove that the prisoner and prosecutor were not in partnership, that the prisoner had not the least bit of authority to endorse cheques, nor to collect them, and that he had been reprimanded by prosecutor for so doing.

Counsel urged that the account book produced did not show that prisoner was sharing profit and loss, but that he was merely receiving a commission. This finished the case for the prosecution.

The Judge in summing-up states that the prisoner has a very grave charge against him, and one on which the Jury must use very careful discretion.

The Jury retired, and after a short consideration returned a verdict of guilty against the prisoner.

The Judge then called for prisoner's acquaintances, and a solicitor, Mr. Wilton Knight, came forward and said he had known prisoner about ten years, and gave a very high opinion of him.

The prosecutor, Mr. Court, then instructed counsel to state that he would like the prisoner commended to mercy, whereupon the judge asked the prosecutor to step up and announce the fact, which he did.

This seemed to have made a very favourable impression on the Judge, who stated that as this was the first offence and Mr. Court had commended prisoner to the mercy of the court, he would order that the prisoner be detained in custody until the next sessions, when, if two sureties for £100 each were forthcoming, he would be released.

#### ENGLISH AS SHE IS WROTE—IN GERMANY.

The practice of making fun of foreigners for their blunders in attempting to cope with one's own language is usually regarded as the monopoly of Frenchmen. Englishmen and others are constantly twitted by the Press of the boulevards upon their linguistic shortcomings. This sort of thing is in somewhat bad taste, but for once we must lapse into it ourselves. The following, culled from a circular just received, is too rich to be passed by:—

By that we give us the honour, to invit you, to make a trial of advertisement in our journal, of which you receive at hands a proof-number. We are assured, that the succes of such a trial shall content you exactly and make, that you will become soon our constant advertiser.

In fairness to the men of all other nationalities it must be added that this fearful and wonderful sentence was "made in Germany."

#### PHILATELY IN THE SCHOOLS.

The writer of a gossip article on stamp-collecting in the *Daily Record* of Glasgow remarks: "As one proof of stamp-collecting's educational advantages, I know one school where it is taught as an ordinary study. I had the pleasure of receiving a copy of the examination paper, and a most searching one it was. If every school did the same it would go a long way to brightening the faculties of boys dull through having nothing to interest them."

#### PHILATELY IN THE WEST INDIES.

WE quote the following from the *Barbados Advocate*:—

A meeting of the Barbados Philatelic Society was held on Wednesday evening last at the Planter's Hall, when the following among other gentlemen were present:—J. G. Austin, Esq. M. C. P., Chairman; Messrs. J. W. Laborde, J. H. Barrow, C. J. Coates, J. C. F. Belgrave, Lieutenant-Colonel Crookenden, Messrs. C. P. Rogers and Williams.

On motion of Mr. Belgrave, seconded by Mr. Coates, it was resolved that Major McCracken be elected an Honorary Member.

In moving the resolution, Mr. Belgrave said that in electing Major McCracken as the first honorary member the Society desired to place on record its appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered it by that gentleman, not only as a member of the Committee, but also in the trouble taken by him in arranging and framing his stamps for the exhibitions held by the Society, and that the Secretary be asked to convey the Society's regret at his leaving these shores, and best wishes for his welfare in his new field of labour.

Mr. Gregory's motion was then agreed to, viz.: that in future the accounts be made up monthly, each month being kept quite separate, so that members can check their accounts.

Mr. Belgrave, with leave of the Chair, desired not to push his motions yet, with respect to the appointment of an Auditor, and the registration of the Society, as he thought that the resolution just adopted would answer the purpose, and lighten the labours of the Secretary.

#### THOMAS WEBB, STAMP CLEANER.

VARIOUS supplementary items concerning the nefarious operations of Thomas Webb, of Melbourne, are now to hand, notably the following very full account of the whole story quoted by the *Australian Philatelist* from the *Melbourne Argus*:

It appears that the Philatelic Society of Victoria (says the *Melbourne Argus*) through some of its members, just woke to the fact that something was wrong by finding that valuable stamps, which they had considered obsolete and rare, were turning up frequently and even unused. The Postal Authorities were communicated with, and asked for an explanation, and they at once concluded that a fraud was being worked somewhere. Just about that time a stamp collector named Mouldon sold a quantity of stamps to a member of the Philatelic Society. These were found to be stamps which had been submitted to a process, and cleaned after cancellation. The stamps were returned to Mouldon, who is blind, and he in turn sent them back to a man from whom he had purchased them—Thomas Webb, a stamp dealer and printer, of the Eastern Arcade. In the meantime, Webb had sent to the Post Office for exchange one £10 and one £2 duty stamp, both of which were apparently unused. Knowing that some peculiar fraud was being worked in the stamp business, the officer in charge did not immediately exchange the stamps, but told off Detective White, of the Post Office, to interview Webb. The interview took place, but White could get nothing from Webb which was important to the investigation, and it was apparently dropped. The two stamps and a number of others of smaller value were submitted for analysis to Mr. C. R. Blackett, who found that nearly all of them had been tampered with. Acid had been used to cleanse from them the ink stains, and so thoroughly had the cleansing been done that the difference could not be detected, even with the aid of a strong glass. The application of acids in the laboratory alone sufficed to show traces of the obliterated ink.

When it was ascertained beyond doubt that the fraud was being perpetrated, Detective Macmanamny was specially detailed for the task of clearing away the mystery, and of bringing the offenders to justice. The detective sent a man into Webb's shop in the arcade to purchase stamps, but the man did not succeed in his mission, and Macmanamny went himself on the 4th December. He skilfully played the stamp dealer for a while to ascertain whether he was known. Finding he was not, he bought some unused Victorian stamps, and then asked for others of more value. Webb said he had none at the shop, but believed he had some at his private residence, and would bring them in next day if he could. Macmanamny agreed to call again on the following morning, and upon making the visit was supplied with the stamps he desired. He bought 16s. worth, and for the sake of evidence got a receipt, which read:—"Received 16s. 11d. for eleven unused Victorian obsolete stamps, and one New South Wales stamp.—T. Webb." All of these stamps were submitted to Mr. Blackett for analysis, and nine out of the eleven were found to have been cleansed by acid after having been used.

The matter was reported to the Attorney-General, and on Tuesday the Crown Solicitor was asked for his opinion as to the merits of the case. He stated without hesitation that the evidence justified an arrest under a section of the Postal Act which provides a penalty of up to 15 years for being in unlawful possession of stamps from which writing has been obliterated. The section is a stringent one, and casts the onus of the proof of lawful possession upon the accused. Fortified by the opinion of Mr. Guinness, Macmanamny paid another visit to Webb, taking with him marked money, so that there could be no loophole of escape for the stamp vendor. Four more stamps—treated with acid—were purchased for 15s., and each of the coins paid to make up the amount was marked peculiarly under the eye of the Queen—the detective facetiously observing, as

he subsequently drew attention to this fact, that many things were done under the eye of the Queen without the fact being patent at the time. The case was now complete, and Macmanamny secured warrants for the arrest of Webb and for the searching of his premises, and armed with these summarily wound up the investigation. Detective-sergeant Ward and Detective M'Williams were in Macmanamny's company at the time, and Webb was not a little astonished when he learned the reason of Macmanamny's sudden devotion to philately, and his lavish expenditure of money for obsolete stamps. At first he denied the charge laid against him, but when the marked money was turned out of his pockets, and he was informed of the chemical experiments which had been made with his stamps, he owned up, and made a full confession, in which he detailed the methods he had adopted in cleaning and disposing of the stamps.

It therefore appears that the Victorian Postmaster-General, as a result of the disclosures contained in Webb's confession, is now taking active steps to prevent further similar frauds. It is also interesting to note that, by the provisions of the Stamps Acts, the possession of stamps from which the cancellation marks have been removed, is an offence punishable with 15 years imprisonment.

#### IS THIS ANOTHER STAMP-CLEANING CASE ?

UNDER the headline "Grave allegations against a Carnarvonshire magistrate," the newspapers of the North Wales district circulate the following story: "A rumour has been circulating in the district of Carnarvon that a well-known professional man, who is a member of the Carnarvon county bench of magistrates, has been subjected to a severe investigation at the hands of a detective officer from Somerset House, the charge being that he has been in the habit for some years of using postage stamps, which have already passed through the post and affixing them to receipts. A number of these stamps were seized by the officer last week, and it is stated that the penalties will in the aggregate amount to an enormous sum."

#### STAMPS AT AUCTION IN EDINBORO'.

WE do not include in our auction supplements any reports of provincial auction sales, for the reason that our representative is unable to attend them personally, but, as it is only right that some notice of such sales should appear, we shall in future incorporate brief reports under the heading "Philately at Home and Abroad." An interesting sale took place at Smith's Rooms, Edinboro', on Saturday, February 27th. Among the prices realised were the following:—Mauritius, 1848, 2d. blue, post paid, medium state of plate, 11/-; Nevis, 1867, 4d. orange, very fine, 20/-; Canada, 7½d. green, fine, with light postmark, 23/-; Canada, 10d. blue, imperf., grand copy, with good margins, and light postmark, 20/-; Trinidad, first issue, deep blue, imperfect, good margins, 21/-; Hanover, 10 groschen green, light postmark, good margins, 21/-; Nevis, 1882, 2½d. brown, C.A., 15/-; New South Wales, 5½, O.S. wmk., 5/-, surcharge in red, 34/-; New Zealand, 1d., N.Z., imperf., unused, with part gum, 15/-; Oil Rivers, 4d. on 2½d., Gibbons No. 25, 30/-; Portugal, 1855, straight hair, 5 reis, 10/-; Trinidad, 1894, 5/-, unused, C.C., perf. 14, 10/-; United States of America, Columbus, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 dollars, unused, with O.G. (5), 70/-; Zanzibar, 1896, 4½, 5, 7½ annas (3), 24/-; Zanzibar, 2½ annas on 2 annas, Indian, very rare, 16/-; Congo State, 5fr. lilac, used, 10/-.

#### POSTMEN WHO COLLECT STAMPS.

THERE is no earthly reason why a letter-carrier should not be an enthusiastic philatelist. He has exceptional opportunities of studying the stamps of all nations; but, unhappily, he is sometimes carried away by his philatelic enthusiasm and prompted to strip the foreign letters he carries of their stamps. At least, such is the moral of a case which came on at Bow Street Police Court, on Saturday, March 6th, when Henry Bishop was charged, before Mr. Lushington, with stealing postage stamps.—Mr. M'Intyre prosecuted on behalf of the Postmaster-General. He stated that numerous complaints had been received as to the removal of foreign stamps from letters and parcels arriving from abroad. In consequence of this, two test-letters were made up on Friday night. One was addressed to Messrs. Cook & Sons, Ludgate Circus. On

this two Russian stamps were placed. The second was addressed to the Peninsular and Oriental Company, Leadenhall Street. When posted it bore two Japanese stamps. Both letters passed through prisoner's hands in the ordinary way, but when they were delivered it was found that the stamps had been removed. The prisoner was arrested, and admitted having taken the stamps. He produced them from his pocket, and they proved to bear a private mark placed on them by the Post Office authorities. Mr. M'Intyre added that the offence was a most mischievous one, as the persons to whom the letters were addressed were called upon to pay postage when the stamps had been removed.—Evidence in support of the statement having been given, prisoner was remanded.

#### YET ANOTHER NEW PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

WE have much pleasure in announcing that a philatelic Society has been formed at Berwick. A detailed report of the preliminary meeting appears elsewhere in this issue under the heading "Doings of Societies."

#### STAMPS AS AN ARTICLE OF DIET.

EVERY day some fresh source of food supply is discovered. Adhesive stamps have not hitherto been regarded as nutritious; the ostrich prefers gold watches for a steady diet, and the travelling tinker's donkey has a reputation for consuming any clean linen that may be handy. A Hindoo paper, however, gives an account of a curious incident that occurred at the Residency, in a remote district in Ceylon, a little while ago. Mr. Peris, the office assistant, placed on his table some judicial stamps to the value of about 200 rupees. While his attention was drawn to something else, his pet goat was slowly but surely making a meal of the stamps. This was not discovered until the goat had swallowed some 50 rupees worth of stamps. Immediately the goat's life was demanded as a penalty, and the stamps afterwards taken from its stomach were forwarded to the Commissioner.

#### MORAL, DON'T CARRY YOUR RARE STAMPS LOOSE.

A COFFER accident happened to Mr. Gambs, the American dealer, recently. He had lately purchased a very fine lot of revenue stamps and placed them in his pocket-book. While opening the book in the street to get a memorandum, a sudden gust of wind came along and with joyful alacrity wafted most of the treasures high up into the air, and on their downfall scattered them all over the street. Mr. Gambs watched them soar, and as they dropped took his hat in his hand and gathered them up with the best grace possible. Fortunately he was able to secure most of them and his loss was not heavy.

#### CANADIAN SOCIETIES AMALGAMATE.

GR<sup>EAT</sup> things are looked for in philatelic Canada as a result of the amalgamation of the two leading philatelic societies, under the title of the Dominion of Canada Philatelic Association. There is much discussion, however, as to who shall be President. Capt. E. T. Wurtele, of Quebec, will, it is understood, be the candidate who will be nominated for president by the Canadian Philatelic Association contingent of the new society. Mr. I. E. Weldon, president of the Dominion Philatelic Association announces that he will not be a candidate, not having the necessary time to devote to the advancement of the new society.

#### PHILATELIC VISITORS FROM ABROAD.

MR. RUBEN, of Copenhagen; Mr. C. Geyer, of Aix la chapelle; and Mr. Schesselling, of Lisbon; and Mr. Ayer (the American Ferrary), are some of the philatelic notabilities now visiting London.

#### A BUSINESS CHANCE AT HONG KONG.

MR. F. J. REBEIRO, of Hong Kong, notifies us that he has transferred his stamp-dealing trade with the whole of his stock and the goodwill of the business to Messrs. Graca & Co., Bonheur, 58, Peel St., Hong Kong.

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

## →\* FOURTH ARTICLE. \*←

(N.B.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

London (continued).



11.



11a.

Type 11, circular.  
" 11a " with outer line.



11b.



11c.

Type 11b, oval.  
" 11c " with outer line.

All these may be found with lines varying in number from 10 to 21. The size of the obliteration and the thickness of the lines also varied considerably.



11d.



11e.

Type 11d. Very thick lines, with district letters and number.

Type 11e. As last, but with letter below instead of number. This type is very uncommon. I have only noticed one other example, used in the W.C. district.



11f.



11g.

Type 11f. With district letters, numbers and letters below. This is a very recent variety, which I have only seen used on circulars.

Type 11g. This type is somewhat similar to the "Suburban" type, and is used only in the E.C. district.



11h.



11i.

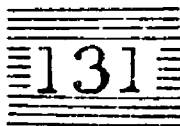
Type 11h. A variety of the last, with letter at top.

Type 11i. A variety of 11d, with a second number at bottom.

### FOR USE IN SCOTLAND.

The special type of obliteration for use in Scotland consisted of the office number surrounded by parallel lines in the form of a square or oblong. The original type consisted of 4 lines above and below, and 5 at each side, but, as with the previous types, many varieties are known.

The numbers used run from 1 to 661.



12.



12b.

Type 12. With 4 lines above and below, 5 at each side.

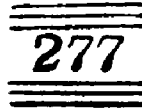
Type 12a. With 4 lines above and below, 4 at each side.

These are known in black, blue, green and red.

Type 12b. With 3 lines above and below, 4 at each side.

Type 12c. With 2 lines above and below only.

Type 12d. With 3 lines above and below only.



12c.



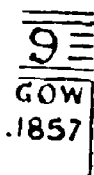
12d.

Type 12c. As last, but figures in script.

Type 12f and 12g, used in Edinburgh only. Both are to be found without the stars at the sides. Type 12g exists with a varying number of lines.



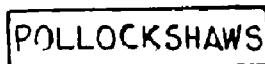
12g.



12h.

Type 12h. Obliteration, consisting of office number 159, with 2 lines above, 1 below, 3 at each side, connected with oblong postmark in a single-line frame. Used in Glasgow only. May be found in black and green.

Scotch Local Obliterations.—These were mainly used in Edinburgh, upon letters for local delivery and exist in many varieties.



13.

Type 13. Name in 1 line, in oblong frame.

Type 13a. Name in 2 lines, in oblong frame.

Type 13b. Name only, with-out lines.

Type 13c. Name, with 2 lines above and below.

Type 13d. Name, with 1 line above and below.



13a.



13b.

### FOR USE IN IRELAND.

The 1844 obliteration for use in Ireland consisted of the Office No. in the centre of a diamond formed with horizontal straight lines; the size of the obliteration, and the number of lines employed varied greatly. The numbers in use run from 1 to 560.



14.



14a.

Type 14. Original type; exists in black, red, blue, bright and dull green.

Type 14a. Small obliteration with thin lines; may be found with from 4 to 8 lines above and below the number, and 4 or 5 at each side.

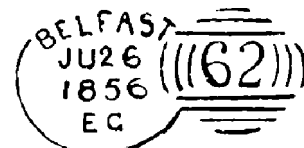
Type 14b. Small obliteration with thick lines connected with date postmark.



14b.

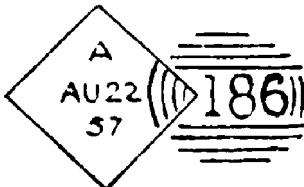


Belfast appears to have used an obliteration resembling the English form, as will be seen from the illustration (Type 14c.) This example is taken from a block of the 1d. red-brown, large crown, and is the only specimen I have seen. The obliteration is struck three times on the block, each time with the dated postmark in the same position, so that although the two are not quite in a straight line, I am of opinion that the two were connected and struck together.



14c.

Type 14d. also resembles the English form. This type is usually found in green. It will be noticed that the postmark does not bear the name of the town (Dublin) which is very uncommon.



14d.

(To be continued.)



# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



IN various newspapers, suggestions have appeared that this notable year should be made the occasion of an issue of more up-to-date stamps than those now in use. Signs are not wanting that, if only on sentimental grounds, the public would heartily welcome a change from the very

common-place and most inartistic labels now in use. So long as the suggestions to the end remained in the form of mere newspaper paragraphs nothing came of them, for Postmaster-General and other officials do not read the newspapers, or at any rate they keep up a pretence of not reading them, but just recently some worthy whose name has not been made public took it upon himself to bring the matter under the personal notice of the postal authorities. The following terse announcement, appearing in all the London and many of the provincial papers is the nett result.

The Postmaster-General has caused a letter to be written to a correspondent stating that it is not proposed to issue a special stamp in commemoration of the 60th year of the Queen's reign.

It is evident that some considerable feeling has been aroused in Liverpool as a consequence of certain ill-advised comments in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, as to the doings of the local philatelic society. The following letter speaks for itself—perhaps a little too much so.

To use a homely proverb, "Tis an illbird that fouls its own nest." re "Wheels within Wheels" in current "S.C.F." The writer, posing under the vulgar pen name of Dickey Sam in the *P.J.G.B.*, is one of a firm of Liverpool dealers and a member of the very society, I am sorry to say, he directs his silly wit against.

His column of expanded twaddle has grown nauseous from this self-advertising tendency of the said firm.

Truly yours,  
ANOTHER MEMBER.

We are not aware precisely of the rights of the case, but we are prepared to back our opinion that the Liverpool Philatelic Society is by no means the least useful of our British philatelic organisations. It may have lagged behind, but from our personal knowledge of many of its members we know quite well that it is a highly reputable society, capable of much good work. In any case the practice of criticising a society of this sort is a most reprehensible one, especially when the critic is a member of the society concealing his identity under a literary alias; but doubtless the committee of the Liverpool Society will know best how to deal with Mr. "Dickey Sam."

However, the March issue of the *P.J.G.B.*, which has come to hand since the above was in type, contains an italicised paragraph apologising for its correspondent's remarks, which, it is explained, were not intended seriously, but were simply meant for "chaff." But "the mistake," we are promised, "shall not occur again."

While thus writing on the subject of society members who criticise their own societies, we are reminded of a paragraph we recently read—we cannot for the life of us remember in what paper—criticising Mr. E. J. Nankivell for criticising the London Philatelic Society. The observations quoted as being used by Mr. Nankivell appeared to us to be undoubtedly strong, and probably quite undeserved. Whatever little faults the London Society may have—and no one surely pretends that absolute perfection is to be found at Liffingham House—it is beyond dispute that the London Society is a body, which, by its earnest work and unswerving fidelity to true philately, has earned for itself the admiration of the whole philatelic world, and it appears to us to be a particu-

larly graceless proceeding that a member of such a society should criticise it in any way. If Mr. Nankivell must criticise, he should in our opinion, first resign, and then he could criticise for all he is worth—from the outside.

\* \* \*

It would be strange indeed if the discussion as to the merits of exchange clubs, conducted on the pure and simple exchange system, were to be allowed to close with the letter signed "pure, but not simple." We have much pleasure in giving the fullest publicity to the other side of the question, as set forth in the following letter:—

Dear Sir, —I have read with considerable astonishment "Pure but not Simple's" remarks about the Stamp Collectors' Exchange Society in your issue of March 6th. I have been a member of it for some years and through its medium have enriched my collection by hundreds of stamps. True, the bulk of them are common, but so, alas, are those I usually have to offer in exchange, being only a philatelist of five years standing. I may state that my collection numbers about seven thousand and that I have never purchased a single specimen. How, but for the existence of such a society as this, could I have secured such a result? Common modern stamps may, in the eyes of old collectors, be rubbish, but still they must be added even to their valuable collections if they are to keep them up to date; while the beginner enjoys the delight of lessening his blanks by exchanging his everyday stamps by this means more rapidly and economically than he could by any other with which I am acquainted.

"PREPARED TO BE PLEASED."

It is necessary in the interests of strict impartiality to add a word or two to this. "Prepared to be pleased" tells us that he has got together a collection of seven thousand stamps without purchasing one of them. Truly a remarkable achievement, upon which "Prepared to be pleased" may be warmly congratulated; and one might add that if this gentleman is at this stage only *prepared* to be pleased, he is a most difficult man to satisfy. He should have been thoroughly well pleased long before the seven thousand mark was obtained. Be that as it may, it is necessary to point out that the collector in question could not have accumulated his seven thousand stamps without having some stamps of his own to begin with. How does he get these stamps, since he states that he never bought a stamp in his life? The natural inference is that he is a gentleman enjoying the privileges of a vast foreign correspondence. If that is so, he could quite as easily have made his seven thousand collection through the medium of any other exchange club as through the society under notice. We point this out, not from any desire to discharge the "pure and simple" system, but simply to keep this discussion at something like a common sense level. This talk of accumulating a vast collection of foreign stamps, with absolutely nothing to begin with, is sheer nonsense.

\* \* \*

One very sure sign that the Philatelic Society of India is going to be a healthy and useful organization is provided by the publication of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, No. 1, vol. I. At first glance we took it for a copy of the *London Philatelist* turned grey; but, looking closer, found that the style and "get up" of the London Society's organ had been very closely imitated. If the level of excellence attained by No 1. can be maintained in future issues, the *Philatelic Journal of India* will take high rank among the world's philatelic magazines. The editors are Mr. C. F. Larmour and Mr. F. N. Schiller, both of whom are members of the London Philatelic Society.

## PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING APRIL 3, 1897. Auction Sales.

- March 22nd and 23rd—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64 Chancery Lane, W.C., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- March 25th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- March 26th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.
- March 30th and 31st.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.



**General Notices.**

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, MARCH 20, 1897.



A VERY useful little bird whispered to us the other day that for some time past endeavours have been made to reconstruct the old P. P. A. Philatelic Protection Association. Can this be true? If so, and we have no reason to doubt the thoroughness of our little bird's investigations, we feel sure a P.P.A. on practical lines would be welcomed by all honest dealers and collectors. We sincerely trust that the old mistakes will be avoided and the old humbug done away with. There is plenty of work to do for an Association which is at the same time a Trade Protection Association and a Guardian of the Philatelic Peace, so to speak. Its Committee should be the final arbitrator in any dispute between dealer and dealer, dealer and collector, or collector and collector. Mistakes will occur in the best regulated establishments, but they should be honestly acknowledged when found out, and any disputes resulting from such mistakes should be referred to arbitration in the same manner as a shipment of rice is arbitrated upon in Mincing Lane. An honest and straightforward P.P.A. will have the heartiest support of the "S.C.F.," but any bogie concern similar to the old one at the time of its death, will be mercilessly shown up.

\* \* \*

We greatly regret that the possibility of a winding-up of the concern known as the Philatelic Club and Exchange, Limited, has now become a certainty. The meeting of shareholders, held at the premises in Jermyn Street on March 8th, came to the conclusion that

there was no other course open to them than a voluntary winding-up in accordance with the Companies' Acts. We had great hopes of this venture, and at its inception gave it a hearty send-off in our paper. All our readers will, we feel sure, share our regret at the untimely fate of such a promising project.

*Are the Biters Bit?*

IMPORTANT NEWS FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

DEALERS HOLDING THE REMAINDERS WOULD NOW LIKE TO RETURN THEM.

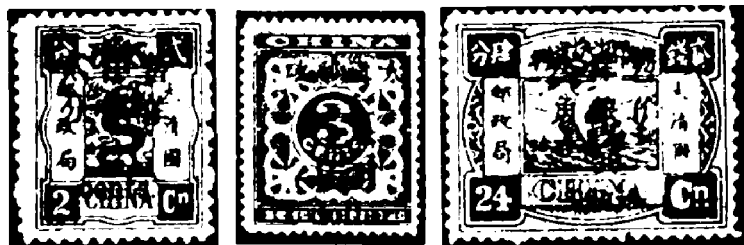
THE following is taken from the *Daily Chronicle* of Thursday, March 18th:—

Philatelists have brought the Nova Scotia Treasury a most welcome surplus this year. In his Budget Speech, the Hon. Mr. Murray announced a windfall of 18,000 dols. from the sale of old pre-Confederation postage stamps, thrown away as old lumber, but now sold with this gratifying result to dealers in London, New York, and Nova Scotia. The purchasers stipulated that the quality and face value of the stamps sold should be kept a secret, less the market price be depreciated. However the facts leaked out in New York and London, and now Mr. Murray says the purchasers would gladly return the stamps to the Nova Scotia Government, for they have not realised more than a quarter of the purchase price.

*Notes on New Issues.*

China.—As mentioned in our last, the Provisionals have appeared and Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have sent us a complete set of which we append a photograph.

½ cent on 3cn. yellow.	8 cents on 6cn. brown.
1 cent on 1cn. orange.	10 cents on 6cn. brown.
2 cents on 2cn. green.	10 cents on 9cn. gr., large size.
4 cents on 4cn. rose.	30 cents on 24cn. rose ..
5 cents on 5cn. yellow.	1 dollar on 3 cents (Revenue).



The latter stamp, we are informed by Messrs. Whitfield King, is an unissued Revenue value, therefore this stamp not having been sold to the public, no fraudulent surcharges need be feared.



Madagascar.—A sure sign of the French having conquered a savage district, seems to be an issue of unpaid letter stamps. We have been favoured by Messrs. Whitfield King with a complete set of this commodity as follows:

Surcharged "Madagascar Et Dependances" on current French, unpaid.

5 centimos light blue, surcharge in red.
10 .. brown .. in red.
20 .. yellow .. in blue.
30 .. carmine .. in blue.
40 .. mauve .. in red.
50 .. violet .. in blue.
1 franc green .. in red.

Orange Free State.—Mr. Charles T. Reed has sent us the new halfpenny, which now appears in yellow. ½d. yellow-orange.

## A Few Remarks on West African Stamps.

By H. W. PLUMRIDGE.

ON looking through my Colonial collection a few months back, the thought suddenly struck me that it would be a good plan if I selected a few Colonies, and paid special attention to them, and after mature consideration I came to the conclusion that Gambia, Gold Coast, Lagos, and Sierra Leone would best answer my purpose.

In the first place, many of the stamps of these four countries were, in my opinion, considerably under-rated, when compared with other Colonies. Secondly, as the majority of the stamps had not reached high prices, it seemed to me that a good representative collection could be got together by the expenditure of no great amount of money; and thirdly, being very indolent by nature, I should not have to worry over endless varieties of watermark, paper, complicated perforations and various types of surcharge, &c., as would have been the case had I selected a country like Barbadoes, instead of those I have just enumerated, which are straightforward in nearly every respect. Undoubtedly, the only way to arrive at the true value of a stamp is by observation, and it has always been my practice, when, although I have included a particular stamp that may be wanted to fill a gap in my collection in every want-list, and have, nevertheless, been unable to obtain it, to give what in my opinion, is a fair price. Of course, this fair price may possibly be considerably over catalogue price; at the same time I have nearly always had occasion to congratulate myself afterwards, when glancing through a later catalogue.

On this system I have got my West African collection together, and it may possibly interest some of my readers if I take Stanley Gibbons' latest price list, and show where my idea of price agrees with theirs and where it differs.

Gambia first: In the unperforated series, although the used 6d., no wmk., and the used 6d., C. and CC., are both quoted at the same price, the latter appears to be considerably scarcer than the former.

In the first perforated series, wmk. C. and CC., I consider the 1d. unused is quite as good as used. Again, although the 4d. is priced both unused and used at exactly the same price, the unused is very considerably the better stamp. I had a good deal of trouble in obtaining an unused specimen and on its merits it should be well worth 27/6.

Not more than one shade of the 3d. blue is listed, viz., the ultramarine, but there are distinctly two shades, as in the 6d., the darker shade being decidedly rarer. All the values of the CA. issue exist in two distinct shades or printings, the first print being light and the second darker. The first print of some of the values, notably the 4d. in light brown and the 6d. in light yellow-green, are difficult to obtain unused. The shilling value is catalogued in two shades, violet and deep violet. As the present shade, however, is very much lighter than the shade in use some time back, I think that this was in use at first and at the present time, and that consequently the deep shade was in use in between the two.

Gambia, as far as philatelists are concerned, is a model colony. It has always stuck to the same type, has only had four issues, not a single surcharge, and only one variety, which, by the way, was fully described in the "S.C.F." This variety exists only in the 6d. green, CA., value.

Gold Coast began its postage life with three stamps, the 1d., 2d. and 6d., watermark C. and CC., and perforated 12½. Of these the 1d. value is the scarcest unused, but I consider the 4d. is better than the 6d., at all events I had considerably more difficulty in obtaining this value. Messrs. Gibbons do not price the 4d., C. and CC., perforated 14, unused. I should say it is worth about 30/-. The 1d. blue, CA., is also not priced unused, it should be worth about £8. Of the high values the 20/- green and red was in use a very short time, and is exceedingly scarce, both unused and used. £12 would not be too much for an unused copy. I have never even seen a postally used specimen.

Lagos comes next in the list, and in this country the prices appear to be fairly correct all round. Very fine used copies of all the issues are extremely difficult to obtain, since nearly every used specimen is heavily obliterated. It may be interesting to know that the value was printed on the stamp by a separate process, this consequently being frequently met with in a darker or lighter shade than the body of the stamp. Messrs. Gibbons only catalogue the 3d. and 6d. in this variety, but every value of the first issue at any rate exists in two shades. Of the first CA. issue the 2d. blue and 4d. carmine are by far the scarcest values, they are both catalogued at 50/- unused; personally I have seen more copies of the 2d. than the 4d., and consider the latter to be worth almost double the former.

The 2d. grey CA. has been put up to 2/6 unused, and the 4d. lilac unused same watermark to 10/-, these two values are by no means easy to obtain in mint state, and are well worth catalogue price.

Sierra Leone is supposed to have commenced postal operations with the unperforated 6d. purple, no watermark. I am inclined to think that if this stamp was regularly issued it was only in the form of a proof or error. I have never seen a satisfactory used copy and shall remain sceptical until I see a used pair or an undoubted single specimen used on piece of original.

Taking the C. and CC., perf. 12½, issue, I have come across considerably fewer unused copies of the 2d. value than of the 1/-, and consider that the former should be an excellent investment at 22/6 its catalogue price, unused. The 1/- green, used, is marked at 20/-, this, I think, is more than it is really worth, as there are a fair number about.

In the next issue, perforated 14, same watermark, the 1d. rose has been advanced from 4d. to 4/6. Though this may at first appear to be rather a big jump, it is one, in my opinion, which is amply justified by the comparative scarcity of the stamp. Another variety that shows a marked advance in price is the ¼d. bistre, watermarked CA., which in the last "Gibbons" was listed at 6d. unused and 1/- used, and is now priced at 5/- unused and unpriced used.

When the next edition of Messrs. Gibbons' list comes out I shall not be surprised to find the present price very materially advanced. If the Editors will not begrudge me a few extra lines, I should like to relate a little incident in connection with the last-mentioned stamp which will show dealers that it is unwise to price a stamp according to the number they have in stock: they should first endeavour to find out how many there are on the market. A short time back, when the celebrated Strand firm were selling the Sierra Leone, ¼d. bistre, CA., unused, at 1/6 each, they found, somewhat to their surprise that the stamp sold very readily at the price, in fact other dealers came in and bought several copies at a time, but as they imagined they had a large quantity in stock they had no objection to continue selling at. As the demand steadily increased they eventually went to the envelope which was supposed to contain this particular stamp and on pulling out its contents were surprised to find that a quantity of 4d. brown, CA., had been by mistake inserted in the envelope that was intended for the ¼d. only, and that the supply of the latter was very limited.

An extremely difficult stamp to obtain is the CA. 4d. blue, unused, which is uncatalogued. I consider that £18 would not be an out of the way price for a specimen in mint state. The ubiquitous bi-coloured series have just made their appearance, the values are so far only 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/- and 20/-, but other values will doubtless soon be issued. A little while ago, a correspondent in Sierra Leone, informed me that there were no stamps of the ¼ denomination in the Colony, as the Post Office was out of the ¼ green and were awaiting a fresh supply. This being the case, I should not be astonished to hear that a provisional of some sort had appeared on the scene to meet the exigencies of the occasion. Strange as it may at first seem, the just obsolete 2d. grey, unused, is difficult to obtain. Very few dealers appear to have many in stock, so this stamp should have a good future.

The 5/- surcharged in black on 1/- green, is purely a fiscal stamp, it was never issued for postal purposes.

In conclusion, I should like to say that although some people may consider the advances in many West Africans somewhat heavy, I believe them on the whole to be fully justified, and consider there is still plenty of room for increased prices in many of the stamps.

*Our American Letter.*

*New York, March 2nd.*

BEYOND a doubt the sensation of the moment here is the arrest in this city of Mr. Hamilton F. Colman, of Washington, on the charge of having in his possession some \$5000 worth of U.S.A. newspaper and periodical stamps. In philatelic circles it is believed that this man is simply the agent of one or more prominent stamp dealers who have lately been offering these stamps. A strange fact, which further complicates an already very mixed-up case, is that the stamps in question are believed to be not stamps at all, but proofs which have been gummed and perforated for sale to philatelists. It is known that the Washington dealer, Mr. A. C. Townsend, offered some sets of these stamps not long since to Mr. Albrecht, representing them to be perfectly genuine. Accepting that guarantee, Mr. Albrecht took a large number of the stamps and disposed of the same to various customers. Then, when some talk arose as to the bona fides of these stamps, Mr. Albrecht acted promptly in the right direction. He secured the return of all the stamps he had sold, and wrote Townsend that he must take back all that he had sold him. In response to that letter—so it is stated—Mr. Hamilton Colman appeared in New York as the emissary of Mr. Townsend. He was met by a brace of Post Office inspectors, who arrested him on the charge referred to above.

What will be the outcome of it all none can tell. The hearing of the charge against Colman has up to the present proved very dull entertainment. Mr. Walter S. Scott has been a constant attendant at the Court, reporting the case for *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*. Whatever may be the end of it, it is safe to say that somebody will suffer badly if only in reputation, for if Colman gets off as a result of the stamps being proved to be merely gummed and perforated proofs, then the philatelic public on this side will be putting some awkward questions with regard to the behaviour of certain dealers in selling these gummed and perforated proofs as genuine stamps.

\* \* \*

An interesting account of the destruction of the remainders of Hawaiian stamps is quoted, by the *Post Office*, and others papers, from the *Hawaiian Star*. It appears that the stamps burned represent a face value of over £20,000. Mr. Stanley Gibbons was an interested spectator of this philatelic bonfire, and made various jocose remarks while the stamps were burning. "I'll give you a thousand pounds for the rest," he cried, when about half the stock had been destroyed; but the offer was respectfully (and perhaps regretfully) declined.

\* \* \*

The astonishing success of the Collectors' Club, now comfortably established in its cosy home on Fourth Avenue, is a subject of general remark. It is a success that has exceeded all but the most extravagant expectations; and the secret of it all is that the collectors and dealers here have stood shoulder to shoulder as regards the scheme, sinking all their little differences for the general good.

\* \* \*

I am surprised to find in the English stamp journals an announcement that New York Philatelists are talking of getting up an Exhibition here. The New York Philatelists in question must be persons of very small importance, and their talk must have been conducted in an undertone, for not a word have I heard upon the subject.

MANHATTAN.

*Enquiry Bureau.*

RECENTLY we had a good many enquiries from all parts of the country about a man whose name is F. Martel. He describes himself as the Secretary of the Paris Philatelic Society, has his letters written by a clerk on an important note heading which sets forth the various addresses of the club, banker's references etc., etc. We made enquiries about this man and found that he lives in an attic at 30 francs a month. The Society does not exist, and the man is not known in Paris. We must very strongly warn our readers against this swindler, who seems to have written to every known philatelist. We append the bottom part of his letter and should feel especially obliged to any of our readers who could locate the two hand writings. We have a strong suspicion that we know the man, but we cannot remember details.

*and you will receive sufficient information as to the genuineness of our Society.*

*Yours faithfully,*

SOCIÉTÉ DES

PHILATELISTES PARISIENS

Le Secrétaire

*J. Martel*

*Forgers and their Work.*

BY HARRY HILCKES.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

(O)UR warning in No. 63 just came in time, and we were able to prevent various dealers from launching out heavily. We give the blocks once more and are still willing to examine any of these stamps at the rate of 1/- per set of seven.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY.



GENUINE.

FORGERY.

URUCUAY.

MR. JULES BERNICHON of Paris, has kindly lent us a copy of the 80 belonging to the same series of forgeries, of which we photographed the 240 in No. 61. The make seems to be of a similar character, the colour is exceedingly well matched, and the best test so far as we can see is the "C" in *Correo*, which appears misshaped in the genuine one but very well formed in the forgery. They are very dangerous and should be guarded against. Some of the forgeries of this series were found by prominent collectors in their collections, and there is no doubt that they were obtained from first-class dealers, who, in their turn, had been deceived.



GENUINE.



FORGERY.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Stamps of Tahiti.

WE have already drawn attention to the greatly improved appearance of Mr. T. Lemaire's paper, *Le Philatelist Français*. The February number is quite equal to its predecessor in typographical beauty, and far superior in its literary contents. There is none of that purposeless space-filling to which we recently drew attention. The first chapter of a serial paper on the stamps of Tahiti, by Mr. G. Akein, is a notable feature of the number under notice. Mr. A. Renouard continues his articles on French stamps, and there are many other interesting things of minor importance.

## The Philatelic "Punch" is Coming.

There have, we believe, been various attempts in the past to establish a comic philatelic journal. Why, we have never been able to understand, because to expect such a strictly limited class as philatelists to support their own comic journal is ridiculous in the extreme. The coming of the philatelic *Punch* is heralded by a little eight page sheet, entitled *The Funny Foolatelist*, which is edited by "Cupid" and published in "No Man's Land." These names being interpreted mean Messrs. Page and Adair, of McConnellsville, Ohio, but which of these two gentlemen is supposed to represent Cupid we are left to guess. It is a piquant innovation, this introduction of the character of Cupid. We do not know any philatelist on this side of the Atlantic who could gracefully fill the rôle. The *Funny Foolatelist* is rather dismal reading, but then that is the usual character of the modern humorous paper. A number of what we may call stock jokes have been somewhat dexterously adapted to philatelic needs. Thus "Weary Willie," and old friend of the American humourist, says to his friend "Walker Wilds." "Say, pard, what is the difference between a rooster on a fence, a dollar, and a postage stamp?" Walker Wilds naturally gives it up, and then Weary Willie retorts, "Heads on one side, tails on the other. See?" His pard does not see; nor for that matter do we.

All sorts of big promises are made with regard to the forthcoming *Philatelic Punch*. The publishers are going to give it a fair trial for at least six months; they will run a "Review" column and also a "Fraud List," but where the humour will come in in either of these features is one of those things which no fellow can be expected to understand.

## A Slip 'Twixt the Cup and the Lip."

Thank goodness, the would-be swindler fails oftener than he succeeds. Mr. J. W. Scott, in his latest news-letter published in the *Metropolitan Philatelist* of New York, relates the following instructive story:

"There is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip, as was illustrated by a certain stamp dealer who purchased from Salvador the privilege of reprinting the first issues of its stamps. Proceeding to the American Bank Note Co. with his authority he ordered a certain amount of stamps to be made and paid the price for manufacture in advance. He was told that it would be necessary to produce the consul of that republic to break the seals on the plates before the work could be done. In due course the consular representative of Salvador was produced, and, after the necessary formalities, the A. B. N. Co. was willing to commence the work, but, several days had elapsed, other parties had heard of the plan; representations had been made to the Government of Salvador, and the order was countermanded. There will be no reprints of Salvador."

## What the P.P.A. should have done.

Another of the *Bazaar's* excellent philatelic supplements has made its appearance. It leads off with a further instalment of Mr. Westoby's articles on European stamps. Then follow articles by Mr. A. H. Stanford, Mr. J. F. Burnett and Mr. J. Newton. A few notes on "current topics" by Mr. Charles Manby, of Birmingham, contain a very excellent suggestion, supplementary to the work now being done by the

S.S.S.S. "With the numerous papers devoted to philately," says Mr. Manby, fraud can easily be exposed. I think some existing society—or one formed for the purpose—might make it its duty to obtain information by the aid of correspondents, of any intended fraud; collectors could then be immediately warned through the Press. This, of course, is one of the things that the P.P.A. attempted to do, but signally failed in; and since we exposed in the *FORTNIGHTLY* the utter fatuity of that senile body there has been no attempt in the same form to take time by the forelock in the way Mr. Manby suggests. The *FORTNIGHTLY* does its little best, as witness our early exposure of the Uruguay forgeries, and the "faked" Bulwayo Provisionals. But if something could be done in the way suggested, it would undoubtedly be a boon and a blessing to all concerned.

The same writer continues his very creditable attempt at listing all the better known varieties of the United States stamps. The *Bazaar's* latest supplement, in fact, teems with good things, including a short but acceptable article on B.S.A. stamps headed "Chartered."

## Questions about Nova Scotia Stamps.

Regarding Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' assurance that the prices of the Nova Scotia stamps would be guaranteed not to fall below their quotation, the *Australian Philatelist* asks: "Is this to be taken to mean that no one can purchase the stamps elsewhere for a less price, or does it only refer to Stanley Gibbons' own prices? There appears to have been no guarantee that the original syndicate would not, or did not, sell in Canada at a less price to persons who could retail them lower than the buyers from Stanley Gibbons, Limited. They appointed the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., as sole agents for America and the West Indies, but did they not sell any of the stamps prior to that appointment?" These are indeed pertinent questions.

What promises to be a most interesting and informing paper on Sidney View Stamps, commences in the number of the *Australian Philatelist* under notice. It is a paper read before the Sydney Philatelic Club by its President, Mr. Bassett Hull.

## Postal Affairs in Eritrea.

We clip from our enterprising Western contemporary, *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, the following interesting translation of an article in *Der Philatelist*:

In 1880 the Italian Government acquired from the Steamship Compagnie Rubattino a piece of land on the bay of Assab, which several years before had been ceded to the above corporation by some local chieftans. On January 9th, 1881, Italy took official possession of this land by a government commission, and in the spring of 1883, the first postal agency was established in Assab, in order to facilitate communication with the home country. Assab is situated in the present Colony of Eritrea, and not until 1887 was the small postal agency (similar to our fourth class post office) changed into a full-pledged post office.

In the meantime, and later on, three more post offices were established; February 22nd, 1885, in Massouah, and March 10th, 1892, in Cheren and Asmara. The stamps used by these four offices were, up to 1892, the same that Italy used for all her foreign offices at that time, the well-known "Esterio" stamps. In the beginning of 1893 special stamps were provided for the colony, consisting of the ordinary Italian stamps with the surcharge "Colonia Eritrea." Of these from 1893 until June 30th, 1896, the following quantities have been furnished by the government printing office in Turin.

1 cent,	360,000	10 cent,	350,000	40 cent,	100,000
2 cent,	670,000	20 cent,	900,000	45 cent,	140,000
5 cent,	220,000	25 cent,	170,000	60 cent,	30,000
		1 lire,	25,000	5 lire,	9,000.

When the Italians advanced further, more offices became necessary and were established in Ghinda, Adi-Ugri, Saganeiti, Cassala, Adigrat and Adua. Meanwhile the luck of the Italians turned and the army met with disaster. For collectors of cancellations Adua

will be very desirable, as this office had a duration of a few weeks only. Adua was the first place to fall back in the hands of King Menelik's dusky braves, and on the night of December 1 and 2, 1895, the post office and full stock of stamps, etc., on hand were burned. Adigrat followed soon. To make up for losses the Italians established a new small office, on July 1st, 1896, in Adicaie.

Aside from the above named regular offices, the Italian army had several field post offices for the forwarding of letters from the soldiers. Such letters according to a royal decree of January 23rd, 1896, paid no postage. This privilege ceased with the conclusion of the real warfare on July 15th, 1896, but from the time on was given to the poor soldiers and officers in captivity with the Negus. This deserves special mention for the reason that previously, when the poor fellows franked their letters with Abyssinian stamps probably for the very good reason that the Negus would not sell them their own—such letters after arrival in Italy had to be treated as unpaid and were charged with 50 centesimi postage due, Abyssinian stamps so far not being recognized by Europe in Governments.

Between Eritrea and Italy ordinary inland rates rule, while between Eritrea and European countries outside of Italy the postage is 40 centesimi, for 15 grammes ( $\frac{1}{2}$  oz.). Italian Stamps without surcharge are accepted in full for postage the same as surcharged stamps.

Rather scarce errors are those 1, 2 and 5 cents stamps considered, which show the surcharge on the bottom instead of on the top. The last issue of Italian stamps, large numerals in the corners, have also been surcharged.

#### This is Good News Indeed.

We learn from *Die Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung* that the original stones of the two lithographed Hamburg postage stamps of 1½sh. and 2½sh., 1864 and 1865 issue, have been acquired by the good services of a member of the Berlin Philatelic Club for the Imperial Postal Museum. The stones had been till recently in the possession of the printing and lithographic Company of C. Alder in Hamburg. This firm had since the beginning of the seventies furnished private reprints to certain dealers, and of course after the transferring of the plates to the postal Museum this will cease. The Berlin Philatelic Club deserves the thanks of philatelists in general, as it has been through this club that several other original dies have been acquired for the Postal Museum, especially certain plates of Bergedorf, Hamburg, Hanover, surcharging dies for the German postal district, Prussian envelope dies, &c.

#### Some "Inside Facts" about Nova Scotia.

"JASPER," a correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, states that the first number of the *Halifax Philatelic Magazine* publishes "some inside facts, showing who reaped the benefit of the Nova Scotia remainders." The new magazine says that after Nova Scotia had entered the Canadian confederation it was discovered that the sum of £4,000 was due to the Dominion from the province, so the stamps were given over to the Dominion government as security for the payment of the money.

The stamps were placed under the control of the Dominion government and "almost forgotten." A certain Halifax collector, "whose name it is not necessary to mention," knew they were in the control of the Dominion government with result that he was, in the end, successful in locating them. This Halifax collector and some other parties then made a proposal to the Federal government that they should pay the £4,000 and take the stamps, which proposal was accepted. The report appears as written "by a Halifax collector."

Now, the question that immediately suggests itself to the mind of the reader is, as "Jasper" says: "Who was the collector who had been keeping his eye on those stamps for thirty years?" These "inside facts" are probably all outside imaginations from start to finish.

The very latest intelligence on the subject of these Nova Scotia remainders is to be found on our Editorial page in the shape of an important communication quoted from the *London Daily Chronicle*.

#### Mr. Lovibond on the "Tintometer."

In the March issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, we get a long article on "Colour Measurement applied to Philately," dealing with Lovibond's Tintometer. The object of this article is to introduce Mr. Lovibond and his invention to those to whom he and it may be strangers up to the present time. "Our pleasing task in this direction,"

says the *P. J. G. B.*, is facilitated by the fact that quite recently Mr. Lovibond gave a most interesting lecture on the "Tintometer," under the auspices of the Salisbury Philatelic Society, at Mr. Brown's offices.

And now let us introduce, with just enough formality, but not too much, both Mr. Lovibond and his "Tintometer." Mr. Lovibond is an alderman of the city of New Sarum, and for a long number of years has rendered valuable public service to the local community, but he finds time, in the midst of his unselfish devotion to the interests of the ratepayers, to study and practice science, for which he has a passionate fondness. He believes in the practical application of his studies, and the "Tintometer" is one of the outcomes of that belief. When he invented it years ago, his chief idea was to use it in connection with his own business, that of a brewer, for the purpose of detecting variations in brewing materials, and of gauging the quality of samples of malt and other ingredients. From the use of graded colour standards it soon became evident that underlying the general colour question was a new physical law, which Mr. Lovibond calls the law of specific colour absorption, that law being that every definite substance has its own specific colour, the change of colour being an index of some alteration of the substance. When the two conditions—the physical condition and the colour change—can be co-related, then the physical change can be measured by the adoption of this physical law. The "Tintometer" is being rapidly adopted in different manufactures for judging produce and deciding arbitrations, the most recent being Dr. Oliver's "blood estimations" and the judging of rosin. The important point to readers of the *P. J. G. B.* is that Mr. Lovibond has brought it to the rescue of Philatelists to aid them in detecting forgeries in stamps.

#### WHAT IS THE "TINTOMETER"?

Those who would desire the best answer to the above question cannot do better than read Mr. Lovibond's book on "The Measurement of Light and Colour Sensations." But for the purposes of this article, we cannot do better than quote an explanatory paragraph in a paper read some time since before the Iron and Steel Institute by Mr. H. Le Neve Foster. He describes the apparatus as divided into two essential parts. The first is an instrument giving two fields of view under similar visual conditions, freed from any errors which might arise from the introduction of unequal side lights, and also the different powers of distinguishing colour that often exists in the eye of the observer. (Those who were present at the lecture at Mr. Brown's Offices will recollect that the latter was a point on which one or two questioners laid much stress). Mr. Foster goes on to explain that the second part of the apparatus consists of a standard set of coloured glasses, each set being the same colour, but regularly graded for depth of tint. By using several superimposed glasses from a set, a depth of colour is represented by the aggregate of tint number on glass used, whilst glasses from different sets produce a composite colour, and the exact proportion of each component colour can be read off.

The instrument consists of a tube, divided by a central partition terminating at the eye piece in a knife edge, which, being inside the range of vision, is not seen when the instrument is in use. At the other end of the instrument are two apertures of equal size, and alterable in size or shape by means of diaphragms. The two apertures are divided by the thick end of the central partition, which, together with the sides, is recessed by grooves, so as to hide the edges of the standard glasses and for other purposes. The whole is so arranged that the only light that can possibly meet the eye of the observer must first pass in equal quantities through the liquid in the gauged glass vessel in the one tube, and the standard glasses in the other tube.

The foregoing remarks refer, of course, to materials of which a solution has been made for testing purposes. But to Mr. Foster's description we may add that as it would be neither possible nor desirable to make "postage-stamp solutions," the suspected specimens would be—as Mr. Lovibond experimentally demonstrated before the Salisbury Philatelic Society the other night—so placed in the tube that it could be examined and compared by a reflected light or by an opaque light.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, February 16th and 17th, 1897.

(Continued from page 136).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s	d.
A	Mauritius, 2d., medium .. .. .	9	0	0
b	ditto, 2d., ditto .. .. .	£3 and	3	10 0
c	ditto, 2d., ditto, PENOE .. .. .	9	0	0
b	ditto, 2d., late .. .. .	2	2	0
b c	ditto, 2d., worn .. .. .	0	15	0
b	Large Fillet, 2d., fine, but no margins .. .. .	10	0	0
a	Small Fillet, 2d., medium .. .. .	1	10	0
a	ditto, 2d., worn .. .. .	0	16	0
a b	Greek Border, 1d. red .. .. .	1	12	0
a	ditto, 2d. blue .. .. .	1	10	0
b	Britannia, 4d. black on green .. .. .	2	12	6
a	ditto, 1/- green, perf. .. .. .	2	0	0
a	1/- green, no wmk. .. .. .	0	17	0
a	1/- on 5/- reddish-purple * .. .. .	1	0	0
a	1/- on 5/- violet * .. .. .	1	1	0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CA. .. .. .	0	15	0
a b	Naples, ½t. blue, cross .. .. .	3	12	0
b	Natal, first issue, 1d. blue .. .. .	0	17	0
b	ditto, 6d. green .. .. .	1	8	0
b c	ditto, 1/- buff, clear but cut small .. .. .	2	12	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose * .. .. .	1	10	0
a	4d. orange, engraved * .. .. .	1	16	0
a	4d. orange, litho, mint but badly centred * .. .. .	10	0	0
A	6d. grey, litho * .. .. .	11	17	6
a b	1/- green, perf. 13 * .. .. .	2	0	0
b	ditto, used .. .. .	1	2	0
a	1/- dark green, litho * .. .. .	1	12	0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange * .. .. .	1	4	0
b	ditto * .. .. .	0	18	0
a	2d. lake * .. .. .	0	15	0
a	4d. carmine-red * .. .. .	17	0	0
a	8d. ditto * .. .. .	14 and	0	15 0
a b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown .. .. .	0	17	0
a	6d. yellow-green .. .. .	1	3	0
b	Oil Rivers, ½d. fancy blue, on 2d. .. .. .	1	8	0
a	ditto violet ditto * .. .. .	1	0	0
a	ditto green on 2½d. .. .. .	1	3	0
a	½d. italic green, on 2½d. * .. .. .	1	1	0
a	½d. block blue, on 2½d. * .. .. .	1	0	0
A	1/- violet on 2½d., pmk. but full gum .. .. .	0	16	0
A	ditto * .. .. .	1	12	0
A	1/- red on 2d. * .. .. .	1	14	0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. moss-green * .. .. .	2	11	0
a	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, CA, perf. 12 * .. .. .	1	5	0
a	1/- slate, compound perf. * .. .. .	3	3	0
a	Spain (1854), 2 cuartos green * .. .. .	2	2	0
b	(1855), 2 cuartos green * .. .. .	1	10	0
b	(1860), 10 cuartos brown * .. .. .	0	14	0
a	Straits Settlements, Perak, narrow 2 cents, vertical on 4c. * .. .. .	0	16	0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. .. .. .	2	16	0
a	Vaud, 4c. .. .. .	19	0	0
a	ditto, 5c. .. .. .	1	12	0
a b	Tuscany, 180l. orange on blue, on entire .. .. .	1	0	0
b	United States (1855), 30c. orange * .. .. .	0	16	0
a	ditto, 90c. blue .. .. .	4	5	0
b	(1861), 5c. mustard * .. .. .	2	10	0
b	(1869), 90c. * .. .. .	3	7	6

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s	d.
a b	United States, (1869), 90c. used .. .. .	2	2	0

The departmentals below were all in mint state, but mostly badly centred.

a	Executive, 1c. * .. .. .	1	11	0
a	ditto, 2c. * .. .. .	1	10	0
a	ditto, 3c. * .. .. .	1	1	0
a	ditto, 6c. * .. .. .	2	14	0
a	ditto, 10c. * .. .. .	2	0	0
a	Justice, 30c. * .. .. .	2	10	0
a	ditto, 90c. * .. .. .	7	0	0
A	Navy, 7c. * .. .. .	1	17	0
a	ditto, 90c. * .. .. .	2	0	0
a	Zululand, 5/- carmine * .. .. .	2	0	0

Mr. HADLOW, February 18th, 1897.

a	Barbados, 3d. red-brown, star * .. .. .	1	1	0
b	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue, framed figures .. .. .	1	0	0
a	Canada, 6d. purple, on laid .. .. .	0	19	0
b	7½d. green, fine margins .. .. .	2	0	0
a	10d. blue, on thin, ditto .. .. .	1	3	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- emerald .. .. .	0	15	0
b	Ceylon, 1½ green, imperf. .. .. .	3	0	0
b c	2 - blue, imperf., very slight thinning .. .. .	4	0	0
b	Great Britain, 1d. plate 153 * .. .. .	1	0	0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. worn .. .. .	1	6	0
a	Greek Border, 2d. blue .. .. .	1	5	0
b	Natal, 1 - green, Postage 13 mm. .. .. .	2	0	0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved .. .. .	1	0	0
b	ditto, deep shade * .. .. .	2	2	0
b	6d. lilac-grey * .. .. .	1	17	0
a b	ditto, used .. .. .	1	2	0
a b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 .. .. .	£1 2s. od. and	1	3 0
b	Newfoundland, 5c. brown, seal * .. .. .	1	1	0
a	2d. lake * .. .. .	0	18	0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green .. .. .	1	0	0
a	Laureated, 2d., stars .. .. .	0	16	0
b	Nova Scotia, 6d. yellow-green .. .. .	1	1	0
a	Queensland, 1d. carmine, imperf. .. .. .	0	19	0
b	4d. grey * .. .. .	0	19	0
b c	St. Vincent, 4d. orange, no perfs. bottom * .. .. .	1	8	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. carmine, star .. .. .	1	1	0
b	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ * .. .. .	1	1	0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldo on blue .. .. .	0	16	0
a	United States (1847), 5c. * .. .. .	1	0	0
b	(1856), 30c. orange * .. .. .	1	1	0
b	ditto, 90c. blue * .. .. .	2	10	0
b	(1861), 5c. mustard .. .. .	0	16	0
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose on white * .. .. .	1	5	0
a	6d. rose on toned * .. .. .	0	19	0
b	1/- crimson, single line .. .. .	3	3	0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. orange, roulette .. .. .	1	4	0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., February 24th, 1897.

a	Austria, Journals, 4k. brown * .. .. .	1	1	0
b	Baden, 3k. rose, perf. 13½ * .. .. .	4	15	0
a	Bergedorf, 1sch. brown .. .. .	2	10	0
a	British Bechuanaland, £5 lilac .. .. .	1	2	0
b c	2d. green on lilac .. .. .	2	15	0
b	British East Africa (on Co's stamp), 2½a. red on 4½a. .. .. .	1	18	0
a	British South Africa (on Cape), 1/- yellow * .. .. .	0	12	0
a	Bulgaria, 5 on 30 stot .. .. .	2	6	0
b	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CA., no gum * .. .. .	4	0	0
c	ditto, gum, but one corner thinned * .. .. .	4	8	0
b c	India, Service, 2a. black on long lilac .. .. .	0	17	0
a	Mauritius, Greek Border, 2d. deep blue .. .. .	1	2	0
b	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CA. .. .. .	0	14	0
b	6d. green, "St. Christopher" "Revenue" used postally .. .. .	2	5	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1/- violet, small margins .. .. .	17	0	0
b	Peru, Provisional, 25c. rose, "Puno" in red * .. .. .	1	8	0
a b	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC. * .. .. .	1	2	0
b	South Australia, S. G. red on 6d. blue, roulette .. .. .	0	15	0
b	Spain (1868), 10 cuartos brown .. .. .	1	0	0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue .. .. .	0	16	0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC., no gum * .. .. .	8	0	0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, Feb. 25th and 26th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. *	..	..	1 3 0
b	Belgium, 5f. pale brown *	..	..	1 12 0
b	5f. red-brown ..	..	..	1 14 0
a	ditto, used, ? postally ..	..	..	0 15 0
b	Brazil, sloping figures, 6oor. black ..	..	..	3 12 6
b	British Columbia, 50c., perf. 12½ ..	..	..	1 2 0
b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), 4½a. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	ditto, 3 rupees *	..	..	two each 0 16 0
a	ditto, 4 rupees, on piece ..	..	..	1 4 0
u b	Cape, Woodblock, 4d. blue ..	..	..	1 10 0
b	1/- green, triangular, pair ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	1/- dark green, ditto, pair ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	1/- emerald * ..	..	..	1 10 0
b c	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf. ..	..	..	8 0 0
c	ditto, creased ..	..	..	5 0 0
a	Cyprus, 1/- green *	..	..	1 17 0
5a 1c	Gambia, 6d. blue, imperf., CC., block of 6 *	..	..	5 0 0
A	1/- green, entire sheet of 15 *	..	..	30 0 0
a	Great Britain, 9d. bistre, plate 4, emblems *	..	..	1 2 0
a b	2/- brown ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	ditto ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	£5 orange, on piece ..	..	..	2 4 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green *	..	..	2 7 6
b	ditto, used ..	..	..	1 6 0
a b	Hungary, Litho., 2k. orange *	..	..	0 13 0
a	ditto, 3k. green *	..	..	1 12 0
a b	ditto, 25k. purple *	..	..	2 6 0
b	Mauritius, 1/- on 5/- mauve ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 4/4 sch. roulette ..	..	..	5 0 0
b	Monaco, first issue, 5fr. * ..	..	..	1 17 0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. ..	..	..	3 3 0
b	Natal, first issue, 6d. green ..	..	..	0 17 0
c	ditto, 1/- buff ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose * ..	..	..	2 2 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	..	1 13 0
a b	6d. grey-lilac ..	..	..	1 16 0
b	Newfoundland, 5c. brown ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	New Republic, 4d. violet on buff, arms, 2 Dec., '86, twice printed *	..	..	1 0 0
a	Oil Rivers, ¼d. red on half 1d. blue ..	..	..	0 18 0
A	¼d. black on 1d. blue ..	..	..	0 13 0
A	¼d. green, italic caps, on 2½d. ..	..	..	0 15 0
A	¼d. blue, sans serif, ditto ..	..	..	0 15 0
A	¼d. carmine block, ditto ..	..	..	0 16 0
A	¼d. green block, ditto ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	1d. red on half, 2d. ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	Oldenburg, second issue, ¼gr. green *	..	..	2 15 0
a b	Russia, 30k. on vert. laid paper *	..	..	0 16 0
A	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, CA., perf. 12..	..	..	1 5 0
a	Tobago, ¼d. on 4d. red and lilac, fiscal, on entire ..	..	..	0 17 0
b	United States, New York (1849), 1c. black on rose, ink spot for postmark, on entire ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 1c. black on yellow, pencil mark, on entire ..	..	..	1 16 0
a b	(1856), 90c. blue ..	..	..	4 0 0
a	Executive, 3c. *	..	..	1 2 0
a	ditto, ditto, used ..	..	..	1 3 0
a	ditto, 6c. *	..	..	2 6 0
a	Justice, 90c. penmark ..	..	..	5 10 0
b c	Victoria (1862), 2d. lilac, wmk. Threepence *	..	..	1 6 0
a	Zululand, 5/- rose ..	..	..	3 0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., March 1st, 1897.

2a 1b	Antigua, 1/- lilac, strip of 3 *	..	..	2 2 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. vermilion, CA., perf. 14 *	..	..	1 2 0
b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	..	..	0 18 0
b	British Columbia, 5c. perf. 12½ *	..	..	1 10 0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown ..	..	..	0 18 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, star, perf. *	..	..	1 3 0
b	Great Britain, 10/- grey, anchor ..	..	..	1 4 0
b	£1 brown-lilac, ditto ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green ..	..	..	1 10 0
b	Mauritius, ¼d. on 9d. lilac, inverted *	..	..	1 0 0
b c	Mexico (1861), 1 real, black on pink ..	..	..	2 6 0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, cross ..	..	..	4 10 0
b	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, on entire ..	..	..	1 14 0
b	Nevis (1867), 1d. red, imperf. *	..	..	0 14 0
a b	4d. rose ..	..	..	2 5 0
b	4d. orange, engraved * ..	..	..	1 8 0
a	1/- dark green, litho ..	..	..	1 7 0
a	1/- light green, ditto *	..	..	1 2 0
a	Newfoundland, 6d. carmine-red ..	..	..	6 10 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Oldenburg, second issue, ¼gr. green ..	..	..	3 10 0
a	third issue, 3gr. yellow ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Peru, 1 sol. "Plata Lima" in red ..	..	..	0 17 0
b	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. *	..	..	1 3 0
a	St. Lucia (6d.), green, star ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	(1885), 6d. lilac, fiscally used ..	..	..	0 15 0
A	1/- orange, perf. 14 * ..	..	..	1 6 0
a	(1885), 1/- orange-brown, fiscally used ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, CA., perf. 12..	..	..	1 6 0
b	South Australia, 10d. on 9d. yellow, inverted ..	..	..	4 0 0
b c	Straits Settlements, first issue, 1c. in manuscript on 14c. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	Surinam (1891), 2½c. on 50c., perf. 14 *	..	..	1 1 0
c	Tollima (1868), 5c. on blue quadrillé ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	Turks Islands, 6d. olive-black, CC. *	..	..	0 15 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- crimson *	..	..	1 1 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, March 2nd and 3rd, 1897.

a	Antigua, 1/- lilac *	..	..	0 15 0
b	Baden, Land Post, 12k. yellow, on small piece ..	..	..	2 0 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, perf. about 15½ *	..	..	1 13 0
a	Barbados, 4d. vermilion, perf. 11½ x 15 ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	4d. dull rose-red, large star, perf. about 15, pair *	..	..	4 4 0
a b	5/- rose ..	..	..	1 16 0
b	ditto ..	..	..	1 2 0
b	Bermuda, 3d. on 2d. blue ..	..	..	1 5 0
b c	Brazil, sloping figures, 18or. black, good but just touched at bottom ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	British Bechuanaland, 10/- green ..	..	..	1 6 0
A	British Columbia, 25c. orange, perf. 12½ * ..	14/- and	..	0 15 0
a b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), ½a. brown, on piece ..	12/- and	..	0 18 0
a	British Guiana (1853), 1c. red ..	..	..	1 12 0
b	Brunswick, 1sgr. yellow, percé ..	..	..	2 10 0
a	Canada, ¼d. rose, perf. * ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue ..	..	..	2 2 0
b c	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf. ..	..	..	4 0 0
A	9d. violet-brown, imperf. ..	..	..	4 10 0
a	4d. rose, star, perf. ..	..	..	0 18 0
a	8d. brown, ditto, ditto ..	..	..	3 12 6
b	ditto, badly centred ..	..	..	1 15 0
a b	2/- blue, star, perf. ..	..	..	1 5 0
b	9d. brown, no wmk. ..	..	..	0 19 0
b	Fiji, 2c. (1d.) blue, plain V.R. ..	..	..	0 16 0
a	Great Britain, 1d. rose-red, large crown, imperf. *	..	..	1 10 0
b	£5 on bluish, "Specimen" ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	Guatemala, 2c. brown and green, centre inverted *	..	..	0 19 0
a	Hamburg, 4gr. green, imperf. ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green * ..	..	..	2 0 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	..	2 0 0
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown ..	..	..	1 0 0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, green, imperf. ..	..	..	1 0 0
a	ditto, 4d. black and green ..	..	..	2 14 0
b c	Natal, 1/- green, Postage 12mm. ..	..	..	0 17 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose ..	..	..	0 14 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 ..	..	..	£1 and 1 1 0
A	1/- lilac * ..	..	..	£1 7s. od. and 1 8 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow ..	..	..	4 8 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	..	..	1 0 0
b	ditto, used ..	..	..	1 8 0
b	6d. orange ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	5c. brown, seal ..	..	..	0 16 0
b	ditto * ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue ..	..	..	0 16 0

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**India-Rubber Stamps.**

									1	2	4	6	8
									1	2	3	4	10
White Paper	Blued Paper	Die.	Large.	Medium.	Small.				5/6	6	7	TAS	TAS
				No Wmk.									
Reprint	Perf. 12	Perf. 14	unused						SIX PENCE	ONE PENNY	THREE PENCE	FOUR PENCE	
Perf. 10	Perf. 12½	Perf. 16	roul	Laid					ERROR	ROSE PAPER	N.Z.	11½ x 12½	
Perf. 11½	Perf. 13	used	Wove						PERF. 10½	PERF. 11	10 x 12½	12½ x 10½	
									10 x 11	12½ x 11½	10 x 11½	PERF. 15	
									PROVISIONAL	NO WMK			

(All Actual Size).

ANY of the above Stamps can be obtained from us at the uniform price of 9<sup>d</sup>. each (post free); or 12 for 7/6.

**HARRY HILCKES & CO., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

**WANTED.**

**Mint Unused English Stamps.**

HIGH PRICES GIVEN.

**H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN,**

32, Palace Square, NORWOOD, S.E.

[4

**BULUWAYO PROVISIONALS ON CAPE**

	s.	d.
Unused set of 6, ½d. to 6d. on Cape	15	0
Used " " " "	17	6
1/- on Cape, unused	15	0
1/- " used	20	0
3d. on 5/-, B.S.A., unused	15	0
1896, O.F.S., ½d. on 3d., set of 7 types (used)	6	6
" " " set of 5 types	5	0
" " " " halve penny" double print used (cat. 7/6)	2	6
1897 " ½d. yellow, unused or used	0	1
U.S.A., complete set of 16 "Columbus" (used)	72	6
U.S.A., complete set of 16 "Columbus" (unused)	90	0

**CHARLES T. REED,** 28, Manchester Square, Dorset Street, London, W., England. [2

**ERNEST WOOD & Co.,**

9, Hoxton Street, LONDON, N.

**SOME BARGAINS.**

	s.	d.
St. Christopher, 6d. green	1	9
" " 2½d. blue	1	3
" " 4d. grey	1	4
St. Lucia, 1864, 1/- orange	6	0
" " 1/- red-orange	7	0
Sicily, 1858, 2gr. blue	0	6
" " 10gr. indigo, unused	2	6
Tasmania, 1st issue, 4d., cut square	10	0
Ceylon, 10d., wmk. Star	3	0

If you want Medium Stamps at Cheap Prices, you cannot do better than write to us for a Selection on Approval.

Agents for Desideratum Albums. [6

**BRITISH COLONIALS.**

	s.	d.
Canada, ½d., imperf.	22	6
Ceylon, ½d., imperf. on white	15	0
Cyprus, 1882, 12fr., die II.	20	0
Dominica, CC., ½d.	5	0
Gibraltar, 3 pesetas, obsolete	10	6
Heligoland, 1 mark	15	0
Ionian Islands, orange	3	0
Mauritius, 1/- yellow	6	6
" 1878, Rs. 2.50 on 5/-	8	-
" 1879, 50c. green	-	-
Natal, 5/- rose	-	-
Nevis, engraved, 1/- green (no gum)	60	0
" CA., 6d. orange	15	0
New Brunswick, 1c. brown	4	6
Newfoundland, 1d.	7	6
" 2d. lake	22	6
" 8d. lake	7	6
Prince Edward Island, 1d. buff	4	6
" 9d.	2	0
Queensland, Registered	20	0
St. Helena, 1d., imperf.	10	0

**CHAS. J. SMITH,** [4 Upper Park Rd., Kingston Hill, Surrey

**If you are in**

Want of any COLONIAL RARITIES at half to a third off Catalogue, send me your list of those ranging from 5/- to £20.

Sent on approval. References required.

**W. J. PATTISON,** [5

40, Elswick Row, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

**G. FRANCIS & CO.,**

DEALERS IN BRITISH COLONIALS

(current).

**BULUWAYO PROV.:**

1d., 2d., 4d. set, Used	7/-
1d., 3d., 6d., set, Unused	17/6
½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d., set, Unused	27/6
3d., Unused	10/6

[4

21, BEAN RIVAGE,

ST. CLEMENT'S, JERSEY.

**CHEAP!**

	s.	d.
CANADA, imperf., halfpenny	9	0
" " 10d.	15	0
" " 7½d., good margins	42	0
BRITISH BECHUANALAND, 4d. in red on lilac, unused o.g.	7	6
CAPE, Triangular, 4d. on blue, block of 2, very fine	6	0
" " 1/- emerald	15	0
NEVIS, 4d. orange, litho., very fine	23	0
" 6d. grey	27	0
N.S.W., Sydney View, 3d. green	14	6
U.S.A., Columbus, 1 dol., unused, fine	15	0
VICTORIA, 1/- blue on blue, "Stamp Duty," used	10	0

**ALL GOOD COPIES.**

We shall be glad to send these and other Colonials on approval. References.

DUPLICATE STOCK BOOKS, 12 pages, with strips, 1/1. RULED APPROVAL BOOKS, to hold 60 stamps and fit business envelope, 8d per dozen.

**CAMPBELL, INGLIS & CO.,** [5

12, TOWER CHAMBERS, CARLISLE.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 66—No. 14—Vol. III.      SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society.    Cambridge University Philatelic Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatelic Society.    The City of London Philatelic Club.    Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Sheffield Philatelic Society.

## Special List for the Month.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<b>British East Africa.</b>				<b>Dominica,</b>			
First issue, 1a. on 2d., superb pair <i>each</i>	2	5	0	CA. 14, 1/- lake, unused pair in mint state	7	10	0
"    "    4a. on 5d.   ...   ...   ...   ...	1	15	0	CA., single copy, unused...	3	17	6
<b>India, 4a. red and blue, with blue line, superb unused specimen with enormous margins</b> ...   ...   ...   ...	3	15	0	<b>United States, imperf., 5 cents brown, with enormous margins all round, and scarcely perceptible postmark, used on entire original with superb roc. green, imperf.</b> ...   ...   ...   ...	2	7	6
<b>Trinidad,</b>				<b>Virgin Isles, CA. 14, 6d. mauve, unused pair in mint state</b> ...   ...   ...   ...	0	19	6
CC. 12½, 5/- dull lake, unused and in mint state ...   ...   ...   ...	1	15	0	<b>New South Wales, wmk. 5/-, 5/- violet, unused and in mint state</b> ...   ...   ...	1	15	0
CC. 14, 5/- carmine lake, superb unused pair ...   ...   ...   ...	0	19	6	<b>Tasmania, 1867, pin perf., 2d. green. Two of these exceedingly scarce stamps used together on piece of original—probably unique thus...</b> ...   ...   ...	20	0	0
<b>Nevis,</b>							
CA. 14, 6d. red-brown, block of 6, with margin and control number, in mint state ...   ...   ...   ...	3	12	6				
CA. 14, single unused copy ...   ...   ...	0	12	6				
CA. 14, 1/- mauve, superb strip of three with margin and control number in mint state ...   ...   ...   ...	6	17	6				
CA., single unused copy ...   ...   ...	2	10	0				

### SPECIAL LINE!

CYPRUS, Die II., 3cp., ½, 1, 2, 4, 6 and 12 piastres, unused ... *the set*   1   2   6

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

**Doings of Societies.****CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.**

Committee for Season 1896-1897

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:*

Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Committee:*

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, &amp; H. Atherley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes., 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE twelfth Meeting of the above was held on Monday March 22nd, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C.: the following Members being present: Messrs. H. Hilckes, C. Forbes, H. Thompson, H. Plumridge, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atherley, G. C. Warden, Jr., W. Browne, E. W. Hounson, E. T. Patterson, G. Gilbert, D. Thomson, H. Chetwin, J. B. Neyroud, and many Visitors. When our third Magic Lantern Display was held (a report of which is given below).

Future meetings have been arranged as follows:

**April 5th.—Display of the Stamps of St. Helena, Queensland, etc., by M. Z. Kuttner, Esq.**

**April 19th.—Sixteenth Auction Sale.**

Monday, March 22nd, was a special night for the members of the City of London Philatelic Club, it being the occasion of the third of our Magic Lantern Display. Since these displays were started last winter, great interest has been taken in them by people interested in philately, as the stamps are shown in their original colors. The principle being that by means of reflected light, and a specially prepared lantern, the operator is enabled to place the original stamps on the screen; and not a copy, by means of a photographic negative, as is the usual mode of conducting these displays.

Under the able directorship of our Vice-President, Mr. H. Hilckes, who very kindly took the trouble to explain the many and various differences of the forgeries, etc., a large and varied display was given, divided under

three headings. First, Forgeries. In the case of these, the stamps were exhibited in pairs, the original and the forgery side by side.

Amongst these were the V.R. 1d. black; New South Wales, laureated head, various values; Trinidad, ½d. obsolete, surcharged O.H.M.S.; Natal 1/- green, black surcharge; Peru, faked surcharges; Sicily; Tuscany, various values; Lubeck; Ceylon, 2d., ½d., 8d., 9d., 1/-; W.A., 1d. yellow, surcharged I.R.; ditto, ½d. green, surcharged I.R. £2; ditto, 1d. red, surcharged I.R. 15 -, etc., etc.

These were followed by a number of interesting varieties, including United States Secret Marks: India obsolete, the two types; 10pf. Germany with bar across "T" of post; the two types of the De la Rue series; Transvaal 2d., broken plate; Gibraltar 25c. on 2½d., two types of "5"; Tasmania Fiscals with forged postmarks, etc. Concluding with a number of reprints of the stamps of Wurtemberg, Hamburg, Ionian Islands, Argentine Republic, Roman States, etc.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Hilckes terminated a very pleasant evening.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

At the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be offered by the City of London Philatelic Club, for the best collections of Used "British Colonial Stamps," shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, *The Philatelic Record*, and *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*.

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*, *Internationales Briefmarken Offerenblatt*, *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung*.

From Italy: *Roma Filatelica*.

From United States: *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Home Worker*, *The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society*, *Filatelie Facts and Fancies*.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.**

THE eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, on March 8th, 1897. Vice-President Gregory in the chair. Present: Messrs. Calman, Luff, Lynde, Scott, and the Secretary.

The Secretary read letters from Messrs. M. P. Castle, Percy C. Bishop, and Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, relative to publication of minutes.

The following subscribers to stock, not having qualified, it was moved, seconded and carried in each individual case, that each and every name be and is hereby dropped from the rolls: Chas. B. Corwin, 19, Whitehall Street, N.Y.; G. W. D. Crittenton, 208, West End Avenue, N.Y.; Jacques Krebe, 78, Nassau Street, N.Y.; H. K. Sanderson, Lynn, Mass.; Edmund Obrecht, 2, Lafayette Place, N.Y.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the following members elect, not having qualified, be and are hereby dropped from the rolls as per section 22 of the Constitution: A. M. Trujillo, 413, E. 87th Street, N.Y.; J. B. Chittenden, 138, E. 49th Street, N.Y.; Chas. Steigerwalt, Lancaster, Pa.

The following applications for membership were reported:—Aug. Lehmann, Jr., 188, Tyler Street, Patterson, N.J., proposed by John N. Luff, seconded by Walter S. Scott; C. H. Meade, 37, W. 42d Street, N.Y., proposed by Walter S. Scott, seconded by John N. Luff; Monson Morris, 14, E. 63d Street, proposed by Jos. S. Rich, seconded by John N. Luff, and their names were ordered to be posted according to the Constitution.

Upon ballot the following candidates were unanimously elected:—Oscar Dejonge, 50, Exchange Place, N.Y.; Wm. F. Hasse, 24, W. 116th Street, N.Y.; Frank J. Dutcher, Hopedale, Mass., and they were thereupon declared duly elected.—J. M. ANDREINI, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

# ENQUIRY BUREAU.

**WE** have now made arrangements to extend the operations of this institution to India. The expenses of course, connected with this country, are higher than those enquiries for Europe. We will accept two of our Tickets for every one enquiry in India and Ceylon until further notice.

We remind our readers that the subscription to our Bureau is 2/6, and a book of five tickets, 10/6. A small reduction is made on books containing a larger number of tickets.

**N.B.**—An enquiry in India will take about 40 days if such enquiry reaches us at latest Friday morning.

# Northern Stamp Exchange Society.

"The most successful Stamp Exchange Club in the World."—*Vide* "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly."

Secretary—FREDK. A. WICKHART, 70, Sotheby Rd., Highbury Park, London, N. Hon. Sec. and Treas. to the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

The following Statement will show at a glance how the "Northern" Stamp Exchange Society has progressed. (Compare Totals for each year).  
1893-94 1894-95 1895-96.

## THREE PACKETS EVERY MONTH.

SECTION I.—For British and Colonial and United States.

SECTIONS II. and III.—General Packets for the Stamps of all Countries.

Sections I. and II. contain no Stamps priced at less than 1s.

RAPID CIRCULATION.

PROMPT MONTHLY SETTLEMENTS.

A Packet for Medium Collectors and Beginners just starting.

Month.	Total Value of Packets.		Total Sales.		Total Value of Packets.		Total Sales.		Total Value of Packets.		Total Sales.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
SEPTEMBER	54	3 3/4	15	11 2	194	7 7/2	38	10 8/4	824	17 7	150	18 4/2
OCTOBER	103	19 8/4	25	1 0/4	393	2 0	84	5 7/2	1269	16 8	205	10 7
NOVEMBER	146	13 10/4	32	0 5	292	0 7	65	18 4	1320	7 2	182	14 8/4
DECEMBER	133	2 11	36	10 8	381	14 7	86	15 11/2	2064	12 11	392	0 0/4
JANUARY	116	12 4/4	27	3 8/4	440	15 8/4	120	11 0	2130	11 8	319	0 2/4
FEBRUARY	122	13 1/4	25	8 0	530	0 7/4	110	0 11	2112	4 2/4	357	7 0/4
MARCH	122	10 8/4	22	19 0/4	777	10 10	164	7 2	2982	0 8/4	459	10 8
APRIL	90	8 6	27	7 4	304	1 4	192	2 7	2177	0 8	215	13 3
MAY	126	8 1	23	7 4	725	14 0/4	127	19 9/4	1597	13 8	174	11 9
JUNE	218	6 11	31	5 7	500	8 8	114	8 9	2354	3 5	237	5 1
JULY	142	7 8/4	24	17 1/4	572	2 6	90	6 1	1300	11 4	153	12 2
AUGUST	161	9 10	23	15 7	576	15 4	147	14 8/4	1330	12 6	185	8 8/4
	1537	17 0/4	318	10 6	6191	13 10	1343	1 7/2	41434	12 6	3933	12 7

THE varieties circulated through the "NORTHERN" have included unused 1/- Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and Newfoundland (vermillion); very fine unused Oldenburgs and other old German States, in addition to the rarest varieties of almost every country.

Advanced Collectors desirous of obtaining fine stamps should join. Many members of the London Philatelic Society contribute to the "NORTHERN."

Rules and all information post free from the Secretary.

## "ENGLISH ALBUM."

In conjunction with our Catalogue we have prepared an Album to provide spaces for English Postal and Telegraph Adhesives only. It is designed in an absolute novel way and has been pronounced first-class by such high authorities as Mr. FRED A. PHILBRICK and Mr. A. S. WESTOBY.

The Prices are:—  
Half Morocco .. .. 10/6  
Cloth Bound .. .. 4/6  
Cheap Edition .. .. 2/6

CARRIAGE EXTRA.

Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside.

## NEW CATALOGUES.

Senf, 1896.

POST FREE, 2/6

Scott, 1897.

POST FREE, 2/4

Gibbons, 1897.

Part I. POST FREE, 2/-

.. II. ready in April.

.. III. .. .. May.

HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, E.C.

## PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

### Note Change in the Rate.

Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**APPROVAL**—British Colonials, Old Europeans, &c., mostly half price, discount extra. H. EDGAR WESTON, 9, Corningham Road, Shepherd's Bush W. [1]

**BRAZIL**—Send Post Card, Letter Card, or Official Envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian. Any Country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and French. ANTONIO DE CAMPOS SERRA, Limeria, Estradode Sao Paulo, Brazil. [7]

**SMALL Dealers' Special Assortments.** Wholesale list free—COOPR, 61, Harberton Road, Highgate, London. [1]

**GIBRALTAR** and Morocco Stamps supplied at very cheap prices by CARL FRANK, Safi, Morocco. Please apply for Price List. [1]

**THE "S.C.F." "Lick Creation" Packet 6d.** 80, all different, includes Bahamas 1d, Niger Coast, Newfoundland 1c, Porto Rico, Sandwich Isles, U.S., 10c, Travancore. 1st, over 500 sets gratis. Sheets 3d. stamps upwards. Prizes besides discount. Mounts 10c 6d. post free. Bright's Cat. 2/9, Gibbons' 5/-. Firth's Book, 3/- all post free. A. F. McAUSLAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow. [2]

**COLLECTORS** invited to join Richmond Exchange Society, first class club with monthly settlements. Particulars from ROBERT KEID, JR., 20, Tichfield Road Kew Gardens. [2]

**STAMPS** at half Catalogue.—Special Offer: Canada, 1852, 3d. for 9d., 1859, 5c. 1d., 10c. 9d., 12 1/2c. 9d., 17c. 1/6; 1868, 4c. 3d., 1c. 9d., 6c. 2d., 12 1/2c. 3d., 15c. 3d. United States, 1861, 24c. 6d.; 1868, 12c. 9d.; 1869, 12c. 9d.; 1890, 9c. 1/- Victoria, 1861, 6d. blue, 9d.; 1865, 9d. on 10d., 2/-; 1867, 4d., 6d.; 1873, 9d., wrmk. 10, 2/- All singly or by the dozen. Cash with order.—MAITLAND, 18, George Street, Edinburgh.

**50 STAMPS** only Angra, Brazil, Cuba, Ponta-Delgada, Porto Rico, Portugal, including Antonians and Portuguese Colonies. Registered in Envelopes Official and 80 reis violet, 1/-.—MARSEL A. CASTRO, Luz-Lisboa, Portugal. [2]

**EXCHANGE**—I have a large variety of Duplicate Stamps and desire to buy or exchange with correspondents in East, West, South and Central Africa, Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, the West Indian Islands, and other British Colonies, value for value, quantity for quantity, or cash for new issues and provisionals, plus commission—SKEATH, Exchange Secretary, Sheffield Philatelic Society, 166, Devonshire Street, Sheffield. [5]

**WANTED**—Old Collections, rare single stamps, unused current Colonials. Exchange or Cash. SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey. [25]

**BREAKING** up Large Collection.—1d. British Honduras, blue, unused, CC., 2/-; 4d. mauve, CC., used, 1/6; St. Christopher, 24d. brown, used, CA., 6/-; 4d. blue, CC., used, 2/6, Dominica, 1 2 olive-yellow, CC., unused, 4/-; 1d. lilac, used, 1/-; 4d. blue, CC., used, 2/6; Montserrat, 24d. blue, used, CA., 2/6; 4d. mauve, CA., 3/-; Gold Coast, 1 2 yellow, CC., unused, 2 6, 1d. blue, unused, CC., 1/3, etc. Selections sent on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references. Correspondence only.—H. G. SALTER, 65, New Cut, Lambeth, London.

**ENGLISH**, unused.—Block of four, 1/-, salmon, crown, plate No. 14, mint condition. What Offers? —TERKY, 66, Wendover Road, Harlesden.

**ZANZIBAR**—British, 2 1/2 in red on 1 anna 6 pies, unused. Only ten rupees each. Cash in advance. Much below Catalogue.—Apply early to J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [5]

**EXCHANGE**—Have for Exchange a very large number of South African Stamps of all States south of the Equator. Open to further connection for exchanging sheets.—W. HARBOR, Mafeking, S. Africa. [1]

**BARGAINS**—100 assorted, including Portugal, American, Roumania, Russian, Dutch, &c. Free 5d. A. BURGIX, 33, Aston Street, Limehouse.

**THE BOOM** in Canadian Revenues continue. Buy now while cheap. My stock is very complete. I have just published at 7 1/2d. post free, the best, latest, most exhaustive and accurate Catalogue (forming an attractive Book of 20 pages and cover) of these beautiful stamps ever issued.—N.B. 1851, 3d. on entire only, 14/-; 1868, Canada 3c. laid paper, cat. 20, only 9/- I buy Rarities U.S. Revenues, etc.—W. KELSEY HALL, Peterboro', Ontario.

**PENNY REIDS** for Plating that have not been looked over; all soaked off. 1/- an ounce (about 1200 to the ounce). Ditto unused, one third Catalogue. Cash with order.—MAITLAND, 18, George Street, Edinburgh.

**BARGAINS** in Unused Jamaicans, 6d., 1/-, 2/- and 5/-, Crown CA., in mint condition, for 11/6. 1/-, 2/- and 5/-, CC. (obsolete), for 12/9. The rare bisected Penny (pineapple) on the entire original, showing postmarks over 30 years old. Price One Guinea each.—D. P. FOUCHÉ (Office Island Treasury), Kingston, Jamaica. [2]

**LAGOS**, 4d., perf. 12 1/2, unused, 20/- Barbados, 5/- rose, 35/-; Cyprus, 12 piastres, 1882, die 2, mint state, 16/-; Tobago, 1/- green, CC., unused, 25/- All fine. Many other rarities equally cheap. State wants.—EDWARD HYAM, 46, Cornwall Road, Bayswater.

The New "Rowland Hill" Packet. Detailed Prospectus on Application. 21/-

**ALFRED SMITH & SON**  
37, Essex Street, Strand, LONDON, W.C. [5]

Scarce Tobago 1 2d. postage on 4d. revenue. PROVISIONAL. 1 Postmarked "Tobago, Dec 29, 96." PRICE - - - 8 6 each.

THESE stamps were only issued for bona fide postal purposes and had to be affixed to letters in the Post Office, consequently the issue was very limited. (For further particulars see Note page 69, *Illustrated Supplement* February 24th, 1897). "We guarantee the above to be a rapidly rising stamp, and we believe no other firm can supply at this price."

Fisher Titley & Co., Stamp Importers, Bath.

YOU can have SWEDISH STAMP CARDS and ENVELOPES CHEAP. Send for Price List, Free on Application, and you will be able to give orders. I WANT the better Scandinavian Stamps, used and unused, at highest Market Prices for CASH; send your OFFERS. Better class European, Colonial and U.S.A. also wanted for Cash or Exchange.

Write to-day to Fr. LINDHE,  
76, B. Grefvegatan, N.B., Stockholm. [3]

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

. . . HELD BY . . .

## MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S. W.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

April 8th, 9th and 29th. May 12th, 13th, 27th and 28th. June 16th.

APRIL 8th and 9th.—By instructions from A. GOOD, Esq., a portion of his VERY FINE COLLECTION, consisting mostly of EUROPEAN STAMPS, and including the following rarities:

TUSCANY, 3 lire, a pair of 2 soldi and a 1 soldi, used together on entire letter. SPAIN, 2 reales of 51, 52 and 53; a fine lot of Habilitados, and others. NAPLES, Arms and Cross, and 50gr., fine. OLDENBURG, complete, including a magnificent specimen of the 2nd issue ½gr. LUBECK, complete, used, including the error. HANOVER, 1gr. blue, unused, and several fine 10gr., used and unused. SAXONY, 3pf. red, unused, with gum, and two fine used specimens. HAMBURG, complete, used, including fine specimens of the 9sch., imperf. and perf. SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN, fine used and unused specimens of the 1st issue. A grand lot of used BERGDORF, several on original Mecklenburg-Schwerin, ¼ sch., rouletted, fine specimens. MECKLENBURG-STRELITZ, complete, used. WURTEMBERG, a grand lot of the various 18kr., superb unused 70kr., with gum. ALSACE LORRAINE, a fine lot with rare postmarks. BRUNSWICK, several fine sets of the 1st issue. BAVARIA, a fine lot of the 12kr. lilac, perforated, unused and used. BREMEN, complete, many on entires. THURN AND TAXIS, a rare lot of the early issues, with scarce town postmarks. SWITZERLAND, the double Geneva, Basle, Vaud, Neufchatel, Winterthur, and Zurich, 4 rappen and 11 6 rappen. GREAT BRITAIN, a fine lot of the various 10/-, £1, and £5 values; several 2/- brown. SWEDEN, 1st issue complete, and duplicates. GIBRALTAR, 1st issue, unused, three sets. MONACO, 1st issue complete, used and unused. Fine used PARMA, CEYLON, wmk. Star, perf., 4d., 1/9, and 2/-, unused; C. and CC., 5d. brown, unused, with full gum; 2r. 50c., ditto. And many others.

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PUBLISHED IN APRIL.

THE

2nd EDITION.

# "A.B.C." Descriptive Priced Catalogue

OF THE

## WORLD'S POSTAGE STAMPS, ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, etc., etc.

A SUPERIOR PAPER will be used to that employed in the First Edition, and will be particularly adaptable to printing Photo Illustrations of Stamps. A large number of New Illustrations will be made in place of those which, in the First Edition, were more or less unsatisfactory.

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

## PORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

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CONDUCTED BY

HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatello Society. | The City of London Philatello Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatello Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatello Society. | Rochdale Philatello Society. | Sheffield Philatello Society.  
Bristol Philatelic Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society.

No. 66.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### PERUVIAN STAMPS TO BE TENDERED FOR.

THE following announcement appeared in *The Times* of March 11th, and we give it here for what it may be worth:

#### PERUVIAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

Whereas the General Post Office and Telegraph Department have been duly authorised by Supreme Decree of the 21st of July, 1896, and whereas the Accountant-General has finished the inventory ordered to be made of the stock on hand of stamps and other forms of postage withdrawn from circulation, it is hereby resolved that TENDERS be accepted within the term of four months for the SALE by Public AUCTION of all the POSTAGE and DEFICIT STAMPS, Stamped Envelopes, and Post Cards withdrawn from circulation up to the present date, on the following terms, viz.:

1st. The total number of sundry stamps offered for sale is four millions three hundred and fifty-six thousand and ninety-three, representing a nominal value of four hundred and twenty-one thousand four hundred and ten dollars and eighty-three cents, the particulars of which appear in the catalogue made out by the Accountant, and which can be inspected by the interested parties.

2nd. The basis for the tenders shall be one thousand pounds sterling.

3rd. The interested parties may present their tenders for one or more groups made and selected at their will, provided the sum offered should be on the basis of one thousand pounds fixed in the previous clause.

4th. The sealed tenders will be received at the office of the Secretary of this Department up to 12 noon on Monday, the 31st of

May next, and the auction will be held at 3 p.m. of the same day at the General Post Office, and in the presence of the Economic Committee and the Public Notary of the Treasury.

5th. Tenders should be accompanied with a certificate of the Accountant-General, or of the Consul of the Republic abroad, stating that a deposit of 10 per cent. has been made on the amount fixed as basis, and as a guarantee of bona-fide fulfilment.

No tender will be admitted unless accompanied with said certificate.

6th. The Consuls of the Republic in New York, London, Paris, Berlin, and Brussels are hereby authorised to receive sealed tenders and the corresponding deposit. Said tenders shall be sent out to this office in due time, so as to be taken into consideration on the 31st May.

7th. The deposits of those tenders which may not be accepted will be returned forthwith to the interested parties. That of any tender which may result favoured will be considered as payment on account of the amount tendered for and duly accepted.

8th. The buyer shall pay at the Treasury of the General Post Office the sum for which he may obtain the stamps cash down, if payable in currency, or within eight days if payable in good bills duly approved by the Department.

If the tender has been presented abroad, the period allowed for payment will be the time required for communicating, according to the distance.

The General Post Office will communicate by wire to the respective Consul the name of the bidder whose tender has been accepted.

9th. If payment is not made within the time stipulated above, the Postmaster-General will retain the deposit stated in Clause 5th as an indemnity against loss and damages that may be sustained, and he will have the right to call for a fresh sale by auction.

Let it be communicated, registered and advertised in the Journals of this city, and in those of New York, London, Paris, Berlin and Brussels, and let it be filed.

(Signed) CARRILLO, Postmaster-General.

Lima (Peru), 29th January, 1897.

The foregoing notice is published by instructions received from the Peruvian General Post Office, and the particulars therein referred to can be seen at the Peruvian Consulate-General, 237, Winchester House, E.C., between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

London, 10th March, 1897.

### WHY NOT?

Is the colonies English stamps can be obtained in small quantities at various Post Offices for transmission to England, and Mr. Henniker Heaton has suggested to the Postmaster-General that an office should be opened in London, and all large towns, for the sale of foreign and colonial stamps in order that correspondents who wish a reply should have the means of sending the necessary stamp. Mr. Heaton, however, thinks that a still better method would be the adoption of a common international stamp, and he intends to ask



whether the solution of the difficulties "alleged" to exist in connection with the institution of such a stamp has yet been devised. The word "alleged" is a little suggestive.

#### A PHILATELIST LIBELLED.

MR. FRANCIS AUGUSTUS DODD, well known as a philatelist and auctioneer in connection with the ill-fated Philatelic Club of Jermyn Street, has been prosecuting one, Stanley Fitch, a person lately in his employ. Mr. Dodd had been most kind to Fitch, who is an inveterate drunkard, and had befriended him when he was in the greatest need. In return for this, Fitch grossly libelled his benefactor, accusing Mr. Dodd of having wilfully set fire to his own premises at High Street, Stoke Newington. In the end Fitch was sentenced to three months hard labour at the Old Bailey.

#### REPRINTS OF NICARAGUAN STAMPS.

IMPORTANT news is communicated by *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* concerning the reprinting of early Nicaraguan stamps. The reprints, it appears, have been made by the American Bank Note Company, to the order of the Nicaraguan Government, from the original plates still in their possession. The printing is good, and the reprints are necessarily so like the originals, that it will be very difficult to distinguish decisively between them. The reprints are the ten stamps of 1869-71 and 1878-80 issues.

#### THE COST OF THE NOVA SCOTIA STAMPS.

IN No. 64 of the FORTNIGHTLY we drew attention to an advance copy of one of Mr. J. W. Scott's weekly newsletters, received just as we were on the point of going to press with that number. From that letter it appeared that the total amount paid to the Premier of Nova Scotia for the Reminders was \$18,000 odd. In felicitating the Nova Scotia assembly on this good stroke of business, the Premier of the Province stated that the stamps had been sold under an agreement that the number was not to be made public, "because if stamp purchasers throughout the world knew the quantity they could better judge of the value of these stamps, and all opportunity for legitimate speculation would be lost."

Perhaps (Mr. Scott remarks) stamp collectors may be foolish, but they are at least able to do a simple sum in arithmetic. Stanley Gibbons practically states that the proportions of the stamps are as follows: four of each of the 1, 2 and 8½c. to one 12½c. and two 10c. Now, considering the large amount it is not likely that more than face value was paid, and if we take S. G. & Co.'s proportions we shall arrive at the following figures:—

94,000 stamps at 1c.	\$ 940.00.
94,000 " 2c.	1,880.00.
94,000 " 8½c.	7,990.00.
47,000 " 10c.	4,700.00.
23,500 " 12½c.	2,937.50.

Total \$18,447.50.

And we venture to say that these figures are correct or a little under the mark, as doubtless some odd or damaged sheets were thrown in. This lot at lowest prices, as fixed by S. G. & Co., would amount to nearly a quarter of a million dollars.

#### MORE ABOUT THE COLMAN CASE.

THE prosecution of Hamilton F. Colman, for the illegal possession of U.S.A. Newspaper and Periodical Stamps, was continued on Wednesday and Thursday, February 24th and 25th. General Walker, of Washington; Mr. Evelyn S. Hall, also of Washington; Mr. Kelly, of the U.S.A. Post Office; and Mr. T. Q. Munce, were the witnesses examined. The evidence of the last-named witness proved to be of greater importance than any testimony yet adduced. It seems that Mr. Munce, who is chief clerk of the stamp division in the Third Assistant Postmaster-General's Office, had access to the proofs and specimens of newspaper stamps. The question was asked him, "Do you know whether Colman ever got any of those specimens?" "Yes," answered the witness, and he proceeded to explain that he took some of the imperforate stamps home. His wife let Mr. Colman have some of them. Directly he heard of Mr. Colman's arrest, he went to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General and told him of his connection with the case. The stamps he had given to Mrs. Munce were twenty-five sheets of fifty. He

had no authority from his superior officer to give these stamps away.

The defendant himself was then called to the witness-box. He stated that he exchanged Revenue stamps with Mrs. Munce for the newspaper proofs and then handed the letter to Mr. Townsend, of Washington, who was his partner in the sale of stamps. When asked what was done with them subsequently and why they were placed on sale in the perforated condition, the defendant declined to answer on the ground that his answer would tend to incriminate him. This concluded the evidence adduced on the Wednesday. The following day it was submitted by council that Colman should be "held" to answer to a jury as to how he became possessed of the stamps in question. The Commissioner in charge of the case reserved his decision.

#### MEXICAN REMAINDERS.

IN looking through various Exchange Packets recently, we have noticed the strange persistency with which the 1 and 2 pesos blue of the 1884 issue of Mexico, are priced at about face value—i.e. 4s. 6d. and 7s. 6d. respectively. As very large remainders have been sold to the trade we append a list of those values which were included therein. A set of the whole lot is obtainable at about 5s.

1 centavo green.	10 centavo scarlet
2 " brown-lilac	20 " "
3 " scarlet	25 " "
4 " "	1884 head issue 50 centavos green
5 " blue	" " " 1 peso blue
6 " scarlet	" " " 2 " blue

#### HOW THESE CATALOGUERS LOVE ONE ANOTHER!

WE are pretty well accustomed to the unfair trading tactics pursued by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, but a paragraph which appeared in the last number of the *Monthly Journal*, indited by Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, goes a good deal beyond what is expected from the bitterest trade rivals. This is what the great C. J. P. says:

"One thing we are rather curious about, and that is to know whether the delay in Part II. of our Catalogue will induce a similar delay in the issue of another Catalogue, by a certain firm of book-sellers in the South of England. Let us watch and see. We believe there will be a similar delay there. *Verbum sap.*"

As a matter of fact 336 pages of Messrs. Bright's Catalogue are, we are informed, already printed, and this is about half the whole edition! So much for the genial Mr. Phillips' kind insinuations.

#### LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION—FURTHER MEDALS.

MESSRS. BULL & Co., Limited, offer a Gold Medal for the best Collection of the Stamps of Peru.

Messrs. G. Caff & Co., a Silver Medal for the best Collection of Sydney Views.

Messrs. Butler Bros., one Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best Collections (not exceeding 2000 varieties) to be shown in any Album of English Manufacture by Exhibitors under the age of 16 years.

#### DISAPPEARANCE OF A VALUABLE SELECTION!!!

MR. WM. HADLOW informs us that an unregistered parcel received from Canada, containing a selection of British Colonial stamps, of countries from A to M, value some £400, has disappeared from his offices.

#### DEATH OF MR. JOHN K. TIFFANY.

THE philatelic world is in mourning. *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, of March 18th, brings us the sad intelligence that the eminent American philatelist, Mr. John K. Tiffany, died on March 3rd, at the age of 55. The deceased was born in the city of St. Louis, Missouri, in February, 1842. For many years he was associated with an eminent firm of lawyers practising there, but latterly his time was chiefly occupied in the management of the large and valuable estate left him by his father. Though a wealthy man, Mr. Tiffany was of unpretentious manners and of a singularly genial disposition. He had a large general collection of his contributions to the literature of our hobby, including works that are rightly regarded as standards by the thousands of philatelists who mourn his loss to-day.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



lishers of the "S.C.F.," you will not object to sacrificing a little space in your valuable paper, more especially as the writer did good service in introducing the "S.C.F." to Liverpool philatelists in the early days of its existence.

Let me first of all clear the air a little by a personal explanation. From remarks that have been made, it might be supposed that the writer was at daggers drawn with the Liverpool Philatelic Society. On the contrary I am on excellent terms with *all* the members and especially with the officers. When I undertook to act as correspondent for *P.F.G.B.*, it was suggested to use a pseudonym would cause a certain amount of conjecture locally and probably lead to some amusing incidents. Another reason why I wrote anonymously was that in so doing I could hardly be charged with self-advertisement. When my letter appeared, the much criticised paragraphs were only laughed at by the majority of our members, one only seemed to take it seriously, and to keep up the joke I joined him in denouncing the writer of such a scurrilous article! A good many members had a more or less vague idea as to who the author was, and in further elaboration of the joke I wrote to the "S.C.F." as a member of the Society, protesting against my own remarks in *P.F.G.B.*!

This letter was not published, but, instead, you accused me of "covertly" attacking the Liverpool Philatelic Society. You do not quote my remarks, but do me the justice of admitting that had my letter been signed "no objection could have been raised." In that case there was evidently nothing in what I said, but it was the way I said it.

In the last number of the "S.C.F.," you print a communication from an individual who "covertly" attacks the writer in a virulent personal strain.

Now, nobody with a grain of common sense would imagine for a moment that this gentlemanly epistle was penned from motives other than personal spite. The trail of the trade rival is over it all.

The style of "Another Member" is strangely familiar to me, and if I am correct in my surmise, whatever he may be a member of, it certainly is not the Liverpool Philatelic Society.

There is really nothing to reply to in "Another Member's" epistle, as it consists solely of personal abuse. His refined and cultured mind revolts from such a "vulgar pen name" as Dicky Sam, and he states that my "column of expanded twaddle has grown nauseous" from *this* self-advertising tendency of the said firm.

What self-advertising tendency?

In conclusion, I challenge "Another Member" to give his real name, not that I expect any response, for men of his kidney prefer hitting below the belt.

I might also add that the committee of the Liverpool Philatelic Society are fully aware of Dicky Sam's identity and you have my full permission to publish my own name, but as I am *not* seeking self-advertisement I leave this in your hands entirely, with many apologies for taking up so much space.

Yours faithfully,

DICKY SAM (W. C. TAYLOR).

We publish the above letter to complete Mr. Taylor's evident self-satisfaction, but correspondence concerning this Liverpool storm-in-a-teacup must now cease.

We trust there are not many philatelists able to tell such a story of pettifoggery and meanness as the following:

Dear Sir,

I am glad to hear there is some talk of a new Philatelic Protection Association being started.

There are several dealers who are anything but ready to acknowledge mistakes. I believe in many instances they warrant stamps to be genuine originals without taking proper precaution to find out if they really are so: in fact in some cases they must know the odds are against the stamps being originals.

A short time ago I bought six Helligoland stamps, all warranted genuine originals, from a large city dealer, whose stamps may be seen in many shop windows.

Four of the stamps were subsequently declared to be reprints by Messrs. Gibbons and four other leading dealers. When I returned the stamps the dealer became very abusive and rude, blustered a lot about the stamps being genuine, and finally refused to return the money until they were pronounced reprints by a Hamburg expert. I forwarded them to Hamburg and they were returned with a note saying they were reprints. Even this did not satisfy the dealer, he said I had humbugged so much about these stamps and had probably sent others!! He has now sent them himself.

A little of this sort of thing would soon disgust most people with stamp collecting.

The Rose Tea Rooms,

Regent's Street,

March 20th, 1897.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES FRIEND.

We have been requested to publish the following letter:

## THE CHARGE AGAINST A STAMP AUCTIONEER.

Sir, As I have not infrequently been asked if I had any connection or relationship with Mr. Lawrence Hubert Rockliffe, I shall esteem it a favour (as one of your original subscribers) after the publicity you have given to this case, if you will insert this letter in your next issue, and thereby acquaint your readers (to many of whom I am known as a private collector) that I have no knowledge whatever of Lawrence Hubert Rockliffe; and oblige.

WILLIAM CRAVEN ROCKLIFFE,

M.A., M.D., Cantab.

Hull, March 23rd, 1897.

We are indebted to an Anerley reader, Mr. E. G. Turner, for a newspaper clipping regarding the fact that Mr. Hanbury, Under Secretary for the Treasury, replying in the House of Commons to Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., stated that it was not the intention of the Government to issue any special postage stamp by way of commemorating the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen. The fact has been an open secret for some time, but this official statement finally sets all doubt on the subject at rest.

We have received from America during the past fortnight a number of stamp auction catalogues which deserve a line of recognition. From Mr. Henry Gribble, we get a catalogue of his sixteenth auction sale fixed to take place at the Collectors' Club, on Fourth Avenue, New York, on March 30th. The next catalogue is one that is sent us by—we don't quite know whom. It is the catalogue of a collection of United States and other stamps, the property of Mr. Chas. H. Brown. The J. W. Scott Company, Ltd., are the cataloguers, and the auctioneers are Gregory & Co. The Bogert and Durbin Company send us the catalogue of their 80th sale, arranged to take place last Saturday, March 27th. And last, but not least, we have a priced catalogue of what appears to have been a very successful sale held by the Walter S. Scott Stamp Company of New York, on February 24th last.

While on the subject of auctions, it may be worth while to mention an interesting announcement made by Mr. Cheveley in the course of his last Auction Sale at Chancery Lane. A number of lots of Nevis stamps were included in the sale, and the total realised of them was about £30. When all were knocked down, Mr. Cheveley stated that the vendor of the stamps had bought them four years previously in that very same room for 18/-

Here is a striking evidence of the rapid rises which have taken place in stamp values during recent years. In four years 18/- is turned into £30! Perhaps some smart school-boy reader of the *Fortnightly* will be able to work out what this represents in compound interest.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 3, 1897.



THE continued inactivity of the S.S.S.S. is causing talk. Some explanation is due to the philatelic public, and we hope it will be promptly forthcoming, else we must requisition more sibilents and speak of the Society for the Suppression of all Seeking to Stay the Slumbers of Somnolent Suppressionists! Meantime, it may be well to relate a few facts which have been perhaps too long withheld from our readers. Some time ago—to be precise, on October 31st, 1896—our Mr. Hilckes, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the S.S.S.S., wrote as follows to Mr. Gordon Smith, the Secretary of the S.S.S.S.:

DEAR SIR,—I notice various dissenting remarks in foreign philatelic papers concerning the S.S.S.S. The last I received was the *Post Office*, of New York, for October (No. 67). I have over and over again urged upon you the necessity of calling periodical meetings of the Executive to deal with these matters.

The last circular was published without any previous knowledge so far as I am concerned, although as one of the members of the Executive I was nominally responsible for its contents. The sooner this state of things is altered the better I shall like it.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES.

To that letter no answer was made, and it remains unanswered to this day, although one would think the very serious complaints made by Mr. Hilckes called for some excuse or explanation. It is a fact that the last circular, supposed to be issued by the Executive Committee of the S.S.S.S., was not seen by Mr. Hilckes, a member of that Executive, until it was issued to the general public. A strange proceeding, this, on the part of a salaried secretary. The S.S.S.S. was well conceived in the beginning, and at first its objects were well carried out. Then, like our other old friend, the P.P.A., its energies flagged, and it—died? Well, that remains to be seen.

### British "Hospital" Stamps.

SHILLING AND HALF-CROWN LABELS FOR SUBSCRIBERS TO THE PRINCE OF WALES'S FUND.

THE "Daily Mail" (London), dated Tuesday, March 30th, is interesting for the following announcements: "The suggestion made in the "Daily Mail" that "Hospital Stamps" should be issued in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund has, we are officially informed, been adopted.

"As the easiest and readiest way of enabling people of all classes with the minimum of trouble to subscribe to the Hospital Fund, the Prince of Wales has approved a design for two stamps of the value of 1/- and 2/6 respectively, which has been prepared by the Government contractors, Messrs. De la Rue & Co., who have kindly given the blocks and drawings free of charge.

"The wholesale distribution of the stamps has been undertaken by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, Hamilton, Kent, & Co., Limited, of Stationers' Hall-court, E.C.

"The stamps will be ready after Easter, when full particulars will be published. The issue will be strictly limited in number, and no reissue will be made.

"The stamps may be procured through any bookseller, newsagent, stationer, or stamp-seller.

"The design of the stamps is artistic and beautiful, and apart from their popularity with the smaller subscribers to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund they are calculated to excite great interest among philatelists, of whose society H.R.H. the Duke of York is president."

#### WHAT THE STAMPS WILL BE.

It is necessary to impress upon philatelists that the stamps mentioned in the above extract will have no postal character whatever. Interesting as they will undoubtedly be as souvenirs of an auspicious year, they will have absolutely no philatelic value; and the "Daily Mail's" statement that they will "excite great interest among philatelists" is so much moonshine.

They will excite no more interest among philatelists than among any other class of loyal and charitable Britons.

### Some Jottings from Barbados.

[N] reference to the Tobago ¼d. surcharged on ¼d. Revenue, a correspondent writes us that the Post Office Department in Tobago seem to have been most vigilant in the handling of these stamps. A friend (our correspondent states) posted a few to me on sheets of note paper addressed home *open*, and inside the same there was only the remark, "Christmas Greeting." The Tobago Office taxed them as letters, and I had to pay the difference between letter postage and the ¼d. stamp. Bravo for the vigilance of the Tobago Government Service; *but*, in face of this, I find that a clerk in Bridge Street, Barbados (also a member of the Barbados Philatelic Society), met with greater luck; he also has a friend there, and doubtless his friend has *influence* in a certain Department, as I find that the said clerk in Barbados received a goodly number of uncancelled stamps. At the time of the surcharge I saw him with a sheet of 60 Tobago ¼d. Revenue, surcharged ¼d., *not postally used*, for which he refused to take 4½d. each. On the arrival of the last mail, I wrote asking him the price of the said stamp. He replied, "6d. each any quantity you require." Possibly the Government have since decided to issue large quantities. It is worth enquiring about.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING APRIL 17, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

April 5th & 6th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

April 6th & 7th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, S.E., at 5.45 p.m. precisely, each day.

April 8th & 9th.—Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.

April 12th & 13th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

## → FIFTH ARTICLE. ←

(N.B.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

**Dated Postmarks.**—So far I have dealt only with the different forms of stamp cancellation, and before passing to the next form it may be well to note a few of the many types of postmark used with these cancellations. In addition to the obliteration, each letter was postmarked by the despatching office. This postmark usually bore the date, and, outside the London district the name of the place of despatch. Up to about 1855 (see Type 6c for an earlier example) this postmark was struck separately, but at about the date mentioned the postmark and obliteration, were, generally speaking, combined and the two struck on the letter together. This was not invariably the case (nothing apparently is invariable about the Post Office except the charges), some offices up to the present week still continue to use the two separately.



15.



16.



17.



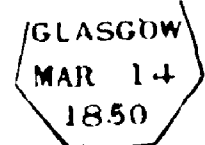
18.



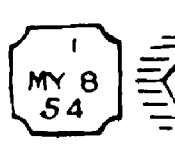
19.



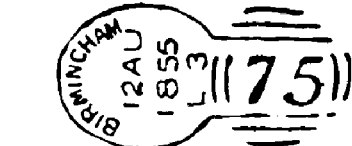
20.



21.



22.



23.



24.



25.



26.



27.

On the early issues, Local London Postmarks are somewhat common, such as "Fleet St.," "Fenchurch St.," etc., with and without the letters "T.P." and in addition to the usual obliteration and dated postmark.

Types 15, 16, 17, 18, are varieties which were, I believe, used in London alone.

Types 19 and 20 were used in the country, and were always struck separately.

Type 21 is the only one I have met of this form. It is unfortunately incomplete, and I am somewhat curious as to the missing part. If the complete postmark was a hexagon it was not equally sided, but then regularity was not studied when these things were made; "circles" are not really circular; "parallel" lines are not equi-distant, and so on.

Types 6c, 14b, 14c, 14d, 22 and 23, are somewhat unusual types, struck together with the 1844 obliteration. Of 22, I have only met with one other example. Types 24 and 25 are examples of the types which have been generally used since 1855 in connection with the 1844 obliteration. Type 25 is curious, as showing how the name St. Alban's has been cut away to make room for the time of posting. Of Type 25 there is slight variation in which the circular line is broken at the top for the name of the town, somewhat resembling Type 20, but with a single line only.

Types 26 and 27 were used in London City Offices; the former I have seen used at Lombard St., Mark Lane, Gracechurch St., and Throgmorton Avenue; the latter at Lombard St. only, though, of course, it is possible that both types were used at all the City Offices.

**Combined Obliterations and Dated Postmarks.**—This form of cancellation came into use in the early "seventies," in the form of a special cancellation for book post packets, which will be dealt with later. Generally speaking, this combined form came into use in 1880. It consisted, at first, of the old type of postmark, (either circular or octagonal) with ornaments added, making the whole rectangular. Later, in 1882, other forms came into use of which there are many varieties.



28.



29.



31.



31a.



31b.



32.



32a.



32b.



32c.

Experiments in the direction of a combined obliteration and postmark were made much earlier than 1880. Type 28, I believe to be one of these experiments, though the only copies I have seen have been on too small pieces of envelope, to feel confident on the matter.

Type 29, (of which I have seen several copies all used on the same day as that from which the block is taken), is certainly a combined cancellation. In 1880, however, as I have said, the combination came into general use in at least two forms, and these, together with all the varieties of the 1844 obliteration, remain in use at the present time.

Type 31. The octagonal form was, I believe, used only in London. The block is taken from a stamp used in the E.C. District, 17th June, 1880, which is the earliest date I have of this form. Later in the year, Dec. 11th, is my earliest—the outer lines were very thick and the inner ones thin, (Type 31a), there being also a slight change at the corners. In March, 1884, the octagon was equal sided (31b), the lettering in each case being similar to Type 31b.

Type 32. The circular form was used in London and in the country; the earliest example I have was used at Liverpool, 31 May, 1880. Types 32a, 32b, show later varieties of this form; both of these exist with and without numbers or letters in the lower corners, and with a varying number of lines at the corners.



32d.



33.

In type 32c the lines are continuous. In 32d the centre is oval instead of round, with a double line instead of a single one. Mr. Hulkes informs me that this type is the result of an experiment in machine cancellation.

Type 33 was used in the E.C. District, June 8th, 1882. This type is not so common as the other London types.



34.



34a.



35.



36.



36a.



37.

The earliest date of use of Type 34 I have is 9th Nov., 1882. These last two are, I think, used in London only.

Type 34a is a smaller variety of 34, but I illustrate it as bearing the letters "VR" at the bottom. Mr. Coates, from whom I obtained this example, informs me that this obliteration was used at the Admiralty only. Personally I know nothing about it.

Type 35 is generally used to cancel circulars or book post packets, but it is sometimes used for letters as well. I have only seen it used in London.

Types 36 and 36a are varieties of the form which is rapidly superseding all others. Both may be found without the inner circle, without the number or letter at bottom, with and without

a small cross at the bottom, and with the time of dispatch expressed in either of the forms illustrated.

Type 37 is not common. It is used in one London office at least, and at Southall, Middlesex, sometimes—letters from the latter place by the same London delivery showing examples of 32a and 37.

The ordinary circular postmark, Types 24 and 25, is often made to do duty as an obliterator. I have seen many examples of its recent use as the only cancellation.

I have not seen any of these "combined" types in anything but black ink, but they are said to exist in red and blue as well.

(To be continued.)

### Notes on New Issues.

**Sierra Leone.**—We are sorry to announce fresh Provisionals for this Colony which we have received from Messrs. Whitfield King. The Fiscal stamp one penny has been surcharged in three lines "Postage and Revenue," and the three-pence Fiscal stamp has also been issued with this surcharge, but in addition the value has been obliterated with six thin lines and the new value of 2½d. surcharged in its place. There are three types in the surcharge 2½d. which we illustrate, we also append sketch showing how the types are distributed over the sheet. There are 60 stamps in the sheet which has been surcharged in two panes of thirty, the first and the fourth row being identical. Messrs. Whitfield King state that they have received a sheet which in the second printing had got shifted so that the third row got a second impression which ought to have been on the fourth. As it is the third row that contains types II. and III. there is quite a variety of double surcharges in the row. As this mis-print left the bottom row without any surcharge, the sheet was put into the press a second time and the bottom row received the same surcharge as the top row.

Finally the 6d. has also been surcharged 2½d. which shows the same variations of type.

2½d.

Type I.

2½d.

Type II.

2½d.

Type III.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
1	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	3	1

Fiscal, 1d. green and lilac surcharged

POSTAGE AND REVENUE.

" 2½d." on 3d. green and lilac sur.

POSTAGE AND REVENUE.

" 2½d." on 6d. green and lilac sur.

POSTAGE AND REVENUE.

**Uruguay.**—The 1, 5, and 10 cent of the Commemorative Issue have been surcharged "Provisorio 1897" in a circle. Perhaps the Commemorative Issue would not sell without it, hence the surcharge.

**Orange Free State.**—Mr. C. T. Reed sends us the 2½d. surcharged on drie pence blue in a new type, but we do not know whether this is a re-setting or not.

**Turkey.**—A new set of newspaper stamps has appeared here which were obtained by surcharging the current 10 paras in black and red "5 paras." Copies have been sent to us by Mr. C. T. Reed.

5 paras black on 18 paras green.  
5 " red " 10 " "

**Switzerland.**—The unpaid letter stamp 1 centime has now appeared in full dark yellow green with the usual red figure in centre as evidenced by the copy sent us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

\*\*\* Review of Reviews. \*\*\*

#### Journals Briefly Mentioned.

A LONG article on the use of Lovibond's Tintometer in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* was extensively drawn upon in the preparation of our last Review. Apart from this article there is a strange paucity of original matter in our Salisbury contemporary, most of the articles being quoted from other journals. Under the headline, "On Catalogues and Reminders," there is a particularly foolish letter, in the course of which it is stated that Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., have objected to the means adopted by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to prevent their catalogue being sold to the public at less than the published price. The objection was made by the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY and not by Messrs. Hilckes, and anyone reading the objection will see that it was based on perfectly reasonable grounds. The same letter contained a number of foolish statements concerning reminders, and the Nova Scotia deal is contrasted with the purchase of Mr. T. H. Thomson of the Leeward Island stamps. The writer of the letter contends that as no figures were forthcoming as to the number of stamps purchased by Mr. Thomson it is not reasonable to expect to get any facts as to the numbers comprising the Nova Scotia reminders. But in the Leeward Islands case figures were forthcoming and were published in the FORTNIGHTLY and elsewhere.

*Philatelic Facts and Falacies*, our bright and newsy contemporary from San Francisco, has just seen the abusing article concerning ourselves, published in the *Monthly Journal* of January 30th. "At this distance," say they, one cannot fully appreciate a controversy of this character, but the impartial reader will be hard to win over by the vapourings of the FORTNIGHTLY." Probably by this time our San Francisco friends will have received and read our reply to the *Monthly Journal's* articles, and we do not think they will be long in concluding which of the two papers contains the most vapour, and the most solid fact.

The *Weekly Philatelic Era*, of March 6th and 13th, brings us the usual quantum of philatelic jottings from all quarters. The issue of March 6th reprints verbatim our news concerning the arrest of Thomas Webb, the Melbourne stamp cleaner with full acknowledgment of course. It is a tribute to our news-gathering ability which we greatly appreciate.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

*Class A*—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

*Class a*—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

*Class b*—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

*Class c*—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, February 16th and 17th, 1897.

(Continued from page 148).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1	1 4 0
a b	ditto, 3d. on entire	1 1 0
b	ditto ditto	0 15 0
a	Diadem, 8d. orange	3 15 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	1 5 0
a	6d. yellow-green	1 11 0
a	Oil Rivers, 1d. red on half 2d., on piece	0 18 0
a	½d. green block, on 2½d.	0 15 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½sgr. green *	1 2 0
a	second issue, 2gr. rose	1 2 0
b	Peru, 1 dinero green, arms inverted	1 0 0
b	Queensland, 10/- brown *	1 15 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown	1 12 0
A & a	1/- lilac	14/-, 15/- and 0 16 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. orange	1 12 0
b	ditto	1 7 0
a	1/- slate, perf. about 15 *	1 9 0
a	½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair *	2 16 0
a b	Schleswig Holstein, first issue, 2sch. rose *	1 6 0
b	South Australia, 1d. yellow-green (colonial) imperf.	0 17 0
b	C. Sgn., in red on 2d. orange (first type) roulette	1 3 0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze	1 8 0
a	Straits Settlements, 4c. rose, CA. *	1 1 0
a	Sungei Ujong, 2c. rose, CA., UNJOG	4 0 0
a	Switzerland, Neuchatel, 5c.	2 2 0
a	Zurich, 6r. hor. lines	1 4 0
b	ditto ditto	0 15 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue	2 6 0
a	Tobago, first issue, 1/- green, penmark	0 15 0
b	ditto, 5/- slate, ? ditto	1 8 0
a	1/- orange, CA., vert. pair, postmark but full gum	1 2 0
A	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf.	1 16 0
a b	ditto	1 0 0
b	1/- indigo, ditto	0 16 0
a	5/- lake, perf. 12½ *	1 0 0
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. black (type 6) *	1 15 0
a b	2½d. on 1/- prune, ditto *	2 8 0
b	4d. on 6d. black (type 15) *	0 18 0
a	Tuscany, 1 soldo orange, on grey	1 6 0
a	ditto, on white	1 2 0
b	United States (1869), 24c. *	1 9 0
b c	Victoria, Too Late, large margins somewhat stained *	3 15 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12, large V *	2 10 0
a	ditto, used	2 6 0
a b	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	0 13 0
a	ditto, used	0 14 0
a	4d. lake-red	0 16 0
b	1/- crimson, single line * two	each 2 15 0
a	1/-, crimson border	1 6 0
a	4d. on 1/-, crimson *	1 0 0
a	2½d. brown, CC.	1 3 0
a	Zanzibar, 2½a. red on 1½a. brown	0 15 0
b	Zululand, 5/- rose *	1 13 0

Mr. HADLOW, March 8th, 1897.

a	Antigua, 1/- lilac, pair *	1 14 0
a	Barbados, 5/- ochre *	0 17 0
a b	British East Africa, (on Co's. stamp), 4 rupees, blue, pair on piece	2 2 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
A	Canada, 10d. blue, on thin	1 0 0
b	7½d. green	1 8 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. purple brown, no wmk.	1 5 0
a	Gold Coast, 4d. bistre, CA. *	1 5 0
b c	Great Britain, 2/- brown *	1 16 0
a	5/- rose, plate 1 *	1 7 0
a b	£5 orange, .. .. . £1 18s. od., £1 18s. od. and	2 2 0
a	I.R. Official, £1, orbs, "Specimen"	2 0 0
A	Labuan, 6c. on 8c., one doubly surcharged, pair *	1 10 0
b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. *	1 3 0
a b	4d. blue, CC. *	1 1 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 1, medium state, on entire	1 1 0
a	Norway, 20 ore blue, imperf., large margins, on entire	1 2 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½sgr. moss-green *	2 8 0
1 a	1 b Queensland, ½d. on 1d., pair *	1 10 0
b	St. Vincent, 1d. black, perf. 11½ by 15 *	1 9 0
a b	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ *	1 4 0
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. black (type 6) *	1 7 0
b	4d. blue *	1 1 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, March 9th and 10th, 1897.

b	Antioquia (1876), 1c. on white laid *	1 0 0
a	Baden, Land Post, 12k. yellow	1 6 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. CA., perf. 14 *	2 2 0
a	British Guiana, 9bc. drab	1 4 0
a	British South Africa (on Capet), 1/- yellow *	0 10 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, 6d. lilac, roulette, on piece	£2 and 2 2 0
a b	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CC., perf. 12½	1 0 0
a	Great Britain, £5 orange on bluish	2 6 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green *	2 2 0
b	Heligoland, 1pt. .. .. .	1 8 0
a	Mexico (1867) 8 reales black on brown, gothic	0 17 0
b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CA.	0 17 0
b c	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, clear, but cut small	1 0 0
b	Nevis, 6d. green, "St. Christopher Revenue," used postally	1 6 0
b	1/- green, perf. 15	1 4 0
b c	Newfoundland, 6d. orange, small ink spot *	1 12 0
b	Portuguese India, 6r. on 100r. green (1872)	2 2 0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange, "Revenue," used postally	0 12 0
b	Spain (1868) 10 cuartos brown	0 19 0
A	Tolima, first issue, 5c. black on buff, penmark	1 19 0
a	ditto, 5c. black on blue wove, ditto, £0 13s. od. and	0 15 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line	2 15 0
b	Western Australia (1860), 4d. blue, pair, roulette showing between *	3 3 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., March 11th, 1897.

(Held at Manchester).

b	Bahamas, 1d., CA., perf. 14 *	1 3 0
b	Barbados, 6d. rose, no wmk. *	1 14 0
a b	British Columbia, 10c. pink, perf. 12½ *	2 6 0
b	British Honduras, 2c. on 6d., perf. 12½ *	1 14 0
b	Brunswick, 2sgr. blue, percé, on entire card	0 17 0
b	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso brown	0 16 0
b	Canada, 6d. grey-lilac, perf. *	6 5 0
a	7½d. green .. .. . £2 10s. od. and	2 16 0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue	1 10 0
b	Ceylon, ½d. lilac, no wmk., imperf. *	0 15 0
b	2d. emerald, CC.	1 1 0
b	4d. rose, star, perf. *	1 5 0
a	5d. purple-brown, no wmk.	1 14 0
a	8d. yellow-brown, star, perf.	5 5 0
a	9d. brown, ditto, ditto *	0 15 0
a b	ditto, used .. .. . £1 0s. od. and	1 1 0
a	2/- blue, star, perf. *	1 6 0
b	ditto, used	1 2 0
b	"Thirty Cents" on 36c. inverted .. .. .	0 15 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14, pair *	1 10 0
a	ditto, a single *	0 17 0
b c	Dominican Republic (1865), ½real, black on green	2 10 0
b	Gambia, 1/- green	2 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	Gibraltar, second issue, 1/- bistre ..	1	0	0
b	Great Britain, 2/- brown ..	2	8	0
a b	Grenada, 1/- lilac ..	0	19	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green ..	1	6	0
b	Heligoland, ½sch., roulette ..	1	0	0
b	1 sch., ditto ..	0	17	0
b	Hungary, 3kr. green, litho. ..	0	13	0
b	Luxemburg, 37½c. brown ..	1	5	0
b	Madeira (1869), 240 reis lilac ..	12/-	and	0 15 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d., earliest, small margins ..	5	0	0
a	4d. black on green ..	3	0	0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. ..	2	14	0
c	Nevis, 6d. grey, litho. ..	5	10	0
a	6d. green ..	7	15	0
a	1/- lilac ..	1	10	0
c	New Brunswick, Connell, perfs. clipped two sides ..	10	0	0
a b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange ..	1	1	0
a	4d. carmine-red ..	3	6	0
b	6½d. ditto ..	7	15	0
b c	New South Wales, Sydney, 3d. green, pair ..	2	14	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red brown ..	0	19	0
b	6d. dark green ..	1	16	0
b	5c. blue ..	0	14	0
b c	Oldenburg, second issue, ½gr. green ..	1	16	0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown ..	2	4	0
A	1/- lilac ..	0	18	0
b	St. Helena, ½d. green, double surcharge ..	1	9	0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star ..	2	16	0
a	6d. violet, perf. 12½ ..	1	4	0
b	1/- orange, ditto ..	2	0	0
b	1/- orange, CC., perf. 14 ..	1	10	0
b	(1885), 6d. lilac ..	3	15	0
a b	Saxony, 3pf. red ..	6	0	0
c	ditto, cut at top ..	2	2	0
a	South Australia, 2d. carmine, imperf., pair ..	1	5	0
a	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze ..	1	10	0
a	Sweden, 3sk. bco. green ..	2	7	6
b	24sk. bco. red ..	1	1	0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. vert. lines ..	0	18	0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, C.C. ..	4	2	6
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf., large margins ..	2	10	0
b	4d. mauve, CC., perf. 12½ ..	0	14	0
b	4d. grey, ditto, ditto ..	0	12	0
a b	6d. emerald, ditto, ditto ..	0	17	0
a b	1/- orange ..	0	17	0
a	Turks Islands, 4d. blue ..	1	14	0
b	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac on white ..	3	12	6
b	United States (1868), 9oc. blue, grill ..	0	16	0
a	State, 20 dollars, penmark ..	5	0	0
b c	Victoria, Beaded Oval, 6d. orange ..	3	15	0
c	5/- blue on yellow ..	2	17	6
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line ..	3	0	0
a b	Wurtemberg, 70k. violet ..	3	10	0

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, March 11th and 12th, 1897.

b	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no wmk., clean perf. 13 ..	6	0	0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose ..	2	2	0
b	ditto ..	1	12	0
c	Brazil, sloping figures, 6oor. black ..	2	0	0
a	British Columbia, Vancouver, 5c. rose, imperf., fine margins, on piece with 4 U.S.A. ..	20	0	0
a	ditto, 10c. blue, imperf., ..	2	15	0
a	5c. red, perf. 12½ ..	2	4	0
b	1 dollar green, perf. 12½ ..	3	8	0
c	British Guiana, (1851), 1c. magenta, crease otherwise good ..	4	0	0
a b	(1853), 1c. vermilion ..	2	4	0
a	ditto, 4c. blue, ..	0	18	0
a b	(1862), 2c. yellow, pearls, roulettes all round ..	6	0	0
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey ..	2	0	0
b	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso, blue ..	1	14	0
b c	ditto used ..	0	15	0
a	1 peso brown ..	2	4	0
c	2 pesos blue ..	2	6	0
A	3 pesos green ..	7	15	0
a	4 pesos (4 reales) brown ..	4	0	0
a	5 pesos orange, superb but cut close at top ..	28	0	0
b	Canada, 7½d. green, good margins ..	1	16	0
b	ditto, small ditto ..	1	2	0
a	10d. blue on medium paper ..	1	4	0
a b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf. ..	16	10	0
a	8d. brown, star, perf. ..	2	12	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, star, perf. ..	2	6	0
a	1/- cold violet, no wmk. ..	1	0	0
b	Cyp us, 1 - green ..	1	10	0
b	Denmark, 1rbs. light brown ..	2	4	0
b	Finland, 10p. brown on lilac wove ..	4	8	0
a	Gambia, 1/- green ..	1	18	0
b	Great Britain, 2d. blue, no lines ..	2	12	6
a	(1880), 1d. Venetian-red, imperf. ..	0	16	0
a	ditto, 1½d. ditto, ditto ..	0	17	0
a	(1881), 1d. lilac, imperf. ..	1	4	0
a	(1883), 2d. green ..	0	15	0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green, no margins ..	0	19	0
b	Heligoland, 2pf. ..	2	2	0
a	Hungary, 2kr. yellow, litho ..	0	13	0
a	10kr. light blue, ditto ..	2	12	6
b	15kr. brown, ditto ..	1	2	0
a	India, Service, 6a. 8p. ..	4	0	0
a	ditto, 2a. black on purple, two pairs ..	each	2	5
a	ditto, ditto, a single, used ..	0	19	0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, 6d. blue ..	0	14	0
b c	Naples, 50gr. lake ..	1	7	0
b c	Natal, first issue, 1/- buff, cut small ..	0	15	0
a	5/- red violet, CC. sideways, perf. 15 × 15½ ..	1	12	0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose ..	1	1	0
a	4d. orange, engraved ..	1	2	0
a b	6d. grey-lilac ..	1	18	0
b	ditto ..	1	14	0
a	6d. green ..	7	10	0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 ..	3	3	0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 ..	1	5	0
a b	ditto ..	1	0	0
b	ditto ..	0	16	0
a b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow ..	£1	14s.	od. and
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange ..	2	4	0
a	4d. orange ..	2	14	0
b	ditto ..	1	12	0
b	6d. orange ..	1	12	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1 ..	2	0	0
a	ditto, ditto on blue ribbed ..	3	12	6
a	ditto, ditto, vert. pair on yellowish ..	4	0	0
b	ditto, 1d., plate 2 ..	6	0	0
a b	ditto, ditto, used ..	1	0	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 1 ..	2	12	0
a b	ditto, ditto ..	1	16	0
b	ditto, ditto ..	1	4	0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2, ..	£1	16s.	od., £1 16s. od. and
b	ditto, 2d., plate 5 ..	11	0	0
b	Laurent, 1d. orange-red on blue ..	1	0	0
b c	ditto, 1d. lake-red on laid, pair one WALE ..	4	15	0
b	Diadem, 8d. orange, imperf., on piece, with a 2d. ..	4	4	0
b c	ditto, 2d. blue, imperf., wmk. 5, pair ..	2	12	0
a b	New Zealand, 1/- green on blue ..	1	5	0
A	1/- blue-green, roulette ..	8	15	0
a	Nova Scotia, 6d. dark green ..	2	2	0
a	6d. yellow-green ..	1	12	0
a	Oil Rivers, 1/- violet on 2d. ..	1	6	0
a	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr. green ..	1	0	0
a h	second issue, ½gr. green, small margins ..	3	10	0
b	third issue, ½gr. green ..	1	1	0
a b	ditto, 1gr. blue ..	1	3	0
2a 1c	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf., pair and a single, used together on piece ..	21	0	0
a	Russia, 10k. brown and blue, imperf. ..	2	0	0
a	30k. rose and green, wmk. 3 ..	1	5	0

(To be continued.)

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Collectors not having previously done business with us are respectfully requested to furnish the customary references.

- |   |              |   |
|---|--------------|---|
| 1. Great Britain (4 vols).  |              | 19. Virgin Islands, Falklands, Leewards, and Bahamas.               |
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| 4. Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Schleswig.              |              | 22. Canada, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince        |
| 5. Bavaria.   |              | 23. British Guiana.   |
| 6. Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, and Ionian Islands.                    |              | 24. St. Lucia and British Honduras.                                 |
| 7. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Danish West Indies.        |              | 25. Colombian Republic.   |
| 8. Wurtemberg and Finland.  |              | 26. U.S.A. and Confederate States (3 vols).                         |
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| 10. Germany.  |              | 28. Peru and Uruguay.   |
| 11. Greece.   |              | 29. St. Vincent.  |
| 12. Spain.  |              | 30. N.S.W., Tonga, and Cook Islands.                                |
| 13. Siam, Borneo, Sarawak, and Labuan.                              |              | 31. Queensland and West Australia.                                  |
| 14. Ceylon.   |              | 32. Hong Kong and India.  |
| 15. Portuguese Indies.  |              | 33. B.C.A., British Central Africa, British Bechuanaland, Zululand, |
| 16. St. Helena, B. E. Africa Co. and Protectorate, B. S. Africa Co. |              | Swazieland, and Stellaland.   |
| 17. Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Lagos, Niger Coast, and       |              | 34. Victoria.   |
| 18. Nevis and Antigua.  | [Oil Rivers. |   |

Other Countries are being made up, and will be advertised in due course.

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ALL PICKED SPECIMENS (WITH FIGURES AT BACK)

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Paris Print,	10 lep. orange	.. .. .	10	0
Athens	5 .. green (1st type of 5 at back)	.. .. .	1	6
.. ..	20 .. blue on greenish	.. .. .	1	6
.. ..	20 .. 1871, light blue, dotted neck	.. .. .	2	6
.. ..	20 .. blue on deep blue	.. .. .	2	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on bluish	.. .. .	5	0
.. ..	40 .. bistre on bluish, unused	.. .. .	5	0
.. ..	10 .. orange on cream, error "oo"	.. .. .	4	6
.. ..	20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted	.. .. .	7	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on cream, unused	.. .. .	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK)

Paris Print,	1876, 30 lep. olive brown	.. .. .	3	6
.. ..	60 .. green	.. .. .	3	0
Athens	60 .. green on buff	.. .. .	4	6
.. ..	10 lep. deep orange on cream, rare	.. .. .	5	0
.. ..	20 .. ultramarine	.. .. .	2	6

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[3

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Used " " " "	17	6
1/- on Cape, unused	15	0
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Zanzibar on Indian, complete set of 14, used	45	0
O.F.S., Half Penny on 3, used	0	2
" error Half PEUNY } the pair	7	6
" " " no stop		
" " ½ on 3d. double sur., used	2	6
" 1897, ½ yellow	0	1

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" 3d. rose	9	0
" 2½d. lilac-rose	7	0
" 6d. " "	4	0

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Collections Bought. [5

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Gibraltar, 5 pesetas, obsolete	10	6
Heligoland, 1 mark	15	0
Ionian Islands, orange	3	6
Mauritius, 1/- yellow	6	6
" 1878, Rs. 2.50 on 5/-	8	6
" 1879, 50c. green	2	3
Natal, 5/- rose	10	6
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New Brunswick, 1c. brown	4	6
Newfoundland, 1d.	7	6
" 2d. lake	22	6
" 8d. lake	7	6
Prince Edward Island, 1d. buff	4	6
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" 1879, 90c. carmine	2	0

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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY<sup>2</sup> ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 67—No. 15—Vol. III.      SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1897.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society.      Cambridge University Philatello Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatello Society.      The City of London Philatello Club.      Roohdale Philatello Society.  
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## Special List for the Month.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<b>British East Africa,</b>				<b>Dominica,</b>			
First issue, 4a. on 5d. ... ..	1	15	0	CA. 14, 1/- lake, unused pair in mint state ... ..	7	10	0
<b>Brazil,</b>				CA., single copy, unused... ..	3	17	6
First issue, 3or., 6or. and 9or. unused with large margins ... ..	4	17	6	<b>Ionian Isles,</b>			
<b>Trinidad,</b>				the red Stamp, <i>used</i> , very fine ... ..	1	12	6
CC. 12½, 5 - dull lake, unused and in mint state ... ..	1	15	0	<b>Straits Settlements,</b>			
CC. 14, 5/- carmine lake, superb unused pair ... ..	0	19	6	C.C. 12½, 96 cents, slate, unused ... ..	3	0	0
<b>Nevis,</b>				<b>St. Vincent,</b>			
CA. 14, 6d. red-brown, block of 6, with margin and control number, in mint state .. ..	3	12	6	C.A. 12, 1/- vermilion, unused ... ..	1	1	0
CA. 14, single unused copy ... ..	0	12	6	<b>Virgin Isles,</b> CA. 14, 6d. mauve, unused pair in mint state ... ..	0	19	6
CA. 14, 1/- mauve, superb strip of three with margin and control number in mint state ... ..	6	17	6	<b>New South Wales,</b> wmk. 5/-, 5/- violet, unused and in mint state ... ..	1	15	0
CA., single unused copy ... ..	2	10	0	<b>Tasmania,</b> 1867, pin perf., 2d. green. Two of these exceedingly scarce stamps used together on piece of original—probably unique thus... ..	20	0	0

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E.C.

*Doings of Societies.*

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Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, & H. Atherley.

*Hon. Secretary :*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE thirteenth meeting of the season was held on April 5th, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, the following members being present: Messrs. C. Forbes, H. Hilckes, J. E. Joselin, F. B. Carr, T. H. Thompson, J. B. Camaschella, H. Atherley, H. W. Plumridge, N. Z. Dracachis, F. Vanden-bronque, G. H. Hounsom, G. Gilbert, J. B. Neyroud, and one visitor, Mr. J. R. F. Turner, of Oxford.

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner, who had kindly promised to show the stamps of a few countries from his collection, displayed, amongst others, those of St. Helena, Malta, West Australia, Queensland, Tasmania, Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, also partly made-up sheets of New South Wales, 1d. Sydney, plate 1; 2d., plates 1 and 2; and 3d. Victoria, Queen on Throne; also nine sheets of rare stamps from various British Colonies. A vote of thanks to Mr. M. Z. Kuttner for the trouble taken by him in showing the above stamps was proposed by Mr. Hilckes and seconded by Mr. J. E. Joselin.

Members will kindly note that owing to the Easter Holidays no meeting will be held on April 19th.

The next meeting will be held on the 9th of May, when our Sixteenth Auction Sale will be held.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

At the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals will be offered by the City of London Philatelic Club, for the best collections of Used "British Colonial Stamps," shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, Stamps, and *The Bazaar Philatelic Supplement*.

From Germany: *Des Briefmarkenhandler and General Anzeiger fur Philatelie*.

From United States: *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Columbian Philatelist*, *American Collector*, *Perforator*.

From Buenos Ayres: *El Filatelista*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

MARCH 18th. — Messrs. G. B. Bainbridge (Northumberland), O. T. Hodges (London), L. W. Grey (India), H. A. Pocklington (N.S.W.), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Pimm then gave his paper on "Barbadoes," illustrating it by means of his own fine collection and also by a grand lot shewn by Mr. Wilson.

April 1st.—Messrs. H. Andersen (Germany), W. R. Palmer (London), J. Westhorp (London), were unanimously elected members.

Mr. Walton presented a copy of "The British Stamp Directory," and Mr. Wurtele some stamp journals. Vote of thanks were ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Owing to the ever increasing value of the packets it was decided to purchase a Safe in which to keep them while being prepared for circulation.

Mr. F. E. Wilson (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Lundeblad through illness) showed his fine collection of European stamps, giving notes on the minor varieties which were very interesting and instructive. The early issues of Austria and Norway deservedly came in for a fair share of attention.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE eleventh ordinary meeting of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, February 24th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

The Vice-President introduced the subject of study: "The Stamps of Barbados." He dealt with the stamps comprised in issues I. to VIII. of Messrs. Bacon & Napier's Handbook, and illustrated his remarks by the exhibition of his own collection, arranged in accordance with the Handbook.

The twelfth meeting of the sixth session of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, March 10th, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

**THE STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.**

President.—Rev. G. H. Kaynor, M.A.  
Vice-President.—Hubert F. Lowe, Esq.  
Committee.—Messrs. W. G. Hawkins, Guy Semple, H. A. Slade, and Fredk. A. Wickhart.  
Solicitor.—Mr. Thos. Hugill, 118, Cannon Street, E.C.

**OBJECTS.—**

- To warn Secretaries of Exchange Clubs against undesirable collectors, and members generally against badly managed clubs.
- To promote a more speedy circulation of club packets, and more prompt settlement of club accounts.
- To bring well-managed and desirable clubs before the notice of collectors.
- To arrange, through the Society's solicitor, for the collection of overdue accounts.
- To undertake the prosecution of dishonest collectors.
- To arbitrate in club disputes.
- To obtain expert evidence on the genuineness of stamps submitted by members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:—Ordinary Members, 2 6.  
Club Secretaries, 5/-

Rules, Report for 1896, and all information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. F. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury Park, London, by enclosing stamped directed envelope. [9 alt

The President, Major Stockdale, R.E., in the chair, supported by seven members and one visitor. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and the following candidates for membership were balloted for and duly elected: Miss C. L. White, Manna-mead, Plymouth; and Dr. L. F. Houghton, East Love.

The subject of study: "The Stamps of Barbados," was introduced by the Vice-President, being a continuation of his remarks from last meeting.

The thirteenth ordinary meeting of the session of the Society was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, March 23rd, 1897, at 7.30 p.m.

The Rev. E. A. Donaldson, of "Stoke," Devonport, was balloted for and duly elected a member of the Society.

The subject of study: "The Stamps of Schleswig Holstein," was introduced by the President. He dealt very fully with the whole of the issues, illustrating his remarks by the exhibition of his collection.

Towards the close of the meeting the Vice-President passed round for inspection by the members a curiosity he had recently found, viz.: a 3d. Victoria beaded oval of 1862, with the watermark reading "THREE" pence, instead of "THREE."—W. J. W. MILLER, Hon. Sec., 5, Athenæum Terrace, Plymouth.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE thirteenth meeting of the Session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, April 2nd. The President and sixteen members being present.

Dr. Bradley (Farnworth), Mr. A. Buxton (Heaton Chapel) and Mr. W. Terry (Brooklands) were duly elected members of the Society.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed and the general business transacted. The subject for the evening was "The Stamps of Sicily." Fluently translating Dr. Diéna's paper, from *Le Timbre Post*, Mr. Petri gave the most interesting and the most important passages which had reference to, the mode of production, and the retouches, etc., of the various values. Many of the varieties hitherto unknown to many of those present, were duly defined.

Coming after the disappointments experienced during the last few weeks, Mr. Petri's reading was greatly appreciated by all.—ARTHUR H. HARRISON, Hon. Secretary, "Grasmere," Whitefield, Nr. Manchester.

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Month.	1893-94		1894-95		1895-96	
	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.
SEPTEMBER	£ s. d. 51 3 3½	£ s. d. 15 11 2	£ s. d. 194 7 7½	£ s. d. 35 10 8½	£ s. d. 824 17 7	£ s. d. 150 18 4½
OCTOBER	103 19 8½	25 1 0½	393 2 0	81 5 7½	1269 16 8	205 10 7
NOVEMBER	146 13 10½	32 0 5	292 0 7	65 18 4	1320 7 2	182 14 8½
DECEMBER	133 2 11	56 10 5	351 14 7	86 15 11½	2654 12 11	392 0 0½
JANUARY	110 12 4½	27 3 8½	449 15 8½	120 11 0	2130 11 8	319 0 2½
FEBRUARY	112 13 14	25 8 0	530 0 7½	110 0 11	2312 4 2½	357 7 0½
MARCH	122 10 8½	22 19 0½	777 10 10	104 7 2	2982 0 8½	459 10 8
APRIL	99 8 6	27 7 4	804 1 4	192 2 7	2177 0 8	215 13 3
MAY	126 8 1	23 7 4	725 14 0½	127 19 0½	1567 13 8	174 11 9
JUNE	215 6 11	31 5 7	500 8 7	114 8 9	2184 3 5	237 5 1
JULY	142 7 8½	23 17 1½	572 2 6	99 6 1	1300 11 4	153 12 2
AUGUST	161 0 10	24 15 7	576 15 4	147 14 8½	1313 12 6	185 8 8½
	1537 17 0½	315 10 6	6191 13 10	1313 1 7½	24434 12 6	3033 12 7

THE varieties circulated through the "NORTHERN" have included unused 1/- Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and Newfoundland (vermillion); very fine unused Oldenburgs and other old German States, in addition to the rarest varieties of almost every country.

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### PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 4d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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**BUYERS** of rare and Medium West Indian Stamps are invited to join West Indian Specialists Club, Apply, Daniels, Hattingdon Grove, Cambridge.

**THE** British Colonial "Specialists" Stamp Exchange has a few vacancies for medium and advanced Collectors. Particulars free.—C. J. M. LAWNER, 50, Buckingham Palace Road, London.

**EXCHANGE**—I have a large variety of Duplicate Stamps and desire to buy or exchange with correspondents in East, West, South and Central Africa, Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, the West Indian Islands, and other British Colonies, value for value, quantity for quantity, or cash for new issues and provisionals, plus commission.—SEBASTH, Exchange Secretary, Sheffield Philatelic Society, 160, Devonshire Street, Sheffield. 14

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Messrs. V. B. & C. have received instructions from A. A. GOOD, Esq., to Sell by Auction during Exhibition Week, July 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, his very valuable GENERAL COLLECTION, and his Collection of Blocks and Pairs. Catalogues will be ready at an early date.

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Bristol Philatello Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society.

No. 67.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### CREATOR OF THE POSTAL UNION DEAD.

DR. HEINRICH VON STEPHAN, Secretary of State for the German Imperial Post Office, died at Berlin, at half-past twelve o'clock, on Thursday, April 8th. The German Newspapers, in their articles on the late Minister, describe him as a benefactor of humanity, and a distinguished co-operator in the restoration of the German Empire.

And they are right! Dr. von Stephan was the Rowland Hill of Germany. He was one of the few men in Germany who, without influential friends or official favour, rose to high administrative posts. He was born on January 7th, 1831, at Stoep, in Pomerania; entered the postal service in 1848; was appointed to an important position in the Berlin Post Office in 1856, and in 1865 was made a Privy Councillor.

His work at this time was chiefly connected with international postal reform, and he brought about postal agreements with almost all the European States. In 1870 he was made General Post Director, and during the Franco-Prussian war he organised the field post. In 1879 he became Postmaster-General. He was the inventor of the post-card, but the great work of his life undoubtedly was the Postal Union. Dr. Von Stephan was widely beloved and respected throughout Germany.

### CONCERNING BRITISH JUBILEE STAMPS.

ON March 29th, in the House of Commons, in answer to Mr. Henniker Heaton (Canterbury).

Mr. Hanbury (Preston) said,—It was not suggested that any particular difficulties prevented the issue of a special Imperial stamp or postage stamps. In the opinion of her Majesty's Government, the issue of a special Imperial stamp or postage stamps is not the proper way to commemorate the jubilee of her Majesty the Queen, and, apart from the fact that it would now be too late to do so, the designs for coins and stamps do not seem to improve as the time goes on. (Hear, hear).

Mr. Henniker Heaton asked whether it was not the fact that a new series of postage stamps was now in course of preparation.

Mr. Hanbury.—That is a separate question, which I am not at this moment prepared to answer. (Hear, hear).

On this subject by the way the *World* drops into poetry to the following effect:

#### CONSOLATION.

Though Heaton complains that St. Martin's-le-Grand  
Is supplying no "stamps" for the Jubilee Day,  
Yet those without shelter from window or stand  
May get all they require from the crowds by the way.

#### GREECE TOO BUSY TO ISSUE STAMPS.

FROM an esteemed Athens correspondent we learn that owing to the present political complications the issue of the new Grecian stamps is postponed, "the Government sections being very busy." Accordingly, by Royal Decree, it is ordered that the Olympian stamps continue in force until June 1st (new style: June 13th) next. Those Olympians are getting quite old and respectable.

#### CHINA'S GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

IT is expected (the *Rangoon Times* remarks) that the Imperial Chinese Post Office will sell over a million dollars' worth of stamps in a year, *almost all of which will be profit!* One speculative stamp collector, the same journal states, has already applied for \$10,000 worth. If we were not so inordinately fond of classic Cheapside English, we should hazard the opinion that that speculative stamp collector, if he exists in real life, is likely to feel a draught.

#### THE BRITISH HOSPITAL FUND STAMPS.

FULL details as to the issue of these stamps are now available. The stamps, we are informed, will be larger than ordinary postage stamps, but will be printed on the same make of paper, with watermark, and will be gummed and perforated. The design is a very beautiful one. The central figure is that of "Charity," taken from one of Sir Joshua Reynold's works, and there are two other figures representing



those who are succored. At the top of the design the words "Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund" appear, and under it H.R.H.'s autograph initials. The stamps will also have their face value of 1s. and 2s. 6d. respectively on them.

The colours have not yet been decided upon.

As to the precautions that are being taken to prevent speculators "cornering" a "limited issue," it appears that the issue, though in a sense limited, will be too large for anything of the sort to be successful. The stamps will be issued to newsagents, stationers, and booksellers, and it is believed that by their aid a large sum can be collected for the Hospital Fund with a very small proportion of the cost of collection.

The design has been registered as copyright, and owing to the difficulty of producing any considerable number of pirated copies, it is not feared that any difficulty will arise in that direction.

#### A STAMP DEALER ON HIS DIGNITY.

In these democratic days (says *Truth*) it behoves everyone to be careful in addressing his correspondence, even when writing to a tradesman on a matter of business. A gentleman, writing to a West End stamp dealer the other day, addressed the envelope with the name which appears over the shop window and on the proprietor's stationery. In answering his letter, on a post card, the stamp dealer wrote:

I am not a private, so if you put "Mr." to my name I shall not get into trouble.

I am surprised at the writer's modesty in not stipulating for Esquire while he was about it. But what does he mean by the reference to his not being a private? Does my good friend Atkies get into trouble when anyone addresses him as Mr.?

#### PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT PLYMOUTH.

An interesting "Display of Stamps," by Members of the Plymouth Philatelic Society, was held on Saturday, February 27th, at 9a, Princess Square, in a large room, placed at the disposal of the Society for their meetings by Mr. W. Earl, solicitor. It was the first Exhibition organised by the Society during the current session, and both in the growth in number and variety of the exhibits and the larger attendance of visitors, compared with previous displays, showed evidence of increased interest in philately in the district.

Prominent among the exhibits was the Vice-President's collection of the stamps of Barbados, which, though containing few of the extremely great rarities, was noteworthy for its fine range of shades of colour. The Vice-President also showed comprehensive little collections of the stamps of Antigua, Bahamas, Bermuda, and Dominica. Both series bore evidence of extreme care and neatness in mounting, the stamps of Barbados being arranged on the plan of the new handbook by Messrs. Bacon and Napier.

Mr. M. Z. Kuttner exhibited the stamps of St. Helena, also scientifically mounted, each stamp being arranged in its proper issue, and annotated with the exact measurements of the over-prints and length of bars. His collection included all the known varieties up to the 1894 issue, and many minor varieties that are not yet catalogued. Mr. Kuttner also sent nearly a dozen sheets of rarities, including complete sets of used Ioman Isles, a pair of £5 British Bechuanaland stamps, several Cape Woodblocks, including the scarce damaged cliché, a 20/- Gold Coast stamp, a magnificent used copy of the 5/- blue Lagos, complete sets of the early issues of the Mauritius stamps, showing different states of the plates, unused pairs of unperforated Gambias, and many other fine examples of desirable stamps, that excited the admiration and envy of collectors.

Mr. A. R. Barrett sent a collection of unused Jamaica stamps, which were greatly admired for their fine range of shades. Among them were blocks of the early pine issue, and the split 1d. pine on the entire cover, and a curious double surcharge.

Besides a fairly complete set of the stamps of Gibraltar, Mr. H. W. Mayne sent a number of Cape of Good Hope stamps, including some fine pairs of the early stamps, and a well-selected series of the later issues.

Mr. J. E. V. Moreton showed a small group of Tonga stamps. Being all of comparatively recent issue and consequently not well known, they attracted a good deal of attention. While they could not be commended for beauty of execution, they were remarkable for the extraordinary variety of surcharges, which created a good deal of comment and elicited many enquiries as to their meaning.

Mr. W. J. W. Miller contributed several sheets shewing the various issues of the stamps of Norway, including the extremely rare error of the first issue, and nearly all the newly discovered minor varieties.

Mr. Preston Pearce lent his very fine collection of United States revenue stamps, comprising some 70 pages of his album, and including many of the scarce stamps that are now fetching very high prices in America.

Owing to absence from Plymouth, the president (Major G. H. W. Stockdale, R.E.), was unable to send his fine collection of Spanish stamps, as promised, but these will be included in the next display held by the society.

The exhibits were well arranged and classified, and several members of the committee courteously conducted the visitors round the room and explained the various features of the different collections. Many of the collectors who visited the exhibition expressed gratification at finding so active and vigorous a philatelic society existing in Plymouth, and were surprised to learn that over £2000 worth of stamps were on view in the room.

Another display will take place towards the end of the session, and we are asked to state that collectors wishing to join the society may obtain information from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. J. W. Miller, 5, Athenaeum Terrace, Plymouth.

### Postmarks of Holland and Colonies.

BY SCHREUDERS AND CO.

THIS very neat little book has just come to hand, and it may be said at once that it affords high credit to its authors the well-known Messrs. Schreuders & Co., for the work and time they must have spent in compiling a work of this description must have been immense. Moreover, all illustrations are actual photographic reproductions.

The book does not deal at all with any postage stamps, but only with the Franking Obliterating Stamps of the Country in the research of which the authors have gone back for over a century.

The first part of the book deals with the Frank stamps in use before the issue of adhesive stamps and these date back as far as 1781—a Frank Stamp used in Gouda—the place where the cheese comes from.

A very interesting lot in this part are the old ship letter Frank stamps.

The second part, dealing with all the postmarks in use since 1852—the year when the first adhesive stamps came into use—up to the present time, is divided into eight groups:—

- (a. b. c.) The stamps and obliterations of the large, small and auxiliary post offices.
- (d.) Those employed at railways and on trains.
- (e.) The ship and mail steamer obliterating marks.
- (f.) The administration marks.
- (g. h.) Various Franking stamps not mentioned in previous groups.

It will be easily understood that this book will be hailed with great pleasure by our esteemed confrères in Holland, where they go in so largely for collecting the stamps of their own country in all its branches, also including the obliterations; and, although it may not appeal itself to the majority of British collectors, it is a book that can be recommended to be acquired for any philatelic library. Once again I offer my congratulations to the authors for their fine work. The illustrations and the general get up are excellent.

ROBERT EHRENBACH.

(Price 2/9 post free, from Messrs. Hilckes & Co.)

## Philately and the Church.

HOW DR. C. H. WETMORE HELPED THE HILO CHURCH  
WITH HIS COLLECTION OF HAWAIIAN AND  
OTHER STAMPS.

WITHIN the past few days there has been a sale of valuable Hawaiian stamps made in this city, the like of which may never occur again, unless T. G. Thrum, W. M. Giffard, C. A. Brown, F. L. Stolz, and Chas. Hustace, jr., should dispose of their almost unrivalled collections.

Desiring to help in the furnishing of the new Foreign Church recently erected at Hilo, of which city he is one of the oldest and most respected residents, Dr. Chas. H. Wetmore donated a small collection of stamps which he has had in his own possession since 1872, (although some of the rarer stamps have been owned by members of his family since the early fifties), to the committee who had charge of the raising of funds for the church with instructions to sell it and use the money as they thought fit. The good old Doctor (he is now in his 77th year), had very little idea what his stamps were worth, although he knew some of them were very rare and valuable. He was doubtless as much pleased as the church committee were when they received a sum of money for them, which was far in advance of their expectations.

Knowing that there would be no market for such stamps in Hilo, the committee sent them to James A. Kennedy, book-keeper of the Honolulu Iron Works, with instructions to dispose of them to best advantage, either in this city or San Francisco. The stamps were contained in a little old fashioned album, smelling musty with age, and there were probably not more than 300 of them all told. But among them was one plate of old Hawaiian stamps, which, in the hands of many collectors, would have been priceless; money could not have purchased them. Mr. Kennedy had heard enough about rare Hawaiian stamps to have this little collection examined by experts before selling it, and he accordingly asked Messrs. T. G. Thrum, W. M. Giffard, Chas. Hustace, Jr., and others to look at it. They examined the rare stamps with magnifying glasses, and other means used by advanced collectors to test stamps, and announce them unmistakably genuine, and what is more, splendid specimens.

Mr. Hustace made up his mind that the stamps should not go out of the country, as he needed several of them to fill out his already large collection of Hawaiian stamps. Without knowing what others had offered he named a figure which was at once accepted by Mr. Kennedy. What that was we are not permitted to state, but it cannot be expressed with less than four figures.

Hearing of the purchase, a representative of this paper, who used to be a stamp dealer and has not yet entirely got over it, called on Mr. Hustace and asked to be allowed to see the stamps purchased. He readily consented, and opened up the book at the Hawaiian page. The reporter's eyes bulged out, for he knew enough about stamps to know that Mr. Hustace had struck a small bonanza in his purchase.

"There," said the stamp collector, pointing to two stamps, "is what I purchased the collection for. I consider those two stamps worth more than what I paid for the whole. I just needed them for my collection, but never dreamed of being able to get them."

One of the stamps was a 5 cent of the original issue of 1852, and the other a 13 cent variety of the same issue, both absolutely perfect specimens.

"These two stamps," said Mr. Hustace, "are to be seen in very few collections anywhere. Mr. Thrum has got them and two or three others here, but I am told the others are not such fine specimens as these."

"Here is another stamp that I have been after for a long time," he continued, pointing to a 13 cent vermilion with Kamehameha III. head, surcharged with a large figure 5 in ms., there has always been more or less doubt about the genuineness of this stamp thus surcharged, but it has been cleared up lately. It has been catalogued by dealers and

then left out for a time. It has lately been restored to the list again and is now priced at \$30. It has been proven conclusively to my mind at least, that these stamps were used in the Hilo office at a time when they ran out of 5 cent stamps. The figure 5 was written in ink on the 13 cent stamps. Now look at this stamp. You will observe that it is plainly postmarked San Fra, and that the postmark is over and not under the written figure 5. This shows conclusively that the letter which carried that stamp was sent from Hilo by some sailing vessel and postmarked on arrival at San Francisco. There is no doubt that it has been used for postage and is genuine. There are only a few of these stamps known to be in existence, but I have never seen any with the postmark on. The postmark on this stamp not only proves the genuineness of this particular stamp, but it goes to clear up the doubt about those with no postmark on, by showing that such a stamp has actually been used."

Among the four pages filled with Hawaiian stamps in this little album were a number of the old numerals, now valued at prices ranging at from \$8 to \$20. Among them the reporter noticed a 1 cent blue and a 1 cent black with plain borders, one 5 cent blue on blue paper with plain border, one light blue 2 cent on white paper and eight 2 cent black on coloured paper; all of these being fine specimens. There are four 2 cents rose of the 1862 issue lithographed, one of which is a remarkably fine specimen, and a dark blue 5 cent Kamehameha V. head on blue paper, the above being only a few of the choicest varieties.

In the collection are probably 200 foreign stamps whose value Mr. Hustace has not yet had time to ascertain.

"There is one thing that pleases me about these stamps more than anything else," said Mr. Hustace, taking up the subject of the Hawaiian stamps again, "it is their undoubted genuineness. The sum I paid for these stamps was a considerable one and I should not have felt like paying it out if there had been the slightest doubt about the two stamps of the original issue of 1852. Had there been any doubt at the time of the purchase, there certainly can be none now, as I have since had the following letter placed in my hands by Mr. Kennedy:

HILO, HAWAII, Feb. 17th, 1897.

The person who purchased the book of letter stamps recently at Honolulu, will find full descriptions of the Hawaiian letter stamps in Thrum's 1878 Hawaiian Annual, on pages 44, 5, 6 and 7. Also in Thrum's 1894 Annual, on pages 99, 100, 102, 106, 107 and 108, and on intervening and following pages. Two cent stamps, with a large figure 2 cancelled diagonally, somewhat as I have marked above, were thus cancelled by Rev. F. Bond, Postmaster at Kohala, Hawaii, in former days. The 13 cent letter stamps was sent to my late wife's friend in Massachusetts some time in the eighteen fifties. Mrs. Wetmore found them there on envelopes in 1872. I think the 5 on one or two of them was put on them with pen to show that the Hawaiian postage was cancelled.

The letter stamp, with some of the letters of the word San Francisco on it, was, with one other, considered worthless by H. M. Whitney, Esq., until he saw this one last year. He then said it was evidently put on a letter at Hilo and forwarded from Hilo to the Coast, and therefore a genuine and valuable cancelled stamp. It is evidently one of the stamps gathered in New England in 1872.

CHAS. H. WETMORE, M.D.

After perusing this letter Mr. Hustace invited H. M. Whitney to again examine the stamps. He did so and has since corroborated the statements made in Dr. Wetmore's letter.

From the "Evening Bulletin," Honolulu, H.I.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 1st, 1897. Auction Sales.

April 26th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.

April 27th & 28th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

April 29th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m.

### General Notices.

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Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 17, 1897.



WE commence publication in this number of the FORTNIGHTLY of a valuable article by an eminent philatelist resident in India, Mr. J. Seymour Summers. The title of the paper, "Postal Surcharges. Native States" fully explains its object. Many other articles on this subject have appeared in various quarters, but all will be found to lack much of the information furnished by Mr. Seymour Summers. We have that gentleman's assurance that all the varieties mentioned in his article are represented in his own collection, the stamps in every case having been obtained from the State Post Offices concerned.

It is but fair to add that Mr. Seymour Summers' able article is reproduced with his permission from the *Indian Postage Stamp News*, of Bombay, a journal which is now either dead or "resting." Wherever necessary, Mr. Summers has specially revised the article for readers of the "S.C.F." The present marked revival of interest in the stamps of the Native States of India seems to provide ample excuse for there publication of this valuable contribution to an interesting subject.

\* \* \*

WE print elsewhere an interesting account of a Hawaiian worthy's munificent gift to a church fund in Hilo. Dr. Wetmore, an elderly man, had a small album full of stamps which he had, presumably, collected in his youth. This book he donated to the church fund, having some vague sort of notion that it was worth a few dollars. He was as much surprised as the church people themselves when the stamps realized a small fortune—sufficient in fact to free the church from all indebtedness. The incident is unimportant, save for the good newspaper story it makes; but to us it opens up a visita of piquant possibilities. "Church" in the mind of the layman is invariably associated with thoughts of "collections"; but surely never did any church yet built "take up" such an one as that of good Dr. Wetmore. Will "collections" of stamps ever become the recognised thing in churches and chapels? one wonders. Will it ever happen that the drawing-room meetings of the charitable aristocracy will conclude with an adhesive instead of a silver collection? Dare we suggest that the change would not be unwelcome to

some of the philatelic parsons and churchwardens of this country? No, we daren't, and the sooner we bring this paragraph (which is written with the deliberate intention of filling space) to a conclusion the better our readers will like it.

\* \* \*

VARIOUS Continental papers and one or two English papers have recently published an account of the Herrmann "supposed" fraud of a very famous German expert Mr. Herrmann Decker of Hanover.

So far the "supposed" facts are the following: Mr. Decker is accused of having exchanged stamps sent to him for opinion; that is to say, if a genuine copy of, say Heligoland, was sent to him, he is said to have substituted a reprint for same, returning the stamp to the sender and stating that the stamp *was* a reprint; or in cases where a question of genuineness of postmark would arise, he is said to have returned a forged postmark specimen to the sender, retaining his genuine copy; and so forth. However, there is no evidence yet of these statements being according to facts. All we know are vague newspaper articles, which fail to furnish proofs. In the absence of all tangible evidence we do not think it fair to sit in judgment on Mr. Herrmann Decker, against whom for many years nothing has been known, and we sincerely hope that the matter will be thoroughly thrashed out in a Court of Law, not only for Mr. Herrmann Decker's own sake but for that of the philatelic community at large. It is an extremely easy thing to slander a man behind his back, whilst it is more difficult, in many cases, to prove such slander to be untrue. We ourselves have known Mr. Herrmann Decker personally for the last six years, and have sent him many stamps for opinion, but not once have we had the slightest suspicion that everything was not as it should be, nor have we heard or seen anyone in our many travels abroad who had a grievance of the above kind against Mr. Herrmann Decker. No doubt something will be ascertained in the course of the next few months, and if by any chance the above rumours are proved to be true, we ourselves would be extremely sorry for him, but, of course, should not hesitate to publish all details.

H.H.

### IMPORTANT!

## "JUBILEE" RUBBISH from LABUAN.

ON the eve of going to press we received communication from one of our little birds in Labuan to the effect that, on the occasion of the 50 years anniversary of the Island being occupied by England, 10,000 sets of the current issue were surcharged "Labuan 1846, Jubilee 1896," and actually fifty sets were sold over the counter by the Post Office. 9,950, however, were promptly sold to a London dealer, all **postmarked to order**, and are now being offered in this market.

They are **UTTER RUBBISH** and only made to sell, and we strongly warn our readers to have nothing whatever to do with them. We do not as yet know the name of the London dealer, but shall no doubt be able to give this gentleman's name in our next. We have a shrewd suspicion, however, that this is not the first transaction of a speculative kind engineered by this party.

\* \* \* Owing to the necessity for going to press at a much earlier date than usual, on account of the Easter holidays, we have been compelled to hold over much interesting matter, including "New Issues," "Twixt Editor and Reader," etc., etc. Our next number will consist of twelve pages, exclusive of cover and advertising space, and will contain a mass of interesting matter.

# Postal Surcharge Deviations of the Synoptical Native States of India.

By J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS.

THE Native States of Puttialla, Nabha, Chamba, Jhind, Faridkot and Gwalior, may be philatelically considered synoptical with reference to their postal surcharges on the series of British Indian adhesives issued in the years 1883-88, and later, inasmuch as the surcharge in question partakes of the same character and is similar in type and position in all the Native States of British India aforementioned. It is a sheer impossibility to obtain trustworthy dates of the British Indian surcharged stamps issued previous to 1883, and so we propose limiting ourselves here to an exhaustive list and description of the deviations in the surcharges which occur on the stamps issued after that date. The States which are richer in these varieties of surcharge are Puttialla, Chamba, Nabha and Gwalior, while Jhind and Faridkot show very few if any.

The state of Puttialla has some varieties of surcharge which would appear to come under the class of errors accidentally made on purpose, like the recent Portuguese waste-paper stamps, issued in commemoration of the doughty deeds of navigators and the pious acts of saints. These varieties we do not propose mentioning, as we intend setting our face in the right direction as regards stamp collecting and this direction is diametrically opposed to all jubilee and celebrative issues, whether the offending country be Portugal or any other. The remaining States, *viz.*, Chamba, Nabha, Jhind, Gwalior and Faridkot may be absolved from the offence of pandering to the speculative instincts of dealers, as all the notable deviations are, in our modest opinion, due to defective printing and the outcome of accident in the setting up of type, and the inadvertent substitution of varying sized type, probably from a temporary want of the proper size.

The surcharge referred to, occurs in two horizontal lines one above the other at the lower part of the stamps in English, except in Gwalior which has the word "Gwalior"

printed in two lines on the lower end of the stamp in English print above, and in the Native *balboth* characters below. The word "State" does not appear on this Series for Gwalior.

Commencing with the series for Puttialla we find that there are two different spellings, one series in which the name of the State is spelt, Puttialla" and a more recent change in the name to, "Patiala." The former being the sound of the word as pronounced by Englishmen, while the latter is the equivalent of the sound of the word as expressed in the Native dialect.

The Imperial Post Office has Post Offices in important places in all Native States. The following general remarks apply only to the States of Chamba, Faridkot, Jhind, Gwalior, Nabha and Patiala, with the local Post Offices of which arrangements have been made for the exchange of correspondence :—

The inland rates and postal rules apply to registered, insured, unregistered, and value payable correspondence exchanged with the above-mentioned States. The Imperial postage stamps, post cards, and embossed envelopes, overprinted with the name of the Native State, can be used for correspondence posted within the limits of the State and intended for delivery in any part of British India; but they are not recognised in payment of postage, for correspondence posted in any Imperial Post Office or letter-box. The fact that letters and other correspondence franked with these adhesives are conveyed to any part of India proves beyond doubt that they do not come under the classification 'Locals,' which latter term is understood to signify postage stamps used solely within the radius of the limits of any country.

With these general remarks we proceed to a consideration of the different variations in the setting up of the surcharge beginning with the State of Patiala.

## ORDINARY POSTAGE.

### Surcharged "Patiala."

Eight annas, purple,—black surcharge.

1. Inverted L in State.

Nine pies, carmine,—black surcharge.

1. Small T in "Patiala."

Small inverted V in "Patiala."

2. Small 2nd A in "Patiala."

One anna and six pies, cool-brown,—black surcharge.

1. Small 2nd A in "Patiala."

Service Postage surcharged "Puttialla,"

Half anna, green,—black surcharge.

1. Small A in "State."

2.  $\surd$  instead of V, and dotted small i in Service.

One anna, plum,—black surcharge.

1. Dotted J in "Puttialla."

2. Name spelt "Puttialla."

3. I and A joined in "Puttialla."

4. Dotted F in "Service."

5. Inverted V in "Puttialla."

6. Inverted Ls in "State."

Two annas, blue,—red surcharge.

1. 8 in "State."

2. 3 in "Service."

3. Ts in "Puttialla" joined at top.

4. 8 in "State" and 3 in "Service."

Service postage surcharged, "Patiala."

Three annas orange—Surcharge black.

1. Small final A in "Patiala."

2. Small 2nd A in do.

3. Small inverted V in do.

4. Small 2nd A in "Patiala," and ornamental final E in "Service."

Four annas olive-green—Surcharge black.

1. Inverted V in "Patiala."

2. Small L in do.

3. F instead of P in "Patiala."

4. Small A and T in "State."

5. Small curved A in "Patiala."

6. R open at top in "Service."

Six annas cool-yellow—Surcharge black.

1. Small A in "State."

2. Small curved A in "Patiala."

Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.

1. Small curved A in "Patiala."

2. Small 2nd A in do.

3. Small inverted V in do.

4. Small L in do.

5. Small A in "State."

One rupee slate—Surcharge black.

1. Small 2nd A in "Patiala."

Small L in do.

Small E in "State."

2. Small 2nd A in "Patiala."

Very small final A in "Patiala."

3. Small 2nd A in "Patiala."

## GWALIOR.

### Ordinary Postage.

Six annas cool yellow—Surcharge black.

1. IOR in "Gwalior" out of line.

Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.

1. Inverted C in "Gwalior."

2. Inverted figure 1 in "Gwalior."

Twelve annas chocolate on red—Surcharge black.

1. Additional initial I, small A and inverted C in "Gwalior."

One Rupee slate—Surcharge red.

1. Straight tailed R in "Gwalior."

## NABHA.

### Ordinary Postage.

Half-anna green—Surcharge red.

1. 8 in "State."

2. H without crossbar in "Nabha."

3. Inverted L in "State" and B open in centre and bottom in "Nabha."

One anna brown—Surcharge black.

1. Small A in "State."

2. Dotted S and small E in "State."

3. Small inverted and reversed L in "State."

Nine pies carmine—Surcharge black.

1. P instead of B in "Nabha."

2. Small T in "State."

3. Small N and 8 in "Nabha."

4. Small final A in do.

One anna and six pies cool brown—Surcharge black.

1. Small A in "State."

Two annas blue—Surcharge black :—

1. I instead of H in "Nabha."

2. P instead of B in do.

3. Small A in "State."

4. H instead of H in "Nabha."

5. Small T in "State."

6. Small H reversed instead of H in "Nabha."

7. Inverted L in "State."

Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.

1. Small A in "Nabha."

One rupee slate—Surcharge black.

1. R instead of B in "Nabha."

2. H instead of H in "Nabha."

Service-Postage Half anna green—Surcharge black.

1. R open at top in "Service."

2. Small A in "State."

3. Oblique E in do.

4. C open at top in "Service."

5. Small H in "Nabha."

6. N A R H A.

(To be continued.)

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Friedl's Museum to be Broken Up.

THE *Philatelic Record* for March notes with great regret that the Postal Museum, established in Vienna by Herr Sigmund Friedl, is to be dispersed. The Friedl Museum may be called one of the "show" institutions of the philatelic world. It is in many respects unique. We may mention in particular (remarks the *Record*) the unique and almost complete collection of English proofs, and the original Chalmers' essay which was submitted to parliament in 1834. These treasures were originally in the possession of Sir Rowland Hill. Many of them bear his own marginal notes, and for this reason alone should be purchased for the British Museum, where they would form a fitting addition to the English portion of the Tapling collection. Other good things in the Friedl Museum include the matchless collection of proofs of United States stamps—a better and more complete collection than the official set in the possession of the authorities at Washington.

While on the subject of United States stamps, we are glad to note, in connection with the continuation of the articles that Mr. G. R. Francis is contributing to the *Record*, that illustrations of the various types described are now introduced. The illustrations are, very obviously, reproductions of those given in various American papers and in Scott's catalogue; but they form nevertheless an acceptable adjunct to the letterpress.

### MR. WALTER BULL ON STAMP VALUES.

The latest of the editorial interviews in the *Record* is one with Mr. Walter Bull, in the course of which that well-known auctioneer is induced to give his views on philately generally, and on the prices of rare and moderately rare stamps in particular. Mr. Bull, however, tells us nothing that is very new. The present season, he admits, compares somewhat unfavourably with the two preceding seasons. However, he has some curious stories to tell concerning the commissions he is sometimes entrusted with. As thus:

"You get some curious commissions sometimes, no doubt?"

"Any amount of them. A short time since a lady wrote to us to buy her some three or four lots, the whole not to exceed 5s. Each lot fetched over 30s. An American regularly sends us bids of from 5s. to 15s. for lots worth as many pounds. A well-known Continental dealer recently sent us a 45s. bid for a lot that fetched £39. On the other hand, some collectors are liberally inclined. One sent us a bid of £8 for a lot that we bought for him for 15s."

"And there are, of course, some curious sellers?"

"There are, indeed. One lady brought her collection up from Bristol. She thought it too valuable to entrust it to the post. When we got it we found it to be worth barely £4. But I have had collections brought in in little washing books that fetched £70 to £80. One lady travelled up specially from the Isle of Wight with a collection worth only 10s. She thought it worth at least £100. Another time a young lady brought us in a small box of Australian stamps, amongst which were no less than forty copies of the rare 5s. blue on yellow, Victoria. Thirty-five were splendid specimens, and included pairs and a strip of three. She hoped they would fetch sufficient to give her a trip to the Riviera with her husband. They sold for £200. Some customers like to dispose of their stamps out and out. One gentleman brought us a collection and wanted £80 for it. I told him there would be no difficulty about his getting £80 for it, but that we did not buy stamps ourselves, and would advise him to leave it in our hands to sell for him, as he would probably make more of it by auction. He left it with us, and we sent him nearly £400, after deducting expenses.

### WHAT IS THE S.S.S.S. DOING?

The *Record*, by the way, in alluding to the question of the Greek Olympian Stamps, observes that when the S.S.S.S. awakes from its Rip Van Winkle sleep we shall perhaps hear what it has to say on this matter. But when will it awake? We are almost tired of drawing attention in the FORTNIGHTLY to the prolonged nap in which this Society is indulging.

### A Good Number of the "A. J. of P."

The *American Journal of Philately* for March is an astonish-

ingly good number. Mr. J. M. Andrieni on the Stamps of Spain, Mr. William Fish on the Adhesives of the Argentine Republic, and Mr. Jules Bouvez on the Stamps of Belgium, are only three of its principal features. The "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors," by Messrs. Collin and Calman has now reached Switzerland, and deals most interestingly with the difficult stamps of that country.

On the subject of the Nova Scotia Reminders a letter is printed from the Provincial Secretary of Nova Scotia to Mr. Donald A. King, contradicting the rumour that the cents issue of the province had been reprinted by the American Bank Note Company.

### The Indian National Society.

We have received number two of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the organ of the newly formed Philatelic Society of India, and almost the first item of its contents is the intimation that eleven new members have joined the national organization, bringing up the total membership to sixty. Almost, we say, but not quite, for there is an Editorial article headed "Magpies." A glance is sufficient to show us that it partakes of the character of "Old File's" articles in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and should be provided with a similar warning footnote. We shall read this at our leisure. Mr. C. Stewart Wilson continues his articles on the adhesive stamps of India surcharged for use in the Native States; there are a number of interesting notes and extracts, and an entertaining article on the subject of the Dutia State Post compiled from notes supplied by Mr. C. L. Pigott. Taking it altogether, the *Philatelic Journal of India* is a creditable bit of work and a paper of which Indian philatelists may well be proud.

### The late Lamented "Daily Stamp Item."

On the last day of the old year the *Daily Stamp Item*, of St. Louis, Mo., "rose again"—but for one day only. The 285th, and last, number of this unique publication is a thirty-two page affair, filled with really good, interesting matter. As it was in the first number, so in the last, there is much talk of the Office Cat, who started the paper in the early days of last year and controlled it throughout with super-feline perspicacity. Nine pages of this souvenir issue of the *Daily Stamp Item* are devoted to the names and addresses and those appreciative philatelists who were subscribing to the paper at the time and its suspension, and with something of the sentiment of the famous *Arizona Kicker*, the publishers of the *Item* head this list in bold type, "Roll of Honour."

### Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

Mr. Ewen's *English Specialists' Journal* dated March 23rd, is perhaps the poorest number we have yet seen. There is a reply to various articles by our Mr. "C62," which will doubtless be dealt with in its proper place, and these with the General Notes of the Month, and a continuation of Mr. Firth's articles on the Stamp Stationery of Great Britain, are the only items worth attention in the number.

We have before us *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News* of March 4th, 11th, and 18th. The last named number brings us the sad news of Mr. J. K. Tiffany's death—a calamity we dealt with at some length in our last number.

The *Philatelic Monthly*, the publication of the Bogert & Durbin Co., of Philadelphia, is as usual well filled with short instructive articles and newsy notes, but contains nothing worthy of quotation.

The *Rocky Mountain Stamp* is a paper of which the same thing may be said. This little journal from the Far West is well arranged and beautifully printed, and would be welcome at any time for the views of Wild Western scenery given every month on its cover.

The Texas Philatelic Association is evidently a very live and go-ahead concern, for it manages to publish every month an official bulletin filled with interesting matter concerning local and general philatelic matter.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. VENTOM BULL & COOPER, March 11th and 12th, 1897.

(Continued from page 156).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC. *	1 6 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. blue, 1¼ x 12½ *	1 0 0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star, *	2 12 6
a	(6d.) green ..	£1 16s. od. and 1 18 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. rose-red, imperf., pair *	8 10 0
a	4d. dark blue, star ..	£0 16s. od. and 0 19 0
a	1/- brown ..	1 1 0
a	½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green *	1 2 0
a	4d. blue, CA., perf. 12 * ..	5 5 0
A	6d. bright green, do., do., pair *	2 10 0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red, small margins ..	4 4 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. on piece ..	5 12 6
b c	Geneva, the double 5c., on entire, severed and rejoined, touched at top, ..	11 17 6
c	ditto, ditto, torn through, otherwise fine, on piece ..	10 10 0
b	ditto, ditto, right hand half ..	2 5 0
b	ditto, Small Eagle, 5c. apple-green, on piece ..	1 0 0
a	ditto, Large Eagle, 5c. apple-green, ..	£1 1s. od. and 1 6 0
b	ditto, ditto, 5c. blue-green ..	1 5 0
a	ditto, Envelope stamp, 5c., used as adhesive, on piece ..	14 10 0
a b	Neuchatel, 5c. ..	1 12 0
c	Vaud, 4c., large margins, on piece, fine but pin hole in centre ..	18 5 0
a	ditto, 5c., pair, ..	5 0 0
a	ditto, a single ..	1 7 0
b	Winterthur, 2½r., two ..	each 2 5 0
b	Zurich, 4r., vert. lines ..	16 0 0
c	ditto, ditto, nick at top ..	11 0 0
c	ditto, ditto, tear, and slightly thin ..	6 0 0
a	ditto, 6r. hor. lines, ..	£1 3s. od., £1 5s. od. and 1 6 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	1 1 0
a	ditto, 6r. vert. lines ..	£1 11s. od. £1 16s. od. and 1 18 0
b	ditto, 6r. no lines ..	1 2 0
a	Orts Post, 2½r., no frame, pair, penmarked on piece ..	1 12 0
a b	ditto, 2½r., frame, uncanceled on entire ..	2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, two postmarked on entires ..	1 12 0
b	Poste Locale, 2½r., frame, uncanceled on entire ..	2 12 0
a	ditto, ditto, strip of 3, on piece ..	2 2 0
a	(1850), 10r. on yellow, part frame, with a common, pencil-marked on entire ..	0 18 0
b	ditto, 5r. on blue, no frame, reconstructed plate of 40 ..	7 10 0
b	ditto on yellow, ditto, similar plate ..	£1 18s. and 2 0 0
b	(1882), 5c. claret, imperf., on entire ..	1 15 0
a	(1883), 15c. yellow, on granite paper, tête-bêche pair *	5 0 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue ..	1 12 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	2 12 6
a	Transvaal (1870), 1d. black, imperf. ..	0 17 0
b c	(1877), 1d. red on pelure, surcharge capitals ..	1 0 0
b	ditto, 1/- green, red capitals ..	2 6 0
a b	ditto, 3d. lilac, ditto, wide roulette ..	5 5 0
c	(1878), 1d. red on blue, TRANSVRAL, gum, but thinned * ..	50 0 0
b	(1874), 1d. red on yellow, V.R. Transvaal, small V.R., wide roulette ..	3 15 0
b	Trinidad, 1d. light blue, early litho. ..	0 16 0
b	Turks Islands, ½d. on 1d. (type 4), no bar * ..	2 8 0
a	½d. on 1/- prune (type 3) * ..	1 10 0
a	2½d. on ditto (type 6) * ..	2 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Turks Islands, ditto, ditto (type 10) *	8 0 0
b	2½d. on 1/- blue (ditto) * ..	10 10 0
b	4d. on 6d. (type 15) * ..	1 16 0
a	4d. blue * ..	0 18 0
c	1/- prune, cut into top and right ..	12 0 0
a b	Tuscany, 1 soldo orange on blue ..	1 1 0
b	2 soldi brick-red, gum * ..	18 0 0
b	Uruguay, Black Letters, 12oc. blue * ..	2 12 0
12 2b	Victoria, first issue, 1d. vermilion, strip of 3, gum *	3 0 0
b	ditto, 2d. lilac, fine ground, on piece ..	3 0 0
b	ditto, 3d. blue, perf., vert. pair * ..	4 0 0
a b	Emblems, 1d. green, no wmk., perf. 12 * ..	4 10 0
b	ditto, 2d. purple, wmk, 2, ditto * ..	1 10 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line * ..	2 18 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown-red, on piece ..	2 4 0
a	6d. bronze ..	4 0 0
a	2d. orange, roulette, almost unused ..	0 18 0
a	Wurtemberg, 3k. orange, thick paper, perf. 13½ *	1 16 0
b	gk. rose, ditto * ..	2 10 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, March 16th and 17th, 1897.

a	Argentine, (1864), 10c. green, imperf. ..	0 18 0
b	Barbados, 1d. on right half 5/- rose, numeral 7mm. straight serif, reading downwards ..	4 5 0
b	3d. purple-brown, small star * ..	0 18 0
b	5/- rose ..	£1 9s. od. and 1 12 0
a	5/- ochre ..	1 1 0
b	Brazil, sloping figures, 180r. black ..	1 7 0
A	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½, * two ..	each 0 14 0
b	50c. ditto., used ..	0 18 0
a	British East Africa, (on Co.'s stamps), ½a. brown ..	0 18 0
a	ditto, 2½a. red on 4½a. purple ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	1 2 0
b	ditto, 4½a. purple * ..	1 1 0
b	ditto, 5a. black and blue ..	1 2 0
a	ditto, 5 rupees green * ..	1 3 0
b c	British Guiana, Official, 8c. rose ..	1 14 0
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, no wmk. * ..	0 18 0
b	1/- green, ditto * ..	1 3 0
b	6d. yellow ..	2 12 6
a	Canada, 7½d. green ..	1 18 0
b	ditto ..	1 8 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red, cut close ..	1 10 0
a b	ditto, 4d. blue ..	1 15 0
b	1/- emerald, fine but slight crease ..	1 10 0
b	Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, imperf. ..	18s. od. and 1 1 0
a	1/9 green, ditto ..	2 15 0
b	ditto ..	2 4 0
a	4d. rose, star, perf. * ..	1 3 0
b	8d. brown, ditto, ditto, used ..	2 0 0
b	9d. brown, no wmk. ..	0 17 0
A	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14, block of 4 * ..	2 10 0
a b	Great Britain, 2/- blue * ..	1 0 0
b	£1, brown-lilac, cross ..	1 5 0
a	£5, orange ..	2 6 0
b	Grenada, 1/- violet ..	1 0 0
a	Hanover, 10g. green ..	2 4 0
c	Mauritius, 4d. black on green ..	2 2 0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. * ..	1 1 0
a	2½d. brown, CA. * ..	14/- and 0 15 0
a	ditto, used ..	0 13 0
a	4d. blue, CC. * ..	0 17 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose ..	1 0 0
b	6d. grey-lilac * ..	0 18 0
a	ditto, used ..	1 0 0
a b	4d. orange, engraved * ..	£1 1s. od. and 1 4 0
a	ditto, used ..	0 16 0
a b	1/- green, perf. 15 * ..	3 10 0
b	ditto, used ..	0 17 0
a	4d. orange, litho. ..	0 16 0
a	1/- pale green, ditto * ..	1 3 0
b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow, fine but cut close ..	3 6 0
b	ditto ..	2 0 0
b	Newfoundland, 6d. orange ..	1 6 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue ..	1 1 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.	
		£	s. d.
b	Nova Scotia, 6d. dark green	..	1 0 0
a	8½c. green on white	..	0 10 0
a	Oldenburg, second issue, 3gr. yellow, on small piece	..	1 3 0
b	Parma (1859), 80c. orange	..	1 2 0
a	Queensland, 6d. green, imperf.	..	1 6 0
a	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts	..	1 13 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown	..	1 16 0
A	1/- lilac-rose	..	16/- and 0 18 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	..	2 4 0
a b	(1/-) orange, CC.	..	1 5 0
b	6d. violet, CA., fiscally used	..	0 14 0
b	1/- brown-orange	..	3 0 0
a	St. Vincent, 1d. black, comp. perf.	..	0 17 0
b	4d. orange	£1 2s. od. and	1 5 0
a	4d. dark blue, star	..	1 1 0
a	6d. yellow-green, ditto	..	1 17 0
a	6d. green, CA., perf. 12	..	1 5 0
b	Spain (1850) 10 reales green	..	2 12 0
b	Sweden, 24sk. bco. red	..	15/- and 0 18 0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. hor. lines	..	1 3 0
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA., fine but slight crease	..	9 0 0
b	Trinidad, 1/- blue-black, perf. 13	..	0 14 0
a	4d. dull lilac, CC., perf. 12½	..	1 0 0
A	Turks Islands, ¼d. on 4d. grey	£3 7s. 6d. and	3 10 0
a	4d. blue	..	0 18 0
a	1/- slate-green	..	1 5 0
a	United States (1851), 5c. brown, imperf.	..	1 3 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard	..	1 1 0
a b	(1869), 90c.	..	1 18 0
b	ditto, ditto	..	1 10 0
b	Virgin Islands, 4d. brown on rose	..	0 16 0
a	6d. rose, perf. 12	..	1 2 0
b	6d. violet	..	1 5 0
a	1/- crimson border, pair	..	1 7 0
a	ditto, a single, used	..	1 0 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	£1 10s. od. and	1 14 0
b c	6d. bronze-black, one blank corner cut	..	2 12 0
b	2d. vermilion, roulette	..	1 12 0
A	4d. carmine, CC., perf. 14, vert. pair	..	6 10 0
A	ditto, a single, used	..	1 7 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, perf. 13½	..	0 16 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., March 22nd, 1897.

a	Antigua, 1/- lilac, pair	..	1 10 0
a	ditto, a single, used	..	0 14 0
b	Austria, Journals, 4k. brown	..	0 15 0
a	Barbados, ½d. green, star, comp. perf.	..	2 0 0
a	4d. rose, large star	..	0 18 0
a	4d. grey, CA.	..	0 15 0
b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf.	..	0 17 0
a b	British Bechuanaland, £5 lilac, postally used	..	4 7 0
b	British Columbia, 10c., perf. 12½	..	1 18 0
a	1 dollar, ditto	..	3 0 0
b	British Guiana, Official, 8c. rose	..	2 0 0
b	Canada, 6d. purple, on laid	..	0 14 0
b	7½d. green	..	1 5 0
b	10d. blue, on thin, good margins	..	1 0 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf.	..	13 10 0
b	4d. rose, star, clean perf.	..	1 3 0
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk.	..	1 4 0
a	Postal Commission, 3c. on 4c., pair, one with ceuts	..	1 7 0
b	Colombia, (1860), 10c. yellow, tête-bêche pair	..	1 12 0
b	ditto, 1 peso on bluish	..	2 0 0
b c	(1862), 10c. blue	..	1 12 0
c	ditto, 20c. red, fine but thinned	..	6 0 0
b c	ditto, 1 peso, lilac	..	5 0 0
b	Cyprus, 30 paras on 1d., double surcharge one inverted	..	1 15 0
a b	Dominica, 6d. green, CC., perf. 14	..	1 0 0
b	1/- lilac-rose, perf. 12½	..	0 15 0
a	ditto, CC., perf. 14	..	1 1 0
a	ditto, CA., pair	..	6 15 0
A	French Colonies, 25c. black on red, block of 4	..	4 15 0
b	Gold Coast, 20/- red and green, penmark	..	2 2 0
a	Great Britain, 4d. rose-carmine, on white paper, medium garter, pair	..	29 10 0
b	2/- brown	..	2 2 0
a	Labuan, "Eight Cents" on 12c. carmine, with 8 over value (uncatalogued)	..	1 16 0
b	2c. on 16c. blue (Gibbons 25)	..	5 15 0
b	Levant, 6k. blue	..	1 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED	
		£	s. d.
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. early, on entire	..	15 0 0
a	ditto, another ditto, not on original	..	13 10 0
a	Britannia, 6d. blue,	..	1 0 0
b	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	..	2 10 0
b	Natal, first issue, 6d. green, on entire	..	1 12 0
a	6d. grey, no wmk., block of 4	..	2 16 0
a	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac	..	2 18 0
a	4d. orange, engraved,	..	2 18 0
a	1/- green, perf. 15	..	3 0 0
a b	ditto, used	..	18/- and 1 0 0
a	4d. orange, litho	..	7 5 0
a	ditto, used	..	0 16 0
a	6d. olive, litho	..	10 5 0
a	1/- pale green, ditto	..	1 5 0
A	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	..	19 10 0
b	1/- mauve, fine, but cut close one side	..	17 10 0
a b	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red	..	10 0 0
b	8d. carmine-red	..	0 19 0
b	2d. orange	..	1 1 0
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 1	..	1 6 0
a b	ditto, 2d., plate 1	..	2 2 0
a	Diadem, 5d. green, imperf.	..	4 0 0
b	ditto, 8d. orange, ditto	..	3 5 0
a	(1888), 5/- violet	..	1 9 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1/- cold violet, fine margins	..	25 0 0
a	1/- mauve, ordinary margins	..	15 0 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, ½gr. brown	..	1 4 0
a	2gr. red	..	0 18 0
b c	Peru, ½ peso rose, fine, but touched at bottom	..	12 10 0
c	½ peso yellow, fine margins, but creased	..	3 14 0
b	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf.	..	2 2 0
b	(1879), 1d. yellow	..	5 5 0
a b	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts	..	1 8 0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14	..	0 15 0
b	1/- lilac-rose	..	0 14 0
b	St. Helena, 6d. blue, star, perf.	..	0 17 0
a b	St. Lucia (6d.) green, star	..	2 6 0
a	1/- black and orange	..	3 6 0
b c	St. Vincent, 1d. on 6d. yellow-green, pair	..	8 0 0
a	5/- rose, star, "Specimen"	..	4 0 0
c	Saxony, 3pf., red, cut small	..	2 4 0
b	(1851), 2ngr. light blue	..	0 15 0
a	Spain (1851), 2 reales, red, very fine, no gum	..	33 10 0
a b	(1852), ditto, gum	..	23 10 0
a	(1853), ditto, no gum	..	11 0 0
b c	(1851), 10r. green, strip of 3, postmark stained	..	2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single	..	0 14 0
a	Straits Settlements, Bangkok, 2c. brown, CC.	..	2 6 0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA.	..	11 5 0
c	Trinidad, Lady McLeod, on entire, fine but small cut, penmark	..	12 10 0
a	1d. on laid, perf. 11½	..	1 14 0
b	1d. black MS. on 6d.	..	2 14 0
b	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. (type 6)	..	1 10 0
b	2½d. on 1/- prune (type 10)	..	6 15 0
a	4d. on 1d. (type 15)	..	2 0 0
a	United States (1851), 5c. brown, imperf., £1 3s. od. and	..	1 9 0
b	Uruguay, Diligencia, 1 real red	..	0 19 0
b	Black Letters, 180c. green	..	2 14 0
b	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow	..	3 15 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	..	1 10 0

(To be continued.)

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Whole Page	..	5	0	0	Whole Page	..	per ins.	4	0	0
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Whole Column	..	1	15	0	Whole Column	..	per ins.	1	8	0
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One Inch	..	0	5	0	One Inch	..	do.	0	3	6

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Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned, Great Britain, a magnificent lot of unused, including 1d. black, V.R., 2 superb blocks of 4; 10d., octagonal, dies 3 and 4, superb; 4d., medium garter on white, 2 copies in mint state; 5/- plate 4 on bluish, &c., &c. Mauritius, 2d., large fillet, and 1d. and 2d. Post Paid. New Brunswick, 1/- superb. Nova Scotia, 1/- (2). British Columbia, perf. 12½, 10c., pair unused, in mint state. Canada, imperf., 6d. and 10d., and perf. 6d., unused, in mint state. St. Vincent, wmk. star, 4d. dark blue, and wmk. C.A., 4d. red-brown, unused, in mint state, and many other fine Stamps.

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to advise that the future Dates fixed for their Stamp Sales, during the ensuing Season, are as follows:—1897.—May 11th, 25th and 28th. June 15th and 16th, 29th and 30th.

When possible Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON issue their Catalogues one month in advance, in order to circulate in America and on the Continent.

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See Number 65 for Colonial Series.

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I OFFER THE FOLLOWING THIS WEEK.

ALL PICKED SPECIMENS (WITH FIGURES AT BACK).

		s.	d.
Paris Print,	10 lep. orange .. ..	10	0
Athens "	5 " green (1st type of 5 at back) ..	1	6
" "	20 " blue on greenish .. ..	1	6
" "	20 " 1871, light blue, dotted neck ..	2	6
" "	20 " blue on deep blue .. ..	2	6
" "	40 " flesh on bluish .. ..	5	0
" "	40 " bistre on bluish, unused .. ..	5	0
" "	10 " orange on cream, error "oo" ..	4	6
" "	20 " ultramarine, error 20, inverted ..	7	6
" "	40 " flesh on cream, unused .. ..	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK).

Paris Print,	1876, 30 lep. olive brown .. ..	3	6
" "	60 " green .. ..	3	0
Athens "	60 " green on buff .. ..	4	6
" "	10 lep. deep orange on cream, rare ..	5	0
" "	20 " ultramarine " " .. ..	2	6

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" " no stop		
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# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY")

No. 68—No. 16—Vol. III.      SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1897.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

- Bristol Philatello Society.      Cambridge University Philatello Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatello Society.      The City of London Philatello Club.      Roohdale Philatello Society.  
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First issue, 3or., 6or. and 9or. unused				state ... ..			
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CC. 14, 5/- carmine lake, superb unused				C.C. 12½, 96 cents, slate, unused ...	3	0	0
pair ... ..	0	19	6	<b>St. Vincent.</b>			
<b>Nevis,</b>				C.A. 12, 1/- vermilion, unused ...	1	1	0
CA. 14, 6d. red-brown, block of 6, with				<b>Virgin Isles.</b> CA. 14, 6d. mauve, unused			
margin and control number, in mint				*pair in mint state ... ..	0	19	6
state .. ..	3	12	6	<b>New South Wales, wmk. 5/-, 5/- violet,</b>			
CA. 14, single unused copy ... ..	0	12	6	unused and in mint state ... ..	1	15	0
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with margin and control number in				of these exceedingly scarce stamps			
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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

No meeting has been held since the publication of the last report. Members will kindly note that the next meeting will be held on **Monday, May 3rd**, when our **Sixteenth Auction Sale** will be held.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

At the forthcoming **London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals** will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

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**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, and *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, and *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*.

From United States: *The Boston Stamp Book*, *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist*, *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Home Worker*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, *The American Collector*, and *Philatelic Facts and Fancies*.

From Mexico: *El Monitor Filatelico*.

From India: *The Philatelic World*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

Mr. E. D. Bacon took the chair at the sixteenth meeting on February 19th, when fourteen members were present. Mr. W. R. Palmer and Mr. H. J. White were elected members. Mr. T. W. Hall gave a display of the stamps of Venezuela and read a series of notes on the earlier issues.

In the absence of the Vice-President, Mr. Bacon again occupied the chair at the seventeenth meeting on February 26th. There was to have been a discussion on the early stamps of Trinidad, but in the absence of Mr. A. W. Chambers, who had promised to open the debate, Mr. Oldfield read a short paper on the advantages of stamp collecting.

The eighteenth meeting was held on March 5th, twelve members and one visitor being present. Mr. Bacon, who presided, read a paper communicated by Mr. C. H. Mottram, on the New Zealand local posts of 1856. Mr. Mottram explained that prior to 1856 the colony was divided into six provinces, each having local government with power to arrange for the local posts and that the lowest rate for letters at that time was 2d. In 1855 a Convention was held for deciding upon postal rates, but only one province, viz.: Canterbury, adopted the rate of 1d. for half-ounce letters. The paper went on to give full particulars of printings which were ordered and made, and much other valuable information.

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Rules, Report for 1896, and all information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. P. A. Wickhart, 70, Sotheby Road, Highbury Park, London, by enclosing stamped directed envelope. [8 alt]

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Canada, 1851, 6d., laid paper	30 0	14 0
" 1852, " wove	30 0	14 0
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**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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**WANTED.**—Old Collections, rare single stamps, unused current Colonials. Exchange or Cash. SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey [23

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**JUBILEE 1d.**—Envelope with card unused, 1/6.—MAITLAND, 18 George Street, Edinburgh. [1

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**WHOEVER**—sends me 100-200 good stamps will receive 100-200 Serbia, Montenegro, Roumania, 72-96, Rumania, Bulgaria. I always answer.—Sol. Glasberg, Yassy.

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**DUPLICATES.**—Sheets on approval against refs.—ARTHUR WESTON, 65, Downing Street, Farnham.

**COLLECTION** wanted, must be strong in German States, also wanted Luebeck error, Wurtemberg, 70kr dark lilac.—WESTHOEHE, Hesse, East Yorks. [6

**WANTED** to hear from Collectors, wanting to buy, sell, or exchange stamps. Will pay cash for the common stamps of all foreign countries.—C. H. ROWAN, P. O. Lock Box, 327, Milwaukee Wis, U.S.A.

**WANTED** to sell good obsolete stamps of Austria, Lombardy, Italian principalities, or to exchange same against rare British Colonials. Sendings solicited.—F. HEINZEL, VII, Zieglergasse 1, Vienna, Austria. [6

**BRITISH STAMPS.**—Cheap.—3d. red, set plate numbers, 7/6; 2d. blue ditto, 2/-; 3d. rose ditto, 7/6; 2d. imperf. 1841, 6d. dozen; 2d., plate 12, 6/- dozen; 1R Official, 3d. slate, 1885, 1/6 dozen; 1d. reds, plate numbers, mint condition, one-third catalogue, ditto used, 1/- an ounce.—MAITLAND, 18, George St., Edinburgh.

# Northern Stamp Exchange Society.

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Secretary—FREDK. A. WICKHART, 70, Sotheby Rd., Highbury Park, London, N. Hon. Sec. and Treas. to the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

The following Statement will show at a glance how the "Northern" Stamp Exchange Society has progressed. (Compare Totals for each year.)

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Sections I. and II contain no Stamps priced at less than 1s.

RAPID CIRCULATION. PROMPT MONTHLY SETTLEMENTS.

A Packet for Medium Collectors and Beginners just starting.

Month.	1893-94		1894-95		1895-96.	
	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.	Total Value of Packets.	Total Sales.
SEPTEMBER	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
OCTOBER	54 3 3½	18 14 2	194 7 7½	38 10 8½	824 17 7	150 18 4½
NOVEMBER	103 19 8½	25 1 6½	393 2 0	84 5 7½	1269 16 8	205 10 7
DECEMBER	146 13 10½	32 0 5	292 0 7	65 18 4	1320 7 2	182 14 8½
JANUARY	133 2 11	36 10 9	384 14 7	86 15 11½	2064 12 11	392 0 0½
FEBRUARY	116 12 4½	27 3 8½	440 15 8½	120 11 0	2130 11 8	319 0 2½
MARCH	112 13 1½	25 8 0	530 0 7½	110 0 11	2112 4 2½	357 7 0½
APRIL	122 10 8½	22 19 0½	777 10 10	164 7 2	2982 0 8½	459 10 8
MAY	99 8 6	27 7 4	804 1 4	192 2 7	2177 0 8	215 13 3
JUNE	126 8 1	23 7 4	725 14 0½	127 19 9½	1567 13 8	174 11 9
JULY	218 6 11	31 5 7	500 5 5	114 8 9	2354 3 5	237 5 1
AUGUST	142 7 8½	23 17 1½	572 2 6	90 6 1	1300 11 4	153 12 2
	161 9 10	24 15 7	576 15 4	147 14 ½	1330 12 6	185 8 8½
	1537 17 0½	318 10 6	6191 13 10	1333 1 7½	21334 12 6	3033 12 7

THE varieties circulated through the "NORTHERN" have included unused 1/- Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and Newfoundland (vermilion); very fine unused Oldenburgs and other old German States, in addition to the rarest varieties of almost every country.

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- Roumania, 1872, error, 5 bani rose.
- Labuan, 8½ on 16c. and 6 in red on 16c.
- Gold Coast, 20/- green and rose, unused.
- Tuscany, 9 crazie on white, fine.
- West Indians, numerous fine and rare, used and unused, including rare Trinidad, Nevis, St. Vincent, Montserrat, Virgin Islands, &c., also several fine entire sheets of obsolete West Indians in mint condition, including
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# FORTNIGHTLY.

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Bristol Philatello Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society.

No. 68.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE DUKE OF YORK AND THE EXHIBITION.

H. R. H. THE DUKE OF YORK, as already announced in the daily papers, has placed at the disposal of the Committee of the London Philatelic Exhibition one gold and one silver medal to be given for the two best collections of stamps to be exhibited by ladies. The *Globe*, in imparting this piece of simple information to its readers, goes out of its way to perpetrate one of those egregious blunders which from time to time make the columns of our daily papers ridiculous. "Although the Duke of York," says the *Globe*, "long since disposed of his own collection of stamps, his interest in the subject has by no means died out." The Duke of York has never contemplated such a thing as the disposal of his collection, and as for his interest in the subject ever dying out, it is notorious that His Royal Highness is becoming a more ardent philatelist day by day.

Mr. W. S. Lincoln also offers one gold and one silver medal for competition, winners of these to be the exhibitors of the two best collections of Transvaal postage stamps.

### A NEWCASTLE PHILATELIST'S DEATH.

We regret to hear from Mr. W. Marchbank, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, that our friend and constant advertiser, Mr. W. J. Pattison, of that city, died somewhat suddenly after a brief illness. The event will, as Mr. Marchbank remarks in his letter, be a sad surprise to the many philatelic correspondents with whom the deceased had dealings. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Pattison's affairs are entirely in Mr. March-

bank's hands, and will be attended to with all the care that a warm personal friend can devote to the work. From a further note from Mr. Marchbank that he will carry on the stamp dealing business of the late Mr. Pattison, at 31, Grove Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

### BRIGHT'S CATALOGUE WILL BE READY SHORTLY.

Messrs. BRIGHT & Sox, of Bournemouth, notify us that the second edition of their A.B.C. Catalogue will be published in about ten days time—i.e. ten days from April 23rd. Our publishers have secured an early delivery of the catalogue, and will be able to supply it to their customers at the earliest moment possible.

### IMPORTANT TO EXCHANGE CLUB SECRETARIES.

CONSIDERABLE interest attaches to the case of Hinton and Skipton v. Ord, tried at the Watford County Court on February 15th, and of which we find a full report in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*. The action was brought by Messrs. T. H. Hinton and S. C. Skipton, officials of the International Philatelic Union, to recover from the defendant a sum of £8 5s. 4d., in respect of stamps removed from some of the exchange sheets of English members of the Union, and £2 for fines payable under the rules.

The defendant counter-claimed in the action against the plaintiffs to recover the sum of £28 17s. 6d., in respect of moneys due to him for stamps removed from his sheets which had been sent to a French Society termed "La Société Timbrophile d'Echanges."

Mr. Leonard, in opening the case for the plaintiffs, explained that in or about the year 1890 an arrangement had been made by Mr. A. G. Gardner, acting on behalf of the French Society above referred to, whereby sheets belonging to members of the French Society were to be circulated with the packets of the International Philatelic Union, and the Members of the I.P.U. were to be at liberty to send sheets to be circulated with the packets of the French Society, payment being made by the French Society through Mr. Gardner to Mr. Skipton, in respect of any claims due to any members of the I.P.U. Among other members of the I.P.U. who sent sheets to the French packets was the defendant, Captain St. George Ord.

In or about May, 1894, Mr. Gardner received notice from the French Society that they would cease to make payments in cash for stamps removed by their members, and that all debts were to be settled in kind instead of in specie. A notice to this effect was inserted in the *P.J.G.B.*

The debt due at this time from the French Society to the English members of the I.P.U. amounted to over £100. Counsel further stated that unsuccessful efforts having been



made by the solicitors of the I.P.U. to obtain payment of such moneys from the French Society, the Committee passed a resolution on the 23rd July, 1895, that as from that date members of the I.P.U. should not be entitled to set off their liability for stamps they might remove from the sheets of English members as against the moneys due to them from the French Society, and directed that specific notice of this resolution should be given to all the persons concerned. Notice was accordingly given to the defendant Ord, prior to the receipt by him of the exchange Packet for the month of September, 1895; but, notwithstanding such notice, the defendant declined to pay for stamps to the value of £8 5s 4d., which he had taken from the sheets of English members between September, 1895 to March, 1896, and claimed to set off against such liability the moneys due to him from the French Society.

Mr. Leonard then called Mr. S. C. Skipton, one of the plaintiffs, and after he had given some evidence in support of the opening statement of counsel, the further hearing of the case was adjourned until Thursday, the 25th February 1897, the Judge having enquired what was the nature of the defence proposed to be raised, and defendant's counsel having intimated that he would dispute the authority of the Committee of the plaintiff Union to pass any such resolution as had been done in this case which would bind the individual members of the Union.

At the adjourned hearing, Mr. Skipton gave evidence in support of the opening statement of counsel, proving the figures in connection with the amounts claimed from the defendant in respect both of stamps removed and of the fines.

His Honour, in giving judgment, regretted that he was precluded from deciding the real question in dispute, as to whether Captain Ord was entitled to set off against the debt due to him from the French Society the sums owing by him in respect of stamps which he had taken from the sheets of English members of the Association. After recapitulating the facts as to the understanding which had been come to, he held that under the circumstances neither the Society itself, nor its Secretary or Treasurer, had any legal right of action to recover the value of stamps removed from the Exchange Packets, and that their only remedy was to expel the defendant from the Union, any right of action there might be remaining in the members from whose sheets stamps had been removed. His Honour added that societies such as these were formed in reliance on the mutual good faith of the respective members, and that if the members did not carry out their obligations it would, owing to the difficulty of enforcing them, be impossible for such a society to continue its existence. He must accordingly dismiss the present action, but each party would have to bear their own costs.

#### NATAL ERROR.

The following appeared in our No. 59:

This interesting letter from Mr. James N. Frith needs neither introduction nor comment:

"EALFPENNY" ON 6d. NATAL.

#### ERROR OR VARIETY?

Which is it? The *Monthly Journal* (S. G. & Co.), for July, 1895, stated: "A correspondent in South Africa assures us that the letter E in the error Ealfpenny on 6d. is neither more or less than a broken letter H. We have not a copy of this variety at hand, but we are quite willing to take our correspondents word for it, more especially as he acknowledges that the H is broken in such a way as to make a very excellent, in fact, a capital E."

This view appears to have been generally accepted as the correct one, and the stamp is now usually referred to as a "variety" and not an "error." Nevertheless from the opinions expressed to me by two men practically acquainted with printing type, to whom I shewed my copy, which is an exceptionally clear one, I am led to believe that the general opinion is not a correct one. They said that not one man in fifty "in the trade" would take the letter for a broken H, or in fact for anything but an E, adducing as evidence the fact that the upright of the letter is of a different body to that of an H, and also that the centre stroke is differently placed in the two letters. This can be seen by placing a straight edge on the central bar of the H in the two stamps on either side of the error, when the central stroke or "feather" of the E will be seen to stand well above the point where the straight edge intersects it.

I hope you will ventilate the matter in your columns and so perhaps be the means of preventing what is probably entitled to rank as a full fledged "error" being relegated to a back seat as a common or garden "variety."

One of our readers in Natal, who is closely connected with the Post Office read the above in our paper and writes us under date 27th March, as follows:—

"I observe a paragraph in No. 59 of the "S.C.F." with reference to the Natal Provisional' halfpenny on 6d. In order to set the matter at rest, I have obtained and enclose herewith the identical piece of type of the so-called error 'E.' You will see it is only a battered 'H.'"

We have carefully examined the type and find that not only is our correspondent right, but we have no hesitation in saying that the "H" has been carefully cut down to an "E" and that this so-called error is absolutely made to order.

But the above letter of Mr. Frith reads very strangely as compared with actual facts.

#### POSTAGE STAMPS AND RAILWAY TICKETS.

*Modern Society* is responsible for the statement that an eccentric individual has died at Vienna, leaving to his heirs millions of postage stamps and hundreds of thousands of railway tickets from all parts of the world. He was a great traveller, though no professional philatelist. His kith and kin had hoped to inherit millions of money at his death, and were amazed to discover that, over and above his trunks of stamps and tickets, their heritage was comparatively meagre. However, they have now jumped at an offer from a firm of English philatelists, said to be one of the largest offers ever made in the trade.

#### WHAT IS THE S.S.S.S. DOING?

PERHAPS it would be more to the point to ask, what is the S.S.S.S. not doing? Seriously, the inactivity of our Suppression Society is so marked that it has become the subject of universal comment. In India, the *Philatelic World* remarks: "Some people are saying that the S.S.S.S. is less active than formerly. This may partly be ascribed to the fact that the crop of needless issues which that Society was formed to mow down or root up has been less prolific during recent months. We think the S.S.S.S. does well to restrain its energies. Its ends will be best served if it reserves itself for attacks on only very flagrant offenders among the Philatelic weeds. The tares in the wheat should be rooted up wherever possible, but the poppies might, we think, be regarded with kindly feelings. The Labnans, the Liberias, and the Congos, are some of our Philatelic poppies." Continuing its metaphor, the *Philatelic World* might have gone on to say that it is the philatelic poppy that brings the dealer his "little bit of corn," but this temptation appears to have been nobly resisted. Let us spare the poppies, if you like, but hang it all! everything is being spared now! There are certain Ecuadors and Guatemalas of recent birth which not even the kindest critic would describe as "philatelic poppies." It is high time the S.S.S.S. were awakened, or—killed!

#### A WEAKNESS FOR PHILATELY.

At the Mansion House Police Court on April 9th, a clerk of the name of Harry Dickenson, aged 24, was charged with stealing some foreign stamps. Mr. Biron appeared for the prisoner, and said he would plead guilty. Thomas Read, a clerk, stated that on the 22nd ult. he and some other young fellows were standing at the corner of St. Mary-axe, looking over some foreign stamps. Prisoner (whom he did not know) came up and asked him to go to 27, Leadenhall Street with him. He went, and the accused when outside requested to be allowed to take some of his stamps inside, saying he would only keep him waiting for a few minutes. He said his name was Peters. Witness handed him a memorandum book containing 300 foreign stamps, value £3 10s. The prisoner went into 27, Leadenhall Street, and Witness waited for some time, but he did not come out again, and therefore witness gave information to the police. Witness saw the prisoner in Lime Street Square on Tuesday afternoon. On seeing witness he ran away, but was stopped and given into custody. He then offered to give back all the stamps. The stamps produced in Court were his. Mr. Biron said he was

scarcely able to account for prisoner's extraordinary behaviour. Hitherto he had borne an excellent character, and had been in several good situations. He did not appear to have attempted to sell the stamps at all, but gave them to his brother's little boy, stating that he was given them by a friend. His brother had paid for his board and lodging during the time he had been out of employment, and perhaps the prisoner thought he was making something up to him. The brother had given up all the stamps. Sir David consented to deal with the case under the First Offenders Act, saying that he should require bail in the sum of £25 for prisoner's good behaviour for six months.

#### IS IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE COMING?

WE have lately been inclined to wonder (says the *Home News*) whether Imperial Penny Postage has been dropped out of sight and out of mind. Hence we welcome Mr. Henniker Heaton's reappearance in the *Times*, with a letter on the subject. He reiterates a few of the arguments which he has made familiar to all who have looked into the subject, and concludes that "in a few days we shall know whether the Postmaster-General will carry out the great idea or not." What does this mean? Does it imply that Mr. Henniker Heaton has any ground for hope that the Duke of Norfolk may signalise the present year by making the British Empire, so far as the United Kingdom is concerned, one postal district? What a magnificent memorial such a concession would be to Queen Victoria's record reign! If the Postmaster-General is seriously going into the question, we fail to see how he can arrive at any other conclusion than that Imperial Penny Postage should forthwith become *un fait accompli*. In April, 1893, the House of Commons discussed a resolution declaring that the time had come when the charge for the transmission of letters from the United Kingdom to all parts of the Empire should be reduced to one penny per half-ounce, and a formal vote was not taken on the subject because Sir William Harcourt, then representing the Treasury, said that when the finances of the country permitted, and the assent of the Colonies had been obtained, the Government were prepared to give effect to the proposal advocated by the resolution. Four years have elapsed: there has been surplus upon surplus, and the Colonies have made it clear they would entertain no objection—why should they?—to the adoption of the penny rate by the Mother Country, provided they are left free to make the change or not, as suits their views. It would be good news that the fetters of red tape had at last been severed.

#### COLONIES DO NOT WANT IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.

WHILE Mr. Henniker-Heaton is agitating for universal penny postage with all our colonial possessions, some of our friends in the Colonies seem to think the existing rate of twopence half-penny is too low. At all events, this will be one of the questions brought before the Postal Conference at Washington on behalf of Australasia. At a recent conference of Postmasters General in the Australasian Colonies the New South Wales Minister estimated the loss to the Colony on the mails to Europe at £11,000 a year, and all the others, he said, also lost money by the twopence-half-penny rate. But the Postal Conference is not likely to make any change, as a uniform rate to all the countries included in the Postal Union is regarded as a cardinal principle.

### The Sale of Doubtful Stamps.

By HARRY HILCKES.

WHENEVER a new forgery is discovered, and "pilloried" in the philatelic journals, letters come to hand from all parts of the country saying that the identical forgery has been sold by such and such a dealer. This occurs so often, that, with a degree of certainty, one can always point to firms who are in the habit of selling anything that comes their way—good, bad, and indifferent. Many dealers, if they do not know a stamp to be genuine or forged, will sell it "on its merits," and this phrase covers a multitude of sins. Even the auctioneers occasionally use it. A stamp is challenged when put up for sale, and the auctioneer will say, "Gentlemen, I sell it on its merits."

It is then most curious to watch the various feeble bidders who start this stamp, say at 1s., and slowly work it up to 15s., and perhaps finally it goes for between £2 and £3. The buyer is invariably one of the above-mentioned dealers, who will sell the stamp again to one of his customers, "guaranteed genuine," saying at the same time, should the stamp be doubted in any way, "it was sold in auction, and thus, being passed by experts, it must be good." In one case a stamp, professing to be a 4d. imperf. Ceylon, unused, was offered to a London collector, who submitted it to three dealers, who one and all condemned the stamp as being an acid-cleaned specimen, with perforations cut off. The stamp was returned and rumour says that it was sold to another collector for £30. However that may be, it finally appeared in a London auction sale, where it was sold for £30, although challenged as being bogus.

In another case, a man who advertises himself as a great expert, sends out approval books, most scientifically arranged. One of these books was submitted to me, and on the very first page which I opened I saw a Canadian pence issue, with a forged perforation.

This may have been accidental, but the very same dealer once bought, in my presence, a West Indian stamp, which showed a most suspicious perforation. I asked permission to examine it, and had to pronounce it forged, giving, at the same time, my reasons for doing so. The dealer in question, however, said: "Oh, that is alright; no one can prove that it is bad, and it can be sold on its merits." He, again, is a dealer who guarantees every stamp he sells.

A gentleman once showed me a copy of the "V. R." 1d. black, which had been pronounced genuine by three dealers and denounced as a forgery by two others. It turned out to be a photograph of a very bad forgery.

Somewhere about 1892 some excellent forgeries of Ceylon stamps were circulated, which were pronounced genuine by the highest authorities. I had a few copies sent to me the other day, and submitted them, through a friend of mine, to four prominent dealers, who one and all made cash-offers for same. I wonder whether they really did not know that they were forged?

To show how very dangerous it is to buy from the first comer, I translate the following from a Continental paper: "Some time ago (writes a Continental dealer) one of my customers sent me his collection to purchase, stating at the same time that the price he asked for it was £1000. On examination I found that nearly every stamp worth more than 6d. was a forgery. When my friend received my report he waxed most indignant and sent the collection to M. Pierre Mahé, the renowned French expert, who confirmed my opinion. On enquiry it turned out that this collector always grumbled at the high prices of the dealers, and was in the habit of purchasing his stamps in small shops at low prices. The actual value of this collection was hardly £100." Evidently bargain-hunting is not always profitable!

One more instance. It is the case of a small dealer, who possessed two copies of a rouletted stamp. One he considered perfectly genuine, and this copy was priced at £7 10s. in his own books. The other copy he seemed not to be sure about, and marked it at £4 10s., but did not sell it at that price. He had found this stamp among an odd lot, and consequently knew nothing about its antecedents. At last, he took it to an auctioneer to sell for what it would fetch. It was sold; and submitted afterwards to two experts, who pronounced it to be forged.

Now this dealer had guaranteed this stamp, of whose history he knew nothing whatever, and was satisfied to obtain £1 6s. for the auctioned copy; whereas, for the other copy, about which he had no doubt whatever, he wanted £7 10s.!

I could go on citing many more instances, but I think I have shown that collectors have to be most careful when buying high priced stamps.

The above article, written by our Mr. Hilckes, about eighteen months ago, appeared in the last issue of the *BAZAAR'S* "Philatelists' Supplement." We reprint it here because it bears on the subject of stamp guarantees, which subject we shall discuss at some length in our next number.—EDITORS.

# Postal Surcharge Deviations of the Synoptical Native States of India.

BY J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS.

NABHA—Continued from page 161.

7. E without middle arm in "Service."
  8. E with short lower foot in "State."
  9. Small N in "Nabha."
  10. Inverted L in "State."
- One anna plum—Black surcharge.
1. Small A in "State."
  2. Small N in "Nabha."
  3. Double horizontal bars between the words "Service" on two stamps, horizontal pair.
  4. C open at top in "Service."
  5. E above line in do.
  6. R open at top in "Service."
  7. Dotted H in "Nabha."
  8. Small H in do.
  9. C open at bottom in "Service."
- Two annas blue—Surcharge black.
1. Inverted V in "State."
  2. 8 and small A in "State" and N below line in "Nabha."
  3. "Service" in thin letters and directed obliquely upwards to right, and small I in "Service."
  4. Dotted I in "Service."
  5. Small T in "State."
- Four annas olive-green—Surcharge black.
1. R open to left in "Service."
  2. Small 2nd T in "State."
  3. Small N in "Nabha"; long T in "State."
  4. "Service" to right, long T in "State."
  5. "Service" to right and "N'ABHA."
  6. Do., do., and curved T in "State."
- Six annas cool-yellow—Surcharge black.
1. Small J in "Service."
  2. Broken H in "Nabha."
  3. Small A in "Nabha."
  4. Small final A in "Nabha."
  5. E with short upper arm in "State."
- Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.
1. Thick G in "Service."
  2. Thin G in "Service."
  3. Small T in "State."
  4. "Service" in thin letters.
  5. Do. at top.
  6. Double-lined S in "Service" and long T in "State."
  7. Inverted L in "Service."
  8. "Service" obliquely directed upwards to right.
- Twelve annas red on chocolate—Surcharge black.
1. Additional surcharge just above and to left of the word NABHA, consisting of part of the double-lined letters EVCE reversed and inverted.
  2. "Service" to right.
  3. O instead of C in "Service."
  4. Service to left.
  5. Service to top.

## CHAMBA.

### Ordinary Postage.

- Half anna green—Surcharge black.
1. Small A and B in "Chamba."
  2. Small A in do.
  3. Oblique C in do.
  4. C below line in do.
  5. O instead of C in do.

6. Oblique C and small A in "Chamba."
  7. Do. do. and small triangle instead of A in "Chamba."
  8. Small A in "State."
- One anna plum—Surcharge black.
1. Thick C in "Chamba."
  2. Oblique C in do.
  3. Small A and inverted L in "State."
  4. Oblique C in "Chamba" and inverted L in "State."
  5. Small A in "State."
  6. Small A in "Chamba."
- Two annas blue—Surcharge black.
1. ◯ instead of C in "Chamba."
  2. Small B in "Chamba."
  3. R instead of B in "Chamba."
  4. Small A in "Chamba."
  5. Small A in "State."
  6. CHMABA.
- Three annas orange—Surcharge black.
1. Oblique C in Chamba.
  2. Small A in do.
  3. Small A in "State."
  4. E instead of H in "Chamba."
  5. E with small foot in "State."
  6. Dotted A and reversed inverted L in "State."
  7. Small B in "Chamba."
- Four annas olive-green—Surcharge black.
1. C below line in "Chamba" and small A in "State."
  2. C below line in "Chamba" and small A in "Chamba."
  3. Small A in "State."
  4. GHAMRA.
  5. Small A in "Chamba."
  6. Oblique C in "Chamba."
  7. C below the line in "Chamba."
  8. Inverted K in "Chamba."
  9. CHANBA.
  10. Inverted V in "State."
  11. Dot after C in "Chamba."
  12. 8 in "State."
  13. Small A and E without middle bar in "State."
  14. Small H in "Chamba."
- Six annas cool-yellow—Surcharge black.
1. Small A in "State."
  2. Small A in "Chamba."
  3. Small M and B in "Chamba."
  4. Small M and B in "Chamba" and inverted L in "State."
  5. Small M in "Chamba."
  6. Small A and M in "Chamba."
  7. Inverted K in "Chamba."
  8. Inverted V in "State."
  9. C below line in "Chamba."
  10. GHAMRA.
  11. Broken M instead of M in "Chamba."
  12. Small A and E without middle arm in "State."
- Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.
1. Small A in "State."
- One Rupee slate—Surcharge black.
1. CHMABA.
  2. Small A in "State" and small A and B in "Chamba."
  3. Small A in "Chamba."
  4. Small A in "State."
  5. Reversed and inverted K in "Chamba."
  6. Oblique C in "Chamba" and inverted V in "State."

## SERVICE POSTAGE.

- Half-anna green—Surcharge black.
1. Small M in "Chamba" and small A in "State."
  2. Small A in "Chamba."
  3. C below line in do.
  4. Thick C in do.
  5. Inverted K in do.
  6. Small A and small B in "Chamba."
  7. Oblique C in "Chamba."
  8. Small A in "State."
  9. Inverted V in do.
10. CHMABA.
11. Dotted I in "Service."
- One anna plum—Surcharge black.
1. Big final A in "Chamba."
  2. Small A in do.
  3. C below line in do.
  4. Open R and small I in "Service."
- Two annas blue—Surcharge black.
1. R open at top and small I in "Service."
  2. Small A in "Chamba" and small A in "State."
  3. Small B in "Chamba."
  4. Dotted C and small B in "Chamba."
  5. Small A in "State."
  6. Small A in "Chamba."
  7. O instead of C in "Service."
  8. CHAMBA.
- Three annas orange—Surcharge black.
1. R below line in "Service" and thick C in "Chamba."
  2. Oblique C in "Chamba" and small A in "State."
  3. Small A in "Service."
  4. Small A and inverted L in "State."
  5. Inverted V in "State."
- Four annas olive-green—Surcharge black.
1. Inverted V in "State."
- Six annas cool-yellow—Surcharge black.
1. C below line and small final A in "Chamba."
  2. Small lower tailed S in "Service."
  3. Dotted A and E without middle bar in "State."
  4. Small A in "State."
  5. Inverted V in "State."
  6. Small A and small M in "Chamba."
  7. Small A and small M in "Chamba," and small A in "State."
- Eight annas purple—Surcharge black.
1. "Chamba State" to left, "Service" to right.
  2. "Service" to left.
  3. Do. do. and thick C in "Chamba."
  4. Small A in "Chamba."
  5. Oblique O in "Chamba," and small A in "State."
  6. "Service" on top.
  7. Inverted L and small A in "State."
  8. Inverted V in "State."
- Twelve annas chocolate on red—Surcharge black.
1. Small A in "Chamba."
  2. C below line in "Chamba."
- One rupee slate—Surcharge black.
1. Oblique C in "Chamba."
  2. Small A in "Chamba."
  3. Oblique C and small A in "Chamba."

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

→ SIXTH ARTICLE. ←

(N.B.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)

**Cancellations for Special Purposes.**—There are rather a large number of special cancellations, and these are somewhat difficult to classify. Sometimes these cancellations were used alone, as for instance 39 and 39a, sometimes they were used in addition to the ordinary obliteration. Sometimes the ordinary obliteration alone was used for the "special" purpose. The title I have chosen must therefore be taken to be sufficiently elastic to cover all those types not dealt with previously.

**Foreign Branch.**—Types 38, 38a, 38b were used in the London Chief Office only, upon letters going abroad. All other offices, I believe, used the ordinary obliterator. Of the three varieties mentioned, 38 is the most common. I have only seen one example of 38b.

**Registered Letters.**—Type 39 was used in London only, up to a comparatively recent date. Type 39a is now in general use throughout the Kingdom. Both may be found in red, black and blue, and 39a in violet. Type 39b may be found struck in black, or affixed like an adhesive stamp. The colour in the latter case is blue. The size of the oval and letter in both cases varies greatly. Another form of Registration obliteration is similar to Type 34, but with the word "Registered" at the top. This was used in London only, and was usually struck in red. Type 39a may be found circular instead of oval.

**Newspaper Branch.**—This obliteration was introduced in 1870 or soon after. It is used without any other form of cancellation or postmark, although the ordinary obliteration is quite as generally used as the special form. There are many dozens of these newspaper obliterations, but those illustrated will doubtless prove sufficient to shew the general character of them all. Types 40, 40g, 40h, 40k are the only ones I have met with shewing the ordinary lay man, the office using them. Types 40g and 40k are the only ones I have seen shewing the date of use. Type 40 I have not seen used on

anything but the early half-penny plate Nos. All the other blocks were taken from the current stamps. Type 40r is taken from a half-penny stamped envelope, cancelled in error with the the "N.P.B." obliteration.

**"Too Late, &c."**—A special form of cancellation for letters which were too late for the ordinary despatch, was not, I think, generally used. I illustrate some varieties I have noticed.

Type 41 is taken from a copy of the 1d. black.

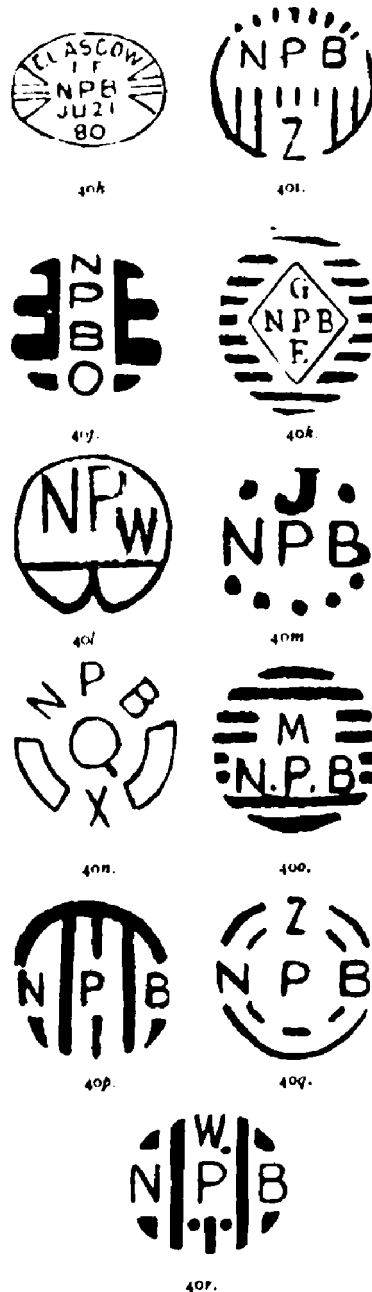
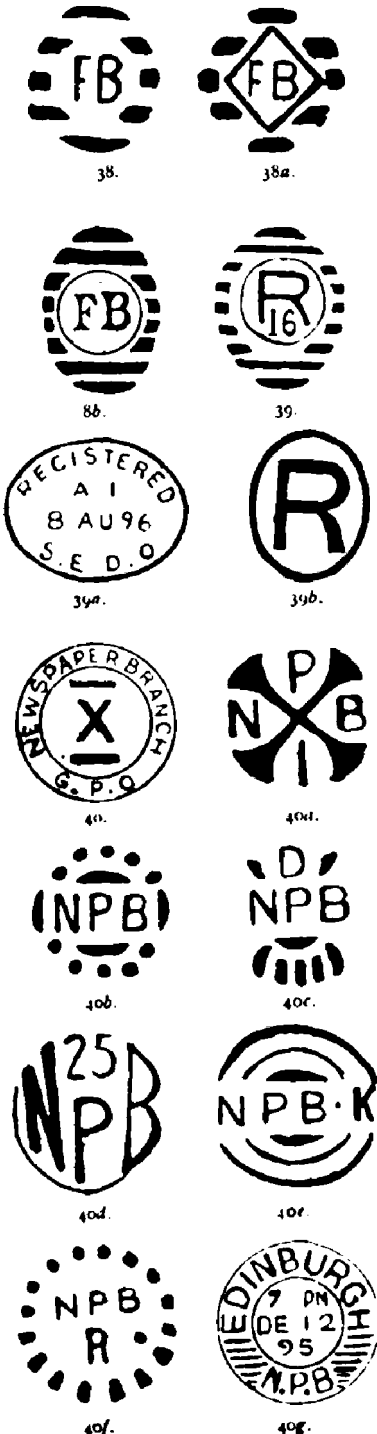
" 41a, 41c, 41d, are taken from the 1d. red, imperf.

" 41b is taken from the 1d. rose red.

" 41e. There is one other variety at least of this, with curved lines at the sides and without the enclosing circle.

" 41f with the initial letters "T.L." only, as in type 41a.

See also type 14b for Dublin example.



TOO LATE

Too Late

POSTED SINCE LAST NIGHT  
OC 29 1858  
EDIN

TOO LATE for  
re-Dispatch N

LATE

FEE

TOO LATE  
JY 24  
6 R  
LONDON

(To be continued.)

**General Notices.**

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, MAY 1, 1897.



**LITTLE BIRDS will gossip.** Since writing our article on this subject in our last number, we have heard from our bird detective in Paris that a lot of 2500 sets were sold to a dealer in France by the London firm of Buhl & Co., Limited—famous for their very—well, call it—"smart" performance in connection with the Nova Scotia "deal"—for the sum of £100, or its equivalent in French money; that they offered the three other lots of 2500 sets to prominent dealers in England, Germany, and the United States; in each case guaranteeing not to sell more than one lot in each country, and that they so far have failed to succeed. We earnestly hope they will continue in this failure.

\* \* \*

**WE call it the Mekeel Collapse** for want of a better word. Strictly, it is not a collapse, nor even a failure. The unwelcome news we print elsewhere simply amounts to this, that the affairs of the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, of St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A.—the second largest stamp dealing concern in the United States—have become involved. It is not the first time. In 1893, the Messrs. Mekeel found themselves compelled to make an assignment of their assets; and history has simply repeated itself. It is regrettable, of course, but we are assured that the assets are ample to satisfy all the just obligations of the Company. Thus, the chief—perhaps the only—sufferers are the Mekeels themselves; and they are men who may be trusted to give a good account of themselves in the business world. Already, the head of the firm, Mr. C. H. Mekeel, has announced his intention to start a wholesale business, and Mr. I. A. Mekeel, who has so ably edited the *Weekly Stamp News* for years past, will in future fill the double rôle of editor and proprietor of that journal. Better luck to them in the future is our earnest wish.

\* \* \*

**WITH the title, Indicateur Philatélique,** Mr. Lyon-Claeson, of Brussels, has produced something distinctly novel in the way of a philatelic directory. **A Novel Address Book.** The countries of the world are arranged alphabetically, but each page of the directory is divided into two columns, the first of which gives the names and addresses of the philatelists who are included in the book, while the second column is left blank for notes. There is no preface or introduction of any sort to the book, but it is not difficult to guess that the idea is to provide a sort of

handy reference book and directory combined. Opposite each name there is a letter or letters, some of which we fail to comprehend. There is a C for collector, and an M for Merchant, but here and there there is also an E, the signification of which we cannot guess.

**Notes on New Issues.**

**British Central Africa.**—We have at last seen the complete set on the unwatermarked paper, in the so-called nigger design, which by the way, although very appropriate, might be a good deal prettier. The watermark of the lower values is the usual Crown and CC., and on the higher values Crown and CA., which may appear strange for stamps that are supposed to be printed outside Government control. The presence of the initials "CA." signifying Crown Agent, seem to make it plain that that office has the control of the Postal Service, and if that is so, we may be in hopes of seeing more stability in these "nigger" issues, which, right through Africa, have been very erratic of late. The following have been kindly submitted to us by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.:

Watermark Crown, CA., perf. 14:—

- 1d. black.
- 2d. green, centre black.
- 4d. yellow-orange, centre black.
- 6d. blue, centre black.
- 1/- pink, centre black.

Watermark Crown, CC., sideways:

- 2/6 deep mauve, centre black.
- 3/- yellow, centre black.
- 5/- olive, centre black.
- £1 blue, centre black.



**Niger Coast.**—We have seen the 1d. in a new shade, kindly submitted to us by Messrs. Taylor Bros., Liverpool.

1d. deep orange, wmk. Crown, CA.



**Italy.**—The 5 cent, now appears in a new design as per specimen received by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.

5 cents green.

**Negri Sembilan.**—The following new values have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King and Co.

- 15c. green, value and name in mauve.
- 25c. " " " " carmine.
- 50c. " " " " black.



**Sirmoor.**—The Service Stamps now appear with a slightly altered surcharge. Messrs. Whitfield King have sent us the following values in the annexed type.

- 6 pies, green, surcharged in black.
- 1 anna, blue " " "
- 2 annas, carmine " " "



**Peru.**—Unpaid letter stamps have been created by means of surcharging the current rectangular type with the word "DEFICIT." Messrs. Whitfield King have shown us the following values.

- 50 centavos vermilion.
- 1 sol. brown.

## Dissolution of The Mekeel Stamp Co., St. Louis.

NEWS of a somewhat disquieting character comes from St. Louis, Mo., U.S.A. The affairs of that big philatelic corporation, the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, have, for the second time in the past five years, become involved. A trustee is in possession of the Company's assets, and will continue the business in the interests of the creditors. Mr. C. H. Mekeel himself announces his attention to start as a dealer on his own account, and Mr. I. A. Mekeel has acquired the copyright of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, which he will continue to publish. The following very full account of the state of affairs is gleaned from the American newspapers.

The Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, one of the best known stamp, stamp album and general philatelic concerns in the country, practically suspended business yesterday by filing a chattel mortgage for £2,656. Mr. Becktold appears in the transaction as trustee for the Becktold Printing and Publishing Company, and others. The mortgage is on the entire stock of stamps in the possession of the Mekeel firm. A deed of trust was also filed by the Mekeel company, by which the firm's assets are hypothecated to W. B. Becktold and W. A. Funk, as trustees for eighty-two creditors. The amount stated in the deed is £5,412.

The firm whose present inability to promptly meet its obligations is thus officially recorded has been doing business at 3911, Morgan Street. It was organized in 1889, and has been under the general supervision of Charles H. Mekeel, who holds the position of president. The other officers are George D. Mekeel, vice-president and general manager; George M. Mekeel, cashier; W. A. Funk, secretary; and Isaac A. Mekeel, treasurer. Mr. Funk is father-in-law to Mr. C. H. Mekeel, and George M. Mekeel is the father of Charles, George D., and Isaac. His position as cashier paid him, according to George Mekeel, the munificent salary of £3 12s. per week.

The cause of the firm's embarrassment was stated yesterday afternoon at the office by Mr. George H. Mekeel, or, rather, by the following type written statement which was handed to all inquirers: "The business of importing and dealing in stamps and manufacturing stamp albums for collectors is one that has suffered very much these hard times. Being a business of luxury it has perhaps suffered in a greater degree than others. The assets of the company are large and valuable, but are not of a character to be readily realised on, in times like these. It will be the policy of the trustee to continue the profitable portion of the business, conserving the interest of the creditors by cutting off expenses and realising upon the assets by public or private sale as early as possible."

The firm since its organization, has done an enormous and seemingly profitable business. It was first organized as an exclusive stamp firm, and the president sold one stamp for the highest price ever paid for a stamp—£900. In 1892, the Mekeels bought out the Mangan Printing Company. On April 17th, a deed of trust was executed by which L. J. W. Wall became the trustee and the business was continued in his name for over two years. The liabilities of the firm at the time were stated at £12,800. At the time of the re-organization the following officers were elected: C. H. Mekeel, president; G. D. Mekeel, vice-president; I. A. Mekeel, treasurer; and W. A. Funk, secretary. With H. E. Deats these officers constituted the board of directors. Later the Company leased the general printing business and the Mekeels devoted their entire attention to the stamp business. Last autumn there was a meeting called by the directors and a majority of the stock, controlled by the Mekeels and close associates, was voted in favour of a £30,000 bond issue. The capital stock at that time was £30,000 divided into 1500 shares of £20 each. Of the bond issue £25,000 are said to have been floated, the heaviest

purchaser being H. F. Deats, who gathered in over £6,000 worth of the paper. Mr. Deats lives in Flemington, New Jersey.

The filing of the deed of trust and chattel mortgage yesterday caused a sensation, as the firm had been generally supposed to be financially solid. C. H., George D., and Isaac A. Mekeel live in handsome homes at 4516 Cook, 4618 Cook and 4381 Page avenues, respectively. The father, George M., lives at 4381, Page avenue. Mr. Funk, the secretary of the company, and father-in-law of the president lives at 4513, Cook avenue.

C. H. Mekeel, president of the company, admitted last night that the filing of the mortgages yesterday practically amounted to an assignment for the benefit of the firm's creditors. "The amount of the mortgage and deed of trust was just sufficient to cover the claims of the preferred creditors," he said. "Mr. Becktold was a creditor and was given the mortgage in order to secure him and the other creditors. He will supervise the business, and has already appointed a man whom we had in our employ, and who understands the business to supervise it. The Mekeels are out of the business, except in the capacity of stockholders. I own a controlling interest, but have no further official connection with the firm. It is my present intention to go to Europe. My brother George is salesman of the National Philatelic Association, and will retain his position. My other brother, Isaac, will continue to publish the paper which we have been printing for years. I have been drawing a salary of \$6000 a year, and George and Isaac \$3000 each. Mr. Funk, as secretary, drew \$125 a month. The whole trouble is the result of hard times. Our stock was of such a character that we could not realize on it, and sales were light. The result was that we ran short of ready money and had to mortgage the stock."

George D. Mekeel admitted that the catalogue value of the stock was £40,000. He said that if the trustees were given a reasonable time the firm would probably pay its indebtedness dollar for dollar.

### The English Id. "V.R." at Auction.

HOW difficult it is to rid a body of philatelists' minds of a well-rooted notion proved once again by the last sale of Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, when two blocks of four specimens of the "V.R." English were put up. They fetched £53 and £68 respectively, the latter price being paid in consequence of an extra amount of margin.

When our publishers brought out the first Complete Catalogue of the Adhesives of Great Britain, they made a thorough investigation of the history of this stamp, and, in consequence of their researches, decided not to insert this stamp in the body of the catalogue, but only to mention same in the addenda, where a footnote was made as follows:—

"This stamp was never issued but is in the nature of an essay, intended for franking official correspondence only."

Since then we have had occasion to revert to this question twice, once on page 94, Volume II., and again on page 155 of the same volume. In the former instance we gave a full and complete history of this stamp; and we may add that we know for a fact that some sheets are still in the hands of the officials, and that it is from this source that all the unused copies recently sold have emanated. In view of these facts we must confess that the above recorded prices are a mystery to us.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 15th, 1897. Auction Sales.

- May 4th & 5th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 precisely each day.
- May 6th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- May 7th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, S.W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- May 11th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C., at 5.30 p.m.
- May 12th & 13th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



THE subject of the changing values of stamps is one of such perennial interest that the following letter will be read with attention by philatelists of all grades:

Dear Sirs,—The January '97 number of the Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, must have caused those collectors of stamps who don't go in for the pursuit

"for pure love of the thing" to have given vent to their chagrin in expressions and expletives when they read some of the alterations in prices on the back of its cover, besides, there are more correct market prices to come! I ask of what earthly use is a catalogue which gives certain prices of stamps that are subject to be lowered to any figure by the issue of a scant notice to the effect? Whatever use it may have for dealers, I think you will agree with me that to those who collect *to gain something on the original prices paid for stamps* it is distinctly antagonistic.

What faith can collectors be expected to exercise in quotations that rise and fall to suit the requirements of any particular firm of dealers?

As things go at present, we are entirely at the mercy of a select few whose opinions are considered to be correct.

But are they really so?

A little consideration will shew that it is all the other way. Quite so!

Otherwise what would become of the stamps we paid fancy prices for if they are to be catalogued at "finicking" rates!

What is wanted by collectors is a Standard Price List for stamps, the quotations in which would be maintained.

Your publishers would do just the one thing needed if they initiated a Standard Catalogue on these lines, which would not *fiddle* about with prices but would fix a price, raise it, but *on no account whatever lower it*.

This would be the Catalogue of the future, indeed, and the firm who could see its way clear to publishing it will no doubt get its "iron" in.

According to catalogues of to-day, the collector of stamps has no encouragement whatsoever to purchase as he "doesn't quite know" what the prices of his treasures will be "in the next edition."

Yours very faithfully,

"QUI VIVE."

Although we cannot quite endorse our correspondent's views, his letter undoubtedly ventilates a grievance that is very widely felt. To fix a hard and fast price of any stamp is, however, an utterly impracticable idea. Stamps must rise or fall in value according to the conditions of the philatelic market, of which the law of supply and demand is not the least. For instance, how absurd would it be to suppose that the prices of the cents issue of Nova Scotia could be maintained at a given level in view of the presence in the market of a vast remainder of these stamps. The prices fixed by the "syndicate," and the syndicate's friends, for Nova Scotian Stamps are high enough as it is in all conscience.

\* \* \*

We have to thank "A Reader" (Clapham), for his information re Sierra Leone stamps.

\* \* \*

A Highbury reader, in the course of a letter dated March 30th, writes us as follows:

I read with dismay the proposal to issue a special Hospital stamp. What a howl of philatelic indignation would have gone up if the issuing country had not been Great Britain! It is to be hoped that all true philatelists will boycott this issue, which will be by far the most speculative of any "commemorative" yet issued, however ready they may be to support the Royal Fund. It will be interesting to see what the attitude of the S.S.S.S. will be.

Evidently our correspondent is, or was at the time of writing his letter, under the impression that these Hospital stamps were to be of a postal character. We have already made it clear to our readers that this is not the case. It is a hard matter to classify these stamps. They are something quite new, neither postals nor fiscals—neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring. Doubtless many charitable people

will buy them as a convenient means of donating shillings and half-crowns to the Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund, and among those charitable people we certainly trust that there will be a goodly sprinkling of philatelists, but philatelists will buy the stamps well knowing they are not postage stamps at all and have no sort of right of admission to the pages of their albums. As to what the attitude of the S.S.S.S. will be, that body is as present too soundly wrapped in slumber to have any sort of attitude at all, but even if this were not so there can be no question of the S.S.S.S. in regard to these Hospital stamps. They are not postage stamps and are not represented to be postage stamps, and no postage stamp collector can possibly need to be warned against them.

\* \* \*

"I should be glad (writes Mr. Cyril H. Crosse, of Bombay) if you would insert a notice in the "S.C.F." warning people against very dangerous forgeries of the Zanzibar provisionals. I have made a particular study of these stamps, and the other day came across some extremely dangerous forgeries, the nature of which I can hardly explain explicitly, but both the surcharge and the postmark are very dangerous. I should be pleased to examine any stamps sent to me, providing money for return postage is enclosed."

As regards the two Zanzibar provisionals, the 2½ annas on 1 anna, and the 2½ annas on 3 annas, Mr Crosse writes: "The S.S.S.S. may taboo these, but for myself I fancy they were really required. This is my explanation: The postmaster ordered out an equal number of all varieties, consequently the low values soon became exhausted. The low values of British East Africa having also become exhausted, the postmaster there wired to Zanzibar for some provisionals. These were soon used up and more had to be wired for; hence the surcharge of the 3 annas."

For the benefit of readers who desire to take advantage of Mr. Crosse's kind offer re the examination of Zanzibar provisionals, we may add that that gentleman's address is The Scottish High School, Byculla, Bombay.

\* \* \*

No less than five readers have written us concerning a stupid article in *Moonshine* headed "Cranks, the Stamp Collector." We see no ground for the many expressions of annoyance and alarm which this feeble philippic has aroused. It is very poor stuff, unworthy even of *Moonshine*. The five readers who are so exercised in their minds may take comfort from the fact that *Moonshine* is a paper which specially lays itself out to provide this sort of cheap satire and semi-humorous drivel. It is a pity, we grant, that the *Moonshine* scribe has seen fit to attribute dishonesty to all philatelists *holus boius*. "It is as well," we read, "when exhibiting a good collection to keep a watchful eye upon their (other philatelists') movements, for temptation is apt to prove strong sometimes and it is so easy to pick out from the stamp album some rare specimen and pocket it. All is fair in love and stamp collecting, so its followers seem to think." After this, the assertion that stamp collectors are utterly without conscience comes in the nature of an anti climax. Little wonder that *Moonshine* is believed in Fleet Street to be tottering on the verge of ruin if this is the best sort of stuff it can turn out.

\* \* \*

Mr. J. Seymour Summers, of Bombay, writes us that he has in his collection a pair of half-anna current Indian stamps, postally used and surcharged in purple with a device which consists of a sort of octagonal frame enclosing the inscription "On D.—B.S." Mr. Summers adds: "I have not been able up to the present to learn what this signifies, but it appears to me to be some kind of service stamp. The stamps in question were found in a lot of about five thousand current Indians. The impression is a roughly executed Maltese cross with short projecting points at all the eight angles. All the letters within the design are capitals. I note that the postmark on the stamps is dated 22nd October, '94, but I cannot find the least trace of any post or station. Perhaps, you may consider the matter of sufficient importance to merit a corner in your paper."



And, perhaps, some reader of the FORTNIGHTLY may be able to oblige Mr. Summers and ourselves with a solution of this little mystery.

\* \* \*

The writer of a letter recently referred to in this column concerning the pure and simple principle in Stamp Exchange Clubs, now writes as follows :—

In the very kind criticism to my defence of the Stamp Exchange Society you, generally, hit the nail on the head, but I must take exception to your assumption that I claim to have collected a 'vast collection of foreign stamps with absolutely nothing to begin with.' I have travelled considerably, though generally far from a post office, still my letters have been pooled eventually and frequently contained some such suggestion as this :—

"Now on receipt of this, old pal,  
(I care not whether 'boy' or 'gal,')  
Just save the stamp until I come  
From 'fornin parts' again to home."

How pleasant to receive the stamps on arrival with a kind but probably cynical remark of "Well, old chap, I've kept your rubbish for you."

Again when at home I must confess to being an arrant beggar, and often an epistle such as this sent to the West Indies brings its own reward.

"My request may strike you as queer,  
But then to the spot you are near,  
Whilst between us the wild waves are surgin',  
So old papers unearh at your ease,  
And all envelopes send if you please  
That are stamped with the sign of the Virgin."  
(Please excuse garrulity).

or "My friend far off in Surnam,  
Remember, dear, that here I am,  
And write me, sweet, a letter,  
Then stamp it well with every hue,  
The one cent grey, the five cent blue,  
The more there are, the better."

I have not yet been had up as a begging imposter and the amount of kindness I have received from numerous friends who have assisted me will ever make the recollections connected with many stamps in my collection exceedingly pleasant.

Occasionally, too, windfalls come most unexpectedly. Calling at a City Bank not long since, I casually asked the manager if he could give me any stamps. "Ting" went the bell, and when the commissioner appeared he was told to "get the stamps that had come in that morning," which were given me with the pleasing information that "its our custom to cut them off daily and give them to the first applicant." Again, on asking a lady whom I knew slightly if she could get me any stamps—I must say as a forlorn hope—she said she would try. On her next visit she appeared with a large paper bag full, which she had obtained from a warehouse where partnership had been dissolved at the moment and all old correspondence was being destroyed. I must confess, though, that another friend in the City has dangled before me the prospect of going into some vaults where piles of correspondence from British Guiana reposes when he has time—and that for five years he has never found the fitting moment.

I was also promised three books full of old stamps a year or so ago, only to be told a week or so afterwards "that my wife burnt them with other rubbish at the last spring cleaning. She had kept them for twenty years and wouldn't be bothered with them any longer.

"PREPARED TO BE PLEASED."

Messrs. Mekeel's International Postage stamp catalogue has arrived. For to cents it is a marvellous production and we are inclined to think that a price is put upon it simply because it is the general thing to mark a thing of this sort at some price or another. It would be impossible to say much about the International catalogue even if we had the space at our disposal. Imagine a copy of Scott's catalogue boiled down until all such minute varieties as watermarks and errors of surcharge &c., have evaporated into thin air; and you will have a very fair idea of the "International." It is a book that will undoubtedly prove a great boon to American collectors, and we shall await with interest the publication of a similar book on this side of the Atlantic.

## \* \* \* Review of Reviews. \* \* \*

### The London Society's Official Organ.

THE March *London Philatelist* is an excellent number, although it contains no individual item that is of particular attractiveness. It is a good all-round number, containing almost enough material to monopolize all the space that we are able to devote to our Review of Reviews.

#### PHILATELY ON THE RIVIERA

It appears that among the many birds of passage of various nationalities to be found every year at Nice, at Cannes, and at Mentone there are many philatelists from all parts. Messrs. Middleton, Avery, Hillman, and Castle are among the English stamp collectors who have resorted to the sunny south during the past few months. We are credibly informed (remarks Mr. Castle) by dealers in Nice and elsewhere that there is the keenest demand by visitors for fine stamps of all kinds—a demand, as may be imagined, far in excess of the local supply. The visitors to the south are of the most cosmopolitan order, and among the collectors are some from Russia and South-east Europe who would seem to be more eager purchasers than those from other parts.

#### THE "TAPLING" TREASURY GRANT.

It was announced some time ago in the newspapers and the fact was briefly commented upon in the FORTNIGHTLY, that the Treasury had granted a sum of money for the further arrangement and classification of the celebrated Taping collection of postage stamps, and the *London Philatelist* has some remarks to make in this connection. Says that journal: "The grant now made by the Treasury will cover the expenses of mounting the adhesive portion of the collection, but the final and difficult matter of the proper classification of the envelopes and postcards will remain a question for the future. The grant in the present instance is but a modest one, but is none the less to be welcomed as shewing that the Trustees of the British Museum are now imbued with a fuller appreciation of the importance of Mr. Taping's bequest to the nation."

Under the heading "Correspondence," several interesting communications appear. Mr. F. A. Bellamy, of Oxford, makes honourable amends to Mr. T. Martin Wears, of Dundee, whose literary index, published some years ago, in the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, was ignored, or almost ignored, in Mr. Bellamy's paper advocating the preparation of a general index of philatelic literature. In another letter, Mr. Bellamy fills over two columns of the *London Philatelist's* space with a dissertation on the question: "When are stamps not stamps?"

#### WHAT IS A STAMP?

Let us see how Mr. Bellamy defines a stamp. I think (says he) all must admit that the purpose of any stamp is to facilitate the collection and keeping of accounts for actual cost incurred or charge made or levied, and to make it apparent to the eye that an amount, either definitely expressed on the stamps (whether printed from engraved plates, types, woodblocks, or embossed), or tacitly understood, has been paid. Authorized to be paid by whom, and to whom? To the Government, if Government stamps; to the Telegraph Office if private telegraph stamps; to local bodies, if local stamps; and so on. The Government of a nation has no more exclusive right to a word than it has to the water in the middle of the Atlantic.

Thus does Mr. Bellamy protest against the dictum that private stamps are not stamps at all. And it must be admitted that his protest is not only a valid one, but is well and succinctly expressed.

There are still more good things in the *London Philatelist's* "Correspondence." Another writer points out that the official error of the English "Army—Navy" stamps has now been corrected, a tail having been added to the "i" to make it into an "l." This only so far as the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. value is concerned; but doubtless the 1d. stamp is being similarly treated.



Remarkable as the March number of the *London Philatelist* is for its varied contents, it is still more remarkable for what it does not contain at all. It has no reference to the (just now) burning question of the S.S.S.'s protracted nap.

### Thou Shalt not Collect Stamps.

The *Australian Philatelist* is a paper that always speaks its mind and generally has a very good mind to speak. That is what we like it for. In the last issue to hand, bearing date February 25th, we find the first editorial article devoted to a recent suggestion made by Mr. Castle in the *London Philatelist* that the Heads of the Colonial Governments, in order to shut the door against official dealing, should institute a rule forbidding any official in the various Post Office departments from collecting or dealing in postage stamps under pain of instant dismissal. "Peace," remarked Mr. Castle, in a characteristic peroration, "would then reign over Israel, and the soul of the philatelist be vexed no more."

Now the *Australian Philatelist* very properly takes exception to this extraordinary suggestion. To prevent a postal official pursuing his favourite hobby just because that favourite hobby happens to be remotely connected with his official duties, would be unjust in the extreme. We believe that such a rule already exists in the Post Office Department of Victoria, but we have seen lately how rigidly the rule is enforced. Mr. Hagen's paper goes on to say: "To debar the postal officials of the Australian colonies from collecting would be to rob the ranks of most of the advanced and enlightened philatelists reside ntin those colonies. We can confidently assert that every minister and departmental head in the seven colonies is, or has been, a collector and the subordinate officials who collect in an earnest and straightforward manner are legion. So long as they confine themselves to collecting pure and simple, whether by purchase or exchange, there can be no possible objection to the pursuit of a hobby which frequently enables them to render great assistance to the department they serve."

### Birmingham Goods.

The *Philatelic Chronicle* of Birmingham, is a little paper we always read with a great deal of pleasure. We regret, however, that there is a great deal of nonsense in the February issue on the subject of Nova Scotia. It is stated, editorially, that "the statement that sets were seriously offered at 2/6 each is a myth pure and simple." Is it? How does the *Philatelic Chronicle* know that? It strikes us that this Birmingham print simply takes its time on this subject from other papers which happen to be equally ill-informed. The most desperate efforts of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, to disprove our statement that the offer was made have signally failed. It would be better if papers of the *Philatelic Chronicle* class were to be a little less cocksure in their assertions. This particular pronouncement that we have quoted is specially impudent when one considers all the circumstances.

### Mr. Heygate's Third Number.

*Stamps* is evidently going strong. Number 3, dated March 31st, contains three special articles, entitled—"Australian Roulettes," "The Eternal Catalogue Question" and "Jamaica," in addition to the usual features. "Retlaw," the writer of the monthly Review, concluding a kindly notice of the FORTNIGHTLY, remarks "We wonder now what would be the feelings of Mr. Harry Hilks (*sic*) were he going to 391, Strand, for a half-sovereign's worth of Nova Scotia Remainers." It will probably be many years before our Mr. Hilckes goes to the Strand for such a purpose. Nova Scotia Remainers are not yet down to their real level of value.

### A "RUSTIC" ON STAMP AUCTIONS.

A correspondent, writing to this same number of *Stamps*, lets himself go on the subject of philatelic auctions. Two or three years ago (he writes) I went to a sale held by a well-known auctioneer (not far from the Strand), in which there was not a single lot fine enough to tempt me to bid. Again, quite recently I looked through some three hundred lots (previous to the sale), in the rooms of one of our best auctioneers, and I can honestly say that there were not more

than six stamps among the whole lot that I should care to place in my albums. Owing to this state of things I have, very unwillingly, given up buying stamps on commission, and when I go up to town to overhaul, previous to bidding, I don't trouble myself to look at any lots except those printed in large type, or described as "superb." I fear the fact is it takes so long to realise on stamps at auction, and the commission charged by auctioneers is so high, that the holders of really first class stamps prefer to realise them by some other method.

A likely letter to provoke some very lively correspondence, we should say!

### Mr. Nankivell Reproved.

The latest issue to hand of the *Australian Philatelist* devotes an editorial article to Mr. E. J. Nankivell, drawing attention to certain strong remarks in that gentleman's English letter to the *American Journal of Philately*. Mr. Nankivell, writing about the London Philatelic Society, committed himself to the following declaration: "Truly the premier society will have to look to its laurels if it is to maintain its proud position, for it is fast being robbed of them one by one. The Gibbons' Handbooks altogether take the shine out of the African work of the Society with its scandalous rag-and-bone shop style of printing in battered letters and wrong founts, and the country societies are not too overweighted with dukes and noble lords to indulge in the pleasant pastime of rooking each other in exchange sheets."

For a member of the London Society (comments the *Australian Philatelist*) to write such remarks for publication, argues a lack of something. Is it his interest in the society, or the society's interest in him?

It is an open secret that this very paragraph that we quote above has caused much heartburning at Effingham House, South Croydon, and elsewhere. The London Philatelic Society is jealous of its reputation—and rightly so.

### "Dicky Sam," Month by Month.

In the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* for April 15th, there is the usual space devoted to "Wheels within Wheels," which might better be headed "'Dicky Sam,' Month by Month." We have no doubt that the person, whoever he may be, who conceals his identity under the pen's name of "Dicky Sam," is feeling mightily proud just now of his literary achievements, if we may so speak of his journalistic work without a too great distortion of the English language. "Dicky Sam" has now dropped the subject of the Liverpool Society, but it crops up again in the letter of the *P.J.G.B.'s* Manchester correspondent who styles himself "Free Lance." We do not know who "Free Lance" is, indeed for all that we know to the contrary "Free Lance" and "Dicky Sam" might be one and the same person. "'Dicky Sam,'" writes "Free Lance," "as a member, has a perfect right to criticise the Liverpool Philatelic Society if he thinks it is not working on the best lines." Quite so. But "Dicky Sam" has not the same right to write to various persons and papers under various names calling attention to the enormities of "Dicky Sam." It will astonish many readers to know that when we admonished "Dicky Sam," for his strictures on the Liverpool Society, we did so at the direct instigation of "Dicky Sam" himself, although we were quite in ignorance of the fact that our indignant correspondent and "Dicky Sam" were one and the same person. It is quite easy for a child of six to follow out the tactics of such a man as "Dicky Sam," and when he has only busy editors to deal with the trick can be done with perfect impunity, but some people with quaint, old-world notions and straightforwardness and respectability would call it a dirty sort of business. A question of taste, that is all.

In its "Philately Month by Month," the *P.J.G.B.* announces another secession from the S.S.S.S., this time Mr. Andreini, of New York. Mr. Andreini's reason for retiring is that the S.S.S.S. (the American edition), had no power to enforce its ideas concerning speculative stamps, and having no power, there was no reason or justification for its existence.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 164).

Mr. HADLOW, March 25th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
a	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamps), 2 rupees *	1 1 0
a	ditto, 2 rupees *	0 15 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue	1 10 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1 16 0
c	Great Britain, 10d. octagonal, die 4, threads partly splitting paper *	1 10 0
b	10/- green-grey, Anchor ..	0 18 0
a b	20/- lilac-brown, Anchor, vert. pair	3 6 0
a	Lagos, 2 6 olive-black *	3 15 0
a	5/- blue *	7 5 0
a	Mauritius, Greek Border, 1d. red, on piece	1 19 0
a	Britannia (4d.) green *	1 1 0
a	ditto, 4d. black and green, on piece	3 0 0
b	ditto, 1/- green, imperf. *	1 8 0
b	ditto, 1/- dark green, perf. *	0 18 0
a	5/- red-purple *	0 18 0
b	United States (1869), 24c.	0 16 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18kr. blue, imperf., no thread	0 19 0
A	Zululand, 5/- rose, on piece	2 12 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., March 26th, 1897.

c	Afghanistan (1293), ½ rupee green *	1 10 0
b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), 3 rupees, on piece	1 6 0
b	Canada, 10d. blue on thin paper	0 16 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, imperf., small margins	9 0 0
b c	8d. brown, ditto, touched at left	3 0 0
a	Gambia, 6d. blue, CC. *	0 17 0
a b	Great Britain, £5 orange, telegraph cancel ..	2 2 0
b c	India, Service, 2a. black on long lilac	1 6 0
b	Natal, 4d. brown, perf. 12½ *	0 19 0
a b	Nevis, 1/- pale green, litho. *	1 0 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½ gr. green	0 15 0
a	Queensland (1882), £1 green *	0 19 0
a	Roumania (1891), 1½b. lake, printed both sides	1 0 0
b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. ..	3 0 0
c	Tolima, first issue, 5c. on blue laid batonné, penmark	1 3 0
a	(1884), 10 pesos rose *	1 5 0
c	Uruguay, block letters, 18oc. green, fair, but thinned ..	1 2 0
b	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12	2 0 0
a b	Zululand, 5/- rose, pmk. somewhat heavy	2 12 6

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, March 30th and 31st, 1897.

a	Antigua, 6d. green, no wmk. *	0 15 0
b	1/- lilac	0 13 0
b	British Columbia, Vancouver, 10c. blue, imperf.	1 0 0
a	10c. rose, perf. 14, badly centred *	11 0 0
a	50c. lilac, ditto *	2 2 0
a	1 dollar green, perf. 12½ *	3 15 0
b	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue, white line *	1 18 0
a c	ditto, ditto, strip of 3, on entire	2 12 6
b	ditto, ditto, strip of 3, ditto	2 4 0
a b	(1862), 4c. blue, trefoil, full roulettes	6 10 0
b	British Honduras, 3c. on 3d. brown, perf. 14	0 15 0
b	Brunswick, 3sgr. black on rose *	1 18 0
b	Buenos Ayres, 2 pesos blue	15/- and 0 18 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green	2 0 0
a b	ditto	£1 14s. od. and 1 16 0
b	10d. blue on thin paper, two	each 1 0 0
b	Columbia (1862), 20c. red, good but cut to shape	2 10 0
c	Dominica, 6d. orange	16/- and 1 2 0
b c	1/- lilac-rose, CA., somewhat rubbed	4 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s d.
b	Fiji, 2c. blue, Gothic scg. ..	1 4 0
b	Great Britain, ½d. red., plate 8, imperf., on piece	0 17 0
b	2d. blue, no lines *	1 10 0
a b	2/- brown	2 5 0
b	ditto ..	1 8 0
b	5/- rose, plate 1 *	1 0 0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	0 17 0
b	Ionian Islands, red	1 18 0
a	Madagascar, Norwegian Missionary Society, 5v., penmarked, on piece ..	0 17 0
b	Mecklenburg Schwerin, 2sch. lilac	2 0 0
a	Monaco, first issue, 5 francs *	1 7 0
b	Natal, 1/- green, Postage 15mm. ..	2 16 0
b	Nevis, 6d. lilac-grey on bluish	0 18 0
b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 ..	0 17 0
a	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	3 3 0
b	Newfoundland, 8d. carmine-red *	0 16 0
a	New South Wales, Diadem, 6d. mauve, wmk. 12 *	1 2 0
a	Oil Rivers, ¾d. red, block, on 2½d. *	1 3 0
a	¾d. green, block, ditto ..	0 18 0
a	¾d. green, italics, ditto ..	1 5 0
a	1/- violet on 2d. *	1 3 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 1gr. blue *	1 6 0
a	ditto, 2gr. red *	1 8 0
b	Pacific S. N. Co., 1 real lake on laid *	0 18 0
a	St. Christopher, Antigua, 1d., perf. 14, used, on entire	0 16 0
a	4d. blue, CA. ..	6 0 0
A	6d. olive-brown *	2 0 0
a b	ditto, used	2 12 0
a	St. Lucia, 1/- black and orange	3 10 0
a	1/- orange-brown, penmarked	£1 7s. od. and 1 10 0
a b	St. Vincent, 4d. deep blue, star	1 8 0
b	South Australia, 9d. violet, perf., printed at back	0 18 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. ..	3 10 0
a	Turks Islands, ¾d. on 4d. grey, pair *	4 15 0
a	ditto, a single *	2 15 0
A	2½d. on 6d. (type 6) *	1 6 0
b c	Tuscany, 60 cr. brown-red, on entire, with 4 common	9 0 0
b	United States, (1869) 9oc.	1 8 0
b	Victoria, Beaded Oval, 6d. orange, full perfs., well centred	4 15 0
b c	ditto, ditto, perfs. cut at right	2 10 0
a b	10d. slate	1 1 0
b	Too Late, two	each 1 4 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. red-brown, CA.	0 15 6
a	6d. violet, pair ..	2 8 0
a	1/- stone	1 17 0
b	Western Australia, 6d. black-bronze, roulette 3 sides	4 4 0
a b	ditto, grey-black, full roulettes, on entire	2 17 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, April 5th and 6th, 1897.

a	Afghanistan, (1291), shahi purple, pair *	1 18 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose, very thin paper	2 2 0
a b	5/- rose, two	each 1 14 0
b	ditto ..	1 7 0
a	Bavaria, (1850), 9k. green, sheet of 45 *	6 0 0
a	ditto, 12k. red, ditto *	10 10 0
a	ditto, 18k. yellow, ditto *	12 0 0
b	Belgium, second issue, 20c. blue, wmk. framed *	2 14 0
b	British Columbia, Vancouver, 10c. blue, imperf.	1 0 0
a	25c. orange, perf. 12½ *	16/- and 0 17 0
a b	50c. violet, ditto, used	0 19 0
a b	Canada, 10d. blue, on thin paper	0 19 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue	1 12 0
a	Ceylon, 9d. violet-brown, imperf.	2 2 0
b	10d. vermilion, ditto	0 17 0
A	2/- blue, enormous and straight margins	14 10 0
a b	5d. brown, no wmk.	1 3 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA. *	2 10 0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet *	1 0 0
b	Griqualand, Mount Currie Express, 1d. green, vert. pair *	1 10 0
b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown	0 15 0
a	Italy (1856), 20c. pale blue *	0 18 0
a	Lagos, 10/- lilac-brown, specimen	1 3 0
a	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium early, on entire	12 10 0
b	Small Fillet, 2d. worn, on entire ..	0 19 0
a	Greek Border, 2d. blue ..	1 8 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a b	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	0 17 0
a	1d. carmine, CA., perf. 12 * .. ..	0 18 0
b c	4d. blue, CA., fair, but dirty .. ..	2 2 0
a	Natal, 1/- buff, cut small (21 x 27mm.), very clear, on piece .. ..	4 0 0
a b	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac .. ..	15/- and 0 17 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13, two .. ..	each 0 19 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 .. ..	1 9 0
a	2½d. brown, CC. * two .. ..	each 1 2 0
b	4d. blue, CA. * two .. ..	each 0 18 0
a	6d. green * .. ..	6 15 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange * .. ..	19/- and 1 1 0
b	5c. brown * .. ..	0 17 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2 .. ..	1 0 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue, on entire .. ..	1 8 0
b	3d. brown-lilac, roulette .. ..	1 6 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1/- purple .. ..	12 0 0
b	Oldenburg, third issue, 1gr. blue * .. ..	0 18 0
a	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC. * .. ..	£1 18. od. and 1 2 0
b	ditto * .. ..	0 18 0
a	6d. olive-brown, block of 4 * .. ..	6 5 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star .. ..	2 6 0
b	ditto .. ..	2 0 0
a b	(6d.) green, star .. ..	£1 17s. od., £2, £2 and 2 2 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange .. ..	1 0 0
a	1/- blue .. ..	2 10 0
b	Shanghai, 1 cand. blue, on 9 cand. blue * .. ..	1 2 0
1a 1b	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf., London print, pair .. ..	2 16 0
b	ditto, ditto, Colonial print, a single .. ..	1 3 0
b	4d. violet, V and Crown .. ..	1 14 0
b	Spain, Madrid, 1 cuarto bronze, on entire (1868), 19c. brown * .. ..	1 12 0
a	Switzerland (1852), 15c. red * .. ..	1 15 0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. * .. ..	7 0 0
b	ditto, used .. ..	3 0 0
a	1/- green .. ..	2 15 0
2a 1b	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½, strip of 3 * .. ..	1 1 0
a	ditto, a pair .. ..	2 16 0
a b	ditto, a single * .. ..	1 19 0
b	Tuscany, 1 soldo, orange on blue .. ..	0 19 0
a b	United States, New York, 5c. black, signed * .. ..	1 4 0
b	5c. red-brown, imperf. .. ..	1 4 0
a	(1856), 90c. blue .. ..	1 2 0
a	(1861), 5c. mustard .. ..	3 7 6
b	(1868), 90c. blue, grill .. ..	1 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12, pair * .. ..	1 8 0
a	ditto, a single * .. ..	1 6 0
b c	1/- crimson, single line * .. ..	0 15 0
b	ditto, double line * .. ..	1 15 0
a	2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	2 17 6
a	4d. red-brown, CA. .. ..	1 4 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red, printed both sides .. ..	1 2 0
a	1/- brown, pair .. ..	0 19 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. violet .. ..	1 13 0
		0 16 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, April 6th and 7th, 1897.

a	Afghanistan (1295), rupee yellow * .. ..	1 3 0
a	Antigua, 1/- lilac * .. ..	1 0 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose, "Specimen" .. ..	0 15 0
a	British Guiana (1860), 12c. violet, perf. 15 * .. ..	2 2 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red .. ..	2 4 0
b c	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, CA., gum, but dirty * .. ..	4 0 0
A	ditto, "Specimen" .. ..	4 18 0
a b	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown .. ..	2 2 0
b	India (1854), 1a. red, pin perf. .. ..	0 18 0
A	Labuan, 6c. on 40c. amber, inverted surcharge * .. ..	0 15 0
a	Nevis, 1/- pale green, litho * .. ..	2 0 0
a	4d. blue .. ..	1 5 0
b	New South Wales, Diadem, 2d. blue, wmk. 5, imperf. * .. ..	1 17 0
a	(1888), 5/- purple * .. ..	2 7 6
A	ditto, 20/- blue * .. ..	1 4 0
b	New Zealand, 1d. brown, no wmk. .. ..	3 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, diagonal half of 10c. on entire .. ..	0 17 0
a	St. Lucia, (4d.) yellow, CC. perf. 12½, pair * .. ..	1 10 0
A	(6d.) lilac, ditto, ditto, pair * .. ..	1 16 0
A	(1/-) orange-red, ditto, ditto, pair * .. ..	2 12 6
a b	St. Vincent, 6d. green, no wmk. perf. about 15 * .. ..	5 0 0
b	Transvaal, "Een Penny" inverted on 4d. * .. ..	1 3 0
		1 1 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, April 8th and 9th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
A	Zululand, 5/- rose * .. ..	2 17 6
a b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac. * .. ..	£1 28. od. and 1 4 0
a	ditto, used .. ..	1 4 0
a b	ditto, two .. ..	each 1 2 0
a b	Bergedorf, ½ sch. black on blue .. ..	£1 6s. od. and 2 0 0
a	1 sch. black on white, on large piece, showing town pmk. .. ..	5 0 0
b	ditto .. ..	£1 10s. od and 1 18 0
a b	1½sch. black on yellow, on pieces, .. ..	£1 16s. od., £2 0s. od. and 2 6 0
b	3 sch. blue on rose, on very small piece .. ..	4 8 0
a b	ditto .. ..	£2 2s. od. and 2 5 0
a b	4sch. black on brown, on pieces, .. ..	£4 4s. od., £4 10s. od. and 4 15 0
b c	Bremen, 2gr. orange, percé .. ..	1 8 0
a	3gr., ditto, on entire .. ..	1 7 0
b	10gr., ditto * .. ..	1 8 0
b	5sgr., ditto * .. ..	1 16 0
a b	10gr., perf. .. ..	2 14 0
b	British Columbia, 10c. pink, perf. 12½ * .. ..	2 0 0
a	10c. pink, perf. 14, pair, mint, but badly centred * .. ..	18 18 0
a	1 dollar green, perf. 12½, pair * .. ..	6 0 0
b	ditto, a single * .. ..	2 10 0
b	British Guiana (1862), 4c. blue, pearls and hearts, roulettes partly blind * .. ..	9 0 0
b	Brunswick, 3sgr. black on rose * .. ..	1 10 0
b	½sgr. black on white, percé, on piece .. ..	1 3 0
a	1sgr. black on yellow, percé .. ..	3 15 0
a	2sgr. black on blue, ditto * .. ..	£1 3s. od. and 1 4 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue .. ..	2 0 0
a b	Ceylon, 5d. brown, imperf. * .. ..	1 14 0
b	10d. vermilion, do. * .. ..	1 12 0
a	1/9 green, perf. * .. ..	3 6 0
a	2/- blue, star, perf. * .. ..	1 6 0
a	5d. red-brown, no wmk. ... ..	1 12 0
b	2d. emerald, CC. * .. ..	1 8 0
a	5d. purple-brown, CC. * .. ..	9 5 0
b	ditto, one corner perf. gone, otherwise mint * .. ..	9 0 0
a	2r. 50c. red-brown * .. ..	4 15 0
b	Denmark, 8sk. green, wavy spandrels, roulette .. ..	1 1 0
b	Fernando Poo, first issue, 20c. brown .. ..	1 8 0
a	French Colonies, 25c. black on red * .. ..	1 16 0
b	Great Britain (1857), 1d. pale rose, large Crown, imperf. * .. ..	1 2 0
a b	2/- brown .. ..	2 0 0
b	ditto .. ..	£1 16 0 and 1 17 0
a	10/- grey-green, anchor, on bluish .. ..	2 0 0
a	ditto, on white. . . . .	1 14 0
a b	ditto .. ..	1 10 0
a	£1 brown-lilac, anchor, on bluish .. ..	£2 12s. od. and 2 14 0
a	ditto, ditto, on white .. ..	2 2 0
a	£5 orange, accounts cancel .. ..	£2 6s. od. and 2 12 0
b	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf. .. ..	£1 12s. od. and 1 16 0
b	9sch. yellow, ditto .. ..	3 17 6
a	7sch. orange, perf. * .. ..	1 10 0
a	9sch. yellow, perf. .. ..	£1 10s. od. and 1 16 0
a	ditto, with round town pmk. .. ..	2 2 0
b	Hanover, first issue, 1gr. blue * .. ..	4 4 0
b	(1856), ½t. orange, coloured net * .. ..	4 0 0
a	10gr. green * .. ..	3 3 0
a b	ditto, used .. ..	£1 16s. od., £2, and 2 4 0
a b	Heligoland, 5 marks .. ..	2 16 0
a	Hong Kong, 96c. yellow-brown .. ..	1 0 0
b	10 dollars rose. . . . .	1 10 0

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One-Eighth Page .. ..	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page .. do.	0 12 6

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Half Column .. ..	0 18 0	Half Column .. ..	0 15 0
Quarter Column .. ..	0 10 0	Quarter Column .. do.	0 8 6
One Inch .. ..	0 5 0	One Inch .. ..	0 3 6

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To be followed by a **Sale** on **May 25th and 26th**, when a very **Fine Private Collection** will be sold. Amongst other **Rarities** may be mentioned—Great Britain, V.R., 1d. black, 3 copies unused in mint state. Cape, woodblocks, 1d. red, unused and others. Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. unused, and 2d. large fillet, etc. Canada, 6d., perf., unused. New Brunswick, 1/- mauve. Newfoundland, 6d. carmine, used and 6½d. carmine, unused. A superb lot of the **West Indies**, many of the countries being complete both in used and unused, and the **Nevis**, including several entire reconstructed plates. **New Zealand**, half of 1/- on blue paper, used provisionally as 6d. on entire. **Tasmania**, 1d. blue, unused with gum, and many other **Fine Stamps**.

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- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Great Britain (4 vols).</li> <li>2. Austria-Hungary (2 vols). [Lubeck.</li> <li>3. Baden, Bergedorf, Bremen, Brunswick, Hamburg, Hanover,</li> <li>4. Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Schleswig.</li> <li>5. Bavaria.</li> <li>6. Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, and Ionian Islands.</li> <li>7. Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Danish West Indies.</li> <li>8. Wurtemberg and Finland.</li> <li>9. France and United Colonies.</li> <li>10. Germany.</li> <li>11. Greece.</li> <li>12. Spain.</li> <li>13. Siam, Borneo, Sarawak, and Labuan.</li> <li>14. Ceylon.</li> <li>15. Portuguese Indies.</li> <li>16. St. Helena, B. E. Africa Co. and Protectorate, B. S. Africa Co.</li> <li>17. Gambia, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Lagos, Niger Coast, and</li> <li>18. Nevis and Antigua. [Oil Rivers.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>19. Virgin Islands, Falklands, Leewards, and Bahamas.</li> <li>20. Barbados and Grenada.</li> <li>21. Trinidad, Jamaica, Tobago, Turks Islands, and Bermudas.</li> <li>22. Canada, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince</li> <li>23. British Guiana. Edward Island and British Columbia.</li> <li>24. St. Lucia and British Honduras.</li> <li>25. Colombian Republic.</li> <li>26. U.S.A. and Confederate States (3 vols).</li> <li>27. Dominica, St. Kitts, and Montserrat.</li> <li>28. Peru and Uruguay.</li> <li>29. St. Vincent.</li> <li>30. N.S.W., Tonga, and Cook Islands.</li> <li>31. Queensland and West Australia.</li> <li>32. Hong Kong and India.</li> <li>33. B.C.A., British Central Africa, British Bechuanaland, Zululand, Swaziland, and Stellaland.</li> <li>34. Victoria.</li> </ol> |
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Other Countries are being made up, and will be advertised in due course.

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" " " " " " "	" " "	4.50
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Gambia, 6d. blue, no wmk., unused .. .. .	1	5	0
" 4d. brown, CC. .. .. .	1	10	0
" 6d. blue, CC. .. .. .	1	7	6
Barbados, 1/2d. green, perf. 12 1/2, CC., unused .. .. .	0	6	6
" 4d. vermilion .. .. .	1	5	0
" 4d. carmine, perf. 14, .. .. .	1	3	6
" 6d. orange .. .. .	0	6	6
" 1/- purple .. .. .	8	10	6
" 5 - ochre .. CA. .. .. .	1	7	6
Montserrat, 2 1/2d. brown .. CC. .. .. .	1	10	0
" 2 1/2d. .. CA. .. .. .	1	7	6
Grenada, 6d. lilac .. .. .	0	3	6
" 8d. brown .. .. .	0	7	0
B. Honduras, 1/- green, no wmk., used .. .. .	0	12	6
" 6d. carmine, perf. 14, CC., used .. .. .	1	5	0
" 6d. .. .. unused .. .. .	3	15	0
Lagos, 1d. lilac, perf. 12 1/2, CC., unused .. .. .	0	5	0
" 2d. blue .. .. .	1	0	0
" 3d. red-brown, perf. 12 1/2, CC., unused .. .. .	1	7	0
" 4d. carmine .. .. .	1	10	0
" 6d. green .. .. .	1	0	0
Gold Coast, 1d. blue .. .. .	2	7	6
" 1d. .. .. used .. .. .	1	2	6
" 6d. orange .. .. unused .. .. .	2	0	0
" 6d. .. .. used .. .. .	0	10	0
Lagos, 2d. blue, perf. 14, CA., unused .. .. .	1	17	6
Zanzibar, 3 annas to 5 rupees, late Sultan, set of 11 values, unused .. .. .	2	10	0
Nevis, 4d. rose on grey, fine, unused .. .. .	4	0	0
Transvaal, 1/- green, 2 shafts (rare), unused .. .. .	1	7	6
B. East Africa, 2 1/2 red on 4 1/2 (rare) .. .. .	4	0	0
B. South Africa, 10/- green, 1891 .. .. .	0	17	6
" 1 blue .. .. .	1	17	6

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	s.	d.
ALL PICKED SPECIMENS (WITH FIGURES AT BACK).		
Paris Print, 10 lep. orange .. .. .	10	0
Athens .. 5 .. green (1st type of 5 at back) .. .. .	1	6
" .. 20 .. blue on greenish .. .. .	1	6
" .. 20 .. 1871. light blue, dotted neck .. .. .	2	6
" .. 20 .. blue on deep blue .. .. .	2	6
" .. 40 .. flesh on bluish .. .. .	5	0
" .. 40 .. bistre on bluish, unused .. .. .	5	0
" .. 10 .. orange on cream, error "oo" .. .. .	4	6
" .. 20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted .. .. .	7	6
" .. 40 .. flesh on cream, unused .. .. .	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK).

Paris Print, 1876, 30 lep. olive brown .. .. .	3	6
" .. 60 .. green .. .. .	3	0
Athens .. 60 .. green on buff .. .. .	4	6
" .. 10 lep. deep orange on cream, rare .. .. .	5	0
" .. 20 .. ultramarine .. .. .	2	6

Scientifically arranged Approval Books will be sent to responsible applicants on receipt of references.

**P. LOINES PEMBERTON,**

53, Gwendwr Road, West Kensington,

LONDON, W.,

# WANTED.

## Mint Unused English Stamps.

HIGH PRICES GIVEN.

### H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN,

32, Palace Square, NORWOOD, S.E.

THIS WEEK'S BARGAINS.		s. d.
Queensland, 3d., "Large Star," unused o.g. (catalogued 30/-) ..	..	11 6
<b>BULUWAYO PROVISIONALS ON CAPE</b> (With Harry Hilckes' guarantee).		
Unused set of 6, ½d. to 6d. on Cape ..	..	15 0
Used " " " " ..	..	17 6
1/- on Cape, unused ..	..	15 0
1/- " used ..	..	17 6
3d. on 5/-, B.S.A., unused ..	..	15 0
ZANZIBAR, Head of late Sultan, complete set of 14, ½a. to 5 rupees (rare, used), catalogued £5 10s. ..	..	70 0
O.F.S., error Half PEUNY } the pair	..	7 6
" " no stop	..	7 6
½ on 3d., double surcharge, used ..	..	2 6

**CHARLES T. REED,** 28, Manchester Square,  
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Collections and Loose Stamps bought.  
HIGH PRICES GIVEN.

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	s. d.
Great Britain, 1d red, Plate Nos., complete set, fine copies ..	11 6
United States, 30c., Columbus ..	1 0
Horta, 1892-3, complete set of 12, unused ..	3 0
Angra, " " " " ..	3 0
British Guiana, 1860, block of 8, 1c. black, unused	3 0

Selections sent on approval.

WANTED 1 UNUSED JAMAICA. [13

#### NOTE THIS LIST!

To be continued in our next.		All fine copies.	
	* Unused.		s. d.
Antigua, 1d., star ..	..	..	1 9
" " 6d. " ..	..	..	3 0
" " 1d. " CC., perf. 12½ ..	..	..	3 6
" " 1d. " CC., perf. 12½ ..	..	..	2 0
" " 6d. " ..	..	..	2 6
" " 2½d. " brown ..	..	..	40 0
" " 4d. " blue ..	..	..	2 6
" " 4d. CA. ..	..	..	2 6
" " 6d. " perf. 14 ..	..	..	6 0
" " 1/- " lilac ..	..	..	22 6
Bahamas, 1862, 1d., perf. 12½ ..	..	..	3 6
" " 1875, 1d., CC., perf. 14 ..	..	..	2 0
" " 4d., rose ..	..	..	2 6
Barbados, imperf., ½d. green ..	..	..	5 0
" " 1d. blue ..	..	..	2 6
" " 6d. rose ..	..	..	8 6
" " ½d., white paper ..	..	..	15 0
" " 1d. ..	..	..	17 6
" " 1d., blue paper ..	..	..	8 0
" " 1d. rose, perf. 14 ..	..	..	20 0

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#### HAVE YOU SPACES FOR THESE?

	s. d.
CEYLON, imperf., 10d. ..	17 6
" " 1/- ..	9 0
ST. CHRISTOPHER, 2½, CC. * ..	28 6
ST. LUCIA, star, 6d. green ..	57 0
" " 1d. red * ..	15 0
" " CC., 1d. lake * ..	10 0
" " 6d. green * ..	10 0
" " 14, 4d. yellow * ..	9 0
MONTSERRAT, 6d. green ..	9 0
B.E.A., ½a. on 3a., Manuscript ..	17 0
NOVA SCOTIA, half of 10c. used as 5c. on original (Auction £3 15s.) ..	46 0
Mulready Wrapper ..	10 6

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(Current Unused).

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1d., 3d., 6d., unused ..	12/6
3d. " " ..	7/6

#### SIERRA LEONE PROV.:

1d. lilac and green, black  
surcharge, unused 1/- each; 8/6 doz.

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ST. CLEMENT'S, JERSEY. [1

## CAMPBELL, INGLES & CO.,

12, Tower Buildings, CARLISLE.

	s. d.
English, "Army Official," ½d. ..	3 6
" " " 1d. ..	3 6
" " " Army Official, ½d., 1d. and 2½d. ..	0 6
Grenada, 1/- violet, CA. ..	20 0
U.S.A., 1867, 1½c., grill, 11 x 13 ..	12 6
" " 1879, 90c. carmine ..	2 0

Send for Approval Selections of  
Colonials. 50% Discount. [1

Edinburgh Sale Catalogues on application.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 69—Vol. III                      SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1897.                      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society.    Cambridge University Philatelic Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society.    The City of London Philatello Club.    Roohdale Philatello Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Sheffield Philatello Society.

## Special List for the Month.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Cyprus, C. and CC., 4 piastres, unused ...	1	2	6	<b>New South Wales.</b>			
"    "    "    "    used ...	0	15	0	1860, perf. 12, 5/- purple (Gibbons', £5)	2	10	0
British East Africa, first issue, 4a. on 5a.	1	15	0	Perf. 10, wmk. 5/-, 5/- purple, unused...	1	15	0
Ionian Isles, the red stamp, used ...	1	12	6	"    "    very deep shade ..	1	17	6
Straits Settlements, CC., 12½, 96 cents,				1888, 6d. carmine, double print ...	2	2	0
unused ...	3	0	0	<b>New Zealand.</b>			
Brazil, first issue, imperf., the complete				Imperf., no wmk., blue paper, 1/- green,			
set of three, unused ...	4	17	6	slightly defective ...	1	10	0
Bermuda, CC., 12½ and 14, 3d. yell., unused	0	15	0	Imperf., no wmk., soft white paper, 1d.			
"    "    "    "    used ...	0	6	0	orange, unused ...	2	10	0
British Guiana, thick paper, perf. 12,				Imperf., star, 1d. vermilion, unused ...	1	2	6
1 cent brown-red ...	1	10	0	Perf., wmk. star, 1d. brown, pair, unused	0	11	6
St. Vincent, star, 5/- rose-red, surcharged				"    "    3d. lilac ..	0	14	6
" Revenue" ...	2	10	0	"    "    1/- green ..	1	10	0
United States, 5 cents mustard ...	0	19	0	<b>South Australia, imperf., wmk. star, 1d.</b>			
"    "    1869, 30 cents, unused ...	1	10	0	deep green ...	1	5	0
Dominica, C.A., 14, 1/- lilac-rose, unused	3	17	6	<b>Tasmania, imperf., wmk. star, 1d. dull</b>			
Nevis, CA., 14, 6d. red-brown, unused ...	0	12	6	carmine ...	1	12	6
"    "    1/- mauve, unused ...	2	10	0				

### SPECIAL LINE!

CYPRUS, Die II., 30p., ½, 1, 2, 4, 6 and 12 piastres, unused ... *the set* 1 2 6

## HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON,

E.C.



**Doings of Societies.**

**CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.**

Committee for Season 1896-1897

*Vice-Presidents:*

Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

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Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Buhl, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, & H. Atherley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE fourteenth meeting was held on May 3rd, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., the following members being present: Messrs. C. Forbes, H. Hilckes, J. E. Josehn, H. Thompson, D. T. Nops, T. H. Thompson, J. B. Camaschella, N. Z. Dracachis, H. W. Plumridge, H. Atherley, L. Bruce, H. A. MacMillan, G. Gilbert, F. Vandenbrancque, D. Thomson, and J. B. Neyron, when our Sixteenth Auction Sale was held.

The next Meeting will be held on **Monday, May 17th.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

At the forthcoming **London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals** will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, The Philatelic Record, and The Collecta-Dealer.*

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt, Sammler Borse, Der Briefmarkenhandler.*

From United States: *The Post Office, The Columbian Philatelist, The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society, The Weekly Stamp News, and The Year Book of the American Stamp Exchange.*

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE thirteenth ordinary meeting was held at Bird's Restaurant, April 7th.

The President, Mr. Chapman, took the chair, supported by eight of the members.

Mr. Sneath proposed Mr. Barber, of Sheffield as a new member, seconded by Mr. Hawley.

Mr. Creswick very kindly sent his magnificent collection for the members to examine, which was a treat to all the members, for his

British Central Africans, British East Africans and British South Africans were complete, together with fine East Africans on Indian, and also the last issues of Zanzibar. Then again, there was an excellent display of English and a beautiful lot of "Pence" Ceylon.

The President moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Creswick.

The fourteenth meeting was held at the same rendezvous on April 21st. The President, Mr. Chapman, took the chair, supported by five members.

Mr. Barber, of Sheffield, was balloted for and elected unanimously. Mr. Hawley's proposition for the purchase of the polling books for the Library, "South Australia" and "St. Vincent" was unanimously endorsed.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE fourteenth meeting was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, April 7th. Mr. H. W. Mayne in the chair, supported by eight members and one visitor. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, and Mr. Monk, of Tavistock, was balloted for and duly elected a corresponding member.

The subject for study, the stamps of "British South Africa," was introduced by Mr. Walker. He gave a most interesting and exhaustive paper, dealing with the country from the date the Chartered Company were given control to the present time. Each of the issues were dealt with very minutely, the alteration in design, paper, and perforation being given. The so-called "Buluwayo Provisionals" were dealt with at some length, particulars of the numbers stated to have been printed and the errors to be found being given. His remarks were illustrated throughout with the exhibition of his own collection, and in addition he had obtained, through the kindness of the Secretary of the Sheffield Society, three complete unused sheets of the 1d., 6d., and 1/- of Issue I, and four sheets of the 3d., 3d., and 8d. of Issue III, by which the members were shown the position of the watermarks, and also the number of stamps showing watermarked and the number unwatermarked.

At the close of an interesting discussion, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the lecturer, the members expressing their kind appreciation of Mr. Walker's efforts in securing the sheets of unused stamps for their inspection.

The fifteenth meeting was held at No. 9a, Princess Square, on Wednesday, April 21st, the Vice-President occupying the chair. The evening was devoted to a discussion on "What to Collect." In a most interesting introduction the Vice-President gave the members what, in his opinion, he considered an English collector should collect. His remarks produced an interesting discussion. Mr. W. J. W. Miller, hon. sec., 5, Athenaeum Terrace.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT the usual fortnightly meeting on Friday, April 23rd, at the Grand Hotel, Mr. G. B. Duerst read a paper on the stamps of Parma. The Duke of Parma at time of the introduction of postage stamps was Charles the Third of Bourbon, who was assassinated in March, 1854. His son Robert then reigned under the Regency of his mother, Louise Marie Theresa, but in 1859 the Duchy was incorporated in the Kingdom of Italy. In 1850 a convention was concluded between Austria and Parma to establish a postal service, and on June 1, 1852, stamps were issued of the value of five, ten, fifteen, twenty-five, and forty centesimi. The design was a fleur-de-lys on a horizontally-lined ground within a circle and surmounted by a crown. The background of the circle contains fifty-seven lines, by which means the forgeries

of this issue are easily detected, as none of them contain the correct number of lines. These stamps were printed on coloured paper but in 1854 the five and fifteen centesimi appeared on white paper. In April, 1853, a nine centesimi stamp was issued for newspaper—but in 1857, owing to a reduction in rate of postage, it was replaced by a six centesimi stamp. In 1857, 1858 and 1859 the twenty-four and fifteen centesimi stamps came out in a slightly altered design, on white paper. On July 9th, 1859, the rule of the Bourbons came forcibly to an end, and until the end of August Sardinian stamps were temporarily in use. Owing to the supply running short, the provisional Government found it expedient to issue their own stamps. These were similar in design to the last issue of the Bourbons, and consisted of five values, printed in colour on white paper, five, ten, twenty, forty and eighty centesimi. These were only in use until the beginning of 1860, when they were finally replaced by the Sardinian Stamps. None of the stamps of Parma have been reprinted.

The New "Rowland Hill" Packet. Detailed Prospectus on Application. **21/-**  
**ALFRED SMITH & SON**  
37, Essex Street, Strand, LONDON, W.C. [2

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**  
[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**BRAZIL.**—Send Post Card, Letter Card, or Official Envelope and receive equivalent Brazilian Any Country. Correspondence preferred in Portuguese, Italian, Spanish, and French.—ANTONIO DE CAMPOS FERREIRA, Limeira, Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil. [1

**EXCHANGE.**—I have a large variety of Duplicate Stamps and desire to buy or exchange with correspondents in East, West, South and Central Africa, Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, the West Indian Islands, and other British Colonies, value for value, quantity for quantity, or cash for new issues and provisionals, plus commission.—SNIATH, Exchange Secretary, Sheffield Philatelic Society, 166, Devonshire Street, Sheffield. [2

**WANTED.**—Old Collections, rare single stamps, unused current Colonials. Exchange or Cash SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey. [22

**ZANZIBAR.**—British, 2½ in red on 1 anna 6 pies, unused. Only ten rupees each. Cash in advance. Much below Catalogue.—Apply early to J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [12

**TO DEALERS and CAPITALISTS.**—Dealer of twenty years practical experience in trade is open to treat respecting partnership or to manage a business. Fully understands all branches of the trade including the shop agency department.—Address XXX, c/o Fortnightly. [1

**ENGLISH COLLECTORS** will find a good assortment of Medium stamps, also sets Nos. 1/12 Reds 6/- per set, with THE SANTOS STAMP CO., 35, Alwyne Villas, Cannonbury, London, N. [3

**COLLECTION** wanted, must be strong in German States, also wanted Luebeck error, Wurtemberg, 70kr. dark lilac.—WESTHOLME, Hesse, East Yorks. [15

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## Price List of British African Stamps now in Stock.

British Bechuanaland.		Unused.	Used.	1895. Surcharged. British East Africa, on Company's Issue.		Cambia—continued.		Unused.	Used.
		s. d.	s. d.					s. d.	s. d.
½d. black on Cape CA.	..	1 0		2½ anna black on yellow	..	25 0	2d. rose	..	2 0
½d. " " Anchor	..	0 5		3 " brown on red	..	9 0	3d. ultramarine	..	2 0
1d. carmine	..	1 3	0 9	4 " brown	..	7 6	4d. brown	..	6 0
2d. ochre	..	0 10		4½ " purple	..	25 0	6d. blue	..	17 6
3d. claret, CA.	..	1 0		7½ " black on green	..	36 0	1/- green	..	60 0
4d. blue, CC.	..	1 9		8 " blue	..	15 0	1887-96.		
6d. violet, Anchor	..	3 0		1 rupee carmine	..	15 0	½d. myrtle green	..	0 1
¾d. vermilion on Great Britain	..	0 2		3 " purple	..	30 0	1d. crimson	..	0 2
1d. lilac	..	0 6	0 4	4 " blue	..	35 0	2d. orange	..	0 5
2d. " "	..	0 9	0 4	2½ in red on 4½ purple	..	80 0	2½d. ultramarine	..	0 6
3d. " "	..	0 10		1896. On Indian Issue.			3d. grey	..	0 6
4d. " "	..	1 6	0 9	½ anna green	..	0 6	4d. brown	..	1 6
6d. " "	..	6 0	0 9	1 " plum	..	0 7	4d. deep brown	..	0 8
1/- green	..	3 0	1 3	1½ " sepia	..	2 6	6d. dark sage-green	..	1 6
2/- " "	..	5 0		2 " blue	..	2 6	1/- violet	..	2 0
2/6 " "	..	6 0		2½ " green	..	1 6	Gold Coast. 1875.		
5/- " "	..	12 0		3 " orange	..	2 0	1d. blue, CC., perf. 12½	..	22 6
10/- " "	..	25 0		4 " olive	..	4 0	6d. orange	..	10 0
1d. lilac, 1d. in black	..	0 6		6 " bistre	..	2 3	1879.		
6d. " 6d. "	..	2 6	2 0	8 " mauve	..	2 9	½d. olive-yellow, CC., 14	..	4 0
1/- green, 1/- " "	..	6 0	1 9	12 " brown on red	..	3 0	1d. blue	..	1 6
2d. lilac, 2d. in red	..	0 9	0 9	1 rupee slate	..	10 0	2d. green	..	1 6
4d. " 4d. "	..	10 0		1 " green and carmine	..	7 6	4d. magenta	..	1 3
¾d. black, on Cape, green surcharge	..	0 3		2 " carmine and brown	..	15 0	6d. orange	..	5 0
Surcharge Reading Upwards				3 " brown and green	..	21 0	1884.		
1d. carmine on Cape	..	1 6	1 9	2½ in red on 1½a. sepia	..	20 0	½d. olive-yellow, CA., 14	..	9 0
2d. bistre	..	2 0		British South Africa.—1890-4.			1d. blue	..	12 0
10a. Reading Downwards				½d. blue and red	..	0 1	½d. green	..	0 1
1d. carmine	..	0 6	0 9	1d. black	..	0 1	1d. carmine	..	0 2
2d. bistre	..	0 6		2d. green and red	..	0 6	2d. grey	..	0 4
Surcharged on Current English				3d. grey and green	..	0 10	3d. greenish-buff	..	0 6
1d. lilac	..	0 3		4d. brown and black	..	0 10	4d. mauve	..	0 7
2d. green and rose	..	0 6		6d. sky blue	..	4 0	6d. orange	..	0 9
4d. brown and green	..	1 6	1 0	6d. deep blue	..	1 6	1/- violet	..	1 6
6d. purple on red	..	1 6	1 3	8d. lake and blue	..	2 0	2/- brown	..	3 0
1/- green	..	3 6	7 6	1/- brown	..	3 0	2½d. blue on orange	..	0 4
British Central Africa. Surcharged B.C.A. 1891.				2 6 purple	..	6 6	Lagos. 1874.		
1d. black	..	0 3		5/- yellow	..	13 6	1d. lilac, CC., perf. 12½	..	5 0
2d. green and red	..	0 4	0 8	10/- green	..	20 0	2d. blue	..	20 0
4d. brown and black	..	0 7		£1 deep blue	..	35 0	3d. red-brown	..	27 6
6d. ultramarine	..	7 6	5 0	¾d. on 6d. sky blue	..	5 0	4d. carmine	..	30 0
6d. blue	..	1 3	1 6	Thick Paper. Perf. 12½.			6d. green	..	25 0
8d. rose and blue	..	1 3	1 6	2d. green and red	..	3 6	1/- orange	..	10 6
1/- brown	..	1 9	3 0	4d. brown and black	..	4 6	1875.		
2/- vermilion	..	3 6	6 6	1896.			1d. lilac CC., perf. 14	..	4 0
2 6 purple	..	5 0	7 0	4d. olive and violet	..	0 1	2d. blue	..	5 6
3/- brown and green	..	5 6	5 6	1d. red and green	..	0 2	3d. red-brown	..	50 0
4/- grey and red	..	7 6		2d. brown and mauve	..	0 1	4d. carmine	..	3 9
5/- yellow	..	9 0		3d. red and ultramarine	..	0 6	6d. green	..	8 6
10/- green	..	17 6		4d. ultramarine and mauve	..	0 8	1/- orange	..	23 6
British East Africa (Company). 1890-4.				6d. purple and pink	..	1 0	1882.		
½ anna brown	..	0 1	0 9	8d. green and violet	..	1 6	1d. lilac CA., perf. 14	..	4 0
1 " green	..	0 2	0 10	1/- green and blue	..	2 0	2d. blue	..	37 6
2 " vermilion	..	0 2	1 3	3/- green and mauve on blue	..	7 6	3d. red-brown	..	7 0
2½ " black on yellow	..	3 9	2 0	4/- red and blue on green	..	9 6	4d. carmine	..	45 0
3 " brown on red	..	0 3	1 0	5/- chestnut and green	..	12 0	1/- orange	..	4 3
4 " brown	..	0 4	1 3	1896. On Cape Stamps.			1885.		
4½ " purple	..	0 4	2 0	½d. black	..	0 10	½d. green CA., perf. 11	..	0 1
5 " black on green	..	0 5		1d. rose	..	0 10	1d. carmine	..	0 2
7½ " black on grey	..	0 7		2d. brown	..	1 6	2d. grey	..	2 6
8 " blue	..	0 7	2 6	3d. claret	..	9 0	4d. lilac	..	10 0
1 rupee carmine	..	1 0		4d. blue	..	1 6	6d. sage-green	..	3 6
1 " grey	..	15 0	17 6	6d. violet	..	7 6	Sierra Leone. 1862.		
2 " brick-red	..	2 0		Cambia. 1866.			6d. purple, no wmk., perf. 14, on bluish	..	10 6
3 " purple	..	3 0		4d. brown, no wmk., imp.	..	25 0	6d. violet, perf. 12½	..	9 0
4 " blue	..	3 9		6d. blue	..	23 6	1872.		
5 " olive-green	..	4 6		4d. brown, C. and CC.	..	30 0	1d. carmine, CC., 12½	..	4 0
5a. on 8a. blue	..		10 0	6d. blue	..	21 0	2d. magenta	..	22 0
7½a. on 1 rupee carmine	..		10 0	1874.			3d. saffron-yellow	..	7 6
				½d. orange, C. and CC.	..	1 0	3d. buff	..	8 0
				½d. orange red	..	1 6	4d. blue	..	13 6
				1d. marone	..	1 3	1/- green	..	26 0

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

At the St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

May 27th and 28th.—By Instructions of W. C. AIKMAN, Esq., his VERY FINE AND VALUABLE COLLECTION, including the following Rarities:—

NEVIS, complete, including 6d., lithographed, unused; 1/- green, ditto, an unused strip of 3, imperf. between; 6d. green, an unused pair. MONTserrat, 4d. blue, CA. BARRADOS, 5/- rose, unused, and provisionals, 1d. on half 5/- BAHAMAS, no wmk., various, 1d., 4d., and 6d., unused. NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. yellow, unused; 1/- violet, fine, the Connell and splits, on entires. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- violet, superb. NEWFOUNDLAND, orange, set complete; 6½d. and 1/- carmine. CANADA, 6d., perf. A fine lot of COLUMBIANS. ST. CHRISTOPHER, 1d. lilac-rose and 4d. blue, CA., unused. ST. LUCIA, 1/- black and orange, used and unused, and 1/- orange-red, unused, with gum; 1893 provisionals, ½d. and 1d., with inverted surcharges, on entires. ST. VINCENT, 6d. yellow-green, unused; 1d. on half 6d., an unused pair; 4d. on 1/-, very fine; 1d. on 6d., used; ½d. on half 6d., used pair; 4d. blue, star, unused; 4d. ultramarine, star, unused; 4d. blue, CA., perf. 12, unused; various early 6d. green, unused; 1/- brown and 1/- grey, unused; and 5/- wmk. star, unused (2); TOBAGO, 1st issue, complete, unused; 6d. ochre, CC. and CA., unused. TURKS' ISLAND, 1/- prune, very fine; a grand lot of provisionals. VIRGIN ISLANDS, complete, unused. FINE SYDNEY VIEWS. NEW ZEALAND, wmk. N.Z., 1d. brown, a pair. MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d. LABUAN, practically complete, including provisionals. OIL RIVERS, complete, including all provisionals. BRITISH EAST, CENTRAL, and SOUTH AFRICA, complete, unused. GAMBIA, complete. GOLD COAST, 1d. blue, CA., unused, and 20/- green and carmine, unused. GREAT BRITAIN, V.R., £1 marone, unused. GIBRALTAR, complete. EARLY SWISS, CEYLON, 4d. rose, imperf., unused; 8d., 9d. and 1/9, perf. BRITISH HONDURAS, complete, including all the rare provisionals, viz., two in black on 50c., 5c. in black on 1/- grey; and unique errors; and many others.

Messrs. V., B. & C. have received instructions from A. A. GOOD, Esq., to Sell by Auction during Exhibition Week, July 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, his very Valuable Collection of Blocks and Pairs. Catalogues will be ready at an early date.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the days are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

*~* NOW READY. *~*

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS

## FOR T W I G H T L Y

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
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CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

The Liverpool Philatelic Society. | The City of London Philatelic Club. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Roohdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Bristol Philatelic Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 69.--Vol. III.

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### A STAMP THAT SHOULD PLEASE THE BOERS.

ANOTHER special stamp is announced to be issued shortly for Porto Rico, the object or pretext for which is the commemoration of the tenacious resistance of these Islanders to a British invasion. The new stamp is to bear the portrait of Col. Castro, who was Governor of the Island at that historical time.

### NOTES FROM BRAZIL.

ACCORDING to the *Philatista Sud-Americano*, a Philatelic Club has been formed in Desterro, the capital of the state of Santa Catalina. The *Collectonador de Sellos* devotes its best leader of last month's number to Fiscals, and states that in view of the favour which Brazillian issues are now meeting, even at the hands well-known philatelists, they are to receive special attention from the editor in future. Brazillian collectors are delighted at the prospect of having soon placed on the market, a special album for Brazil. This has been put in hand by the Casa Philatelica do Rio.

### THE CASE FOR AN INTERNATIONAL STAMP.

MR. ROLAND R. DENNIS, in the following letter to the *London Daily Mail* puts the case for an international stamp with much force and lucidity:

This stamp would not be for general use to supplant the stamp issued by the different countries for foreign postage; but would simply be available for forwarding, to any other country than our own in Postal Union, to prepay a reply to inquiries made of a friend or business acquaintance. Under existing regulations it is quite an impossibility to accomplish this with a letter; while international telegraph replies have been prepayable for many years.

The idea is not new, it having been brought up at least on one previous occasion, when, I am told, the objection of the English representatives caused the matter to be tabled.

Their objections were based on the fact that while in the United Kingdom a sovereign buys only ninety-six stamps for foreign postage (2½d. each), this sovereign, when exchanged into French money, equals 25frs., which would buy 100 French stamps (25 centimes each) for foreign postage. When changed into German money it equals 20 marks (20 plennige each). Changed into United States currency it equals \$4.85 cents, and would buy ninety-seven United States stamps (5 cents each).

While I am not prepared to admit that this fact is a practical reason for not adopting an international stamp, I am strongly of the opinion that a stamp, even at a price slightly in advance of regular rates—say, threepence; thirty centimes; twenty-five plennige; six cents, etc.—would have a sale sufficiently large to fully repay the cost of producing, and would prove a great assistance in developing international trade and good feeling.

### PHILATELY IS ITS OWN REWARD.

HERE is a story from Chicago, which (in the opinion of the editor of *Gems*), will encourage young collectors of postage stamps. When Byron S. Ross began to collect postage stamps twenty years ago he was called a crank by his school-mates. His parents tried to dissuade him from what they thought was a foolish craze. He told his father that some day his stamps would bring him a fortune. His dream has come true. A few weeks ago Mr. Ross exchanged his collection for a hotel at Hurley, Wisconsin, valued at £7,000. He can now laugh at those who twenty years ago called him a crank.

### SOME EDINBURGH AUCTION PRICES.

At a sale by Messrs. Smith and Ritchie in their Edinburgh rooms, on Saturday, May 1st, the following prices were realized:—Japan 1876, 45 sen red, 13s.; Ceylon 1862, 5d. brown, 13s.; Victoria 1854, 2d. brown, 16s.; Ceylon 1861, 4d. rose, 17s.; Ceylon 1857, 2d. yellow green, 12s.; do. 1862, 1d. blue, 10s.; Cape of Good Hope, 1d. brick red, 17s.; St Helena, first issue, 6d. blue 1863, 1d. lake, 11s.; do., 4d. carmine, 9s.; Canada, 7½d. green, £1 14s.; do., 10d. blue, a pair, £1 15s.; do., 7½d. green, cut, 19s.; do., 6d. orange vermilion, £1 6s.; Newfoundland, 2d. lake, 16s.; do., 1s. lake, used, £1 2s. 6d.; New Zealand, rouletted, 1d. vermilion, 12s.; do., 3d. lilac, 17s.; do. 1864, 1s. green, 12s.; Western Australia, first issue, 2d. brown on red, £1 8s.; do., first issue, 6d. black-bronze, £1 4s.; do., a similar lot, £1; New South Wales 1860, 3d. yellow green, 11s.; Montserrat 1884, 85, 2½d. red brown, 15s.; Nevis, 1867, pl. orange, 16s.; Sierra Leone 1872, 2d. mauve, 13s.; Queensland, first issue, 1d.

carmine rose, £1 2s.; Western Australia, first issue, 6d. black bronze, 16s.; Western Australia 1857, 6d. black bronze, £1; do., do., 13s.; Western Australia, 6d. black bronze laid paper, 19s.; do. 1854, 1s. red brown £1 1s.; do. 1860, 6d. green, 11s.; Tuscany 1853, 9 crazie, £2 6s.; South Australia 1870-71, 4d. purple, 12s.; Newfoundland 1866, 5c. brown, 9s.; Ceylon 1862, 9d. brown, £1 1s.; do. 1861, 9d. brown, 11s.; British East Africa 1890, 1 rupee grey, 11s.; Gambia 1866, 6d. blue, 12s.

#### A DIRECTORY OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

WE have received from the Philatelic Publishing Co., Fentham Road, Birmingham, the British Stamp Directory, which is a remarkably praiseworthy attempt to provide a reliable list of British stamp collectors. This first edition contains a number of mistakes, but we have come to regard those as inevitable in any work of this sort. Doubtless the high level attained by this first edition will be beaten when the second edition, which is already announced, appears. We shall be surprised if there is not a great flow of shillings in the direction of Birmingham for copies of this very well arranged Directory.

#### CORRECTION FOR OUR AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

The following appeared in our report of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's sale on 11th March:—

c (1878), 1d. red on blue, TRANSVRAL, gum, but thinned \* .. .. . 50 0 0

The type of the surcharge has been, in the above description, unfortunately, wrongly selected. As the surcharge does not consist of capitals it should have been set as follows, "Transvral." Our auction Editor humbly apologises for this slip, which was pointed out to us by one of our watchful readers in Chelsea.

#### ONE OF THE POST OFFICE'S LITTLE ANOMALIES.

In the House of Commons, Friday, April 9th.

Mr. Hemiker Heaton (Canterbury) asked the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether he was aware that an embossed stamp removed from a spoiled or unused telegraph form (A 1) would be accepted in payment or part payment of a telegram, but that embossed stamps cut out from envelopes or wrappers would not be accepted in payment of postage for a letter; and whether he was aware that the embossed stamps cut from envelopes and used for postage were not only defaced by postal *Employés*, but the addressee was fined double the actual postage.

Mr. Hanbury (Preston).—The Postmaster-General is aware that embossed stamps removed from spoiled or unused telegraph forms are accepted in payment or part payment of telegrams, and also that embossed stamps cut from envelopes or wrappers are not accepted in payment of postage on letters. The 19th section of the Post Office Act, 1870, distinctly directs that they shall not be so used, and directs that when they are so used the letter shall be dealt with as not prepaid. Embossed stamps improperly fixed to envelopes may in the hurry of stamping get defaced, but as they have already lost their value the owner of the letter is not injured.

#### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

"NEVERTHELESS there are worse things than stamp-collecting." The *St. James's Gazette* has spoken, and once more we breathe.

The Post Office employ electric machines for stamping letters and cancelling stamps. Each machine does the work of six men, and stamps 28,000 letters an hour.—*Anecdotes*.

The recent seizure of "renovated" postage stamps in Melbourne, has, the *Sydney Bulletin* hears, led to the discovery that certain lawyers' clerks have pocketed large sums by buying the faked articles at 50 per cent. discount for legal purposes. Considering that stamps up to a £100 are frequently required in land conveyances, and for over £1000 for probate duties, there were evidently very large possibilities about the business and room for a fine large breakage of revenue.

#### NEW LIGHT ON THE MELBOURNE STAMP SCANDAL.

THOMAS WEBB, the stamp cleaner, can thank the scandalous carelessness of the said department for his present troubles, so says the *Sydney Bulletin*. The possibility of working his fraud, should, it appears, have been prevented some time ago, long before the ingenious dealer had found out the secret of converting second-hand stamps into new. The Postal department of the Colony, admits, quite casually, that it used to put the old telegraph forms into a chemical solution, for the purpose of separating the cancelled stamps from the forms, which treatment was "found to obliterate the cancel marks on the stamps, and it was seen to be unsafe to continue a system under which the old stamps might be exploited in the manner of the Webb case. The department thereupon decided to burn the old messages." But the issue of fast-color stamps went on as before, notwithstanding this suggestive revelation. In point of fact, the present fraud was invited by departmental methods, and it seems more than likely that one of the postal officers put the culprit up to it.

#### A SOUTH AMERICAN VIEW OF THE S.S.S.S.

WE have more than once referred (remarks *Filatelista Sud Americano*) to the S.S.S.S., a Society formed for the suppression of Speculative Stamps; that is to say, stamps issued more with the object of reaching the collector's pocket, than of meeting general postal requirements. It is painful to have to admit it, however, but, so far, the results have been the reverse of those the Society had anticipated, and its several circulars condemning such speculative issues, have acted as so many sermons preached in a desert, collectors being as eager as ever after specimens of Uruguay Suarez stamps, Portuguese, San Antonio or Grecian Plays. They will collect them without pausing to consider whether such stamps are really postal labels in general use in their respective countries or merely intended to raise funds for jubilee festivities at Oporto or for building new post offices at Lima. Nor has the S.S.S.S. had the courage to denounce the eminently speculative issues of Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador and Salvador. The result is that the S.S.S.S. has lost its moral influence, and having no other weapon at its command to fight with, it is no longer in a position to carry out the object for which it came into existence.

#### THE AUSTRIAN "MERCURY" STAMPS.

WE have been favoured with a circular from the Austrian Philatelic Society, which, we regret, is somewhat too lengthy to publish *in extenso*. From this circular it appears that the "Mercuries" sold by Mr. Friedl, are, beyond all doubt, absolute forgeries. A copy is given of a letter received from the Imperial Printing Office in Vienna, which goes into the matter thoroughly and explains in the most lucid way possible the points which go to prove that the "Mercuries" in question, are spurious. The Secretary, we learn, will be pleased to send a copy of the circular to anyone who is specially interested in the subject.

#### FORCERS BUSY IN SWITZERLAND.

THE Swiss Societies have appealed to the Federal Government to put a stop to the numberless forgeries emanating from certain Swiss dealers. The Government seem to have treated this matter with great consideration, but explain that they consider themselves unable to interfere or stop the manufacturing of such spurious stamps unless they are definitely offered for sale as genuine stamps. In that case they could interfere on the plea of fraud, and convict; and in all cases where used forgeries were sold, even as forgeries, the law would justify them in interfering, as such used forgeries would obviously be intended to represent genuine postmarked copies. On this latter plea, the authorities have already caught one man, L. H. Mercier, by name, who has flooded Continental dealers with his spurious wares; and we sincerely hope he will be removed from active "business" for a considerable time.

#### NOVA SCOTIA REMAINDERS AT AUCTION.

Six sets of these stamps were sold the other day in one of the auction rooms, at 6/ per set. And—let us see, what is Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' price? Just four times that amount, is it not?

### WE DON'T MIND IMITATION, BUT—

We often notice that our illustrations are copied by the foreign philatelic papers without the slightest acknowledgment. The *Postwertzeichen Kunde* for April, brings some of the blocks of the new Chinese Provisionals copied from our illustrations without so much as a word as to the source from which they are taken. Of course, these things will happen in the best regulated newspapers. We don't mind; in fact, we rather like it, but we really prefer that the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* be mentioned as source. We like a gratis advertisement now and then.

### A BOYCOTTED PHILIPPINE ISLANDS STAMP.

Remarks *Madrid Filatélico*: "Our attention has been drawn to the fact that the 10 centavos, green of 1888 is being omitted from all foreign catalogues. And yet, this stamp was printed by the 'Fabrica Nacional del Timbre,' like the rest of that set, and was duly sent out to the Philippine Islands, where it was used, we are informed, for a short time. It appears, however, that shortly after its arrival out, the stock of the 2½ type, which in those days represented the inland rate of postage there, had run out, and as the demand for the 10 centavos in question was insignificant, it was surcharged (or 'Habilitado' as it is technically termed in the Spanish language) 2½ in carmine in an oval, placed in the centre.

"Now, it follows that before it could be 'Habilitado' this stamp must have existed without surcharge; hence our inability to understand why it should be omitted from all catalogues, except the one printed by Cotter y Quinto, of those Islands, and the one of our Publishers, although it is well to add that even in both these instances it has erroneously been placed under 1880, whereas the correct date should be 1888.

"All the copies which we have seen of this stamp are unused, although as above stated, those who ought to know assure us that it circulated for a few days; but this only tends to explain why used copies are much more difficult to obtain than in an unused state.

"However, we believe, and feel, in fact, almost certain, that all future catalogues will include the stamp in question, for without it the set to which it belongs would not be complete as officially supplied to the Manila Post Office, which consisted, as it did, of the following values, viz., 1, 5, 6, 8, and 10 centavos de peso."

## Stamps and Secret Signs.

### A CIPHER THAT TRICKED DIPLOMATISTS.

IN 1886, I was on the staff of a great newspaper, and as soon as the news of the kidnapping of Prince Alexander of Battenberg reached London, I was sent to the Continent to find him, and, if possible, to obtain from him his story of the outrage.

The Prince, it will be remembered, was taken to Russia after the kidnapping, where for a time he was kept in concealment so that no tidings of him reached his relations or friends. Then he was hurried out of Russia as unceremoniously as he had been brought there, and remained for a few days at Lemberg in Austrian Poland before he decided to accept the invitation of the Bulgarians to return to his capital.

I overtook the Prince on the day he made his triumphal entry into Sofia. Colonel Mutkuroff had marched on the capital with the garrison of Philippopolis, and, with the help of the loyal troops of the Sofia garrison, had overpowered the mutineers.

A triumvirate composed of Stambuloff, Karaveloff, and Mutkuroff were carrying on the Government in the name of the Prince, pending his return, and the Bulgarians, ex-officers in the Russian army, who had done the kidnapping, were in hiding at Bucharest, within a stone's throw of the Russian Legation. On the day the Prince entered Sofia he appeared

a gallant figure in his neat green uniform, the white fur *pakat* of the Bulgarian Tsars on his head, and mounted on a splendid English thoroughbred, and thus he passed in review the sturdy soldiers of the combined garrisons of Sofia and Philippopolis, who greeted the return of their favourite with deafening shouts of "Ourah!"

Yet, in a few days, the situation came to a dismal ending. In obedience to the short, stern message of his Imperial cousin the Prince resigned his throne. I was present at the mournful scene in the palace when he bade his military and civil household farewell, and with a couple of hundred others I accompanied him a score of miles on his journey from the scenes he was destined never to revisit.

### A DINNER WITH A DIPLOMAT.

We returned that afternoon to Sofia with heavy hearts. The whole function suggested a funeral and might have ended in one had the Prince changed his mind at the last moment and elected to remain in Sofia to defy the Tsar. Some of us dined that evening at the "Union Club," the resort of the Diplomatic Corps, whence Stambuloff, years later, was to be decoyed to his death. The dinner was a silent and a sad one. When it was over I walked from the Club to the house of a Mr. X., the representative in Sofia of one of the smaller Powers, who hearing of my departure for Vienna on the following day, had sent a note to me at the Club asking me to pay him a farewell visit that evening as he had something to tell me.

The Minister received me very graciously, but was discreet in his comments on the events of the morning. A great portion of his life had been passed in the far East, and the hours sped by more quickly than I was aware of, fascinated as I was by his vivid pictures of life in China and Japan. A glance at an Empire clock over the fire place showed me that it was nearly midnight, and reluctantly I rose to take my leave. In spite of my protests he accompanied me to the outer door, opened by an obsequious footman.

"Oh, apropos," said Mr. X., "I came near to forgetting something I wished to ask you. You are off to-morrow for Vienna, I believe?"

"Yes, Excellency."

"Well, you can do me a favour. My wife is in Vienna with my little girl, who is under medical treatment there for her eyes. They are leaving for Paris at the beginning of next week and the post is so slow and so unreliable that unless you oblige me in the matter a little surprise I have for my poor sick child will never reach her in time for her birthday next week. She is a passionate philatelist, and I have this morning received some very rare specimens of stamps that will give her no end of delight. Will you take them for me? The letter is open. You can see for yourself that there is nothing of a political character in it, nothing that could in any way compromise you. The Queen's messenger, in fact, all the Government messengers, left yesterday. There is no one to help me in the matter but you—and if I may trespass on your kindness——"

"Count upon me, Excellency."

Little X. ran back to the drawing room and returned with a packet about the size of an ordinary letter, unsealed.

"Here it is," he said; "the stamps, about five dozen or so, are pasted on slips of paper to preserve them. *Voilà*."

As we stood at the door, held open by the servant, I saw the patrol of *gendarmérie*, in their long brown caftans, their sabres slung *à la Russe*, not from the waist, but from the shoulder, march slowly past, twenty strong, on the opposite side of the street. When abreast of us, marching by twos, every man of them, as if moved by a sudden impulse, turned his head to look at us. The moonlight fell on those pale, sinister faces, more like those of malefactors than of officers of the law. I am not nervous, but the impression was quite an unpleasant one.

"Bah, the dogs," said the minister, glancing at them. "Farewell, *mon ami*; you are lucky to be leaving all this behind you."

*Continued on page 181.*

### The Hospital Fund Stamps.

ON Tuesday next, the 18th, will be issued the two stamps specially prepared for the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. Their respective values are one shilling and half a crown, and the stamps are intended not only to give small subscribers an opportunity of benefiting the Fund, and also of obtaining a receipt for their money, but at the same time to form souvenirs of a memorable year in the history of this country. The greatest possible care has been taken in the selection of the design, and also in the execution of the stamps.

The basis of the design was chosen by the Prince of Wales, and, the design itself has been taken from the picture of "Charity," painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and executed for one of the "Virtues" series in New College Chapel, Oxford. The stamps have been struck off in two colours, the shilling one being of an indigo-blue and the higher value of a brick-red colour. In addition to the price and centre figures the stamps bear the dates 1837-1897, a scroll inscribed "Charity," the words "Prince of Wales' Hospital Fund," and at the foot a facsimile of the signature of his Royal Highness, who, from the outset, has taken the keenest interest in the arrangement. **ORDERS NOW BOOKED: HARRY HILCKES, & Co., LTD., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.**

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 15, 1897.



MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S new catalogue arrives just in time to get itself reviewed in this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY. For this second edition of the A.B.C. "Bright." Catalogue we have much praise and little criticism.

It is in almost every way a very great advance on the first effort of our Bournemouth friends. In the first place, the paper is admirably well chosen, and Messrs. Bright must be congratulated on being able to secure a make of paper which, though thin and of small weight, is so exactly suited to the needs of this book with its hundreds of half-tone blocks. On the subject of illustrations, by the way, it is good to see that some of the poorest of the blocks used in the first "A.B.C." Catalogue have now been discarded and replaced by much better and clearer pictures. Messrs. Bright promise that they will ultimately introduce improved blocks throughout the book.

Some special countries have been specially well treated in the New "Bright." To particularise, we need mention only Transvaal and South Australia—the latter country beautifully listed and most carefully arranged. As regards Great Britain, however, there is still much to be desired, although Messrs. Bright & Son have probably done the best they could. They have, at any rate, gone one better than their first edition in this respect, for all plate numbers are now properly classified in such a way as to make a reference to any particular plate number a matter of comparative ease. We should have liked to see the various Niger Coast stamps divided into the various styles of perforation—large, small and compound—as there is undoubtedly a great difference between them in point of value.

With regard to the pricing of the catalogue, the countries showing perhaps the most remarkable rises in price are some of the northern countries of Europe—notable the Scandinavian group. But we should have liked to see some of the West Indian stamps reduced. For instance, £5 for the Dominica C.A., 1/-, unused, is too much. The stamp may possibly be worth it, but it certainly does not fetch it.

One is glad to see Russian Locals and such rubbish eliminated from this catalogue. Good riddance to bad rubbish!

Some remarkable rises occur in prices of Africans, notably Gambia, Sierra Leone, and Gold Coast; and it is significant that the unused 4d. CC. brown of Gambia, quoted by Gibbons at 7s. 6d., is priced in the new "Bright" at 60/-, whereas the used copy of the same stamp is quoted at the price assigned to it by the Strand firm.

But why, Oh why, do Messrs. Bright include Thurn and Taxis under the heading of Germany?

The few trifling defects we have touched upon in connection with Messrs. Bright's "A B C" Catalogue for 1897 are easily outbalanced by the many good points about the book. Most remarkable thing of all is its wonderful compactness. Although the complete book (dealing with the whole world, adhesives and "entires," and costing 2 6) contains 800 pages, it is no thicker than the grey Sent. That fact alone speaks volumes for the clever editing of the book, and the wisdom displayed in the selection of type and paper.

At the last moment we must add a line of regret at the poor treatment accorded to Peru. This country is very badly done, forged surcharges being included and other regrettable mistakes being made.

The time at our disposal for a review of the second volume of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue is even shorter than in the case of Messrs. Bright's book—this Part II. being chiefly due to Messrs. Gibbons' somewhat curious system of distribution.

As already announced, this second volume of the Gibbons' Catalogue deals with the adhesives of all countries outside the British Empire.

Externally the book is a disappointment. The outer aspect of volume I. was cheap enough in all conscience, but volume II. with its unsightly silver lettering is a step lower. The cloth of volume I. was red; that of volume II. is blue. From a book lover's point of view—and many philatelists are bibliophiles as well—a little more uniformity would have been desirable.

Internally, the book shows "thoroughness." Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have been, in fact, a little too thorough, and have included in their book everything which has the semblance of a stamp. Chinese Locals are here in all their glory; the Scandinavian Rurals, *et hoc genus omnes*. One wonders why Messrs. Stanley Gibbons do not include all the German Town Posts!

And how absurd it is to list and price such things as the Returned Letter Labels of Bavaria—worse than absurd, in fact. These labels are simply the equivalent of our English labels, inscribed "Found open and Officially Sealed." Such things are on a par with tram tickets. The Egyptian Official Letters, again, might better be omitted.

In the short time and space at our disposal, it is obviously impossible to deal adequately with the question of the prices contained in the Catalogue. In all probability we shall have something to say on this question in the next number of the FORTNIGHTLY.

Some of the "Notes" contained in the book are obviously wrong. In Samoa, for instance, Messrs. Gibbons state that the originals are always imperf. on at least one side. They forget that the one penny was printed in sheets of twenty, and that quite half of the specimens are perf. all round.

### Our National Collection of Stamps.

THE *Philatelic Record* for May urges upon philatelists that no better way of celebrating this auspicious year could be undertaken than the completion of our national collection of postage stamps, the basis of which has been so magnificently laid by Mr. T. K. Tapling, in the presentation of his invaluable collection to the nation. "With very little self-sacrifice," our contemporary argues, "the collectors and dealers of this country can, if they will, complete the Tapling collection and keep it up to date." It is suggested that our philatelic societies in particular should take up this work. The idea is unquestionably a very good one.

Some beautiful illustrations to Mr. W. Dorning Beekton's article on the "Stamps of Greece" appear in the *May Record*.



Continued from page 179.

#### THE WILY INTERPRETER.

The next morning I paid my bill at the hotel, saw my luggage bundled into the *troika*, on the box of which sat Ivan Fedorovitch, one of the Prince's coachmen, who had the reputation of being a reckless dare-devil, but one of the best whips in Bulgaria. It would be cold in the mountains—that was before the railway was built, and the distance to Pirot is 160 kilometres—and to my outfit had been added a sleeveless sheepskin jacket, such as is commonly worn by the Bulgarian shepherds.

Before leaving, "I squared" the bill of one Merkoff, who spoke English quite well, and had done me good service as an interpreter. He was a Bulgarian, but had been educated at the American Mission in Constantinople, and had visited England, Russia, and the United States. His official title, as inscribed on the dirty piece of paper he pressed on me at parting, was "Merkoff, Teacher of Languages." He was a cadaverous, sickly-looking creature, with an expression decidedly hang-dog. His age might have been anything from thirty-five to sixty.

As soon as we were off, the rapid motion and the fresh air put me in a cheery frame of mind. The packet of the minister I had secured underneath my flannel shirt by a silk thread passed around my neck. His Excellency had proved to me that there was nothing of a political character in the envelope; but, as it bore the arms of his country, I decided to keep it out of sight rather than risk having to answer a lot of annoying questions. My revolver I slipped beneath the cushion of the seat in front of me, where it was much easier to get at in case of a row than if slung on a belt or carried in a pocket. We sped on, and the exhilaration of the mad rush up hill and down dale—for the irregularities of the road made no difference with the Bulgarian coachman, the pace being always the same, a headlong gallop—was so great, that before I realised how far we had come we were nearing the bloody field of Shynitza, where the soldier Prince and his little army of Bulgarians swept the legions of King Milan back over the border.

#### THE ATTACK AND THE REPULSE.

We soon plunged into a mountainous region, the road became narrow and rocky, and across it great trees cast giant shadows. As night fell the stars shone out, while the hillsides were dotted with the watch fires of the hardy shepherds, whose whole life is passed in the open air.

We had now reached the summit, and confronted a steep descent ending in a glen, where the road was fringed on the one side by dense undergrowth and on the other by a large pool of stagnant water. A dismal spot, indeed.

Suddenly the horses plunged violently and then came to a stop. I peered over the box and saw a man at the horses' heads. At the side of the carriage suddenly appeared another, a tall, sinewy fellow, clad, like the first, in the costume of a shepherd, but carrying a musket, and at his belt, a pistol and a long knife. I took in the situation at a glance. I was in the hands of robbers. A few paces away, half-hidden in the bushes, I saw a third man, wrapped in a long cloak. I caught but a glimpse of his face; that seemed not unfamiliar, and brought back memories of "Merkoff, Teacher of Languages."

The man at the side of the carriage pointed to the step, and by a gesture invited me to alight. My mind was made up in an instant. Slipping my hand beneath the cushion of the front seat, I bent forward as if to obey, but quick as thought withdrew the revolver and struck him with it a crushing blow full in the face. As he raised his hands to his eyes, into which the blood was streaming, I took a hurried aim at the fellow holding the horses and fired. With a yell of pain his arm fell to his side, when Ivan Fedorovitch brought his whip down smartly on the horses' backs, and with a great bound they were off.

They tore down the steep descent and up the sharp ascent beyond at a frenzied gallop. Rough as the road was, this was our only chance. Two shots rang out behind us, and I fancied I heard the whizz of lead above our heads. In a

short time we came to a clearing, and, without slackening speed, flew along for an hour till brought to a stop by the custom-house guards at the Servian frontier.

That night I put up at the hotel in Pirot, and after a fairly good dinner enjoyed, although a little sore from the jolting of the *troika*, a complete rest.

#### DELIVERING THE POSTAGE STAMPS.

In due course of time I reached Vienna, and delivered the packet into the hands of Madame X., according to the letter of my instructions. She thanked me profusely as she took it, but made no further reference to it during my visit, which was a short one.

A couple of years ago my friend, Mr. Hudson, of the Secret Service, shed a new light on the mission Mr. X. had confided to me. After a capital dinner at a club in Piccadilly, we exchanged, in the smoking-room over a cup of coffee and a cigar, our experiences in Bulgaria, a country with which Mr. Hudson was as familiar as myself. I told him of my adventure with highwaymen, near Pirot, and, having explained the circumstances that preceded it, said that, in my opinion, the attack was part of a concerted plan to obtain possession of the packet the gendarmes had seen Mr. X. hand to me the night before, and which they foolishly supposed to contain matters of political importance.

#### WHAT THE STAMPS MEANT.

"They were quite right—it did," was Hudson's comment.

"Quite wrong," I interjected. "Mr. X. opened the packet in my presence before he handed it to me. All it contained was a lot of postage stamps for his little girl in Vienna."

"Pasted in rows on cardboard strips," added Hudson quietly.

"Precisely," I continued, but then added, somewhat surprised, "How do you know that?"

"X. was an ingenious old file," said Hudson, thoughtfully. "He hit upon a cipher that no one previously, I believe, had ever thought of. It took us a long time to find out how it was he kept his Government so well informed without sending any despatches. The stamps were at the bottom of it all."

"The stamps!"

"The stamps—yes. He is a great philatelist and his collection one of the finest in Europe. After our suspicions were aroused it was by timing the despatch of his packets of stamps, which always coincided with the information his Government showed itself to be in possession of, that we hit upon the trick, and then, by putting the news into the words he was likely to have used, and comparing it with the stamps, each of which represented a letter, we obtained his alphabet. He always sent these packets by an English Queen's Messenger, or newspaper correspondent and in that way disarmed suspicion. When we discovered his little game, we kept the secret to ourselves and obtained some valuable information "getting square" in that way with the Russians, who a year before had "put us in a hole" by stealing two of our despatch bags left in his bedroom by a careless Queen's messenger while he was at his dinner.

"In Bulgaria, at the time you speak of, the Government did not hesitate to delay the cipher messages of foreign ministers sent to their Governments through the regular channels, and it was only by your good-nature that X. was enabled to communicate to his chief the views held by the Tsar on the candidature of a proposed successor to Prince Alexander of Bulgaria."—*The Rocket*.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING MAY 29th, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

May 19th & 20th.—Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jermyn Street, S.W., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

May 20th & 21st.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

May 25th & 26th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, London, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

May 27th & 28th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. each day.



# Our Review of Reviews.

## Evolution in Philately.

WE find, on a more careful reading, that there is a good deal more in the *Philatelic Journal of India's* talk concerning Magpies than we at first suspected. The editorial dissertation on this subject continues in the March number which now lies before us, is really an essay on philatelic evolution, headed "Philately of the Day." The first stage of philately is of the magpie order, the stamp collector being in the first place a mere hoarder or accumulator. In process of time, our contemporary tells us, the hoarder becomes the collector, and arriving at this stage he finds himself compelled to make his choice of three roads, which are classified as follows:—

I.—Philatelists, pure and simple.

II.—Collectors who, though fond of their pastime, keep their eyes open to the main chance; and

III.—Speculators.

This last, the *Philatelic Journal of India* will have none of, or at any rate, elects to leave them severely alone, sadly remarking that speculators are usually quite able to take care of themselves. Then the essay goes on in a hopeful optimistic vein to discuss the discouraging effect upon young collectors of inspecting the splendid accumulations of their grown-up friends, and of the needlessness for any despondency of this sort.

We have often heard the remark "The sight of—collection has sickened me. No use my going on any more." To a certain extent this is natural. But it is needless. The large number of rarities which the novice has seen in the first really good collection which has come under his notice need be no bar to his own progress. He must remember he is but a beginner while his friend has been collecting for years. Again a most depressing effect is often caused to the new collector by hearing the wonderful tales of prices paid for stamps and prices which they would realize now if sold. In many instances these stories are doubtless true, but as well, we have ourselves heard a few tall "tiger" tales in our time, and courtesy has compelled us to stimulate a belief in them.

An elementary article on watermarks and perforations headed somewhat strangely "Stars in the East," follows the editorial in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. Then comes a continuation of Mr. C. Stewart Wilson's paper on the adhesive stamps of British India, followed again by a note on the stamps of Barbados by Mr. F. N. Schiller. From notes supplied by Mr. C. L. Piggott, a most interesting article on the Charkhari State Post is compiled. "A collector" supplies some addenda to Mr. Ewen's list of stamps used abroad, and a number of interesting notes on various subjects complete an admirable issue of the *Philatelic Society of India's* official organ.

## A Long-lived Philatelic Weekly.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, as we gather from the editorial in a recent issue, is well into its seventh year of life. Personally, we had thought it was still older, but that is because we have so long looked upon it as an old and trusted friend. The fact that the paper has been conducted so successfully for such a span of years proves beyond the shadow of a doubt that a weekly philatelic journal "fills the bill"—in America, at any rate.

Without intimately knowing the public from which *Mekeel's Weekly* caters, we should say that that journal's strongest point is the amount of useful information it publishes for the benefit of the young collector. Its Enquiry Department, its admirable Chronicle and New Issues, and its periodical column, headed "Of interest to the Beginner" are only a few instances of the sort of thing we mean.

## Noble, but not Honest.

Quoting from the *Siam Free Press*, of Bangkok, *Mekeel's Weekly* gives publicity to this interesting little story:—

The Siamese nobility, as a class, have never commanded the respect of respectable independent Europeans. But so far the

contempt with which they are regarded has been more due to their huckerstering and meanness in money matters than to any other cause. Now, however, it would appear that a Siamese noble does not even draw the line at the commission of a criminal offence. At any rate we hear that for some time past the manufacture of forged French postage stamps has been most successfully carried on, within a day's journey of Bangkok, by a certain speculative Siamese nobleman, who found a market for his ware in French Indo-China. It is further stated that a formal complaint has been made by the French Legation here against the nobleman in question, and that he will be required to take his trial upon a charge of defrauding the revenues of the French Government. The Siamese will, in all probability, adopt their usual shuffling methods in an endeavour to protect the high-born offender, and thereby forfeit one more claim to remain an independent nation. Thus is history made.

Evidently the maxim "Noblesse oblige" is more honoured in the breach than the observance by the Siamese noble.

## What's in a Name?

What is there in a name? Here is *Mekeel's Weekly* telling us that somebody in London, Ontario, is about to publish a new paper called the *Young Elephant*, and it appears that the particular object of the *Young Elephant's* being will be to provide news and articles concerning philately.

## Imitation not the sincerest flattery.

We notice that there is a disposition now-a-days in the world of philatelic journalism to make sure of getting at least one good notice for your new paper by closely imitating some already well-established journal. The *Philatelic Journal of India* came out as a close imitation of the *London Philatelist*—as close an imitation as Indian printers could accomplish. Now *Le Moniteur Philatelique*, of Ghent, comes to us bearing in shape, and style, and general get-up, a remarkably close resemblance to the *Philatelic Record*. Imitation, they say, is the sincerest form of flattery, and while there is no gainsaying the fact that imitation must always be flattery to the person imitated, one finds some difficulty in admitting that there is any sincerity about this journalistic phase of the art. Having said so much by way of speaking our minds on this subject, let us confess that *Le Moniteur Philatelique*, which is conducted by a Mr. A. Facon, is in every way a remarkably prepossessing paper, well planned and well put together. Mr. E. Questiaux is contributing a serial paper on the stamps of Belgium. The pêle-mêle of this new Belgium paper is practically the philatelic gossip of the *Record*—so far as conception goes—but here we are dropping into our carping vein again. A very eminent journalist has lately declared that the golden rule of journalism is to work all the best ideas obtainable, whether they are your own ideas or other peoples, and possibly Mr. A. Facon belongs to the same philosophic school as the press man in question.

## Our Oldest Contemporary.

We once read a very curious criticism of a small philatelic paper. "This journal," said the critic, "cannot very well be criticised adversely. Some people would call it an atrocious production, but then there is so little of it that one has read it right through before one has had time to get any lasting impression of its quality. It is not a necessary evil, because one is not obliged to subscribe to it. What a world this would be if all evils could be overcome so quickly as this." It is a curious idea to praise a little journalistic effort in this very negative sort of way, on the ground that because it is not verbose enough to bore you, it is not an entirely bad thing.

Our chief complaint against the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, of Bury St. Edmunds, is that there is not enough of it. It occasionally contains some very interesting and readable articles, but these are like angel's visits, few and far between. There are some philatelic papers which we should like to see reduced to about half their present size, but we can stand a good deal more than there is of the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*. We trust that Mr. C. H. Nunn, whom we may look

upon as the present father of philatelic journalism in this country, is not so tired of the stamp world as his advertisement on page 43 of the April *S.C.F.* would seem to denote.

**Philatelic Light on darkest Africa.**

How ludicrous it is to notice the difference between the numbers of stamps issued for use by the people of this country and the number issued for use in Great Britain's African Colonies. From 1840-1855 (the *Philatelic Chronicle* calculates) Great Britain issued for the use of the United Kingdom but 104 different stamps, while not less than 200 varieties were issued for the postal requirements of six almost entirely uncivilised territories of Inner Africa within the last eleven years, that is since 1885. The detailed list is here given:—

Griqualand (without the varieties of surcharges)	14 varieties.
Bechuanaland .. .. .	40 ..
British East Africa Co. .. .. .	56 ..
British South Africa Co. .. .. .	16 ..
British Central Africa Co. .. .. .	30 ..
Zululand.. .. .	24 ..

Total 200 varieties.

**Two French Journals Amalgamated.**

The conductors of *L'Avenir des Timbres-Poste* have been compelled through a pressure of other work to suspend publication, and they have arranged with the proprietors of *L'Echo de La Timbrologie* to complete the unexpired subscriptions to their paper. The latter journal, which is published by Messrs. Yvert and Tellier, of Amiens, has lately made astounding strides in the matter of its literary contents. The issue of March 15th is a particularly good one, including illustrated articles on Spain, Portugal, and newly-issued stamps, and the conclusion of a story concerning the Brattleboro' stamp. This latter feature we have not yet had time to read, but as it is headed "Extraordinary History," we must certainly digest it at the earliest opportunity.

**The poor cold-shouldered Post-Card.**

The *Bazaar's* fifth philatelists' supplement for the current season appeared on Wednesday, March 31st. As usual, it is well-filled with interesting philatelic articles. Mr. Robin H. Legge puts in a word for those at present much despised entire post-cards. He writes: "For a comparatively small outlay one can obtain a great many interesting postcards, such outlay going absolutely nowhere in stamps. Thus, to give a very small example: I bought, yesterday, the two B.C. African cards, 1d. and 2d. with B.S.A. stamps, for 5d. the pair. The stamps, as adhesives, are catalogued by Stanley Gibbons at 6d. and 8d. respectively, or three times as much practically; yet the stamps are identical, bar perfs., and the whole card and stamp are quite a work of art and are exquisitely engraved.

In a footnote, the editor of the *Bazaar* expresses his willingness to occasionally cater for postcard collectors if suitable articles can be supplied him for publication. He will undoubtedly interest a good many readers by so doing. For ourselves we find that adhesive stamps alone provide us with more than enough work.

**A New Philatelic Dictionary.**

We clip the following witty effort from our bright Western contemporary, the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*:—

Hinge.—An infernal machine used for the purpose of tearing rare stamps.

Watermark.—An invisible mark supposed to be on the backs of certain stamps.

Surcharge.—A method used by certain unscrupulous dealers to make a common stamp rare.

Imperforate.—This generally means a stamp with the perforations clipped off, they are rarely issued in this condition.

Revenues used for postage—Are Revenues that have been obligingly cancelled to order by post office officials.

Pneumatic Envelopes.—Envelopes blown up with wind.

Commemoration stamps—Are stamps seldom smaller than 12 x 15, they are issued in the memory of some one dead and are seldom on sale over one day.

Honesty.—A virtue almost unknown in Philately.

**The Latest New American Journal.**

The only remarkable thing about the *American Stamp*, a new journal hailing from the United States, is its diabolical colour, which is a bright and particularly bilious green. This one remarkable feature will, we trust, be eliminated, as otherwise there will be no further need for the paragraph on page 4 relating to expired subscriptions. Not only will the *American Stamp's* subscriptions expire, but its subscribers will probably meet with a similar fate.

**This is good news indeed.**

Dr. E. Diena, writing in the April issue of the *London Philatelist*, communicates the welcome news that the Postal Museum of Italy has just obtained possession of the still dies of the postage stamps of the Kingdom of Naples (1858) except the 2 granna, which latter has not been found. "At the same time," adds Dr. Diena, "the plates, likewise in steel, of the 10 and 50 grana have been received by the Museum: they are constituted in two groups of a hundred stamps. Each consist of ten rows of ten specimens, with a space between the two groups of 7 mm on the 10 grana and 9 mm on the 50 grana." Dr. Diena regrets—and all philatelists will echo the regret—that the plate of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornesa (cross) has not been discovered. "Everything," says the Doctor, "seems to indicate that this was destroyed a long time since, and we have therefore to fear that the relative order and arrangement of the varieties on the plate of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  tornesa will long remain an unsolved problem."

"The Museum," he adds, "has at the same time been fortunate enough to recover from the same source the steel die of the Parma stamp of the 1852-1854 type, and the steel die of the Newspaper Tax stamp of 1853-1857."

**The Federated States of Australia.**

It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance to philatelists of the political movement now in progress in the Australian Colonies. The suggestion that the colonies should federate is undoubtedly gaining ground, and, as the *Australian Philatelist* remarks, the probability is that the federated states of Australia will, in the course of a year or so, become one stamp issuing body, instead of five as at present. "The history of the postal system of the world," our contemporary remarks, "is full of precedence for the adoption of a federal postal issue. The North German federation, which, in 1868, absorbed the stamp issuing states and towns of Prussia, Hanover, Hamburg, Lubbeck, Bremen, Brunswick, &c.; the Dominion of Canada, into which were merged the Provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia; and the Swiss federation, which caused the suppression of the various Cantonal emission, are the chief instances, while there are others of less importance. From a philatelic point of view, any movement which tends to consolidate a number of different stamp issuing countries into one and thus lessen the number of emanations, can only be hailed with satisfaction."

**Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.**

The *Columbian Philatelist*, of Pennsylvania, has special attraction for us, as we think we have mentioned on a previous occasion. This paper is independent in the best and truest sense, and does not fear to speak its mind on any subject whatever. It is the Fortnightly of the United States, although it comes out only once a month. The issue before us is dated February 20th, and contains many very interesting articles.

The *Post Office* pegs away at its descriptive catalogue of the United States Postage Stamps—its most valuable feature. The Editorial Notes in Mr. Gremmel's paper are always well written on well chosen subjects.

Although the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine* is in its third volume, we do not remember to have seen a copy of it before. It is our loss, for the paper contains much readable matter and is evidently a contemporary worth knowing.

Mr. Beardsley's *International Philatelist* is not what it was. There is a not too delightful uncertainty about the paper, for one month it will appear as a thin and sickly sheet of 4 pages, and a month later it comes to you as quite a bulky volume, albeit most of its bulk is contributed by advertisers.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, April 8th and 9th, 1897.

(Continued from page 176).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s. d.
a	Lagos, 2/6 olive-black * .. .. .	4 15 0
A	5/- blue * .. .. .	8 0 0
A	10/- lilac-brown * .. .. .	15 0 0
b	Levant, 6k. blue * .. .. .	1 3 0
a	Lubeck, 2½sch. brown .. .. .	£8 5s. od. and 10 0 0
c	Mauritius, Large Fillet, 2d., nicked at bottom .. .. .	7 0 0
a b	Greek Border, 2d. blue .. .. .	1 10 0
a b	Mecklenburg Schwerin, ¼ sch., dotted ground, roulette .. .. .	£4. £4 8s. od. and 4 10 0
a b	Mecklenburg Strelitz, ¼ sch. orange-red .. .. .	2 12 6
b	ditto .. .. .	2 5 0
a b	¾sch. green .. .. .	£3 10s. od. and 4 10 0
b	1sch. violet .. .. .	4 0 0
a	Modena, 8oc. orange .. .. .	2 0 0
b	ditto .. .. .	1 14 0
a	Naples, 5ogr. lake .. .. .	2 12 0
b	ditto, cut close .. .. .	1 12 0
a	¾t. blue, arms .. .. .	17 0 0
a	¾t. blue, cross .. .. .	4 12 6
a	Natal, first issue, 1d. buff * .. .. .	2 2 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CA., block of 4 * .. .. .	2 12 0
A	1/- lilac, block of 4 * .. .. .	5 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. carmine-red .. .. .	1 8 0
b	4d. orange * .. .. .	5 5 0
b	1/- orange, fine, but cut close .. .. .	10 0 0
a	New South Wales (1888), 5/- purple * .. .. .	1 7 0
b	New Zealand, 1/- green on blue, cut close .. .. .	1 10 0
b	6d. brown, no wmk. * .. .. .	0 18 0
a	North Borneo, 10 dollars brown, DOLLARS * .. .. .	2 0 0
b	Oldenburg, first issue, ½gr. green * .. .. .	£1 1s. 0s. and 1 2 0
1a zbc	ditto, ditto, strip of three, on entire .. .. .	3 10 0
b	ditto, a single .. .. .	1 1 0
c	ditto, ½th yellow, fine, but minute tear * .. .. .	3 10 0
b	second issue, ½gr. green * .. .. .	2 10 0
a	ditto, ditto, used .. .. .	£4 15s. od. and 5 5 0
b	ditto, ditto, Bremen postmark .. .. .	3 15 0
b	ditto, 3gr. yellow * .. .. .	2 10 0
a b	third issue, ½gr. yellow, on piece .. .. .	5 5 0
a	ditto, ½gr. moss green .. .. .	£2 7s. od. and 2 10 0
b	ditto, ditto, Bremen pink .. .. .	2 4 0
b	ditto, ½gr. green * .. .. .	1 1 0
b	Portugal, first issue, 5ogr. green, full gum * .. .. .	4 0 0
b	Roumania, 5ob. with beard * .. .. .	1 3 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown, block of 4 * .. .. .	7 0 0
a b	St. Lucia, 1/- black and deep orange * .. .. .	4 8 0
b	ditto, pale shade * .. .. .	2 18 0
a	St. Vincent, 6d. yellow-green, star, perf. 11½ * .. .. .	2 10 0
A	1/- orange-red, CA., perf. 12, block of 4 * .. .. .	2 10 0
a	Saxony, 3pf. red * .. .. .	8 0 0
a	ditto, used .. .. .	£6. £7 and 7 7 0
b	ditto, on entire, slight crease .. .. .	4 4 0
b	10ogr. blue * .. .. .	1 3 0
b	Schleswig Holstein, 1sch. blue, two .. .. .	2 2 0
a b	2sch. rose .. .. .	5 0 0
b	do., on piece .. .. .	3 10 0
b	1½sch. blue, wide net .. .. .	1 14 0
b	South Australia, 3d. red and blue, good, but very badly centred .. .. .	1 0 0
b	Spain (1850), 5r. red * .. .. .	0 17 0
a b	(1851), 2r. red .. .. .	17 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a b	Spain (1852), 2r. red, on piece .. .. .	10 0 0
c	ditto, heavy postmark .. .. .	4 10 0
a	(1853), 2r. red .. .. .	6 6 0
a	(1865), 19c. rose and brown, perf. .. .. .	2 8 0
a	(1869), 19c. brown * .. .. .	2 4 0
a	ditto, used .. .. .	1 0 0
a	Straits Settlements, 96c. grey perf. 12½ * .. .. .	4 4 0
a	Sweden, 3sk. bco., green .. .. .	£1 8s. od. and 1 15 0
a	2½sk. bco., red .. .. .	1 8 0
a	ditto, light shade .. .. .	1 3 0
b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r. .. .. .	3 17 6
a b	Geneva, the double stamp .. .. .	20 10 0
a	ditto, 5c. green, large eagle, on entire .. .. .	1 10 0
a	Neuchatel, 5c. .. .. .	2 15 0
a	Vaud, 5c. .. .. .	£1 3s. od. and 1 5 0
b	Winterthur, 2½r. .. .. .	3 0 0
c	Zurich, 4r. hor. lines .. .. .	9 9 0
a	ditto, 6r., vert. lines, on piece .. .. .	2 2 0
b	ditto, ditto, ditto .. .. .	1 18 0
b	ditto, 6r., hor. lines, ditto .. .. .	2 2 0
b	ditto, ditto, not on piece .. .. .	£0 19s. od. and 1 2 0
b	(1850), 10r. black and red on yellow, cross with traces of border * .. .. .	2 0 0
b	Thurn and Taxis, first issue, 1sgr. black on dark blue * .. .. .	1 10 0
b	ditto, ditto, lighter shade * .. .. .	1 7 0
A	Trinidad, 5 - dull lake, CC., imperf. * .. .. .	5 0 0
b c	Tuscany, 1 soldo orange on blue .. .. .	0 18 0
1a 1b	2 soldi brick red, pair on entire with a 1 soldo 3 lire yellow, fine, but tear of ¼ inch .. .. .	27 0 0
c	3 lire yellow, fine, but tear of ¼ inch .. .. .	42 0 0
b	United States (1856), 9oc. blue * .. .. .	2 14 0
b	(1869), 30c. * .. .. .	1 1 0
b	Periodicals, 9c. black * .. .. .	1 8 0
b	ditto, 24 dollars * .. .. .	1 15 0
a	ditto, 36 dollars * .. .. .	2 10 0
a	ditto, 48 dollars * .. .. .	2 18 0
a	Victoria, Emblems, 4d., no wmk., roulette * .. .. .	2 2 0
a b	Beaded Oval, 6d. orange, used, with two common, on entire .. .. .	7 5 0
b	5/- blue and yellow .. .. .	3 15 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line * .. .. .	4 10 0
b	Western Australia, 1d. black, roulette .. .. .	1 5 0
a b	2d. orange, compound roulette .. .. .	1 10 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, no thread * .. .. .	3 5 0
a	18k. orange, perf. * .. .. .	1 3 0
a	70k. rose-lilac, no gum * .. .. .	4 4 0
a	70k. violet, full gum * .. .. .	4 12 6

Mr. HADLOW, April 12th and 13th, 1897.

a	Barbados, 3d. lake brown * .. .. .	0 17 0
b	5/- rose * .. .. .	2 8 0
a b	ditto, used .. .. .	1 14 0
a b	5/- ochre * .. .. .	1 0 0
b	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), 4 rupees, two, ea. .. .. .	0 18 0
b	Canada, 7½d. green .. .. .	1 13 0
b	Ceylon, 4d. rose, star, perf. * .. .. .	1 5 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange .. .. .	1 0 0
a	1/- lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14 * .. .. .	0 15 0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet .. .. .	1 0 0
a b	ditto, used .. .. .	0 15 0
b	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf. .. .. .	1 6 0

(To be continued.)

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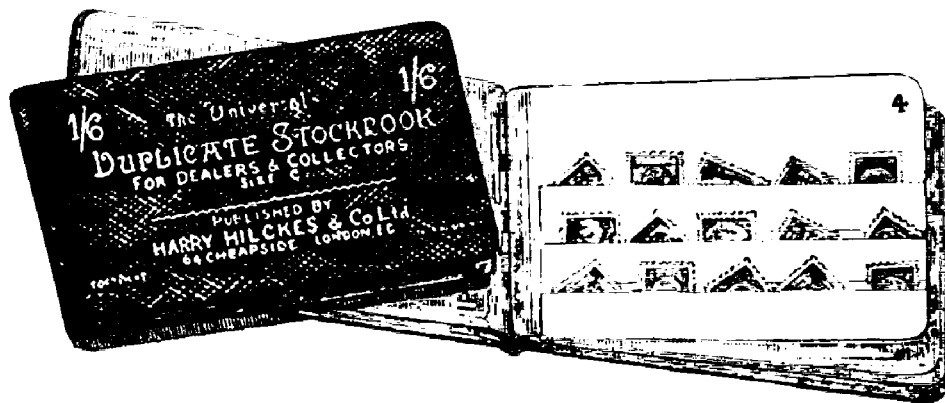
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" 1852, " wove ..	30 0	14 0
" " very thin wove ..	35 0	15 0
" " " thick ..	40 0	22 0
" Official Seal, used ..	12 6	4 0

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Athens .. 5 .. green (1st type of 5 at back) ..	.. ..	1	6
" .. 20 .. blue on greenish .. ..	.. ..	1	6
" .. 20 .. 1871, light blue, dotted neck ..	.. ..	2	6
" .. 20 .. blue on deep blue .. ..	.. ..	2	6
" .. 40 .. flesh on bluish .. ..	.. ..	5	0
" .. 40 .. bistre on bluish, unused .. ..	.. ..	5	0
" .. 10 .. orange on cream, error "oo" ..	.. ..	4	6
" .. 20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted ..	.. ..	7	6
" .. 40 .. flesh on cream, unused .. ..	.. ..	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK)

Paris Print, 1876, 30 lep. olive brown .. ..	.. ..	3	6
" .. 60 .. green .. ..	.. ..	3	0
Athens .. 60 .. green on buff .. ..	.. ..	4	6
" .. 10 lep. deep orange on cream, rare ..	.. ..	5	0
" .. 20 .. ultramarine .. ..	.. ..	2	6

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Do. error short L. ½d. and 1d., pair, unused	3	0
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" " " " unused...	33	6
B.E.A. ON INDIA, set of 7, used, ½, 1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3, 4 ..	7	0
SWAZIELAND, 1/- black and green, used	2	6
ORANGE FREE STATE, ½ on 3, set of 7 types complete (catalogued 10/-)	4	0
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Angra, " " ..	3	0
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" " £5, penmarked ..	30	0
B.E.A. on Indian, 2½s. in red on 1½s. ..	15	0
" " 1897, ½s. to 5 rupees, complete set of 16 ..	37	6
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* B. HONDURAS, no wmk., 1d. ..	3	0
" " CC., 1d. ..	2	9
" " CA., 1d. ..	3	6
* B. SOUTH AFRICA, 4d., obsolete ..	30	0
CANADA, 3d. ..	1	6
" " 10d., thin paper, extra fine ..	32	6
" " 1d., imperf. ..	22	6
" " 3d., used ..	11	6
" " 3d., perf. ..	10	6
CAPE, triangular, 1d. red ..	2	6
" " 1/- green ..	12	6

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VIRGIN ISLANDS, 6d., CA., deep violet *	9	0
" " 1/- pale sepia *	12	6
DOMINICA " 6d. " orange ..	12	6
UNITED STATES, 15 cents, 1869 ..	4	6
" " 24 " " ..	20	0
" " 30 " " ..	9	6
" " 90 " " ..	55	0
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Baden, 18kr. green ..	12	6
English, 1841, 1d. red, rouletted ..	25	0
" " present 1d., laid paper ..	10	0
Lagos, 2/6 brown ..	75	0
Turks Island, 6d. black, no wmk. ..	20	0
" " ½d. on 4d. grey ..	80	0
U.S.A., 1869, 24c., inverted centre; price on application.		

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Mulready, Wrappers ..	9	6
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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 70—VOL. III
SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1897.
ONE PENNY.

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 The Liverpool Philatelic Society.    The City of London Philatelic Club.    Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
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#### Hon. Secretary:

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

THE Fifteenth meeting of the season was held on Monday, May 17th, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., the following members being present: Messrs. C. Forbes, H. Hilckes, H. Thompson, H. Atherley, W. Brown, G. C. Warden, junr., E. W. Hounson, H. A. MacMillan, J. B. Camaschella, E. T. Patterson, D. Thomson, F. B. Carr, J. R. W. Laing, junr., I. B. Nevron, and three visitors.

Mr. E. W. Wetherell, the well-known specialist collector of the Stamps of Austria, Hungary, etc, kindly exhibited his collection of the Stamps of Austria and Austrian Italy, at the same time giving many interesting notes on the number of varieties of paper: perforation in the various issues during the time the sheets were circulating round the table.

Although the various early issues stamps were shown used and unused on all the varieties of paper from very thin, to medium and thick, also many on the rare ribbed paper.

Below I give for the benefit of any members of the Club who are interested in these stamps and were not able to be present, a few details. 1st Issue. Varieties of paper. Thinnish. Thick. Very thick almost cartridge paper. Smooth ordinary white paper. Very thin handmade. Ribbed.

The two last being the rarest, and the thinnish paper the one usually found in collections.

In the Centes issue corresponding to the above, two type of the 15 and 45 centes.

The error "EL" for "EL" in "Stampel."

Variety, 5 centes Buff. on thick paper, this is very rare, and not catalogued in Scott's Cat. for advanced Collectors.

2nd Issue. This issue with the exception of one set of unused including: three fine specimens of the 2kr. orange and the 15kr. (the latter being cat. at £4 unused), and copies of the 10 soldi, small compound, perf. unique, was not exhibited as the mounting is not yet complete.

3rd Issue. One set unused only shown.

4th Issue. Small perf. unused copies of the 10kr. and 10 soldi.

Three types of the eagle were shown in this and the large perf. issue.

1st type: white right across.

2nd type: shading in between, and around shield.

3rd type: complete shading.

Both large and small perfs. were shown on the thick and thin papers.

The 2kr. was also shown on ribbed paper.

1867 Issue. Pages of each value showing all the various shades, including the 2kr. in orange-brown, canary-yellow, and bright orange.

All stamps were shown in the following perfs.,  $8\frac{1}{2} \times 9$ ;  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 11$ ; 12;  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and 13. 1883 Issue. Perfs. as follows,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , 10,  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 10$ ; also two types of the 5kr., thin and thick figures.

In the last Issue, the perfs. went from 9 to  $9\frac{1}{2}$ , 10,  $10\frac{1}{2}$ , 11,  $11\frac{1}{2}$ , 12, and  $12\frac{1}{2}$ ; and Compound  $10 \times 10\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .

The 11 and  $10\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{2}$  compound being the rarest.

Mercury, 1st Issue. 2 types, and one on ribbed paper.

2nd Issue. Three types.

Several pages of these showing all varieties of shades; also with perfs. from  $6\frac{1}{2}$  to  $11\frac{1}{2}$ .

Journal Stamps.—Rare uncatalogued type with sharp top to "1" used and unused.

Half 2kr. used as 1kr. on original newspaper.

All Issues of both Austria and Austrian Italy were shown with various varieties of of postmarks, those in red, and blue being decidedly the rarest except in the 2nd Issue.

At the conclusion of the evening a vote of thanks to Mr. Wetherell for the trouble taken by him was proposed by Mr. H. Hilckes and seconded by Mr. H. Thompson, to which a suitable response was given.

The next Meeting will be held on **Monday, May 31st**, when our **Sixteenth Auction Sale** will be held.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

At the forthcoming **London Philatelic Exhibition, Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals** will be offered by the **City of London Philatelic Club**, for the best collections of **Used "British Colonial Stamps,"** shown in any kind of album.

The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

### HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The English Specialists' Journal*, Vol. II. Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14, *The Bazaar Philatelic Supplement*, and *Il Franco Bollo*, from Mr. J. B. Camaschella.

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*, *General Anzeiger für Philatelie*.

From America: *The Post Office*, *The Weekly Stamp News*, *The Evergreen State Philatelist*, and *The Rocky Mountain Stamp*.

Mr. C. Forbes also thanks Messrs. Bright & Son, Bournemouth, for a copy of their Priced Catalogue.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

MAY 6th. MESSRS. F. Neck (London), G. E. D. Morey (Tasmania) and J. Esterellas y Carbonell (Spain) were elected members.

Mr. W. B. Avery then gave his display. The Stamps of Great Britain were taken first. They included a special official collection of Imperforates one from every plate that has been printed from. They were specially interesting as showing the fine colours and beautiful engraving of the early stamps before the plates became worn. Many of the copies although they had never been gummed shewed very fine "ivory heads" showing most conclusively that the oft-repeated theory that the action of the gum causes this appearance is absolutely wrong. Then came the general collection of Great Britain, containing all the rarities unused, among them being such trifles as a block of 23 V.R. 1d. black; 9d. wmk. emblems, plate 5; the 2½d. error; complete panes of 3d. with white dot (plate 3), 1/- with hair line (plate 3) and most values on trial safety paper.

Africa was shewn next, including several pages of shades of Cape wood-blocks: one page being devoted to the errors, singles, and pairs; Boer Republic complete; several grand pages of Post Paid Mauritius followed by a

profusive display of the rarities of the subsequent issues; Sierra Leone and Lagos were very fine. Indeed in all countries it was noted that in almost every case the rarer the stamp the greater was the number shewn, the finer the range of shade and generally speaking the greater attention evidently paid to it.

British Asia followed with a very fine lot of Ceylons which included, with one or two exceptions, full range of shades in used and unused. The rarities of India and Straits had also been well looked after.

German States then received the attention of the members and some who were endeavouring with difficulty to fill up spaces with unused were surprised to see such stamps as the early issues of Baden, etc., shewn by the half sheet (2-panes) of each value. With the exception of two of the rare Wurtemburgs all varieties were shewn used and unused by shades.

Spain and her Colonies came next. In these again there were far more of the unused rarities of the early issues than the common varieties. The early issues of Spain and Philippines were exceptionally fine and can only have been obtained by patient search and waiting in addition to the other necessities for such a display. The inverted frames were shewn used and unused; the errors in the original blocks and used on part of original envelopes along with others. Many of the medium varieties were shewn in half sheets.

Then came two fine volumes of the Stamps of Greece most carefully arranged and containing varieties of printing, misprints, etc., that were new to most of the members present.

South America followed. This included a grand lot of Buenos Ayres with a profusion of fine shades and many pairs. As it was now getting late, there was time for only a hasty glance at one of the divisions of West Indies, Nevis to Virgin Islands.

A very hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. Avery.

May 20th. Messrs. W. T. Willett (Oxon), J. Siewert (Russia), H. Hawkins (Surrey), were elected members.

Mr. Luchlad then gave an interesting paper on the Stamps of Austria, carefully explaining the various settings, types, paper, and minor varieties.

### THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.

At the tenth Meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club House, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York, on May 10th, the Secretary (Mr. J. M. Andreini) read letters from the Chairman of Literary Committee; from Mr. C. H. Mead, which was laid on the table; from Mr. J. S. Dionian, handing his resignation, which was accepted; and from the Secretary of the National Philatelic Society requesting that the name of the Manhattan Philatelic Society be placed on bulletin board and upon the outside door—and upon motion the request was granted so far as it related to placing the name of the M.P.S. on bulletin board at the cost of the latter society.

The Chairman of House and Amusement Committees then made their reports, which were received.

The Treasurer made his monthly report showing \$988'04 in bank and the report was accepted.

The following applications for membership were reported:

(25) Henry S. Fleek, Newark, Ohio.

(26) Chas. E. Green, Pittsburg, Pa.

(27) F. M. Heilihey, Boston, Mass.

And the two last were ordered to be posted according to the Constitution.

Upon ballot Mr. Henry S. Fleek, whose application had been posted over thirty days, was unanimously elected a subscribing member.

# W. B. KIRKPATRICK, "Closeburn," BOURNEMOUTH.

## Price List of British African Stamps now in Stock. (Continued)

### Sierra Leone—continued.

1876.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
½d. brown, CC., perf. 14 ..	1 0	3 9
1d. rose-red .. ..	5 6	4 0
1½d. lilac .. ..	1 6	0 9
2d. magenta .. ..	2 6	1 0
3d. buff .. ..	2 0	0 9
4d. blue .. ..	45 0	1 3
6d. bright violet .. ..	5 0	1 6
1/- green .. ..	7 6	2 6
½d. brown, CA. .. ..	6 0	10 0
1d. rose-red .. ..		2 6
2d. magenta .. ..	7 6	5 0
4d. blue .. ..		12 6
1884.		
½d. green .. ..	0 2	0 1
1d. carmine .. ..	0 4	0 1
1½d. lilac .. ..	0 3	0 3
2d. grey .. ..	3 0	0 5
2½d. ultramarine .. ..	1 3	0 2
3d. yellow .. ..	0 9	0 9
4d. brown .. ..	0 9	0 4
1/- red-brown .. ..	3 0	1 6
6d. brown-purple, CC. ..		1 6
6d. brown-lake .. ..	0 10	
½d. on 1½d. mauve, CA. ..		4 0
1896.		
1d. lilac and carmine .. ..	0 2	
2d. .. and orange .. ..	0 3	
2d. .. and blue .. ..	0 4	
1/- green and black .. ..	1 6	

### St. Helena.

1856.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
6d. blue, star, imp. .. ..	18 0	8 0
6d. blue .. perf. 15 .. ..	25 0	9 0
1863.		
1d. lake, CC., imp. .. ..	10 6	
4d. carmine .. ..		21 0
Long Bar.		
1d. lake, CC., perf. 12½ ..	4 0	7 6
2d. yellow .. ..	20 0	12 6
3d. purple .. ..	10 6	10 6
4d. carmine .. ..	20 0	6 6
1/- yellow-green .. ..		3 0
1/- dark green .. ..		3 0
Short Bar.		
1d. lake, CC., perf. 12½ ..	17 6	9 0
2d. yellow .. ..	12 0	10 0
3d. purple .. ..	6 6	7 6
4d. carmine, words 18mm., perf. 12½ .. ..	8 6	4 0
4d. carmine, words 19mm., perf. 12½ .. ..	22 6	10 6
1/- yellow-green, perf. 12½ ..		8 0
5/- orange .. ..	10 6	12 6
1d. lake, perf. 14 x 12½ ..	3 0	5 0
2d. yellow .. ..	8 0	6 6
3d. purple .. ..		15 0
4d. carmine .. ..		10 0
1/- green .. ..		7 6
1d. lake, CC., perf. 14 ..	0 9	1 3
2d. yellow .. ..	6 0	3 0
1/- green .. ..		2 0
6d. ultramarine, CC., 12½ ..	15 0	15 0
6d. Prussian blue .. ..	22 6	
6d. dull blue .. ..	14	18 0
6d. .. .. 14 x 12½ ..		15 0
½d. dark green, CA., perf. 14 ..	0 5	
½d. emerald .. ..	1 0	1 0
½d. dark green (short) CA. ..	0 2	

### St. Helena—continued.

Unused.	Used.
s. d.	s. d.
1d. lake .. CA., perf. 14 ..	0 3
2d. yellow .. ..	0 6
2½d. ultramarine .. ..	0 7
3d. dark lilac .. ..	0 10
3d. red lilac .. ..	0 8
4d. brown .. ..	1 0
6d. grey .. ..	1 3
1/- green .. ..	2 0
1½ red-brown and green ..	0 4

### Seychelles.

1890.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
2c. green and carmine .. ..	0 2	
4c. carmine and green .. ..	0 3	
8c. brown and blue .. ..	0 5	
10c. blue and bistre .. ..	1 0	
13c. grey and black .. ..	1 3	
16c. orange, brown and blue ..	0 9	
48c. ochre and green .. ..	2 6	
96c. mauve and carmine .. ..	6 0	
1893.		
3c. on 4c. .. ..	0 2	
12c. on 16c. .. ..	1 0	
15c. on 16c. .. ..	0 7	
45c. on 48c. .. ..	1 9	
90c. on 96c. .. ..	3 6	
3c. purple and orange .. ..	0 2	
12c. sepia and green .. ..	0 4	
15c. green and lilac .. ..	0 6	
45c. brown and carmine .. ..	1 9	

### Zanzibar.

1896.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
Surcharged on Indian Stamps.		
¾a. green .. ..	0 4	
1a. plum .. ..	0 6	
1¼a. sepia .. ..	0 9	
2a. blue .. ..	1 6	
2½a. green .. ..	1 3	
3a. orange .. ..	1 9	
4a. olive .. ..	2 0	
6a. bistre .. ..	2 0	
8a. mauve .. ..	2 6	
12a. red brown .. ..	3 0	
1 rupee slate .. ..	20 0	
1 rupee green and carmine, unused .. ..	3 3	
2½ on 1a. plum .. ..	16 6	

### Surcharged on Current British East Africa.

1a. carmine .. ..	11 0	11 6
1¼a. orange .. ..	13 6	
5a. bistre .. ..	15 0	
7½a. mauve .. ..	15 0	

### 1897. Head of Sultan.

½a. green and red .. ..	1 6	
3a. grey and red .. ..	0 9	
4a. dark green and red .. ..	1 0	
4½a. orange and red .. ..	1 3	
4a. bistre-brown and red ..	1 6	
7½a. purple and .. ..	2 0	
8a. sage-green and .. ..	2 3	
17. ultramarine and .. ..	5 6	
27. green and .. ..	11 0	
37. purple and .. ..	15 0	
47. lake and .. ..	20 0	
57. sepia and .. ..	25 0	

### Zululand. Surcharged on British Stamps.

1888-94.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
4d. vermilion .. ..	0 4	0 6
1d. lilac .. ..	0 4	0 4
2d. green and carmine .. ..	0 10	1 0
2½d. purple on blue .. ..	0 10	
3d. brown on yellow .. ..	1 6	
4d. green and brown .. ..	2 0	
5d. lilac and blue .. ..	6 6	
6d. purple on red .. ..	3 0	
9d. purple and blue .. ..	10 0	10 0
1/- green .. ..	13 6	
5/- carmine .. ..	60 0	
Ditto Specimen .. ..	30 0	

### Surcharged on Natal Stamps.

½d. green .. ..	0 9	
1d. lilac .. ..	0 6	0 6
6d. mauve .. ..	6 0	

### 1894.

4d. lilac and green .. ..	0 1	0 1
½d. .. and carmine .. ..	0 2	0 2
2½d. .. and blue .. ..	0 4	
6d. .. and black .. ..	0 10	
1/- green .. ..	1 9	1 6
2/6 .. and black .. ..		3 3

### Cape of Good Hope.

1864.	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
1d. rose-red, CC., perf. 14 ..	4 0	1 0
4d. light blue .. ..	7 6	0 6
4d. dark .. ..		0 8
6d. mauve .. ..		0 6
6d. violet .. ..		0 8
1/- light green .. ..		0 4
1/- dark .. ..		1 0
4d. on 6d. violet .. ..		1 3

### 1871. Without outer line.

4d. black, CC., perf. 14 ..	0 4	0 9
1d. red .. ..	0 1	0 1
4d. blue .. ..		0 4
5/- orange .. ..		0 9
1d. in red on 6d. violet ..	20 0	7 6
1d. in black on 1/- green ..	4 0	6 0
3d. in red on 4d. blue ..		0 5
3d. in black on 3d. lilac-rose ..		0 6
3d. lilac-rose, CC., perf. 14 ..		0 6
3d. claret .. ..		0 4
4d. on 3d. lilac-rose, thin fig. ..		0 9
3d. on 3d. .. thick ..		0 5
.. .. inverted surch. ..		7 6

### 1882.

4d. on 3d. claret, CA., perf. 14 ..	0 9	0 6
4d. black .. ..	0 2	0 1
1d. red .. ..	7 6	0 2
2d. ochre .. ..	0 5	0 1
3d. claret .. ..		0 2
6d. mauve .. ..	6 0	0 3
5/- orange .. ..		20 0

### 1868-90.

½d. black, Anchor wmk. ...	0 1	0 1
1d. red .. ..	0 3	0 1
2d. ochre .. ..	0 3	0 1
4d. lilac .. ..	0 9	0 1
6d. mauve .. ..	0 10	0 1
1/- green .. ..	13 6	0 3
5/- orange .. ..		0 9
24 on 3c. magenta .. ..	0 5	0 2

### 1893.

½d. green, without outer line .. ..	10 0	1 6
-------------------------------------	------	-----

The above all good copies. Many of the unused can be had in pairs.

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

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Messrs. V., B. & C. have received instructions from A. A. GOOD, Esq., to Sell by Auction during Exhibition Week, July 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, his very Valuable Collection of Blocks and Pairs. Catalogues will be ready at an early date.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the days are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.



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**M**OST Countries are at present made up, and we shall have pleasure in forwarding any of them on approval. These selections contain a large number of Rarities, and wherever possible Stamps are shown in both used and unused condition, in variety of shades of colour, and in pairs and blocks. Books will be sent out in order of request.

Collectors not having previously done business with us are respectfully requested to furnish the customary references.

# London Philatelic Exhibition

Institute of Painters in  
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**STALL 4** has been all large number Books of all C

us by the Committee. We shall have a ups on sale, specially arranged in separate s; also Albums and Philatelic Accessories.

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**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES:

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No. 70.—Vol III

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1897

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### HOW IS THIS FOR SHARP PRACTICE?

WE are accustomed to smart business in the philatelic world, but there should be always a strong line of demarcation between smart business and sharp practice. A Canadian gentleman, who shall be nameless, but who is not altogether unconnected with the Nova Scotia deal, has, we think, broken all known records in the way of—well, let us say smart business. This gentleman entered into correspondence with our friend, Mr. H. J. Bignold, well known as a collector and as a prominent member of the City of London Philatelic Club. Mr. Bignold and the Canadian gentleman had exchanged one or two letters with reference to some suggested exchange business, and then Mr. Bignold sent out a consignment of stamps calculated to meet the needs of the consignee. In return, he received the following letter:—

Your favour received, enclosing nineteen of twopence, no lines, for my sheets; and for the same please accept thanks. You put 38 on in exchange. I enclose one 8½ cents Nova Scotia, on yellow paper, unused. Will that do to square the account?

This letter bore date June 6th, 1896. Of course, the Nova Scotia deal might not have been concluded at that time, but there is a pretty strong presumption that it was.

The unfortunate part of the matter is that Mr. Bignold, who was, of course, quite satisfied with the Nova Scotia stamp at the time, still has that stamp in his possession, and instead of its being worth 38, which was the exchange value of the stamps he sent his Canadian "friend," it is catalogued by Bright at 8/6.

## NEW SOUTH WALES COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS.

WE are indebted to two Australian correspondents, Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Brisbane, and Mr. H. A. Pocklington, of Sydney, for cuttings from colonial newspapers, relating to a scheme now under discussion for the issue of special New South Wales stamps, commemorative of the Queen's Record Reign. The moving spirit of this commemorative scheme is Postmaster General Cook, to whom philatelists owe a deep debt of gratitude (?) for a certain re-issue of "O.S." New South Wales stamps, which caused such a rumpus in English and Australian stamp circles. As one might expect from men with Mr. Cook's ideas, the New South Wales commemorative gumpaps are to be on a very big scale, as witness this extract from the *Sydney Morning Herald* of April 2nd:—

Mr. Cook's idea is that the stamps should be executed in the highest style of art possible. He has often, like many other people, looked with the utmost admiration upon what are called the picture stamps of America, and it is his ambition to issue a set of stamps which shall compare favourably with those unique specimens of the engravers' and printers' arts. The features of the Columbian stamps are the historical sketches so cleverly depicted upon them, and Mr. Cook would like to see produced, if possible in this colony, some stamps which should depict some at least of the leading historical events in the reign of Her Majesty. There is one thing which has impressed him strongly in connection with the idea of issuing commemorative stamps, and that is, that the enjoyment derived from the possession of them would not be limited to the people of this colony, but in the strictest sense of the word would be universal.

Mr. Cook, it will be seen, is a very promising gumpapper. Had he been a pupil of Mr. Seebach it could scarcely be said that he reflected anything but credit upon his illustrious tutor.

### LATER INFORMATION FROM SYDNEY

Is to the effect that Postmaster-General Cook has seen fit to modify his views on the subject, and will now content himself with a modest set of three stamps of simple design, and of the values of 1d., 2d. and 2½d. The design will consist of a portrait of the Queen in profile, enclosed in a frame that shall be simple yet artistic. It is hoped to have the issue ready by June 22nd, and to stimulate competition a premium has been offered for the best drawing.

## BRITISH COLONIAL STAMPS.

MR. JULES BERSCHON, of 54, Rue Lafayette, Paris, has bought a superb collection of British Colonial Stamps, containing a large number of the greatest rarities in mint condition, for the sum of £4000.

**A STAMP EXHIBITION AT LEIPZIG.**

AN Exhibition will be held at Leipzig from September 20th to October 1st, this year. It will be an annexe of the National Exhibition of Industry, which was opened in April by the King of Saxony. Some firms have already exhibited their publications, and by the time the Philatelic Exhibition proper is opened a very large display may be expected.

**ITALIAN PHILATELISTS USE THE "NEW TIME."**

A CIRCULAR which has reached us of late from the "Lombardian Philatelic Society" of Milan, announcing an auction sale about to take place in that city under the auspices of that Society, makes rather interesting reading for philatelists and auctioneers alike on this side—particularly so the last items on the programme, which read as follows:—

"SATURDAY, 15th May, 1897. Exhibition and Exchange, from 14 till 18 o'clock; Auction, from 21 till 23 o'clock.

"SUNDAY, 16th May. Exhibition and Exchange, from 10 till 12 o'clock; Auction, from 14 to 18 o'clock; to be followed by a Banquet in the evening, at a place to be determined hereafter."

The only drawback in connection with the last item is that in order to participate in it, 5 Italian lire, say about 4s., must be deposited with the Treasurer of the Society beforehand.

**PHILATELY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.****THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.**

The following extract from the press reports of the proceedings in Parliament on May 20th will be of particular interest to all philatelists:

Mr. Henniker Heaton (Canterbury) asked the Secretary to the Treasury, as representing the Postmaster-General, whether the Mulready stamp, the black penny stamp, and other postage stamps of the old issues were still available for postage purposes; whether, for some months past, the Postmaster-General and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue had insisted that stamp dealers and others should desist from publishing *miniature* and *other sized illustrations* of these stamps, in black or otherwise, in their catalogues; whether it was within the knowledge of the authorities that an illustration of the Mulready Stamp was being largely distributed by the promoters of the Philatelic Exhibition of which the Postmaster-General was one of the patrons; and whether such imitation or illustration was contrary to the regulations of the Post Office and Inland Revenue.

Mr. Hanbury (Preston).—The answers to the first two paragraphs of the question are in the affirmative. It became known to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue within the last few days that an illustration of the Mulready stamp was being distributed as stated in the question. The Postmaster-General is a patron of the Philatelic Exhibition, but he was not consulted as to the issue of this imitation and was not aware of its issue until informed of it by the Commissioners. He has informed them that he hopes no special exception will be made in favour of the Philatelic Exhibition. In preventing, as far as they can, the imitation of any postage stamps, whether of the United Kingdom, or of any colony or foreign country, the Postmaster-General and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue (with whom the enforcement of the law rests) are governed by the reasons which led Parliament to pass the 7th section of the Post Office Protection Act, 1884, and which led her Majesty's Government to enter into Article XVIII. of the Universal Postal Union Convention of Vienna, 1891. Nothing but certain legal doubts, removed by the decision of the High Court in "Dickins v. Gill" a year ago, have prevented a stricter enforcement of the law of which warning was given to all known stamp dealers by public notice in November, 1885. In the opinion of the Postmaster-General and Commissioners of Inland Revenue *there is grave risk if dies capable of producing exact imitations of postage stamps in black and white are allowed to be used by unauthorised persons*, and a foreign Government has more than once pressed this view upon the attention of her Majesty's Government. It is the case that fictitious stamps and materials for making them are imported into this country. The Judges commented

upon this in "Dickins v. Gill," and nothing but the want of a convenient opportunity for legislation has prevented introduction of a clause to deal with the matter by amending the Customs Consolidation Act.

The italics are ours. Curious enough, the picture of the Mulready envelope complained of is about one eighth the size of the original. Moreover, it is not in black and white, but in blue and red.

Mr. Henniker Heaton's question, however, refers to *miniature* reproductions, whereas Mr. Hanbury in reply, speaks of "*dies capable of producing exact imitations.*" We have appealed to Mr. Heaton to elucidate if possible this point, as it seems to us to be very important to the trade in general to know what is illegal and what is not.

**WHEN WE GET THE 2d. FOREIGN POST.**

SUGGESTS Mr. P. Oakley Hill in a letter to the *Daily Mail*:

To mark the era of twopenny colonial postage, and aid the realisation of a federated empire, may I suggest the issue of a new twopenny stamp, half as large again as the present one bearing the words, "The Empire of Great Britain," and with a modern portrait of our Empress-Queen, wearing an Imperial crown and seated in the historic coronation chair. The stamp to be for use at home and throughout the Empire.

**A BURGLARY AND A STAMP COLLECTION.**

At the North London Police Court, on Tuesday, May 18th, James Smith, a shoemaker, of Osborne Place, Whitechapel, was committed for trial for burglary at the house of Mr. Samuel Trenevey, a missionary, of Gore Road, South Hackney.

The house was broken into on the 6th inst., but the prisoner was not apprehended until five days later, when the police found him dealing with some of the property stolen—viz.: a number of foreign stamps, valued at £5. The prisoner denied any participation in the robbery; but Inspector Gunn said some footmarks on the soft mould of the prosecutor's garden exactly corresponded with the corrugated soles of the cricket shoes which James Smith was wearing when arrested.

As a shoemaker, James Smith—assuming him to be guilty of the robbery charged against him—ought to have thought of this very obvious sort of clue and changed his "foot-prints" accordingly.

**THE GREEKS AND THEIR POSTAGE STAMPS.**

We have to thank our friend, Mr. E. J. Mertzanoff, of Athens, for the information that by a new Royal Decree it is arranged that as the various denominations of Olympian stamps become exhausted they shall be replaced by new supplies of the Belgian type (small head of Mercury) which will be made in Athens as hitherto, pending arrangements for ordering the new printing in Vienna.

**LONDON PHILATELIC EXHIBITION. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The following gentlemen have accepted the invitation of the Committee to act as Judges for the purposes of the Awards in the several competitions:

Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. M. P. Castle, Major E. B. Evans,

Dr. H. Fraenkel and Lieut. F. H. Napier, R.N.

Two other representatives of foreign countries have been invited, and as soon as their replies have been received the list of Judges will be completed.

It has been arranged that the Exhibition will be opened on Thursday, the 22nd July, at 3 p.m., by H.R.H. The Duke of York, K.G.

The prices of admission fixed by the Committee are:

On the Opening Day (up to 6 p.m.), 10s., *by Ticket only*, which must be obtained beforehand.

After 6 p.m., on the Opening Day, 2s. 6d.

Admission on all other occasions, 1s.

Season Tickets can be obtained for the whole period of the Exhibition, including admission to the Opening, price 15s.

Ditto for whole period except Opening, 7s. 6d.

Tickets can now be booked on application to the Secretary, J. A. Tilleard, 4, Lombard Court, E.C., and will be forwarded as soon as issued.

Postal Orders for the tickets bespoken must accompany all orders.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



THE following brief but ——— letter voices a grievance which is, we fear, only too widespread:

DEAR SIRS. Having been sent a catalogue by an auctioneer in N.B., I forwarded him instructions to bid for me for a lot described in the catalogue as "Great Britain 10d., Oct. Specimen." On receiving the stamp I found, much to my surprise, that it was octagonal with a vengeance, the corners having been removed. On my returning the stamp owing to its mutilated character, the auctioneer simply referred me to the conditions of sale under which he was not liable for any misdescription.

I fail to see the value of catalogues, especially to collectors who are unable to attend the sales, unless the descriptions contained in them are accurate and to be relied upon.

Such a thing would never have occurred in a London sale.

Yours truly,

CUT SQUARE.

In commenting on the above, let us begin at the end. "Cut Square" says that such a thing would never occur in a London sale. His experience of London sales has evidently been a smooth and happy one. We fear that there are auctioneers even in London who would not scruple to devote the somewhat convenient rules and regulations of their order to such good—or bad—purposes. Auctioneers are happy in being able to sell you an article you have never seen without the ordinary trader's risk of a possible demand to have it "changed."

We are not quarrelling with the auctioneers' business arrangements, mind you. They are at liberty to transact their business just how they please. But it must always be remembered that an auctioneer, in the majority of cases, is paid by results, and that it is manifestly to his interest to do the best he can for his selling client as against his buying client. If "Cut Square" will ponder this thesis for a few moments we rather think it will dawn upon him that the idea of entrusting any bid for any lot to any auctioneer anywhere is absurd in the extreme.

In the specific case he mentions Cut Square should have sent his bid to some reliable and disinterested philatelist in New Brunswick. True there would have been a commission to pay, but he would have been sure of getting the entire stamp instead of merely a discarded "cut-out."

From the inception of the FORTNIGHTLY until the present day we have never ceased to deprecate the anomalous practice of sending bids to auctioneers. No auctioneer can honestly study the interests both of buyer and seller at the same time. The philatelist's remedy is so simple: let him send his bid to a broker or dealer, or, better still perhaps—for in this case he saves commission—to a fellow collector. The writer of these paragraphs has made many bids at London auctions for collector friends in Canada and the States, and they in turn have made bids for him on their side of the Atlantic. The results have been eminently satisfactory to all parties concerned.

A very ingenious little perforation gauge has been sent to us by Mr. James Bennett, of Stoke Bishop, Bristol. The perforations are arranged in the shape of a circle, and by this mode the gauge can easily be used to measure stamps without removing them from the Album. Details will be found in our advertisement columns.

A cynical philatelist, whose cynicism we believe to be either the result of a mixed diet or deliberately assumed for the occasion, wishes to supplement "the New Philatelic Dictionary," as recently quoted from an American contemporary, the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*. Thus he writes:—

Unused.—Cleaned stamps. On bleu. — Stained ditto.  
"O.G."—Supposed to signify original gum but really modern glue.

Remainders.—A trade euphemism for reprints and photolithographic reproductions.

Perforation Gauge.—A diabolical instrument for ruining the strongest eyesight and never giving correct results.

Amateurs.—Collectors who pick up cheaply the stamps of neglected countries, make "discoveries" and write papers thereon, then having thus secured a boom they sell the lot off at many times its value.

Stamp Catalogues.—Fictitious price lists so compiled as to enable dealers to realize large profits, although advertising their stocks at from 25 to 50% "off catalogue prices," just as is done in the Cycle trade.

Great Britain V.R.—A valueless essay, not worth the paper its printed on, the sales of which have, however, been so cleverly engineered that fools with more money than wits actually believe it to be a rarity (hear! hear! Ed.)

## Cuban Minor Varieties.

TRANSLATED FOR THE "S.C.F." BY JOHN B. CANASCHELLA.

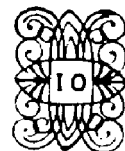
It is our constant desire (says the *Madrid Filatelico*), to make known to collectors any variety, error or singularity that may be discovered from time to time in the stamps of Spain, and of her Colonies. To-day we beg to point out a few of them to be met with in the types of 1883, issued in 1882—the latter having been countermarked in '83 in consequence of great devaluations having been brought to light in the stocks of stamps on hand at that date. All the minor varieties which have come under our notice, are to be found in the four countermarks illustrated herewith, and given in fact, as 2nd., 3rd., 4th., and 5th. variety in all Philatelic catalogues—all of them belonging to the 5 centimos blue with countermark in red.



2.



3.



4.



5.

2nd Variety (fig. 2). The figure 5 is occasionally found with a dot or short stroke on its right-hand side. Ditto without said dot or stroke, and with a comma.

3rd Variety (fig. 3). Here we have four differences, viz.: figure 5 with dot on right-hand side; dot on left-hand side; no dot at all, or with a comma on the right.

4th Variety (fig. 4). Two separate dots under the design of countermark; dot on the left of figure 5, and without dot or stop.

5th Variety (fig. 5). A dot on left-hand side of design or countermark. Two dots on the right. Figure 5 with dot on the left; 5 with comma on the right and 15 instead of 5.

These stamps have also been met with two dots on left-hand side of design and one on the right.

But among all the small varieties which we have now described here in order that they should be put on record, there exists a real printer's error which, it appears to us, has, so far, escaped the notice of the collector. This error is in the 5th variety and consists in bearing the figure 15, whereas its proper face value should be 5.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 12th, 1897. Auction Sales.

- May 31st. Mr. Hadlow, at 40, Jemyn Street, S.W., at 6 p.m. precisely.
- June 1st & 2nd. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Auderton's Hotel, Fleet St., at 5.45 p.m. precisely each day.
- June 10th & 11th. Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W., at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

# British Postmarks and Obliterations.

By C62.

## SEVENTH ARTICLE.

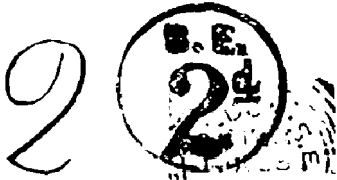
(N.B.—All Illustrations are three-quarter size.)



42.

More to P.

42a.



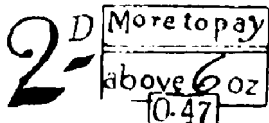
42b.

42c.

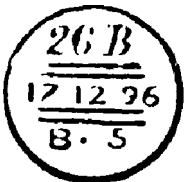
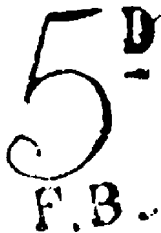
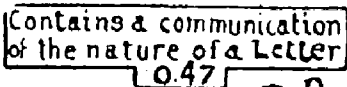


42d.

42e.



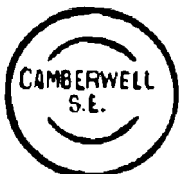
42f.



43.



43a.



44.



44a.

*Insufficiently Paid Letters.*—"Postage Due" stamps have never been used in the United Kingdom. Their place has been taken, to a certain extent, by the use of a postmark "more to pay," but the more general custom is to write the amount of postage due on the stamp or across the cover.

Type 42 is taken from a copy of the 1d. black, also cancelled with the red Maltese cross, and is probably one of the earliest forms of postmark used for this purpose after the introduction of adhesive stamps.

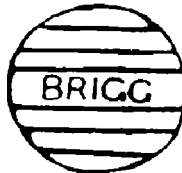
Type 42d, unfortunately incomplete, is taken from a copy of the 1d. red, imperf., used about 1851.

Type 42b is taken from a copy of the 1d., plate 71. This is not written but struck with a metal stamp.

The remaining types, 42c to 42h are now in use. *Circulars and other similar matter.* Type 43 is a form of combined obliteration and postmark, which came into use in 1875.—April 5th is the earliest date I have and is therefore the oldest existing form of the dated combined type. Its use is generally confined to circulars and matter allowed at the circular rate, but it may sometimes be found cancelling ordinary letter stamps.

Type 43a is a comparatively recent variety, used mainly for circulars, etc. I have seen it used on parcels from the country, but with the office number in the centre.

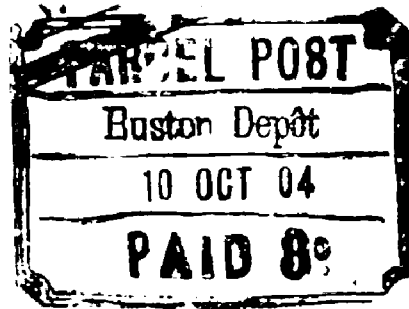
*Parcel Post.* Of parcel post obliterations there are many varieties. Types 44, 44a, 44b being those generally used. Type 44c is the round dated stamp with the letters "P.P." added, which I take to mean parcel post. Birmingham



41b.



41c.



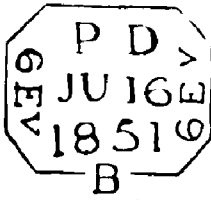
41d.



45.



45a.



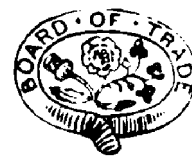
45b.



45c.



45d.



45e.



45a.



46b.



46c.

is now using a similar stamp with P.P.O. at the bottom. I have noticed this variety used in many instances on parcels, without any distinctive letters.

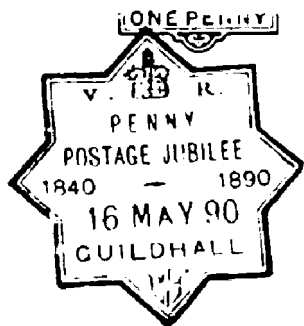
I do not know whether type 44d was used at Euston alone. I can only say I have not noticed its use elsewhere. There was another variety, oval in form, but with "Paid in money" at the bottom, also used at Euston in 1884.

"Paid."—For some time after the introduction of adhesive stamps, letters were frequently postmarked "paid." Why this was done I do not know, as the stamp would appear to sufficient evidence of the fact. Whatever may have been the reason (and it is most likely that this was simply a survival from the older period when adhesive stamps were not. Type 45 will frequently be found upon the 6d., 10d. and 11d. octagonal stamps.

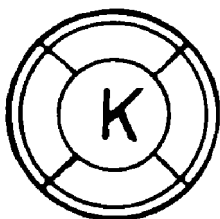
Type 45a is taken from a copy of the 1d. red, imperf., lent me by Mr. Bignold.

Another variety, which I have not by me for illustration, is oval in shape with the letters PD. in script. This and Type 45b I have seen used on the 1d. red, imperf.

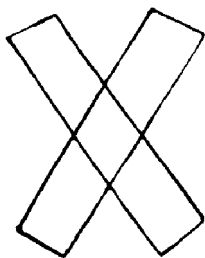
So far I have confined my remarks to postmarks and obliterations actually used in conjunction with adhesive stamps; but I purpose to mention one or two varieties of the "paid" form of postmark used in lieu of stamps. In the case of large quantities of matter being posted, it is not necessary to affix postage stamps, the amount of postage may be prepaid in cash. Matter thus dealt with is postmarked with Type 45c. Of this type there are several varieties. Whether official letters are dealt with in the same manner,



47.



48.



49.



50a.



50b.

common on the 3d. and 6d. values than on any other, and I have never seen it used on a circular.

Type 49 I have seen on the 1d. rose red, what it means I do not know. It is undoubtedly struck with a metal stamp.

Type 50 to 50b are varieties of a rather common type, which is said by Mr. Ewen to be used when the ordinary metal obliterations could not be used, as was frequently the case when the packets were of soft materials. It will frequently be found that the metal dated stamp is used as well as this particular obliteration, which would appear to be rather against Mr. Ewen's theory. Personally I know nothing about Types 48 to 50b beyond the fact that I have them all.

I should be glad if some reader would explain these, as well as two varieties of 9c. I have recently met with. These have the letters "D" & "H" in the centre of the diamond in place of a number.

Many other varieties have come to light since this article was written, and these I believe it is our publishers' intention to add to a completely revised list to be issued in their new catalogue, which will be ready shortly. In conclusion I would like to express my hearty thanks to Messrs. H. J. Bignold, J. J. Coates and G. Mackey for their kind assistance in the preparation of these notes on British Postmarks and Obliterations.

(The End.)

## Under Bennett's Clock.

By HARRY HILCKES.

### ABOUT OUR FORTHCOMING CATALOGUE OF ENGLISH STAMPS.

FOR months past I have been working at a new edition of our "English Catalogue," the first edition of which was presented to a startled philatelic world in May, 1894—roughly, three years ago. The publication of that book initiated a sudden awakening of interest in English stamps, which has been, unfortunately, to a certain extent counteracted by various subsequent publications of a similar kind which have paid little or no regard to the actual market value of the various stamps listed. Since the first appearance of my Catalogue I have had the gratification of seeing the Stamps of Great Britain advanced to the front rank in the leading "General" Catalogues, and not only given special prominence, but dealt with in a far more thorough manner. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Bright have followed the system of plate number pricing initiated by myself, although they have in many cases failed utterly to reflect the true position of the market as regards the values of the stamps. In some cases their figures are correct, but in others they are out of all proportions to the true market values of stamps.

Just here the thinking reader may ask, very pertinently, how I know that they are wrong, and how I can be sure myself of being able to arrive at the relative values of the various stamps. It is a difficult question to answer; yet I can answer it. I have adopted a plan of studying the market in English stamps which I think every reader will admit is as about as near perfection as possible. By a special arrangement with Mr. Walter Morley, the eminent specialist of English stamps, I have been enabled to compare not only notes but also stocks with him, and the result of our laying together of heads has been a striking unanimity in, not only our views on the subject, but also in the condition of our stocks of English stamps. Mr. Morley and I, you must understand, have been buying English stamps for years quite independently of one another, yet, when we come to compare our accumulations we find a striking similarity in the paucity of this stamp and the plentitude of that. In fact this comparison has proved to be to both of us an unmistakable, and I think an invaluable guide to the proportionate rarity of the various issues of English stamps.

The Second Edition of the English Catalogue will be of the well-known Sent size and will be in many respects a great advance upon my first venture. For one thing, prices will be given for two classes of used specimens. There will be an "A" class and a "B" class, for it is a well-known fact that fine used copies of English stamps are extremely scarce, whereas heavily postmarked copies may be, comparatively, very plentiful indeed. As instancing my views on this subject, I may say that in the "A" column (fine copies; lightly postmarked) a stamp may be priced at, say, 1s., whereas in the "B" column it may figure as low as 2d., or even 1d. Thus we are convinced (and here I speak for Mr. Morley as well as myself) is the only satisfactory way of pricing a Catalogue of English stamps. In the unused column, by the way, I shall give only the price for ordinary copies without gum, as these appear to be much more plentiful in the market than mint copies, the latter being worth from 25% to 33% more than those quoted in the column.

The Catalogue, in addition to its ordinary contents, will contain a complete history of British Postmarks, as published in the FOR EXHIBITION, with additions since received; a list of all English stamps which has been used abroad, and in an "Addenda" a mass of additional information calculated to be of service to the thinking philatelist.

I have reduced the price to 2s. 6d., post free, and expect the Catalogue to be ready in good time for the London Exhibition, the first part being already in the press. Prepaid orders can be booked, and will be executed in rotation on the publication of the Catalogue.

Approval books of English stamps, based as to price on the forthcoming new catalogue, are now ready for sending out, and can be had by philatelists known to us on application. There is nearly a page of every variety, in all possible shades, and the books are especially rich in the octagonal issues and the higher values.



### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MAY 29, 1897.



THE need of some more effectual means of ascertaining the genuineness or otherwise of doubtful stamps is made more than ever apparent by the article published in this issue of the FORTNIGHTLY over the signature of Mr. Harry Hilckes. When it seem to be possible from a firm of such recognised eminence in the stamp trade as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. to make such an egregious blunder as is here revealed, is it high time that something should be done to guard against such mistakes in the future. There are unpleasant features of the particular case under notice which are set forth at full length in the article referred to and need not be therefore alluded to here.

Surely it is not too much to hope that our leading philatelic societies will see fit to organize themselves in some way into an expert body for that purpose of deciding whether stamps submitted to them are genuine or forged. The importance of the subject to amateur philatelists it would be impossible to over estimate; and since we have shown that a dealer's guarantee, even if it be the guarantee of an eminent firm, is not necessarily infallible. Probably the mischief is caused in such cases by the fact that "Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd." resolves itself for all practical business purposes into one man, Mr. Charles J. Phillips, who, though undoubtedly a smart and energetic business man, would scarcely be accused by his dearest friends of being an infallible philatelic expert. But now we are wandering from the purpose we had in view. That purpose is to bring home to our leading philatelic societies the urgent necessity of making the expertising of stamps the chief item in their scheme of work. It is for the societies themselves to decide how this shall be done. Sufficient for us to bring to their notice that something should—nay must—be done immediately, for this question of the genuineness of stamps is one of those upon which the future of philately largely depends. The Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society has done, and is doing, excellent work, but then the fees charged are high, far too high for the owner of only moderately rare stamps to pay. We venture to suggest that all philatelic societies should examine and report upon stamps belonging to their own members gratis, and that to non-members only a nominal fee should be charged.

We know quite well that what we are suggesting will mean a great addition of work for the secretaries of the Societies concerned, but we put it to them as men interested in

the welfare of philately, whether it would not redound to their own credit and conduce to the general welfare of all stamp-owners to adopt some such plan as we have suggested.

OUR aim has always been to make the FORTNIGHTLY absolutely indispensable to the up-to-date philatelist.

**Some New Features.** To this end we have lately arranged for a number of new and we think valuable features. In the first place we have retained the services of Mr. J. B. Camasciella, a well-known philatelist and a diligent student of and contributor to the Italian and Spanish philatelic papers, who will translate for us the pith of the news and editorial matter contained in the leading stamp papers of those languages.

Secondly, to mention only one other of the innovations, we have on hand, we may say that at an early date, probably in our next issue, we shall commence the publication of an extremely interesting paper on the subject of Prussian stamps by Mr. Wilhelm Kühn, of Edinburgh, a well-known member of the Edinburgh and Leith Philatelic Society.

We trust the readers of the FORTNIGHTLY are not losing sight of the fact that we are always glad to receive suggestions as regards the literary contents of the paper. We believe that no one man, or to be strictly correct no two men, can successfully cater for any public without being reminded periodically of what that public wants.

### Notes on New Issues.

We have been so often asked to start a New Issue Column so have decided to do so. We shall esteem it a favour if our readers, especially those abroad would assist us with the earliest possible information. In a case of new stamps a copy should always accompany such information, which of course we shall be very glad to pay for.

**Hawaii.**—A set of official stamps have been sent to us by Messrs. Whitfield King in the annexed design but we really can't see the object of this series. We have shrewd suspicion, especially seeing that the set before us, although post-marked, has all the glory of full gum, that the real object of this issue is a very sordid one, and we would really advise our readers for the time being at least not to invest. The following are the values we have seen.



2 cents green	10 cents carmine
5 .. grey brown	20 .. orange
6 .. blue	25 .. violet

**Seychelles.**—Messrs. Whitfield King also send us three new values of the current issue. They are as usual printed in the new De la Rue type, bi-coloured and we append illustration of the highest value, 1 rupee.



18 cents blue
36 .. yellow-brown, value and name carmine
1 rupee deep mauve, value and name vermilion

### Philately in Mexico.

THE *Monitor Filatelico* advocates the issue of a 30 cents stamp, as that would enable the public to frank a double weight registered letter to either Europe, Central or South America, by the application of this one single stamp, instead of having to make up the required amount by several of them, as at present. It is pointed out, moreover, that this arrangement would reduce, proportionally, the counter work at the retail Post offices.

The same journal announces the issue of new letter cards, with blue printing on white linen paper. They bear an eagle at one corner, and have a sheet of paper stuck or sewn on inside them.

# A Dealer's Guarantee, and what came of it!

BY HARRY HILCKES.

MANY years ago—to be more precise, about eight—I wrote an article for the *Illustrated Briefmarken Zeitung* on the necessity of establishing some kind of centre to which collectors and dealers alike could submit their stamps for opinion. This question has been a burning one for years past and has been discussed over and over again by nearly every important German paper, but so far no satisfactory solution has been found. Of course, my readers will say at once, we have the Expert Committee of the London Society, and so we have, but that Committee exclude practically by their high fees all medium stamps, and it is just the medium stamps which the medium collector does not know. Day after day I receive lots from all parts of the country to examine. For years I have done it gratis, as I consider a dealer should do everything to help and assist the collector; recently, however, no doubt chiefly through articles in the *FORTNIGHTLY*, I have been inundated with lots for examination, and I have commenced charging a fee of 2d. per stamp. I have been surprised at the large number of obvious forgeries contained in these lots, but I must say that these lots generally come from collectors who do not belong to any Philatelic Society and therefore have not the opportunities of exchanging ideas with others more advanced.

A recent case of a dealer's guarantee being an absolutely worthless one has, however, convinced me that it is time something should be done to protect collectors against Mr. Castle's "beast of philately," i.e., the dealer.

A customer, who is in the habit of submitting to me stamps for opinion—not only as regards their genuineness, but also as regards their market value—sent me the other day a copy of the rare Hong Kong one dollar blue, postally used, which was submitted to him by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., for the price of £6. I append a photograph of this stamp, also



GUARANTEED  
BY  
STANLEY  
GIBBONS LTD

a reproduction of what appears on the back, i.e., the guarantee of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. I recognised the postmark at once to be a well-known forgery which was circulated some six or eight years ago when Mr. Chas. J. Phillips was at the head of the Philatelic Protection Association and when these particular forgeries were put before that Association.

However, seeing Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' guarantee on the back I did not consider it fair to them to pronounce the stamp a forgery without giving them an opportunity to withdraw that guarantee or explain for what reason they considered the stamp to be genuinely postmarked, I therefore wrote them as follows:

CHAS. J. PHILLIPS, ESQ.,

5th March, 1897.

DEAR SIR,—The enclosed stamp has been sent to me for opinion. I have always been under the impression that this particular postmark was made by the "famous gang"; but as I see your guarantee on the back of the stamp I should much like to know whether you have any special knowledge as to the genuineness of this particular stamp.

Please return the stamp by bearer and oblige.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES.

They did not return the stamp that day, and on the next day in the afternoon, I sent this private letter to Mr. Phillips:

CHAS. J. PHILLIPS, ESQ.,

6th March, 1897.

DEAR SIR, Will you please return the stamp I sent you yesterday by bearer; I only submitted it to you for your inspection as I did not wish to give an adverse opinion without giving you an opportunity to explain your guarantee.

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES.

To which he replied as follows:

MESSRS. H. HILCKES & CO., LTD.

6th March, 1897.

DEAR SIRS.—We beg to return you herewith the Hong Kong one dollar blue with the postmark which we guarantee to be genuine or we should not have put our endorsement on the back. Mr. ——— quite understands that all the stamps we send him we guarantee.

Yours faithfully,

STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.

During the time Mr. Phillips kept the stamp he made sufficient enquiries to satisfy himself that the stamp was forged, and on the 5th March (the 7th being on Sunday) he wrote to my customer the following slanderous letter:

"DEAR SIR, A few days ago we sent you one dollar Hong Kong which we believed to have a genuine obliteration. The stamp was sent to us by Messrs. Hilckes to whom you had sent it for opinion, but we will not have anything to do with this firm in any way and decline to answer their enquiries; we have, however, made enquiries since, and think it very likely that from what we found out, that the obliteration is a wrong one. It is apparently one of the forged varieties we have not met with before. We shall therefore be glad if you will return the stamp to us and we will look into it more carefully. One thing you may bear in mind, and that is, that any stamp we sell you we guarantee, and even if found wrong seven years after you buy it, we will put the matter right by returning the money, plus 5 per cent. interest in all cases. This is our general rule."

In the letter addressed to us Mr. Chas. J. Phillips absolutely guarantees the stamp again, knowing it to be forged, because in his letter he states that he has made enquiries and that he thinks the stamp is wrong from what he hears. As he returned the stamp to me when writing that letter, these enquiries must have been made before he wrote same. Then again, writing to our customer he tells a deliberate lie when he stated "he declined to answer our enquiries." He *did* answer them. Now finally, hearing and knowing that I should demand an apology for his impertinent letter to my customer he inserted the following paragraph in the next number of the *Monthly Journal* :—

<p>Hong Kong Fiscals with Forged Postmarks</p>	<p>Are often met with and many forged cancellations are quite well known. However, lately we have come across another that we have hitherto believed to be genuine, but which we are now convinced is bad, and that it is one of the productions of the old forgery gang of some years ago. We refer to a postmark, "B 62," which we have met with on the \$1, blue, and we believe on the 50c., purple, and possibly on one or two other stamps. This ("B 62") is the well-known old postmark of Hong Kong, and is found ordinarily in black or in blue, especially on the unwmkd. stamps and the early issues with CC. The imitation we refer to is a very dangerous one and very good looking. We find, however, it can be detected by the postmark being slightly smaller, especially in the letter and figures inside, than in the originals. As it is possible we have sold one or two of these stamps before we found out the cancellation was a bad one, we shall be glad if any of our customers would return same, and the money will be at once refunded.</p>
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It is peculiar to see that he has sold various of these stamps. This by the way. But the above paragraph was evidently meant as a kind of "brake" on the article which he knew perfectly well would appear in the *FORTNIGHTLY* should he not give me satisfaction for his insolence.

To make assurance doubly sure, I submitted the stamp to the Expert Committee of the London Philatelic Society who

returned it to me under date 24th March, with the following opinion:

No. 565.

24th March, 1897.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON.  
EXPERT COMMITTEE.

We have examined the annexed Hong Kong One Dollar, blue fiscal stamp sent by Messrs. Harry Hulckes & Co., Ltd., and are of opinion that the postmark is a forgery.

E. D. BACON.  
EDW. B. EVANS.

Mr. Chas. J. Phillips may be the manager of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.; he may be backed up by important members of the London Society and thus think he is "the Pope of Philately," but he has no right whatever to attack me in the cowardly way he has done in the letter to my customer. He contradicted my opinion in his letter to me without giving the slightest reason for doing so. Was he told by members of the Expert Committee before he wrote that letter to me that the stamp was undoubtedly a forgery? — moreover, a very common forgery, which he ought to have been very familiar with years ago, when he was Secretary of the defunct (?) P.P.A. Mr. Phillips may be extremely bitter against the FORTNIGHTLY for having exposed his part in the famous Nova Scotia "deal" but that is no excuse for slandering a rival firm. But, the serious part of the whole business is, that a firm recognised to be at the head of the trade in England should so carelessly use their guarantee. It may be presumed that a certain amount of examination was done before the guarantee was attached to the stamp and a minute's look at their own stock of Hong Kong stamps would have convinced them that this type of postmark was not met with in that country. The one dollar blue unused is worth perhaps 10/- but really postally used would be worth as near as possible £10. My customer never doubted the genuineness of the postmark, but only asked my opinion as to whether £6 was a fair price. I do not blame Mr. Phillips for having made the mistake in guaranteeing a forged stamp; that can happen to all of us even if we use every possible care, but I believe everyone of my readers will agree with me, that to cover up such a mistake by shuffling and falsehood is the worst possible way out of such a dilemma.

## First Steps in Philately.

BY PERCY C. BISHOP.

*I OBSERVE in the "S.C.F." that peroxide of hydrogen is used to renovate stamps discoloured by atmospheric influence. I referred to Roscoe's "Elementary Chemistry" to find the symbol of this body. I found peroxide of hydrogen in the index, but on referring to the page he only speaks of  $H_2O_2$  or hydrogen dioxide. Is  $H_2O_2$  the same as peroxide of hydrogen? —D.E.C.H.*

I think it would serve no useful purpose to air my knowledge of chemistry in the "S.C.F.'s" columns, in order to answer this question. Whatever its symbol, peroxide of hydrogen is the thing that will do the trick, and I should recommend D.E.C.H. to ask for it at the nearest chemist's and see that he gets it, without bothering whether the symbol is on the bottle or not. Or if the chemist does not stock it, our publishers are able to supply it in useful shilling bottles, and would doubtless be able to send my correspondent a supply through the post.

*Please tell me in the next number of the "S.C.F." the best and easiest way to get the paper off the backs of Russian stamps where they cannot be put into water.—J. W. R. M.*

Steaming is the obvious alternative, but there is still another way. It will be found that the Russian and other stamps that will not stand the effects of a bath can be floated on the water with their faces uppermost with impunity, if care be exercised. By this means the paper can easily be soaked away without in any way injuring the face of the stamp.

*In your Publishers' Catalogue I find English Stamps postmarked abroad. Whether foreign stamps postmarked in England are of any good I do not know, but I have just received a 4d. Fiji, mauve, postmarked England.—S.A.*

At first glance it would seem that if English stamps postmarked abroad are of special interest then Foreign stamps postmarked in England must also be of special interest, but a moment's thought will dispel this illusion. The English stamps postmarked abroad are of particular interest to philatelists because they represent letters actually franked from foreign countries by means of British postage stamps — generally from some British Colony which had not yet a postal system of its own. But this has never been the case in England with regard to stamps of other Countries. You see, England has not recently been a colony or dependency of foreign power. As to foreign stamps bearing English postmarks they are, broadly speaking, to be classed among the accidentals of philately. I have myself many Brazilian stamps bearing the London postmark, but the explanation is simple. The Brazilians at one time had a way of sticking their stamps over the flap of the envelope in order to make assurance doubly sure in the matter of sealing the same. The stamp being placed on the back, the postmark naturally was also placed on the back, and it sometimes happen that the Brazilian postal official still bangs his dating stamp down on the back of the envelope although the stamp is not there. Thus the letter comes to England unpostmarked and our zealous postal officials, of St. Martin's-le-grand, to whom an uncancelled stamp is a thing that must not be permitted to pass, cheerfully place the London postmark where that of Rio de Janeiro should have been.

*English stamps and certain denominations are surcharged as follows: I.R. Official, and Army Official, and Government Parcels. Can you explain in what direction stamps bearing these overprints are beneficial to the Government.—Omega.*

I don't think they are beneficial to the Government at all, except as a matter of official convenience. The stamps are simply issued for official use and consequently are surcharged for the various departments in order to assist the accurate keeping of the accounts. If there were no surcharge it is not unlikely that the postal expenses of various Government departments would shew an abnormal and alarming increase. "Omega" asks two other questions: "What am I to understand," says he, "by hairlines in reference to a stamp." This is difficult to explain without the aid of illustration, and we must recommend "Omega" to consult our publishers' English catalogue. Our friend's third question has reference to the paper manufactured for the British Post Office by Dickinson. "Was this paper made specially for the purpose," he asks, "and did Dickinson also print the stamps?" "Yes" to the first question, and "No" to the second.

*What is the meaning of the letters CC. and CA. in Colonial watermarks?—J. W. H.*

Briefly, CC. means "Crown Colony," and CA. means "Crown Agent." This would probably be sufficient to explain to J.W.H. the meaning of the use of these letters in the watermarks of Colonial postage and stamps. The CC. and CA. watermarks are used only in Colonies which are more or less under the direct control of the Crown. All the self-governing Colonies such as the various divisions of Australia, Canada, and the Cape, have watermarks which bear some local significance, such as the Swan watermark of Western Australia (formerly known as Swan River), the Q. and Crown of Queensland, the V. and Crown of Victoria, and so on. The same correspondent asks for information as to how to detect forged Ionian Islands stamps and forged Bremen stamps. As regards Bremen, the best possible answer is to refer our correspondent to the exhaustive articles on the subject appearing in the early numbers of the FORTNIGHTLY; and as regards Ionian Islands, although a forged Ionian can be detected at a glance by anyone who has seen a genuine copy, I regret that I cannot possibly in the limited space allotted to this feature give any adequate directions on the subject.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## A Country with only one Stamp.

A WELL-KNOWN and witty philatelist once declared, when asked what was his special fancy in the way of countries, that he specialized Wadwahn, which country, as every schoolboy knows, has only two stamps to its credit in the catalogues. The philatelist aforesaid might have gone one better by declaring that his fancy inclined him to Terra del Fuego, for which country, or rather district, only one stamp has ever appeared. The "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors," which appears serially in the *American Journal of Philately*, is now in the "T's," and Terra del Fuego is one of the countries dealt with in the May issue. It will not be waste of space to quote the very brief story of the emission and abolition of this one stamp, as given by Messrs. Collin & Calman:—

The stamp prepaid postage on mail matter between Ushuwaia and Puntas Arenas, but as this post was of a private character, it was suppressed by both the Argentine and Chilean governments shortly after it had been established.

The remarkable up-to-dateness which these cataloguers infuse into their work for the *American Journal of Philately* is well shown by the instalment of their catalogue under notice, which comprises, in addition to a very excellent catalogue of Tasmanian stamps, a good list of Tobago stamps, including all the recent provisionals, and a list of the surcharged German stamps just introduced for use in Togoland.

Mr. Lewis H. Benton pens an addendum to his previous articles on Bank stamps, it being his particular fancy to study the small labels issued by the various American Savings Banks, and which really constitute bank notes in miniature. Mr. Benton, for the first time goes beyond his own country in this matter, and illustrates one of the Savings Bank forms for postage-stamps issued by our own Savings Bank Department, and also a very similar form issued by the Austrian Government, giving spaces for ten stamps of 5 krentzer each.

## The Universal Postage-stamp.

That industrious contributor to the *American Journal of Philately*, Mr. Jules Bouvez, fills three pages of the May number with a consideration of the universal postage-stamp from all points of view. Few will dispute his statement that this question of the International postage-stamp is the most important on the agenda paper of the forthcoming Postal Congress at Washington. The universal stamp would be of incalculable benefit to the public at large, and would not be such a terrible catastrophe from a philatelic point of view. Mr. Bouvez discusses in detail the practical side of the suggestion, and also goes into the history of the agitation for a universal stamp, reminding us that this subject was discussed, though not so exhaustively as it might have been, at the last Postal Congress held at Vienna in 1891. "Although," said Mr. Bouvez, "the Postal Congress was closed in 1891 without any decision being arrived at, it is nevertheless true that this question made rapid strides on that occasion. Then he goes on to add:

Three years later, the postal and telegraphic authorities of Germany entered into further negotiations with the members of the Union with a view to an understanding in this matter, and a conference was officially announced for the 15th of July, 1895. The minister of the German Postal Department presented on this occasion a design for a universal postage stamp, and renewed the plan of adoption above described, which was acknowledged to be of such a nature as to preclude any kind of fraud. Indications now point to the adoption of the above described project.

The sale of the international stamp would therefore be conducted for the benefit of all the postal administrations of the Union, and the proceeds of such sale would be divided amongst the various administrations in the proportions fixed by Art. 32 of the Convention, as per extract given above.

## THE SHAPE AND STYLE OF THE UNIVERSAL STAMP.

Speculation as to size and appearance of any universal stamp must necessarily be speculation pure and simple, but it is interesting all the same. Let us, therefore, quote Mr. Bouvez's further remarks, which are in the nature of a forecast of the universal stamp that is to be.

At the risk of being considered indiscreet, let us say a word now with regard to the composition of the stamp.

It would be perforated, and of the dimensions 38mm x 25mm., so that the names of the various countries which recognized its postal value might be artistically combined on the surface, such combination to be made in alphabetical order, the classes of the various countries being also considered.

By reason of the difficulties which would ensue from the indication, on the obverse of the stamp, of the charge imposed by such countries as do not use the franc as their monetary standard, the method inaugurated by Mr. Albert Barre, of Paris, and which was applied to the Greek stamps of the first issue, would be adopted on the stamp; that is to say, the value would be printed in color on the reverse of the stamp. The adoption of this method would also simplify the formation of the design, which would be simple and at the same time attractive.

Will all these measures be of such a nature as to absolutely preclude all possibility of counterfeiting this stamp? Although the Postal Congress of Vienna clearly and definitely outlined the steps that were to be taken with a view to the prevention of counterfeiting in any of the countries of the Union, it would seem advisable, as an additional safeguard, to select a special kind of paper for the printing of this stamp. In this connection, we must not lose sight of the fact that, if Bank of England notes, the simplest of all in appearance, are yet far more difficult to imitate than those of other countries which are often characterized by a lavish display of ornamentation, this is to be attributed to the fact that their principal safeguard lies in the paper itself. The public are unaware of the traps that are laid for the counterfeiter in this one primary operation alone, by which, at the will of the manufacturer, there may exist certain diversities of thickness, skillfully calculated, which are noticed on certain parts of the sheet, and which are nothing more than skilfully arranged water-marks. It would also be well to bear in mind, in the selection of the paper, that the universal stamp will be, as we have previously stated, a paper money, and from its very nature must be subject to transfer from hand to hand. It must therefore be small in size, and at the same time of exceptional strength, and consequently ought to be the object of a special manufacture.

## Canadian Revenue Stamps in demand.

Thus the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine*.—"Speaking of the revenues of Canada, the demand is reported extraordinarily active at the present time. There are now published three catalogues of the revenue stamps of Canada, one by Mr. Ketcheson, another by Mr. Adams, and another is just announced by Mr. Hall. The stamps are very attractive, and no collector should overlook them, as in the near future some of them will be almost unobtainable."

## The moral of the Colman case.

Regarding the abortive prosecution of Mr. Hamilton F. Colman, of Washington—a matter dealt with at full length in the FORTNIGHTLY—the *Post Office* remarks:

It matters little now to collectors what final disposition is made of the case. The character of the stamps has been discovered, and the fact that fraud upon philatelists was attempted has been proven.

What penalty the philatelic public proposes to impose upon the perpetrator is for it to decide.

We are perfectly certain that the loss of standing incident to this exposure will be sufficient to offset any hope of financial gain which the originator of the fraud expected to make.

The outcome of the attempt will certainly serve as a warning to all persons of like disposition to avoid money making by fraud upon collectors.

## An Extraordinary Publication.

The latest American philatelic journal comes from Hartford, Connecticut, and is called, very strangely, the *Perforator*. The object of the publishers in so naming it has been to get something uncommon; and it must be admitted that they have succeeded. Whether the paper itself will succeed is very problematical. With the exception of about two columns of matter all the articles in the *Perforator* are clipped or quoted from other journals. "First attempts are often crude," says the Editor in his introductory note. They are. No. 1 of the *Perforator* is exceedingly crude, and we hope that No. 2, if there is a No. 2, will show somewhat better results.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Mr. HADLOW, April 12th and 13th, 1897.

(Continued from page 184).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.		
		£	s.	d.
a	India, Scinde Dawk, ½a. red	..	..	1 0 0
a	Service, 2a. green on long lilac	..	..	1 10 0
b	ditto, 6a. 8p. grey *	..	..	1 12 0
b	Labuan, 2c. green, CA. sideways, no gum *	..	..	1 6 0
b	Lagos, 3d. brown, CC., perf. 14 *	..	..	0 18 0
b	Mauritius, 9d. green	..	..	1 0 0
A	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC., block of 4 *	..	..	3 0 0
a	4d. blue, CC. *	..	..	0 16 0
b	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC.	..	..	1 4 0
a b	4d. rose *	..	..	1 12 0
a	4d. orange, litho.	..	..	0 16 0
a	4d. blue, CC. *	..	..	1 15 0
b	6d. lilac-grey	..	..	1 0 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	..	..	0 19 0
a b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	..	..	1 4 0
b c	New Brunswick, 6d. orange-yellow	..	..	2 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 4d. carmine-red	..	..	2 12 0
a	8d. ditto *	..	..	0 18 0
a b	2d. orange *	..	..	£1 2s. od. and
a	New Republic, £1 mauve on yellow, arms *	..	..	0 18 0
b	New Zealand, 1/- green, star, imperf. *	..	..	0 15 0
a	Oldenburg, third issue, 2gr. red	..	..	0 15 0
b	St. Christopher, 1/- lilac-rose	..	..	0 17 0
a	ditto *	..	..	0 15 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	..	..	1 18 0
a	(4d.) blue, CC. ...	..	..	1 16 0
a	(6d.) lilac, perf. 12½ *	..	..	0 19 0
a b	(1/-) orange, perf. 12½ *	..	..	1 18 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange *	..	..	1 14 0
a	4d. bright blue, CA., perf. 12 *	..	..	3 0 0
a	6d. yellow-green, star, compound perf. *	..	..	2 5 0
a	1/- vermilion, star, ditto *	..	..	0 17 6
b	1/- orange-vermilion, CA., perf. 12	..	..	0 15 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey	..	..	2 8 0
c	Tuscany, 2 soldi brick-red, fair, but thinned..	..	..	4 4 0
b	United States, Periodicals, 9c. black *	..	..	1 3 0
1a 1c	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, CC., pair	..	..	2 2 0
b	6d. rose, perf. 12 *	..	..	1 0 0
c	1/- crimson, single line, gum, but thinned *	..	..	2 10 0
b c	ditto, used	..	..	2 10 0
a	1/- crimson, border *	..	..	0 18 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., April 14th, 1897.

a	Bahamas, 4d. deep rose, CC., perf. 14 *	..	..	0 17 0
a	4d. on 6d. *	..	..	0 15 0
b	Barbados, ½d. green, large star, clean perf. *	..	..	0 15 0
a	Bolivia, 500c. black, 11 stars *	..	..	3 5 0
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 12½	..	..	2 16 0
b	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown *	..	..	1 4 0
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14	..	..	1 1 0
a	2c. on 6d., perf. 12½ *	..	..	1 1 0
a	Buenos Ayres, 1 peso blue *	..	..	1 1 0
b	Canada, 7½d. green, cut close	..	..	0 18 0
b c	ditto, margins 3 sides, touched 4th	..	..	1 2 0
b	10d. blue, on thin	..	..	0 15 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- emerald	..	..	0 16 0
b	Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, imperf. *	..	..	1 2 0
a	8d. brown, star, perf.	..	..	2 4 0
a	5d. purple-brown, no wmk.	..	..	0 19 0
a	Cyprus, 6d. grey *	..	..	0 16 0
a	Dominica, 6d. orange	..	..	0 15 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED		
		£	s.	d.
c	Great Britain, the V.R. trial cancel	..	..	6 15 0
a	Montserrat, 1d., CA., perf. 12 *	..	..	0 15 0
A	2½d. brown, CC., block of 4 *	..	..	3 12 0
a	ditto, a single *	..	..	0 19 0
a	4d. blue, CC., block of 4 *	..	..	2 14 0
a b	4d. blue, CA. ...	..	..	3 0 0
a	Naples, ½t. blue, cross, on piece	..	..	3 17 6
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. *	..	..	1 2 0
a b	4d. orange, engraved * two	..	..	each 1 8 0
a	ditto, used	..	..	15/- and 0 16 0
b	6d. lilac-grey	..	..	0 16 0
b	6d. green *	..	..	6 10 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 *	..	..	1 12 0
a b	1/- blue-green, perf. 15	..	..	1 1 0
b	New Brunswick, 1/- mauve, small margins	..	..	10 15 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange, two	..	..	each 0 15 0
a b	6d. orange	..	..	0 19 0
b	ditto	..	..	0 15 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	..	..	0 17 0
a	8½c. green on white	..	..	0 7 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.), blue, star *	..	..	1 18 0
a	(6d.) green, star	..	..	1 14 0
a	(1/-) orange, CC., perf. 14 *	..	..	0 15 0
a	1/- black and orange *	..	..	4 6 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange	..	..	0 15 0
a	4d. blue, star	..	..	0 15 0
a	4d. blue, CA., perf. 12 *	..	..	3 0 0
a	6d. yellow-green, star, perf. 11½ *	..	..	1 12 0
a	1/- brown	..	..	1 0 0
a	Saxony, 3pf. red, on entire	..	..	5 15 0
a b	Switzerland, Basle, 2½r.	..	..	4 0 0
1a 1b	Geneva, the double stamp, on entire	..	..	21 10 0
A	1and. 5c., on piece	..	..	1 14 0
a	Winterthur, 2½r., pair on entire	..	..	6 10 0
b	Zurich, 6r., hor. lines	..	..	1 0 0
b	ditto, 6r., vert. lines	..	..	1 0 0
a	Turks Islands, 4d. blue *	..	..	0 16 0
a	United States, (1869-75 re-issue) 15c., no grill	..	..	1 10 0
a	Executive, 3c. *	..	..	0 19 0
a	Victoria, 3d. lake *	..	..	1 9 0
b c	Beaded Oval, 6d. orange	..	..	3 12 6
A	Virgin Islands, 6d. purple, on entire	..	..	1 6 0
a	1/- crimson, border *	..	..	0 16 0
A	1/- brown, on entire	..	..	3 6 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, April 22nd, 1897.

b	Baden, Land Post, 12k yellow	..	..	1 0 0
a	Bahamas, 1 green, CC., imperf. pair *	..	..	4 10 0
a b	4d. rose, CC., perf. 14 *	..	..	0 15 0
a	British Central Africa, 3/- on 4 *	..	..	0 16 0
a	British East Africa, (on Co's stamp) 1 rupee, double surcharge *	..	..	1 6 0
a	Ceylon, 4d. lilac, CC., imperf. *	..	..	5 0 0
a	2d. maize, CC., imperf. pair *	..	..	5 10 0
a	Colombia, (1886), 5 pesos brown-red *	..	..	0 18 0
a	10 pesos black on rose *	..	..	1 6 0
A	Greece, (1888), 5l. carmine imperf., (colour of 20l) *	..	..	0 15 0
b	Mexico, (1872), 12c. blue, vert. laid paper	..	..	1 7 6
b c	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. blue, plate 1 *	..	..	4 10 0
a	St. Helena, 3d. purple, CC., short bar, pair, imperf. *	..	..	15 0 0
a b	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CA. *	..	..	8 15 0
A	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- crimson *	..	..	1 12 0
a	6d. pink on white, perf. 12 *	..	..	1 0 0
c	1/- single line, small tear	..	..	3 10 0
a	1/- crimson, border *	..	..	0 16 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., April 26, 1897.

a	Afghanistan (1871-2), 6 shahi purple *	..	..	5 15 0
a	(1874-5), abasi, purple *	..	..	0 16 0
a	(1874), abasi, black *	..	..	£1 18s. od., £2, £2 and 2 4 0
a	(1875, tablet), 1r. purple *	..	..	3 15 0
a	(1875), shahi, mauve	..	..	4 10 0
a	ditto, sunar, black *	..	..	4 0 0
a	ditto, ½ rupee mauve *	..	..	3 15 0
b	ditto, shahi black	..	..	0 15 0
b	ditto, abasi brown	..	..	1 4 0
a	ditto, ½ rupee purple *	..	..	0 17 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a	<b>Afghanistan</b> (1877), abasi green .. ..	0	17	0
a	ditto, 3r. purple .. ..	1	7	0
a	ditto, 1r. grey .. ..	0	15	0
a	ditto, 1r. black .. ..	1	1	0
a	ditto, 1r. purple * .. ..	2	4	0
a	ditto, 1r. yellow, tear * .. ..	1	5	0
a	(1878), 3r. green, pair * .. ..	1	12	0
a	ditto, 1r. black * .. ..	1	4	0
a	ditto, ditto, wide laid paper * .. ..	1	4	0
b	<b>Barbados</b> , 6d. rose, no wmk. * .. ..	1	14	0
a b	<b>British Columbia</b> , 10c., perf. 12½ * .. ..	2	14	0
c	ditto, used .. ..	1	15	0
b	<b>British East Africa</b> , 4a. on 5d. .. ..	1	6	0
b	<b>British Honduras</b> , 2c. on 6d., perf. 12½ .. ..	1	14	0
b	<b>Canada</b> , 6d. grey, perf. .. ..	2	8	0
a	7½d. green .. ..	2	6	0
b	<b>Ceylon</b> , 2½ blue, star, perf. .. ..	1	2	0
b	¾d. lilac, no wmk., perf. 12½ * .. ..	0	15	0
a	<b>Dominica</b> , 6d. orange .. ..	1	0	0
b	<b>Hong Kong</b> , 96c. yellow brown .. ..	0	14	0
a	<b>Nevis</b> , 6d. green * .. ..	8	0	0
a	1½ blue-green, perf. 15 .. ..	1	1	0
b	<b>New Brunswick</b> , 6d. yellow * .. ..	8	0	0
b c	1 - bright mauve, fine, but just touched at one corner .. ..	15	0	0
b	<b>Newfoundland</b> , 4d. carmine-red .. ..	0	18	0
b	6½d. ditto * .. ..	7	10	0
a b	2d. orange * .. ..	16	and	0 19 0
b	<b>New South Wales</b> , Sydney, 2d., plate 1, early state .. ..	2	4	0
b	<b>St. Lucia</b> (4d.) blue, star * .. ..	2	16	0
b	(6d.) violet, perf. 12½ * .. ..	1	6	0
b	(1½) orange, ditto * .. ..	2	6	0
a	(1½) orange, CC., perf. 14 * .. ..	1	5	0
a b	(1885) 6d. lilac * .. ..	£2	10s. od. and	3 7 6
a b	<b>Saxony</b> , 3pl. red .. ..	5	0	0
a b	<b>Trinidad</b> , 4d. mauve, CC., perf. 12½ * .. ..	17½	and	0 18 0
b	6d. emerald, ditto, ditto * .. ..	0	16	0
b	1½ orange, ditto, ditto * .. ..	0	16	0
a	<b>Turks Islands</b> , 4d. blue * .. ..	1	10	0
b c	<b>United States</b> (1860), 24c. * .. ..	1	18	0
b	<b>Virgin Islands</b> , 1½ single line * .. ..	1	14	0
Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, April 27th and 28th, 1897.				
b	<b>Bahamas</b> , 1d. lake, clean perf. about 15 * .. ..	1	18	0
a	<b>Barbados</b> , 1 - black, large star, rough perf. * .. ..	2	12	0
a	ditto, regular perf. * .. ..	1	0	0
a	5 - ochre * .. ..	1	3	0
b	<b>Belgium</b> , 5fr. pale brown * .. ..	1	9	0
a	ditto, red brown * .. ..	1	2	0
A	<b>British Columbia</b> , 10c. pink, perf. 12½, pair * .. ..	7	0	0
A	25c. orange, ditto, single * 17 - .. .. pair * ..	1	10	0
a	<b>British Guiana</b> (1860), 1c. orange, thick paper, perf. 12 * .. ..	0	16	0
a b	<b>British Honduras</b> , 6d. rose, no wmk. * .. ..	15	and	0 17 0
a	<b>British South Africa</b> , £1 blue * .. ..	1	12	0
b	£10 brown, fiscally used .. ..	0	18	0
a	<b>Canada</b> , 6d. grey-lilac, imperf., part gum * .. ..	12	12	0
A	10d. blue, imperf., on thick * .. ..	12	12	0
a	¾d. rose, perf. * .. ..	0	16	0
a b	6d. purple-brown, perf. * .. ..	15	0	0
b	<b>Cape of Good Hope</b> , 1½ emerald, no margins * .. ..	2	12	0
a	1 - yellow-green, no gum * .. ..	2	3	0
a	<b>Ceylon</b> , 10d. vermilion, imperf. .. ..	0	18	0
A	1½ green, ditto .. ..	5	12	6
a	2d. emerald, CC. * .. ..	1	18	0
a	<b>Cyprus</b> , 30p on 1d., plate 216, double scg., one inverted * .. ..	1	0	0
a	<b>Dominica</b> , 1 - lilac-rose, CA. * .. ..	2	12	0
a	ditto, used .. ..	3	3	0
b	<b>Gold Coast</b> , ¾d. olive, CA. * .. ..	1	5	0
A	<b>Great Britain, the P.R.</b> , block of 4 * .. ..	53	0	0
A	ditto, block of 4, corner of sheet, with margins and inscription .. ..	68	0	0
a	1d. black, reprint * .. ..	2	8	0
a	1d. red-brown on white, die 2, small crown * .. ..	1	1	0
a	1d. red-brown on bluish, ditto, ditto * .. ..	2	2	0
a	1d. red-brown on bluish, Archer roulette * .. ..	2	5	0
a	1d. rose-red, large crown, perf. 16 * .. ..	1	8	0
a	1½d. lilac-rose * .. ..	£1	6s. od. and	1 8 0
a	2½d. pink, plate 3, orb. * .. ..	1	8	0
a	ditto, plate 17 * .. ..	0	16	0
a	3d. carmine, plate 2, small letters, block of nine * .. ..	12	15	0
a	ditto, plate 3, secret dot * .. ..	5	10	0
a	4d. carmine, medium garter, on white * .. ..	10	0	0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a	<b>Great Britain</b> , another fine, but less brilliant * .. ..	7	10	0
a	4d., plate 10 * .. ..	1	6	0
a	6d. pale chestnut, plate 12 * .. ..	1	5	0
b	9d., plate 4, emblems * .. ..	£1	10s. od. and	1 12 0
b	2½ blue * .. ..	1	16	0
A	2 6 lilac on bleuté * .. ..	1	16	0
b	5½ rose, plate 1 * .. ..	1	16	0
b	5 - rose, plate 2 * .. ..	1	4	0
a b	5½ rose on bluish, plate 4 * .. ..	11	0	0
a b	10½ green-grey, anchor .. ..	1	4	0
b	10 - ditto, cross .. ..	1	0	0
b	£1 brown-lilac, on white, anchor .. ..	£2	2s. od. and	2 4 0
b	£1 ditto, cross .. ..	£1	2s. od. and	1 8 0
b	£1 purple-brown, orbs * .. ..	3	15	0
A	ditto, crowns * .. ..	3	0	0
a b	<b>I. R. Official</b> (1885), 1½ green .. ..	0	15	0
a	ditto, 5 - rose on white, accounts cancel .. ..	1	12	0
a	ditto, 10½ blue on white, ditto .. ..	1	14	0
a	ditto, £1 purple-brown, orbs, "Specimen" .. ..	3	3	0
b	ditto, £1 ditto, crowns, ditto .. ..	1	15	0
A	ditto, £1 green, accounts cancel .. ..	3	3	0
a	<i>Levant</i> , 12 piast. on 2/6 lilac on bluish * .. ..	4	5	0
b	<b>Hong Kong</b> , 96c. yellow-brown * .. ..	3	12	0
A	<b>Lagos</b> , 2d. blue, CA. * .. ..	each	1	5
A	3d. red-brown, CC., perf. 14 * .. ..	1	8	0
a	4d. carmine, CA. * .. ..	1	6	0
a b	<b>Levant</b> , 6k. blue * .. ..	1	2	0
b	<b>Mauritius</b> , <i>Post Paid</i> , 1d. medium early, fine, but touched one side, on entire .. ..	8	10	0
b	<i>Small Fillet</i> , 2d. blue, worn, large margins .. ..	1	3	0
a b	<b>Greek Border</b> , 2d. blue .. ..	1	16	0
a	<b>Montserrat</b> , 2½d. brown, CC. * .. ..	1	2	0
a	ditto, used .. ..	1	1	0
a b	4d. blue, CA. .. ..	3	2	0
b	ditto .. ..	1	14	0
a	<b>Nevis</b> , 4d. orange, engraved * .. ..	2	0	0
a b	6d. lilac-grey, two .. ..	each	1	4
a b	1 - green, perf. 13 * .. ..	2	2	0
b	1½ pale green, litho. * .. ..	1	8	0
b	1½ lilac * .. ..	1	11	0
b	<b>New Brunswick</b> , 1½ mauve, very fine, but two small thinnings .. ..	20	15	0
b	<b>Newfoundland</b> , 2d. orange * .. ..	£1	and	1 1 0
b	2d. lake * .. ..	16	and	0 17 0
b	5c. brown * .. ..	0	18	0
b	<b>New Zealand</b> , 1d. carmine, NZ. wmk., imperf. * .. ..	0	17	0
a	6d. dark brown, pelure, imperf. .. ..	0	15	0
b	<b>Nova Scotia</b> , 1d. red brown .. ..	1	1	0
b c	1 - cold violet, fine, but touched one side .. ..	15	10	0
a	¾c. green on white .. ..	0	9	0
b	<b>Oldenburg</b> , second issue, 2gr. pink * .. ..	2	10	0
a	third issue, 1gr. blue * .. ..	0	16	0
a	ditto, 2gr. red * .. ..	1	8	0
a	<b>Portuguese India</b> , 2 on 4c. on 50c. green (122 in hand-book) .. ..	3	5	0
a	<b>Russia</b> , 7 roubles, no bolts * .. ..	1	9	0
a	ditto used .. ..	1	10	0
a	<b>St. Christopher</b> , 2½d. brown, CC. * .. ..	1	5	0
a b	ditto * .. ..	1	0	0
a	4d. blue, CA. * .. ..	5	7	6
a	6d. olive-brown * .. ..	1	13	0
b	ditto, used .. ..	1	19	0
a	1½ lilac-rose * .. ..	17½, 18½	and	0 18 0
a b	<b>St. Lucia</b> (6d.) green, star * .. ..	2	18	0
b c	1½ orange-brown, heavy pink .. ..	2	12	0
a	<b>St. Vincent</b> , 4d. dark blue, star * .. ..	5	0	0
a	4d. red-brown, CA. * .. ..	6	15	0
b	<b>Sweden</b> , 2½sk. hco. red .. ..	0	17	0
a	(1872) Core grey * .. ..	2	2	0
a	<b>Switzerland, Geneva</b> , 5c. small eagle, on piece .. ..	1	0	0
a b	ditto, 5c. large eagle .. ..	0	18	0
a	<i>Neuchâtel</i> , 5c. on piece .. ..	2	12	0
a b	<b>Tasmania</b> , 1d. blue .. ..	2	4	0
b	ditto .. ..	1	0	0
b	1d. carmine, serrated * .. ..	1	2	0
b	<b>Trinidad</b> , 4d. reddish purple, no wmk., perf. 12 * .. ..	0	18	0
a	<b>Turks Islands</b> , 4d. on 4d. grey * .. ..	2	2	0
b	<b>United States</b> (1869), 15c., no frame * .. ..	1	8	0
a	<b>Victoria</b> , 10d. slate, mint, but badly centred * .. ..	2	0	0
a	<b>Virgin Islands</b> , 2½d. brown, CC. * .. ..	1	0	0
a	4d. on 1 - crimson * .. ..	1	2	0
a	6d. violet .. ..	0	15	0
a	1½ crimson, single line * .. ..	3	0	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line	..	..	2 10 0
b	ditto, double line	..	..	3 5 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	..	..	2 4 0
a b	ditto .. .. £1 2s. od., £1 4s. od. and	..	..	1 7 0
a	6d. grey-black .. .. £1 2s. od. and	..	..	1 5 0
a	4d. blue (first), roulette .. ..	..	..	1 8 0
a b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, thread .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	ditto, no thread, two .. ..	..	..	each 0 15 0
a	6k. green, thin paper, perf. 13½	..	..	1 8 0
b	9k. claret, ditto .. ..	..	..	1 5 0
b	18k. blue, ditto .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
A	Zululand, 5/- rose .. ..	..	..	2 8 0
Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, April 29th and 30th, 1897.				
a a	Antigua, 6d. yellow-green, no wmk., imperf.	..	..	2 10 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	..	..	1 16 0
A	Barbados, 5/- ochre .. .. 19/-, 19/- and	..	..	1 0 0
a b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 14½	..	..	2 14 0
a	British East Africa (on Co.'s stamp), 3 rupees, on entire	..	..	1 8 0
a	ditto, 4 rupees, ditto .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 5 rupees, ditto .. .. £1 12s. od. and	..	..	1 14 0
a	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
a b	Canada, 10d. blue on thin .. ..	..	..	18 0 0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue £2 10s. and	..	..	3 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, pale blue .. ..	..	..	1 18 0
b	1/- emerald .. ..	..	..	2 6 0
a	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf., on entire with a comina	..	..	22 0 0
b	6d. brown, star, perf. .. ..	..	..	0 18 0
a	2d. blue, clean cut perf., pair .. ..	..	..	3 0 0
b	1d. blue, no wmk., perf. 11½	..	..	1 5 0
b	½d. lilac, CC., imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	Cyprus, 1/- green .. ..	..	..	1 3 0
b	Dominica, 6d. orange .. ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	Egypt, first issue, 10 pias, slate-blue	..	..	1 4 0
1a 1b	Great Britain, £5 orange, vert. pair .. ..	..	..	4 8 0
a	ditto, on bluish, "Specimen" .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	I.R. Official, £1 green, vert. pair, accounts cancel	..	..	7 0 0
a	Fiscal Postal (1862), 1/- pink, imperf., surcharged	..	..	..
	Inland Revenue in green, vert., tête-bêche pair	..	..	3 3 0
a	Hungary, 10k. blue, litho. .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	15k. brown, ditto .. ..	..	..	2 4 0
b	India, Service, 2a. green on short lilac	..	..	7 10 0
b	ditto on long lilac .. ..	..	..	1 14 0
b	ditto used .. ..	..	..	1 7 0
a	Ionian Islands, carmine, on small piece	..	..	1 10 0
b	Mauritius, Greek Border, 1d. red .. ..	..	..	1 14 0
a b	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
a	ditto used .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
b	4d. rose .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a b	4d. orange, engraved .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	4d. blue .. ..	..	..	1 16 0
b	6d. grey-lilac, pair .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	1/- blue-green, perf. 15 .. .. £1 and	..	..	1 5 0
a b	1/- deep green, litho .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	1/- pale green, ditto .. ..	..	..	1 7 0
b	ditto .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a b	New Zealand, 1/- blue-green on thick, serrated	..	..	6 10 0
b	1/- green on blue, dated pmk. .. ..	..	..	4 0 0
b c	1d. vermilion on pelure, perf. .. ..	..	..	2 10 0
b c	1/- green, ditto, vert. pair, stained .. ..	..	..	5 10 0
b	2d. deep blue, star, serrated .. ..	..	..	4 10 0
b	1d. vermilion, star, roulette .. ..	..	..	2 17 6
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	half a 6d. green on entire .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
b	Queensland, 1d. orange-vermilion, small star, perf.	..	..	12 0 19 0
b	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
a	2½d. brown, CA., pair .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	4d. blue, CA. .. ..	..	..	4 12 6
a	1/- lilac-rose .. ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	St. Lucia (1d.) lake, CC. .. ..	..	..	1 8 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	4d. deep blue, star .. ..	..	..	1 7 0
a b	ditto .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	4d. blue, CA., perf. 12 .. ..	..	..	2 17 6
b	Shanghai (1873), 3 cands blue on 16 cents green	..	..	1 5 0
a	Sierra Leone, 4d. blue, CC., perf. 14 .. ..	..	..	1 10 0
a	South Australia, O.S., 9d. violet, no stop after S	..	..	1 0 0
a	Tobago, 6d. ochre, CC. .. ..	..	..	3 3 0
a	Turks Islands, 4d. on 1/- prune (type 16) .. ..	..	..	5 5 0
a	United States, 5c. brown, imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	Virgin Islands, 6d. rose, perf. 12 .. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	1/- crimson, border * two .. ..	..	..	each 0 16 0
b	½d. yellow .. ..	..	..	1 18 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., May 4th & 5th, 1897.

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
a b	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC. .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
a	Antioquia (1877), 1c. black on white laid	..	..	1 8 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose .. ..	..	..	1 16 0
a	Bremen, 3gr. blue, imperf. .. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a b	British Bechuanaland, 10/- green .. ..	..	..	2 0 0
c	British Guiana, 12c. deep blue, circular, but round	..	..	..
	one side, square others, very fine but tiny tear	..	..	15 0 0
b	Canada, 4d. rose, imperf. on ribbed .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
a b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock Reprints, 1d. red,	..	..	..
	pair .. ..	..	..	2 5 0
a b	ditto, 4d. blue, pair .. ..	..	..	2 6 0
b	5/- orange, CA. .. ..	..	..	1 0 0
a	Ceylon, ½d. lilac, CC., imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
a c	2d. olive-yellow, CC., imperf. .. ..	..	..	0 18 0
a	2 rupees 50 cents .. ..	..	..	2 10 0
a	Cyprus, 1/- green .. ..	..	..	1 4 0
a b	Gambia, 1/- green .. ..	..	..	1 17 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- .. ..	..	..	2 8 0
b	Great Britain, 2/- brown .. ..	..	..	1 1 0
a	Hamburg, 4sch., green, imperf. .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	9sch. yellow, ditto .. ..	..	..	4 8 0
a b	9sch. yellow, perf. .. ..	..	..	0 18 0
b	India, 1a. red, pin perf. at top .. ..	..	..	0 15 0
a	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. .. ..	..	..	3 7 6
a	2½. brown, CC. .. ..	..	..	1 5 0
A	Nevis, 4d. deep orange, engraved .. ..	..	..	3 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red .. ..	..	..	9 0 0
a	1/- ditto .. ..	..	..	16 0 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 3	..	..	1 10 0
a	ditto, 3d. yellow-green .. ..	..	..	0 17 0
a	£1 rose and lilac .. ..	..	..	1 2 0
a	(1888) 20/ blue .. ..	..	..	1 15 0
a	Nova Scotia, 8½c. green .. ..	..	..	0 13 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. green, CC., perf. 14. sheet of 20	..	..	9 0 0
A	(d. olive-brown, similar sheet .. ..	..	..	50 0 0
A	1/- lilac-rose, similar sheet .. ..	..	..	19 0 0
a	St. Lucia (6d) green, star .. ..	..	..	2 2 0
a	(4d.) yellow, CC., perf. 12½ .. ..	..	..	0 18 0
a	(6d) violet, ditto, ditto .. ..	..	..	1 12 0
a	(1/-) orange, ditto, ditto .. ..	..	..	3 0 0
a	(1886) 6d. lilac .. ..	..	..	3 10 0

(To be continued.)

### The Forgeries of Uruguay.

WE notice a very interesting note on these forgeries in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*. It is stated there that it would not be unlikely that these so-called forgeries were really reprints from retouched lithographic transfers. Unfortunately, it is not stated from what town the correspondent of the *D.B.Z.* hails, but we should imagine from the style of his letter that he writes from Montevideo. He further suggests that a large number of the issue 1864 now circulating in his town might be reprints, as they appear to be in shades which he did not know in the originals. The stamps are post-marked in a rough and ready manner and just this rough style of postmark appears to him to be the best mark of detection. We have not seen these forgeries, but have requested the editor of the *D.B.Z.* to put us in communication with their informant.

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"	20 .. 1871, light blue, dotted neck	..	2 6
"	20 .. blue on deep blue	..	2 6
"	40 .. flesh on bluish	..	5 0
"	40 .. bistre on bluish, unused	..	6 0
"	10 .. orange on cream, error "oo"	..	4 6
"	20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted	..	7 6
"	40 .. flesh on cream, unused	..	6 0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK)

Paris Print,	1876, 30 lep. olive brown	..	3 6
"	60 .. green	..	3 0
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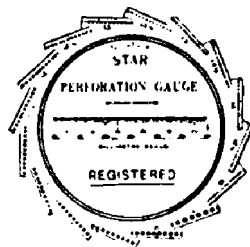
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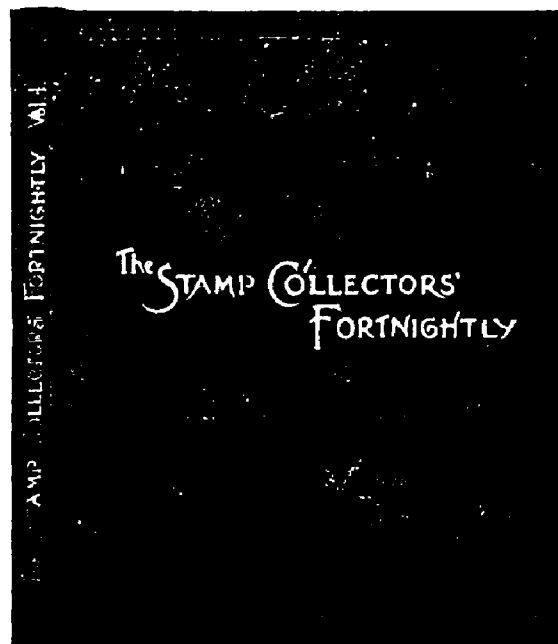
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**TASMANIA,** 1870, 4d. blue 25/6; British Columbia, 24d. rose 12/-; Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, perf., wmk., star, 3 6; Mauritius, 6d. blue, 3 3, 1/- vermilion, 7/-; Uruguay, 1 peso blue, 4 3; Malta, 4d. buff, no wmk., unused, 7/-; Italy, 3 lira, bronze, used, 8/-; Hanover, 4 groschen, black 6/-; Barbados, 1s. black, imperf., 4/-; Western Australia, 4d. blue, imperf., 4/- All fine copies, selections sent on approval against reference.—CHARLES NISSER, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

**FOR SALE,** cheap, B. E. A. and Zanzibar.—ANDERSON, 16, Maidenhead Court, E.C.

**"ENGLISH ALBUM."**

In conjunction with our Catalogue we have prepared an Album to provide spaces for **English Postal and Telegraph Adhesives** only. It is designed in an absolute novel way and has been pronounced first-class by such high authorities as Mr. FRED A. PHILBRICK and Mr. A. S. WESTORY.

The Prices are:—

Half Morocco .. ..	<b>10 6</b>
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1897.

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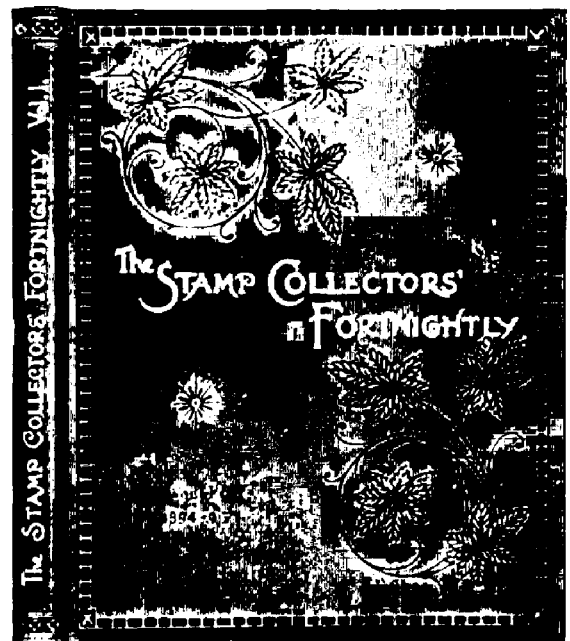
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	Gibbons' Price.	My price.
	s. d.	s. d.
Canada, 1851, 6d., laid paper	30 0	14 0
" 1852, " wove	30 0	14 0
" " " very thin wove	35 0	15 0
" " " thick	40 0	22 0
" Official Seal, used	12 6	4 0

I will pay 40/- each for all good copies of Canada, 7½d. (cat. 65/-), sent me 20/- for Canada 10d. (cat. 35/-); and 2/- for 17 cents Canada and will pay 50 per cent. more in each case if on the original envelopes.

Also want 6 and 15cts. Canada, 1868, on watermarked paper, U.S.A. Revenues and Rarities.

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" 2/6, 1892	...	3 9
BERMUDA, 3d. buff, perf. 24 by 12½	...	7 9
BECHUANALAND, 1/- on Cape	...	5 0
" £5, penmarked	...	30 0
B.E.A. on Indian, 2½s. in red on 1½s.	...	15 0
" 1897, 3s. to 5 rupees, complete set of 16	...	37 6
B. GUIANA, 1863, 48c. rose	...	3 6
* B. HONDURAS, no wmk., 1d.	...	3 0
" CC., 1d.	...	2 9
" CA., 1d.	...	3 6
" " 4d.	...	2 3
* B. SOUTH AFRICA, £1, obsolete	...	30 0
CANADA, 3d.	...	1 6
" 10d., thin paper, extra fine	...	32 6
" 4d., imperf.	...	22 6
" 4d., used	...	11 6
" 3d., perf.	...	10 6
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" " 6d. violet	6 6
Canada, 7½d. green	27 6
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Army Official, ½d. and 1d.	each 3 9

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**FORTNIGHTLY**

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 71—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1897.

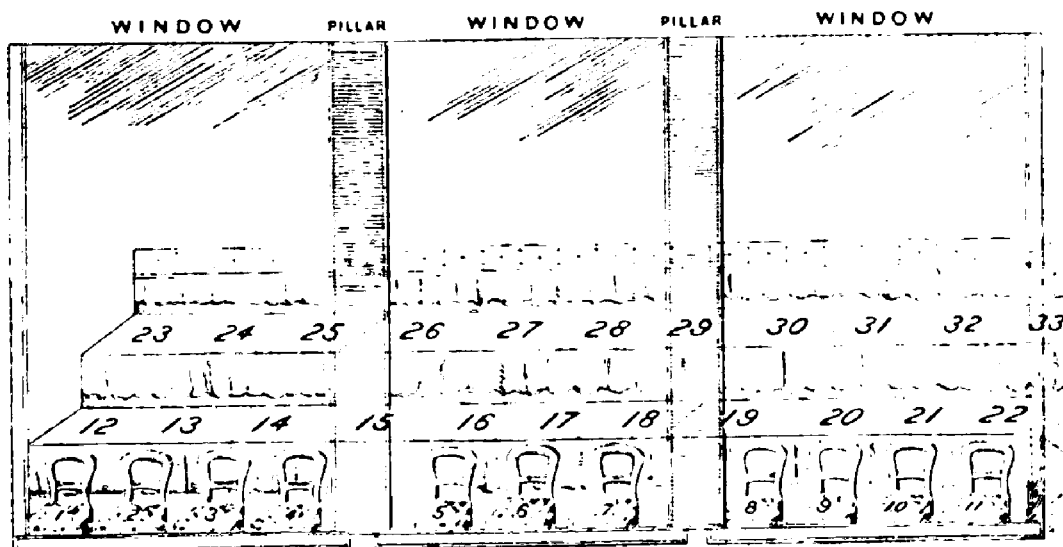
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 The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
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WE have been asked by numerous clients whether we have any space to let, as our Offices (first and second floors, afford a magnificent view of the Procession. We have already sold our second floor, but can still offer about 15 seats on the FIRST floor. We append sketch:



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**Doings of Societies.**

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*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

The Sixteenth meeting of the above was held on Monday, June 1st, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., the following members being present: Messrs. C. Forbes, H. Hilckes, G. C. Warden, jun., J. E. Joselin, J. Bornefeld, H. Atherley, J. H. Smyth, L. Bruce, E. W. Whetherell, W. Brown, H. Thompson, E. W. Housom, H. A. MacMillan, J. B. Camaschiella, F. Vandenbraucque, G. Gilbert, D. Thomson, H. W. Plumridge, F. B. Carr and J. B. Neyroud, when our Seventeenth Auction Sale was held.

The following gentlemen were duly elected members: J. Bornefeld (London), J. H. Smyth (London), E. W. Whetherell (London), and D. D. Khambha (India).

The next Meeting will be held on **Monday, June 14th.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

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The above offer is open to Philatelists in any part of the world.

**HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.**

The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, The Philatelic Record, Stamps, and the Stamp Collectors' Journal.*

From Germany: *General Anzeiger für Philatelic, Internationales Briefmarken-Offertenblatt.*

From Holland: *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde.*

From the United States: *The Post Office, The Weekly Stamp News, The American Philatelic Magazine, The Columbian Philatelist, Filatelic Facts and Fancies, and The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society.*

The Librarian also thanks the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Ltd., for Part XI. of their Catalogue for Advanced Collectors.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

**GENERAL NOTICES.**

Applications for membership and all communications with reference to the Club, should be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Road, Bow, London, E.

The Annual Subscription to the Club is now 10/- for London, and 5/- for Country and Foreign members; this includes a copy, as published of the Official Organ.

All Subscriptions are due and date from the 1st of October.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 1/4d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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**STAMPS** at half catalogue.—New South Wales, 1860, 6d. purple for 6d. ditto wmk. 12, for 1/9; 6d. violet 2/-; 1883, 8d. yellow, 1/3; Unpaid Letter, 1d., 2d., 3d and 4d. at same rate; Great Britain, 1d. reds, unused at one third catalogue. Cash with order.—MAITLAND 18, George Street, Edinburgh.

**A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY** occurs for purchasing a collection of unused Colonials, 600 varieties, mint condition. Full particulars from COLLECTOR, Manseville, Chatsworth Road, West Norwood.

**TASMANIA, 1870,** 4d. blue 25/6; British Columbia, 2 1/2d. rose, 12/-; Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, perf., wmk., star, 3/6; Mauritius, 6d. blue, 3/3, 1/- vermilion, 7/-; Uruguay, 1 peso blue, 4/3; Malta, 4d. buff, no wmk., unused, 7/-; Italy, 3 lira, bronze, used, 8/-; Hanover, 1/2 groschen, black, 6/-; Barbados, 1/- black, imperf., 4/-; Western Australia, 4d. blue, imperf., 4/- All fine copies, selections sent on approval against reference.—CHARLES NISSEB, 279, Brunswick Buildings, Aldgate, E.

**FOR SALE,** cheap, B. E. A. and Zanzibar.—ANDERSON, 16, Maidenhead Court, E.C.

**STAMPS** at half catalogue. Tasmania, New South Wales, &c. Selections against references. English 1d. reds, unused, at one third catalogue.—MAITLAND, 18, George St., Edinburgh.

**RUSSIAN** gentleman would be glad to correspond (in French or German) with philatelist with a view to exchanging.—Apply in first instance to M., 28, Benbow Road, Hammersmith.

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Unused.		Used.		Unused.		Used.		Unused.		Used.									
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.								
<b>Barbados. 1852, blued paper.</b>																			
¼d.	dark green	imp.	25	0	2d.	blue	1	3	6d.	mauve	3	0							
1d.	blue	..	6	0	2d.	violet-brown	0	4	8d.	brown	6	6							
¼d.	red	..	16	6	2½d.	blue	0	4	1/-	violet	25	0							
¼d.	green on white	..	9	0	3d.	grey	0	5	1887.										
1d.	blue	..	3	0	1/-	yellow-brown	1	9	1d.	rose	0	2							
6d.	rose red	..	10	0	<b>British Honduras. 1865.</b>			¼d.	on 2/- orange	..	0	7							
¼d.	black	..	4	6	1d.	blue, no wmk., perf. 14	3	0	¼d.	on 2/-	..	9	0						
¼d.	green, pin perf.	..	11	6	6d.	rose	..	13	1d.	on 8d. brown	..	1	3						
1d.	blue	..	10	6	1/-	green	..	20	2½d.	on 8d.	..	0	8						
¼d.	dark green, clear cut perf.	17	6	5	9	1872-9	1d.	blue, C. & CC., perf. 12½	2	6	unpaid letter stamps.								
1d.	blue	..	12	6	3d.	red-brown	..	7	0	10	6	1d.	black	..	0	3			
¼d.	green, rough perfs.	3	6	1	0	6d.	rose	..	15	0	0	4	2d.	..	..	0	4		
1d.	blue	..	2	0	0	5	1/-	green	..	10	0	0	7	3d.	..	..	0	7	
¼d.	rose-red	..	5	6	1d.	blue, C. & CC., perf. 14	3	0	4	0	<b>Jamaica.</b>								
¼d.	brown-red	..	6	6	3d.	red-brown	..	12	6	1d.	pale blue, wmk pine	1	6	0	6				
6d.	rose-red	..	2	3	4d.	mauve	..	15	0	2	0	1d.	blue	..	2	6			
6d.	vermilion	..	3	0	6d.	rose	..	80	0	25	0	2d.	rose	..	12	6			
6d.	orange-red	..	3	0	1/-	green	..	10	6	3d.	green	..	10	0	1	3			
1/-	black	..	9	6	0	9	1882.	4d.	red	..	9	0	4d.	red	..	9	0		
wmk. large star.				1	3	1d.	blue, C. & CA., perf. 14	8	0	4	0	6d.	lilac	..	20	0			
¼d.	green	..	15	0	1d.	rose	..	0	6	0	4	1/-	brown	..	22	6			
1d.	blue	..	6	0	4d.	mauve	..	2	0	60	0	1/-	red-brown	..	5	0			
6d.	vermilion	..	3	0	1/-	grey	..	60	0	small surcharge.			1/-	purple-brown	..	2	6		
1/-	black	..	3	0	2c.	on 1d. rose	..	1	3	2c.	on 1d. rose	..	1	3	0	4	0		
wmk. small star.				11	0	2c.	on 3d. red-brown	..	18	0	23	6	¼d.	maroon, CC., perf. 14	0	4	0	1	
¼d.	green, perf. 11 x 14	£5	0	5	2c.	on 6d. rose	..	18	0	23	6	1d.	blue	..	0	9	0		
1d.	blue	..	25	0	10c.	on 4d. mauve	..	3	6	5	0	2d.	rose	..	2	6	0		
¼d.	rose-red	..	4	0	20c.	on 6d. yellow	..	3	6	5	0	3d.	green	..	3	0	0		
¼d.	vermilion	..	3	0	large surcharge.			2c.	on 1d. rose, CA.	..	0	2	4d.	red	..	1	0		
¼d.	black	..	15	0	3c.	on 1d. brown	..	0	5	0	6	6d.	lilac	..	3	6	0		
¼d.	lilac-brown	..	30	0	10c.	on 4d. mauve	..	0	9	0	9	1/-	brown	..	3	6	0		
5/-	dull-rose	..	45	0	20c.	on 1d. yellow	..	1	9	3	6	2/-	red-brown	..	4	6	3		
1874.				6	6	1	0	50c.	on 1/- grey	..	4	0	5/-	lilac	..	10	6		
¼d.	dark green, large star	..	6	0	1	3	6c.	in red on 10c. mauve	..	0	10	1d.	blue, CA., perf. 14	..	0	9			
1d.	dark blue	..	7	6	2	6	6c.	in black on 10c. ..	..	0	10	2d.	rose	..	0	9			
1875.				25	0	6	0	5c.	in black on 3d. brown	..	0	5	4d.	red	..	0	2		
¼d.	green, C & CC., perf. 12½	..	15	0	15c.	in red	..	1	3	1c.	in black on green	..	0	2	¼d.	green	..	0	1
¼d.	scarlet	..	4	0	1c.	in black on green	..	0	2	0	2	1d.	rose	..	0	1			
6d.	orange	..	3	0	1891.			2c.	rose	..	0	2	2d.	grey	..	0	9		
1/-	purple	..	0	8	0	3	3c.	on 1d. brown	..	0	5	0	3d.	sage green	..	0	4		
¼d.	green	..	2	6	0	3	10c.	on 4d. mauve	..	0	9	0	9	2½d.	on 4d. red, CA.	..	0	9	
1d.	ultramarine	..	8	0	3	0	6c.	..	..	0	5	0	6	2½d.	blue	..	0	1	
1d.	blue	..	4	6	0	8	6c.	..	..	0	5	0	2	6d.	yellow	..	2	6	
3d.	mauve	..	8	0	8	0	10c.	mauve and green	..	0	8	1d.	carmine, fiscal	..	0	6			
¼d.	carmine	..	22	6	1	6	12c.	..	..	1	3	2	0	<b>Tobago. 1879.</b>					
¼d.	dark lake	..	20	0	10	0	24c.	yellow and blue	..	2	0	3	0	1d.	rose, CC., perf. 14	..	3	0	
6d.	orange	..	6	6	0	10	1d.	green, no wmk.	..	15	0	4	0	6d.	orange	..	8	0	
1/-	purple	..	1	6	1	6	6d.	rose	..	8	6	3	0	¼d.	brown lilac	..	3	0	
1/-	dark mauve	..	8	0	1	3	1d.	green, wmk. small star	6	6	0	6	4d.	green	..	15	0		
1882.				0	2	0	1	6d.	dull red	..	22	6	2	6	1/-	ochre yellow	..	9	0
¼d.	green, C. & CA., perf. 14	..	0	3	0	1	6d.	rose	..	2	6	2	6	2½d.	on 6d. bistre	..	2	0	
1d.	rose	..	0	7	0	2	1d.	green, large star	12	6	1	6	¼d.	brown, lilac CA.	..	1	6		
2½d.	blue	..	1	0	3	0	6d.	vermilion	..	15	0	15	0	1d.	red-brown	..	1	6	
3d.	mauve	..	1	0	3	0	1d.	green, perf. 14	..	12	6	2	0	2½d.	blue	..	0	5	
4d.	grey	..	1	6	0	4	1875.			1/-	purple	..	5	6	4d.	green	..	26	6
¼d.	brown	..	4	6	0	4	1/-	purple	..	1	6	5	6	¼d.	green	..	0	1	
6d.	olive-brown	..	2	9	2	6	¼d.	..	..	1	6	1	6	1d.	carmine	..	0	2	
1/-	chestnut-brown	..	30	0	0	7	2½d.	claret	..	8	0	5	0	4d.	slate	..	0	8	
5/-	ochre	..	30	0	0	7	4d.	blue	..	6	0	6	0	6d.	orange	..	1	6	
¼d.	on 4d. brown	..	0	7	0	3	wmk. broad pointed star.			25	0	1/-	olive-yellow	..	1	9			
<b>Bermuda. 1865-73.</b>																			
1d.	dark rose, CC., perf. 14	..	2	6	0	3	Provisionals, 1883-6.			10	0	¼d.	on 6 l. bistre	..	2	0			
1d.	light rose	..	0	6	0	2	Surcharge Postage.			10	0	½l.	on 2½d. blue	..	1	9			
2d.	blue	..	0	10	0	4	1d.	orange	..	0	10	5	0	2½d.	on 4d. slate	..	2	6	
3d.	buff	..	8	0	2	6	1d.	..	on 1½	..	0	10	5	0	<b>Falkland Islands. 1878. no wmk.</b>				
4d.	orange-red	..	0	8	0	4	1d.	..	on 1/-	..	2	0	5	0	1d.	claret	..	13	6
6d.	violet	..	10	0	2	3	1d.	..	on 4d.	..	4	0	13	6	4d.	grey-black	..	25	0
6d.	mauve	..	0	10	0	9	1d.	..	..	..	4	0	8	0	1/-	bistre brown	..	4	0
1/-	green	..	3	9	2	3	1883.			1	3	1884.							
3d.	buff CC., perf. 14 x 12½	..	9	6	2	3	¼d.	green, CA	..	0	2	0	1	3d.	claret, C & CA	..	1	3	
1/-	green	..	2	3	0	1	1d.	rose	..	7	6	0	9	4d.	olive-black	..	0	9	
1884-93.																			
¼d.	green, C. & CA., perf. 14	..	0	1	0	1	2½d.	blue	..	1	6	0	4	1d.	claret	..	1	6	
1d.	rose	..	0	9	0	4	4d.	slate	..	1	6	1	0	4d.	olive-black	..	7	6	
1d.	carmine	..	0	2	0	1	C & CA Sideways.			1	6	5	0						

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SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE HOSPITAL RECEIPT STAMPS.

THEIR HIGHNESSES OF WALES WITNESS THE PROCESS OF MANUFACTURE AT MESSRS. DE LA RUE'S.

THE sales of "Hospital" Stamps now represent, it is stated, a total of £10,000. The pretty labels have been bought briskly enough by a large number of people, but it is questionable whether they have gone off with such a rush as the promoters of the scheme anticipated. Certainly the laughable idea that speculators would attempt to "corner" the issue has never been within the range of probability.

"There is a great demand for the stamps," the daily newspapers say, "among philatelists." Is there really? One hears a great deal about the stamp collectors who are tumbling over each other to buy these things, but somehow one does not meet them.

On Friday, May 28th, Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales, after performing the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Ophthalmic Hospital, drove to Messrs. De la Rue's Printing Works in Bunhill Row, to witness the process by which the stamp in aid of the Prince's Hospital Fund has been engraved and is being produced. The visit (says the *Daily Telegraph's* reporter) was almost an unexpected one, and certainly the directors of the famous house had had little more than an hour's notice of the Royal visit. Preparation of any sort, was, therefore, impossible, in decorations or any other way, but both the Prince and Princess were pleased to say that they waived all ceremony.

The production of the hospital stamps has been hedged

around with every possible precaution, and a separate room has been assigned for their printing, which may be entered by none save the accredited workmen employed or the heads of the firm. Here were assembled to meet the Prince, Lord Rowton, Sir Savile Crossley, the Right Hon. Charles Stuart-Wortley M.P., Mr. H. C. Burdett, and Mr. H. Craggs, hon. financial secretary to the Fund. One object in the little room was noticeable. It was a copy of the *Sun*, dated June 28th, 1838, with a full account of the Coronation. But it was all printed in gold, a feat regarded sixty years ago as a triumph of typography, and had an exceedingly fine medallion portrait of the young Queen. Both the Prince and Princess examined intently the exquisitely engraved little plate, glittering as polished silver, and formed of the finest steel that can be forged. When the die was cut, as it was by one of the most skilled craftsmen of the staff, the steel was "soft," but a subsequent treatment converted it into the hardest substance known in the science of metallurgy. The next stage saw it impressed under pressure of about twenty tons to the square inch upon small steel cylinders, the lines, of course, then coming out in the reverses of the original elevations and depressions. Lastly these cylinders passed again under enormous weight on to the plate itself, this being what is technically known as a "two-forty-set," meaning that on each half of the plate are eight rows of five stamps, or eighty upon the entire sheet.

All this Mr. De la Rue explained in the most simple and lucid manner, and the Prince, as well as the Princess, showed the keenest interest in every detail. Three hand-presses are being employed—two for the blue shilling stamps, one for the red half-crown one—and to these the Royal party next turned their attention. The plates were most carefully and evenly inked, a sheet of creamy-white crisp paper with its special watermark was spread, the screws were turned, and in a few seconds the clearly engraved sheet appeared. The Prince initialed the first of the sheets he saw printed, and this will be retained as a memento by the firm. Meanwhile, both the Princess and Princess Victoria honoured the workmen with the most gracious notice, asking many questions as to their calling, and a detail which would have escaped most people was observed by the Princess with much concern. It is, of course, necessary that the plate shall be perfectly cleaned between each impression that is taken and fresh ink spread. Almost all is removed with a coarse soft cotton cloth, but the final polish must be put on with the bare hand of the workman, over which a little whiting is sprinkled. The Princess noticed this, and was very glad to learn that from the com-

position of the ink there was not the slightest danger to health in the practice.

Before leaving this department the Prince of Wales presented both Mr. Stuart-Wortley and Mr. Craggs to the Princess, who shook hands with them. Turning then to the little assemblage, the Prince said—"Before going I wish to say how very much interested we have been in this process of printing the stamps. I most earnestly hope that the working classes especially will buy as many of them as possible, for doing this will afford them an opportunity of paying their shillings to the Fund, but they will also have in them a souvenir of the great occasion of this year." Then the Visitors' Book was brought out—a volume of which the firm are very proud, for it contains many distinguished autographs—and not for the first time did the Prince sign it, as he had paid a visit as a lad, in 1856, to the works.

#### THE HOSPITAL STAMPS AND STAMPS.

There is a strange, not to say indecent, anxiety on the part of the general public to give the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund stamps some sort of postal character in order to make them necessary to philatelists.

A Mr. Joseph Chamberlain—how proud must he be to bear that name!—opens the ball with the following letter to the *Daily Mail*:

The sale of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund stamps would be very largely increased if the Postmaster-General would, as a matter of courtesy and assistance to the Prince of Wales's Fund, announce that these stamps will, during the Diamond Jubilee year, be accepted by the Post Office as ordinary penny postage stamps, for the purpose of franking inland letters. This would give them a value in the eyes of philatelists which they do not now possess, and add the fund to a very much larger extent, as the stamps are now practically boycotted by the dealers.

This was quickly followed by the epistle of one who subscribes himself "Philatelo":

All philatelists will agree with Mr. Chamberlain's opinion that to give the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund stamps value in the eyes of collectors, they should be capable of being used for postage. At present they are no more "stamps" to the philatelist than the leaden Jubilee medals are "coins" to the numismatist.

I would like, however, to make one further suggestion, namely, that the one shilling stamp should be valued for postal purposes at one penny, and the half-crown stamp at 2½d. This would enable many who have friends in different parts of the empire to make use of the latter for commemorative purposes very happily.

Still another letter-writer, condescending to commiserate with that sadly overworked and sadly underpaid institution the British Post Office delivers himself of this:

May I suggest that, as probably no purchaser of the hospital stamps wishes to deprive the hospitals of the full benefit of the twelve or thirty pennies, nor the Post Office of its due, it would answer the purpose of the philatelist if the authorities would guarantee that any of these stamps put on to letters or newspapers, in addition to the regular postage, would be stamped in the same way at the Post Office.

The question that will at once jump to the lips of the thinking man is just this: Why should philatelists be singled out as the class that should contribute the entire or almost the entire, amount "expected" from the issue of the Prince of Wales's, or more correctly, the *Daily Mail's* stamps? We have dealt with this matter at some length in our editorial columns.

#### CANADA'S JUBILEE STAMPS DESCRIBED.

We are indebted to Mr. Schomberg, of East Sheen, for an extract from the Toronto *Evening Telegraph* giving details of the forthcoming Jubilee postal stationery of Canada. We say stationery advisedly for we now learn that post cards as well as stamps are to be expected. The design chosen by the Canadian postal authorities depicts Her Majesty the Queen at two important eras in her life, namely at her accession on the 20th day of June, 1837, and within a few weeks of Her Jubilee in 1897. This is done by means of two vignette portraits, the first of which—that on the left—shows the Queen at the time of her coronation. The right-hand vignette shows us the Queen at the present day, as depicted on the latest stamps of British East Africa and the Niger Coast Protectorate. Between and above the two vignettes is a picture of the Imperial crown of Great Britain. Under-

neath this appear the letters "V.R.I." and below the two portraits are the dates "1837" and "1897." At the top of the stamp appears "Canada Postage" and at the bottom the value. To Mr. Pereira, an official of the Interior Department, belongs the credit of suggesting the general "idea" of this interesting stamp, but it does not appear to have been necessary (in the article under notice) to pay any tribute whatever to the actual designer.

Contrary to general anticipations, there is not to be merely one Jubilee Canadian Stamp, but a whole issue, ranging from 1 cent upwards. There will also be one post card, but of what value we are not told.

#### JOTTINGS FROM ITALY.

ITALY is now mourning the loss of Prof. Vittore Trevisan, di St. Leon, one of her most enthusiastic Philatelists, his death having taken place in Milan on the 8th of April last, at the age of 78. He left behind him one of the best collections in the country, filling some 20 volumes.

A WELCOME piece of news comes from Turin, where a well-known firm had undertaken, some time ago, to supply fascicles of rare stamps, with the laudable (?) object of enabling collectors of moderate means to complete their sets according to their albums. Probably, the results have not come up to their expectations, seeing that this Branch of the business is to be given up and the stock on hand sold off at a sacrifice.

#### THE DON HENRIQUE STAMPS OF PORTUGAL.

The *Revista Philatelia de Brazil* has reasons to believe that the Portuguese Government have decided to have the remainder of the stock on hand of "Don Henrique" 1894 issue, postmarked.

Commenting upon this decision, our contemporary points out that, as the number of these stamps sold unused to collectors is very small, they will be rarer still in this condition, when the above stated instructions are carried out.

#### A DEAR OLD "NEW IDEA."

MR. G. W. T. HALLATT, of Manchester, writes to the *Guardian* of that city, setting forth that venerable and oft-pulverised notion: the advisability of perforating postage stamps diagonally to make them divisible into stamps of smaller face value. Mr. Hallatt writes:—

May I be allowed to suggest an addition to the list of projected postal reforms—one which, though slight in itself, would I am convinced, greatly conduce to the convenience of the business public, and at the same time effect some slight saving to the postal department? My proposal is that all postage stamps be made capable of ready division into two equal triangular parts by diagonal perforations, and that each half be taken to represent half the value of the whole stamp. This system would render the printing of special halfpenny stamps as well as some others of higher value unnecessary, and greatly simplify the production, distribution, and use of stamps generally.

#### PHILATELIC NOTES FROM BRAZIL

A SUB-SECTION of the Berlin Collectors' Club has been formed at Santos.

A new paper named the *Jornal Philatlico* has made its appearance at St. Paulo.

Special interest is being taken by collectors and the Philatelic Press of this country in the sale of all withdrawn stamps still held by the Brazilian Postal Authorities, and ranging from 1889 down to 1891.

By virtue of the Postal Convention of Berne, the Post Office Authorities are in possession of 5 large collections of adhesive stamps, entires, &c., which, owing to the long period they cover, and their completeness, constitute a most valuable treasure. Being useless where they are at present kept for safety's sake, the Authorities have decided, says the *Jornal do Commercio*, to distribute them as follows: One set to the National Library, one to the Mint, one to be kept at the General Post Office and the last to be distributed among the Albums and files kept at the various Postal centres.

#### CHARGE OF OBTAINING STAMPS BY FRAUD.

AT the Westminster Police-court, on Wednesday June 2nd, a well-dressed man, giving the name of Alfred Ashton, *alias* Stanley, described as an enquiry agent renting a room at 44, Brompton-road, was placed in the dock, on a warrant charging him with obtaining a collection of stamps by fraud and

false pretences, from Captain Robert Arthur Binns, of 10 Moore-street, Blackpool.

The prosecutor, a captain in the merchant service, home on leave from China, is a stamp collector. Through the medium of the *Exchange and Mart* newspaper, he corresponded in April last with a man who wrote from Stanleys Library, 166, Sloane-street, and who enclosed a card, on which the name appeared "G. R. Hutchinson, secretary of the London and River Plate Bank." Believing that he was in correspondence with Mr. Hutchinson, Captain Binns sent on his stamps, but he could never obtain payment for them.

Mr. George Ross Hutchinson, residing at Blackheath, said he was the secretary of the River Plate Bank, and he never had any cards printed similar to the one put in evidence. He knew nothing of the prisoner, but the writing of the letter to the prosecutor was identical with letters to others who had been defrauded of stamps in the same way.

Lily Higgs, a dressmaker, proved that in April the prisoner had a room at 166, Sloane-street, and that by his direction she put letters under the door addressed in the names of Stanley and Hutchinson. She recollected in this way delivering a registered letter—which the prosecutor sent in April. Some weeks ago the prisoner left. He never had a lending library, though he called the place Stanley's Library.

Detective Barrett, B Division, and Sergeant Maguire, who arrested the prisoner, said there were some hundreds of letters at his place. The accused admitted the receipt of the letter in the name of Hutchinson, and stated that it was given up to a stranger. The accused had a lady secretary who would be called. The police had taken away a number of letters, telegrams, and advertisement receipts.

Mr. A. E. Scorer, who appeared for the accused, said that he was a respectable man, but the victim of a mistake. He allowed his office to be used by persons who paid a fee for correspondence, and in this way a man, who called himself Hutchinson, had got letters so addressed.

Mr. Denman remanded the accused on £100 bail.

#### AN INTERESTING FIND IN AMERICA.

*Filatelic Facts and Fallacies*, of San Francisco, brings us the following interesting news:

Just as we are about to go to press we learned of a very interesting fact—the recent discovery of the original working plates of the old Pony Express stamps. It is reported the plates were found in the old established printing-house of Britton & Rey, and a series of reprints of these interesting stamps were at once made. As far as we can find out, only a limited number of reprints have been produced.

The reprints, a set of which we have seen, differ from the originals in various respects. On all of them the colour is not quite the same as on the old ones, and the back-ground differs materially from the originals, being, in the cent values, composed of straight lines without the slight ornaments in the upper corners. The hoof of the right forefoot of the horse is nearly separated from the foot: the mouth of the horse is cut into about half way up to the eye: the shading in front of the horse's head is missing; the hat of the rider is too little shaded and appears therefore too white; and after the word dollars in the two and four dollar stamps, the reprints have a period which the originals have not.

From this it is quite evident that the plates have been touched up, or perhaps transfers have been made. It follows there will not be the slightest difficulty in distinguishing the reprints from the originals made from the same plate many years ago. Not content with reproducing the entire set in normal colors, the promoters of the work have struck *all* the values in *all* the colors. Every value can *now* be had (as a reprint) in red, (two shades) blue, green, black and brown. All of which does not affect the status of the originals or lessen their rarity.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 26th, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

- June 15th & 16th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely each day.
- June 16th & 17th. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely each day.
- June 23rd & 24th. —Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet St., at 5.45 p.m. precisely each day.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WHEN we first started this feature of our paper we inaugurated the "Editor and Reader" column by submitting to our readers three posers as to the guaranteeing of stamps by dealers, the duration of such guarantee, and the limitation of guarantor's liability to the actual person to whom in the first place he

sells the stamps. We had hoped that those questions of ours would lead to an edifying discussion, but they didn't; and now comes a letter from "a Member of the London Society" tempting us once more to venture on the same barren ground. This reader whose letter is one of many that we have received in consequence of our Mr. Hilckes' startling disclosures re guarantees in the last FORTNIGHTLY, begins as follows:—

There is one point arising out of the very unedifying state of affairs disclosed in the last number of the "S.C.F." anent the matter of the Hong Kong Postal Fiscals that has considerable interest for the man in the street, and that is the question of the precise value of these precious stamp guarantees. Let me illustrate my meaning.

Suppose that, unlike your client in the Hong Kong affair, I had been unwary, and, having implicit confidence in the guarantee of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, I had purchased the stamp in question and had never discovered my mistake. And suppose I had,—say years later,—sold my collection by auction, and that particular stamp for a far higher price than I had originally paid for it; and suppose, still further, that a second confiding person, again being blindly reliant on the guarantee I have mentioned, neglected to submit the stamp to the Expert Committee, and did not find out its worthlessness until much too late to recover from the Auctioneer, or the the original owner, myself. Then what is to happen? Are Messrs. S. G. & Co. only responsible to the original purchaser, myself, who for the sake of argument we will suppose dead or otherwise inaccessible, or are they responsible to the actual holder of the stamp, and if so, are they liable to refund to him the amount I paid them, or the amount the holder paid the auctioneer? In other words, is the guarantor only responsible to the person to whom he sells the stamp, or is he liable to anyone who may hold it? I know the law upon the subject, but I would invite from the principal dealers a pronouncement as to what they would be prepared to do in the matter, as, if they are only prepared to be answerable to the person who purchases the stamp from them, I fail to see the use of disfiguring the back of a valuable stamp by such a bold announcement as "Guaranteed by So-and-So."

From this our correspondent goes on to speak of other matters, but we regret that the pressure on our space in this number of the FORTNIGHTLY will not permit us to give the whole of his most interesting letter. The remedy he suggests, however, has the merit of distinct originality:

I have thought about this matter of guarantees for some time now, and the only course that occurs to me as perfectly free from objection is for collectors who are not themselves experts (and therefore are not able to dispense with some sort of guarantee) to reject absolutely, when buying rare stamps, the guarantee of any firm, however eminent it may be, and to insist that the firm selling the stamp shall provide, at their own expense, the guarantee of the Expert Committee which shall accompany the stamp and which shall be accepted by any purchaser as final, with regard to the merit of the particular stamp it refers to. We may all make mistakes; even the Expert Committee (although I would not venture to do more than hint at such a thing) might blunder, but after all, it would be the highest and ablest and most unbiassed tribunal we could get, and what earnest philatelist would demand more? It might obviate such a fiasco as occurred not so very long ago when a very rare stamp,—I think a Woodblock error,—was described in an Auction Catalogue as guaranteed by a noted firm, and at the time of sale was withdrawn on the ground that it was bad!

THE auctioneers' speed record is again broken! Messrs. Cheveley & Co., on May 21st, sold 239 lots in 101 minutes!

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 12, 1897.



An echo of the "Dickins v. Gill" action, arising out of the publication in the "Philatelists' Supplement" to the *Bazaar* of a fac-simile illustration of a Cape of Good Hope stamp, comes to us in the shape of an official notice, the full text of which we append:

### NOTICE TO STAMP DEALERS AND THE PUBLIC.

#### IMITATIONS OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

The Postmaster-General and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue direct attention to the case of *Dickins v. Gill*, reported in the Law Reports (1896) 2 Q.B. 311. This was a special case stated by Sir John Bridge, Chief Magistrate of the Metropolis, by way of Appeal from a Judgment given by him upon a prosecution for recovery of the penalty imposed by Section 7 of the Post Office Protection Act, 1884, (47 and 48 Vict. c. 76).

The Section is as follows:—

"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 materials 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.

"Any stamp, die, plate, instrument, or materials found in the possession of any person in contravention of this section may be seized and shall be forfeited.

"For the purposes of this section 'fictitious stamp' means any facsimile or imitation or representation, whether on paper or otherwise, of any stamp for denoting any rate of postage including any stamp for denoting a rate of postage of any of Her Majesty's colonies, or of any foreign country."

The facts relating to the prosecution were as under:

The proprietor of a newspaper circulating among stamp-collectors and others caused a die to be made for him abroad, from which imitations or representations of a current colonial postage stamp could be produced. The only purpose for which the die was ordered by him, and was subsequently kept in his possession, was for making upon the pages of an illustrated stamp catalogue, called "The Philatelists' Supplement," illustrations in black and white and not in colours of the colonial stamp in question, this special supplement being intended for sale as part of his newspaper.

The Court held that the possession of a die for making a false stamp, known to be such to its possessor, was, however innocent the use that he intended to make of it, a possession without lawful excuse within the meaning of the above section.

It is obvious, therefore, that the possession of dies from which representations of postage stamps can be produced and the issue of representations of stamps from dies of this description are contravenions of the section above mentioned, and all persons are cautioned accordingly.

May, 1897.

It sounds like a platitude to say that the law on this subject of philatelic illustrations is unsatisfactory. The law on most subjects is a little unsatisfactory in some way or another, and probably will always remain so. "The law is a hass!" declared one of the drollest characters created by our greatest novelist. In its attitude towards philately the law is a greater "hass" than usual. For by the rigid enforcement of Section 7 of the Post Office Protection Act, it pre-supposes that philatelic journalists and stamp dealers of the highest respectability—the men, in other words, who are most interested in stamping out forgery—are themselves likely to countenance or lend themselves to the fraudulent imitation of British or foreign stamps. More than this the law, by its recent action in this matter, hampers philatelists—a considerable section of the community—in the proper enjoyment of their hobby, and checks the legitimate enterprise of those who cater for the students of postage stamps by the supply of illustrated catalogues, handbooks, and journals.

True, our stamp catalogues are still illustrated, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Messrs. Bright & Son, and other firms holding that illustration by means of reduced fac-similes would be devoid of danger. Whether this is so remains to be seen. The terms of the Act are sufficiently sweeping—"fictitious stamp" meaning "any facsimile, or imitation, or representation"—and in the present temper of the authorities on this question, the worst is as likely to happen as the best. An explicit question in the House of Commons the other day as to whether reduced facsimile illustrations constituted an offence under the Act, was neatly evaded by the Secretary to the Treasury; but we have reason to know that he is likely to be tackled again on the same point, and this time in such a way as to leave him no loophole of escape from a direct answer. It is essential that we should know exactly how we stand with regard to this subject.

ELSEWHERE in this number we publish an article from the columns of our ably conducted contemporary, the *Australian Philatelist*. It deals with the subject of the Nova Scotia remainders, and is at once the judgment of an impartial and disinterested observer as to the merits of the controversy that recently waged between this journal and the trade circular of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and a clever, closely-reasoned investigation into the zealously guarded secret of the extent of the hoard of stamps sold by the Government of Nova Scotia to Messrs. A. A. Bartlett & Donald A. King. The writer of the article arrives, by an ingenious process of logical deduction, at the conclusion that less than face value was paid for the Nova Scotia remainders! He also expresses opinions favorable to our attitude on this question—opinions which will find an echo in the minds of all unbiassed philatelists in this country. The article we reprint, and which we trust every reader will peruse and carefully weigh, is a tribute both to the head and heart of our Australian contemporary, and for the sympathetic allusions to this journal and its publishers we thank its able editor, Mr. Fred Hagen, very warmly indeed.

This is the age of money-getting. Everyone, now-a-days, from a duke down to a dustman, wants to "make a bit." Thousands of people are puffing themselves up with pseudo-patriotism in this year of Jubilee, solely because they are "making a bit" out of the Longest Reign Commemoration. The latest idea—although in reality a very old idea—is to make a bit out of philatelists. The Hospital Fund Receipt

Stamps—despite very positive assertions to the contrary—are, as a matter of fact, not selling quite so well as anticipated. This being thus, there is a carefully-engineered movement on foot (as shown in our "Philately at Home" column) to make the stamps necessary to philatelists by getting the Postmaster-General to pass them through the mails as postage stamps. The attempt will fail, as it deserves to fail. Any thinking man looking the matter squarely in the face will see the gross injustice of the proposal. We have nothing to urge against philatelists supporting the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund—quite the contrary!—and if stamp collectors can afford to contribute their shillings and half-crowns to that Fund, by all means let them do so! But is it fair, is it right, that philatelists should be *forced* to purchase these labels, as forced they would be did they become recognised as British postage stamps? Charity is essentially voluntary; force it and it ceases to be charity and becomes extortion.

"Make them postage stamps" says the non-philatelist; "then you will get your £50,000 easily enough out of those stamp collecting maniacs." It is great fun for the non-philatelist, and the advice he gives costs him nothing.

It is a favourite gibe of the cynic and the newspaper man that all philatelists are a little mad. Perhaps they are. Let us, for the sake of argument, suppose that they are. How does this improve the case for a Hospital postage stamp? The labels are issued to benefit the hospitals, not the lunatic asylums!

## The Nova Scotia Mystery

IS GRADUALLY BEING CLEARED UP.

### LESS THAN FACE-VALUE PAID!

AN INGENUOUS AND LOGICAL INVESTIGATION BY A COLONIAL CONTEMPORARY.

(From the *Australian Philatelist*).

THE war has been waging merrily between *Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal* and *Hilckes' Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. Such unpleasant words as "lies," "throwing dust in the eyes of the philatelic public," "statements intended to discredit the articles we have published," &c., are made use of by the latter journal; and the former has made a stiff and would-be dignified rejoinder (which conveys, to us at least, the impression of being a masterly avoidance of the real point at issue), and winds up by solemnly declining to notice any further remarks in the *S.C.F.* so long as it is "conducted as hitherto."

They say that murder will out, and the apothegm may fairly be considered as applicable to the attempted suppression of philatelic facts; and so it was really a vain thing to try to conceal the true facts about the number of Nova Scotian remainders which were purchased by the Syndicate. It must be remembered that the transaction was an official one with a department of the public service, and that consequently there would of necessity be a full record of the transaction *somewhere*, however much stress was laid upon the stipulation to keep the matter secret. Again, as a financial transaction it might reasonably have been foreseen that the Government revenue accounts, which are published and accessible to any person interested would disclose some particulars.

Such has actually been the case, and we now read in *Mekel's Weekly* an extract from the Nova Scotian Premier's budget speech, made before the Legislative Assembly on the 1st February, 1896.

Premier Murray says: "I have now mentioned the principal source of revenue. But there are one or two items of an exceptional character to which I should like to refer. It is to be expected although I recognise that anticipations in that direction are gradually growing less that unforeseen expenditures may be looked for. But it does not often happen that we have the good fortune to have a windfall in the shape of an increase of revenue. During the fiscal year we were in receipt of the sum of \$18,000 from the sale of postage stamps. In order to acquaint the members of the house with the nature of this transaction, I may state that at the time of confederation we had on hand a number of provincial postage stamps which were withdrawn from circulation and which remained at Ottawa, being replaced by an issue of Canadian stamps. These Nova Scotia remainders were not considered of any value. But recently, owing to a desire on the part of a large number of persons to possess themselves of stamps as curiosities, it has been our good fortune to be able to add to our revenue to the extent above stated. The transaction was a most agreeable surprise to me, as I feel assured it will

be to every member of the legislature. That any number of gentlemen were prepared to risk such a large sum in a transaction of this character is indeed a matter of surprise. In this connection I would like to say—and I trust that the gentlemen in this house will not require any further explanation upon this point—that when the sale of stamps took place it was accompanied by a proviso that the government on their part would keep the quantity of stamps secret, and at this moment I have not the slightest information as to the number of stamps which were sold to bring in this handsome sum to the province. I presume that the idea of not making this information public is for the reason that if stamp purchasers throughout the world knew the quantity they could better judge of the value of these stamps, and all opportunity for legitimate speculation would be lost.

The effect of attempted concealment is invariably to magnify the estimated extent of an unknown quantity. We are always inclined to take *omne ignotum pro magnifico*, and if such was the case prior to the publication of the ministerial statement, to how great an extent will the tendency be increased by the obvious explanation of the reason for concealment of numbers when the amount paid is divulged.

We were once informed with a fine show of authority, that the numbers of remainders were 52,000 1c., 54,000 each of the 2c. and 8½c., 28,000 10c., and 12,000 12½c. Now a little calculation will show us that if these numbers were correct, the face value would amount to only \$10,490, whereas \$18,000 were paid for the parcel. Now if there was no valid objection to divulging the *price paid*, why should so much secrecy be demanded as to the *number of individual items* which constituted the total? There can be but one explanation, and that is the assumption that *face value was not paid for the stamps*. If this is a false assumption, the concealment of the numbers so strictly enjoined by the purchasers is a piece of senseless mystery. If true, it opens up an interesting field for speculation as to the actual number of stamps for \$18,000 (£3,600) a sum that would represent considerably more than the cost of producing the whole of the Nova Scotian "cents" stamps printed.

Mr. Donald A. King, in *S.G.M.J.* for September 29, 1894, gave the following as the total number of the cents issue received from the printers:—1c., 1,150,000; 2c., 1,000,000; 5c., 3,950,000; 8½c., 600,000; 10c., 1,000,000; and 12½c., 600,000.

The 2c. was issued in 1863, all the other values in 1860, and the stamps were suppressed in 1868 upon the absorption of the Province in the Dominion of Canada.

The total face value of the stamps printed amounted to £91,000 (\$455,000). The sale for the three years prior to introduction of the cents issue were:—1857, £2,850; 1858, £3,170; and 1859, £3,600. Assuming that the sales in subsequent years increased in the same ratio, we would have a total sale for the 9 years, 1860-8, of about £71,000. The balance would therefore represent £20,000, or \$100,000 face value of 1, 2, 8½, 10 and 12½ cent stamps, for we know that there were none of the 5 cent value amongst the remainders. Now the difference between \$18,000 and \$100,000 is sufficiently large to provide a delightful field for guessing! However, it is not difficult to arrive at the conclusion that £36,000 worth, or *less than three months supply of stamps*, is a very small quantity to remain unsold upon the entry of Nova Scotia into the Dominion! Hence—after all these figures—it is not difficult to place more credence in Mr. Hilckes' assertion that he was offered 25,000 sets at 2s. 6d. than *S.G.M.J.* would apparently consider desirable.

"And now what wait we for?" The *actual* numbers, which undoubtedly will be published sooner or later!

The "last word" up to date appears in the "*S.C.F.*" for 6th March, in the shape of a letter from Mr. A. A. Bartlett, one of the original syndicate purchasers. He says, "I am in a position to give you incontestable proof that no person living could have provided you with 25,000 sets of Nova Scotia stamps, and your mythical offer had no more stability than had a rope of sand." He is in "a position" to give proof, but apparently does not intend to do so! Again, why this mystery?

### AN ARREST!

*Erasmus Oneglia* was charged before Mr. Lushington with having in his possession certain fictitious stamps. There was no attempt on his part to pass them off as genuine ones, and in offering them for sale he freely stated they were only imitations. Mr. William Jones, manager to Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., dealers in stamps, gave evidence of the sale to him by the prisoner of a number of stamps similar to those seized by the police. The prisoner now said that as jewellers were allowed to sell imitation diamonds he thought he had a right to sell imitation stamps. Mr. Lushington said the accused had evidently acted in ignorance; he would be fined 20s., but all the stamps in his possession likely to defraud the Post Office authorities and defraud the Revenue would be forfeited.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Value of the 2d. blue, English.

WE seldom look to American papers for authoritative information concerning stamps of Great Britain, but the May number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* of New York brings us a short article on the subject of the 2d. blue stamp which is well worth the attention of British specialists. It has been again and again pointed out in the FORTNIGHTLY that British postage stamps are not catalogued with any proper regard to their relative rarity. The editor of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* quite takes our view of this question and adds:

As an illustration of this, we have just received a list of stamps from Mr. H. C. Davis, a well-known specialist in English stamps, who has been plating the different issues and buying large quantities from all parts of the world. The following shows the proportion of the different plate numbers in a lot of about 5,000 2d. English of the third issue.

Plate Number.	Catalogue Price. s. d.	Normal.	Inverted Watermark.	Total.
7	1 3	237		237
8	0 6	349	1	350
9	0 2½	2007	4	2011
12	1 0½	228	1	229
13	0 1½	795	3	798
14	0 1½	815	1	816
15	0 1½	369		369
P. No. indistinct		206		206
Totals		5006	11	5017

This shows that the stamps are certainly not catalogued according to rarity. If the set is worth 3/4½, the price should be divided as follows: No. 7, 10d.; No. 8, 7½d.; No. 9, ½d.; No. 12, 10d.; No. 13, 2½d.; No. 14, 2½d.; No. 15, 7½d. Total, 3/4½.

## A Philatelic Hustler.

It is startling to discover from paragraphs in the American philatelic journals the very short time it took Mr. F. W. Ayer to amass his remarkable collection of stamps, which Dame Rumour (a lady much given to exaggeration) declares changed hands for the astonishing price of £50,000. The *Philatelic Monthly and World* informs us that Mr. Ayer first became interested in philately a short time after the issue of the special Columbus stamps of the United States. It was the attractive appearance of this issue of stamps that first drew Mr. Ayer towards stamp collecting. That is to say, only four years were taken up in amassing the remarkable accumulation of stamps which has set the whole philatelic world talking about this gentleman from the Land of the Dollar. Mr. Ayer, we should say, much have rushed about from dealer to dealer with bags of gold in each hand and cheque books all over him in order to do it in the time.

## The Moral of the I.P.U.'s Legal Action.

The *Philatelic Chronicle*, of Birmingham, devotes its editorial article in the May issue to the legal action tried some time ago at Watford between the International Philatelic Union and Captain St. George Ord. With the details of the action our readers are already familiar, but the *Philatelic Chronicle's* comments thereon have the merit of novelty in more ways than one. The I.P.U. is handled some what severely—perhaps deservedly, perhaps otherwise. But let our contemporary speak for itself. The judge it must be pointed out stated that the only remedy in the hands of the I.P.U. was to expel such members as met with their disapproval. It is at this point that the *Philatelic Chronicle* begins its comment.

Under the circumstances the I.P.U. are very unlikely to follow this hint, as, by so doing, they would preclude Captain Ord from ever getting quits—which he can only do now by taking stamps from the French sheets—and, however foolish and headstrong their action has been in this matter so far, everyone knows that the I.P.U. executive would avoid anything that even remotely savoured of dishonesty. Had the I.P.U. waited patiently for a few months the members would surely have bought enough of the Frenchman's stamps to liquidate Captain Ord's indebtedness. This would have saved the public washing of dirty linen, and surely someone should have known

that their County Court proceedings were fore-doomed to failure, as they richly deserved, and that they were only putting the members of the I.P.U. to an utterly needless and wasteful expense—unless, indeed, as may be the case, those immediately responsible intend to pay the costs out of their own pockets. Captain Ord is well known as a straightforward and honourable man, who always pays promptly what is justly due, and it is very hard upon him that he should have to run the risk of losing the £20 balance still owing to him, besides being put to a lot of law expenses which might easily have been avoided by the exercise of a little tact. The I.P.U., as a corporation, has neither body or soul we know, but in the present case it has shown itself woefully deficient in both conscience and common sense as well.

## A New Spanish War-Tax Stamp.

Our Italian contemporary, *Francobollo*, of Milan, draws attention to the fact that Spaniards residing in Buenos Ayres and Santa Fé, have clubbed themselves together with the view of bringing out, with the consent of the Government of the Republic, a label bearing a 5 centavos face value, which they have undertaken to affix to all their letters side by side with the legitimate postage stamp. The colour is violet and



is perf. 11½. The original object of this self-imposed War-tax was to provide their distressed fatherland (Spain) with an iron clad man-of-war, but as the nett proceeds are not likely to suffice for this purpose, it is probable that the fund will be applied in some other form. However, this is only a matter of detail. What we Philatelists have to bear in mind is the fact that before this world is much older, these labels will be

hawked about on their "originals" as legitimate postage stamps, and when that comes to pass, it is to be hoped that the lesson which we have learned at "Melilla" a few years ago, will not be lost sight of.

## Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

The double-barrelled number of the *English Specialists' Journal*, dated April and May contains nothing that calls for special attention, although full of matter of undoubted interest to the English specialist.

From the Wild and Woolly West comes the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*, one of the few American philatelic papers that provides stamp collectors with articles about stamps. There are capital articles on Swiss stamps, new issues, and perforations, in the number under notice.

Very fat, but sometimes very empty, is the *Boston Stamp Book*, of Boston, U.S.A. Its most valuable feature, Mr. Kilbon's reference list of type and die varieties, grows beautifully less. There are scarcely a thousand words of it in the May number, while there is an intolerable deal of inconsequential editorial notes. Mr. Toppan's "Notes on United States Envelopes" looks pretty dry but is doubtless of great value to the United States specialist. As against 28 pages of reading matter there are 26 pages of advertisements in the *Boston Stamp Book*, so that Mr. Kilbon is enjoying both the moral and the material support of American philatelists.

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, like Tennyson's "Brook," goes on for ever, and with about as much tendency to change as the staid stream aforesaid. It is a most reliable little journal, always full of useful information and crowded with common-sense paragraphs which come as a positive relief to the mind of the jaded reviewer.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for May 13th is one of the best numbers we have seen. The Editor has for some time been engaged in the promotion of an Exchange Club, limited in membership to those philatelists who subscribe to the *Weekly* and are members of the American Philatelic Association. "The Exchange," remarks the Editor, "seems to have struck a popular chord"; and it would seem that this is no exaggeration of the case, for in less than two months 150 members have been enrolled.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., May 4th and 5th, 1897.

(Continued from page 196).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
a	St. Vincent, 4d. red-brown, C.A. *	5 0 0
a	6d. blue-green, star, perf. 16 *	1 16 0
b	1/- brown .. .. .	1 3 0
b	1 - claret, star, perf. 11½ *	5 0 0
b	Spain, (1850), 6r blue *	1 4 0
b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r, vert. lines .. .. .	0 18 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. red, star *	2 6 0
a b	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf. large margins .. .. .	2 0 0
a	6d. yellow-green, C.C., imperf. pair *	8 10 0
b	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac on white .. .. .	2 10 0
a	United States, (1856), 5c. red-brown *	2 12 6
	(1861), 5c. mustard * .. .. .	6 2 6
b	Virgin Islands, 1 - crimson, single line .. .. .	1 15 0
b	1 - crimson border, on bluish * .. .. .	1 14 0
a	ditto, on white * .. .. .	15 - and 0 16 0
a	ditto, ditto, used .. .. .	1 12 0
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, thread * .. .. .	3 7 6
a	Zululand, 5/- rose * .. .. .	2 12 6

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., May 10th, 1897.

a b	Bolivia, 500c. black, 9 stars * .. .. .	2 6 0
a	500c. black, 11 stars * .. .. .	4 2 6
b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, no wmk. * .. .. .	1 12 0
a	1/- deep green, C.C., perf. 12½ *	1 7 0
b	Lagos, 1 - orange, perf. 12½, value 16½ mm. *	2 10 0
b	Levant, 6k. blue * .. .. .	1 2 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 2, pair on entire .. .. .	3 8 0
a	ditto, 2d. plate 1, on entire .. .. .	2 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, plate 3, ditto .. .. .	1 0 0
a	Laurated, 8d. orange ditto .. .. .	4 15 0
a	St. Lucia, (1856), 6d. lilac * .. .. .	1 12 0
a	Trinidad, Litho., 1d. blue, medium state .. .. .	1 10 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, May 11th, 1897.

a	Belgium, 5fr. red-brown * .. .. .	1 1 0
b	Brazil, 180r. sloping figures .. .. .	1 12 0
a b	British Columbia, 50c. violet, perf. 12½ .. .. .	1 2 0
b	1 dollar green, ditto * .. .. .	1 18 0
b	Canada, 7½d. green .. .. .	1 5 0
b	Gambia, 1/- green .. .. .	1 17 0
a	Great Britain, 2 - brown .. .. .	£1 14s. od., and 2 4 0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet .. .. .	0 18 0
b	Mauritius, Greek Border, 1d. red .. .. .	1 10 0
a	Britannia, 1 - yellow green, imperf. .. .. .	0 18 0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, C.C., pair *	2 4 0
a	4d. blue, C.A. .. .. .	3 0 0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved * .. .. .	2 0 0
a b	1 - green, perf. 15, ditto * .. .. .	1 19 0
b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange .. .. .	0 18 0
b	6d. orange .. .. .	1 2 0
A	8d. carmine-red .. .. .	1 10 0
a	New Zealand, 1 - blue-green, no wmk. .. .. .	0 16 0
a	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, pair .. .. .	2 4 0
a	ditto, a single .. .. .	1 1 0
a	8½c. green on white .. .. .	0 9 0
a b	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf. .. .. .	2 16 0
a	St. Christopher, 2½d. brown, C.C. * .. .. .	1 3 0
a	1/- lilac-rose * .. .. .	1 1 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
b	St. Lucia (6d.) green .. .. .	1 10 0
a	(1 -) orange, C.C., perf. 14 * .. .. .	0 18 0
b	4d. black and yellow, perf. 12 * .. .. .	2 2 0
a	(1886), 6d. lilac * .. .. .	2 4 0
b	(1885), 1/- orange-brown * .. .. .	2 2 0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. red on half 6d. yellow-green *	1 5 0
a b	ditto, used .. .. .	1 2 0
A	4d. ultramarine, C.A., perf. 12, * .. .. .	£2 18s. od. and 3 0 0
A	6d. green, C.A., perf. 12, pair * .. .. .	2 2 0
a	1 - slate, compound perf. * .. .. .	1 11 0
a	ditto, used .. .. .	0 17 0
a	South Australia, 1d. green, imperf. .. .. .	0 19 0
a	Turks Islands, 2½d. on 6d. black (type 6) * .. .. .	1 6 0
a	2½d. on 1/- prune (type 6) * .. .. .	2 4 0
a	4d. blue * .. .. .	0 17 0
a b	United States (1856), 90c. blue * .. .. .	2 14 0
b	(1861), 90c. blue * .. .. .	1 15 0
b	(1869), 90c. * .. .. .	3 10 0
a	Periodicals, 9c. black * .. .. .	1 8 0
b	Agriculture, 12c. yellow .. .. .	0 13 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, double line .. .. .	3 10 0
b	1 - crimson, single line .. .. .	2 13 0
a b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red .. .. .	1 0 0
a	2d. vermilion, roulette * .. .. .	1 16 0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. violet * .. .. .	1 6 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, May 12th and 13th, 1897.

a	Austria (1858), 10k. brown * .. .. .	1 10 0
a	Barbadoes, 5/- bistre * .. .. .	0 17 0
a	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. .. .. .	1 1 0
a	Bermuda, Three Pence, fancy capitals on 2d. blue .. .. .	1 16 0
a	Bremen, 10gr. black, percé * .. .. .	1 0 0
b	ditto, used .. .. .	0 19 0
b	British Columbia, 50c. violet, perf. 12½ .. .. .	1 1 0
a	British East Africa, 1a. manuscript on 4a. brown, pair on piece, with two common .. .. .	5 0 0
a	4a. hand stamped in violet, on 2a. red .. .. .	2 15 0
a b	1 rope carmine, imperf. pair on piece .. .. .	3 0 0
a	British Guiana (1860), 1c. red-brown * .. .. .	0 18 0
a	ditto, 12c. lilac, perf. 12, thick paper * .. .. .	1 3 0
a	British Honduras, 1/- grey .. .. .	2 0 0
b	Canada, 7½d. green .. .. .	£1 4s., £1 9s. and 1 10 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red .. .. .	£2 10s. and 3 0 0
a b	ditto, 4d. blue .. .. .	1 14 0
a	4d. blue, rouletted pair .. .. .	8 0 0
b	Ceylon, 9d. lilac-brown, imperf. .. .. .	2 2 0
a	10d. vermilion, ditto .. .. .	0 16 0
a b	1 9 green, ditto * .. .. .	2 14 0
b	ditto, ditto, used .. .. .	1 4 0
b	2 - blue, ditto .. .. .	3 10 0
a	5d. brown, no wmk. .. .. .	£1 and 1 4 0
a b	Postal Commission, 3c. on pc. in black and in blue .. .. .	2 12 0
a	Cyprus, 1 - green * .. .. .	1 10 0
a	Dominica, 1 - lilac-rose, C.A. * .. .. .	2 4 0
a b	Dominican Republic, first issue, ½r. black on rose .. .. .	1 4 0
b	French Colonies, 25c. black on red .. .. .	1 0 0
b	Great Britain, £1 brown-lilac, anchor, on bluish .. .. .	2 10 0
b	£5 orange, telegraph cancel .. .. .	2 0 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green .. .. .	£1 10s. od., and 1 16 0
b	Heligoland, 5 marks .. .. .	1 14 0
a	India, Service, 2a. green on long lilac .. .. .	1 14 0
b	ditto, 4a. ditto .. .. .	2 14 0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, 4d. black on green .. .. .	£2 4s., and 2 8 0
a b	Natal, first issue, 1d. buff .. .. .	1 6 0
a	Nevis, 2½d. brown, C.C. block of 4 * .. .. .	3 17 6
a b	4d. rose * .. .. .	1 14 0
b	ditto, used .. .. .	1 8 0
a	6d. grey-lilac * .. .. .	1 18 0
a b	ditto, vert. pair, used .. .. .	1 16 0
b	6d. orange-brown .. .. .	1 1 0
b	1/- green, perf. 15 * .. .. .	£1 10s. od., and 1 16 0
a	1 - lilac * .. .. .	1 10 0
a	New Zealand, 1/- green on blue, no wmk. .. .. .	2 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, strip of 3, on entire .. .. .	3 3 0
a	Oldenburg, second issue, ½gr. black on green * .. .. .	4 15 0
a	ditto, 2gr. black on rose * .. .. .	5 0 0



CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Philippines, first issue, 10c. pale rose ..	1	0	0
b	Portuguese India, first issue, 20c. carmine-red on entire, dated 2/10/71, fine, but imperfect margin ..	3	0	0
a	Prince Edward Island, 3d. blue, perf. 9 * ..	1	8	0
a b	Prussia, block ground, 2sgr. blue * ..	5	0	0
a	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts * ..	1	3	0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	1	10	0
a	St. Helena, 6d. grey-blue, perf. 14 x 12½ ..	0	18	0
a	St. Lucia (6d.) green, star * ..	2	0	0
u	(1886), 6d. lilac * ..	2	10	0
a	St. Vincent, ¼d. red on half 6d. yellow-green ..	1	1	0
a b	4d. ultramarine, CA., perf. 14 * ..	2	0	0
a	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12 * ..	1	1	0
b b	1/- slate, compound perf. * ..	1	4	0
a	1/- slate, perf. about 15½ * ..	1	2	0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red ..	3	7	0
b	South Australia, 4d. grey-lilac, perf. by roulette ..	1	4	0
b b	Spain, 12 cuartos rose and blue, centre inverted * ..	30	0	0
a	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. vert. lines..	1	0	0
b	Turks Islands, ¼d. on 1/- dull blue (type 3) * ..	0	18	0
a	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac on white ..	2	12	0
a	United States, 5c. red-brown, imperf. ..	11	0	0
a	(1869), 90c. ..	£1 3s. and	1	8
b	(169-1875, <i>reissit</i> ), 30c. * ..	2	17	6
a	Periodicals, 9c. black ..	1	0	0
b b	ditto, 12 dollars * ..	1	16	0
a b	ditto, 24 ditto * ..	2	0	0
a b	ditto, 36 ditto * ..	2	7	6
a b	ditto, 48 ditto * ..	2	17	6
a b	ditto, 60 ditto * ..	4	4	0
<i>The last 5 stamps all have some gum on face.</i>				
b	Western Australia, 1/- brown, roulette 3 sides ..	1	2	0
a	Wurtemberg, 18k. orange, roulette, on entire ..	1	4	0
a b	70k. rose-lilac * ..	3	3	0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, May 14th, 1897.</i>				
b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. ..	0	16	0
b	British East Africa, (on Co.'s stamp), 2½a. red on 4½a. ..	1	14	0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. deep red ..	2	8	0
b	Ceylon, 2d. emerald, CC. * ..	1	0	0
a	Gibraltar, second issue, 1/- bistre ..	0	18	0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet * ..	0	16	0
a	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose * ..	1	10	0
a	New Zealand, 1d. red on blue ..	1	2	0
a	St. Lucia, (4d.) blue, CC., perf. 12½ ..	0	18	0
b	(1886) 6d. lilac * ..	2	2	0
a	St. Vincent, 4d. ultramarine, star * ..	2	10	0
a	4d. dull blue, CA., perf. 12 * ..	4	0	0
b	South Australia, P.S. on 9d., perf. ..	1	0	0
a	1/- orange, imperf. ..	1	2	0
b	Tasmania, 2d. green, roughly serrated ..	2	12	0
a	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ * ..	0	17	0
a b	United States (1869), 30c. * ..	1	4	0
b	Victoria, 10d. slate, error right top corner blank ..	1	8	0
<i>Mr. W. HADLOW, May 19th and 20th, 1897.</i>				
a	Bahamas, 1d. carmine, CA., perf. 14 * ..	0	16	0
a	Barbados, 3d. lake, star * ..	1	0	0
a	5/- bistre * ..	1	0	0
a	ditto, used ..	1	0	0
a	British Bechuanaland, 10/- green * ..	0	18	0
a	British Columbia, 25c. orange, perf. 12½ * ..	0	19	0
b	50c. violet, ditto, used ..	1	6	0
a b	Canada, 6d. purple on laid, two ..	each	1	0
b	7½d. green ..	1	1	0
a	10d. blue on thin ..	1	0	0
a b	Ceylon, 9d. lilac-brown, imperf. ..	2	2	0
b	2/- blue, star, perf. ..	0	19	0
b c	Cyprus, ¼d. rose, plate 19, heavy pmk. ..	1	18	0
a	Fiji, 2c. (1d.) blue, plain V.R. ..	1	5	0
b	Gold Coast, 1d. blue, perf. 12½ ..	0	18	0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet ..	0	16	0
a	Hong Kong, 10 dollars rose * ..	1	13	0
a b	Labuan, 6c. orange-brown, CA. sideways * ..	1	10	0
b	16c. blue, ditto, used ..	1	10	0
a	Natal, 1/- green, POSTAGE in tall thin capitals ..	4	8	0
b	Newfoundland, 5c. brown * ..	0	18	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d. plate 1, late ..	1	1	0
b	ditto, ditto, medium ..	1	4	0
b	ditto, 1d. plate 2 ..	0	19	0
b	ditto, ditto, on laid ..	1	4	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. plate 1 ..	1	4	0
b	ditto, ditto, pair ..	2	15	0
a	ditto, ditto, retouched ..	1	0	0
b	ditto, 2d. plate 4 ..	1	0	0
a b	ditto, 3d. green ..	18/- and	1	1
b	ditto, ditto, town postmark ..	1	8	0
a	Laureated, 2d. stars in corners ..	0	15	0
a	ditto, 8d. yellow ..	1	18	0
b	Diadem, 6d. grey, wmk. 8 sideways ..	0	17	0
a	Queensland, 1d. rose, imperf. ..	1	8	0
b	1d. orange-red, trunated star, perf. 12 ..	0	18	0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive-brown * ..	1	16	0
a	St. Vincent, ¼d. red on half 6d. yellow green * ..	1	1	0
a	1d. black, compound perf. * ..	0	17	0
b	1d. drab, star * ..	2	4	0
b	4d. orange * ..	2	0	0
a	6d. bright green, CA., perf. 12 ..	1	10	0
a	1/- indigo ..	1	8	0
b	South Australia, 4d. deep purple, perf. by roulette ..	1	4	0
a b	3d. red on blue..	0	17	0
a	9d. grey, perf. and roulette ..	3	5	0
a	Straits Settlements, 96c. grey, perf. 12½ * ..	3	0	0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf., on piece ..	2	15	0
a	1/- indigo, ditto, ditto ..	2	4	0
b	Victoria, 10d. slate ..	0	18	0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., May 21st, 1897.

b	Cape of Good Hope, 1d. on bluish, roulette one side ..	2	0	0
a	1/- emerald ..	18/- and	1	4
a	Woodblock, 1d. bright red ..	3	0	0
b	ditto, 1d. brick red ..	2	8	0
a	ditto, 4d. blue, large margins ..	2	4	0
b	ditto, ditto, no margins ..	1	4	0
a	Gambia, 4d. brown, impf., no wmk., pair * ..	1	16	0
a	6d. blue, ditto, CC., pair * ..	1	18	0
a	1/- green * ..	1	18	0
a	ditto, used ..	2	2	0
b	Gibraltar, second issue, 1/-, bistre ..	1	0	0
a	Gold Coast, ¼d. olive, CA. * ..	1	6	0
a	Great Britain, 6d. pale chestnut, plate 12 * ..	1	16	0
a b	2/- brown ..	2	0	0
a	10/- green-grey, anchor, on white..	1	8	0
a b	ditto, on bluish..	1	7	0
a	£5 orange on bluish, "specimen" ..	1	12	0
b	F. R. Official (1885), 1/- green ..	0	16	0
a b	Lagos, 2d. blue, CA. * ..	1	1	0
A	5/- blue, CA. ..	7	0	0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, (6d.) vermilion ..	1	2	0
a	6d. green, no wmk. * ..	1	0	0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 2, hill unshaded ..	1	16	0
b	ditto, ditto ..	19/- and	1	0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 4, on thick laid ..	1	0	0
a b	Laureated, 8d. yellow ..	2	0	0
a	(1888), 20/- blue * ..	3	5	0
a	New Zealand, 1/- green on blue ..	1	10	0
a b	ditto, ditto ..	1	5	0
a	Oil Rivers, 1d. on half 2d. on piece ..	1	0	0
a b	Queensland, 1d. rose, impf. pair, on entire ..	2	16	0
b	6d. green, ditto, a single ..	1	0	0
A	Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow ..	4	15	0
a	Western Australia, 6d. grey-black..	1	3	0

(To be continued.)

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The NEXT SALE will take place on JUNE 15th and 16th, when a very FINE COLLECTION will be disposed of. Amongst other Rarities may be mentioned—

GREAT BRITAIN, V.R., 1d. black, two unused copies in mint state.  
 A superb lot of early SWISS, including GENEVA, the double stamp, very fine, and two halves; BASEL, used and unused; ZURICH, 4 rappen (3), very fine, and 6 rappen (4, one unused); VAUD, 5 centns (3, one unused). GENEVA ENVELOPES, the three sizes, entire, and a very fine lot of the Federal, 1850-51 issues.  
 WURTEMBERG, 1st issue, 18kr., unused and very fine. CEYLON, 2-, star, perf., unused.  
 MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d. Large Fillet, 2d. blue; Britannia, surcharged, 4d. unused.  
 LABUAN, CA. sideways, 16c. blue, two entire sheets. CANADA, perf., 6d.  
 NEWFOUNDLAND, 6d. carmine (2), &c. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- purple (2), very fine.  
 NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. and 1/-, very fine. UNITED STATES—ST. LOUIS, 10 cents, on entire original.  
 BRITISH GUIANA, 1862, 4 cents, unused, very fine. BRAZIL, 2nd issue, 180, 300 and 600 reis, very fine.  
 BUENOS AYRES, 3 pesos green, very fine. CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, woodblocks, 1d. red, and 4d. light and dark blue.  
 NEVIS, perf. 15, 1/- yellow-green, on laid, superb, and 6d., lithographed, and 6d., green, very fine.  
 BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/-, very fine, on piece of original.  
 ST. CHRISTOPHER, wmk. CC., perf. 14, 6d. green, an entire sheet.  
 TOBAGO, wmk. CA, 6d., bistre. VIRGIN ISLANDS, wmk. CA, 6d. and 1/-, complete sheets of each.  
 N. S. WALES, Sydney Views, a nice lot, including 2d., error, "crevit," omitted; Laureated. 8d., or orange, &c.  
 NEW ZEALAND, halves of 1- on blue paper, and wmk. star, bluté, on entire originals.  
 SOUTH AUSTRALIA, imperf., 1d., green, a strip of 4, unused, and a fine pair on entire, and perf. 11½; 1d., green, strip of 4, unused, with gum. And many others.

To be followed by a Sale on JUNE 29th and 30th, when a particularly Fine Lot will be offered, including the following Rarities.

GREAT BRITAIN, a very fine lot of unused, including 6d., 10d., and 1/- octagonals.  
 BAVARIA, 1849, 6 kr., brown (broken circle), unused and very fine.  
 BREMEN, 7 grote, perf., used and fine.  
 OLDENBURG, 1st issue, ½ sgr., a block of 4, unused, and 3rd issue, 3 gros., unused.  
 MOLDAVIA, 54 paras, very fine. SAXONY, 3 pf., red, unused.  
 SWITZERLAND—Geneva, the double stamp, used, on entire, but severed; Vaud, 4 cents; Zurich, 4 rappen (2, one without lines).  
 TUSCANY, 60 crazie.  
 WURTEMBERG, 1st issue, 6 kr., fine pair, unused, with gum, and 70 kr., a strip of 3, unused, in mint state.  
 CEYLON, imperf., 4d. (2), 8d., 9d., 1/9, and 2/- (2), used, and 1/-, unused. LABUAN, 6 on 16 cents, very fine.  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, imperf., 5c. and 10c. (2). CANADA, 7½d. and 10d., unused, and 12d., black, on laid, a very fine used copy.  
 NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/- (3, one unused), and the Connell stamp. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- (3 fine copies).  
 NEWFOUNDLAND, 4d., 6½d., and 1/-, carmine, and half of 1/-, carmine, used, on piece of entire, and 1/-, orange, used, and 4d., orange, unused.  
 BRITISH GUIANA, a very fine lot.  
 CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, very fine woodblocks, including a pair of 4d., blue.  
 GOLD COAST, 20/-, carmine and green.  
 MAURITIUS, large fillet, 2d., blue (2, one very fine).  
 NATAL, a fine lot of the first issue, including 9d. (3, one on part of original, and 1/-, very fine).  
 BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/- (2), and 5/-, unused.  
 MONTERRAT, wmk. CA, 4d., blue, unused.  
 NEVIS, 6d., lithograph, used, &c.  
 ST. VINCENT, a fine lot, including the following, unused, no wmk., 1/-, brown; wmk. star, 4d., dark blue; 4d., ultramarine; 1/-, lake; 1/-, vermilion; 1d. on half of 6d., and 4d. on 1/-, and wmk. CA, perf. 12; 4d. ultramarine.  
 TOBAGO, wmk. CA, 6d., bistre, unused.  
 TURKS' ISLANDS, a very fine lot of the provisional issues.  
 VIRGIN ISLANDS, perf. 15, 6d. (2), and 1/-, double and single-lined borders, and perf. 12, 6d., an entire sheet, &c.  
 BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue, 3 pesos (3); 4 and 5 pesos.  
 SOUTH AUSTRALIA, imperf., 1/-, violet, error, unused.  
 TASMANIA, 1st issue, 1d., unused, and a pair, used.  
 WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st issue, 2d., unused, and a pair, used, and several single copies; and 6d. (several), and wmk. CC; 2d., violet, error, and many other fine stamps.

To be followed by Sales on JULY 13th and 14th, 27th and 28th, 1897.

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to advise that the future Dates fixed for their Stamp Sales, are as follows:—  
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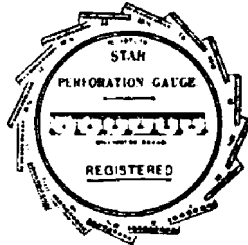
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1897.

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		s	d.
Paris Print,	10 lep. orange .. .. .	10	0
Athens ..	5 .. green (1st type of 5 at back) ..	1	6
.. ..	20 .. blue on greenish .. .. .	1	6
.. ..	20 .. 1871. light blue, dotted neck ..	2	6
.. ..	20 .. blue on deep blue .. .. .	2	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on bluish .. .. .	5	0
.. ..	40 .. bistre on bluish, unused .. .. .	5	0
.. ..	10 .. orange on cream, error "oo" ..	4	6
.. ..	20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted ..	7	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on cream, unused .. .. .	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK).

Paris Print,	1876, 30 lep. olive brown .. .. .	3	6
.. ..	60 .. green .. .. .	3	0
Athens ..	60 .. green on buff .. .. .	4	6
.. ..	10 lep. deep orange on cream, rare ..	5	0
.. ..	20 .. ultramarine .. .. .	2	6

Scientifically arranged Approval Books will be sent to responsible applicants on receipt of references.

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*Transvaal, 1885, 20. brown	0	4
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Western Australia, 1 R., 2d. lilac	2	6
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*Great Britain, 25c. lilac-rose, pl. 1, blue paper	12	0
Mauritius, 1859, imperf., 6d. brown-lilac	15	0
1865, 5/- violet	6	0
Natal, 1867, 3d. blue, surch POSTAGE tall caps.	25	0
Newfoundland, 1857, 3d. green	12	6
1862, 2d. lake	42	6
3d. "	12	6
6d. "	8	6
6 1/2. "	37	6
Victoria, 1865, 1d. green, star, very fine	8	0

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line	15	0
Army Official, 3d. and 1d.	3	9

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THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**  
 PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 72—Vol. III.
SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1897.
ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

- Bristol Philatelic Society.
Cambridge University Philatello Society.
Stamp Exchange Protection Society.
- The Liverpool Philatello Society.
The City of London Philatello Club.
Roochdale Philatello Society.
- Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society.
Edinburgh and Leith Society.
Sheffield Philatello Society.

2 ADHESIVES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE SIXPENCE— <i>continued.</i>		Unused	Used
		a	b
Same colour and wmk., but large white letters in corners.			
267	Plate 5 Appd. 30/12/64 (1/4/65)	30 00	60 2
<small>(The supposed error, without wmk., said to have been supplied to the Malta Post Office, does not exist).</small>			
268	Plate 6 Appd. 6.12/65 (4 2/67)	50 03	61 0
Same, but with wmk.			
269	Plate 6 (a) Lilac (22 6 67)	30 04	63 0
	(b) Bright violet (22 7 68)	40 04	63 0
	(c) Violet (25 9/68)	30 02	61 6
<small>(Plate 7 was not used).</small>			
270	Plate 8 Violet Appd. 23/1/68 (12 3/60)	12 60	60 2
271	" 9 " " 20/2 96 (3 8 70)	10 00	90 3
	" 10 " " 1 4/69 .....		
<small>(A few sheets were printed from this plate for registration, but perforated specimens have yet to be discovered).</small>			
272	Plate 11 (a) Dark buff Appd. 5/1 72 (1 4/72)	25 03	61 6
	(b) Light " (1 6/72)	25 02	61 0
273	Plate 12 " " 22/4/72 (1 12 72)	80 07	65 0
274	" 12 Grey-green (1 14 73)	20 01	60 9
	" 13 Light buff " 21 12/72 .....		
275	" 13 Grey-green (1 4 74)	8 60	60 4
276	" 14 " " 25/8/83 (1 1/77)	10 00	60 4
277	" 15 " " 15 7 74 (1 1/77)	8 60	60 2
278	" 16 " " 10/9/75 (1 2 78)	8 60	60 2
279	" 17 " " 13/12 77 (1 1/80)	15 05	02 6
	" 18 " " 15 7 80 .....		
<small>(Several sheets with spray wmk. were printed from this plate, perforated and issued, but no specimens have yet been found).</small>			
With large coloured letters in corners, wmk.			
280	Plate 17 Grey-green (1 1/81)	10 02	61 6
281	" 18 " " (1 1/82)	10 03	01 6
282	" 18 Lilac, surcharged "6d" in red, Appd. 23/11/82 (1 1/83)	3 61	00 4

SPECIMEN PAGE . . .  
OF OUR  
English  
Catalogue

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(WHO ORIGINATED THEM IN THIS COUNTRY),

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MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:—

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**JULY 1st and 2nd.**—A Very Fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN and COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, including the following Rarities:—

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Messrs. V., B. & C. have received instructions from A. A. GOOD, Esq., to Sell by Auction during Exhibition Week, July 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, his very Valuable Collection of Blocks and Pairs. Catalogues will be ready at an early date.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the days are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable, one month before the date of sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

## London Philatelic Exhibition

1897.

### Mr. T. H. THOMPSON

Begs to inform his friends and Stamp Collectors generally that he has been allotted . . .



At the above Exhibition, where he will have for Sale a Choice Lot of

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ALL PICKED SPECIMENS (WITH FIGURES AT BACK).

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Paris Print,	10 lep. orange .. .. .	10	0
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" ..	40 .. bistre on bluish, unused .. ..	5	0
" ..	10 .. orange on cream, error "oo" ..	4	6
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(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK).

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53, Gwendwr Road, West Kensington,

LONDON, W.

# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rookdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Bristol Philatelic Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 72.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### TWO DAYS WITH ITALIAN PHILATELISTS.

THE second great annual show and sale by auction promoted by the Lombardian Philatelic Society took place at Milan on the 15th and 16th of last month as advertised, and was crowned with success, the transactions recorded representing upwards of £1000. Besides the local collectors and dealers who were present in great force, the event had brought in numerous friends from many other towns, such as Bologna, Turin, Venice, Padua, Leghorn, and even from Naples. Dr. Emilio Diena was prevented from attending by his duties connected with the organisation of the new Postal Museum in Rome.

Among the lots offered for sale, mention may be made of an old letter bearing five 2 soldi of Tuscany and another with a fine block of 5-9 crazie of the second issue of the same old dukedom.

But the *pièce de résistance* of the evening was, however, a 3-lire Tuscany, which changed hands for 2,500 lire, or, say a little under £100. Of the other lots in general, the following report has been made by a gentleman who is probably not a stranger on the Exchange, as he describes Tuscany as brisk with an upward tendency, Parma as neglected, Modena flat, except provisionals, Sicily in good demand at first, owing to the presence of a large buyer, but left off rather flat, Roman States all sellers and no buyers, Naples in fair demand at usual prices, and Sardinians, first three issues also steady at usual prices, the 20c. blue excepted.

The second day's sale was followed by a social dinner at the Hotel Pezzo, when fifty members, including a good sprinkling of ladies, sat down to a good repast, enlivened by the strains of a capital band.

When the time for after-dinner speeches arrived, Signor Fiechi addressed the company on behalf of Venice, followed by Signor Ravel for Naples, while Signor Marchese, in the course of his address, assured all present that a hearty reception awaited them all at Turin next year, where the forthcoming meeting of Italian philatelists is to take place.

### CANADIAN AND N.S.W. JUBILEE STAMPS.

We are enabled this week to place before our readers the design chosen for the Canadian jubilee stamps and also two of the favoured designs for the New South Wales commemoratives.



With regard to the Canadian labels we are indebted to various readers for news cuttings relating to the dimensions, etc., of the issues. Of the 1c. stamp 150,000 copies will be issued; of the 1c., 8,000,000; the 2c., 2,500,000; 3c., 20,000,000; 5c., 750,000; 6c., 75,000; 8c., 200,000; 10c., 150,000; 15c., 100,000; 20c., 100,000; 50c., 100,000; 51, 25,000; 52, 25,000; 53, 25,000; 54, 25,000; 55, 25,000; and of the 1c. postcard, 7,000,000.

The designs for the New South Wales stamps were made the subject of a competition, the result of which is thus described by the *Sidney Mail*: "The Advisory Board commenced their labours on Friday, April 23, and the list of possible designs were speedily reduced to 12, which were photographed to actual stamp size for further consideration. The final award resulted in John Sands receiving first and second prize for two designs made for him by Mr. D. H. Souter, the principal artist of that firm. That securing first



prize was originally sent in as one penny stamp, but at the suggestion of the Postmaster General has been altered to the two-pence half-penny, and will be known departmentally as the Imperial stamp. Its composition

lends itself readily to this description, its leading features are a strong profile of her Majesty superimposed upon a black ground bearing the Southern Cross. This stamp will strongly recommend itself to the artistic population, and it is expected from its highly original conception and treatment to take a unique position in the philatelic world. Design No. 2 is more

ornate and less original in character, being the Queen's head in profile on a solid ground, borne on a shield carrying the necessary lettering, and will be amended by the present decorative filling being altered to a rendering of the waratah and native rose. The shield is imposed upon an oblong tablet representing the ensign of Australia, the stars and ends of the blue cross just showing beyond the margin of the shield."

### "YOUR STAMPS OR YOUR LIFE!"

[A BRAZILIAN'S UNPLEASANT EXPERIENCE.]

ACCORDING to the *Revista Philatelica*, of Brazil, an unpleasant quarter of an hour was experienced a short time ago by a prominent stamp dealer in Rio de Janeiro, who had gone to San Leopold, a town not far from Rio itself, to call upon some of his fellow-traders, taking with him his stock (valued at over £5,000) in a portmanteau. As soon as the object of his visit was over, he engaged a carriage to take him to the station, with the private detective who always accompanied him on similar excursions. The driver was duly instructed where to go, and all went well for a while.

The detective soon noticed, however that instead of going towards the railway station, they were making for the open country. Suspecting foul play, he caught the driver by the neck and compelled him to turn back. A desperate struggle ensued, in the course of which the driver made a supreme effort to throw the portmanteau out of the carriage. His accomplices, who had remained hidden in a wood by the roadside now made their appearance, and a fierce battle for the possession of the booty was at once commenced, in the course of which fire arms were freely used.

Throwing himself upon the highwaymen, the detective kept them at bay, while the portmanteau was being made fast to the carriage; and in the end the thieves gave up the attempt and took to their heels. The party at once returned to the Selh Hotel, escorted by twelve policemen, who at the time of going to press, were doing their best to trace the miscreants. The latter are suspected by some to be stamp dealers of a low order, but no arrests had yet been made.

### "HAVE YOU A QUEEN'S HEAD?"

THE Queen's head on postage stamps, in the opinion of that accomplished journalist, Mrs. Crawford, largely helped to increase Her Majesty's popularity. In fact, it was common enough sixty years ago to hear people ask, "Have you got a Queen's head?" instead of a postage stamp. Louis Napoleon, when he aspired to Empire, was so impressed by the popularity of the English postage stamp, with its portrait of the Queen, that he adopted the same plan.

### INLAND REVENUE'S WARNING TO STAMP DEALERS.

THE issue of the official document, headed "To Stamp Dealers and the Public," did not pass altogether unnoticed by the daily Press. The *Evening News* produced, on Saturday, June 5th, the following "special" on the subject:—

The members of the postage stamp trade have to-day received a notice, enclosed in a large legal-looking envelope, and labelled: "*Private*. O.H.M.S." It is to the effect that the Postmaster-General and the Commissioners of Inland Revenue direct attention to the case, well known to stamp dealers, of Dickens v. Gill. Then follows an extract from the Act, giving the section under which penalties are imposed for making, knowingly uttering, or dealing in fictitious stamps, or having possession of, without lawful excuse, a fictitious stamp, or making, or, without lawful excuse, having a die or plate for making fictitious stamps. Then follows the history of Dickens v. Gill, in which the fact is dwelt on that the Court held that the innocent use of a die to illustrate a stamp catalogue was a possession without lawful excuse within the meaning of the section.

The notice ends as follows: "It is obvious, therefore, that the possession of dies from which which representations of postage stamps can be produced and the issue of representations of stamps produced from dies of this description are contraventions of the section above mentioned, and all persons are cautioned accordingly."

A representative of *The Evening News* paid a visit on the subject of this circular to a leading stamp dealer. He was not particularly alarmed, and produced his catalogue full of stamp illustrations with a laugh. He was safe, he said, because his reproductions were not colourable imitations, in that they were (1) either larger or smaller than the originals; and (2) not coloured. Even if the section could be interpreted in such a way as to stop these reproductions, he

should have the dies produced and the reproductions printed abroad, and thus evade it. He regarded the notice only as a warning to philatelists issuing illustrated catalogues to abstain from exact reproduction in point of size.

### STAMP PRICES IN EDINBURGH.

AT an auction sale in Smith's Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh, on Saturday, June 5th, the following prices were realised:—Nevis 1867, 4d. orange, 14s.; Canada, 7½d. green, imperf., 22s.; Newfoundland 1860, 6d. orange vermilion, 17s.; pair Tasmania 1855, wmk. star, imperf., 1d. dull carmine, 27s.; Nevis first issue, 1d. dull rose, bluish paper, unused, 10s.; Western Australia first issue, 6d. black bronze 16s.; Newfoundland 1866, 5 cents brown, unused 12s.; Schleswig-Holstein 1848, 1 sch. blue, 11s.; New South Wales, 1d. carmine, 12s.; Western Australia first issue, 2d. brown on red, 10s.; do., first issue, 1s. brown, 10s.; Brunswick, 1 sgr., rose, no wmk., imperf., 10s.; Brunswick, 3 sgr., rose on white, Perces en arc, 15s.

### WHEN NEWSPAPERS WERE MAILED FREE.

IT is a fact, startling as it may seem, that newspapers were at one time conveyed by post free of all charge—so far as the Post Office was concerned. Mr. Henniker Heaton has lately written on this subject in the *Fortnightly*—not the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, mind you, but the *Fortnightly Review*, which is a publication of a very different sort. An echo of that article appears in a recent issue of an evening paper in the shape of the following letter from Mr. Henniker Heaton himself. It is, we think, of sufficient interest to reprint here:

SIR,—Because in my article in this month's *Fortnightly* I stated that in my millions of newspapers were conveyed gratuitously by the Post Office every year at the beginning of the Queen's reign, I have been taken to task by your contemporary the *Daily Chronicle*, which objects that every newspaper had to bear a "red" stamp. This hypercritic apparently thinks that every red stamp must be a postage stamp. As a matter of fact it was a revenue stamp, which did not profit the Post Office at all. All writers on this subject, including Rowland Hill, mention the unquestioned fact as I have given it. Thus Crocker in the *Quarterly* in 1839 says: "The gratuitous conveyance of 44,000,000 of newspapers." And again: "It is admitted that already 44,000,000 of newspapers are gratuitously (so far as the Post Office is concerned) circulated."

I am content to nod in such company,—Your obedient servant,  
June 4th. J. HENNIKER HEATON.

### "A DEAR OLD 'NEW IDEA.'"

UNDER this headline we drew attention in our last issue to an idea submitted to the *Manchester Guardian*—the dear old moss-grown idea of perforating a penny stamp diagonally so that it would be readily divisible into two half penny ones. We now note in a subsequent issue of the *Manchester Guardian* a letter from Mr. G. B. Duerst, who points out that if the oft-suggested idea of bisecting postage stamps were adopted in this country it would inevitably lead to fraud. "In every case (Mr. Duerst goes on to say) the experiment has caused great loss to the Post Office. To what abuse the cutting of postage stamps may lead the following fact will show:—Stamp collectors in Switzerland lately found some of the higher values of the Swiss stamps composed of three, four, or even five pieces. By the obliterations the stamps were traced to Lausanne, and a watch set there discovered one of the officials in the Parcel Post doing quite a lucrative business in such pieced stamps. His *modus operandi* was as follows:—He obtained a large quantity of used Swiss stamps and cut out those portions that were clean—i.e., not obliterated. These pieces he pasted neatly together to form complete unused stamps, which he put on parcels handed to him for forwarding, at the same time pocketing the money the senders paid him for the postage. Principally the higher values were used in this manner, it is said to the considerable loss of the Swiss Post Office. The permission to bisect postage stamps would only lead to fraud."

### THE BAD PENNIES OF PHILATELY.

REPRINTS are the bad pennies of philately; they are always turning up. Some time ago, owing to the pressure of public opinion on this question, a number of the leading stamp-dealing firms avowed their intention to discontinue the sale of reprints. A reader draws our attention to the



following paragraph, which precedes a priced list of reprints in the retail circular of a very prominent provincial firm :

"Reprints are stamps printed after they have become obsolete, to supply the wants of stamp collectors when originals are no longer obtainable. But as they are always printed by the issuing Government, or with their sanction, and from the original plates, they are in no wise different from original stamps, except in price. In the subjoined list we have given the price of unused originals as compared with the price of reprints of the same stamps. Those who cannot afford to pay the high price of originals are advised to buy the reprints, which represent the same stamp, whilst the prices are merely nominal."

Probably the firm in question are simply clearing out their stock of reprints accumulated before they decided to abandon their trade in these articles. But one would think that they would not stoop to such an illusory and fallacious argument as that which is set forth in the above paragraph. To say that reprints are in no wise different from original stamps except in price is to say that which, on the face of it, is not strictly in accordance with truth. "Those who cannot afford to pay the high price of originals are advised (so runs this paragraph), to buy the reprints." This from a firm which had, we thought, finally adjured the reprint is a trifle steep.

#### CONCERNING CAMBIA.

MESSRS. TAYLOR BROS., of Liverpool, have shown us the 6d. olive in a dull gray olive shade without the minor variety. This seems to indicate two things: firstly, that a new supply has been sent out to the Colony; secondly, that the plate has been corrected, and therefore a new issue in a new type is not contemplated, for which we are profoundly thankful.

#### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

MR. W. KELSEY HALL, of Peterborough, Ont., Canada, sends us his admirably compact "Standard Catalogue of Canadian Revenue stamps." It is cheap at 15 cents, post free. Every Fiscalist should have it.

A Malayan Philatelic Society has been started in Perak. It is expected that members will join from Selangor, Sungei Ujong, Pahang, Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and other places.

Mr. J. W. Palmer is at it again. Who but he could have inspired the following paragraph in *Hearth and Home*: "The rarest stamp in the world is said to be an American one—Brattleboro, 1846. Unused specimens are very rare, but there is supposed to be only one used specimen in existence."

The Board of Inland Revenue have kindly contributed a fine collection of Stamps of the Victorian Era to the Exhibition now being held at the Crystal Palace.

That brilliant but irreverent journal, the *Sydney Bulletin*, suggests that it would be "a refreshing change" to have a picture of the Queen's feet on the postage stamps of New South Wales, "that end of Her Majesty having never yet appeared on a stamp."

MR. HENRY GREMMEL, of New York, sends us a neatly printed and well arranged wholesale list, pricing used and unused stamps of the United States, British Colonies, and some other countries.

A NUMBER of persons have written to the Press advocating the use of the Prince of Wales' Hospital Stamps for postal purposes, and suggesting that if the Postmaster-General agreed to this course it would mean much additional benefit for the Fund. We have no doubt it would.

THE *Consular Journal* talks very learnedly about philatelists and commemorative stamps, but its orthography needs polishing up. It manages to crowd four "Es" into the word "philatelist."

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING JULY 10th, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

July 29th & 30th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely each day.

July 1st and 2nd. Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m. precisely each day.

**Tapling Collection.** MR. E. D. BACON informs us that the following countries are now on view at the British Museum: South African Republic and part of the Transvaal and New Zealand.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



READERS of our recent article, "A Dealer's Guarantee and What Came of it," will be interested in the following letter from Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society:—

DEAR SIRS. In your Journal for May 29th, in referring either to a dealer or generically to dealers, you use the expression, "Mr. Castle's beast of Philately, i.e. the dealer."

I think this is not a proper use to make of an after-dinner joke, which was given and taken in the best spirit.

It is my aim in philately to keep on good terms with all, and if I could not I should give it up entirely. Were it thought I seriously meant such an expression, is applied to members of the stamp-trade, it would naturally give offence where assuredly none was intended. I do not think you were justified in quoting my name in this particular case, and I rely upon your sense of justice to explain the matter to your readers in the next issue of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*.

Yours faithfully, M. P. CASTLE.

Of course we are glad to publish Mr. Castle's letter, but we really cannot see where the harm comes in. True, Mr. Castle's classification of the various animals in the Kingdom of Philately was first given in a humorous post-prandial speech, but it always struck us that the terms used by him were most appropriate. We feel sure that those of our readers who read the report of Mr. Castle's speech in the *FORTNIGHTLY* and the allusion to the same in our issue of May 29th, understood that this allusion was made in the same spirit of good humour as that which characterised Mr. Castle's oratorical sally.

"Yorkshireman" writes us regarding the S.S.S.S.:

I gather from your journal that for all practical purposes the above Society has been knocked out to 1000 to 30 and no takers, and that you personally are heartily sick of hearing its name mentioned. But if you would, when you have five minutes to spare, give a little information about this wonderful secret Society, I should be obliged. I have recently re-commenced my collection, and during the past twelve months from time to time have seen paragraphs in various philatelic papers about the Society and its shortcomings. I should like to know whether it has a home, officers, or secretary; whether it ever has condemned any particular issue, and if so, through what medium it makes its decisions known.

"Yorkshireman," evidently, is one of the Rip Van Winkles of philately, and we say so without meaning anything offensive. There are very many philatelists who drop the hobby for a time, for years perhaps, but always come back to it sooner or later. That fact speaks volumes for the fascination of philately. If "Yorkshireman" will consult the back numbers of the *FORTNIGHTLY*, he will find therein a full account of the rise, decline, and—must we add fall?—of the S.S.S.S.

If you have a grievance against anyone it is apparently an excellent plan to ventilate it in the columns of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*. A correspondent, whose letter of complaint against a certain dealer, much given to vending reprint Heligolands was recently published here, now writes as follows:—

I am much obliged to you for inserting my former letter, for I have now had my money returned by the dealer referred to, and also by another dealer who sent me by post a Heligoland reprint, "guaranteed original, price 32/-." Last week on looking over the Heligoland stamps belonging to a third dealer I noticed that quite one-third of the stamps were reprints, although all were "guaranteed" as usual and priced up to 10/- and £1.

Yours faithfully, C. D. F.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 26, 1897.



ALTHOUGH we, in common with all philatelists in this country, entertain the heartiest good wishes for the success of the London Philatelic Exhibition, we cannot blind ourselves to the fact that the exhibition is not being promoted in the way we could wish. Some months ago we

drew attention in the FORTNIGHTLY to the bad impression created in France and Germany by the fact that the Executive Committee of the exhibition, in distributing their prospectuses broadcast on the Continent, omitted the ordinary courtesy of printing the same in the language of the country to which they were consigned. One would have thought that on the ground of business considerations alone the Executive Committee would at least have printed the circular inviting subscriptions and donations in the mother tongue of the persons to whom the document was to go, but evidently this view did not commend itself or was never entertained by the gentlemen responsible for the printing orders. Whether the recipient of circular or prospectus was a Frenchman, a German, a Russian, or a Pole, the printed matter that reached him was invariably in English. Perhaps, however, this is a minor point; at any rate it seems so to an Englishman, but we can assure our readers that the feeling on the Continent is very bitter concerning this point, and after all, if the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 is not to be international in the fullest sense of the word, why call it international at all?

Since we last wrote on this question one or two other matters have cropped up, which we cannot pass over in silence. Long months ago when the various sub-committees were formed, we scented trouble—to speak a little more plainly, we smelt a rat—as regarded the composition of those sub-committees. To us it appeared that the inclusion of the name of the editor of one of our monthly contemporaries was distinctly unfair, not only to this journal, but to all other British philatelic periodicals. Subsequent events have justified the suspicion. Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, editor of the *Philatelic Record*, has availed himself—unfairly, we think—of his position on the Executive Committee of the Exhibition to publish news in his paper (regarding the disposal of dealers' stalls) which was not sent out in the usual way to the philatelic journals.

A still more flagrant case of what we shall call, for want of a better word, log rolling, has come to our knowledge within the past few days. Mr. Charles J. Phillips, of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., has, we find, been personally touting for

advertisements for the catalogue of the philatelic exhibition. By what right Mr. Phillips has done this, or whether he has undertaken the work entirely on his own initiative we are not aware; but in any case the matter is on the face of it grossly unfair. If it were necessary for the Executive Committee to appoint an unofficial agent for advertisements that agent should have been a collector, not a dealer; but we question the necessity for the appointment of any such agent. The special Advertising Committee of the Exhibition should have been quite competent to perform such work as was needed in this direction.

Last, but very far from least, there has been grave irregularity in the allocation of dealers' stalls. We have irrefutable proof that one dealer was allowed to revise his tender in order that his name might be one of the selected fourteen.

Unfortunately, there is no answer to any of the charges we have tabulated above. If there were, we have not the smallest doubt that Mr. J. A. Tilleard in his own courteous but telling style would quickly provide it for publication in our columns, and we should be as ready to give it room as Mr. Tilleard would be to write it. We regret that the above facts are indisputable for, as we have never hesitated to say, we are in full sympathy with the objects of this exhibition, and indeed can claim to have taken no small share in its inception and promotion. Like many another good scheme the exhibition has fallen into bad hands. There are many excellent philatelists connected with it, notably Mr. Tilkard, Mr. Castle, and many other members of the London Society, but these gentlemen have mixed themselves up with persons whose one idea is to benefit themselves. Nevertheless, we still hope for the best, and trust that the London Philatelic Exhibition of 1897 will do some good for philately despite the evil manoeuvres of those who pose as its best friends.

One thing all our readers may be sure about. When the next London Philatelic Exhibition is upon the carpet we shall take very good care that certain self-seeking log-rollers are not admitted to its council board.

### Some Spanish Forgeries.

ALTHOUGH much has already been written and said regarding the forgeries of the stamps used by Spain between 1850 and 1854, those of the later issues, notwithstanding their being offered for sale in large quantities, have not yet received all the publicity which they deserve.

1860, 19 *cuartos brown*.—The forgery of this stamp is comparatively easy of detection, if the following points are borne in mind: In colour, the forged stamp is considerably darker than in the genuine, and the engraving is more roughly done. The figure 19 is heavier than in the genuine, and "cuartos" is in rather larger type.

1865, 19 *cuartos rose and brown*.—We must warn collectors against this stamp, for, although not yet forged, proofs and essays of same are being offered for sale as the real article. In these, a rose tint has been applied to their central oval in the hope of deceiving the uncautions, for a proof can never have the philatelic merit of the official stamp. These proofs are often offered on entires and postmarked, which simply means two deceptions instead of one. They exist imperf. and perf.; the perforation has been made with a sewing machine.

1874, 10 *pesetas black*.—The forgery of this stamp is undoubtedly the most common with us at the present time.

We venture to hope that the following hints may be found useful. In the first place the engraving is so roughly done in comparison, that it should not be mistaken by any one who has seen the genuine article once. Then, again, the words, "*Comunicaciones 10 Pesetas*" differs considerably from the genuine, and are much smaller. The '1874' is also smaller and not so well made as in the genuine, and a still greater difference exists between the "10 España 10" of the forgery and the genuine. In this case too, the perforation has been made by a sewing machine.—*Madrid Filatelico*.

## The Stamps of Austria from a Specialist's point of View.

BY

S. C. BARNETT, Member of the Stamp Collectors' League

WONDER how many readers of this journal have a fancy for Austrian Stamps. In the many collections I have had, Austria has always had the greatest share of my attention and money, and now I have given all up in favour of it. My fancy for it may have been caused by the fact that it occupied the first page in my album. As far as its recommendations go, their name is Legion. I will content myself, however, by naming one or two.

(1). Because there are numerous shades and varieties of printing.

(2). Because the stamps, with a few exceptions, are cheap; and so it is easy to obtain a good collection with a small purse.

To those specialising Austria, or thinking of doing so, the following may be useful. I shall arrange all the issues as clearly as I can, and, where possible, will append their market value.

The first issue consists nominally of 5 values, 1 krentzer yellow, 2 black, 3 red, 6 brown, 9 blue. This set of 5 values appears on 3 varieties of paper. (1) Thin wove. (2) Thick wove. (3) Laid or rather, ribbed paper. In shades the 1kr. value ranks "second to none" being obtainable in deep orange to a pale lemon yellow. The 3 and 6kr. appear in a good many shades. The following table may make it clear:—

	Values	Thick and Thin.	Ribbed.
1 orange-lemon yellow	..	..	1kr. 3d.-6d. 10/-
2 deep black to grey	..	..	2kr. 3d.-6d. 10/-
3 all shades of red	..	..	3kr. 1d.-3d. 5/-
6 .. .. brown	..	..	6kr. 1d.-3d. 5/-
9 blue	..	..	9kr. 1d.-3d. 5/-

The thin paper are slightly better than the thick. The 9kr. blue is found on both yellowish and dead white paper, most of the other values are on yellowish only. The errors and varieties of the 1850 issue are as follows:

1kr. PFL. KF ?	Printed on both sides of stamp.
2kr. PFL. KF 3b	
3kr. PFL. KF 3b	
6kr. PFL. KF 3b	Value in outlined capitals.
9kr. PFL. KF 3b	Varieties of position of 9.

To explain the above. The PFL stands for the error of inscription, "KK POST STEMPEL," F being substituted for E. The above inscription runs across the top of the stamp and has two more errors, namely, KF and 3b. The former, F is substituted for K and in the latter "3b" is a corruption of "ST" in the word "POST." I am not certain if the last named error is to be found in the 1kr. value and would be pleased to receive information on this subject.

I have only seen the 1kr. value printed on both sides and do not know if the other values are to be found likewise. The next one, viz., value in outlined capitals, can scarcely be called an error, but is due, I think, to insufficient ink on the plate. I include it here because the printing is very defined and it may be an error, instead of as I thought. The following illustration may help. K K.

In the last, the fig. 9 has two totally different positions, one nearly touching top border of hand containing value and the other about midway, the figure itself also slightly differs. Of course to collect these one must have a separate book. I can recommend the kind sold by Messrs. Harry Hulkes & Co., Limited, a blank book, with 5 faint lines ruled a little over 1 inch apart. They are bound in leather covers, semi-limp and have gilt edges. This refers to the best quality, the price is very moderate and is under 3/6 each if I remember right. I arrange each under a line, taking the 1kr. of 1st issue. I start with an unused specimen, then follow about 5 distinct shades and end the line with a specimen obliterated in red.

The 2nd issue or issue of 1858 consists of 6 values, 2kr. yellow, 3kr. black, 3kr. green, 5kr. red, 10kr. brown, and 15kr. blue.

The 2kr. was also printed in orange but is rarely met with in first-class condition this stamp is worth about £1 used.

The 3kr. black, and 3kr. green are both uncommon, and are worth about 2/6 to 3/- each.

The 15kr. has two varieties, in the embossed head the shape of the head differing, but the most noticeable difference is in the ribbon ends at back of head, one being much more wavy than the other, there are reprints of this issue, but they are perforated 14 instead of 15.

Three years after this issue, another one the issue of 1861 was produced, this time 5 was the chosen number of values, 2 yellow, 3 green, 5 red, 10 brown, 15 blue, they were perf. 14, all this issue can be found on ribbed paper, this issue has no remarkable feature, so we will pass on to the next—this issue of 1863. These were also perf. 14, and consisted of the same values the colours of the 10 and 15kr. being reversed, viz. the 10 blue and 15 brown. In the next year, 1864, these same stamps were perf. 9½, easily distinguished from the last issue at first glance.

(To be continued).

## Speculative Stamps of Peru.

BY JOHN B. CAMASCHELLA.

REFERRING to the numerous comments which have appeared from time to time in the American and European philatelic press concerning the stamps issued in Peru during the late Civil War, the *Coleccionador de Sellos*, of Brazil, gives the following interesting particulars regarding them. According to our contemporary, five stamps, of 5, 10, 20 and 50 centavos, and 1sol., respectively, made their appearance in March, 1895, that is during the war which brought General Pierola once more to the Presidency of the Peruvian Republic, the said stamps being of an entirely different kind from those which were then circulating, surcharged "Provisorio," with face value in a circle.

It was given out that these stamps had been issued by order of Senor Augusto Seminario y Vascone, under his supposed authority as Chief of the Civil and Military Service for the time being.

In Scott's Catalogue for 1896 these stamps are given as speculatives, and they have also been included in Senf's of same year under Nos. 143-147.

Again, in June, the *American Journal of Philately* published a translation from the Spanish of a declaration made by a Philatelic Association of Lima, to the effect that these stamps had been legally issued, adding that this conclusion had been arrived at after careful investigation.

But here, at this juncture, our contemporary begs of its readers to bear in mind the fact that the President of said association is not a man upon whom implicit reliance should be placed, and in support of this suggestion enumerates certain well known shady transactions of his in 3 lire Tuscany, and sundry others as well.

Since then, that is in September, the *American Journal of Philately* has had occasion to publish another protest directed against these stamps from the South American Philatelic Society, wherein it is proved that Senor Seminario had never been invested with the supreme powers above referred to, and had no authority, therefore, to issue stamps. It is not denied that there existed a decree authorising the use of these stamps, but there is not one ordering their printing and issue. The decree authorising their circulation was dated 21st March, although Pierola had already closed the war, by the taking of Lima, the capital of Peru, on the 19th of that same month.

The most that can be said, therefore, in favour of these labels is that they place on record the victory of the revolution. Moreover, the plates being in the hands of speculators, it is impossible to say how many of them will see daylight.

Our contemporary draws its remarks to a close by stating that sufficient has been proved to satisfy one that this issue is not a genuine one, and that it may be recommended to the attention of the S.S.S.S.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Value of the Nova Scotia Remainders.

WE are very glad to see that the *D.B.Z.*, the premier philatelic paper in Germany, considers the prices asked by Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and the Scott Company, for Nova Scotia sets, excessive. Our contemporary strongly warns collectors against these inflated prices. The *D.B.Z.* continues: "We really expect something more creditable from the houses implicated in this matter, but we understand that in order to obtain such exorbitant profits, and in order to sell these stamps at almost catalogue prices, it was necessary to observe every possible secrecy. These facts are sufficient to discredit these stamps for all time." We are glad some of our contemporaries are independent enough to have the courage of their opinions; those papers following slavishly the interests of their dealer-proprietors have good reason to be silent in this matter.

## The Irrepressible Kissinger.

The *Columbian Philatelist* brings us the news that that irrepressible young man, Mr. Clifford W. Kissinger, is again asserting himself. Politely shewn to the door by the American Philatelic Association, after having been convicted of buying votes, this pushful young man lay low for some considerable time. Now, however, he has formed a new society, to be known as the National Philatelic Association, and, behold, the President of this new body is Mr. Clifford W. Kissinger. The young man is clever, and for all we know, may be a good philatelist. We trust that he will profit by the lessons of the past, and will in future run straight, and abjure the obnoxious log-rolling tactics he has pursued in the past.

## Stamp Dealing at Philatelic Exhibitions.

We note some very just and sensible remarks in the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung* on the question of the dealers' stalls at the forthcoming London Philatelic Exhibition. The editor very justly doubts whether it will pay many collectors and dealers to visit the exhibition on the sole chance of getting a few of their wants supplied. He rightly argues that if dealers have to pay such outrageous figures as, on an average, £30 for a stall, simply for a fortnight's occupation, they are bound to add their extra outlay to the prices of stamps they offer, and from what we personally know of Exhibitions (and we specially allude to the last Paris Exhibition of four weeks duration) we have our serious doubts whether dealers will clear their expenses, let alone make a profit.

### PORTUGAL, 100 REIS, FIRST ISSUE.

Recently a large number of these hitherto very rare stamps have appeared on the market. We notice in the *D.B.Z.* an explanation of this occurrence. It appears that law papers used to be sent out without a cover. As a rule they were rather heavy, and in some cases a large number of 100 reis stamps were required to frank the same. These archives have recently been searched, and a large number of blocks and pairs of rare stamps discovered. Now and then a single copy escaped postmarking; hence the unused specimens which have come to light. The stamp is extremely scarce in the unused state.

## "Mekeel's Weekly" very much alive.

Although the Mekeel Company are in trouble, the weekly journal bearing their name looks healthier than ever. Under the energetic management of Mr. I. A. Mekeel, who will be henceforth sole editor and publisher of the paper, the *Weekly* promises to become more and more of a necessity to the American philatelist. In the number now before us, that dated April 22, Mr. Mekeel states that the paid-up subscriptions to his paper are five times as numerous as in 1894. We heartily wish him still better fortune in the future. The other American weekly stamp paper, the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, expressed the opinion that publishing a weekly journal as a "house organ" and as one's own private speculation might prove to be two very different things. That was a fairly safe

prophecy to make, if one can fairly judge the position of affairs at this great distance. Mr. Mekeel's paper is more successful in a financial sense at the present time than when it was the house organ of the Mekeel Company. It is the advertisements that one must go by in a case of this sort, and the advertisements appear to us to have almost doubled in number and space since the proprietorship of the paper devolved upon Mr. I. A. Mekeel.

### WHY ARE THEY MARKED "HELVETIA?"

In the Enquiry Department of *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, one of its best features in our opinion, we find a young collector asking the question "Why do the Swiss stamps bear the words 'Helvetia' and 'Franco' and what do these words mean?" Here is the answer as given in the *Weekly*:—"Helvetia" is the old Latin name given to a portion of the territory now occupied by the Republic of Switzerland. "Franco" is a word meaning postpaid. To understand why these unfamiliar words are used, it must be borne in mind that there is no such thing as a separate and distinct Swiss language. The inhabitants of the country are French, German and Italian, each retaining his own language, and the official language is different in the various cantons (corresponding to our states) according to the prevailing nationality of the people.

### THE DEATH OF JOHN K. TIFFANY.

We gather from various recent issues of *Mekeel's Weekly* that the philatelists of various cities have met together and unanimously passed resolutions of their regret at the death of Mr. Tiffany, and of sympathy with the wife and family of that distinguished philatelist.

## Some Useful Statistics from the States.

That smart western journal, the *Evergreen State Philatelist*, contains month by month a most informing series of notes for United States collectors by a writer who hides his light beneath the *nom de plume*, "Era." In the May issue he has a great deal to say concerning Periodical stamps, of which there has been much talk lately owing to the recent prosecution of Mr. Colman, of Washington. We make no apology of quoting a good slice of "Era's" contribution here. He writes:

As illustrating relatively the proportion in the different values of the periodical stamps printed, I think the following, showing the number issued during the year ending June 30th, 1894, may not be uninteresting:

1c.	\$35,350	72c.	50,025
2c.	652,975	96c.	93,200
3c.	224,850	\$1.02	57,425
4c.	402,025	\$3.00	45,866
6c.	276,050	\$6.00	23,165
8c.	246,000	\$9.00	15,179
10c.	494,285	\$12.00	15,595
12c.	261,425	\$24.00	6,175
24c.	186,125	\$36.00	2,715
36c.	102,475	\$48.00	2,105
48c.	74,250	\$60.00	17,787
60c.	77,780		

The logical deduction from this table would be that the \$36 and \$48 are the rarest of the series and should be worth more than the \$60, while in the low values the 3c. value, just as with the regular issue, is the least used, with the 6c. a close second.

While talking of periodicals I cannot refrain from quoting the number issued for the year ending June 30th, 1896, which, for the Bureau issue, will also instance the comparative rarity:

1c.	1,085,550	\$2.00	122,295
2c.	1,280,100	\$5.00	44,597
5c.	967,550	\$10.00	27,882
10c.	1,071,395	\$20.00	15,853
25c.	434,440	\$50.00	4,213
50c.	440,575	\$100.00	10,222

The \$50 would seem to be almost unnecessary, and if these stamps should ever become "legally collectable" would be the value least easily obtained. The total number issued was 5,505,672, with a face value of \$2,819,177.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. **BUHL & Co., Ltd.**, May 24th, 1897.

(Continued from page 204).

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
a b	Afghanistan (1289), 6 shahi purple *	.. 8 10 0
b	(June, 1295) shahi black ..	.. 4 7 6
a b	Baden, Landpost, 12k. yellow ..	.. 2 2 0
b	Barbados, 5/- rose ..	.. 1 10 0
a	Bremen, 3gr. blue, imperf. ..	.. 1 2 0
b	Brunswick (1853), 18gr. black on orange *	.. 2 12 6
b	ditto, ditto on yellow ..	.. 0 18 0
a	British Bechuanaland, 10/- green *	.. 1 15 0
a	Borneo, 25 dollars blue ..	.. 1 1 0
1a	b Ceylon, 2d. maize, CC., imperf., pair *	.. 4 12 6
c	Great Britain, the V.R., trial cancel ..	.. 6 6 0
b	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf. ..	.. 1 8 0
b	9sch. yellow, perf. ..	.. 1 0 0
a	Nevis, 4d. yellow engraved ..	.. 1 0 0
a b	New South Wales (Sydney), 3d. yellow-green ..	.. 1 8 0
b	Peru, 1/2 peso yellow ..	.. 2 12 6
A	St. Helena, 1d. lake, long bar, imperf. pair *	.. 3 0 0
a	St. Lucia (6d.) violet, CC., perf. 12 1/2 *	.. 1 8 0
a	(1/-) orange, ditto, ditto ..	.. 2 12 6
a b	6d. lilac on piece ..	.. 2 6 0
a	Trinidad (1864), (1d.) lake, CC., imperf. vertical, pair *	6 15 0
Messrs. <b>PUTTICK &amp; SIMPSON</b> , May 25th and 26th, 1897.		
a	Bahamas, 4d. on 6d. violet *	.. 13 - and 0 16 0
a b	Barbados, 4d. dull rose, large star, rough perf. *	.. 1 9 0
a b	1/- grey-black, imperf., pair *	.. 4 4 0
b	5/- rose ..	.. 3 3 0
a	ditto, used ..	.. 1 5 0
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 12 1/2 ..	.. 2 9 0
a	British East Africa, (on Co's stamp), 2 rupees red, on entire ..	.. 1 2 0
a	ditto, 3 rupees purple, ditto ..	.. 0 17 0
a	ditto, 4 rupees blue, ditto ..	.. 0 17 0
a	ditto, 5 rupees green, ditto ..	.. 1 5 0
a	British Guiana (1853), 4c. blue, figures framed ..	.. 1 4 0
b c	4c. blue, perf. 12 1/2 ..	.. 0 18 0
a b	96c. drab ..	.. 1 7 0
A	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 *	.. 3 3 0
b	6d. yellow ..	.. 1 11 0
b	50c. small on 1/- grey ..	.. 1 18 0
b	Canada, 6d. purple-brown ..	.. 5 0 0
a	Congo, first issue, 5f. violet ..	.. 0 17 0
A	Dominica, 1 - lilac rose, CA. * ..	£1 15s. od. and 2 2 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1 - bistre ..	.. 2 2 0
a b	Great Britain, the V.R. * ..	£7 15s. od. and 8 10 0
b	10d. octagonal, die 4 ..	.. 5 10 0
a	1 1/2d. lilac rose, pair ..	.. 2 2 0
a	2 1/2d. pink, plate 3, Orb ..	.. 1 5 0
a	3d. rose, plate 4, Spray ..	.. 2 2 0
a	2 - brown ..	.. 2 6 0
A	2,6 lilac on bleuët * ..	.. 1 10 0
b	10/- grey on white, anchor ..	.. 1 2 0
b	£1 purple-brown on bluish, anchor ..	.. 1 12 0
a b	£1 purple-brown, cross ..	.. 1 1 0
b	£5 orange on bluish, telegraph cancel ..	.. 2 0 0
a b	ditto on white ..	£1 12s. od., £1 16s. od. and 2 0 0
b	Hawaii (1853), 5c. blue ..	.. 1 2 0
a	Lagos, 2 6 olive-black, fine but no gum ..	.. 3 3 0
a	5/- blue, ditto ..	.. 6 5 0
a	10/- lilac-brown, ditto ..	.. 12 12 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
b	Lubeck, 2 1/2sch. brown *	.. 1 16 0
a	Mauritius, Greek Border, 2d. blue ..	.. 0 19 0
A	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA. *	.. 6 10 0
a	ditto, used ..	.. 2 14 0
A	Nevis, 2 1/2d. brown, CC. *	.. 1 0 0
a	4d. orange, engraved ..	.. 1 16 0
A	4d. blue, CA. * ..	.. 1 15 0
a b	6d. grey-lilac ..	.. 1 6 0
b	1 - green, perf. 13 *	.. 1 6 0
a	1/- lilac, pair ..	.. 2 6 0
b	Newfoundland, 6 1/2d. carmine-red *	.. 6 15 0
a	5c. brown ..	.. 0 17 0
b	New South Wales, Laureated, 3d. green, wmk. 2 (1888), 5/- violet *	.. 10 10 0
A	ditto, 20 - blue * ..	.. 0 18 0
a	ditto, 20 - blue * ..	.. 1 13 0
a	New Zealand, 6d. black-brown, pelure, roulette ..	.. 0 19 0
a	1 - green, star, imperf. * ..	.. 2 8 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown ..	.. 0 16 0
a	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA. *	.. 3 0 0
a	4d. blue, CA. * ..	.. 4 15 0
A	6d. olive-brown * ..	.. 1 12 0
b	St. Lucia (6d.), green, star ..	.. 1 2 0
A	6d. lilac * ..	.. 2 2 0
b	ditto, used ..	.. 1 13 0
a	1 - orange-brown * ..	.. 2 16 0
b	ditto, used ..	.. £1 16s. od. and 1 19 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange ..	.. 1 5 0
a	4d. dark blue, star ..	.. 0 18 0
a b	1d. on 6d. yellow-green ..	.. 1 9 0
b	Schleswig Holstein, 2sch. rose * ..	.. 1 3 0
a b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r. hor. lines ..	.. 0 19 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, full gum ..	.. 4 7 6
b	Tobago, 1d. in manuscript on right half of 6d. ditto, left half, on piece ..	.. 1 16 0
a	4d. green, CA. * ..	.. 2 8 0
a	6d. ochre, CC. * ..	.. 1 0 0
a	ditto, used ..	£2 8s. od. and 2 14 0
a b	6d. ochre, CA. * ..	.. 2 10 0
a	4d. on 6d. orange brown ..	.. 6 0 0
b	Trinidad, litho., (1d.) blue, medium ..	.. 1 1 0
a b	ditto, ditto, slate blue, late ..	.. 1 5 0
b	ditto, ditto, grey, late ..	.. 1 18 0
b	ditto, (1d.) red ..	.. 0 18 0
b	6d. green, imperf. ..	.. 0 16 0
a	1/- indigo, ditto ..	.. 1 12 0
a	5/- lake, perf. 12 1/2 * ..	.. 0 17 0
A	Turks Islands, 4d. on 4d. grey * ..	.. 17/- and 0 18 0
b	Virgin Islands, 1d. green, old type, CC. ..	.. 2 18 0
a b	1d. emerald (De La Rue) ..	.. 1 14 0
a	2 1/2d. brown ..	.. 1 2 0
a	ditto, used ..	.. 18/- and 1 2 0
a	4d. on 1 - crimson * ..	.. 0 19 0
a	ditto, used ..	.. 0 19 0
b c	6d. rose, perf. 15 * ..	.. 1 3 0
a b	1 - crimson, single line * ..	£1 18s. od., £2 6s. od. and 2 12 0
b	1 - crimson, double line * ..	.. 3 17 6
a	1/- crimson, border * ..	.. 0 14 0
a	ditto, used ..	.. 1 1 0
a	ditto, on bluish ..	.. 1 1 0
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	.. 2 4 0

(To be continued.)

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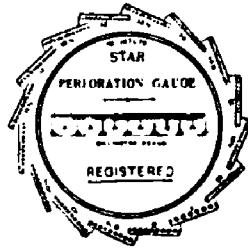
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 BREMEN, 7 grotte, perf., used and fine.  
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 MOLDAVIA, 54 paras, very fine. SAXONY, 3 pf., red, unused.  
 SWITZERLAND—Geneva, the double stamp, used, on entire, but severed; Vaud, 4 cents; Zurich, 4 rappen (2, one without lines).  
 TUSCANY, 60 crazie.  
 WURTEMBERG, 1st issue, 6 kr., fine pair, unused, with gum, and 70 kr., a strip of 3, unused, in mint state.  
 CEYLON, imperf., 4d. (2), 8d., 9d., 1/9, and 2/- (2), used, and 1/-, unused. LABUAN, 6 on 16 cents, very fine.  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, imperf., 5 c. and 10 c. (2). CANADA, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 10d., unused, and 12d., black, on laid, a very fine used copy.  
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 MAURITIUS, large fillet, 2d., blue (2, one very fine).  
 NATAL, a fine lot of the first issue, including 9d. (3, one on part of original, and 1/-, very fine).  
 BARBADOS, 1d. on half of 5/- (2), and 5/-, unused.  
 MONTSERRAT, wmk. CA, 4d., blue, unused.  
 NEVIS, 6d., lithograph, used, &c.  
 ST. VINCENT, a fine lot, including the following, unused, no wmk., 1/-, brown; wmk. star, 4d., dark blue; 4d., ultramarine; 1/-, lake; 1/-, vermilion; 1d. on half of 6d., and 4d. on 1/-, and wmk. CA, perf. 12; 4d. ultramarine.  
 TOBAGO, wmk. CA, 6d., bistre, unused.  
 TURKS' ISLANDS, a very fine lot of the provisional issues.  
 VIRGIN ISLANDS, perf. 15, 6d. (2), and 1/-, double and single-lined borders, and perf. 12, 6d., an entire sheet, &c.  
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 WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1st issue, 2d., unused, and a pair, used, and several single copies; and 6d. (several), and wmk. CC; 2d., violet, error, and many other fine stamps.

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 BAVARIA, 1849. 6 kr., brown (broken circle), unused and very fine.  
 BREMEN, 7 grote, perf., used and fine.  
 OLDENBURG, 1st issue, 1/2 sgr., a block of 4, unused, and 3rd issue, 3 gros., unused.  
 MOLDAVIA, 54 paras, very fine. SAXONY, 3 pf., red, unused.  
 SWITZERLAND—Geneva, the double stamp, used, on entire, but severed; Vaud, 4 cents; Zurich, 4 rappen (2, one without lines).  
 TUSCANY, 60 crazie.  
 WURTEMBERG, 1st issue, 6 kr., fine pair, unused, with gum, and 70 kr., a strip of 3, unused, in mint state.  
 CEYLON, imperf., 4d. (2), 8d., 9d., 1/9, and 2/- (2), used, and 1/-, unused. LABUAN, 6 on 16 cents, very fine.  
 BRITISH COLUMBIA, imperf., 5 c. and 10 c. (2). CANADA, 7 1/2d. and 10d., unused, and 12d., black, on laid, a very fine used copy.  
 NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/- (3, one unused), and the Connell stamp. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- (3 fine copies).  
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 TURKS' ISLANDS, a very fine lot of the provisional issues.  
 VIRGIN ISLANDS, perf. 15, 6d. (2), and 1/-, double and single-lined borders, and perf. 12, 6d., an entire sheet, &c.  
 BUENOS AYRES, 1st issue, 3 pesos (3); 4 and 5 pesos.  
 SOUTH AUSTRALIA, imperf., 1/-, violet, error, unused.  
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**COLLECTION** wanted, must be strong in German States, also wanted Luebeck error, Wurtemberg, 70kr. dark lilac.—WESTHOLME, Hesse, East Yorks. [2]

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**FORTNIGHTLY**  
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 (WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 73—VOL. III.
SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1897.
ONE PENNY.

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2            ADHESIVES OF GREAT BRITAIN.

**THE SIXPENCE—continued.**

	<i>Unused</i>	<i>Used</i>	
	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	
Same colour and wmk., but large white letters in corners.			
267 Plate 5 Appd. 30/12/64 (11/4/65)	30 00	60 2	
<small>(The supposed error, without wmk., said to have been supplied to the Malta Post Office, does not exist).</small>			
268 Plate 6 Appd. 6/12/65 (4 2/67)	80 03	61 0	
Same, but with wmk.			
269 Plate 6 (a) Lilac (22 6/67)	30 04	63 0	
(b) Bright violet (22 7/68)	40 04	63 0	
(c) Violet (25 9/68)	30 02	61 6	
<small>(Plate 7 was not used).</small>			
270 Plate 8 Violet Appd. 23/1/68 (12 3/69)	12 60	60 2	
271 " 9 " " 20/2 96 (3 8 70)	10 00	90 3	
" 10 " " 1/4/69 .....			
<small>(A few sheets were printed from this plate for registration, but perforated specimens have yet to be discovered).</small>			
272 Plate 11 (a) Dark buff Appd. 5/1 72 (1 4/72)	25 03	61 6	
(b) Light " (- 6/72)	25 02	61 0	
273 Plate 12 " " " 22/4/72 (- 12 72)	80 07	65 0	
274 " 12 Grey-green (1 4 73)	20 01	60 9	
" 13 Light buff " 21, 12/72 .....			
275 " 13 Grey-green (1 4 74)	8 60	60 4	
276 " 14 " " 25/8/83 (- 1/75)	10 00	60 4	
277 " 15 " " 15 7 74 (- 1/77)	8 60	60 2	
278 " 16 " " 10/9/75 (- 2 78)	8 60	60 2	
279 " 17 " " 13/12/77 (- 1/80)	15 05	02 6	
" 18 " " 15 7 80 .....			
<small>(Several sheets with spray wmk. were printed from this plate, perforated and issued, but no specimens have yet been found).</small>			
<b>With large coloured letters in corners,</b>			
wmk.			
280 Plate 17 Grey-green (1/1/81)	10 02	61 6	
281 " 18 " " (- 1/82)	10 03	01 6	
282 " 18 Lilac, surcharged "6d" in red, Appd. 23/11/82 (1/1/83)	3 61	00 4	



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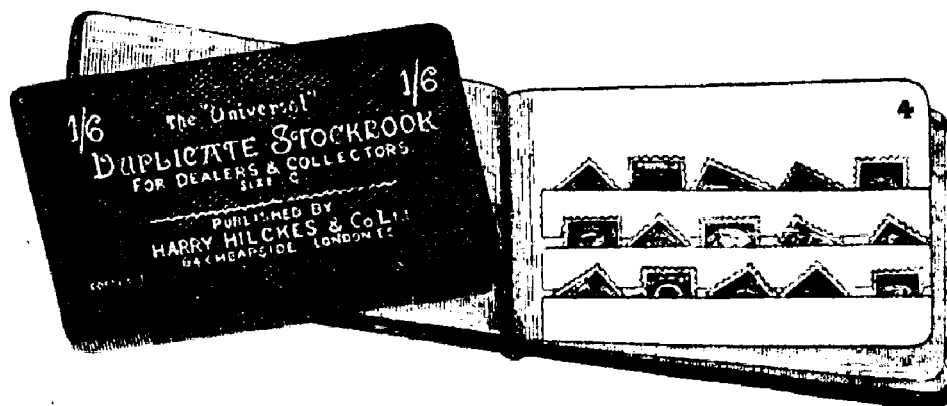
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1d. dull rose	..	..	..	7	6	2	0	2 1/2d. red-brown	..	7	6	2	3	6d. blue	..	80	0				
1d. vermilion	..	..	..	4	0	1	6	1886-88.				1859-61.									
6d. dark green	..	..	..	3	0			1/4d. green, CA., perf. 14	..	0	2	0	4	1d. rose-red, imp...	..	40	0	13	6		
6d. yellow green	..	..	..	4	6			1d. lilac	..	3	6	2	3	6d. green	..			60	0		
1873.								4d. grey	..	1	9	1	6	1/- indigo	..			55	0		
1d. carmine, CC., perf. 12 1/2	..	..	..	4	6	2	6	1d. carmine	..	0	4	0	9	1d. rose-red, pin perf.	..			17	6		
1d. scarlet	..	..	..	7	6	5	0	2 1/2d. blue	..	1	3			6d. green	..			30	0		
6d. green	..	..	..	2	6			Montserrat. 1876.				1d. red, clear cut, 15	..			21	0				
1d. carmine	..	..	..	1	6	1	3	1d. red, CC., perf. 14	..	1	3	3	6	6d. green	..			30	0		
6d. green	..	..	..	4	0			6d. green	..			11	0	1d. rose-red, rough perf...	..			5	0		
1879.								1883.				4d. dull lilac	..			25	0				
1d. blue, CC., perf. 14	..	..	..			2	0	2 1/2d. red brown, CC., pf. 14	..	33				6d. green	..			15	0		
1882-86.								4d. blue	..			10	6	1/- indigo	..			30	0		
1/4d. green, CA, perf. 14	..	..	..	0	2	0	3	1884-5.				1d. carmine, perf. 11 1/2	..	10	0	17	6				
1d. carmine	..	..	..	0	3	0	2	1/4d. green, CA., perf. 14	..	0	9	1	6	4d. red-purple	..			14	0		
2 1/2d. red-brown, CA., pf. 14	..	..	..	7	6	2	0	1d. red	..	0	9			6d. green	..			15	0		
2 1/2d. blue	..	..	..	0	6	0	9	2 1/2d. red brown	..	27	6			1 - purple-blue	..			33	0		
4d. ..	..	..	..	18	0	2	6	2 1/2d. blue	..	2	0			1d. lake, perf. 13	..	18	0	4	0		
4d. red-brown	..	..	..	1	0	1	0	4d. mauve	..	4	0	4	6	6d. emerald	..			25	0		
6d. green	..	..	..	4	0	7	0	Nevis. 1861.				1/- bright purple	..			50	0				
1 - lilac	..	..	..	20	0			1d. dull rose on greyish	..	10	0			1864-76.							
1d. carmine	..	..	..	3	6	2	0	4d. rose	..	80	0			1d. lake CC., perf. 12 1/2	..	9	0	2	0		
Bahamas. 1859.								6d. grey	..			35	0	1d. scarlet	..	22	6	2	0		
1d. lake, no wmk.	..	..	..			15	0	1 - green	..			40	0	1d. carmine	..	20	0	1	6		
4d. rose	..	..	..			22	6	1867.				4d. pale mauve	..			8	6				
6d. grey	..	..	..			20	0	1d. red, perf. 15	..	15	0			4d. violet	..			3	0		
1d. carmine lake, perf. 11 1/2	..	..	..			30	0	4d. orange	..			30	0	4d. lilac	..	35	0	3	0		
4d. rose	..	..	..			30	0	1 - blue-green, perf. 15	..	150	0			4d. grey	..			3	6		
1d. brown-lake, perf. 13	..	..	..			20	0	1878. Lithographed.				6d. emerald	..			7	6				
4d. rose	..	..	..			25	0	1d. rose-red, perf. 15	..	7	0			6d. dark green	..			2	6		
1863-75.								1d. vermilion	..	6	0			6d. yellow	..			2	0		
1d. brown-lake, CC., 12 1/2	..	..	..	9	0	4	6	4d. orange	..			25	0	1 - red purple	..			3	6		
1d. carmine-lake	..	..	..	7	6	6	0	1882-90.				1 - bright	..			2	6				
1d. rose-red	..	..	..	4	0	3	6	1d. lilac, CA., perf. 14	..	10	0			1 - orange	..			1	6		
1d. vermilion	..	..	..	7	6	5	0	2 1/2d. red brown, CA., pf. 14	..	17	6			5/- lake	..	3	6	0	6		
4d. rose	..	..	..			3	0	4d. blue	..			15	0	1d. lake, CC., perf. 14	..	4	6	0	6		
6d. lilac	..	..	..	15	0	3	9	1/4d. green	..	0	6			1d. carmine	..	1	0	0	6		
6d. violet	..	..	..	6	0	2	6	1d. carmine	..	1	6	2	0	4d. grey	..	6	6	0	5		
1/- green	..	..	..			27	6	2 1/2d. blue	..	2	0			6d. yellow-green,	..						
1d. vermilion	..	..	..	1	9	3	6	4d. grey	..	4	6			CC., perf. 14				0	7		
4d. rose	..	..	..	30	0	3	6	St. Christopher. 1870.				1/- orange	..			4	6				
1 - green	..	..	..	5	0	1	0	1d. dull rose, CC., pf. 12 1/2	..	10	0			1/2d. on lilac	..	0	6	3	6		
1882.								1d. deep lilac rose,	..					1/4d. .. CA. ..	..			12	6		
1d. vermilion, CA., perf. 14	..	..	..	50	0	12	6	CC., perf. 12 1/2	..	4	6			1d. on lake	..	0	9	0	9		
4d. rose	..	..	..			7	6	6d. green	..			2	0	1d. in red on 6d. green	..			1	3		
1/- green	..	..	..	2	6	0	9	1d. deep lilac-rose, CC., pf. 14	..	4	0			1883-4.							
1d. vermilion	..	..	..	2	0	1	6	1d. pale	..	20	0	4	0	6d. sepia	..	2	3	2	3		
1d. rose	..	..	..	6	6	2	6	6d. green	..	1	6			1 - red-brown	..	3	0	2	6		
1884.								4d. blue	..	3	0			5 - lake	..	10	0				
1d. rose, CA., perf. 14	..	..	..	0	2	0	1	1882-90.				Turks Islands. 1867.									
2 1/2d. blue	..	..	..	0	1			1/4d. green	..	0	2	0	4	1d. dull rose, no wmk.	..	4	6				
4d. yellow	..	..	..	0	3			1d. lilac-rose	..	30	0			1d. dull red star	..	6	6	7	0		
6d. mauve	..	..	..	0	9			1d. carmine	..	0	3	0	4	1d. vermilion	..	7	6				
Dominica. 1874-9.								2 1/2d. pale red-brown	..	7	6			1d. dull rose	..	6	0				
1d. lilac, CC., perf. 12 1/2	..	..	..	4	0			2 1/2d. deep	..	7	6			1d. brown-red, CC., perf. 14	..	2	9				
6d. green	..	..	..	30	0	15	0	2 1/2d. blue	..	1	3			6d. olive-black	..	30	0				
1 - lilac-rose	..	..	..			21	0	4d. blue	..	9	0			1882-4.							
1/4d. olive-yell.	..	..	..	5	0			4d. grey	..	1	0	1	0	1/4d. blue-green, CA.	..	0	9				
1d. lilac	..	..	..	2	0	1	6	1/- deep lilac	..	25	0			1/4d. green	..	0	6				
2 1/2d. red-br.	..	..	..	8	6	1	0	Fourpence on 6d. green	..	6	6			1d. orange-brown	..	5	0	4	0		
1d. blue	..	..	..			3	0	One Penny	..	2	0			2 1/2d. red-brown	..	2	0				
6d. green	..	..	..			6	0	One Penny on 1/4d.	..	10	0			4d. grey	..	4	6	3	0		
1 - lilac-rose	..	..	..			21	0	One Penny on 2 1/2d. blue	..	20	0			6d. yellow-brown	..	0	9				
1882.								Trinidad. 1851.				1/- sepia	..	3	3						
1/4d. in black on half of 1d.	..	..	..			7	6	1d. red-brown, blued paper	..	5	6			1/- deep brown	..	1	8				
1/4d. in red	..	..	..			3	0	1d. purple-brown	..	18	6			1/- pale brown	..	2	6				
halfpenny in black on half of 1d.	..	..	..			5	6	1d. blue	..	18	0			one penny on 2 1/2d.	..	1	6				
								1d. red-brown on white	..	15	0			1/4d. green, die 2	..	0	1				
								1d. purple-black	..	12	6	21	0	2 1/2d. blue	..	0	4	0	6		
														1d. carmine, CA., perf. 12	..			1	2		

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SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE QUESTION OF GUARANTEES.

"RETLAW," in his review of the month's literature in the end-of-June issue of *Stamps*, recognises that a very large question is opened up by our recent article on the subject of guarantees.

If it is possible (he writes) that Stanley Gibbons', Ltd., who are popularly recognised as the first, the largest, and the most reliable dealers in the country, whose *clienteli* is most influential and important, can be so far misled as to give a definite guarantee with a rank forgery, an entirely worthless or worse than worthless piece of paper, of what value would be the guarantee of any other dealer or firm who do not handle in a lifetime a tithe of the valuable stamps that annually pass through the hands of the Strand firm? It is evident from a paragraph in the *Monthly Journal* that several copies of this forgery have been sold, and it is easily possible that the holders of them may never learn their real worthlessness, but pass them on from collection to collection, until some philatelist more studious than the rest should find it out. We suppose Messrs. Gibbons' guarantee would secure to any holder the return of the sum originally paid for any forgery that has been erroneously guaranteed, but in the passing from hand to hand the price of the stamp might probably rise so that the owner who in the end only receives £6 has paid £7 or £8 for it, thus losing a sum of money for no greater fault than trusting in the guarantee of a firm that everyone believes to be thoroughly reliable. The whole question should be at once thrashed out, as delay in such a matter is very dangerous. The most feasible suggestion that occurs to us, is, in all cases where the price of a stamp exceeds £1, it should be submitted to a responsible expert committee at the expense of the vendor.

A very sensible argument, logically put. It is to be hoped

that some such custom as that suggested in "Retlaw's" concluding sentence will be generally adopted in the stamp trade.

### WHERE PHILATELISTS MEET IN MADRID.

Those of us who devote some attention to what is taking place beyond the borders of these Islands must not only have noted with special interest the great strides which have been made of recent years by Spanish Philately, but must have also wondered how so much progress could have been accomplished in the absence of anything like organization and centralization. The very frequency with which philatelic papers spring up, even in several of its comparatively small provincial towns, although doomed to die in their infancy, denotes the existence of a latent fertility in Spanish philately, which only requires a little encouragement to produce satisfactory results. It is only natural, therefore, that at this juncture, the recent windfall which has just taken Spanish philatelists by surprise, should meet with expressions of gratitude from all quarters, seeing that it has just met the want which had been most acutely felt hitherto by the stamp-collecting community throughout that country. To Senor Galvez' forethought and liberality, the enterprising proprietor of our Spanish contemporary, the *Madrid Filatelico*, it is due that Spanish philatelists should now have placed at their disposal, entirely free of charge and responsibilities, a well appointed room in Madrid, to be used by them as a meeting place, at all times of the day, between 8 a.m. up to 11 p.m. Besides his artistic abilities, the painter who undertook the decorations of the room had the additional advantage of being an earnest stamp collector, and his enlarged reproductions of post-cards, and of the rarest stamps upon the walls and ceiling, produce a most pleasing effect. Foreigners visiting Madrid are, of course, welcome at this room.

### MEXICO'S WATERMARK TO BE CHANGED.

ACCORDING to the *Monitor Filatelico* just received, the watermark now in use is on the point of being altered. The alteration will consist of an eagle being placed in each stamp between the R.M., as at present. The same journal is again urging upon the Post-office authorities the pressing desirability of changing altogether the designs of current issues. Instead of the present uninteresting representations of Mexican life, which contain nothing particular to recommend them, our contemporary suggests the introduction of the portraits of men who have in some way or another contributed to the present welfare of their country, as they would be sure to be more appreciated than the types now in use.

The form of the 2 cents inland post-card is to be entirely altered forthwith. The new card will be printed in green on white cardboard, and will bear an eagle in the centre. A new inland 4 cents letter-card has made its appearance. It is similar to the 5 cents one which had been formerly in use.

#### ITALIAN PHILATELISTS AND ERITREA.

Of late, the all-absorbing topic of discussion among Italian philatelists, is the ultimate destiny of the Eritrea Colony, regarding which opinion is as much divided among the people as among politicians. If abandoned altogether, as urged by a large section of Parliament, the stamps of this colony will soon be in great demand among Italian collectors, as they will be looked upon as the "souvenir" of an important page in the history of the new Italian kingdom.

#### SUICIDE OF A STAMP AUCTIONEER.

The news appears in the Scottish daily newspapers of the suicide of Mr. Robert Ritchie, of the firm of Smith & Ritchie, Auctioneers, George Street, Edinburgh, who shot himself through the head with a revolver, the weapon being afterwards found lying by his side. Mr. Ritchie was well known to Northern stamp collectors as the philatelic auctioneer of Edinburgh. Messrs. Cambell, Ingles & Co., of Carlisle, to whom we are indebted for cuttings, &c., relating to this sad business, inform us that it was only last week that a member of their firm had a long conversation with the late Mr. Ritchie, when he referred to the fact that his stamp sales would recommence in October next. An inquest was of course held in the usual way, and it is stated that the *post mortem* examination revealed the fact that Mr. Ritchie had been suffering from chronic cerebral disease. The deceased was quite a young man—not more than 35 years of age—and the saddest part of a very sad business is that he leaves a widow and two children.

#### THE DEMAND FOR CANADIAN JUBILEE STAMPS.

The Canadian correspondents of the *Times* and other daily journals testify that there has been a phenomenal rush for the Jubilee Stamps issued on June 10th by the Canadian Postal Department. As regards presentation sets of these stamps we learn that at present it has been decided to give only three sets, the recipients being the Duke of York, the Duke of Norfolk, and Lady Aberdeen. This, of course, is quite apart from the sets which have to be supplied to the International Postal Bureau at Berne.

#### THE SUNDAY PHILATELIC BOURSE.

PHILATELY is assuming alarming proportions in France, the *Court Journal* asserts. Paris has for some time had its Bourse aux Timbres, and the provinces have also periodical reunions, where they exchange what have been called the "Confettis officiels du ministère des postes." Certain provincial philatelists have been agitating for a Sunday opening of the Bourse aux Timbres. The Chamber of Commerce has refused the request, but the philatelists persist, and the matter has still to be settled. It is not, however, very improbable that before long the Sunday Bourse aux Timbres may become a recognised thing, both in Paris and the provinces.

#### MORE LOGROLLING IN AMERICAN PAPERS.

The *Lone Star State Philatelist* is a lively enough paper, but if personalities were eschewed in its columns, we wonder where the Editor of the *Lone Star State Philatelist* would be. The pages of his journal would in that event present something of the same appearance as one of the pages of the Irish newspaper in the old story of the Hibernian editor, who, running short of matter and having nothing with which to fill the vacuum, stated: "Owing to pressure on our space, we have been compelled to leave this page blank." From cover to cover the *Lone Star State Philatelist* contains nothing but personal notes and biographical sketches. To lead off with, the editor, Mr. Roy B. Bradley, pens a biographical notice of Mr. Frederick Noyes, then Mr. Walter C. Lowry contributes an appreciation of the aforesaid Roy B. Bradley. Mr. Georges Carion is the next personage to be sketched by Mr. Bradley's appreciative pen; and Messrs. Henry G.

Askew, Emil Gerlich and E. W. Hensinger are among other philatelic personages whose virtues are descanted upon by this wholesale appreciator. Mr. Roy B. Bradley has his reward in the very amiable little notice penned by Mr. W. C. Lowry; but if it be not an unfair question, where does the aforesaid Lowry come in? Possibly the May number which has not yet reached us, contains some recognition of Mr. Lowry's abilities. We had thought that this logrolling of the mutual admiration society order was confined to Mr. Kissinger's paper, the *Pennsylvania Philatelist*. We are sorry to discover that Mr. Roy B. Bradley, who is spoken of as a coming philatelist and a promising writer, should devote his journal to the same base uses. The *Lone Star State Philatelist's* motto is; "Unfettered and Free—Servant only to the Truth," but we venture to suggest that under present conditions this might more fitly read: "Free and Easy—Servant only to our particular friends."

It would give us very great pleasure to be able to quote something from the pages of our Texan contemporary, but this is an absolute impossibility. Apart from the personal sketches already mentioned, there is nothing in the paper but formal reports of meetings of the Southern Philatelic Association and the Texas Philatelic Association, matters which may be interesting enough to Texan philatelists, but are of no importance whatever to the outside world. We beg pardon! there is one other item—some particularly bad poetry by Mr. W. Lionel Moise.

#### THE NEW SOUTH WALES JUBILEE STAMPS.

The three Diamond Jubilee Stamps of the values of 1d., 2d. and 2½d., projected by the Postmaster General of New South Wales, were it appears, to be issued on Queen's Day, so that by this time they will have been extensively used by the Australian people. Mr. Fred Hagen's paper, the *Australian Philatelist* gives very full particulars of the issue; and from this journal we also learn that it is intended to resuscitate the beautiful 5 - stamp of 1861, to replace the very common—place "map" design of the centennial issue.

A very well-known Colonial philatelist, Mr. W. Brettschneider, was leaving for England shortly before the publication of the issue of the *Australian Philatelist* under notice. His many philatelic friends feted him in Sydney prior to his departure.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



A MEMBER of the London Philatelic Society has handed us a letter from one, S. Azavey of San Remo, which accompanied a selection of stamps containing a profusion of all the recent forgeries of Naples, Sicily, and Parma, mostly used on entire envelopes. One sentence in the letter is most delicious:

As you know, sir, my conditions are, that I don't guarantee any stamps.

He might have well added that he could guarantee them to be absolute forgeries. They are of the same class as those described in the *FORTNIGHTLY* on pages 103 and 157, Vol. I., and pages 17 and 209, Vol. II. One entire envelope we saw, which bore the complete set of the head series of Sicily beautifully used, was really an old envelope, from which the original stamp had been soaked off and its place, as well as that of the old postmark, was carefully covered with the forged stamps. By looking at the back of the envelope one could easily discern what had been underneath.

For the first time in the history of the *FORTNIGHTLY* we are obliged to withhold the report of an auction sale held by



a prominent firm of auctioneers, owing to the grossly incorrect descriptions contained in the catalogue. We understand the bulk of the stamps belonged to a leading stamp firm, and were "lotted" and described by them! We are glad to know this fact, as we have always found the classifications of the auctioneers in question very fair and correct. We are assured that these gentlemen, whose reputation dates back to pre-philatelic days, will not again adopt the extraordinary and we should think quite unprecedented course of permitting their selling clients to arrange and describe their own "lots."

\* \* \*

As bearing out all we have said on this subject, the following letter from Mr. Ernest Stock, the eminent Berlin dealer, will be read with interest: "The auctioneers have sent the stamps, and I have returned them. It is altogether scandalous the lies told in describing these stamps. All good points were exaggerated, and all defects simply passed over. A hole, a tear, a crack or crease, a thin place, all these did not prevent the stamp being described as fine, very fine, or even extremely fine. I will not speak of what is called original gum, unused etc., but it is altogether a fraud pure and simple, and if I were in any way journalistically gifted I would like to write against this scandal and to warn my countrymen against this pick-pocketing procedure. The auctioneers may of course be quite innocent, and I have little hesitation in saying that the owners were at the same time the 'describers.' Of course, the photographs do not show these defects, but what may be the secret defects of some of these stamps after having undergone a water bath, which may only appear long after one has received the stamps when it is too late to return them. Besides, according to the rules one can only refuse those copies which prove to be either forgeries or reprints, and one is therefore compelled to keep those whose with defects so skilfully concealed as not to be visible at the time of sale."

\* \* \*

We deeply regret the receipt of the following from a very well-known London philatelist, a member of the London Philatelic Society:

After mature consideration I have decided to abandon Philately; there is too much that is unpalatable about it for my taste. I shall sell off my collections some time next season.

One of the inevitable results, this, of the various shady practices which go far to disgust the average philatelist, and which the FORTNIGHTLY is doing its level best to put down.

\* \* \*

Mr. J. Seymour Summers, of Bombay, writes as follows:

Since my last letter to you, inquiring the significance of the surcharge in octagonal frame "On D. B. S." (a paragraph referring to which occurs in the "S.C.F." dated 1st May, 1897), I have received a letter from Mr. L. W. Grey, of Pykara, Nilgiris, who suggests that the letters of the surcharge probably mean "District Board Service." He further says that sometimes these Boards are called "Local Fund Boards," but more often "District Boards." Mr. Grey has the  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna blue, Indian (El. Hd. watermark?) surcharged "L.F.S." and it seems to him that "D. B. S." may stand for the same purpose. I have also some values of Indian stamps, viz.,  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1, 2 and 4 annas, current surch. with a large "L." in a circle in black, thus: [Image of a stamp with a large 'L' in a circle] These, I know, are the Local Fund Stamps, and if I mistake not, Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue mentions those marked "L.F.S." but not any of the others. It would be interesting to have a complete list of the Local Fund Stamps (Service) issued.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING JULY 24, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

July 20th & 21st.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 5.45 precisely each day.

Tapling Collection.—Mr. E. D. Bacon informs us that the following countries are now on view at the British Museum:—South African Republic and part of the Transvaal and New Zealand.

## The Stamps of Austria from a Specialist's point of View.

BY S. C. BARNETT.

(Continued from page 209).

In 1867, a very interesting set appeared, consisting of seven values: 2kr. yellow, 3kr. green, 5kr. red, 10kr. blue, 15kr. brown, 25kr. lilac, 50kr. flesh. This issue can be found in two styles of printing, one set being clearly impressed and the other coarsely printed. The latter were also printed on rough and smooth paper.

The 50kr. clear print is perf. 12, and is in two shades, brown and flesh.

On the other hand 50kr. rough print is perf. 9-10, also brown and flesh.

In 1877, the above, with exception of the 25 and 50kr. were perforated 12, and in 1872, the 5kr. was re-engraved, differing only from the preceding one, in the lower angle ornaments. These are uncommon, being worth over 3/- each.

The next issue is rather uninteresting. It was issued in 1883 and had six values: 2kr. brown, 3kr. green, 5kr. red, 10kr. blue, 20kr. olive, 50kr. violet. This issue has more varieties of perforation than any yet mentioned. The 50kr. violet is the only one worth anything.

In 1890, an issue of 13 varieties came out; they were 1kr. grey, 2kr. brown, 3kr. green, 5kr. red, 10kr. blue, 12kr. red, 15kr. carmine, 20kr. olive, 24kr. blue, 30kr. brown, 50kr. violet, 1 gulden blue, 2 gulden carmine. These were perf. 9-14, beating the former issue easily in this respect. If the stamps of this issue are examined carefully the figures in each corner vary considerably in size and shape.

Next year, 1891, the 20kr., 24kr., 30kr., 50kr. designs were altered, the colours remaining the same, the head being enclosed by a rectangular instead of an oval band. The 1 and 2 gulden had their colours changed to a pale lilac and olive respectively.

The errors of the 1890 issue are, 3kr., printed in rose instead of green, 1gld., red instead of blue and 2gld., blue in lieu of red. The 1kr. was issued minus the perforations.

#### Newspaper Stamps.

The first issue under this heading was brought out in 1850 and comprised the following values, 1kr. blue, 10kr. yellow, 50kr. red; the first and last had two distinct shades, 1. blue and light blue, 50. red and pale rose. The 10kr. and 50kr. are beyond most purses, being extremely rare; the 1kr. is, however, fairly common and can be bought from 6d. to 1/-. A word of caution is necessary against forgeries of this and subsequent issues of which there are many.

In 1858, an issue appeared bearing the head of Emperor, laureated, to left, in square frame and had two colours, pale blue and lilac. Three years after, 1861, the head was reversed and enclosed in ornamental border and had the same colour. Both of these issues had the head embossed. The year of 1863 saw an issue comprising of one stamp, bearing the national arms, also in lilac. The next issue, 1867, scarcely needs explanation, as almost everybody is familiar with the lilac "mercury." Nine out of ten school boys believe that this stamp belongs to Greece and so place it in their albums. In 1881 a 4kr. green was added, on this stamp the value is indicated. Both of these were perforated in 1860. The 1kr. "mercury" can be found in any shade between mauve and grey.

#### Imperial Journal Stamps.

These were first issued in 1850, the same year as the first of the postage series. They are,—1kr. black, 1kr. blue, 2kr. green, 2kr. red, 2kr. brown, 4kr. red, 4kr. brown; the 1kr. black is very rare and is extensively forged. None of this issue can be called common except the 2kr. brown. Some years later the 1kr. blue and 2kr. brown were printed on paper water-marked with large letters, these two were re-engraved in 1878 the shield in the national arms being slightly larger, the 1kr. blue was perforated later on. In 1891 the design was changed—arms enclosed by circular band and value on tablet below. There were only 3 varieties 1kr. yellow brown, 2kr. green, 28kr. red. The last is seldom met with used.

(To be Concluded).

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	...	0	9

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 10, 1897.



It is unnecessary to again assure our readers that, despite the strictures we have passed upon various gentlemen entrusted with the management of the London Philatelic Exhibition, we entertain the warmest wishes for the success of that enterprise. To turn to the practical side of the question, a word may be said here regarding the special efforts we are making to publish an issue of the FORTNIGHTLY, which shall worthily reflect the importance of the occasion. No 74 of the "S.C.F." published on Saturday, July 24th,—two days after the opening of the Exhibition—will be a specially big number, containing a full account of the opening ceremony and a chatty description of the Exhibition as a whole. We hope to illustrate the number copiously, and it may be that we shall include in it a long-contemplated account of "The Rise and Progress of the FORTNIGHTLY," with some eye-opening statistics as to the circulation of this journal, duly certified by a chartered accountant.

\* \* \*

Our latest new contemporary, the *Philatelic Journal of India*, has seen fit to allude to a recent article published in this journal over the signature of Mr. J. Seymour Summers, as "a very quaint article." Our readers will remember that Mr. Summers' paper was headed "Postal Surcharge Deviations in the synoptical Native States of India." Says the *Philatelic Journal of India*: "What is a synoptical state? Has it any connection with a state of syncope?" From this our contemporary goes on to shew that Mr. Summers' article is not exactly the authoritative piece of work that we represented it to be in placing it before our readers.

"We have not the honour of Mr. Summers' acquaintance," says the *Philatelic Journal of India*; but it is conceivable of course that Mr. Summers may be an able philatelist for all that. It is quite evident that such postal eccentricities as the stamps of the Native States of India, form a subject over which eminent authorities may differ. Our contemporary's complaint is against Mr. Summers and not in any way against the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. This being so, we can regard the matter with the impartiality of

an almost disinterested spectator. We are afraid that there are wheels within wheels in Indian philately, just as there are here in England. We must, perhaps, plead guilty to having taken Mr. Seymour Summers at his own valuation, but we can find nothing in the *Philatelic Journal of India's* criticism to make us regard the article we published as the outpouring of irresponsible drivel which the *P.J. of I.* people seem to think it. We have seen Mr. Summers' name appended to various contributions to the Indian philatelic press, and readers of the FORTNIGHTLY will remember that our own article was reprinted from an Indian philatelic journal. It seems almost incredible in these circumstances that Mr. Summers should be a person totally unknown to the editors of our excellent contemporary.

\* \*

WE want a new name; in fact, we need some suitable appellation for that philatelic nuisance, the **Substitutes**, man who substitutes worthless stamps for the good ones he finds in exchange packets.

There is happily no indication whatever that this practise is on the increase—if anything, rather the reverse—but there are still many black sheep in the philatelic fold; and one of the problems of the day is how to effectually suppress the substituter. Our friend Mr. F. A. Wickhart, as Secretary of that excellent body the Stamp Exchange Secretaries' Protection Society, has done much excellent work. He has made himself in a way the Stubbs of the philatelic exchange societies, and there is no doubt that his efforts have gone far to check the operations of this most objectionable type of philatelic swindler.

There is a chance here, however, for some enterprising philatelist to win undying fame by hitting upon some simple, workable expedient which shall make the substitution of stamps in exchange packets a practical impossibility.

THERE is a big fight coming on in America. The question of the right of stamp dealers to have in their possession U.S.A. newspaper and periodical stamps, has been raised in a very forcible manner by the action of the New York postal officials. This action took the form of the seizure, on the 25th May, of a number of lots of periodical stamps, which were to be sold in a forthcoming sale of the Walter S. Scott Company, the New York auctioneers. It is known that quantities of these stamps have been sold to the philatelic public in the States by postal officials; yet the Government now boldly claims that all such stamps in the possession of dealers and collectors are "stolen and embezzled." Much indignation is naturally felt in America at this unexpected development. "It thus appears," says the *Philatelic Monthly and World*, "that several hundred thousands of honest and law-abiding citizens of this country have suddenly become thieves and embezzlers, and are liable to have their property, for which they have paid many thousands of dollars, seized on the ground that it is the property of the Government." Nor is this overstating the case, for if the Government officials prove that they have right on their side in seizing the lots already mentioned, there is no saying where they will stop in their campaign against the stamp dealers. The importance of the question to all parties concerned is fully recognised by all our American contemporaries, but probably the *New York World's* statement that stamp dealers are despatching their stock of these stamps to Canada or Europe as fast as possible in order to avoid their seizure by the police is an exaggeration of the case. It is good to hear that the Walter S. Scott Company will offer a vigorous resistance to the action of the Government and will have both the moral and the financial support of the Collectors' Club of New York City. By the Committee of the latter a circular has been issued to all philatelic societies in the United States, pointing out that fighting the Government in this matter will be fighting the battle of all stamp lovers, and suggesting that all those who are disposed to contribute to the expenses incurred should forward their contributions to the Treasurer, Mr. J. W. Scott, at 40, John St., New York City.

# The London Philatelic Exhibition.

## MR. TILLEARD REPLIES TO OUR ARTICLE.

HIS REPLY, HOWEVER, CORROBORATES ALL THAT WE HAVE SAID ON THE SUBJECT.

BY way of reply to our editorial article in the last issue of the FORTNIGHTLY, we have received the following letter from Mr. J. A. Tilleard, Secretary of the London Philatelic Exhibition:

To the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

Dear Sirs. In reference to your remarks on the subject of the Exhibition in your last issue, I regret that you should have thought fit, without enquiry from myself or the Executive Committee to make such a grave charge against the gentlemen who formed the committee for allotting the Dealers' Stalls.

You do not give your 'irrefutable proof' but I have no hesitation in saying that you have been woefully misinformed and that it is absolutely untrue that any "Dealer was allowed to revise his Tender in order that his name might be one of the selected 14."

Before the date fixed for receiving Tenders one gentleman who had already sent in his application requested its return for destruction, as he wished to increase it, fearing he had offered too small a sum. I was unable to comply with this request, the regulations precluding any withdrawal, and a further Tender was received from the gentleman in question, both Tenders being submitted to the Committee.

I had no intimation of the amount of either tender. All applications received were detained by me until the time for opening them arrived. The contents were not communicated to me, and in many instances there was not even anything on the envelopes to indicate from whom they came. I handed all the Tenders over intact in their sealed covers to the Committee, by whom they were opened and dealt with, all the stalls being allotted at one meeting held by the Committee within a few days of the closing of the List.

I say most emphatically that there has been no 'irregularity' in the matter. All applications were dealt with on their merits and without fear or favour, as was to be expected from the character of the gentlemen to whom the work was entrusted.

I cannot agree with you in your other strictures. I have seen no desire for personal benefit, in those who have so kindly given their valuable assistance. The instance you give strikes me as singularly unfortunate. The advertisers are only traders, and I am at a loss to imagine what possible benefit one dealer can hope to derive by 'touting for advertisements' from his competitors in trade. I should have thought it was rather against his own interests and I wish that more had followed the unselfish example of which you complain.

Even the minor point to which you refer loses whatever significance it might have had from the fact, that, anticipating a suggestion which you yourselves made sometime ago, the Committee had a very full epitome of the prospectus translated into French and German, and this was sent to the Foreign Philatelic Press. It was inserted *in extenso* in most of the Stamp Journals of Europe, and I have seen it further translated into Russian, Spanish, and Italian, by the Editors of Journals circulating in these countries.

I fear I have already taken too much of your space in answering your challenge. I would only suggest for your consideration whether, as one of you is a member of the General Committee, any complaint as to the management of the Exhibition ought not to be made to the Committee, rather than to the Public through the Press.

Yours truly,

J. A. TILLEARD,

(Secretary, London Philatelic Exhibition).

4, Lombard Court,  
London, E.C.,  
5th July, 1897.

To this we immediately replied as follows:

64, Cheapside, E.C.  
6th July, 1897.

J. A. TILLEARD, ESQ.,

Dear Sir,—We have your favour of 5th instant, which we presume is for publication in the FORTNIGHTLY as a reply to our leader in the issue for June 26th.

Referring to the first part *re* "stalls" we do not follow you. You yourself admit that in one instance at least, and no doubt this refers to the case we mentioned, the regulations precluded you from permitting any withdrawal; if that is the case, no further tender from

the same gentleman should have been considered, as that amounts to the withdrawal of a former one, and of course the only object of tendering the second time was, that his name *might be one of the selected 14*.

We make no charge in our article against the Committee; all we stated was that we considered it a grave irregularity that one dealer should be permitted to revise his tender. We are perfectly willing to give you the name of the party, but evidently there is no dispute on that point. We have stated nothing which in any way reflects upon you personally in this matter. We simply passed it as our opinion that no one should have been permitted to tender a second time. We might have additionally stated that there are one or two names among the 14 which are implicated in the exposures of the last 12 months, and might with advantage have been left out.

As regards the catalogue advertisements, again we cannot agree with you; there is such a thing as an advertising Committee, and that Committee should emphatically have had to busy itself with the purposes it was elected for, *i.e.*, the advertisements. We cannot understand why the dealer in question was instructed to tout for advertisements. If a rival trader has the power to arrange the position of advertisements and allocate same, he will naturally give the best positions to his friends; we fail to see that it is against his own interests, and where the self-denial comes in.

Now as regards the Foreign Press. It is singular that various foreign papers, notably the organ of the Bavarian Society, *The Postwerthzeichen* have made some very stinging remarks on the *English begging letter* sent out by the Exhibition Committee for the guarantee fund. Either your foreign circular has been sent out too late or it was very badly distributed.

One part of our leader you have omitted altogether; that is the little bit of indiscretion on the part of Mr. Nankivell. Perhaps there was no reply to it.

We shall of course answer your letter with a comment similar to the above; meanwhile if you have anything further to add to your letter we shall be pleased to have your reply, if possible by to-morrow six o'clock, as the paper is then closed.

Yours faithfully,

THE EDITORS OF THE "S.C.F."

On receipt of this reply to his communication, Mr. Tilleard promptly responded with a second letter, in the following terms:

DEAR SIRS.—In reply to your letter of to-day I think you draw a wrong inference. Any person was at liberty to make any number of tenders, so long as they complied with the conditions imposed. The "grayamen" of your charge is that the gentleman was *allowed* to withdraw *in order* that his name might be selected. Had you referred only to the object the person tendering had in making a further tender I could have had nothing to say, as the committee had nothing to do with this, and were not bound to accept the highest or any tender.

The dealer to whom you refer was not instructed to apply for advertisements. He has acted on his own initiative for the benefit of the concern, and in my opinion deserves thanks rather than condemnation.

As regards the Foreign Press I can only say that I have seen the announcement to which I referred in my last, in a very large number of foreign journals, most of which have been sent here by editors who have inserted it in their issues.

In reference to the publication of names of holders of stalls, &c., I did not send out notices to the press, as I felt sure most of the holders would make their own announcements. If one editor thought fit to give them a preliminary advertisement I do not see that there is much harm done, or that he can be charged with abusing his position as a member of the executive.

Yours truly,

J. A. TILLEARD.

London, 6th July, 1897.

This second letter is less satisfactory—taken as a reply to our strictures—than the first. Neither of the letters disproves any single charge we have made. Would it were otherwise! for in that case we should cordially and cheerfully have made the *amende honorable* towards all parties concerned. We shall not discuss the various points contained in Mr.

Tilleard's letters. Our charges are substantiated, not rebutted, by the testimony of the Secretary himself.

The gravest point of all is Mr. Nankivell's indiscretion in publishing in his paper information not sent out for publication by the Secretary. Mr. Tilleard treats this subject lightly. Possibly he forgets that in the course of the earlier meetings of the General Committee it was unanimously agreed (in consequence of a previous indiscretion of Mr. Nankivell's), that no information regarding the Exhibition should appear in the philatelic press, unless specially sent out to the editors of the various journals by the Secretary. Mr. Nankivell, in defiance of this agreement, inserted in his paper news which had not been officially communicated.

To make matters worse, this has again been done not only by the *Philatelic Record* but by the *London Philatelist* also. The latest news concerning the Exhibition, which we quote elsewhere from our contemporaries, has never been communicated to the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Whether the journals that have given the news obtained the information privately, or received it officially from the Secretary (in which latter case the FORTNIGHTLY was officially boycotted), is a matter yet to be discovered.

On more than one occasion we have been in a position to publish important news concerning the Exhibition privately obtained; but loyal to the understanding entered into with regard to press announcements, we have in every case awaited the official message of the secretary. It is a poor return to be beaten, as a consequence, by contemporaries whose sense of honour is less keen than their desire to "get ahead," for once in a way, of the FORTNIGHTLY. To this journal which has attained,—nay earned—a reputation for punctuality and smart news-gathering, the blow is particularly severe.

#### EXHIBITION—LATEST NEWS.

We quote the following from the *Philatelic Record*. The italics, it may be mentioned, are ours:—

The latest announcement that we have to make as to the official arrangements is the following *official circular*:—

#### NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS AT THE FORTHCOMING PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, AND TO COLLECTORS GENERALLY.

The following arrangement has been made with the sanction of the Executive Committee for an Entertainment during the Exhibition.

AN EVENING INSTRUMENTAL and VOCAL CONCERT and CONVERSAZIONE will be held at ST. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross Road, W.C., on Thursday, the 29th day of July, 1897, at 8.30 p.m.

Full particulars can be obtained at the Exhibition.

MR. THOMAS RIDPATH has kindly offered to give a Philatelic Lantern Exhibition during the evening.

Tea, Coffee, and Light Refreshments will be provided. Evening dress.

Tickets can be obtained at the Exhibition, or on application to the Secretary, J. A. TILLEARD, Esq., 4, Lombard Court, E.C., by letter, which should be marked, "Entertainment Committee."

GENTLEMEN'S TICKETS, 3s. 6d.; LADIES', 2s. 6d.

NOTE.—SUBSCRIBERS to the Exhibition Fund will receive Tickets for this Concert free of charge, in accordance with the circular already issued.

The *London Philatelist* in addition to the above news, publishes the following:

We are pleased to announce that H.R.H. the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha has expressed his intention to accompany H.R.H. the Duke of York, should his stay in the Metropolis extend over this period.

Also the following:

We are now able to announce the complete list of the names of those gentlemen who have kindly consented to act as Judges, and it is with especial gratification that we note the acceptances of the office by such distinguished Philatelists from the Continent as MM. Breitfuss, Fraenkel, and Mahé.

Mr. E. D. BACON . . . . .	London.
Mr. H. BREITFUSS . . . . .	St. Petersburg.
Mr. M. P. CASTLE, J.P. . . . .	Brighton.
Major E. B. EVANS, R.A. . . . .	London.
Dr. A. H. FRAENKEL . . . . .	Berlin.
M. PIERRE MAHÉ . . . . .	Paris.
Lieut. F. H. NAPIER, R.N. . . . .	London.

The above three items were never officially communicated to the "S.C.F." We had, some weeks ago, an incomplete list of the judges, but received no intimation of the election of MM. Breitfuss and Mahé.

### \* \* \* Review of Reviews. \* \* \*

#### Concerning the Collection of Entires.

STAMPS, Mr. Heygate's neat and interesting paper, comes to hand with exemplary punctuality. Mr. O. Firth contributes an article on the subject of "Entires," and ridicules the criticism usually passed upon post-card and envelope collecting, viz.: that these things take up too much room. There is much to say for what he says but some of his contentions are not quite so convincing as he evidently imagines them to be. For instance, Mr. Firth remarks, "As a test of the hollowness of the 'no room' superstition one may ask in all fairness for the production of a collector who is at all worthy of the name who ever had any difficulty in finding room for all the Mulready envelopes and covers that he could lay hands on." Just so. Similarly, we should all be happy to accommodate as many diamonds of the first water as we could "lay hands on," but that is no reason why we should put ourselves out to accommodate curbstones. There is a difference between Mulready envelopes and the entires of, say, San Marino.

Another very readable article in *Stamps* is that by "W.E.D.," headed "A Neglected Country—Chili." "W.E.D." has little to say, but he says it well and without repeating himself. There is no doubt whatever as to the truth of his arguments that some of the early Chilians, especially in the unused condition, are much under-priced and are bound to appreciate as time goes on.

#### This Man is a Lover of Forgeries.

One rarely meets with humour in the average philatelic publication. Wading through a mass of foreign papers is heavy work, but now and then one's task is brightened by a bit of humour so genuine and so thoroughly laughable that even the dignified countenance of the Review Editor broadens into a smile. This is what we meet with in that very clever Swiss paper, the *Philatelic Helvétique*. It is a letter from a reader of the paper to the editor:—

"As it doesn't appear (this reader writes) to be of importance in our times to collect stamps in the way collecting was done in the years gone by, but rather to endeavour to obtain rarities at the lowest possible price, I do not consider your paper to be of any use to collectors, and prefer to subscribe to certain French and German advertisement sheets where I am often in the habit of buying rare stamps for a mere song. Please therefore discontinue sending me your paper. If it contained 16 pages of advertisements and two pages of contents, I would keep to it, as a philatelic magazine is only valued by its wealth of advertisements. The long scientific articles about certain stamps, minor varieties, etc., contained in nearly everyone of your numbers, are useless to your readers. Now, when Mr. Goegg [a gentleman famous for his clever Swiss forgeries] manages to imitate the old Swiss stamps most closely, it suits me better to purchase old Cantonals of his make on part of letter, duly postmarked, knowing that they closely resemble the originals, than to bother about the thousand and one points of the real stamps set forth in your scientific articles."

The *Philatelic Monthly and World*, published by the Bogert & Durbin Company, of New York and Philadelphia, gives all the latest philatelic news from those centres in lively paragraph form.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum, when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 211).

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, May 27th & 28th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d
<i>h</i>	Antigua, 1d. vermilion, star, imperf.	1 11 0
<i>h</i>	6d. green, no wmk., imperf. *	2 10 0
<i>b</i>	6d. green, star, imperf.	1 12 0
<i>b</i>	2½d. brown, CC.	1 2 0
<i>b</i>	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no wmk., perf. 12 *	5 0 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, ditto, perf. about 15 *	12 0 0
<i>b</i>	6d. grey-lilac, ditto, ditto *	7 0 0
<i>b</i>	6d. violet, ditto, perf. 13 *	14 0 0
<i>a</i>	4d. rose, CC., imperf. *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	Barbados, ½d. in black and red on 4d. brown, pair *	6 0 0
<i>a</i>	1d. on right half 5/-, reading upwards	5 15 0
<i>a</i>	3d. purple-brown *	0 19 0
<i>a b</i>	5/- rose *	£3 12s. 6d. and 4 0 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, used	1 10 0
<i>A</i>	" 5 - ochre *, two	each 0 17 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used	0 18 0
<i>a</i>	British Central Africa, £1 deep blue *	2 5 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, used	1 8 0
<i>a</i>	£2 rose-red *	2 4 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, used	2 12 6
<i>a</i>	£5 sage-green *	4 4 0
<i>a</i>	£10 brown *	9 0 0
<i>a</i>	£2s blue, imperf.	5 0 0
<i>a b</i>	British Columbia, 50c. violet, perf. 12½	1 4 0
<i>a b</i>	1 dollar green, ditto	2 10 0
<i>b</i>	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 *	2 12 6
<i>a</i>	6d. yellow *	2 2 0
<i>a</i>	1/- grey *	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	half a 2c. red on 50c. on 1/- grey on piece..	0 15 0
<i>a</i>	2c. small, on 6d. rose, perf. 12½ *	1 10 0
<i>a</i>	2c. black on 50c. grey *	43 0 0
<i>a</i>	5c. on 1/- grey (error) *	26 0 0
<i>a</i>	6c. black inverted on 10c. on 4d. mauve *	20 0 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, used, on entire with a common	£4 4s. od. and 4 8 0
<i>A</i>	6d. red, inverted, on 4d. mauve, pair *	8 0 0
<i>A</i>	ditto, a single *	4 0 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, used, on entire with a common, two	each 2 0 0
<i>a</i>	50c., small, on 1 - grey *	£3 and 3 3 0
<i>a</i>	British South Africa, £1 deep blue *	2 2 0
<i>b</i>	£2 rose-red *	2 7 6
<i>a b</i>	£5 sage green *	4 8 0
<i>a b</i>	£10 brown *	8 10 0
<i>a</i>	Canada, ½d. rose, imperf. *	0 17 0
<i>b</i>	6d. purple-black on laid ..	0 15 0
<i>b</i>	6d. grey-lilac, perf.	2 12 6
<i>a</i>	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. light blue	1 18 0
<i>b</i>	Ceylon, 9d. lilac-brown, imperf.	2 0 0
<i>a b</i>	8d. brown, star, perf.	3 3 0
<i>h</i>	8d. yellow-brown, ditto ..	4 4 0
<i>b</i>	1/9 green, ditto *	3 10 0
<i>b</i>	2/- blue, ditto *	1 6 0
<i>a</i>	10c. on 16c. lilac	1 1 0
<i>b</i>	10c. on 36c. blue	1 1 0
<i>b</i>	Columbia (1861), 1 peso rose *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	Dominica, 1 - lilac-rose, CA. *	3 0 0
<i>a</i>	Finland, 7 roubles *	0 18 0
<i>a b</i>	Gambia, 1/- green	2 2 0
<i>b</i>	Gold Coast, ½d. olive, CA. *	1 8 0
<i>a</i>	1d. blue, CA. *	6 6 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d
<i>b</i>	Gold Coast, 4d. mauve, perf. 12½ *	0 15 0
<i>a</i>	20/- green and red *	9 5 0
<i>b</i>	ditto, postmarked	2 0 0
<i>a b</i>	Great Britain, 1d. red-brown on bluish, large crown, perf. 16 *	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	1/- green, plate 2 (hair lines), imperf. *	1 10 0
<i>b</i>	10/- grey-green, Anchor ..	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	£1 brown-lilac, Cross ..	1 6 0
<i>a</i>	£1 brown-lilac, Three Crowns *	3 3 0
<i>b</i>	£5 orange, telegraph cancel	1 19 0
<i>b</i>	£5 orange on bluish, "Specimen"	1 7 0
<i>b</i>	India, Service, 2a. black on short lilac	1 0 0
<i>h</i>	Labuan, 2c. blue-green, CA. sideways *	2 12 0
<i>b</i>	6c. orange-brown, ditto *	1 1 0
<i>a b</i>	12c. carmine, CC. *	0 18 0
<i>a b</i>	8c. black, inverted, on 12c., original value obliterated in red *	1 15 0
<i>h</i>	ditto, obliterated in black, used	2 4 0
<i>a</i>	8c. in capitals on 12c. *	1 8 0
<i>a</i>	6c. red, inverted, on 8c. *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	Lagos, 2 6 olive black *	4 0 0
<i>a</i>	5 - blue *	7 7 0
<i>a</i>	10 - lilac-brown *	14 0 0
<i>a b</i>	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	2 12 0
<i>a</i>	Natal, ½d. on 1d. rose, twice surcharged	2 8 0
<i>a</i>	Nevis, 2½d. brown, CC. *	0 16 0
<i>b</i>	4d. rose *	2 10 0
<i>a</i>	4d. blue *	1 10 0
<i>a b</i>	6d. grey-lilac *	2 2 0
<i>h</i>	ditto *	1 3 0
<i>a b</i>	ditto, on bleuté, used	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	6d. grey, litho. *	9 15 0
<i>a</i>	6d. green, pair *	13 0 0
<i>h</i>	ditto, a single *	£5 5s. od. and 5 15 0
<i>a b</i>	pale yellow-green, litho., strip of 3, imperf. between *	17 0 0
<i>a</i>	New Brunswick, half a 6d. yellow, on entire	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	1 - violet	21 0 0
<i>a</i>	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 6 0
<i>h</i>	ditto *	1 0 0
<i>b</i>	6d. orange	1 10 0
<i>a b</i>	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1, on bluish	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 1d., plate 2	2 8 0
<i>a</i>	ditto, 2d., plate 2	2 4 0
<i>a b</i>	ditto, 2d., plate 4	19/- and 1 4 0
<i>b</i>	New Zealand, 1d. brown, wmk. N.Z., pair ..	30 0 0
<i>b</i>	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown *	1 0 0
<i>a b</i>	half a 6d. dark green, on entire	1 0 0
<i>b</i>	6d. yellow-green	2 8 0
<i>b</i>	6d. dark green, no margins	1 12 0
<i>b</i>	1/- dark violet, fine, but very slightly thinned	32 0 0
<i>a</i>	Oil Rivers, ½d. green, sloping capitals on 2½d. *	2 8 0
<i>a</i>	½d. black capitals on 2½d. *	2 15 0
<i>a</i>	½d. green capitals ditto *	1 2 0
<i>a</i>	½d. vermilion italics on 2½d. *	0 15 0
<i>a</i>	ditto green ditto ditto *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	ditto violet ditto ditto *	2 5 0
<i>a</i>	ditto violet ditto on 2d. *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	½d. violet, fancy capitals on 2½d. *	1 13 0
<i>a</i>	ditto blue ditto ditto *	1 16 0
<i>a</i>	ditto vermilion ditto ditto *	1 16 0
<i>a</i>	ditto green ditto ditto *	1 18 0
<i>a</i>	ditto violet ditto on 2d. *	2 0 0
<i>a</i>	ditto blue ditto ditto *	4 0 0
<i>a</i>	1/- vermilion on 2d., pair *	2 6 0
<i>a</i>	5/- violet on 2d. *	6 0 0
<i>a</i>	10/- vermilion on 5d. *	10 0 0
<i>a</i>	20/- violet on 1/- *	40 0 0

All the above are in mint condition but more or less badly centred.

<i>b</i>	Queensland, 1d. orange-red, script wmk. *	1 19 0
<i>b</i>	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts *	1 0 0
<i>a</i>	St. Christopher, 1d. lilac-rose, CA.	3 0 0
<i>b</i>	2½d. brown *	0 18 0
<i>a b</i>	4d. blue, CA. *	4 4 0
<i>a b</i>	6d. olive-brown *	1 14 0
<i>a</i>	1/- lilac-rose *	0 16 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED
		£ s d
a	St. Lucia, ½d. inverted on 3d. lilac and green, on piece with a common, two ..	each 5 0 0
a	1d. inverted on 4d. brown, on piece ..	5 0 0
b	(6d.) green, star ..	1 6 0
a	6d. lilac ..	£1 16s. od. and 1 18 0
a	1/- black and orange ..	4 10 0
a	ditto, used ..	2 10 0
a	1/- orange-brown *, two ..	each 2 17 6
a	St. Vincent, ½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair ..	3 15 0
a	ditto, a single ..	1 7 0
a	ditto, pair, on piece ..	3 15 0
a	1d. on half 6d. deep green, pair ..	18 10 0
b	ditto, a single, used ..	3 10 0
a	1d. on 6d. yellow-green ..	£2 15s. od. and 3 12 6
a	4d. orange-yellow ..	2 10 0
a	4d. deep blue, star ..	8 5 0
a b	ditto ..	4 12 6
b	ditto, used ..	0 15 0
a	4d. black on 1/- vermilion ..	12 5 0
a	4c. ultramarine, star ..	3 10 0
a	4d. ultramarine, CA., perf. 14 ..	4 4 0
a b	4d. red-brown, ditto, ditto ..	6 10 0
a	Shanghai, first issue, 3 cand. brown ..	3 3 0
b	ditto, 4 cand. yellow ..	3 12 6
b	South Australia, 1d. green, perf. 11½ by roulette ..	1 0 0
b	Straits Settlements, 5c. on 4c. rose ..	1 1 0
a b	Switzerland, Zurich, 6r., hor. lines on small piece ..	1 1 0
b	Tobago, 1d. in manuscript on half 6d. ..	1 14 0
a	ditto, used ..	2 2 0
a b	6d. bistre, CC. ..	2 5 0
a b	6d. bistre, CA. ..	9 0 0
b	ditto ..	6 15 0
a	first issue, 5/- slate ..	2 2 0
a	£1 mauve ..	1 1 0
b	Trinidad, 4d. grey, CA. ..	2 10 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey, two ..	each 2 7 6
a	ditto, used, £2 10s. od. and two ..	each 2 12 6
b	½d. on 1/- prune ..	15/- and 1 0 0
b	2½d. on 6d. black (type 6) ..	1 6 0
b	4d. on 1d. red (type 15) ..	3 15 0
a	4d. on 6d. black (types 16 and 17), pair ..	3 0 0
b	4d. on 1/- prune (type 16) *, two ..	each 3 17 6
a b	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown ..	16/-, 17/- and 0 17 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson ..	£1, £1, and 1 1 0
b	6d. pale rose, perf. 15 ..	4 17 6
a b	1/- crimson, single line, on toned paper ..	£2 14s. od & 3 3 0
b	ditto on white ..	2 0 0
a b	1/- crimson, double line ..	3 10 0
a b	ditto on bluish ..	3 10 0
a b	1/- crimson border on bluish ..	1 10 0
a	Zululand, 5/- rose ..	2 5 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., June 1st and 2nd, 1897.

b	Afghanistan, (1295), 1 rupee black ..	1 0 0
a	Antigua, 1/- lilac ..	0 18 0
a b	Antioquia (1877), 1c. black on white, on laid ..	1 5 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose ..	1 12 0
a	British Bechuanaland, ½d. (three lines) on 3d. lilac ..	1 0 0
a	£1 violet ..	1 7 0
b	British East Africa Co., 1a. on 2d. ..	1 10 0
a	4a. on 5d. ..	1 4 0
a	British Guiana, 10c. drab ..	1 2 0
a	British South Africa, £1 blue ..	1 15 0
b	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 4d. blue ..	1 11 0
b	Confederate States, Charleston, 5c. blue ..	1 4 0
a b	Cyprus, 6d. black ..	0 18 0
a	1/- green ..	1 1 0
a	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- bistre ..	2 5 0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet ..	0 18 0
b	Mexico (1867), 1 real blue, no Gothic surcharge ..	pair 2 2 0
b	Guadalajara (1867), 2r. black on white wove ..	1 2 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) yellow, perf. 12½ ..	0 18 0
a	(1/-) orange, ditto ..	3 0 0
a	6d. violet ..	2 2 0
a	Sweden, 24sk. bco. red ..	1 6 0
a b	Trinidad, 5/- lake, perf. 12½ ..	1 2 0
b	United States, 5c. brown, imperf. ..	1 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. on 1/- crimson ..	0 19 0
a	Zululand, 5/- rose ..	2 0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., June 3rd, 1897.

a	Afghanistan (1292), abasi black ..	1 18 0
a	(1293), ½ rupee purple (S.G. 29) ..	3 0 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s d
a	Afghanistan (1295), 1 rupee black (S.G. 90) ..	1 4 0
a	ditto, on wide laid .., two ..	each 1 4 0
a	(1293, tablet), 1 rupee purple ..	3 15 0
A	Barbados, 5/- ochre ..	1 0 0
b	British East Africa, 2½a. on 4½a., on entire ..	1 8 0
a	Great Britain, £1 lilac-brown, Cross ..	1 1 0
a	Nevis, 6d. olive-grey, litho. ..	10 10 0
a b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow ..	2 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange ..	1 4 0
b	New South Wales, Diadem, 8d. orange ..	2 6 0
b	St. Vincent, 1d. drab, star ..	1 1 0
b	United States (1869), 30c. ..	1 10 0
b	ditto, 90c. ..	3 10 0

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, June 15th and 16th, 1897.

a	Argentina (1864), 15c. blue, imperf. ..	2 12 0
b	Barbados, 1/- black, imperf., pair ..	2 10 0
a b	3d. lilac-brown, small star ..	0 18 0
a	1d. on right half of 5/-, straight serif, reading upwards, on piece ..	10 0 0
a b	Brazil, sloping figures, 300r. on greyish ..	2 6 0
b	British Central Africa, 3/- on 4/- ..	0 18 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. pink, perf. 12½ ..	3 3 0
1a	1 dollar green, do., pair ..	4 8 0
A	British Guiana (1862), 4c. blue, hearts and pearls (No. 5 on plate) signed ..	15 0 0
a	British Honduras, 50c. small on 1/- grey ..	2 12 0
a	Canada, 6d. grey-lilac, perf., penmark ..	3 0 0
A	7½d. green ..	10 10 0
a	Cape of Good Hope, Woodblock, 1d. red ..	5 0 0
b	ditto, ditto ..	2 8 0
b	ditto, 4d. blue ..	2 0 0
b	Ceylon, 10d. vermilion, imperf. ..	1 2 0
a	2/- blue, star, perf. ..	1 3 0
a	ditto, used ..	18/- and 1 0 0
c	Great Britain, the V.R., mint but just cut on left, two ..	each 7 15 0
b	1d. red-brown, die 1., small crown, perf. 14 ..	1 6 0
b	Heligoland, ½sch., perf., error red frame ..	3 6 0
a	India, Service, 2a. black on lilac, strip of 4 ..	4 10 0
b	Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. medium ..	1 4 0
c	Large Fillet, 2d. fine margins and colour, but nicked ½th of an inch at top ..	20 0 0
b	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 13 ..	1 0 0
a	1/- yellow-green, on laid ..	45 0 0
a	6d. olive-grey, no gum ..	8 10 0
a b	6d. green ..	7 0 0
c	New Brunswick, 1/- mauve, good but small marginal tear ..	16 10 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange ..	1 6 0
b	8d. carmine-red ..	1 7 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 1d., plate 1 ..	1 6 0
b	Laureated, 8d. orange ..	2 0 0
b	New Zealand, half a 1/- green, star, bleuté, on entire Otago, Feb. 19, 1858 ..	7 17 6
a b	half a 1/- green on blue, on entire, cut out and replaced (Otago, Oct. 17, 1858) ..	6 0 0
b	6d. brown, pelure, perf. ..	4 0 0
b	Nova Scotia, 1/- purple ..	14 10 0
b	ditto, finer, but just touched at one place ..	16 10 0
a	Oldenburg, second issue, 2gr. black on pink ..	1 17 0
a	Peru, ½ peso orange-yellow ..	1 16 0
A	St. Lucia, 6d. lilac ..	2 0 0
a b	Spain (1853), 2 reales red ..	5 0 0

(To be continued.)

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.. ..	20 .. blue on deep blue .. .. .	2	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on bluish .. .. .	5	0
.. ..	40 .. bistre on bluish, unused .. ..	5	0
.. ..	10 .. orange on cream, error "00" ..	4	6
.. ..	20 .. ultramarine, error 20, inverted ..	7	6
.. ..	40 .. flesh on cream, unused .. .. .	6	0

(WITHOUT FIGURES AT BACK).

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.. ..	60 .. green .. .. .	3	0
Athens ..	60 .. green on buff .. .. .	4	6
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.. ..	20 .. ultramarine .. .. .	2	6

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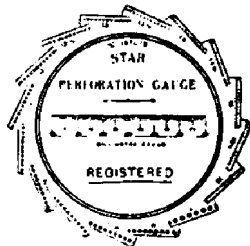


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Appearing July 24th, 1897.

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# Advertisement Order

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## Exhibition Number

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EXHIBITION NUMBER.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 74—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1897.

ONE PENNY.



The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatelic Club. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
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Hon. Secretary:

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, London, E.

No meeting has been held since the publication of the last report, the next meeting will be held on Monday, July 26th.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

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The Librarian begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of: *The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, *The Philatelic Record*, *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, and *Stamps*

From Germany: *Internationales Briefmarken Offertenblatt*.

From the U.S.: *The American Journal of Philately*, *The Post Office*, *The Metropolitan Philatelist* and *The Weekly Stamp News*.

All books and papers received are laid on the table for the use of members at our meetings.

Will publishers of other books and papers on philately kindly send a copy to the Hon. Librarian, Mr. C. FORBES, 42, Strahan Rd., Bow, E., who will be pleased to acknowledge same.

PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

Note Change in the Rate.

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

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AMERICANS, 1869 issue, brown, 5d., blue, 1/9, orange, 2/9, green, 1/9. English blues, no lines, red obliterations, 1/6.—SANTOS STAMP COY., 35, Alwyne Villas, London.

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(Continued from opposite page).

<p><b>St. Vincent.</b> 2d. blue, CA .. 3 d .. 1d. blue, star .. 2/3 d .. 4d. .. CA, p.12 1/4 d .. 1d. .. p.11 1/4 .. pl. brown .. 1/6 b .. 4d. yellow .. 5 b .. 5d. lake .. 7 b .. 6d. violet .. 8 d .. 6d. green, star .. 1/3 d .. 6d. .. CA p.12 1/0 .. 1s. verm. p.14 .. 1/3 d .. 1s. verm. p.12 .. 1/0 d .. 1s. .. star .. 2/3 .. 5s. lake CA .. 6 d .. 5s. rose red star .. 12 6 .. 3 green CA p.12 1/9 .. 1 orange star .. 1/4</p> <p><b>Sarawak,</b> b .. 1871, 2c, 3c, 4c, mauve .. 4 b .. 6c green .. 5 b .. 8c blue .. 1/6 b .. 12c rose .. 1/0 .. 1888 3c, 4c, 5c, .. 4 .. 6c, 8c, .. 6 .. 10c .. 7 b .. 1895 4c black .. 3 b .. 6c violet, 8c green .. 4</p> <p><b>Sierra Leone,</b> 3d., CC., brown 1/0 b .. 1 1/2d. .. 1/4 a .. 1 3/4d. on 1 1/2d. 2/- .. magenta, 2d., .. pf. 14, CA. 1 2 .. 2d. .. 2/3 .. orange, 3d. .. CC. 1/9 .. 3d. .. CA. 1/6 .. blue, 4d. .. CC. 1/2 .. mauve, 6d. .. 1/6</p>	<p><b>Sierra Leone.</b> .. sur. br., 6d. pf. 13, CC. 1/- .. brown, 6d. .. 1/- .. red-br., 1s. .. CA. 2/- .. 2d. grey, 1d. brown .. 4 * PROVISIONAL ISSUE. <b>Sierra Leone,</b> .. one penny on long .. fiscal, used .. 1/9 .. 24d. on threepence, do. 5/- .. 2 1/2d. on sixpence, do. 5/- .. 24d. on one shilling, do.</p> <p><b>Straits Settlements,</b> .. 1882, 2c. brown, CA. 1 6 .. .. 1c. rose, CA. 1 6 .. .. scarce 3/- .. 1883, 12c. purple, 25c. 5 .. .. 32c. orange .. 8 .. 1891, 30c. claret, 50c. 6 .. .. 25c. gr. and purp. 1 .. .. Thirty on 32c. 1 9 .. .. 10 on 24c. .. 5</p> <p><b>NATIVE STATES.</b> <b>Johore.</b> 2c. on Straits 24c. 1 9 <b>Negri Sembilan,</b> .. 2c. on Straits 2c. rose 3 <b>Pahang,</b> surch. on Straits 2c. 1/9 <b>Perak,</b> 2c. on 24c. Straits .. 1 9 .. 2c. surch. on 2c. Straits .. 4 <b>Selangor,</b> 2c. on Straits 2c. 1/4 .. 1895, 10c. .. 5 .. .. 50c. .. 8</p> <p><b>Sungei Ujong,</b> .. 2c. on Straits 2c. 1/- <b>Tobago,</b> 1879, 1d. rose, CC. 1/8 c .. 3d. blue .. 1/6 c .. 6d. orange .. 2/- .. 1d. brown, CA. .. 1 6</p>	<p><b>Tobago,</b> 6d. red-brown, CA. 1/8 a .. 1s. olive .. 1/3 d .. 1s. red-brown, .. error, rare .. 10/- b .. 4d. grey, CA. .. 5 d .. 24d. on 4d. .. 2/- c .. 5s. black, CA. .. 1 6 .. 1s. sea green, CA. 1/4 .. 6d. orange, CA. .. .. 3d. blue, CA. .. 1/7 .. 1d. mauve, used .. postally 5/- .. 3d. .. 6/-</p> <p><b>Trinidad.</b> .. 1d. v. t. shades, perf. 12 1/2, CC. 8 a 4d. grey, perf. 12 1/2, CC. 2/6 d 6d. green .. 1 2 a 1876, 1d. red, perf. 14 .. 1/4 .. 6d. green .. 9 .. 4d. grey .. 9 .. 1d. .. CA. 3 6 .. 3d. purple, CC. .. 2 3 .. 1d. in red on 6d., CC. 9 .. 1d. in blk. on 1d., CA. 8 Head, 6d., 1s. .. 1 3 a .. 5/- lake .. 9 a 1896, 5d., 6d. .. 8 a 1/3 .. 1s. .. 1/9 a .. 5s. .. 5/9 .. 10s. .. 12/- Unpaid 1d. black .. 1/3 .. 2d. .. 3 .. 3d. .. 1/6 .. 4d. .. 1/2 .. 5d. .. 1/4 .. 6d. .. 1/6 .. 8d. .. 1/- c <b>Tasmania,</b> 5/- mauve .. 1/-</p>	<p><b>Turks' Islands,</b> 1d. grey .. 2/3 a <b>Victoria,</b> 9d. green, rare .. 2/- <b>United States,</b> 50c orange .. 1/6 .. 1 dol. black .. 1/4 <b>West Australia,</b> 1d. lake .. 1 6 .. 2d. blue .. 2/- .. 1d. bistre, 2d. yel. perf. .. 12 1/2, CC. .. 1 4 .. 1d. ochre, per 12 1/2, CC. 1/6 .. 1d. bistre, 2d. yel. perf. .. 14, CC. .. 1 3 .. 1d. ochre, perf. 14, CC. 1/3 .. 1d. bistre, 2d. yel. perf. .. 12, CA. .. 1 .. 1d. bistre, 2d. yel. perf. .. 14, CA. .. 1/2 .. 3d. brown, perf. 14, CC. 1/7 .. 3d. .. 14, CA. 1/5 .. 4d. carmine, perf. 12 1/2, CC. 1 6 .. 4d. .. 14, CA. 1 6 .. 6d. mauve .. 12 1/2, CC. 1 .. 6d. violet .. 12, CA. 2 .. 6d. .. 14, CA. 1 6 .. 1s. green .. 12 1/2, CC. 2 .. 1s. sage .. 12 1/2, CC. 2 9 .. 1d. on 3d. brown .. perf. 14, CC. 9 .. One penny on 3d. .. perf. 14, CC. 1/9 .. 1889 1d. red, 2d. slate .. 3 .. 1893 5d. bistre .. 1 5 .. 6d. violet .. 1 4 .. 1s. olive .. 1 6 .. Fiscals used postally, .. 1d. long 1/3 .. .. 2d. 1/3 .. .. 6d. 1/9 .. .. 1/- 2/9</p>
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JULY, 1897.

# POSTAGE STAMPS of the BRITISH COLONIES, &c.

PRICE LIST OF WEST INDIAN, WEST AFRICAN, &c. ALL STRICTLY NETT.

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All the following are in GOOD CONDITION, and, unless otherwise denoted, are USED POSTALLY. Prices are each. NOTES.—a, unused; b, used or unused at same price; c, penmarked; d, the ordinary postage stamps, but overprinted Revenue in small letters, and pen or bank marked.

A Discount of 10% allowed on orders of £2 upwards at one time.

	each		each		each		each
<b>Antigua</b> , 1d., perf. 12, CA. . . . .	1/3	<b>British South Africa</b> , 2d., thick, small, pf. 12	1/2	<b>Gold Coast</b> , 10s. . . . .	4/-	<b>Nevis</b> , 1/2 green (used) . . . . .	2/-
" " " 14 " " . . . . .	-/3	" 4d. " " " . . . . .	1/6	" 20s. . . . .	8/-	" 1d. red " . . . . .	1/6
" " 1/2d. " " " . . . . .	-/4	" 1/2 1d., large issue " . . . . .	-/2	" 1d. on 6d. . . . .	4/6	" 2 1/2d. blue . . . . .	3/6
" 6d., perf. 12 1/2, CC. . . . .	2/-	" 2d. " " " . . . . .	-/4	<b>Crenada</b> , 1d. green . . . . .	-/6	" 4d. grey . . . . .	3/6
" 4d. blue, CC. . . . .	1/8	" 3d., 4d. . . . .	-/7	" 1/2 purple . . . . .	1/-	d " 6d. green . . . . .	3/6
" " " CA. . . . .	1/4	" 6d. . . . .	1/-	" unpaid 1d. blk. . . . .	-/3	d " 1s. purple . . . . .	3/6
" " bro. " " . . . . .	1/2	" 8d. . . . .	1/2	" " 2d. " " . . . . .	-/4	d " 1867 4d. orange . . . . .	3/6
" 2 1/2d. " " " . . . . .	1/10	" 1/- . . . . .	1/9	" " 3d. " " . . . . .	-/5	d " " 6d. grey (rare) . . . . .	9/-
" " blue " " . . . . .	-/10	" surch. on Cape. 1d. red	-/9	" 2 1/2 on 8d. (used) . . . . .	1/3	d " " 1/- green " . . . . .	8/-
<b>Barbados</b> , 1d., no value . . . . .	-/4	" " " 2d. bro. 1	9	" 1882. 4d. . . . .	1/10	<b>Natal</b> , 3d. blue CA. . . . .	1/3
" Star, 1d. dark blue . . . . .	-/8	" " " 4d. blue 2	6	" " 6d. . . . .	2/6	" 2d. on 3d. . . . .	-/10
" CC. " light blue . . . . .	-/2	<b>Bermuda</b> , 3d. grey . . . . .	-/4	b " " 8d. . . . .	6/6	" 3d. grey . . . . .	-/4
" " " slate . . . . .	-/4	" 2d. or 3d. Revenue		" 2d. or 3d. Revenue	2/-	<b>Niger Coast</b> , 4d. orange . . . . .	-/10
" 1/2d. green, perf. 12 1/2	1/9	" 2d. blue. CA. . . . .	-/8	" lilac, used postally . . . . .	2/-	b 1d. blue, 2 1/2d. red . . . . .	-/7
" " " " 14 " " . . . . .	-/3	" 2d. brown. CA. . . . .	-/3	a " 1896 3d. . . . .	-/4	b 2d. green . . . . .	3/9
" 4d. red " " . . . . .	1/3	" 6d. violet, CC. . . . .	-/6	a " " 6d. . . . .	-/8	b 5d. purple . . . . .	1/-
" 6d. orange " " . . . . .	-/9	<b>Danish W.I.</b> , St. Thomas, 10 on 50	-/8	b " " 8d. . . . .	-/10	b 1/- black . . . . .	3/9
" 3d., head, used . . . . .	1/3	<b>Chili</b> , 1892, 15c green, 25c	-/4	a " " 1s. . . . .	1/3	" 1894. 1/2d., 1d., 2 1/2d. . . . .	-/2
" 4d. " brown . . . . .	-/3	" " 50c . . . . .	-/3	c " " 6d., 8d., 1/- . . . . .	-/4	" 5d. obsolete . . . . .	-/9
" 4d. " grey . . . . .	-/10	" large, 1 peso . . . . .	-/9	<b>Jamaica</b> , 1s. CC . . . . .	-/6	" 1s. . . . .	1/9
" 1/- . . . . .	2/-	<b>Congo</b> , head, 5c, 10c scarce	-/4	" 1d. blue. CA . . . . .	-/3	" 2d. " " . . . . .	-/4
" 1892. 5d. . . . .	-/4	" " 25c, 50c brown	-/8	" 2d. red " " . . . . .	-/4	" 6d. orange . . . . .	-/4
" " 6d. . . . .	-/5	" " 50c grey . . . . .	2/3	" 6d. lilac . . . . .	-/3	" 6d. olive . . . . .	-/3
" " 8d. . . . .	-/10	" " 1 franc . . . . .	1/-	<b>Hong Kong</b> , 50 violet . . . . .	-/6	" " 1 dol. red . . . . .	-/9
b " " 10d. . . . .	1/-	<b>Cape</b> (triangular) 4d. . . . .	-/10	" " " " " . . . . .	-/9	<b>Lagos</b> , 1d. lilac, perf. 14, CC	1/9
a " " 2s. 6d. . . . .	3/-	" 3d. on 4d. blue . . . . .	-/5	" 1d. " " CA . . . . .	2/9	" 2d. blue " " CC . . . . .	2/9
<b>Br. Guiana</b> , 1860, 1d. blk. or 2c. orange	-/6	" 3d. on 3d. rose . . . . .	-/4	" 2d. " " CA . . . . .	3/9	" 3d. brown " " " . . . . .	-/2
" " 8c. rose . . . . .	1/6	" 3d. lilac rose. CC . . . . .	-/4	" 3d. claret. CA . . . . .	-/3	" 4d. rose " " " . . . . .	2/9
" 12c. lilac . . . . .	1/-	" 2 1/2d. on 3d. . . . .	-/3	" 1d. on 2d. . . . .	-/2	" 1s. orange " " " . . . . .	2/3
1876, 4c., 6c., 8c., CC. . . . .	1/-	" 1/- green, 1893, rare . . . . .	-/9	" 2d. grey . . . . .	-/2	" 2d. grey . . . . .	-/2
" 12c., CC. . . . .	-/5	" 1/- orange . . . . .	-/2	" 4d. all lilac . . . . .	2/6	" 4d. lilac and blk. . . . .	-/4
" 24c. " " . . . . .	-/9	<b>Canada</b> , 15c slate-b . . . . .	-/4	" 3d. " " red . . . . .	-/4	" 3d. " " " . . . . .	2/6
" 48c. " " . . . . .	1/4	" obsolete, 20c red . . . . .	-/5	b " 6d. olive . . . . .	2/6	" 6d. purple . . . . .	-/6
1882. 4c., 6c., 8c., CA. . . . .	-/4	" " 50c blue . . . . .	1/2	" 6d. purple . . . . .	-/6	" 1s. green . . . . .	-/10
1889. 4c. . . . .	-/2	<b>Dominica</b> , 1d. violet, perf 12 1/2 CC	-/6	" 5d. purple . . . . .	-/5	" 7 1/2 " or 10d. green	-/9
b " 6c. . . . .	-/5	c " 6d. green " " 14 " "	2/6	" 7 1/2 on 4d. . . . .	-/7	<b>Leeward Is.</b> , 4d. . . . .	-/4
" 8c. . . . .	-/7	c " 1d. lilac CC or CA . . . . .	1/3	a 8 " 6d. . . . .	-/5	" " " " " . . . . .	-/5
1891. 8c. . . . .	-/4	" 1d. rose, 1/2d. green . . . . .	-/5	a 1/3 " 1s. . . . .	-/9	<b>Liberia</b> , Liberty, 1880, 1c,	
1889, 12c. . . . .	-/5	" 2 1/2d. blue . . . . .	1/3	b " 7d. . . . .	-/9	" 2c. 6c. 12c. . . . .	-/5
" 24c. . . . .	-/9	" 4d. grey . . . . .	1/3	a " " 24c. pink . . . . .	-/8	" " 3c black, small . . . . .	-/4
" 48c. . . . .	1/9	<b>Great Britain</b> , 2/- blue . . . . .	1/4	a " " 3c red . . . . .	-/4	" " 3c red " " " . . . . .	-/4
" 72c. . . . .	2/9	<b>Cambria</b> , 1d. magenta, CC . . . . .	1/3	b " 1886, 3c. 4c. 6c. . . . .	-/8	" " 1892, 4c green . . . . .	-/3
" 96c. . . . .	3/6	" 4d. brown, CC . . . . .	3/9	" " 6c. 8c. . . . .	-/6	" " 12c red . . . . .	-/9
" 48c. . . . .	-/6	" 3d. grey, CA . . . . .	-/5	" " 16c mauve . . . . .	-/10	" " 5c triangular . . . . .	-/4
" 72c., 96c. . . . .	-/6	" 4d. brown . . . . .	-/6	a " " " " " . . . . .	-/4	<b>Montserrat</b> , 1d. red . . . . .	1/6
c " 1c., 2c. purple . . . . .	-/3	" 6d. olive . . . . .	-/9	a 8d. " 1/2d. green . . . . .	1/3	" 2 1/2d. blue . . . . .	3/-
" 3c. purple . . . . .	-/3	" 1s. mauve . . . . .	1/6	b " " 4d. mauve . . . . .	3/6	" 1d. large, lake fiscal,	
" 4c. " " . . . . .	-/4	<b>Gold Coast</b> , 1/2d. olive, CC . . . . .	2/6	" " " " " postally used. . . . .	12/6		
" 6c. " " . . . . .	-/5	" 1/2d. " CA . . . . .	4/6				
" 72c. . . . .	1/-	" 1d. blue, CC . . . . .	-/8				
1c. on 1, 2, 3dols. . . . .	-/3	" 1d. " CA . . . . .	7/-				
b 1 on 4dols. . . . .	-/10	" 2d. green, CC . . . . .	-/9				
<b>British Bechuanaland</b> , 1/- long green . . . . .	1/-	" 4d. 6d. CC . . . . .	1/2				
" 1/- on small English 1/-	3/9	" 3d., 2 shades . . . . .	-/3				
<b>British South Africa</b> , 1/2 1d., small . . . . .	-/2	" 4d., 6d. . . . .	-/3				
" 2d. " " . . . . .	-/5	" 1s. . . . .	-/5				
" 3d. " " . . . . .	1/-	a 1/3 " 2s. . . . .	1/-				
" 4d. " " . . . . .	-/7	a 2/6 " 5s. . . . .	2/3				
" 8d. " " . . . . .	1/3						

For continuation of List see opposite page.

NOTICE TO DEALERS.—We invite attention to our Wholesale List (Free on Application); also to our Parcels of Mixed Stamps of our Specialities. Better Value not obtainable. Established nearly 20 years.

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Catalogues may be had on application to the Auctioneers, 35, Old Jewry, London, E.C.

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## FORTNIGHTLY

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SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### MOROCCO'S PRIMITIVE POSTAL SYSTEM.

WE are indebted to Mr. W. Charles Russell for a copy of an article appearing in *Al-Moghreb Al-Aksa*, a small paper published in Tangier, which he is right in regarding as of interest to the stamp-collecting world. The article runs as follows:

We have been requested at different times to publish a statement of the various kinds of postage stamps that are being sold in this country and make a separation between those belonging to an official administration and those that are only a mere private business and have not been authorised by any Government. In fact, the task is a rather difficult one, as there is an imaginary postal service almost between every two places of importance in Morocco, the real value of which is the high profit obtained by the enterprising issues from sale of stamps to innocent collectors, and as the new issues are continually increasing, it is almost impossible to publish an accurate account of them. As a warning to collectors abroad we are bound to say that the postal arrangements by the Moorish Government are of so primitive a character that they can hardly be called a National Service. It is limited to a number of couriers (on foot) who carry the letters in an open palm bag from one place to another, once or twice a week, according to the importance of the place. No service is provided for small towns or villages. In the main centres of the empire, the letters are handed to the Amin or administrator who attends to the service, seated in a little shop, and receives the letters and the price demanded for postage; when he affixes a common wood seal to the letter, which perhaps is the most attractive of all the postal marks from the stamp collector's point of view. Owing to the unreliability of the Moorish services, Great

Britain first established its Postal service here many years ago; it was followed years after by Spain and lately by France, and, of course, the only legal stamps in this country are those belonging to the British, Spain, and French administrations. There are, however, two French concerns which were created with the authority of the French Legation, one of which being that established by M. Gauthier at the suggestion of M. Souhart, which commenced the courier service between Tangier and Fez, in July, 1891. With regard to M. Gauthier's Postal Service, our colleague *La Revue du Maroc* reminds us that the first of these couriers by a happy coincidence arrived at Fez on the 14th July, 1891—the French National Feast. The couriers ran regularly until February, 1893, when the French Government extended its Postal Service to Fez. There are two private courier services in working order between Mazagan and Marrakech, one belonging to M. Bando is running in combination with the French Coast Service, the other is an Italian concern under the management of Signor Morko, recently established and combined with the British Service. We know of no others who may properly claim the right of issuing postage stamps in Morocco.

### THE HOSPITAL STAMPS: DESTROYING THE PLATES.

No more of the Prince of Wales's "Hospital" Stamps can be printed. The plates were, on Friday, July 9th, formally destroyed at the Bank of England, in the presence of the Duke and Duchess of York, the various gentlemen associated with the Hospital Fund, a crowd of Pressmen and the Bank of England's stately Persian cat.

The Royal visitors, on their arrival at the Bank were at once conducted to the printing department, where those crisp, lovable bits of paper that we all so keenly banker after are produced. In the die sinking room, which is under the charge of Mr. F. C. Smith (who has been in the service of the Bank over 40 years) all the dies and water-marking plates are designed and made for the Bank Notes, Postal Orders, Indian Notes, Exchequer Bills, and any other papers requiring a watermark, and Mr. Smith takes a pride in showing a paper mould (from which the watermark is impressed upon the paper whilst in course of manufacture) of a fine Damascus pattern, the process for making which was patented by his father, Mr. John Smith in 1849, the mould being shown at the Great Exhibition of 1851.

At the benches in this room were stationed in readiness, three expert workmen, each provided with an enormous zin, file or rubber weighing 16lbs., and as soon as the seals of the plates, which had been previously brought from the strong rooms under the charge of the bank officials, had been broken by the Governor, the steel plates were fixed in position on the benches and the workmen set to work with a will to



obliterate every line of the delicate tracery constituting the design of the plates. With the powerful tools at hand even the hard surface of the three steel plates from which alone the stamps have been printed soon had to yield, and after about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour's hard work the surface of the plates was utterly defaced. The destruction of the steel plates being complete, the attention of the workmen was then directed to the original matrix and die, the raised surface of the designs upon which being too hard to be much affected by the powerful files which had been used upon the printing plates were then applied to a grindstone which stood ready at hand, and in a short space of time the designs were ground level with the surface of the matrix and die.

The defaced plates and dies were once again consigned to the charge of the bank officials.

Their Royal Highnesses then proceeded to the Governor's Room, where the official certificate of the destruction of the plates was signed by Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York, Mr. H. C. Smith, the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., Controller of Stamps, and the following members of the organising committee of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund—Lord Rothschild, Lord Rowton, Sir Henry Burdett, K.C.B., the Right Hon. C. Sturt Wortley, Q.C., M.P., Sir Savile Crossley, and Mr. J. G. Craggs.

The Certificate is as follows:—

"Certificate of the destruction of the Dies and Plates employed in the production of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund Stamps.

"We, the undersigned, hereby certify that the whole of the Dies and Plates used in the production of these Stamps were this day destroyed in our presence."

Here follow the signatures as above.

The Governor of the Bank then said: "On behalf of the Committee of the Prince of Wales's Fund, I beg to thank your Royal Highness and the Duchess for coming here to-day to see the plates destroyed. Perhaps you will kindly certify to those present that you are quite satisfied that no more stamps can be printed from the plates."

The Duke of York replied: "It has interested both the Duchess and myself a great deal to come to-day and see the destruction of the dies and plates of the stamps which are issued in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, and I trust that the remainder of the stamps will be soon sold, as I think there can be no more appropriate souvenir of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee than these stamps."

His Royal Highness added that the defaced plates and dies might form an interesting exhibit at the forthcoming Philatelic Exhibition which he is to open in London on the 22nd inst.

#### PHILATELISTS KNOW THE REASON.

GENIAL, jovial *Pick-me-up* comments upon the singular fact that the largest names generally come from the smallest countries. An analogous problem is why the most insignificant places on the map have the most gorgeous postage stamps. British stamps are the ugliest things going; but Nicaragua gives you a landscape which is in itself worth the money.

#### TARIFF COMPLICATIONS IN ITALY.

OWING to the want of uniformity among Custom House Authorities in Italy, there has existed in that country for some time past no little uncertainty and confusion among importers of common used stamps in bulk from abroad, for whilst at one port they would be taxed under one section of the Tariff, at others they would be taxed in a different way altogether. With a view, therefore, of bringing this question to a point and to have it settled once for all, some time ago a well-known firm of importers in Turin refused to pay the duties demanded at the Italo-Swiss frontier, and allowed the lot to be confiscated, in consequence.

Once arrived at this point, the question was at once taken up by the red tape officials, with the result that, according to the *Francobollo*, of Milan, just received, a new Edict has been issued, ordering such stamps to be treated as printed-litho-

graphy and taxed accordingly, the consequence being that whereas at some points they used to pay as little as 8 lire per cwt., they will now have to pay 75.

It is evident, however, adds the above-referred-to contemporary, that this new rate is anything but satisfactory and that the trade will be moved to fresh efforts until a lower tax is adopted.

In the meantime, importers are not anxious to place orders abroad, preferring to wait and see what the final result of this agitation will be.

#### DISTINGUISHED SPANISH POSTAL OFFICIAL'S DEATH.

THE whole of the Spanish Press notes with great regret the death of Don Antonio Fernandez Duro, which took place recently at Barcelona.

Born of modest parents, at Logrono, in 1864, he entered the Postal Service at the bottom of the ladder, and, by his great energy and tact, he raised himself (*Madrid Filatelico* states) to one of the highest positions in the Madrid Central Post Office. Besides the numerous Spanish Postal Reforms, introduced through his initiative, he filled important missions in Africa as well as in Cuba at critical times. He was the author of various works on Postal matters, among which mention may be made of his "Itinerary of the Postal Service in the Island of Cuba," and later on, of his "Historic Descriptive Review of the Postage Stamps of Spain." The latter has always been looked upon as a standard work of exceptional merit, and has been translated into French by Mr. J. B. Moens. Mr. Duro enjoyed the rare privilege, granted him by the Government, of having his correspondence carried free of charge and the use of the "Franquicia Postal" Stamp for that purpose. It will be observed that the centre of that stamp bears the name of his Review.

#### A NEW "GOVERNMENT PARCELS" STAMP.

WE are informed that the current English 1d. has been surcharged "Government Parcels," and also that the 1½d. and 4½d. with a like surcharge are shortly to be withdrawn.

#### N.S.W. JUBILEE STAMPS NOT "GUMPAPS."

THE New South Wales Jubilee Issues are in reality no Jubilee Issue at all. If any such thing would be mentioned to Postmaster Cook? that he intended celebrating the Jubilee by means of issuing a Commemorative series he would have been severely taken to task by his ultra-radical supporters. The real reason is that a number of forgeries to defraud the Government have recently appeared (see *P.F.G.B.* for July) where the 2d. Sydney current was illustrated that it was decided not only to withdraw these, the so-called centennial issue, but also to demonetise them altogether, and to replace them by an altogether new issue. The first step was taken in this direction when the 5/- map design was ordered to be replaced by the old beautiful coin design on N.S.W. paper. Since then the various new values have been added as illustrated in our last. As this information is authentic we hope the dormant S.S.S.S. will not take it into its head to denounce them, but perhaps the S.S.S.S. has given up denouncing anything for the future and our fears are groundless.

#### SOME CUBAN RARITIES.

SPAIN and her Colonies offer to the Philatelist (remarks *Madrid Filatelico*) as much interesting ground for investigation and study as any other country in the world, and although much has already been brought to light there is still plenty of room for the efforts of the would-be discoverer.

Now, we have frequently noticed, when examining albums of well known collectors returning from Cuba, that most of them contained in their 1888 section, a bright blue stamp, generally stuck on a slip of original paper and postmarked, but cut in two, diagonally. We were soon convinced that this was simply the 10 centavos blue which was in use in Cuba in that year. But, as no mention was made of it in any Catalogue, nor was there any space reserved for it in any Album, we at once set to work to find out its "raison d'être." After considerable searching, we traced the "*Gaceta Oficial de la Habana*," wherein we discovered the following official notice:—

**HEAD OFFICE OF REVENUE; STAMPED MATTER SECTION.**

Whereas the stock of the 5 centavos stamp is exhausted. His Excellency, the Governor of the Island has been pleased to approve of the 10 centavos being used instead, cut diagonally, until fresh supplies of the 5 centavos, now on order, are received from the "Fabrica Nacional."

In view, therefore, of the above notice, the legitimate existence and use of this cut stamp cannot be doubted, but collectors ought to see that it is always obtained on original and postmarked, otherwise it is hardly of any Philatelic value.

We sincerely hope, moreover, that all future catalogues will contain a space set aside for this "10 centavos diagonally cut stamp of the 1888 Cuban issue."

**SWITZERLAND'S CHEAP POSTAGE.**

THE record of cheap postage (the *Philatelic Monthly and World* remarks) is held by the Swiss Federation. In that happy country one may send for 5 centimes (1 cent) a letter weighing up to 8 ounces to any place within a distance of 10 kilometers (more than 7 miles), and for 10 centimes (2 cents) to any part of Switzerland. A package of newspapers or books weighing 4 pounds is carried by the Swiss mails for 15 centimes (3 cents). The fee for registering a letter is 10 centimes (2 cents).

**BRITISH STAMPS AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.**

THE June issue of the *English Specialists' Journal* gives, in addition to its usual features, a detailed list of the stamps to be found in the collection exhibited at the Victorian Exhibition now being held at the Crystal Palace. The collection, comprising 975 stamps and 103 stamped envelopes and other pieces of postal stationery, is neatly mounted in twenty frames, and comprises at least one impression from almost every plate that has ever been used for printing British stamps. The adhesives in the collection has been cut from the imprimatur sheets preserved at Somerset House, and they are consequently ungummed and imperforate. The contents of the various frames are set out at length in Mr. Ewen's paper. Official stamps, telegraph stamps, and a few fiscals are included.

Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall contributes some "Stray Notes on Great Britain" to the same issue of the *E.S.J.*

With regard to the control letters of the English 1d. and 1d. stamps, Mr. Marshall has sundry remarks to make and calls attention to the importance of collecting these in pairs—if they are collected at all; but he deprecates the habit of collecting these control letters in two varieties, one with perforated margin and the other with imperforate margin. "This," he remarks, "seems rather aimless, as it merely depends on which end first the sheets of paper happen to be 'fed' into the machine."

Mr. Marshall wonders whether any specialist of British Stamps has taken into account the official numbers on the margins of the plates apart from the actual plate numbers. The study of these, he thinks, might be very useful in determining dates, and would certainly be of interest to specialists.

**AN INVIDIOUS WAY OF PUTTING IT.**

We have never hesitated to express our admiration of the *Boston Stamp Book* of Boston, U.S.A. Mr. John L. Kilbon's paper is a marvel of typographical spruceness and is never entirely devoid of interesting matter—a thing one cannot say of American philatelic journals in the lump. We cannot, however, plead guilty to any great love of the many editorials which the *Boston Stamp Book* contains. They are readable certainly, but in reading them one gets the idea that Mr. John L. Kilbon regards himself as a very superior person indeed. Of course he may be so; in fact, all that we have read of Mr. Kilbon in the American stamp journals would lead us to suppose that he is a man of great intelligence and a philatelist of much perspicuity; but he should try to drop that superior person tone in penning the editorials of this paper. The matter we have alluded to is not the most serious of Mr. Kilbon's journalistic idiosyncrasies. He has at times a very objectionable way of putting things. For instance, he devotes much space in his June issue to the forthcoming annual Convention and elections of the American

Philatelic Association, and with regard to the appointment or reappointment of directors of that body he takes occasion to point out that with the exception of Messrs. Chandler & Mekeel, all the officers of the association are offering themselves for re-election. Then Mr. Kilbon goes on:—

It should be said that in the case of Mr. Chandler at least, the omission of his name is in no sense due to any feeling that he has been dishonest or incompetent, and we do not believe that Mr. Mekeel was dropped for any reasons which reflect in any way upon him personally.

The innuendo is clear, and one is curious to know what Mr. G. D. Mekeel, the second gentleman alluded to, will do about it. In this country a horse-whipping or an action for libel would about meet the case. The insult becomes far more serious when it is stated that Mr. Mekeel was not "dropped" at all, but resigned his office in a letter addressed to the President of the Association.

**THE U.S.A. DEPARTMENT STAMPS.**

THE late Mr. John K. Tiffany and other eminent authorities have always contended that the total issue of the \$5, \$10, and \$20 values of the U.S.A. State Department Stamps amounted to 307 copies of each value. Our bright San Francisco contemporary, *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, takes leave to suggest that this figure may be inaccurate. It is certainly a surprisingly small figure. It is to be taken as probable, if not certain, that a fair proportion of these stamps have been either destroyed or lost since the date of the original issue, and our contemporary argues that according to the present market values of the three stamps, the loss must have been larger in the case of the \$5 stamp than with either of the other two values. With a view to settling this question once and for all, Messrs. Sellschopp & Co., the publishers of *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, are adopting the novel plan of inviting all holders of one or more of these stamps to communicate with them, giving full particulars of their holdings. In this way our San Francisco friends hope to get on the track of a large proportion of the specimens in existence. The scheme is a laudable one, and we have much pleasure in reprinting here the open letter to collectors printed in the May issue of our Western contemporary:

SAN FRANCISCO, May, 1897.

Dear Sir:

We would deem it a great favor if you would, on the enclosed blank, enumerate all the collectors and dealers that you know of, who hold any of the three high value State Department stamps in their collections or stocks, together with the number of each value held by each owner. After sufficient material is collected a list of the actual present whereabouts of these stamps, with the names of the owners, will be published and for any information given you will be entitled to one of such neatly gotten up lists. If for any reason whatever you should not like the publication of your own or any name in connection with these stamps you will kindly make a cross opposite such name or names, but we should in all cases get the name in full to make comparison with possible report of the same stamp coming from other sources.

To make it quite plain we give herewith the blank, with such information as we ourselves would be able at the present time to make.

Owner of copies of	\$5.00 State.	\$10.00 State.	\$20.00.
B. C. KENYON, Long Beach.	2	5	16
M. H. NEWMARK, Los Angeles.	2	2	2
H. J. CROCKER, San Francisco.	1	1	1
W. H. CROCKER, ..	—	1	1
CHAS. MANGELS, ..	3	5	5
W. J. GARDNER, ..	1	1	1
W. .. ..	1	1	1
H. SCHLUERBIER, Petaluma.	—	1	—

Hoping that as far as you are able you will give us the desired information we are, dear sir, Very respectfully yours,

W. SELLSCHOPP & CO.

Readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* who may respond to this invitation should address Messrs. Sellschopp & Co., at 108, Stockton Street, San Francisco.

**STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.**

THE *Columbian Philatelist* goes on improving month by month, always preserving its tone of fearless independence. Some very pointed observations in the number dated May

20th, regarding the Mekeels of St. Louis, seem to call for some definite disclaimer. *Le Courier des Timbres-Post* contains its usual quantum of pithy philatelic paragraphs, one of which tell us that Mr. Sigmund Friedl, in anticipation of the creation of an International stamp, made various designs suitable for adoption in connection with the idea, but as all the world now knows, the International stamp is now postponed for at least another seven years.

The French "Fortnightly," *L'Echo de Timbologie*, announces in its issue of June 15th, the death of Mons. Batifort of Marseilles, who made a speciality of imitating the surcharged stamps of the French Colonies. In another of its newsy paragraphs our contemporary states that in the entire world there are 200,000 post offices, and that of this number the United States can claim 70,000. Something wrong with these figures, we should imagine.

The *Monthly Post* has now dwindled into "Smyth & Co's Philatelic Circular." If it gets much thinner than it is now, we shall have to see about preparing its obituary notice.

*Le Timbrophile Gaulois* is apparently published to provide French dealers with yet another outlet for their advertisements.

*Le Moniteur Philatélique*, of Gannet, is a mere advertising sheet, of which there were enough and to spare on the Continent before the *M. P.* made its appearance.

The *New York Philatelist*, a too infrequent visitor to our sanctum, gives a mass of interesting matter in its June issue, including a good summary of the proceedings of the Postal Congress at Washington, and a useful little article on the inscriptions on the stamps of the Turkish Empire from 1868 to 1883.

*La Revue Philatélique Belge* is an enterprising, well edited paper hailing from Brussels. Its colour scheme, consisting of a combination of red and bronze-blue inks, is a pretty idea badly carried out.

If you want a good puzzle try *Le Timbre*, of Bordeaux, the first number of which has just reached us. Why it is published we utterly fail to understand, and the idea of charging a subscription of about 1/4d. per annum for a monthly paper containing nothing but uninteresting advertisements is one of the most sublime pieces of impudence we have ever encountered.

Mr. R. W. BOSTON, of Scheragate, Essex, has completed a screen which has taken him two years to ornament. Its decoration consists of 10,850 British and foreign postage stamps, arranged in geometrical patterns, and the effect is as pleasing as it is unique.

Seven years have elapsed since the last London Philatelic Exhibition was held.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are adopting the novel practice (in this country), of publishing a Black List of their creditors. There are doubtless some British creditors of the firm who would like nothing better than to see the practice extended to this country. Many lawyers who are now looking thirsty would then come in for roaring business.

"There is little doubt (says *The Gentlewoman*) that the Prince of Wales' Hospital Stamps will be exceedingly valuable in coming years, and I should advise you to invest in several; as a special imprint, they are of the greatest interest to philatelists." It's bad form to contradict a lady, but it must be set down that *The Gentlewoman* is a long way off the line here.

NEARLY three tons of stamps are despatched daily from Somerset House; at certain seasons, such as Christmas, and other exceptionally busy periods of the year, the weight removed in a single day by the post office vans reaches as much as eight tons.

#### SUBSCRIPTION TO THE

### Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

is 3/3 per annum for 26 Numbers, post free, from the publishers, HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

## U.S. "Corner Triangle" Varieties.

BY OLIVER FIRTH.

AMONG thirty copies of the 8c. U.S.A. stamps of 1894, I find the four varieties of corner-ornaments described below. There may be others, and some of the readers of the *FORTNIGHTLY* may be sufficiently interested to seek for them while the good light lasts.

a.—The vertical outer line of the left frame is broken between lines 9 and 10, counting from the upper horizontal frame-line.

b.—The same line is broken between lines 3 and 6.

c.—The vertical outer line of the right frame is very much weakened between lines 6 and 8 (the gap being in line with the lower dots).

d.—The weak line of c has apparently been strengthened.

There are 20 lines of background covered by these ornaments, the vertical lines usually just touching the 20th; although in other copies it does not appear to reach quite so far, owing to the impression being less perfect.

It is advisable to have a good glass in making an examination of these stamps.

## The Stamps of Austria from a Specialist's point of View.

BY S. C. BARNETT.

(Continued from page 215).

### Unpaid Letter Stamps.

Stamps of this kind did not appear till 1894. Figure of value in oval band, enclosed in oblong frame. All are the same colour, namely brown. Values, 1kr. 3kr. 5kr. 10kr. 20kr. 50kr.

### Foreign Post Offices.

The first issue of these exactly resembles the 1857 issue of Austria, except in the value, the word soldi appearing instead of kreutzer. It is scarcely necessary to dwell long upon these stamps, as they are the exact counterpart of the Austrians proper. The 1883 issue follows the same rule; all these are rarer than the corresponding Austrian. There were five envelopes issued with the first issue. Values, 3kr. green, 5kr. rose, 10kr. blue, 15kr. brown, 25kr. lilac. These resemble the adhesive of first issue.

Special issues for Levant Postal issue of 1883, surcharged with Oriental currency. I will put the values in tabular form.

10 paras on 3 soldi, black and green.

" " 3 kreutzer " "

20 " " 5 " " rose.

1 piastre on 10 kreutzer black and blue.

2 " " 20 " " green.

5 " " 50 " " violet.

The only peculiarity in the above is the 3 green value, which is surcharged on Austria and Foreign P.O. issue; the former is perhaps the better of the two. Next, the issue of 1890 was similarly surcharged.

8 paras on 2 kreutzer black and brown (1891).

10 " " 3 " " green (1890).

20 " " 5 " " rose (1890).

1 piastre on 10 kreutzer black and blue (1890).

2 " " 20 " " olive (1890).

2 " " 20 " " (1891).

5 " " 50 " " violet (1890).

5 " " 50 " " (1891).

10 " " 1 gulden " blue (1891).

20 " " 2 " " red (1891).

In this issue the Austrian currency is in the upper corners, and the Oriental currency in the lower corners. This finishes the adhesive portion and we will now commence on the stamped stationery. Austria may be remembered as the first to invent and use post cards, but I do not intend to include these here.

### Envelope Stamps.

1858. Laureated head of Emperor to right; this design is the same as used for adhesive of 1861. 3kr. green, 5kr. red,

10kr. brown, 15kr. blue, 20kr. orange, 25kr. dark brown, 30kr. slate, 35kr. light brown. The higher values of this issue are very valuable in the entire state and are also uncommon even if cut. All the following issues are like the adhesive of same date, so I need not give their design.

The issue of 1863 has 5 values: 3kr. green, 5kr. red, 10kr. blue, 15kr. brown, 25kr. violet. The next issue is the same both in currency and colour, and appeared in 1867, the design of course being like the Austrian 1867 issue. The next, 1883, had one stamp, printed on white and buff paper; it was a 5kr. and the colour rose.

1890. This differs from the general design, head to right in arched frame, only one value 5kr. on white and buff paper.

#### *Newspaper Bands.*

There are four issues, each containing one value, a 2kr. The first one, issued in 1872, had a broad margin, of the same colour as stamp, namely yellow; in 1875 this margin was removed. The above are types of 1867. For the next two, the types of 1883 adhesive and 1890 envelopes were used. Brown was the chosen colour, the latter (1890) being printed on straw coloured paper.

Before closing this article, I should like to say a few words on the Fiscals, etc. Most of these can be found used postally and should certainly be collected. They are, as a rule, beautifully printed, and are well worthy of a place in any album devoted to the interesting stamps of Austria.

### *Leewards Good for Postage!*

THERE HAS BEEN NO DEMONETIZATION OF THE REMAINDERS SOLD TO MR. T. H. THOMPSON.

YOUR CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE COLONIAL AUTHORITIES ESTABLISHES THE FACT BEYOND ALL DOUBT.

WE wished to get at the real truth with regard to the demonetization, or otherwise, of the obsolete Leeward Islands stamps. And we have done so. On the 12th June, 1895 we wrote to the Crown Agents, Downing Street, London, as follows:—

"DEAR SIRS,—We have received advice from Leeward Islands that all stamps which were sold by you to Mr. Thompson, about four years ago to the value of about £6,000 are not now available for postage. As this would be the first instance where a British Colonial stamp has been demonetized, we cannot quite believe that our correspondent is correct. You would therefore greatly oblige by letting us have an authoritative statement on the point. You will no doubt be aware that English stamps of any issue can still be used, and we see therefore no reason, especially as the Government received more than face value for the stamps, that they should not be available for postage.

"A reply to the above will be appreciated.

We are, dear sirs,

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES & Co., LTD."

The following is a copy of their reply:—

"*Leeward Islands.—Obsolete Stamps sold. Rept. 87.*

"GENTLEMEN.—In reply to your letter of 12th instant, I have to acquaint you that we have no information with respect to the demonetization of the obsolete Leeward Islands stamps sold some years since to Messrs. T. H. Thompson & Co., of Bishop Auckland.

"If you desire an authoritative statement on the subject, we would suggest that you should communicate with the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, at Antigua.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

E. E. MARY.

To Messrs. H. Hilckes & Co., Ltd."

Making a copy of this letter we next addressed ourselves to:  
THE COLONIAL SECRETARY OF THE LEEWARD ISLANDS, ANTIGUA.

DEAR SIR,—We have, in accordance with the above letter, taken the liberty to write to you, and would esteem it a great favour if you would give us some information.

We remain, dear sir,

Yours faithfully,

HARRY HILCKES & Co., LTD.

The following further documents will explain themselves:—  
Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Antigua, 7th July, 1897.

GENTLEMEN.—I am directed by the Officer Administrating the Government to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd of July, 1895, asking to be informed whether the obsolete stamps of the Leeward Islands which were sold to Mr. Thompson in Bishop Auckland some years ago are still available for postage.

In reply, I beg to transmit copies of two opinions of the Law Officer of the Crown to whom your letter was referred, from which it will be observed that all former stamps of any Presidency are still available for postage in the Presidency in which they were issued.

I am to express regret at the delay which has occurred in replying to your letter under acknowledgment.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD B. JARVIS,

for the Colonial Secretary.

*The Attorney General to the Colonial Secretary.*

Hon. Colonial Secretary,

This somewhat antique enquiry appears to have been sent to my office on the day on which I left for England last year.

My opinion is (as, I think, clearly appears from my minute of 12/3/96, on M.P. 474/96) that former stamps of any Presidency—all stamps of every Presidency are former stamps—are still available for postage in that Presidency.  
(intd.) O.S. 3/7/97.

*The Attorney General to the Colonial Secretary.*

Hon. Ag. Colonial Secretary,

Uniform stamps for the Colony were introduced by or under Act No. 3 of 1890 (see ib. 3; cf. 11/86, 23). That Act (8) provides that stamps issued at the Treasuries and Post Offices of the several Presidencies before its coming into operation, "shall be of the same value, and may be issued for the same purpose as they are now but no further."

It seems clear, therefore, that a stamp of any Presidency is available at the same time for payment of postage upon a letter posted in that Presidency, and consequently that, to that extent, the stamps of St. Kitts (Montserrat), can "still be used for paying postage," and the stamps of the various islands can be "used to prepay postage at the present time in place of Leeward Islands stamps."

Whether the stamps of any Presidency may be used to defray the postage of letters posted in another Presidency, appears to depend on the historical rather than legal question whether they are so used at the time of Act No. 3, of 1890, coming into force.

(intd.) O.S. 12/3/96.

Thus, the stamps of St. Kitts are still available for postage in the island of St. Kitts; the stamps of Montserrat on letters, &c., from Montserrat; and so on through the whole Archipelago—ill-informed postmasters' decisions to the contrary notwithstanding.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING AUGUST 7, 1897. Auction Sales.

July 26th, 27th, 29th & 30th. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, will sell the well known collection of A. A. Gould, Esq.

July 27th and 28th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 17, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.

July 31st and August 4th. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 5.45 precisely each day.

London Philatelic Exhibition.—Open from July 22nd to Aug. 5th, at the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolours, 191, Piccadilly, London, W. Season tickets 7/6 for the whole duration of the Exhibition, daily admission 1/.

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JULY 24, 1897.



MR. WALTER MORLEY'S second Catalogue of British Stamps is a model of compactness and good arrangement. Into a book of 186 pages Mr. Morley has contrived to cram the prices of all varieties of, not British postage stamps alone, but also British fiscal stamps, British Telegraphs, in fact, British everything in the semblance of a stamp. With the prices, so far as the postage portion of the book goes, we can heartily agree, the figures being the result of a series of "confabulations" between Mr. Morley and our Mr. Hilekes, in the course of which notes were compared for mutual information. The book is in the now popular small octavo size, but otherwise is arranged much on the same plan as Mr. Morley's first edition. One notable innovation is the adoption of the system of pricing two "qualities" of used stamps—a system already alluded to in these columns, Mr. Morley very clearly describes this new feature in the "Preface" of the book under notice.

The most important alteration is the new system of pricing the postage portion. My former catalogue and supplement were priced for unused copies with gum and very fine used copies only, and has lead to a good deal of misunderstanding regarding prices, especially if used copies, as it is well known that about 80 per cent. of used English stamps are very heavily cancelled, and I have in this edition (after a very careful comparison of my own stock with Messrs. Hilekes & Co., in which we are practically agreed on the valuations we have arrived at) adopted the system of pricing, which, I am convinced, is the most practical way of arriving at the true value of the different varieties.

Altogether, the Catalogue is one that can be heartily commended as a book providing the latest reliable guide to the values of British stamps. The price is 2s. 6d. and can be supplied by our publishers.

ON the point of going to Press with this number we receive Messrs. Senf's New Catalogue. Pressure of time prevents our reviewing it fully, but a cursory glance enables us to say that it seems to be up to its usual excellent standard. As a handbook it is undoubtedly the most valuable philatelic volume in existence. One excellent innovation we notice in this new edition, and that is, that all speculative issues have although listed, been plainly described as such. The book is most conscientiously put together and the amount of additional information introduced proves that the compilers have taken careful note of all recent discoveries. The prices seem very fair, and we can cordially recommend it to everyone who really wants a catalogue compiled on scientific lines. The book, compares very favourably with all existing catalogues of a similar nature as regards price—i.e., 2s. 6d., post free.

### The New Senf.

IN another part of the FORTNIGHTLY appears a correspondence we have had with the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands, concerning the currency of the obsolete issues purchased by Mr. T. H. Thompson some five years ago, and although the reply is dated two years after receipt of

our letter, it comes better late than never and it clears up a most important point once and for all. In our Number 41 we published letters from the Postmasters of Dominica and Nevis, stating that they refused to accept the old Leeward Islands stamps as postage. Then Mr. Andreini, of New York, writing to *Mekel's Stamp News*, under date 18th April, 1896, states that the postmasters were wrong in refusing the stamps, and that, according to a letter from the Colonial Secretary in Antigua, all obsolete issues of the Leeward Islands were still available for postage. The correspondence which we publish in another column proves that this opinion is right, and that all Leeward Islands stamps can still be used for postage. We trust this will put a stop to the very high prices asked for used Leeward Islands stamps. It has taken a long time to get at the bottom of this, but we were determined to settle the point if possible. When one has to deal with officials one's patience is likely to be taxed to the uttermost. However, we are grateful to the Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Isles for his definite reply, albeit that reply has taken a little matter of two years in the making.

UNDER distinguished auspices, and amid every indication of success, the eagerly anticipated Philatelic Exhibition has been opened to the public. In every way, and looked at from any reasonable standpoint, the Exhibition must be proclaimed a distinct success. We congratulate the gentlemen responsible for the arrangements upon the brilliant results they have achieved. We had our own views regarding certain features of the promotion of the Exhibition, and those views we did not hesitate to express. It is therefore with the greater pleasure that now that the results of the work of the past year are exposed to view, we add our voice to the chorus of praise that will doubtless reward the active promoters of this Exhibition. The FORTNIGHTLY was the first to suggest the Exhibition, and may be allowed as suggester, and as "candid friend" to take its own wee share of the credit. May we soon have such another Exhibition as that now open at the Water Colour Gallery in Piccadilly.

In this issue we give a fairly elaborate, but of course not a complete, account of the Exhibition. The task of squeezing this into an issue which appears within forty hours of the opening of the Exhibition has been no light one. In fact, we think we have set up a record in the history of the Philatelic Press.

### The Periodical Trouble in America.

THE trouble about the U.S.A. Periodical Stamps is, the *Philatelic Monthly and World States*, postponed until October. "In the meantime," adds our contemporary, "we hope collectors will not fail to subscribe to the "Defence Fund," even if only one dollar. If each collector in the country would do as little as this, a very large sum could be obtained.

There are said to be at least 800,000 collectors of stamps, in the United States including many wellknown persons, Ministers, Lawyers and Physicians, also high officials of the various States and of the United States. There have been members of Congress among them and may be now. There are also many ladies, who take as much delight in their treasures as the other sex. Now there are many thousands of Periodical and Postage Due Stamps in these various collections and in case the Government wins the six cents for which it has sued, all these stamps will be liable to confiscation, and they have cost the owners much more than the face value, the 9c. Periodical for instance selling for about 150 times its original value. Among these 800,000 collectors there are many who are acquainted with one or more members of Congress, and we suggest that each one should write to such member or members, urging the passage of an act, somewhat as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., that from after the passage of this act, it shall be lawful for collectors of stamps to have in their possession any of the stamps that have been or may be issued by the United States and that said stamps, including Periodical and Postage Due Stamps, shall be sold at face value at certain Post Offices to be designated by the Postmaster General.

### Leeward Islands.

of the Leeward Islands, concerning the currency of the obsolete issues purchased by Mr. T. H. Thompson some five years ago, and although the reply is dated two years after receipt of

# The London Philatelic Exhibition.

FORMAL OPENING BY THE DUKE OF YORK.

A CHATTY ACCOUNT OF WHAT YOU MAY SEE AT 191, PICCADILLY, BETWEEN NOW AND AUGUST 5TH.

WE have got our Exhibition and we are all happy now. We had thought this show was to be called the "International Philatelic Exhibition, London"; but its style, as per catalogue, and other stationery, is simply "The London Philatelic Exhibition, 1897." Well, what's in a name? The shows the thing, and it may be set down in so many words, and without further parley, that the London Philatelic Exhibition, 1897, is an unqualified success, the arrangements for which in every possible way reflect the highest possible credit on the gentlemen entrusted with the work of organisation, the FORTNIGHTLY'S well deserved strictures on minor points notwithstanding.

## THE OPENING CEREMONY.

By two o'clock on Thursday (July 22nd) the spacious rooms of the gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours—phew! we shall call that the R.S.P.W.C. next time!—began to present an animated appearance. Many members of the Philatelic Society and other stampites, on the Committee and off it, brought their wives, and their sisters, and their cousins, and their aunts. "There! what did I tell you?" said a well-known dealer to a writer, there's as many lady philatelists as the other sort, if not more." And so it may be, but the presence of so many fair women at the opening ceremony proves nothing of the sort. There is something very dear to the feminine heart in the presence of royal or other distinguished folk, and it is a shade of odds, if such a low expression may be permitted to obtrude itself into these sober columns, that most of the ladies assembled at 191, Piccadilly, had come, not to feast their eyes on philatelic gems, but to get a good long look at Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of York. The Duke, who was attended by the Hon. Derek Keppel, looked, if one may be permitted to say so, "as fit as a fiddle," and his Duchess, who was accompanied by Lady Mary Lyon, was charming and gracious as ever.

The Duke's speech was short and to the point, and it did not unduly strain the capability of the FORTNIGHTLY'S special verbatim reporter. Advancing to the centre of the small square space roped off in order to protect the Duke from loyal and enthusiastic lady philatelists, His Royal Highness observed:

"I have much pleasure in declaring this Exhibition open."

His Highness could not have said much less; but, on the other hand, if he had said any more it would have been quite beside the point. Would that all orators were so sparing of words as he!

Miss Castle, daughter of our only J.P., presented the Duchess of York with a charming bouquet.

## A LOOK ROUND THE ROOMS.

Although we still contend that the ideal place for the Philatelic Exhibition would be the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, we are ready to allow that in many important respects the rooms of the R.S.P.W.C. are not to be beaten for the special purpose of a Philatelic show. The light, an all important consideration, is perfect, and all the cases and frames of stamps appear to have been arranged with a special view to the proper distribution of adequate rays of light. As at a picture show, so at a philatelic exhibition, it is advisable, if not absolutely necessary, that the light come from above. This condition is of course, admirably fulfilled at the Water Colour Gallery, and as the glass of the skylight is opaque, the stamps on show are secure from the devastating rays of their worst enemy—the sun. The rooms are three in number, two of them being used for general exhibits, and the third being allotted to "the trade." In this room there is quite a little arcade of miniature stamp shops. The first to catch the eye is that of Mr. Walter Morley, of Tottenham, who has a very

capable coadjutor in Mr. G. C. Warden, jun.; and then follow the stalls of *Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.*, *W. T. Wilson, Bright & Son, H. Eason, T. H. Thompson*, of Leeward Islands fame, *Hamilton Smith & Co.*, *Geo. Calf & Co.*, *Buhl & Co.*, *Ltd.*, *W. H. Peckitt*, *M. Giwell*, *W. Hadlow*, *Whitfield King & Co.*, and *Wm. Brown*.

## EVERYBODY WAS THERE!

It is perhaps, not too much to say that everybody who is anybody of much importance in connection with philately, was present. A few of the faces we noticed in our ramble through the rooms may be mentioned here. In the first place there was Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., who was among those who personally received the Duke and Duchess, and had the honour of showing them around the Exhibition. Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the able secretary, was of course present, as were also "Judges" Bacon, Ehrenbach, Maycock, and Evans. We also noticed in the throng, Messrs. W. B. Avery, Frankel, Breitfuss, Pierre Mahé, Walter Bull, F. G. Bepler, W. W. Blest, P. M. Bright, W. Brown, T. Buhl, H. J. Duveen, H. L'Estrange Even, M. Giwell, E. S. Gibbons, F. R. Ginn, S. E. Gwyer, W. Hadlow, Harry Hilekes, Whitfield King, W. Morley, E. J. Nankivell, W. H. Peckitt, P. L. Pemberton, C. J. Phillips, F. Ransom, Gordon Smith, B. T. K. Smith, T. H. Thompson, W. T. Willett, Hastings E. Wright, J. R. F. Turner, and many others, too numerous to mention.

## SOME NOTABLE EXHIBITS.

Possibly there are some people who think that the Gold Medal will be awarded to Messrs. Bartlett & King, of Halifax, and Prince Edward Island respectively, for their frame containing entire unused sheets of the "cents" issue of Nova Scotia. However, we do not think that way ourselves.

The Duke of York is himself the exhibitor of a number of interesting essays, colour trials, etc., in addition to a small display of desirable colonial stamps.

Amongst the many interesting objects which we noticed were some of those things which although not directly of interest from a philatelic point of view are still of the utmost importance in connection with philately.

There was an exhibit showing the various small pieces of wire used in the manufacture of watermarks. For instance the original medium garter, crown CC., four flowers, anchor, maltese cross, etc., were shown.

The original plate of the 1/- Newfoundland made one wish to have half an hour with it in a printing office.

Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, among a very large number of different essays and proofs of stamps of their own manufacture, showed original sketches of the Queen's Head as it appeared on the Ceylon stamps. Of course the design was very much larger than the stamp and showed off to much greater advantage the extreme beauty of the sketch. An official document is also shown giving the early designs of the Tasmanian stamps. Some of them were really printer's proofs from the finished plates, others watercolour drawings, which looked very quaint.

One thing we are somewhat sorry to see exhibited, and that is the various dies and plates appertaining to the Hospital Fund Stamps, as, apart from being issued in stamp shape, these labels have absolutely no connection with Philately whatever, but on the other hand the very thorough manner in which these plates were destroyed was interesting to see, and from that point of view it was perhaps as well that the plates were exhibited, as it might create a healthy precedent as to what to do with obsolete postage-stamp plates.

It is, of course, obviously impossible to start at one end of the room and describe every exhibit; suffice it to say that a most superb lot of really first-class collections have been gathered together. An accumulation of stamps which would

value at dealers' prices to a fabulous amount, and every lover of Philately, be he possessed of a long or short purse, should visit the Exhibition—as not only such a visit is highly instructive from a mere philatelic-scientific point of view, but the many different ways of arranging stamps, the different manners of collecting are most interesting to study with a view of improving and enlarging one's ideas on the subject.

The keynote of the Exhibition is the great preponderance of unused stamps, and among these some of the finest collections are shown.

The collection of Mr. Harold J. White, consisting of blocks and sheets of Great Britain, is in our opinion one of the finest lots in the whole Exhibition. It contains such things as a block of ten 2d., small Crown, perf. 14, unused, in mint condition; and also the 2d., no lines, a block of six; a large profusion of octagonals in big blocks; a full and complete sheet of 2/- brown, unused; superb copies of the small and medium garters, 4d., and so forth.

Mr. Avery, the big Birmingham collector, shows among other things his very fine lot of Mauritius stamps which, of course, included the unused pair of Post Office sold to him some years ago, we believe, for the sum of £780.

Another exhibit which evinced the patient research of the owner was the Shanghai and Japan collection of Mr. T. Wickham Jones. Among the various stamps we noticed entire sheets of the early issues; Japan on the wove paper; many of the rare plate numbers; unused; and a very full and complete set of the large-size Shanghais, all of them in most superb condition; although these stamps may not be very much sought after by the general public they are excessively rare and most difficult to complete.

Mr. Dorning Beckton's exhibit of Greece was also very fine and as a visitor remarked in our hearing, "there seems to be more blocks of Greece about than single specimens."

The Norway collection of Mr. Henry Buckley was also a very fine exhibit and here we especially noticed the very careful shading of the various issues which made the collection all the more valuable from a philatelic point of view. Some stamps are common enough but it is not at all easy to get together a complete range of shades, and here we think Mr. Buckley has succeeded very well indeed.

Mr. Frederick R. Ginn, the Strand dealer, showed his really superb lot of United States, and here again especial care has been employed in the shading of the various issues. It is very complete and a most interesting exhibit.

One gentleman from America exhibited a few sheets of rarities which really represent all those irritating gaps in general collections which we somehow never seem able to fill, first issue British Guiana and for the matter of that the second also, fine woodblocks and many other desirable things were included in this little lot.

The "Government and Official Exhibits" are many and interesting—so interesting that we think it will not be wasted space if we tabulate them here:

#### GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIAL EXHIBITS.

295.—*Her Majesty's Commissioners of Inland Revenue*. Twenty-six frames containing a series of impressions from all the plates from which the postage stamps of Great Britain have been printed, as registered and preserved at Somerset House; inclusive of the fiscal stamps available for postage. This exhibit forms a practically complete historic review of the postage stamps of this country.

296.—*Her Majesty's Postmaster-General*. Fifteen frames of stamps, chiefly of the British Colonies, arranged in various designs and comprising:

Newfoundland, Bahamas, Bermuda, Great Britain, Canada, Orange Free States, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Cape of Good Hope, Straits Settlements, Cyprus, Ceylon, West Indies, East Indies, India, Lagos, Malta, Western Australia, British Guiana, India and States, Tasmania and New Zealand. A proof sheet of the 1d. (black) stamp without letters, etc., etc.

297.—*The Secretary of State for India*. A frame containing sets of Postage, Service Postage, Revenue, Telegraphs, Special Adhesive, Share Transfer, Foreign Bill, and Court Fee Stamps of India.

298.—*The Agent-General for the Cape of Hope*. An exhibit of recent issues of Postage Stamps, Card of Wrappers of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

299.—*The Agent-General for New Zealand*. Specimens of some of the issues of this Colony.

300.—*The Crown Agents for the Colonies*. Eight frames of stamps printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., comprising:—

1. Issues of British Guiana, British Honduras, and Barbados.
2. Ceylon, Hong Kong, and St. Helena.
3. Straits Settlements, and States.
4. British Central Africa, and British East Africa Protectorates.
5. Gibraltar, Malta, Mauritius, and Seychelles.
6. Grenada, Turks Islands, and St. Lucia.
7. Lagos, Gold Coast, Gambia, and Sierra Leone—stamps and cards.
8. Natal Postage, Revenue, and Telegraph stamps, cards, and wrappers.

In frames 1 to 6 the stamps are shown in blocks of four each.

#### THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S OWN EXHIBITS

is one full of interest to all philatelists. It comprises the following stamps, &c.:

Original dies of the 1d., 2d., 3d. and 9d., and of the 1 cent, 3 cents, 4 cents and 6 cents of the stamps of Prince Edward Island, together with the electrotype plates of the 2d., 4d., 3 cents and 12 cents.

The original engraved plate of the head employed for the pence issue, and an engraving on wood, with a reproduction on copper of the head used for the cents issue.

The original die of an unused design.

Proofs in black from all the above-mentioned dies and plates.

Two dies of the first essay (lion and palm tree) for the ½ anna stamp of India.

A series of cancellation stamps (of which impressions of design are shown) submitted for approval to the Treasury by Mr. Whiting, in 1839, with some explanatory notes by Mr. Whiting, and an autographed memorandum of Sir Rowland Hill returning the stamp.

Two framed sheets of the four annas stamp of India, 1854, reprinted on the original watermarked paper.

Album containing reprinted sheets of the 1d. and 4d. (both Plates) in colour, and of Plate 2 of the 4d., in black, of the first issue of Tasmania.

#### THEN AND NOW: A REMINISCENCE.

"The last important philatelic exhibition held in England was opened (as the *Philatelic Chronicle* remarks in its July number) by the Duke of Edinburgh, now reigning Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, on May 19th, 1890. The names of the committee responsible for the preparations for this exhibition were F. A. Philbrick, O.C., F. K. Tapling, M.P., Douglas Garth, Charles Colman, J. A. Filleard, M. P. Castle, and E. D. Bacon, and, save as regards profit, they made the undertaking an unqualified success. The place chosen for the show was in Baker Street, at the Portman Rooms—so long connected with Fussard's celebrated wax-work show—and in the place where once the presentments of royalties, highwaymen and other celebrities were to be seen Douglas Mackenzie stretched his legs across the chairs and M. Ferrari pored closely over some album or stock-book, while Mr. T. Bull merrily wielded the auctioneer's mallet where erst the figures of murderers galore filled the Chamber of Horrors. As above hinted the exhibition was a success from all but a pecuniary point of view, and that, probably, accounts for the seven years' interval. At last, in this the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year, as the previous one was in the jubilee year of the penny post, we have another try which seems likely to eclipse its predecessor in every respect."

#### A REMARKABLY GOOD CATALOGUE.

In every way the London Exhibition of 1897 is a great advance upon the show held in 1850, and in no particular is this more noticeable than in the compilation and arrange-



ment of the Catalogue of the Exhibition now open to the public. It is in every respect a perfect Catalogue. In the first place it is guide, philosopher and friend to the visitor to the Exhibition, be he philatelist or not; in the second place, its scheme of indexing makes for absolute clearness and ease of reference; and lastly, it is most admirably printed by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., who, by the way, with Messrs. De La Rue, Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson, and Messrs. Waterlow are exhibitors of fine examples of postage stamp printing.

#### THE OBJECTS OF THE EXHIBITION

are well and clearly set forth in the very readable "Preface" to the Catalogue:—

The objects of a Philatelic Exhibition, other than the celebration of the auspicious event of the year 1897, are obviously two-fold.

*Firstly, to afford access to and inspection of some of the choicest collections of the world to thousands of those who would not otherwise have such an opportunity.* The Philatelist who, either by reason of his living at a distance from centres of philatelic activity, or from want of knowledge or experience, or other material reasons, has had no personal acquaintance with the finest and the rarest stamps existing, has, in such an Exhibition, unique facilities for the examination of all the choicest varieties.

*Secondly; to offer to those who are outside the pale of Philately a means of appreciating the interest attaching to the pursuit, an idea of the labour involved in forming a collection, and an indication of the artistic merit and great variety to be noted in the designs of the postage stamps of the world.* It is confidently hoped that, amongst the thousands of visitors, there may be many who, although not already collectors, will be imbued with a sense of the great attractions of Philately, and will themselves become collectors. To such it can truthfully be said that Philately will, on further acquaintance, be found to have an enduring and peculiar fascination which has hitherto proved to be unaffected alike by time or any of the vicissitudes of life. At once an intellectual and absorbing recreation, it may be said to offer, in almost every condition of life, one of the most pleasurable forms of indoor occupation.

The acquisition of a really choice collection can only be attained by an expenditure of time, labour and money, but it will be found that, with an intelligent grasp of the subject, the ultimate reward will hardly be surpassed by any form of collecting that has appealed to the tastes or fancies of mankind.

The prizes—to be awarded by judges selected from the leading Philatelists of this country and the continent—consists of numerous Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals, for many of which the Committee are indebted to the liberality of private donors.

The exhibits will be found to include the most varied and valuable assemblage of stamps, scientifically arranged, that has ever been brought together, including almost every known existing variety. The principal features of each exhibit are clearly indicated in the catalogue, and every visitor will be able to identify the object desired to be inspected.

#### THE COMMITTEE RETURNS THANKS.

The Committee of the Exhibition gracefully acknowledge help from various high quarters—thus:

"The Committee have gratefully to acknowledge the great assistance that has been afforded to them in various ways. Indebted as they are to their illustrious patrons, the success of the Exhibition will have been materially aided by H.R.H. the Duke of York, who has not only graciously presented gold and silver medals, but has taken great interest in the undertaking.

"The Committee desire also to express their thanks for the facilities afforded them by the Postmaster-General (the Duke of Norfolk) in selecting some of the most interesting materials from the archives of the General Post Office, including the collection of curious addresses, which will be under the charge of a specially-appointed official, who will show and explain the same to visitors. The Committee also recognise with equal appreciation the courtesy of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, who have placed many

important exhibits on view, and in the connection acknowledge with much pleasure the assistance which has been rendered by Mr. J. S. Purcell, C.B., the Controller of Stamps, and the Secretary to the Board of Inland Revenue.

"At the present moment, when the questions of the unity of the Empire and the knitting together of the bonds of mutual affection and regard are moving the hearts of the Queen's subjects all the world over, it is with additional pleasure that the Committee acknowledge the kindness of the following in sending contributions for exhibition:—The Secretary of State for India, the High Commissioner for Canada, the Agents-General for New Zealand and the Cape of Good Hope, and the Crown Agents for the Colonies."

#### FINALLY.

Finally, the arrangements all through were unexceptionable, and great praise and credit is due to Mr. John Tilleard, who superintended everything. There is only one idea we should like to suggest, and that is, to let sandwich-men promenade Piccadilly announcing the fact that there is such a thing as a Philatelic Exhibition going on. It is not so much the philatelists who would be attracted thereby, as they are well aware of the fact from the philatelic papers, but it is the lounging passer-by who really has nothing whatever to do that afternoon "you know" and who might stroll in, and—who knows?—become converted to our hobby and develop into an enthusiastic philatelist.

#### SOME SPECIAL NOTICES.

The Exhibition will be open to the public every week day up to and including Thursday, 5th August, from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Exhibits by any of the Judges are excluded from Competition.

The Committee have arranged that during the whole time the Exhibition is open, one at least of their number shall be in attendance in the Galleries to answer inquiries and afford assistance to Visitors. Application can be made at the Secretary's Office, in the West Gallery.

As the labours of the Judges cannot be concluded before the publication of the Catalogue, a complete list of the awards will be separately printed and distributed as soon as possible.

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

Tuesday, 27th July.—Annual Dinner of the Philatelic Society, London, at the "Monic," Shaftesbury Avenue, W.

Thursday, 27th July.—Evening Concert and Conversation at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross Road, at 8.30 p.m.

Thursday, 5th August.—Exhibition closes at 8 p.m.

### Canadian Jubilee Stamps not objected to.

AN intelligent writer in the *Evergreen State Philatelist* has this to say on the subject of New Jubilee Stamps of Canada: "Notwithstanding Canada has issued at least four stamps in her commemorative issue of a higher value than she has any use for except to cajole the festive nickels (?) out of collectors' pocket books we are highly pleased to see this set put out, believing it will start the fever going afresh, and that too during the dullest part of the season. We would be better pleased, however, if all the other British dependencies would not feel called upon to do likewise. Canada has some call for a new issue—speculative or not—for all of us have grown tired of the old one used so many years."

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# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Philatelic Society of India.

A GREAT deal of the *Philatelic World's* space is naturally devoted to the subject of the newly formed Philatelic Society of India. The chronicle of the society's doings is brought up to date, and a lengthy editorial is devoted to the present position and future prospects of this national Indian organisation. "The Society," writes the Editor, "is now fully fledged and should achieve the most excellent work on behalf of not only Indian collectors, but of Philately wherever it is followed. The publication of the discoveries of the Dutta and Charkhari issues may already be placed to the society's credit. The authoritative articles from the gifted pen of the President on the surcharged Indian stamps are already being reproduced throughout the world's philatelic press, to the profit of thousands of readers. The Postal department of Ceylon is being prodded by the society on the nauseous subject of the surcharged issues of that philatelically disreputable island, and altogether there is every probability that the new national society has not appeared a day too soon and was distinctly needed."

Yet the Editor of the *Philatelic World* points to further good work that might be profitably undertaken by the new society. That bugbear of the Indian philatelist, the tax on imported stamps might well be the next abuse attacked by the P.S.I. An extensively signed memorial to the Government would perhaps bring about the desired result.

One fault, and one only, can the *Philatelic World* find in the constitution of the new society. Our contemporary points out that rule No. 19, giving the conditions upon which stamp exchange clubs in India may be affiliated to the society, is altogether too stringent. The rule insists upon the secretary and at least two-thirds of the members of any exchange club desiring affiliation being members of the parent society. The most probable effect of this, we are told, will be that no single exchange club in India will ever be in a position to apply for recognition.

### "STICK TO YOUR RULES."

Nevertheless the *Philatelic World's* advice to the Philatelic Society of India is to stick to its rules. "When once any society, whether philanthropic, political or philatelic, athletic, scientific, or religious, ceases to respect its own rules, the seeds of dissolution are at once sown. We have been recently studying the rules of the late Philatelic Society of Bengal, framed at the commencement of the career of the body and never yet altered or repealed—rules which have been so calmly and complacently ignored by the society's officials that there is nothing to be wondered at in the utter breakdown of the once promising local association." By the way

### THE COLLAPSE OF THE BENGAL SOCIETY

is a matter to which the *Philatelic World* also devotes some space, and very naturally seeing that it has always been recognised as the official organ of the now defunct society. That the society is defunct the *Philatelic World* declares most positively, but there is evidently room for some doubt as to the fact. Our contemporary goes on to say:

The end has, however, come. From this number we shall no longer declare ourselves on our cover the "Official Organ of the Philatelic Society of Bengal," and we take this step in the interests, if of nothing else, of historical accuracy. The Philatelic Society of Bengal no longer exists, although no official resolution recording its disruption has been recorded and no final disposal of its affairs, financial and otherwise, effected. It is no province of ours to give to the world the details of the whys and wherefores of the existing state of things. The Philatelic Society of Bengal is dead, therefore we can no longer claim to be its organ.

Its rules are before us. Let us see how some of them have been enforced.

Of its three objects one was "to assist members in exchange."

For a year at least, probably for two years, no single exchange sheet has been circulated by the Society under its own Exchange Rules.

Rules 13 and 14 provide for the election of officers in January of

each year. Rules 13 and 14 have been completely ignored by the Society throughout its career.

Rule 15 states "The Society shall meet once a month on the first Thursday of every month." We have only to refer our readers to the published reports of meetings recorded in our pages to enable them to see how humourously the application of this essential rule of the Society has been enforced. Of the revised Exchange Rules No. 3 states—"all sheets and books of stamps circulated to members must not be retained longer than 6 days after receipt. No. 4—that "a receipt will be in full for the amount of all stamps taken must accompany the sheet or books of stamps when returned" and No. 5—that "any member infringing rule 4 will be liable after receipt of one notice from the Secretary to be posted as a defaulter, in the Society's room and daily papers."

At the last meeting of the Society held on 3rd October, 1896, it was officially announced for the first time that the refusal of one or two members to pay for stamps they were alleged to have taken from dealer's sheets had caused the absorption of practically the whole of the considerable available funds of the Society, only an insignificant balance remaining in hand for future use.

All this we think goes to prove our contention that the Philatelic Society of Bengal is dead. It has allowed its own constitution to be so radically undermined that it no longer lives. We might say much else of interest concerning its career; but have, we think, said quite enough to prove our point that the Society, as a Society, has now no legal existence whatever under its own rules. If in the near or distant future any body of collectors should take over the old Society's minute-books, appropriate the remnant of its funds, and call itself the "Philatelic Society of Bengal" that is no concern of ours.

The Society (which has not even claimed its members' subscriptions for many months), is dead, there is no doubt about it, and if it tells us otherwise we won't believe it.

## Forgeries of Surcharged Cingalese Stamps.

The *Philatelic World*, under the headline "Caution to Collectors of Surcharged Ceylons," gives the following warning:—

The attention of readers of the *Philatelic World* is hereby drawn to certain lots of surcharged Ceylon stamps now offered in considerable quantities on the Calcutta market. Several of these lots have reached us and the real character of their surcharges is undoubted. Among them are several distinct varieties of a 2-cents on 8-cents yellow, and many other possible and (officially) impossible combinations of surcharges all emanating from the same source. In some cases the stamps bear the original gum as well as the postmark, the latter being so lightly impressed as to touchingly betray the kindly consideration that the Ceylon postal authorities appear to possess for the feelings of philatelists who regard heavy cancellations with disfavour.

At present further comment is withheld, but we are glad to see that steps are being taken in influential quarters both in India and at Home with reference to these labels which should produce results useful to collectors the world over.

## A Philatelic Coat of Arms.

Reverting to the subject of the Philatelic Society of India, we find in the same issue of the *Philatelic World*, a communication from a humorous correspondent giving the following suggestion from the armorial bearings of the new society.

*Armse*. Quarterly; 1st. A catalogue rouge or guled, quite on the square, on full sale over a counter urgent, all passable; 2nd. A surcharge, sable, reversé, issuant erased, of "small service" barred or zanibarred, spotted and exposed quite improper; 3rd. An album monstrant, folioated garnished, ruled and warranted pucca under a protest; 4th. A watermark gartered quadrillé or something of that sort, out of repair and most depressing, charged at with epithets all very orful. *Crest*. A demi-seebeckulative gunbug prancété, embossed or otherwise, habited gorgeous, grilled and incorrect, displayed all there on a field sanguine vert or azure under a cloud distinctive, semi-suppressed, and held in check, base, most irregular. *Supporters*. — Dexter. A magpie splendidus regardant and a trifle fretty on the pounce proper, simply surfeited and gorged something dreadful. Sinister. A bloater fishant parti-coloured and shady, flaunted in rows on a pale of rectitude bordering on the secretly dotty, denticulated at random 14½. *First motto* (pregnant) "Dum collecto, spendo" (or words to that effect). *Second motto*. "Quis sed stultus seperabit a tête-bêche pair."

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, June 15th and 16th, 1897

(Continued from page 220).

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
b	Straits Settlements, <i>Yohor</i> , 2c. on 24c. green, "CENST" postmarked but full gum	£2 a.d. 2 2 0
a b	Switzerland, <i>Basle</i> , 24r. *	6 0 0
b	ditto, used	3 10 0
a	Geneva, the double stamp	25 10 0
c	ditto, ditto, severed, each half b	9 0 0
b	ditto, 5c. blue green, large eagle *	1 5 0
a b	<i>Neuchatel</i> , 5c. *	2 12 0
a	<i>Vaud</i> , 5c. *	1 7 0
a b	<i>Winterthur</i> , 24r. *	3 0 0
a	<i>Zurich</i> , 4r. vert. lines	20 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, hor. lines	15 0 0
a	ditto, 6r. vert. lines	1 12 0
a	Tasmania, 1d. blue, on entire	2 8 0
b	ditto, worn plate	1 0 0
b c	Tobago, 6d. bistre, C.A.	7 0 0
a	Trinidad, 4d. grey-violet, pin perf. *	1 12 0
a	Turks Islands, 24d. on 6d. black (type 6) *	1 10 0
a	Virgin Islands, 4d. brown on rose	0 18 0
a	6d. violet, on small piece	1 10 0
b	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red	1 8 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, June 16th and 17th, 1897.

b	Barbados, 1/- black, imperf., block of 4 *	6 0 0
a	Bolivia, 500c. black, nine stars	2 12 6
b	British Columbia, 1 dollar green, perf. 12½ *	3 0 0
a b	Dutch Indies, <i>unpaid</i> , 5c. yellow on white	2 8 0
a	Great Britain, £5 orange	1 18 0
b	£5 orange on bluish	1 10 0
a	<i>I.R. Official</i> , 5/- rose, accounts cancel	2 0 0
a	ditto, 10/- blue, ditto	2 12 6
a	ditto, £1 green, ditto	3 7 6
b	Labuan, 12c. carmine, C.A. sideways, penmark	3 8 0
a	Levant, (1865), 2k., brown and blue, on piece	6 15 0
a	ditto, 20k. blue and red, on piece	7 0 0
a	Mauritius, <i>Post Paid</i> , 2d. blue, early	8 0 0
b	Mexico, (1861), 1 real black on rose *	2 4 0
b	ditto, ditto, used	2 4 0
b	ditto, 1 real black on yellow	1 10 0
b	1868, 12c. black on brown	1 2 0
b	<i>Campeche</i> , 50c. blue, on piece	7 10 0
a b	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 13 *	1 7 0
a	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 2d. plate 3, early	2 12 6
a	Peru, <i>P.S.N. Co.</i> , 1 real blue	4 4 0
b	ditto, ditto	2 15 0
a b	½ peso, orange-yellow *	2 2 0
a	½ peso, rose	12 5 0
b	St. Lucia, (4d.) blue, star *	1 15 0
a b	1/- black and orange	2 12 6
b	St. Vincent, 1d. drab, star *	2 0 0
a	Straits Settlements, <i>Yohor</i> , 2c. on 24c. green, CENST	3 5 0
a b	Switzerland, <i>Geneva</i> , 5c. blue-green, large eagle, on entire	1 4 0
a	ditto, ditto	1 12 0
a	<i>Vaud</i> , 5c.	1 10 0
b	<i>Zurich</i> , 6r. hor. lines	0 19 0
a	Tobago, 6d. bistre, C.C.	2 10 0
b	United States (1870) 24c. violet, grill	8 10 0
b	<i>Periodicals</i> , 9c. black *	1 6 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, June 18th, 1897.

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALISED
		£ s d.
b	Afghanistan (1293 tablet) shahi black	2 2 0
b c	ditto, sunar black, fair, but cut round	1 10 0
c	(1293) ½ rupee green, cut into *	6 6 0
a	British Central Africa, 3/- on 4/-	1 0 0
b c	Confederate States, <i>Mobile</i> , 2c. black	5 10 0
a b	Great Britain, £5 orange	2 2 0
b	Hamburg, 4 sch. green, imperf.	1 18 0
b	9 sch. yellow, ditto, large margins	4 0 0
a	9 sch. yellow, perf.	3 3 0
b	ditto	2 10 0
b	Newfoundland, 1/- carmine-red, fine but slight thinning	13 10 0
a b	Portuguese India (1883) 1½r. black (S.G. 175)	1 3 0
b	ditto, 6r. green (S.G. 176)	1 0 0
a	St. Lucia (4d.) yellow, perf. 12½ *	0 19 0
a	(6d.) violet, ditto *	1 10 0
a	(1/-) orange, ditto *	2 12 6
b	Western Australia (1860), 4d. deep blue, roulette, pair *	10 10 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., June 18th, 1897.

b	Nevis, 1 - green, perf. 13	0 17 0
a	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 1d., plate 2	1 1 0
c	New Zealand, 6d. pelure, imperf., cut at bottom *	2 2 0
a b	Portuguese Indies (1883), 1½r. black (S.G. 175)	1 0 0
b	Queensland (1860), 1 - dull violet, clean cut perf. *	2 2 0
b	Victoria, <i>Emblems</i> , 2d. lilac, wmk. Threepence *	0 15 0
b	2/- green, perf. *	0 15 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, July 1st & 2nd, 1897.

b	Barbados, 1d. on half 5/-, straight top to 1, reading downwards	4 10 0
b	5/- rose	1 6 0
b	Bavaria, 12k. lilac, perf. *	1 0 0
b	ditto, used	0 17 0
a b	Bolivia, 500c. black, nine stars *	1 12 0
b	Brazil, <i>sloping figures</i> , 300r. black	2 0 0
a	British Columbia, 10c. blue and rose, perf. 12½ *	1 14 0
a	1 dollar green, ditto *	2 10 0
b	ditto, used	£1 10s. od. and 1 18 0
a	Canada, 10d. blue, on thin	0 16 0
c	Cape of Good Hope, <i>Woodblock</i> , 4d. light blue	2 0 0
a	Ceylon, 5d. brown, imperf. *	1 6 0
a	Gambia, 1/- green	1 11 0
b	Great Britain, £5 orange, telegraph cancel	1 10 0
c	Hanover, 10gr. green	1 10 0
c	Mauritius, <i>Post Paid</i> , 1d. red, early, slightly cut left, no gum *	20 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto, used	7 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, medium early	5 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto, late	2 10 0
b	ditto, 2d. blue, worn	1 0 0
a	1/- on 5/- *	1 0 0
b	Mecklenburg Strelitz, ½gr. green	1 7 0
a	Nevis, 4d. orange, engraved *	1 16 0
b	6d. grey-lilac *	1 5 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13	1 0 0
b	1/- yellow-green, perf. 15	1 2 0
A	1/- dark green, litho. *	1 6 0
a	ditto *	1 0 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. orange *	1 8 0
a	New South Wales, <i>Sydney</i> , 1d. plate 1	18/- and 1 2 0
a b	ditto, 1d., plate 2	18/- and 1 0 0
b	ditto, 2d., plate 1	25/-, 26/- and 1 10 0
a	ditto, 2d., plate 2, on small piece	1 10 0
b	ditto, ditto	0 16 0
b	ditto, 3d. green	22/- and 1 5 0
a	Nova Scotia, half 1/6d. deep green, on entire	1 0 0
b	Oldenburg, <i>second issue</i> , ½gr. green	2 10 0
a	Queensland, 2d. blue, imperf., strip of 3, on piece	22 10 0
2a b	ditto, ditto, strip of 3	17 0 0
2a b	1d. orange, wmk. script, square perf., strip of 3 *	11 0 0
b	Spain (1868), 19 cuartos brown	0 17 0
b	Tasmania, 1d. blue, fine but top line touched, two, each	1 10 0
b	ditto	1 8 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED		
		£	s.	d.
b	Tobago, 1d. manuscript on half 6d. orange on piece ..	2	15	0
b	Tuscany, 9cr. dull lilac on white * ..	7	0	0
a	United States (1856), 9oc. blue * ..	2	15	0
b	(1868), 9oc. blue, grill ..	0	18	0
b	(1869), 9oc. ..	1	8	0
b	Justice, 30c. ..	1	16	0
a b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line * £2 14s. od. & 4d. on 1/- crimson * ..	2	17	6
a	Western Australia, 2d. brown on red ..	0	15	0
b	ditto ..	1	17	0
a	ditto, printed at back ..	1	4	0
a	6d. black-bronze ..	2	2	0
b	(1860), 4d. blue, imperf. ..	1	18	0
b	ditto, 6d. green, roulette ..	3	5	0
a	Zululand, 5/- rose * ..	1	12	0

Mr. W. HADLOW, July 7th, 1897.

a b	Barbados, ½d. green on blue, imperf., pair ..	2	4	0
b	1d. blue, pin perf. * ..	13	0	0
a	4d. bright red-brown, no wmk., pair * ..	2	12	0
a	4d. dark red-brown, ditto, pair * ..	2	0	0
b	4d. vermilion, compound perf. * ..	1	10	0
a b	4d. rose-red * ..	1	8	0
a	6d. rose-red, no wmk. * ..	two, each	1	18
a	6d. vermilion, ditto, pair * ..	2	0	0
A	6d. orange-yellow, perf. 12½ * ..	4	0	0
a	1/- black, large star * ..	1	4	0
a	1/- purple, perf. 12½ * ..	1	4	0
a	5/- rose ..	2	2	0
b	British Columbia, Vancouver, 10c. blue, imperf. ..	2	0	0
b	5c. black and red, perf. 12½ * ..	1	7	0
a b	10c. blue and rose, ditto * ..	2	8	0
b	1 dollar green, ditto * ..	3	0	0
a b	ditto, perf. 14 * ..	8	8	0
a	British Honduras, 3d. red-brown, perf. 14 * ..	1	0	0
a	6d. deep rose, CC., perf. 12½ * ..	1	2	0
b	6d. rose, CC., perf. 14 * ..	1	0	0
b	6d. yellow * ..	1	14	0
a	ditto, used ..	3	0	0
a b	1/- dark green, CC., perf. 14 * ..	1	2	0
b	1/- grey * ..	3	0	0
b	2c. on 6d. rose, perf. 12½ * ..	1	9	0
b	3c. on 3d. red-brown, perf. 12½ * ..	8	10	0
a	50c. small on 1/- grey * ..	3	3	0
a b	ditto, used ..	4	0	0
a	Canada, 6d. lilac, perf. ..	4	10	0
a	7½d. green * ..	9	5	0
a	ditto, used ..	1	18	0
a b	10d. blue, on thin, strip of 3 * ..	33	10	0
b	10d. blue on thick ..	1	0	0
b	1c. red-brown, on laid ..	1	12	0
a	Great Britain, 6d. dark violet, octagon * ..	4	15	0
a b	Grenada, ½d. large oblique surcharge on 1d., pair * ..	3	0	0
a	ditto, pair, used ..	1	14	0
a b	½d. on 2/-, double surcharge * ..	1	12	0
a	2½d. purple, broad pointed star * ..	3	15	0
a	4d. on 2/-, pair, one with upright d. * ..	4	0	0
a	6d. orange-red, small star, pair * ..	4	8	0
a	6d. bright orange, ditto, pair * ..	4	12	6
a	1/- deep mauve, pair * ..	3	3	0
b	1/- deep mauve, SHILLING ..	10	10	0
b	Ionian Islands, blue ..	1	6	0
a b	carmine, on piece ..	1	0	0
a	Nevis, 1/- pale green, litho * ..	1	1	0
b	New Brunswick, 3d. red * ..	1	18	0
b	Connell, proof on thin card ..	1	8	0
a	half of 10c., on entire ..	2	18	0
a b	Newfoundland, 2d. orange * ..	1	6	0
a	ditto, used ..	2	4	0
b	2d. lake ..	1	10	0
a	4d. carmine-red ..	7	0	0
a	half of 8d. ditto, longitudinal, on entire ..	3	17	6
a	ditto, oblique, on entire ..	3	12	0
a b	4d. orange * ..	16	0	0
a	ditto, used ..	2	0	0
b	6d. carmine-red, large margins * ..	30	0	0
a b	6d. orange * ..	12	0	0
a	ditto, used ..	1	12	0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.		
		£	s.	d.
a b	Newfoundland, 6½d. carmine-red * ..	9	15	0
a b	ditto, used ..	14	14	0
b	8d., ditto * ..	1	0	0
a b	5c. brown * ..	1	1	0
b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown * ..	1	12	0
a	ditto, used ..	1	1	0
a	half of 6d. deep green, on entire ..	1	4	0
b	6d. dark green ..	2	2	0
b	6d. yellow-green ..	1	10	0
a	1/- plum ..	20	0	0
a	Parma (1854), 15c. pale red * ..	1	2	0
a	25c. pale red-brown * ..	1	14	0
b	St. Lucia (1d.) lake, star ..	1	4	0
b	(4d.) blue, star * ..	1	18	0
a b	(1/-) dark orange, perf. 12½ * ..	1	18	0
b	1/- orange-brown ..	2	10	0
a b	St. Vincent, ½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair * ..	2	17	6
a b	4d. on 1/- vermilion * ..	12	0	0
a	ditto, used (28.11.81) ..	12	12	0
a	3d. red-brown, CA. * ..	4	0	0
a	6d. yellow-green, CA., perf. 12½ * ..	1	1	0
a	1/- claret, perf. about 11½ * ..	5	0	0
A	Turks Islands, 1/- slate-green * ..	1	5	0

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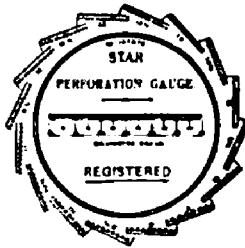
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20c. blue	3 6	17 " grey (price on application)	.. ..
40c. carmine	10 6	20 " vermilion	3 6
10c. grey-brown, perf. 14½	3 6	1872.	
20c. blue	5 0	1 rika daier perf. 14..	12 6
40c. carmine	10 0	3 öre pale brown, perf. 13..	0 3
1865.		4 " grey	0 9
10c. grey (thin paper)..	5 0	5 " green	1 9
20c. blue	5 0	6 " lilac	0 4
30c. brown	7 6	12 " blue	0 4
40c. carmine	10 0	20 " vermilion	1 0
1fr. lilac	25 0	24 " yellow	1 3
10c. grey (thick paper)..	3 0	30 " brown	3 0
10c. blue-grey	3 0	50 " rose	5 0
10c. dark grey	2 0	1886.	
20c. pale blue	5 0	1kr. bistre and blue	1 6
30c. brown	7 6	1kr. " and dark blue	2 6
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1856.		5 öre green, perf. 14	4 6
8sk. dull lake ..	36 0	6 " lilac	2 6
1863-66.		6 " grey	12 6
2sk. yellow	16 0	12 " blue	2 3
3sk. lilac	20 0	ROUMANIA.	
4sk. light-blue	10 0	1872.	
8sk. rose	30 0	50 bani, with beard	22 6
24sk. brown	1 3		

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BELGIUM.			SWEDEN.		
1863.			1866.		
10c. grey-brown, perf. 12½ x 13½	..	6 0	17 öre red-lilac..	..	8 6
20c. blue	..	3 6	17 .. grey (price on application)	..	—
40c. carmine	..	10 6	20 .. vermilion	..	3 6
10c. grey-brown, perf. 14½	..	3 6	1872.		
20c. blue	..	5 0	1 riksdaler perf. 14..	..	12 6
40c. carmine	..	10 0	3 öre pale brown, perf. 13..	..	0 3
1865.			4 .. grey	..	0 9
10c. grey (thin paper)..	..	5 0	5 .. green	..	1 9
20c. blue	..	5 0	6 .. lilac	..	0 4
30c. brown	..	7 6	12 .. blue	..	0 4
40c. carmine	..	10 0	20 .. vermilion	..	1 0
1fr. lilac	..	25 0	24 .. yellow	..	1 3
10c. grey (thick paper)..	..	3 0	30 .. brown	..	3 0
10c. blue-grey	..	3 0	50 .. rose	..	5 0
10c. dark grey	..	2 0	1886.		
20c. pale blue	..	5 0	1kr. bistre and blue	..	1 6
30c. brown	..	7 6	1kr. .. and dark blue	..	2 6
NORWAY.			OFFICIAL STAMPS.		
1856.			5 öre green, perf. 14	..	4 6
8sk. dull lake ..	..	36 0	6 .. lilac	..	2 6
1863-66.			6 .. grey	..	12 6
2sk. yellow	..	16 0	12 .. blue	..	2 3
3sk. lilac	..	20 0	ROUMANIA.		
4sk. light-blue	..	10 0	1872.		
8sk. rose	..	30 0	50 bani, with beard	..	22 6
24sk. brown	..	1 3			

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1/-	" 2, yellow-green (rare)	...	20	0
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*St. Vincent, ½d. orange (mint)	..	0	8
Hong Kong, 10c. mauve, CC.	..	0	5
" 10c. mauve, CA.	..	2	6
*Transvaal, ½d. vermilion, head of Queen (mint)	..	3	0
*Tobago, 1d. rose, CC. (mint)	..	2	9
" ½d. brown, CC. (mint)	..	2	3
*Virgin Islands, ½d. yellow-buff (mint)	..	7	6

Collector, 61, Colne Rd., Burnley [2]

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## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
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No. 75—Vol. III.
SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1897.
ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

- Bristol Philatelic Society.    Cambridge University Philatello Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatello Society.    The City of London Philatello Club.    Rochdale Philatello Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Sheffield Philatello Society.

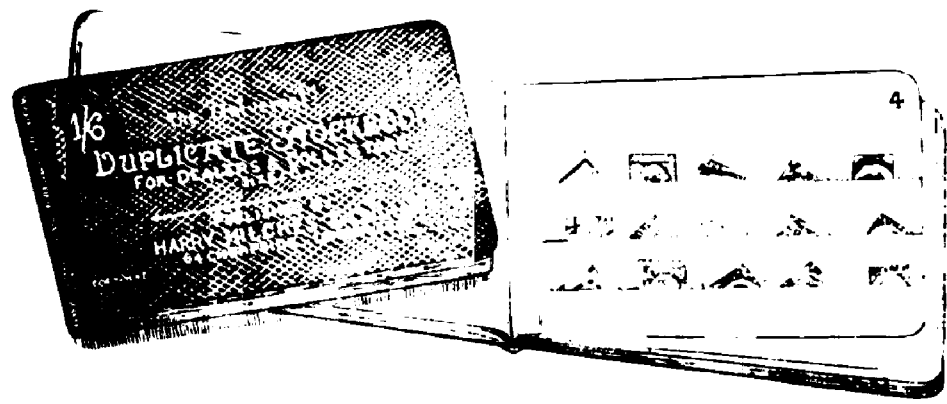
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*Doings of Societies.*

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

The Annual meeting was held on Friday, May 21st, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester. The President in the chair supported by 18 members. The following officers were declared elected:—President, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton; Vice-Presidents, Mr. F. Barratt, and Mr. E. Petri; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. B. Duerst; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Arthur A. Harrison; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. H. Coote; Hon. Librarian, Mr. J. C. North; Hon. Sec. of Exchange Packet, Mr. G. B. Duerst; Committee. Mr. W. Grunewald, Mr. W. W. Munn, Mr. J. H. Abbott; Committee of Exchange Packet, Mr. C. H. Coote, Mr. E. F. H. Gibson.

**THE COLLECTOR'S CLUB, NEW YORK.**

TWELFTH meeting of the Board of Governors, held at 351 Fourth Avenue, July 12th, 1897. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, Mr. John W. Scott was elected Chairman.

The Treasurer read a list of pending house bills, and the Governors ordered that delinquents be reminded of their indebtedness.

The Chairman of House Committee made his report, which was received.

The Secretary read the following communications: letters from Mr. B. S. Pray, executor of the estate of W. T. Curtis, deceased; the written consent of the majority of Governors to assign a share of the Club stock to Dr. Lionel M. Homburger, 168 W. 96th street; and the Secretary reported having notified Dr. Homburger accordingly on July 1; and a letter

from Mr. S. T. S. Williamson, offering his resignation, which was accepted with regret and the Secretary was instructed to notify Mr. Williamson that his share of stock will be placed for sale on the Club books.

An informal discussion regarding extension of billiard room was then held and the Treasurer was authorized to make inquiries of the landlord as to the feasibility of said extension and its probable increase in rental expense to the Club.

Upon ballot the following candidate was elected a subscribing member of the Club: Captain S. Baker, and he was thereupon duly declared elected.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary.*  
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**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

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No. 75.—Vol III SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 1897. ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## CANADA'S "SPIRIT OF PATRIOTISM."

SAYS the *Journal of Commerce*, in appreciation of the Canadian Jubilee stamps: "The last mail brings from Canada postal matter franked with the newly-issued stamps. This patriotism of our loyal brethren across the Atlantic deserves the warmest appreciation, linking as it does in closer ties the mother country and her distant colonies. The new stamps, while not being twice the size of those which they replace, are very little short of it, the enlargement being rendered necessary by the contrasting heads of Queen Victoria, the one to the left representing her coronation days, and under which is placed '1837,' the other representing Her Majesty to-day, with the date beneath, '1897.' It cannot be said that the likeness of the later-dated Queen is at all a true one—it is to be hoped not—in fact, it cannot but be considered poor; yet we look more to the spirit which has caused these to be struck off than the success of the stamps as a work of art. Three crowns are represented, one on each head and the third between the vignettes. Each of these differs from the other. The first is similar to that seen in the early years of the reign, the second is the crown worn now by the Queen, while the third one is the crown which Her Majesty is represented as wearing on the Indian coinage.

### THE STAMPS ARE SELLING WELL.

Whatever the motive behind the Canadian Jubilee issue, whether it be pure patriotism, or whether there be an alloy of cents and dollars, this much is certain: the stamps are going off like hot pies. The ½ cent (tarthing) stamp cannot now be purchased unless a whole set of the Jubilee issues is taken, costing \$16.21½ (£3 7s. 16½d.) Only 150,000 stamps of

this denomination are being issued, against 20,000,000 three-cent stamps and 8,000,000 one-cent stamps the two latter being the most common values. The Post Office are selling 200 sets a day. An attempt was made by speculators to capture the entire issue of the half-cent stamps, orders for large quantities being sent through village postmasters, who, in the ordinary course of business, have never sold more than three half-cent stamps in a year. These orders were disregarded. It was "to keep the stamps from the speculators" that the sale was stopped, except in sets, the Department has explained. Correspondents in the Canadian Press express great dissatisfaction, holding that the limitation of sales places the whole issue in disrepute, and on a par with the stamps issued 'for collectors only' by the needy governments of Portugal and the Congo Free State. If speculators were to be foiled, they suggest, an increased issue would have met the case.

### SIERRA LEONE, 6s. on 1c. GREEN.

We have received from Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., the following particulars with regard to the above stamp:—

This Stamp was issued in May, 1884, as a POSTAGE STAMP, but was withdrawn after being in circulation for a very short time. Owing to the great scarcity of postally used copies, it has been considered by some that the stamps were fiscals, but we have always been of the opinion that they were *bona fide* Postage Stamps. We therefore requested a correspondent in Sierra Leone to make investigation, the result of which was the following official letter from the Postmaster General of the Colony, which establishes beyond question the fact that they are *bona fide* Postage Stamps:

317  
 "No. 1897 GENERAL POST OFFICE, SIERRA LEONE,  
 April 10th, 1897.

Sir, In reply to your letter of the 7th instant, I have the honour to inform you that there was issued in May, 1884, a 1c stamp surcharged 5. The Honorable the Acting Treasurer has informed me in regard to it, that so far as he can gather, the stamps were for postage, and not postage and revenue.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,  
 To W. H. HALL, Esq., (Signed) J. CLEUGH, Postmaster-General,  
 Freetown.  
 Sierra Leone.

About 2,000 of these scarce provisionals were printed; the remainder withdrawn from circulation were cancelled with a red ink pen stroke. One sheet of 60 had the surcharges inverted.

### CONSUMPTIVES HOSPITAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

We read in the *Evening News*, of Sydney, June 21st, 1897, kindly sent to us by Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle, of Sydney,

that the Postmaster-General, at the request of his Excellency the Governor, has made arrangements for the issue of two special postage stamps, designed to enable charitable and loyal persons to contribute to the fund for establishing the Consumptives' Hospital and to obtain an attractive souvenir of her Majesty's Record Reign.

The stamps will have the postal value of 1d. and 2½d., but will be sold to the public at 1s. and 2s. 6d. respectively. The amount thus raised in excess of the postal value will be devoted to the hospital fund.

The design for the 1s. stamp has for a central vignette, an angelic figure, supporting in her arms an exhausted being helpless and in need of sympathy. The vignette is surrounded by an ornamental frame, from the left upper corner of which springs the initial letter "C" of the title "Consumptive Home," which occupies the top of the frame; and in the right upper corner is shown a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen. At the sides of the figures 1837, 1897 are enclosed in diamond outlines. In the two lower corners the value 1s. is shown, while the space between is occupied by the inscription "N.S.W. Postage One Penny." The frame is in dark green, and the central vignette is sepia.

In the 2s. 6d. stamp the motive of "restoration" or "re-building" is typified by two figures draped in white, the strong gently leading the weak, as she points to the motto "Redifico." This vignette is placed in a diamond frame, above which are the words "Consumptive Home" inscribed on a ribbon. A circle of gold forms the background, upon which the flannel flower and waratah are displayed. In the left lower corner is a medallion bearing the figures "2s. 6d.;" while the base of the design is inscribed "N.S.W. Postage 2½d." This stamp is printed in gold, blue, rose, and carmine. Both designs are four times the size of an ordinary postage stamp, and are the work of Mr. Charles Turner, of Sydney.

The issue throughout the colony will be strictly limited to 10,000 of the 2s. 6d., and 40,000 of the 1s. value. The 1s. stamp will be on sale at the General Post Office on Tuesday, and arrangements are now in progress for the production of the 2s. 6d. stamp at the Government Printing Office, and it is anticipated that it will be ready on Saturday next. Supplies of both values will be obtainable at post offices throughout the colony on and after the 28th instant. The period of sale and validity for postal use is to be limited to two months.

The object may be a very laudable one, but it is disgraceful to see how respectable governments bleed philatelists. The trick is worthy of the most miserable South American government, and certainly not a credit to the powers that be in N.S.W.

We sincerely hope that collectors will not fall into this clumsy trap.

#### NEW SPANISH PHILATELIC CLUB.

We have already had the pleasure on more than one occasion of referring to a general awakening of Philately in Spain. In fact, only quite recently we recorded the opening of a free room, placed at the disposal of philatelists by the editor of the *Madrid Filatelico*; and now, in the number just received of that excellent journal, we find an account of the *Circulo Filatelico Matritense*, the former opening of which took place amid great rejoicing on June 25th last. It would seem, therefore, that Madrid can now boast of two philatelic institutions worthy of a great capital. The rules of this new Club are to be published at an early date, when we may have occasion to refer to them should they contain any feature likely to interest British philatelists.

#### CHILI CONTEMPLATING A NEW ISSUE.

According to *La Tribuna* of May 9th, the Chilian Government are considering the advisability of inviting native and foreign artists residing within the Republic to submit designs for an entirely new set of stamps to replace the one now in use. It is added that in the event of the project being

carried out, the new stamps would be printed in Chili on the same kind of paper as used in France, which, by the way, is the property of the French Government.

#### THAT "POSTAGE STAMP VILLAGE" AGAIN.

SOME months ago, in the FORTNIGHTLY, appeared a par about the Congo village, or settlement, which was to be built out of the proceeds of the sale of old postage stamps accumulated by certain religious bodies. The following, from the Catholic *Times*, where it is headed "Notes from Belgium," provides us with the latest about the scheme:— "It is pretty generally known that some of the Religious Orders connected with the Foreign Missions are glad to receive old postage stamps, the older and rarer of course the better, which they dispose of for the benefit of their work among the heathen. Thus with little trouble and at no expense Catholics can give substantial aid to this excellent object, as is shown by the handsome contribution placed some days ago at the disposal of Mgr. Roelens, the Vicar-Apostolic of the Upper Congo, by the 'Œuvre du vieux timbre,' established at the Episcopal Seminary at Liege. His Lordship has received from the director of the work a sum of twelve thousand francs, the product of the sale of used postage stamps, for the creation of a new Christian village in his Vicariate, which will bear the name of St. Lambert, the patron of Liege. The Bishop sailed the other day for his distant mission, and immediately after his arrival the good work will be commenced by the White Fathers."

#### PHILATELY IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCES.

IN the style and contents of its "Annual Report" the North West Provinces (India) Philatelic Club need fear comparison with no philatelic organization in the world. The report forms a bulky pamphlet of 24 large pages. The printers are those of the *Philatelic Journal of India*. In addition to the formal report of the N.W.P. Philatelic Club's doings during 1896, the "Report" contains many valuable philatelic papers by Lieut. T. E. Madden and other writers. Lieut. Madden, by the way, is the Hon. Secretary of the Club and evidently its moving spirit. His report is a record of progressive and useful work. The membership of the Club, during the year under review, almost doubled. In its roll are to be found the names of all the leading philatelists of India. Nearly half of them are members of the Philatelic Society of India.

#### NOVA SCOTIANS AT AUCTION.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, ask, according to their catalogue, 28s. for the set of 5 Nova Scotian Reminders. But at auction last month, no more than 20s. per lot of 3 sets could be obtained. Which makes the average man think a good deal!

#### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

THE fiscal stamps of the Swiss Cantons are found with postal cancellations. It would be wrong to infer, however, that these stamps were ever used postally, being simply on commercial papers given to the postal authorities for collection.

THE X rays have been successfully used for the detection of fraudulent objects in the mail. A pound note has been successfully photographed from within a newspaper bundle folded in 16 sheets, also a 6d. silver piece found in a book of 600 pages.

MR. G. THEVENOT, of Nevers, has found among his stamps a heretofore unknown error of France, the 4 centimes of 1877, printed in grey, the exact shade of the present 3 centimes. Discoloration (says the *Philatelic Monthly and World*) is out of question since Mr. Thevenot has found three of these stamps on newspaper wrappers, which were addressed to him in 1892, and had them in his possession ever since. He gave two of these to collecting friends and kept one for himself. This error has never been catalogued as yet.

THE printer's devil of the *Evergreen State Philatelist* wants to know if the letters "R. I." on the Canadian jubilee issue stands for "Royal 'Ighness."

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



IT was perhaps natural that our report of the London Philatelic Exhibition, written against time and under difficult conditions, should contain errors of detail. An eminent philatelist writes:

I should like to point out a slight error in your account of Mr. H. J. White's collection now exhibited in London, as

you credit him with the possession of "a full and complete sheet of 2/- brown," which statement might lead people to suppose this stamp to have been printed in small sheets; as a matter of fact they were issued in sheets of 240, divided into twelve panes of twenty stamps, and it is one of these panes only which is shown.

\* \* \*

Our writing machinery slipped a further cog when we spoke of the fine Scandinavian Stamps shown by Mr. Henry Buckley. We should have written: Mr. *Hubert* Buckley. But in this case the mistake would be obvious to a large section of our readers.

We are indebted to an Indian reader for a copy of *The Statesman* of July 11th, containing the following interesting letter:

To the Editor of the "Statesman."

SIR,—I am Secretary of an Exchange Club, which has for the last two or three years circulated valuable packets of stamps among its members. A few months ago I had occasion to pass on an exchange packet, the contents of which were worth some thousands of rupees. My wife carefully and neatly made the stamps up as a parcel, sealed it with my private seal, and sent it to the post office to be registered. My servant came back after a long delay and said the Baboo at the post office had broken the seals, untied the parcel, examined the contents, and charged him (the servant) two pice for re-directing. My wife immediately went round to the post office and demanded the parcel, which, after considerable discussion, was produced. She found it had been opened and re-directed, and an assortment of post office wax substituted for my private seal. In other words, some thousands of rupees worth of the Club's stamps entrusted to me by members, were being stashed by that post office Baboo on a trip of several hundred miles up-country in a condition which rendered them ripe for robbery, without the least fear of detection.

Within the last few days, I, as Secretary of the same Club, have received information from an up-country member of the very highest social standing in India of the arrival of the Club's registered packet with the private seals of the sending member (also up-country) broken, and with what I will prove some hundreds of rupees worth of stamps stolen. The member who received the packet in its dismantled condition, tells me that similar serious losses have recently occurred in a Simla Club, traceable, apparently, to the post office. I have also just joined another Exchange Club, in which a whole series of thefts have recently occurred. As the membership is an exclusive and limited one, I had to wait some time for admission. At last a vacancy occurred, and I took the place of a member, who with another, had been expelled for not accounting for the Club's stamps when in his possession. From all I can gather, that member may after all be but the cruelly wronged victim of the philatelic predilections of the post office and, in the light of the losses in the other clubs, I am strongly inclined to think this is so. I am now in possession of a book of stamps of great value belonging to the Club I have just joined. It contains many stamps which are individually of considerable value. I have to post it to a well-known collector. How am I to do it? If I send it unregistered and it miscarries, I am liable to the club for the value of its contents. If I register it, sealed or unsealed, the post office may take a fancy to half its contents before taking a receipt for it from its addressee. I am seriously considering whether the risk to pocket and reputation involved by belonging to an Exchange Club is worth running any longer. The retention of that book in my possession is not only against the club's rules, but is making me ill. Yet how am I to get rid of it? The Government seem bent on stamping out Philately as a popular pursuit in this country. It places a duty on all imported stamps. According to the *Philatelic Journal of India* for June, it has received one hundred rupees during the last year in duties on imported stamps, and for this paltry sum, it has practically closed

India as a stamp market to the dealers of the world since Indian collectors are expected to pay duty, not on the stamps they retain, but on those the stamp dealers send them on approval. A few months ago an English dealer sent me out an assortment of stamps in a plain envelope, which evaded the customs. The assortment was an admirable one and most reasonably priced. I sent back those I did not want, in a registered envelope, and got a reply, which stated that a thread had been thrust by the Indian postal authorities through my return packet damaging several stamps and utterly spoiling one valued at twenty five shillings. The dealer regretted he could send me no more. —I enclose my card.

W. C.

Calcutta, July 10th.

\* \* \*

Mr. John Edwards, of Montreal, writes a long and most interesting letter protesting against the growing practice of issuing such unnecessary high-value postage stamps as the dollar denominations of the Canadian Jubilee set. Since the same design is used for all the stamps of the issue, Mr. Edwards cannot see any possible excuse for the creation of the 2, 3, 4 and 5 dollar stamps. Indeed he would be a past master in casuistry who could make out any good case for the emission of these stamps apart from the benefit accruing to the Exchequer of the Dominion.

## The Ameer as Stamp Dealer.

IF THIS IS TRUE IT IS AWFUL.—BUT IT MAY NOT BE TRUE.

THE following news cuttings are of startling, nay staggering, interest to all philatelists:

The Ameer of Afghanistan is about to introduce some new kinds of postage stamps into Afghanistan. The stamps of each Province will be coloured differently. Postmasters will be instructed to remove all defaced stamps from covers before delivery, and send them to Kabul, whence they will be sent to India for sale.—*Delhi Morning Post*.

The Ameer of Afghanistan is eminently a business man. He is about to issue a very pretty series of stamps, and he is fully aware that there will be a demand for these in the stamp market. His Highness will not leave the profits to the merchant, and has given orders to his postmasters that all used stamps are to be collected before the letters which they frank are delivered! By this manner the Ameer practically loans instead of sells his stamps, and will make a corner in the particular issue, commanding any price he pleases for used specimens. If he is wise he will destroy them all but two.—*Courier Journal*.

So, if the *Morning Post* of Delhi may be believed, the Ameer of Afghanistan intends that his country shall no longer be represented, philatelicly, by the ugliest of stamps which fetch the poorest of prices. Not only will the Ameer bring himself up to date as a Postmaster-General, but he will also run a philatelic department. A string will be attached to every stamp issued by the postal branch, so that when it has done its postal duty it can be jerked back to the philatelic department and can be re-sold to the tumbromamae, always supposing that the latter elects to buy it.

Comment would be futile. It may not be true. We must watch and pray. But if true—well, as the coster said when a hansom cab smashed his load of crockery to smithereens, "There ain't no word for it."

Be this as it may, one welcomes the following intelligent paragraph in the *Daily Graphic* of July 22nd:

While the Duke of York will to day open a Philatelic Exhibition in Piccadilly, the Ameer of Afghanistan is taking even more energetic measures in the interest of stamp collectors. He is issuing a new set of stamps, and it is said that, in order that they may do a double service to the revenue, he has decreed that the stamps shall be cut off the letters before they are delivered and sold to Indian dealers. It is an astute device, but it may be feared that the results anticipated for it are greater than the event will justify. The early stamps of Afghanistan figure in catalogues at something like 50s. each, but if Abdur Rahman expects to put large blocks of the new series on the market at that price, he will be disappointed. Large quantities of current stamps are taken by the trade at from twopence to five shillings a thousand, according to their scarcity. It is to be hoped that the shock of that discovery will not cause the Ameer to cut off the heads of his philatelic advisers.

Newspaper men are not wont to write so intelligibly concerning philately. There must be a philatelist somewhere in the vicinity of the D.G.'s sanctum.

### General Notices.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 7, 1897.



TAKING his cue from a recent leader in this paper, a contributor to *Stamps* has decided to enter for our Undying Fame Competition. The philatelist in question describes himself as W.E.D., and in the number of *Stamps* dated July 31st he essays to solve the problem of the harmful, unnecessary substitute. It is "a large order," he admits, but he starts out hopefully nevertheless. Here is his scheme in his own words:

I have repeatedly noticed recently, that members of the various clubs to which I belong, who send good sheets, have a tiny rubber stamp with their initials on; with this they stamp lightly on the back of each stamp; it is neatly and nicely done and in no way damages either a used or unused stamp, but it makes the stamp easily recognisable, if necessary, on some future occasion. Now, although this will be an aid, it will not altogether prevent stamp changing. It has occurred to me on more occasions than one, that as changers only go for stamps that are really well worth the trouble of changing, that were owners to correctly describe each stamp on the sheet above it, thus: 5/- St. Vincent, mint, 12 6, or 2/- green, Vict., v.f., 14/-, or again, 18kr. Baden, slight tear, £1, and in addition to this to initial the back with the before-mentioned little rubber stamp, this would be a great preventative to substitution. The Secretary would then work the Club thus: on receiving sheets he would examine them to see that everything was correctly described and initialled; then any member, who on looking through a packet found (as he thought) a stamp wrongly described, has only to turn up that stamp to see if the owner's initials are on the back; if so, all right; if not, to immediately notify the Secretary of the discovery.

To W.E.D. this seems to be "a feasible and workable plan." We regret that it does not strike us that way. In the first place, the idea of *stamping* one's initials upon the stamps that one desires to sell has its obvious objections. Such stamps, it is well known, are bought and sold again, possibly changing hands many times in the course of a year. Does W.E.D. suggest that each fresh seller should in his turn impress his initials upon the back of the unfortunate stamp? If so, there would soon be a great deal more aniline on the back of the specimen than would be good for it. In the case of an unused specimen, such treatment would be even more ruinous; but this is only one portion of W.E.D.'s scheme.

He next suggests that every stamp on one's sheets should be described neatly in ink as to condition, &c., and that these descriptions should be checked, and if necessary, edited, by the secretary of the exchange club to which the sheets would be sent. The first and most obvious objection to this idea is the usual tendency of a member of an exchange club selling stamps to regard them in the most favourable light, and to look with a lenient eye upon any little shortcomings they may display. Secondly, there is the objection that this

plan would make a great deal of extra work for the sellers of stamps and for the secretaries of exchange clubs, work, which in the case of only moderately good stamps, would be hardly worth the candle. Yet again, there is the objection that the secretary of the club would be given a power of supervision which in all probability he does not desire, and possibly does not deserve. It would, in our opinion, be a dangerous precedent to allow an exchange secretary the power to alter, or even to tone down the description attached to any stamp by a participator in the exchange packet.

The great boon conferred upon stamp collectors by the exchange packet system is that they are practically able to meet their fellow philatelists on equal ground as buyer and seller—we had almost said as man to man, and that is practically what it amounts to, although the two parties to the deal may be divided one from the other by hundreds of miles.

Between these two contracting parties, the seller and the buyer, the seller being occasionally also a buyer and the buyer in his turn being also an occasional seller, there is a third party who enacts the part of a go-between, and he calls himself the secretary of the exchange club. This secretary has well defined duties. It is his business to arrange the order of the packets, to see that they travel promptly from member to member, and when the month's dealings are concluded, to gather in the payments of those who bought stamps and to remit to the sellers the amounts due to them. The secretary is also understood to have a certain discretionary power in the matter of removing forged or doubtful stamps from the sheets of any member of the club, and it is a *sine qua non* that he use his best endeavours to keep the club free from the inroads of substituters and other black sheep. All this is just as it should be, but we should strongly deprecate the giving of exchange club secretaries any such additional power as that suggested by W.E.D.

Truth to tell, we think it extremely unlikely that any infallible remedy for this substituting evil will ever be found. We took upon ourselves to promise that the philatelist suggesting a remedy which should make the substitution of stamps in exchange club packets a practical impossibility would win undying fame, and we have no reason to retreat from that statement. We are afraid W.E.D.'s suggestions, even if they could be put into practice satisfactorily, would prove only a partial remedy for the evil. Club members contributing only one small sheet of very rare stamps might be able to follow out our friend's suggestions, but in the case of a busy stamp collector with little time for his hobby, but one who yet manages under present conditions to keep himself in touch with the members of five or six different clubs, it would be an absolute impossibility.

THERE was a great commotion at the London Exhibition on Tuesday the 27th July. Nearly every dealer

**A Strange Slip.** in the place had a FORTNIGHTLY in his hands, scanning it most thoroughly, and such remarks as "is it possible?" "surely it can't be?"

etc., etc., were on everybody's lips. What was the reason for this commotion? simply this, that the FORTNIGHTLY has made a mistake (a most grievous one it appears). It set all idle tongues wagging, and we quite admit that it is an unprecedented thing to catch the FORTNIGHTLY napping, and we fully understand the great excitement. In our last number we had the following paragraph:

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, are adopting the novel practice (in this country), of publishing a Black List of their creditors. There are doubtless some British creditors of the firm who would like nothing better than to see the practice extended to this country. Many lawyers who are now looking thirsty would then come in for roaring business.

Of course it should have read "debtors." Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have no creditors, and we are sincerely sorry for this stupid slip. We have severely reprimanded the printer's devil, who had just come back from a holiday and wasn't quite up to his usual mark, and our proof reader having gone "to see a man about a dog," there was only the office boy, left, and he can't read. The Editors, of course, could not attend to this little matter as they were busy at the Exhibition with their report.

# The London Philatelic Exhibition Awards.

THE GRAND PRIZE—Special Gold Medal H. J. White.  
CLASS I.—GREAT BRITAIN.

*Division 1. Adhesive Postage Stamps, Unused.*  
Gold Medal .. .. H. J. White.  
Silver .. .. W. T. Willett.  
Bronze .. .. E. H. Selby.

*Division 2. Adhesive Postage Stamps, Used.*  
Silver Medal .. .. F. West.

*Division 3. Telegraph Stamps.*  
Silver Medal .. .. Gordon Smith.  
Bronze .. .. W. Matthews.

SPECIAL AWARDS For Unused Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britain. Presented by W. H. Peckitt, Esq.

Gold Medal .. .. H. J. White.  
Silver .. .. E. H. Selby.

For the best Exhibit by an amateur not a member of the Philatelic Society in London. Presented by the Society.

Gold Medal .. .. W. T. Willett.

CLASS II.—BRITISH EMPIRE.

*Section A.*  
Gold Medal .. W. W. Blest (New South Wales)  
Silver .. .. H. J. Duveen (British Guiana).  
Bronze .. .. Dr. F. Bowers (New South Wales)

*Section B.*  
Gold Medal .. Baron A. de Worms (Ceylon).  
Silver .. .. W. W. Blest (New Zealand).  
Silver .. .. Gordon Smith (South Australia).  
Silver .. .. F. Ransom (Trinidad).  
Bronze .. .. W. Hadlow (Queensland).

*Section C.*  
Silver Medal .. W. T. Willett (Nevis).  
Silver .. .. Baron A. de Reuterskiold (Turk's Islands)  
Bronze .. .. Leslie L. R. Hausburg (Grenada).  
Bronze .. .. Dr. R. Stanley Taylor (Grenada).  
Bronze .. .. Vernon Roberts (St. Lucia).

*Section D.*  
Silver Medal .. Baron A. de Worms (Gambia, Gold Coast, etc.)  
Bronze .. .. J. N. Marsden (Gibraltar, Gold Coast, etc.)  
Bronze .. .. Eliot Levy (British South Africa, etc.)

SPECIAL AWARDS—For Collections of Used British Colonial Stamps.—Presented by the City of London Philatelic Club.

Gold Medal .. Baron A. de Worms.  
Silver .. .. Baron A. de Reuterskiold.  
Bronze .. .. W. W. Blest

For Collections of "Sydney Views," New South Wales. Presented by Messrs. G. Call & Co.

Silver Medal .. Dr. F. Bowers.

For the most complete Collection of Queensland. Presented by W. Hadlow, Esq.

Silver Medal .. W. W. Blest.

For Departmental Stamps of South Australia. Presented by Gordon Smith, Esq.

Silver Medal .. W. Harrison

For Collection of Straits Settlements (including Native States).

Presented by W. Brown, Esq. and S. C. Skipton, Esq.

Silver Medal .. W. Dorning Beckton.

*Division 2. Section A. Europe.*

Gold Medal .. R. Ehrenbach (Austria).  
Silver .. .. Adolf Rosenberg (Heligoland).  
Silver .. .. Geo. F. Jackson (Spain).  
Silver .. .. R. Dreyfus (Switzerland).  
Bronze .. .. Julius Lossau (Hamburg).  
Bronze .. .. Ernest Petri (Parma, Tuscany, etc.)  
Bronze .. .. Dr. Yersin (Switzerland).

*Section B.*

Gold Medal .. W. Dorning Beckton (Greece)  
Silver .. .. Hubert Buckley (Norway).  
Silver .. .. R. Ehrenbach (Sweden).  
Bronze .. .. A. H. Harrison (Norway, etc.)  
Bronze .. .. J. N. Marsden (Portugal).

SPECIAL AWARDS.—For Exhibits of European Stamps.—Presented by M. P. Castle, Esq.

Gold Medal .. R. Ehrenbach.  
Silver .. .. W. Dorning Beckton.

For Exhibits by Continental Collectors.—Presented by R. Ehrenbach, Esq.

Silver Medal .. Adolf Rosenberg.  
Bronze .. .. R. Dreyfus.

*Division 3. Section A. Asia and Africa.*

Gold Medal .. T. Wickham Jones (Japan).  
Silver .. .. Capt. F. H. Hancock (Afghanistan).  
Silver .. .. R. Pearce (Transvaal).  
Bronze .. .. Baron A. de Reuterskiold (Philippine Islands).  
Bronze .. .. Major R. Day (Afghanistan).

*Section B.*

Silver Medal .. H. Cantel (Bey) (Egypt).  
Silver .. .. T. Wickham Jones (Shanghai).  
Bronze .. .. J. Hamish Wilson (Egypt).  
Bronze .. .. C. P. L. Van Kinschot (Dutch Indies and Orange Free State).

SPECIAL AWARDS. For Collection of Transvaal. Presented by W. S. Lincoln, Esq.

Gold Medal .. R. Pearce.

For Collection of Shanghai. Presented by David Benjamin, Esq.  
Gold Medal .. T. Wickham Jones.

*Division 4. Section A. America.*

Gold Medal .. H. J. Duveen (United States).  
Silver .. .. F. R. Ginn (United States).  
Silver .. .. T. W. Hall (Colombia).  
Bronze .. .. Dr. G. Michelsen (Colombia).

*Section B.*

Gold Medal .. H. R. Oldfield (Bolivia).  
Silver .. .. Alph. Bruck (Brazil).  
Bronze .. .. T. W. Hall (Peru).

*Section C.*

Silver Medal .. R. Meyer (Chili).  
Bronze .. .. E. S. Davidson (Cuba and Porto Rico).

SPECIAL AWARDS. For Collection of Colombia and States. Presented by M. Giweli, Esq.

Gold Medal .. T. W. Hall.

For Collection of Mexico. Presented by W. T. Wilson, Esq.

Gold Medal .. R. Frenzel.

For Collection of Peru. Buhl & Co., Limited.

Gold Medal .. T. W. Hall.

CLASS III. COLLECTIONS OF RARE STAMPS.

Gold Medal .. W. Thorne.  
\*Gold .. .. Harvey R. G. Clarke.  
Silver .. .. M. Giweli.  
\*Silver .. .. A. S. Tomson.  
Bronze .. .. H. R. Oldfield.

\* Presented by W. H. Peckitt, Esq.

CLASS IV.

*Division 1. Collections (without limit as to number).*

Gold Medal .. .. W. D. Beckton.  
Silver .. .. Mrs. Hetley.  
Bronze .. .. W. Cowland.  
Bronze .. .. A. H. Dingwall.  
Bronze .. .. H. L. Hayman.

*Division 2. Collections (not exceeding 4,000 in number).*

Silver Medal .. .. Eliot Levy.  
Silver .. .. S. M. Castle.  
Silver .. .. F. Bang.  
Bronze .. .. Mrs. Potts.

*Division 3. Collections (not exceeding 2,000 in number).*

Silver Medal .. .. L. H. Walter.  
Bronze .. .. G. J. Hynes.  
Bronze .. .. G. B. Duerst.  
Bronze .. .. B. P. Rodd.

SPECIAL AWARDS. For Collections exhibited by Ladies.—Presented by H. R. H. Duke of York.

Gold Medal .. Mrs. Hetley.  
Silver .. .. Mrs. Baynes.

For collections not exceeding 2,000 varieties, exhibited in Albums of English manufacture, by collectors under 16 years of age.—Presented by Messrs Butler Bros.

Bronze Medal .. .. C. Steele-Perkins.

For Collections in Albums of British manufacture. Presented by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

(a) containing over 8,000 varieties.

Gold Medal, H. L. Hayman. Silver Medal, Mrs. H. L. Hayman.

(b) containing less than 8,000 varieties.

Gold Medal, F. Eicherheim. Silver Medal, Mrs. Davidson of CLASS V. [Tulloch.]

Division 1. *Entire Envelopes and Wrappers.*

Silver Medal .. F. Ransom (Germany).  
Silver .. J. R. Hesketh (Mulready Envelopes and Letter Sheets).

Division 2.

Silver Medal .. B. Plashett Rodd (Australian Colonies).  
CLASS VI.

Division 1. *Post Cards, &c.*

Silver Medal .. T. Ridpath & Co.  
Bronze .. S. C. Skipton and W. Brown.

Division 2.

Silver Medal, B. Plashett Rodd. Bronze Medal, R. Meyer.

CLASS VII.

*Exhibits of Stamp Engravers and Manufacturers of Postage Stamps and Telegraph Stamps.*

Gold Medal .. Perkins, Bacon & Co., Limited.  
Silver .. Thos. De La Rue & Co., Limited.  
Silver .. Waterlow & Sons, Limited.  
Silver .. Bradbury, Wilkinson & Co., Limited.

CLASS VIII.

Division 1. *Current Philatelic Journals.*

Silver Medal .. Buhl & Co., Limited.  
Silver .. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.  
Bronze .. W. Brown.

Division 2.

Silver Medal .. Dr. Emilio Diena.  
Silver .. Hugo Kröttsch (for first and third items in Exhibit 223.)  
Bronze .. L. Upcott Gill.  
Bronze .. Scott Stamp & Coin Co., Limited (for items 1 to 5 in Exhibit 211).  
Bronze .. V. Suppantšitsch.

*The Philatelic Society's Medals awarded to Authors of Works in this Class.*

Silver Medal, E. D. Bacon. Silver Medal, F. H. Napier.

CLASS IX.—ALBUMS.

Division 1. *Albums for Special Collectors.*

Bronze Medal .. H. L'Estrange Ewen.  
Bronze .. W. Brown.  
Bronze .. W. T. Wilson.

Division 2. *Albums for General Collections.*

Bronze Medal .. Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Limited.  
Bronze .. R. W. Stevens.  
Bronze .. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.  
Bronze .. Dr. Emilio Diena.  
Bronze .. Whitfield King & Co.  
Bronze .. C. F. Lücke.  
Bronze .. Hugo Kröttsch.  
Bronze .. W. S. Lincoln.

Division 3. *No Awards.*

CLASS X.

ACCESSORIES AND APPLIANCES FOR USE BY COLLECTORS.

Bronze Medal .. Stanley Gibbons, Limited.  
Bronze .. Hugo Kröttsch.

CLASS XI.—GENERAL.

Silver Medal .. J. R. F. Turner.  
Silver .. W. Morley.  
Bronze .. S. C. Skipton and W. Brown.  
Bronze .. H. J. White.  
Bronze .. C. F. Dendy Marshall.  
Bronze .. W. Rutley.  
Bronze .. F. C. Smith.

SPECIAL AWARDS—For Exhibits by Members of the Manchester Philatelic Society.—Presented by W. Dorning Beckton, Esq.

Silver Medal .. G. C. Duerst.  
Bronze .. Vernon Roberts.

M. P. Castle. F. D. Bacon.  
A. H. Fraenkel. F. H. Napier.  
F. Breitfuss. P. Mahé.  
E. B. Evans.

N.B.—The Judges have found themselves unable to award certain of the Special Medals.

## New Issue of N.S.W.

AS foreshadowed in our Numbers 72 and 74, a new set of postage stamps has been in course of preparation. The last mail dated 26th June, has just brought us the first three values of 1d., 2d., and 2½d., of which we append reduced illustrations. In connection with this issue, and no doubt in reference to the article appearing in the *Sydney Evening News* of 21-6-97, alluded to elsewhere, Messrs. Smith & Nicolle have written to the Postmaster, asking whether this set will also have a restricted life so to speak, similar to the consumptive stamp—beg pardon, Consumptives' Hospital Stamps. To this letter the Postmaster graciously replies as follows:

POSTAL AND ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT.

G.P.O. SYDNEY, 23rd June, 1897.

GENTLEMEN,

With reference to your communication dated the 18th, instant, I have the honor to inform you that there is no limit to the issue of the new 1d., 2d., and 2½d. stamps, and the old ones will be sold up to 31st December next, to exhaust the stock.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. DALGARNO,

(Actg. Deputy Postmaster General).

Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle,

14, Hunter Street, Sydney.

At least these seem to be a permanent issue, and we can chronicle them. Wink. Crown and N.S.W.

1d. carmine.

2d. blue.

2½d. royal purple.

but we cannot quite understand the latter part of the Postmaster's letter, as we were under the impression that the old design would be demonetised. No doubt later mails will clear up that point.

As we go to press, we receive Mr. F. Hagen's Journal, the *Australian Philatelist*, which brings the Official Notice about this issue which we append *in toto*.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

POSTAL AND ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

GENERAL POST OFFICE, SYDNEY,

14th June, 1897.

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has, in accordance with the provisions of the 16th section of the Postage Act, 31 Vic., No. 4, been pleased to approve of the issue, on the 22nd instant, in commemoration of the completion of the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's reign, of three new postage stamps of the representative values of one penny, two pence, and two pence half penny, and the reissue of the five shilling postage stamp of 1861, such stamps to be substituted for the stamps of similar denominations now current.

A description of the new stamps is given below, and in connection with their issue it is hereby notified that the stamps to be superseded will only be recognised as valid for the prepayment of postage up to the 31st December, 1897, and that from the 1st January, 1898, any of such stamps still remaining in the hands of the public may be exchanged at face value for stamps of the new design.

DESCRIPTION OF ONE PENNY STAMP.

The central device is a shield bearing a cross charged with four stars, one on each arm, and a lion *passant regardant* in the centre. A royal crown is placed above the shield, and the name of the colony and "Postage" below. A figure denoting the value, enclosed in an oval, is in each angle formed by the base of the shield and the inscription. Ornamental scroll work completes the design. Colour, carmine.

DESCRIPTION OF TWO PENNY STAMP.

A profile portrait of Her Majesty the Queen is enclosed in a rectangular frame resting upon a waratah flower, and sprays of native rose spring up at each side. The name of the colony and "Postage" are placed above the portrait, and a figure representing the value is placed upon the waratah flower. These details are enclosed in an ornamental frame superimposed upon a cross, the end of each arm, charged with a star, projecting beyond the frame. The whole is enclosed in a triple-lined rectangular frame. Colour, blue.

DESCRIPTION OF TWO PENCE HALF PENNY STAMP.

Upon a transverse oblong, enclosed in a double-lined frame, is a large profile of Her Majesty the Queen in outline, occupying the right hand half of the stamp. On the left is placed the name of the colony and "Postage" in four lines in white on a background of



solid colour, and the value in figures is beneath the inscription. The stars of the Southern Cross are disposed about the profile. Colour, royal purple.

JOSEPH COOK.

We draw attention to the omission of the color of the 5 and therefore presume it to be the old mauve shade. Why however, does the old set become invalid in December only, if the object is to protect the revenue, and if this is not the object, why demonetise the issue at all. Perhaps our friends in Sydney will help us to solve this official conundrum.

\*\*\* Review of Reviews. \*\*\*

**For what we have missed may we be truly thankful.**

AN excellent number of the *American Journal of Philately*, has as its frontispiece a remarkably fine photograph of the fourteen stamps comprising the Jubilee issue of Newfoundland. Mr. Edward J. Nankivell contributes a very entertaining English Letter.

The first four lines of his third paragraph amuse us. They run as follows:

Some say the S.S.S.S. is defunct. Of that more later on. But that the power of its spirit of revolt lives as an actuality, the Hospital Stamp is a piece of unquestionable evidence. It was only the fear of philatelic revolt that saved us from the issue of a big Jubilee series.

Can Mr. Nankivell mean this seriously, or did he merely write it with his tongue in his cheek as a means of filling space? "Philatelic Revolt" saving us from a Jubilee issue of postage stamps. Surely Mr. Nankivell, who boasts in another paragraph of his twenty years' experience as a journalist, cannot seriously believe or expect other people to believe that philately in this country ever has anything to do with the emission of postage stamps. To suggest that the British postal authorities would be influenced either one way or the other by philatelic opinion is to make a suggestion that is fatuous in the extreme.

St. Martins le-Grand does not care a Zechneyer for philately, and Mr. Nankivell knows it, but writing as he is, for an American public, this stupid assertion of his does not perhaps matter. He goes on to add:

There is no doubt that other objections would have been overcome. Therefore I claim that the S.S.S.S. influence lives.

This is by way of further rubbing in the fact that philatelic opinion in this country has saved us from a British Jubilee issue, a proposition so ludicrously impossible that it needs no refutation. Mr. Nankivell describes himself as a public writer of over twenty years' experience of editorial work on the daily papers of London. Such an experience should have taught him to avoid wild talk and to go about his literary work with some little sense of his responsibility.

**The Canadian Jubilee Issue.**

The *American Journal of Philately* considers, and Mr. Nankivell echoes the opinion in his letter, that the issue of special Jubilee Stamps by the Canadian Postal Authorities is "absolutely contemptible," and may be regarded "as evidence that the Canadian Postal Department is not above the very meanest shifts of petty speculation." This is somewhat tall talk. We hold no brief for the Canadian Jubilee Stamps, and as all our readers are aware, we are cordial haters of anything and everything in the way of philatelic speculation, but it does strike us as a trifle impudent on the part of the *American Journal of Philately* to lecture Canada for this sort of thing. The Canadian Jubilee issue is in every respect a copy of the American Jubilee issue of 1893. In the shape of the stamps, in the general scheme, and we believe in the number and denominations, the two issues are practically as like as two peas. The only difference lies in the period of availability. The American Columbian stamps were available for twelve months; the Canadian are available for only three months. Thus the Stars and Stripes are nine months to the good, and if we may judge American opinion from the pages of the *A. J. of P.* there is much virtue in the nine months.

We strongly disapprove of the Canadian Jubilee issue ourselves, but the sight of the American pot calling the Canadian kettle black merely moves us to laughter.

Some admirable features are to be noted in the issue of the *American Journal of Philately* under notice. The instalment of Messrs. Collin & Calman's "Catalogue for Advanced Collectors" disposes of the tail end of Trinidad, tackles Tunis *in toto*, and commences on the fearful and wonderful emissions of the Ottoman Empire. Mr. John F. Luff proceeds with his exhaustive paper on the postage stamps of the United States, dealing in this issue with the local stamps of Baltimore, Brattleboro', Millbury and New Haven. Under the headline "New Light on Cochín China Unpaid Letter Stamps," the *A. J. of P.* translates an article by Mr. George B. Gagnard in the *Revue Philatelique*, an article which purports to prove that the surcharged unpaid letter stamps of Cochín China offered by Mr. George Carron, of San Francisco, are not only frauds, but have never existed at all. Mr. Jules Bouvez is again the contributor of an article on Belgian Stamps, and all the stock features of the *American Journal of Philately* such as New Issue Chronicle, News Notes, &c., are up to the usual standard of excellence.

**The Boom in Philatelic Literature.**

Apparently the American boom in philatelic literature is as strong as ever. We have received yet another journal specially devoted to this section of the hobby. *Philatelic Literature* is edited by Mr. Lewis Benton, and published by Messrs. Kirby & Benton, of Taunton, Mass. It is neither a lively nor a thrilling publication, being chiefly composed of lists of stamp papers wanted and for sale. Its front page is its *chef d'œuvre*, for therein it gives a list of births, deaths, marriages, and resurrections. The births and deaths are easily understood, but it is perhaps necessary to explain that the marriages are the amalgamations, or as Americans would say, the consolidations of two or more papers into one concern.

**Rowland Hill? or Chambers? or Bewley?**

The confusing thing about the invention of the adhesive stamp is the multiplicity of its inventors. A writer in *Gems* now contends that the real inventor of the gummed postage stamp was not Rowland Hill, nor Chambers, but one Thomas Bewley, of White Church, near Dublin. The Mulready envelope proving but a poor makeshift, Mr. Bewley, according to the journal mentioned, wrote to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and suggested that an adhesive stamp be designed and printed by the Government, to be attached to any letter, whether enclosed in an envelope or written on a folded sheet, hitherto commonly used. Mr. Bewley received a courteous reply from Mr. Spring Rice, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, stating that the suggestion was an excellent one and that he would urge its adoption by the Post-office authorities. It was adopted.

"This," adds the voracious chronicler, "is the true history of the adhesive postage stamp, and I am sorry to add that Mr. Bewley in no shape or way ever received recompense from the Government for his valuable suggestions. As a contrast to this, it may be mentioned that originally the stamps (printed in sheets) could only be separated by the use of a knife or scissors, and that the inventor of the perforation, enabling the stamps to be easily separated, received £30,000 for his invention. He was a business man. Mr. Bewley was not."

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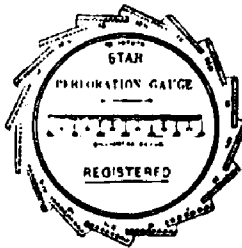
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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY"

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

- The Liverpool Philatelic Society.
- The City of London Philatelic Club.
- Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
- The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.
- Rochdale Philatelic Society.
- Sheffield Philatelic Society.
- Bristol Philatelic Society.
- Stamp Exchange Protection Society.
- Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE CONSUMPTION OF "CONSUMPTIVE" STAMPS.

THE *Sydney Daily Telegraph* reports: "The postal department has made an issue of the twopence halfpenny stamps that are being sold for half-a-crown as a contribution to the funds of the Homes for Consumptives. As many as 150,000 of them were at once bought up. There has been a heavy demand also for the penny stamps that are being sold at a shilling. The issue in both denominations will absolutely terminate on August 31st."

Owing to a delay on the part of our engraver we were unable to illustrate the gum label called by courtesy a stamp, recently issued by the Postmaster of N.S.W., with the avowed intention to make money for somebody. This week the 2 6 label which is to do service for a 2 1/2d. postage stamp, has come to hand, sent to us by our friends, Messrs. Smyth & Nicolle in Sydney. They called it a glorified edition of jam label, and in all truth that hits the nail on the head. It is a fearful and wonderful production of the lithographer's art. So wonderful indeed that our engraver has been unable to reproduce it by photography. But anyone who wishes to see it may have a peep at it, at our offices, 64, Cheapside. No admission will be charged. Come early to avoid the crush.



These illustrations represent the three values just issued to replace the same values of the Centenary issue as stated in "S.C.F." No. 75.



### GROWTH OF PHILATELY IN LONDON.

"It is not without interest, in view of the large dimensions which the stamp-collecting cult has now assumed, to point out that thirty years ago there was only one stamp dealer in London. At that time his annual sale amounted to about ten thousand stamps. Last year the same gentleman disposed of over a hundred million." Thus the *Belfast Evening Telegraph*.

### "THE SKETCH" ON THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

"I looked in at the Philatelic Exhibition (says a writer in *The Sketch*), paying particular attention to the collection of postal curiosities lent by the Duke of Norfolk. Is it not worth the journey to Piccadilly to see an envelope addressed to "Mrs. Queen, Buckingham Palace, to be taken care of"? Much more puzzling is the missive to "Mr. Apleby, Dogstar." The Postmaster found a nearer destination for it at Doncaster. The same keen scrutiny resolves "Jobin" into "High Holborn," and "Hailman" into "Isle of Man." One envelope bears a photograph of the late Mr. Sida and the solitary word "England." One thing struck me, as it always does—why is it that the most insignificant countries have the greatest stamps? British and United States stamps are, for the most part, plain; but Persia is pictures que, and Niagara gives you a landscape which is itself worth the money. Even the British Colonies especially the smaller ones, seem to be more favoured in this respect than the Mother Country. The art of stamp-designing has vastly improved of recent years, but in many of the earlier European stamps are night-mares. China, however, seems always to have done the thing well. Cabul has evidently modelled its stamp on the European post-mark, from which it is hardly distinguishable. Japan is well up to date in her stamps. They are things of beauty, even if they are to be sent to be joys to the philatelist in the sense in which the "Post Office" Ministry is a rapture. The emblems on the stamps are of some interest.

On most of those within the Empire the Queen's head looms large—sometimes in flattering likeness, sometimes in very much the reverse. The enemies of Mr. Rhodes may find it a suspicious symptom that Her Majesty is absent from the stamps of British South Africa. From a cursory examination of a huge collection of American stamps, it would seem to be a mistake for a Republic to immortalise the visages of its successive Presidents in this fashion."

#### THE DUTY ON POSTAGE STAMPS.

THAT crying scandal of the present Indian administration the import duty on collector's stamps is still the great thorn in the side of Indian philately. The official organ of the Philatelic Society of India speaks of the matter with resignation, almost with indifference.

"The Government must be supported," says our contemporary, "taxes must be paid, and loyal citizens acknowledge the necessity. As the Government will not recognise the position and permit philatelists to enjoy the pleasure of their hobby with clear consciences, the next best thing to do is to let well alone lest a worse evil befall us. Every argument that can be adduced has been brought forward, but without result. Coins, which have a certain interest in value, are admitted free, how much more then should postage stamps be exempt from duty? The Government makes no attempt to answer or argue the question, but merely states that it sees no reason why postage stamps should be excepted. So the matter stands. Argument is of no avail; and therefore we must perforce remain as we are until better times dawn for the Indian Government."

There are many other valuable articles and features of the *June Philatelic Journal of India*, to which we should draw attention had we the space at our disposal. There are, however, other journals on our table awaiting notice.

#### A PROMISING NEW YORK PAPER.

WE must confess to feeling a twinge of repentance for having spoken disparagingly of the earlier numbers of the *New York Philatelist*. Many a journal commencing indifferently improves as it goes on. Other journals make a point of including all their improvements in their first numbers. That was what we did, or attempted to do, in the case of the *FORTNIGHTLY*. Such a course has its advantages, but has also very obvious drawbacks. However, to get back to the *New York Philatelist*. The issue of the journal now before us, which is No. 3, Vol. II, dated June, 1897, gives evidence of great vitality. The opening feature is a biographical sketch with portrait of Mr. T. L. Green, of Kentucky, a patient enthusiastic philatelist, who, we regret to learn has been an invalid since he was a lad of fourteen. The *New York Philatelist* devotes much space to news, which it conveys in the brightest possible way. There is an article on the Postal Congress, obviously written by one who is in close touch with the postal world. We congratulate Messrs. Berringer and Herbst on the great improvement in their journal. May they go on and prosper.

#### THE STAMPS YOU MAY NOT WASH.

AMONG the numerous pithy articles in the July issue of *Stamps* appears a useful lesson for beginners on the subject of washing stamps. The following is the "fairly complete list" given in the journal of "those stamps that are liable to deteriorate by the washing process: Afghanistan, current types; Belgium, one recent issue; Bhur; Cashmere, one fanna brown on yellow, and all the early issues; Russia, most of the earlier stamps; Soruth, the first stamp; and Tasmania, several values of the current issue." It is also pointed out that the majority of English stamps are more or less affected by the action of water; also some of the official surcharges upon the Deccan stamps are liable to disappear in the bath.

#### GIFT TO THE DUKE OF YORK.

ON behalf of the Dominion Government a presentation was made on Tuesday, Aug. 17th, says the daily papers, to H.R.H. the Duke of York, president of the London Philatelic Society, of a superbly-bound volume, containing a complete set of sheets of the Canadian Jubilee stamp issue. The volume, which was placed in the duke's hands by Captain H.

Bate, aide-de-camp to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, is entirely the product of Canadian workmanship, and is suitably inscribed with the names of leading Government officials. Say the daily papers.

Perhaps this generous (?) gift is meant to put these wretched gumpaps on a better footing from a philatelic point of view; but will collectors so easily submit to this official "deal," we hardly think so.

#### HOW FASHION AFFECTS PHILATELIC PRICES.

IN a review of *Je Francobollo*, of Milan, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* gives a remarkably opposite illustration of the influence of fashion upon philatelic prices, or to be more accurate, philatelic "values," for the two things are by no means the same.

The writer in *Je Francobollo* compares the prices of the Lübeck errors with the "Double Geneva" and Vaud stamps, pointing out that the prices are out of all proportion to the numbers issued of the respective stamps. Whereupon the *P.J.G.B.* remarks: "In our opinion the writer might have gone further and compare the Lübeck error with the 8r para Moldavia; of the first 2,772 were printed, of the latter 2,480. Yet the Moldavia finds eager purchasers at 50 times the price of the Lübeck."

#### MINOR VARIETIES; MULTUM IN PARVO.

THE *American Journal of Philately* is valuable for many things, not the least being its constant supply of news concerning the latest discoveries in the shape of minor varieties. We quote here a number of these noted in the July issue of our contemporary:

BRAZIL.—"We have seen the 100 reis envelope of the 1892 issue, with double impression, the second on without colour."

COLOMBIAN REPUBLIC. "Mr. A. Da Costa Gomez has shown us the 2 centavos, deep red on rose, of the 1883 issue, with DE LOS in very small caps."

CONGO. "We have seen the current 10 centimes with vignette inverted."

FAHIDROT.—"We have seen a vertical pair of the 1 paisa green, of the 1888 issue, imperforate between."

MEXICO. "We have seen a horizontal pair of the 10 centavos black of the 1874 issue on white wove paper, imperforate between."

NORTH BORNEO. We have seen a vertical pair of the 8 cents, 1893, imperforate between."

SEYCHELLES. "The 16 cents exists with tablet and inscription in ultramarine and in blue; the provisional 12c. on 16 cents also occurs in these two shades."

SALVADOR. "We have seen a horizontal pair of the 3 centavos Salvador, 1895, without surcharge, imperforate between."

#### GUIDE DOT, OR SECRET MARK?

"NEARLY all the current stamps of the Argentine Republic have a small dot at the left hand side on a line with the bottom of the stamp. Presumably this is used as a guide for placing the die on the plate in the correct position." So says the *Evergreen State Philatelist*.

#### SOME STORIES OF THE STAMP EXHIBITION.

MAJOR EVANS, in the course of a series of delightful editorials on the subject of the London Philatelic Exhibition in the July *Monthly Journal*, tells two good and, we hope, true stories.

Some fair visitors (the Major begins) who were most anxious to find the stamps shown by H.R.H. the Duke of York, appealed in their distress—as was only natural—to the stalwart policeman at the entrance of the principal room. Now had he but been a philatelic policeman he might have had to confess his ignorance of the geography of the Exhibition, but having no knowledge of philately he was quite equal to the occasion and promptly conducted them to a case containing cards marked "Prince Edward Is." which he assured them came from the collection of Prince Edward of York!

Another little story that has reached us seems to indicate that the poster, composed, we presume, by the Advertising Committee, is not quite sufficiently explicit. The term "Philatelic Exhibition" may, of course, mean anything or nothing to the general public, but we should have thought that "The Stamps of the World" would have shown all visitors what to expect. An elderly lady, however, or so we are told, found her way to the Secretary's room a few days since, and demanded the return of her shilling on the ground that she had come up all those stairs to see an Exhibition of Paintings in Water Colour, and could find "nothing but these nasty stamps!"



## The Adhesive Stamps of Prussia.

BY WILLIAM KÜHN

### INTRODUCTION.

SIMILARLY to the new established way of specializing the stamps of Great Britain, we find in Germany a growing tendency to collect the stamps of the various German States only, all of which, with the exception of the present Bavarian and Württemberg stamps, are now obsolete. It is a sufficient large field, and a trying one too, to many a collector, owing to the scarcity of most of the older issues. And as a British collector extends his pleasant task by collecting all the British Colonies or part of the vast realm under the rule of Her Majesty's Government, so his German confrere casts his looks about, and very often makes Europe his sole domain, aided by handbooks and albums of German States or of Europe exactly as we see here the publishing of handbooks and albums for British stamps, or the same appliances embracing the whole empire.

But many a British collector devotes his time also to some of the Continental countries, or to the United States of America, while many find the study of the German States profitable, and I propose to deal in the following to some extent with the stamps of the leading German country: with Prussia, the nucleus of the new German Empire, the adhesives of which, as indeed of all the other minor States, though not numerous, show an interesting variety. Created solely to meet the public and postal want, we find not more than the most necessary values, a 3/- stamp being the highest value ever issued; in those happy days of old speculation was an unknown meaning.

After the introduction of the first adhesive postage stamp in 1840, the new invention made but slow progress in its finely triumphant march through all the civilized countries of the world. Switzerland, Brazil, the United States, Belgium, Bavaria, France, Austria, had one after the other adopted the new stamp system up to the time when fully ten years after the first introduction Prussia followed in 1850.

By an act of legislature dated 21st December, 1849, it was decreed to establish a new reduced postage for letters, and that the Postal administration "shall take steps to manufacture and sell adhesives," and that "by affixing them to letters the postage of letters can be paid according to rate." Nearly a year elapsed before by a decree of the "Handelsminister" (minister or state secretary of commerce) dated 30th October, 1850, the public were allowed on and after the 15th, Nov. 1850—the date fixed for issuing the promised postage stamps—to frank letters themselves with the new adhesives, and not, as before, handing every letter to an officer in the Post Office to be paid for. It may easily be understood how the Prussian people regarded this innovation as a great "event," and here as everywhere made extensive use of it to the great benefit of the Postal department.

From November, 1850, until the end of 1867, when the Prussian Post emerged in the Post of the North German Confederation, the forerunner of the Imperial German post, we count altogether 6 distinct issues which we shall now consider in chronological order.

#### First Issue, 15th Nov., 1850, and 1st May, 1856.

The first issue consisted at first of 4 values, viz., 6 Pfennige ( $\frac{1}{2}$  Silbergroschen), 1, 2 and 3 Silbergroschen; to these was added May, 1856, a fifth stamp to the value of 4 Pfennige (or  $\frac{1}{3}$  Silbergroschen). It is remarkable to note the close resemblance of the design to that of the first British Penny and Twopenny Stamp. Here, as there, we have the portrait of the sovereign in a square frame; an equivalent of the word "Postage" at the top, and the value at the bottom, even the top corner stars are not wanting, while in the bottom corners instead of the British control letter the figures of the value appear. The stamps are engraved with great care and art, like all the first issues of most of the older countries, the reason of this singular occurrence is no doubt, found in the

fact that smaller quantities of stamps were used then, as compared with the present time, when a cheaper and more expedient mode of printing had to be resorted to.

The printing of the "Pfennig" series was done in colours on white handmade paper, that of the "Silbergroschen" series in black on coloured handmade paper, each stamp is watermarked with a laurel wreath encircling the head of the King Frederick William IV. It may be well to draw a little attention to this representation of the King appearing on a background of crossed lines.

The coins of Frederick William IV. show up to about 1850 (he began his reign in 1840) a head full of hair. In the following years we find on the coins, as indeed on the stamps too, a head with only thin straggling locks, growing in the neck and combed upwards. As explanation for this we have to remember the unfortunate illness affecting his brain, which compelled the King on the 23rd October, 1857, to nominate his brother William—afterwards William I. King of Prussia and Emperor of Germany,—first as Prince Regent, and in the next year as Viceroy. People of the time know that in consequence of this illness the King's head had to be shaved in order to more effectually use some cooling applications. However, that may be as it is, we have at any rate a faithful effigy of the Royal sufferer.

It is further interesting to note the different spelling of the word "Pfennig" (plural "Pfennige,") throughout the head issues we have the denomination of the 6 pf. spelt "Pfennige," and on the 4 pf. stamp always "Pfennige" (with additional n). I have looked in vain for an explanation of this anomaly, and think it was perhaps a mistake, for in the later Eagle series we find always "Pfennige." On the stamps of the German Empire we read again "Pfennige," until in 1880 the final "e" denoting the plural, was dropped altogether, and the corrected word "Pfennig" was adopted.

All the stamps were imperforate, they were printed 1mm. apart from each other, and were sold at the rate of 150 per sheet.

Following the description of each issue I shall give a reference list of the stamps spoken of, together with the number of quantities printed (after Krötze).

(To be Continued).

### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

AMERICAN exchanges report that the 2 cent Columbus issue, unused, is now a "desirable" stamp—a great deal scarcer than one would have thought.

THE *Columbian Philatelist*, a free speaking print, seems to smell some connection between the defunct C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company and certain other stamp dealing concerns in the City of St. Louis, of recent, not to say mushroom, growth.

PHILATELIC "politics" are the staple output of the American stamp journals just now. *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* is one of the few papers that steers absolutely clear of such flat and unprofitable fare.

SAYS the *Philatelic Chronicle's* American correspondent: "I was recently shown two sheets of six cent Columbian stamps. One of them had gum the usual colour, the other had gum a lilac colour, perhaps when the gum was made a little violet was boiled in. Anything to puzzle the collector and make a 'minor' variety."

'Tis said that the stamp bloaters, who are *not* dealers, have their albums full of South American stamps and are quite prepared to sell out their Africans when the signal is given. A new dodge to sell the same stamp several times has just been found out in Brussels. It consisted by pasting a very thin transparent piece of paper over the stamp, this of course prevented the stamp from being obliterated. By simply taking it off afterwards the stamp was again ready for use. This procedure was mostly used for the higher values and is said to have been done extensively.

### General Notices.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, AUGUST 21, 1897.



It is to be hoped that the defence of the Government of Canada, if that government have any defence to offer, will be promptly forthcoming. It is a rude awakening to find that a British Colony, may Britain's oldest, greatest, most patriotic colony, should so far forget the proper dignity of an important government as to traffic in bits of gummed paper as a means of raising a few thousand dollars of extra revenue. At the present juncture this folly on the part of the Canadian government is particularly regrettable. In the United States, which does not covet Canada half so much as the first call on Canada's trade patronage, there is little love for the Dominion just now. Canada's decision to favor the mother country is naturally viewed unfavorably through American spectacles, and the smallest chance of sneering at or scattering mud upon "Our Lady of the Snows" is likely to be seized upon with great avidity by the Americans. That chance America now has, and we cannot but think that a good deal of the virtuous indignation which is being expressed in the Yankee philatelic journals just now has its real origin in political feeling. Not out of deference to the feeling of the country that issued the Columbian Jubilee stamps of 1893, but for the sake of its own honor as a British Colony, we trust that Canada will promptly tell us the how and the why of it.

As will be seen from the front page, we have made arrangements to reduce the cost of tickets for the United Kingdom, and hope that in consequence of this reduction Exchange Secretaries will especially avail themselves of our system. It is quite obvious that our agents, who are philatelists themselves are in a much better position to give full information from a philatelic point of view than an ordinary Enquiry Bureau like Stubbs for instance can obtain. It is not always the well-to-do man who is a satisfactory customer or satisfactory member of an Exchange Club. Although in a good position he may be long winded in payments, he may keep exchange packets beyond the ascribed time, he may even have the nasty habit of exchanging specimens whose conditions appeal more to his idea of neatness, etc., etc. All this we are able to tell our subscribers and as the years go on our records grow and become more valuable day after day.

Many times we were in a position on a receipt of an enquiry to wire at our expense not to deal with the party enquired about, and in two cases at least we have prevented two English dealers to send large lots to some foreign customer, and who has since disappeared from view.

### Newfoundland Issues "Jubilee" Stamps.

NEWFOUNDLAND joins the Jubilee stamp procession. The following interesting particulars are given in an article contributed to the *London Daily Mail*:—"Postage stamps are not often made the vehicle for conveying to the outside world the history or resources of a country. To Sir William Whiteway and the Hon. Robert Bond, of Newfoundland, must therefore be accredited a very brilliant idea. It is an idea that one marvels at not having occurred to other colony-makers and nation-builders before. Through the medium of this handsome "Cabot issue" of postage stamps many of the opinions and notions concerning this oldest of Britain's colonies are likely to be subverted. To begin with, the stamps are not only beautifully printed and their colours artistically chosen, but their values and designs are extremely well arranged. For example, the denominations which will be most largely despatched abroad will be the five cent (2½d.) and the one cent (newspaper postage). The latter, which may be said to commence the set, bears a portrait of her Majesty, with the legend, "Our Queen—sixtieth year of her reign," while the former portrays two sturdy miners at work, with the legend, "Mining; one of the colony's resources." For internal postage the two-cent denomination sends broadcast among the fishermen—not too well posted, one may hazard, on their island's history, an excellent portrait of John Cabot—"Hymn that found the new isle." The three-cent stamp contains a view of Cape Bonavista, "the landfall of Cabot"—the four-cent, a woodland scene, with the legend "Caribou hunting; Newfoundland sport," which, with "Ptarmigan" (twelve-cent) and "Salmon fishing" (twenty-four-cent), forms a trio of attractive reminders that Newfoundland is probably one of the most beautifully provided sporting regions in the whole of North America. There is a set of four stamps devoted to the colony's resources—fishing, sealing, mining, and logging. We have already mentioned two relating to Cabot, and there is a third—a ten-cent denomination with the caption: "Cabot's ship, the Matthew, leaving the Avon" and a fourth, containing a portrait of Henry VII., "who granted charter to Cabot to discover new lands." Thus, in eleven out of the issue of fourteen stamps, we have the history, the scenery, and the resources of the island happily presented, while in the first and fourteenth there are portraits of the two British sovereigns under whose rule the story of the island began and has continued. The thirteenth stamp in the series contains the seal of Newfoundland, with the motto, "Hæc tibi dona fero," and the legend, "Fishermen bringing gifts to Britannia."

### Famine and Stamps.

WE read in the *Times of India* that one of the items of revenue which suffers much in times of famine is "stamps" and the forthcoming administration reports of all Provinces are likely to tell the same tale of decrease as is shown in the Berar report just published. In this small area the decrease in the surplus revenue of the Stamp Department during the year 1896-97 amounts to 42 per cent, as compared with the surplus of the previous year; and as the income has of late been steadily growing, the failure of the past year may fairly be put down to the peculiar circumstances of the time. This view is supported by the fact that the receipts of the Ellichpore district, which was the least affected by the famine, showed an increase of the normal nature.

### CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

The Next Meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 6th, when our 23rd Auction Sale will be held. As this will be the last meeting of the present season, the Secretary will be glad if as many members as possible will attend.

# The Canadian "Jubilee" Stamps.

## SOME UGLY REVELATIONS.

LOYALTY AND LUCRE.—THE CANADIAN JUBILEE ISSUE PROVES TO BE A GUMPAK SCHEME ALL THROUGH.—EVIDENCE OF SPECULATION BY OFFICIALS

WHILE it makes us somewhat tired to watch American philatelists throwing all sorts of mud at Canada for simply copying the idea of the Columbus Issue of 1893, we confess to feeling of the keenest disappointment in finding that there is a substratum of fact beneath the columns of virulent verbosity published by the American journals.

Doubtless the idea of the Canadian Jubilee Stamps was, in the first place, the outcome of the purest patriotism, and certainly the popular favor with which the issue has been received by all classes in the Dominion is an evidence of that robust loyalty of which Canada has lately given the mother country so many signal proofs. But at some unknown point in the history of this issue the commercial instinct appears to have crept in. The "authorities," whoever they may be, or their advisers and hangers-on, whoever they may be, began to see that the good horse Loyalty might be run to win them a remarkably good stake in the way of increased "postal" revenue—called "postal" revenue because it would be revenue that had nothing whatever to do with the postal service.

The philatelic speculators, on their side, saw that there was money to be made by buying up the ½c. and 6c. stamps, of which a proportionately very small number would be issued. Now the "authorities," who seemed at first to be actuated by motives of the purest loyalty, were not slow to "tumble" to the real inwardness of this speculative scramble. Said they to themselves, "Oh this won't do; if there's money to be made why shouldn't we have a finger in the pie." That was what these impeachable officials said *setto voce*; here is what they said openly in the shape of a circular letter sent to various applicants for ½c. and 6c. stamps.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA.

POSTAGE STAMP BRANCH,

OTTAWA, June 25, 1897.

Sir:—

With reference to the numerous demands upon this office for the ½c. and 6c. Jubilee Stamps, I am directed to explain that the respective quantities of Jubilee Stamps ordered bear, relatively, the same proportions to the actual requirements of the Postal Service, but the tendency to exhaust the HALVES and SIXES has increased to such a degree, that it has become necessary to restrict their sale to the purchasers of full sets. Hence, I am to express the Postmaster General's regret that he is unable, having regard to the limited character of the Jubilee issue, to comply with any requests for the half cent or six cent denomination, apart from those for full sets.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

E. P. STANTON,

Superintendent.

Not unnaturally this letter has provoked a storm of criticism in the Philatelic Journals of the States. *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* speaks mildly enough when it opines that the final outcome of this deal . . . will cause far more harm than good to Philately in general.

Mr. Matthew R. Knight, of New Brunswick, writes very sensibly on the subject in his bright and newsy circular, the *Philatelic Messenger*. Mr. Knight has a good deal of adverse evidence to offer. He avers, for instance, that a Quebec postal official's son invited him to make an offer for 8c. stamps; another letter from an office in Prince Edward Island suggested a little deal in ½, 6, and 8c. stamps. Mr. Knight

asks very pertinently where all the ½c. and 6c. stamps are. They are not in the dealers' stock-books; that is a certainty. "A prominent Toronto dealer," he asserts, "laid a hundred dollars on the Post Office counter on the first day of issue of the Jubilee stamps, and was tendered, in exchange for that sum, two specimens of the ½c. and 6c. stamps."

The most damaging evidence of all is the letter published in Mr. Grinnell's journal, *The Post Office*. This is a letter from a Mr. Arthur F. Sladen, who writes on note-paper headed "Governor General's Office, Ottawa." The letter expatiates on the extreme relative scarcity of the 6c. stamps, and finally suggests a little deal in that denomination at the comfortable price (for Mr. Sladen) of 90c. apiece.

By what means did all these government officials "get in?" and how comes it that while the government can sell no ½c. nor 6c. stamps, save to purchasers of complete sets, these snug lessees of government stools are able to offer them out in considerable quantities at a per centage of profit beyond the wildest dreams of Isaac Gordon?

That well-known Canadian philatelist, Mr. F. W. Wurtele, writes at great length upon the subject in *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*, telling the history of the issue up to date. His summing up will bear reproduction here:—

"That the action of the government has seriously demoralized a large number of post-office officials is evident. I know of a great many cases where all government rules and regulations were thrown to the winds and post-masters have succumbed to the temptation of buying stamps for a few cents and selling to speculators for dollars. Many offices, indeed, contrary to instructions from Ottawa, were entirely sold out of certain values the day before they were officially placed on sale. When the 8c. was recalled by telegraph, postmasters, generally discovered a friend who had suddenly found out that the requirements of his correspondence necessitated an enormous number of stamps of that value. Many postmasters have written to dealers in Montreal offering to sell 8c. stamps which they should have returned to Ottawa, per instructions, at from \$1 to \$5 apiece. Of course the stamp having been issued in large numbers is worth very little if anything over face value.

When Mr. Seebeck made a corner in Central American stamps, he at any rate had the grace to sell his remainders at a purely nominal price, much below face value, and their handsome appearance doubtless induced many young collectors to purchase them and eventually become serious philatelists; if they have not any great philatelic value, at all events they did not cost much, and at least have an attractive appearance in an album. The Canada jubilee stamps, on the contrary, cost full face value, and no purchaser in 1000 can ever use them for postal purposes, so that our government is really in a position in comparison with which that of the much abused Mr. Seebeck is much more favorable from a philatelic point of view. The only other similar case that I am aware of is the Portuguese St. Anthony set, and these having been unanimously relegated to the limbo of speculative issues, I cannot see how Canada's jubilee stamps can be placed in any other category, and unhesitatingly express my opinion that the whole transaction is a disgrace to Canada, and dishonoring to Her Majesty, whose diamond jubilee they were intended to commemorate."

These are the words of a, presumably, patriotic Canadian; and that being so what shall a mere Briton say. It is a very regrettable and highly unsatisfactory business.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The French "Fortnightly."

SMARTEST of Continental philatelic journals, especially in the matter of news-getting, *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* manages to squeeze into its issue dated July 31st, a fairly complete account of the London Philatelic Exhibition. The *Echo's* "Here and There" notes are always interesting, and its chronicle of novelties, if not as thorough as it might be, is always reliable. Under the heading "Newfoundland" in the issue under notice we find a burst of mild sarcasm apropos of the issue of the Newfoundland Jubilee stamps. There is also a sly dig at the S.S.S.S. Poor S.S.S.S.; poor British Empire; both are having rather a rough time just now in the Philatelic journals of the United States and of Germany and France. It occurs to the sceptic that possibly the S.S.S.S. discreetly died just at the right moment.

## A Philatelic Miscellany.

We have never professed to understand the aims or the *raison d'être* of the *Collector-Dealer*, published at intervals on the go-as-you-please principle by Mr. Charles S. Quinton, of St. James' Road, Southsea. Mr. Quinton publishes his paper when he likes and how he likes and puts into it just what he thinks he will. Small blame to him for this peculiarity, and congratulations to him for occasionally speaking his mind in a way which no other English stamp journal save the *FORTNIGHTLY* would ever dare to do. Probably the secret of the *Collector-Dealer's* existence is to be found in the numerous advertisements of stamps for sale by Mr. Quinton of Southsea. Wise in his generation, our Southsea friend has discovered that an ordinary price list is apt to be thrown aside immediately on receipt, whereas a pamphlet which is only half a price list and half periodical is in grave danger of being read and of leading to profitable business. Just when we had thought that the *Collector-Dealer* had appeared for the last time, two distinct issues make their appearance in our mail bag—No. 4, dated May-June; and No. 5, dated July-August. Another issue is threatened for September, and if it proves to be as full of interesting notes as the two double issues before us we cheerfully defy Mr. Quinton to do his worst in the matter of subsequent numbers.

## About Philatelic Exhibitions.

There is a timely article in the June issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India* on the subject of philatelic exhibitions. The utility of such exhibitions, the writer argues, has long since been proved. They encourage and foster a spirit of emulation and friendly rivalry; they serve as an education for the masses, and accustom the public at large to a knowledge and appreciation of our hobby. From such general considerations as these the writer of the *Philatelic Journal of India's* article works round to the question of a philatelic exhibition for India. And his words on this subject would seem to indicate that such an exhibition is already under consideration by the Philatelic Society of India. He writes:

If the Society seriously contemplates holding an exhibition during the ensuing cold weather, it is none too soon to commence preliminaries at once, and the opinions of philatelists all over the country should be ascertained on the subject. Cordial co-operation is essential and should be given ungrudgingly both in sending exhibits and in guaranteeing expenses. But unless such co-operation is assured and the difficulties noted can be got over, it will be infinitely better for the society to abandon the idea and adopt the less ambitious project of holding a local display in Calcutta, which, from the experience of the two exhibitions already held there, would meet with a fair amount of support.

## "Saint Seebeck."

It was a clever notion on the part of one of the *Philatelic Journal of India's* contributors to place in parallel columns the letter written by Mr. N. F. Seebeck to the *London Philatelist*, in August, 1895, and the official account of the offer made by the same gentleman to the Government of

Bolivia in May, 1897. In August, 1895, Mr. Seebeck wrote apropos of the agitation for the formation of the S.S.S.S.: "I, among others, am willing to become an ally in the movement by discontinuing the contracts which my fellow philatelists find so obnoxious, providing I can do so with honour and without prejudice to vested rights." That meant, if it meant anything, that Mr. Seebeck would at the earliest opportunity conclude the business agreements existing between his company (The Hamilton Banknote Company) and the Governments of Ecuador, Honduras, Salvador, &c. That promise has so far borne no fruit whatever; possibly it was never intended to be more than a flower of speech. It was reasonable, however, to hope that Mr. Seebeck would at least refrain from entering into new contracts of a similar nature, yet the official organ of the International Bureau of the Postal Union—an absolutely unimpeachable authority—asserts that the Hamilton Banknote Engraving Company, of New York (representing our friend Seebeck) "made the Government of Bolivia a strange offer. They proposed to provide the Bolivian Republic with the necessary supply of postage stamps, envelopes, and post cards gratis, for ten successive years, on condition that the design of the postage stamps be changed every year. The sole compensation demanded by the Company was this: at the end of each year the whole of the unused supply of postage stamps about to be demonetised was to be placed at the company's disposal, a provision to increase the number later on if necessary for sales to stamp collectors."

It was, we repeat, a capital idea to print Mr. Seebeck's pecksmithian substitutes side by side with this interesting side-light. Says the *Philatelic Journal of India*: "To the student of psychology Mr. Seebeck's change of front presents an interesting problem." That, we consider, is a very, very kind way of putting it. To us it seems that those two eloquent columns in the *Philatelic Journal of India* prove Mr. Seebeck to be a most arrant humbug, and one of the worst "friends" philately ever had.

## Mr. Oldfield on Exchange Clubs.

In a recent article in the *Philatelic Record*, Mr. H. R. Oldfield, Vice-President of the International Philatelic Union and a well-known member of the London Philatelic Society, set forth his views as to what should constitute a model set of rules for philatelic exchange clubs. Mr. Oldfield's scheme of regulations struck us at the time as containing a great amount of needless verbosity, and we must confess to some gratification at finding this view corroborated in an article on the subject in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. "Mr. Oldfield is a lawyer," says our contemporary, "and it may therefore be presumed that the regulations he has drafted are an embodiment of all that is requisite to meet the law on the subject; but we cannot help thinking that the whole of the machinery he wishes to put in motion is needlessly cumbersome and will probably prove quite efficient in its work. There is an old saying of Confucius that baskets are necessary to carry fish in only for those who are unable to carry the fish without the baskets, and we cannot help thinking that members of exchange clubs should be able to carry their fish without any baskets. If you cannot have the most implicit confidence in the integrity and honesty of every member in an exchange club, it were better that such a club should have no corporate existence rather than guard itself by an elaborate code against possible disaster." That puts the whole matter in a nutshell. Whatever elaborate regulations you may frame you cannot enforce honesty upon people who are constitutionally dishonest. Every member of an exchange club must rely upon the individual honour and integrity of every other member, but if there is somewhere in the circuit a thief, the probability is that the thief will be able to snap his fingers at all the rules and regulations in the world.

# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.

**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 232).

Messrs. CHEVELEY & Co., July 9th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED.
		£ s d.
b	Barbados, 5/- rose	1 10 0
b c	ditto	1 2 0
A	British Bechuanaland, £1 lilac *	1 16 0
a	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, C.A. *	2 4 0
a	Heligoland, 5 marks, block of 12 *	5 0 0
a b	Nevis, 1/- yellow-green £2 15s. od., £2 15s. od. and	2 17 6
a	1/- lilac * £1 5s. od. and	1 5 0
a b	Prussia (1861, eagle), 2sgr. Prussian blue *	3 0 0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star *	2 7 6
b	(6d.) green, ditto *	2 15 0
a b	6d. lilac *	2 8 0
a	1/- orange-brown *	3 15 0
a	Virgin Islands, 1 - crimson, single line *	2 17 6

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., July 15th, 1897.

b	Antioquia (1876), 1c. black on white laid *	0 17 0
a	British Bechuanaland (on Cape), 4d. black, surcharge in red and in black *	1 0 0
b	British South Africa, £10 brown *	6 0 0
a	Gambia, 6d. blue, imperf., no wmk. *	1 10 0
a	Labuan, 6c. on 40c. amber, inverted *	2 0 0
b	Philippines (1854), 5 cuartos orange, on entire	2 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. green, perf. 12½ *	0 15 0
a	St. Lucia (1/-) orange, perf. 12½ *	2 2 0
b	St. Vincent, 6d. blue-green, no wmk. *	0 16 0
b	Saxony, 3pf. red *	5 7 6
a	Uruguay, block letters, 180c. green	2 2 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, C.C. *	1 0 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson *	0 19 0
a	6d. purple	0 18 0
a	1/-, crimson border, on bluish *	2 2 0
a	1 - sepia	2 0 0
b	Zanzibar (on India), ¾a. blue surcharge	1 2 0
A	Zululand, 5 - rose *	2 0 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., July 20th and 21st, 1897.

a	British Bechuanaland (on Cape), 4d. surcharged in black and in red *	1 0 0
a b	Greece (1832), 25l. rose (error)	2 2 0
a b	Nevis, 1/- green, perf. 15	1 1 0
a	Russia, 7 roubles, no bolts	1 2 0
b c	Schleswig-Holstein, first issue, 2sch. rose *	0 17 0
b	Sierra Leone, 6d. lilac, imperf., "Specimen" in manuscript	2 17 6
A	Zululand, 5 - rose *	2 0 0

Messrs. CHEVELEY & CO., July 22nd and 22rd, 1897.

b	Afghanistan (1292), abasi black *	2 0 0
b	(1293) ¼ rupee purple (S.G. 29) *	2 4 0
a	(1293, tablet), 1 rupee purple *	3 5 0
a	(1295) 1 rupee black (S.G. 90) *	1 0 0
a	ditto, wide laid paper *, two	each 1 0 0
A	Bahamas, 4d. rose, no wmk., perf. about 15, pair *	14 10 0
a	6d. grey-lilac, similar pair *	14 10 0
a	Barbados, 3d. purple-brown, star *	0 18 0
b	5/- rose	£1 3s. 6d. and
A	British Bechuanaland, £1 black and 1 lilac *	1 10 0
b	£5, penmark	0 18 0

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s d.
a	British Columbia, 25c., perf. 12½ *	0 17 0
b	British Honduras, 3d. brown, C.C., perf. 14 *	0 19 0
b	Brunswick, 1 sgr. black on yellow *	1 3 0
c	Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos red, small tear, fine otherwise	8 10 0
a	Canada, 7½d. green	2 6 0
b	ditto	1 14 0
3a 3.	Cape of Good Hope, 4d. blue, triangular, on bleuté, block of 6 *	4 15 0
b	Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperf.	16 10 0
a b	2 - blue, star, perf.	0 16 0
a	Gibraltar, second issue, 1/- bistre	0 19 0
a	Great Britain, 6d., no letters, on blue safety paper, pair *	10 0 0
2a 1b	10d. brown, octagonal, block of 3, two with die number 1, and one without die No. *	35 0 0
b	£5 orange, "Specimen"	1 12 0
b	Heligoland, ½ sch., roulette *	1 0 0
a	Hong-Kong, 90c. brown	0 19 0
a b	Hungary, 25k. mauve, litho. *	2 0 0
a b	India, ¾a. red, pair *	11 10 0
a	Mauritius, Britannia, 1/- yellow-green, imperf., block of 4 *	7 10 0
b	Nevis, 6d. grey-lilac on bluish paper	1 0 0
b	ditto, on grey	0 15 0
b	1/- green, perf. 13 *	1 0 0
b	1/- green, perf. 15	0 15 0
a b	1 - yellow-green, three 4½/- each, and one	2 10 0
a	1 - lilac *, ten copies	each 24/- or 1 5 0
a	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d., plate 2	1 10 0
a b	Prussia, 2 sgr. (eagle) Prussian blue *	3 15 0
a	Russia, 10k. brown and blue, wmk. 1 *	1 18 0
b	St. Christopher, 4d. blue, C.A. *	3 7 6
a	6d. olive, C.A. *	1 10 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. blue, perf. 12½ x 14 *	1 0 0
b	St. Lucia (4d.), blue, star *	£1 13s. od. and
b	(6d.) green, star	2 4 0
a b	6d. lilac *	2 2 0
a b	1/- orange *	3 4 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. orange	0 16 0
a b	6d., C.A., perf. 12 *	1 2 0
b	1/- lake, star, perf. 11½ *	4 15 0
b	Spain (1850), 10 reales green	2 8 0
c	Switzerland, Rayon, 10r., cross with border	2 5 0
a	Trinidad, 1d. rose-red, no wmk., clean perf. about 15, pair *	3 5 0
a	1d. dull violet, rough perf., pair *	3 10 0
a	6d. green, ditto, pair *	4 0 0
a	Turks Islands, 4d. on 4d. grey, strip of 6 *	16 0 0
a	Tuscany, 1quat. black on blue paper, pair *	4 0 0
a	4cr. deep green, ditto, a single *	1 0 0
a	United States (1847), 5c. brown on blue *	1 0 0
b	(1851) 5c. imperf.	1 1 0
a b	5c. mustard *	3 10 0
b	(1869) 30c. *	1 14 0
b	ditto, 90c.	1 6 0
b	Justice, 90c.	5 15 0
a b	City Despatch Post, 3c. black on pale blue	2 0 0
a	Virgin Islands, 2½d. brown, C.C., *	0 17 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson	1 5 0
a	1 - crimson, single line	3 0 0
a	ditto, used	2 12 6
a	1 - crimson border	0 17 0
b	Western Australia, 1/- red-brown	0 16 0

Messrs. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER, July 26th, 27th, 29th and 30th, 1897.

A	Bahamas, 1d. lake, no wmk., rough perf., pair *	2 12 0
a	Barbados, 5/- rose, no gum *	4 10 0
a	ditto, unused	2 0 0
a	Bayaria, 12k. lilac, perf., vert. pair *	2 16 0
a	Bolivia, first issue, 50c. blue, penmark	1 6 0
b	500c. black, nine stars	2 0 0
a	Bremen, 3gr., imperf., strip of 3 *	2 17 6
a b	British Guiana (1852), 1c. magenta, strip of 4	26 0 0
a	(1853), 4c. blue, pair	1 18 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Buenos Ayres, 3 pesos green .. ..	4 4 0
A	Cape of Good Hope, <i>Triangular</i> , 1d. red-brown on bluish, pair * .. ..	3 7 6
A	ditto, 6d. mauve, pair * .. ..	£3 5s. od. and
a	ditto, 1/- green, pair .. ..	3 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto .. ..	2 7 6
a	Woodblock, 1d. red, pair .. ..	20 0 0
a	ditto, 4d. blue, pair .. ..	10 0 0
b	ditto, ditto, a single .. ..	1 7 0
b	Ceylon, 1/- lilac, imperf., pair .. ..	1 17 0
A	Congo, <i>first issue</i> , 5 francs lilac, pair * .. ..	1 18 0
a	Denmark, (1853) 16sk. bright violet, pair * .. ..	2 15 0
b	(1864) 2 sk. blue, imperf., pair .. ..	2 4 0
b	ditto, 4 sk. red, ditto, ditto .. ..	2 0 0
a	(1870) 48 sk. lilac and brown, strip of 3 * .. ..	6 0 0
A	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA. block of 4 * .. ..	14 14 0
a b	France, <i>first issue</i> , 20c. black, strip of 3, tête-bêche, two .. ..	2 12 6
a	ditto, 25c. blue, vert. pair, tête-bêche .. ..	4 8 0
a	(1853) 1 franc carmine, pair .. ..	£1 18 0 and
a	ditto, ditto, a single .. ..	0 17 0
b	(1870) 20c. blue, pair, tête-bêche .. ..	1 13 0
b	ditto, 10c. bistre on rose, ditto, ditto .. ..	1 8 0
A	Gambia, 4d. brown, no wmk., pair * .. ..	2 2 0
a	6d. blue, ditto, pair * .. ..	4 4 0
b	Gibraltar, <i>first issue</i> , 1/- bistre, pair * .. ..	3 10 0
1b 1c	Great Britain, 6d. violet, octagonal, pair * .. ..	6 10 0
a	Grenada, 1/- violet .. ..	1 5 0
a	Guatemala, 2c. brown and green, centre inverted .. ..	1 4 0
A	Hamburg, 4 sch. green, imperf., on piece with a common .. ..	2 6 0
a	Hanover, 10 gr. green, block of 4, on piece .. ..	16 0 0
b	Heligoland, (1873) ½ sch. rose and green, block of 6, on piece .. ..	39 0 0
a b	(1869) 1 sch. ditto, pair on piece .. ..	2 6 0
a	Lagos, 5/- blue .. ..	5 7 6
b c	Lubeck, ½ sch. dark lilac, wmk., on piece .. ..	1 9 0
b	Mauritius, <i>Post Paid</i> , 1d. early .. ..	4 10 0
a	ditto, ditto 1d. medium late, pair .. ..	5 0 0
b	ditto, ditto 2d. early .. ..	3 15 0
a	ditto, <i>Small Fillet</i> , 2d. blue, late, pair .. ..	5 0 0
b	ditto, <i>Greek Border</i> , 1d. red .. ..	1 6 0
b	ditto, ditto 2d. blue, late, pair .. ..	£2 16 0 &
a	ditto, <i>Britannia</i> , green, pair, * .. ..	2 0 0
a	ditto, 1/- on 5/- violet, strip of 3 * .. ..	2 10 0
a	Mecklinburg-Schwerin, ½ sch. red dotted ground, roulette, pair on piece .. ..	11 5 0
a	Mexico (1872) 50c. blue, error, imperf. * .. ..	0 5 0
b	Modena, 80c. orange-brown, on piece .. ..	2 15 0
b c	Nevis, 4d. rose * .. ..	1 12 0
a b	ditto, 6d. grey-lilac * .. ..	1 14 0
b	ditto, 1/- green, perf., 13 * .. ..	2 0 0
a	ditto, 4d. orange, engraved * .. ..	2 12 6
a	ditto, 4d. orange, litho * .. ..	8 8 0
a	ditto, 6d. grey, litho * .. ..	10 0 0
a	ditto, 2½d. brown, CA * .. ..	0 18 0
b	ditto, 6d. green * .. ..	6 0 0
a b	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow .. ..	3 3 0
a	Newfoundland, 2d. lake, pair * .. ..	2 12 0
a	ditto, 6d. orange .. ..	1 8 0
a	ditto, 8d. carmine-red, block of 6 * .. ..	6 6 0
a b	New South Wales, Sydney, 2d. plate, strip of 4 .. ..	7 0 0
a	ditto, ditto, pair .. ..	3 0 0
b	ditto, 20/- blue, wmk. 5/-, pair .. ..	3 10 0
a	North German Confederation, 18k. bistre, perf., pair on piece .. ..	1 15 0
b	ditto, a single, on piece with a common .. ..	0 18 0
1a 1b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown, pair .. ..	1 18 0
b	6d. yellow-green .. ..	£1 9s. od. and
a	Oldenburg, <i>second issue</i> , 3gr. yellow, on piece, £1 14s. od. .. ..	and 1 16 0
A	<i>third issue</i> , 3gr. brown, pair on piece .. ..	2 15 0
a	ditto, ditto, dark brown, pair ditto .. ..	2 13 0
a	ditto, 3gr. yellow, on piece .. ..	1 10 0
b	Peru, ½ peso, yellow, pair .. ..	5 15 0
a	ditto, a single, penmark .. ..	2 4 0
b	ditto, ditto .. ..	1 16 0
a	Philippines, <i>first issue</i> , 5c. orange, block of 10 .. ..	19 0 0
a	10c. pale rose, block of 10 .. ..	21 0 0
c	1r. slate-blue, faded, block of 6, on piece .. ..	8 10 0
b	2r. emerald, block of 10 .. ..	13 10 0
b	Portugal, <i>first issue</i> , 100r. lilac, pair .. ..	3 15 0
b c	ditto, ditto, block of 4, heavy pmk. .. ..	7 10 0
a	Prussia, 35gr. yellow, solid ground, pair * .. ..	2 12 9

CONDITION	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALISED
		£ s. d.
a	Queensland, 1d. rose, imperf., pair .. ..	4 8 0
A	St. Christopher, 6d. olive, sheet of 20 * .. ..	10 0 0
a	St. Helena, 6d. blue, imperf., pair * .. ..	£1 15s. od. and
A	St. Vincent, 1d. rose-red, imperf., pair * .. ..	3 12 6
A	4d. blue, no wmk., sheet of 30, postmarked .. ..	30 0 0
a	Saxony, 10gr. blue, pair * .. ..	3 3 0
a	Schleswig-Holstein, <i>first issue</i> , 1sch. blue, pair * .. ..	3 10 0
b	ditto, used pair, on piece .. ..	8 0 0
a	ditto, 2sch. rose, pair * .. ..	7 0 0
a	Spain (1850), 6r. blue, pair .. ..	2 14 0
a	ditto, 10r. green, block of 4 .. ..	15 0 0
a b	(1851), 2r. red, pair .. ..	46 0 0
a	ditto, 6r. blue, pair .. ..	£3 and
a	ditto, 10r. green, block of 4 .. ..	4 0 0
1b 1c	(1852), 2r. red, pair, on piece .. ..	21 0 0
a b	ditto, 6r. dull blue, block of 4 .. ..	4 10 0
a b	(1853), 2r. red, pair .. ..	11 0 0
a b	ditto, ditto, heavier pmk., on piece .. ..	12 0 0
a	ditto, 6r. blue, block of 8 .. ..	8 0 0
a	ditto, ditto, pair .. ..	1 14 0
a	(1855), 2r. blue, error, the centre stamp of strip of 3, used, with others, on piece .. ..	17 10 0
a	(1868), 19 cuartos brown, pair .. ..	3 3 0
a	(1870), 2 escudos blue, pair .. ..	2 10 0
a	Switzerland, <i>Geneva</i> , 5c. blue-green, on entire .. ..	1 12 0
a	<i>Neuchatel</i> , 5c., on piece .. ..	2 4 0
b	<i>Vaud</i> , 5c., on entire .. ..	1 8 0
a	<i>Winterthur</i> , 2½r., vert. pair .. ..	11 0 0
a b	Tasmania, 1d. blue .. ..	£1 18s. od. and
b	ditto .. ..	£1 10s. od. and
a	Thurn and Taxis, <i>first issue</i> , 3k. on dark blue, pair * .. ..	5 0 0
a	(1859), 6k. rose, pair * .. ..	2 0 0
A	Tobago, 4d. yellow-green, CA., pair * .. ..	3 2 0
b	Transvaal, 6d. blue, V.R. TRANSVAAL, twice surcharged .. ..	2 0 0
a	Turks Islands, 4d. on 1d. (s.g. 15) .. ..	1 18 0
a	ditto (s.g. 16) .. ..	2 2 0
b	United States (1855), 90. blue * .. ..	2 10 0
n	(1861, <i>first type</i> ), 10c. deep green .. ..	3 5 0
a	5c. mustard, pair .. ..	2 12 6
a b	(1879-75) <i>reissue</i> , 15c. * .. ..	2 8 0
a	<i>Columbus</i> , set * .. ..	two each 3 3 0
a	<i>Victoria, Too Late</i> .. ..	1 6 0
a b	Virgin Islands, 1/- crimson, single line * .. ..	two each 2 12 6
b	Wurtemberg, 18k. blue, wite thread, pair on piece .. ..	2 18 0
a	18k. orange, roulette, block of 4 .. ..	5 10 0
a b	ditto, pair .. ..	2 12 6
a	ditto, vert. pair on piece .. ..	2 4 0
a	70k. rose-lilac, pair * .. ..	8 0 0
b	ditto, pair used .. ..	5 0 0
a	70k. violet, pair .. ..	7 0 0
a	ditto, a single .. ..	3 17 6
b	ditto .. ..	£2 16s. od. and
A	Zululand, 5/- rose, pair * .. ..	4 10 0
A	ditto, a single, used .. ..	2 8 0

Massrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, July 27th and 28th, 1897.

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No 77.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society.    Cambridge University Philatello Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society.    The City of London Philatello Club.    Rochdale Philatello Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Sheffield Philatello Society.

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**S**INCE we issued our Wholesale List in May, 1896, we have sold out many lines and added others. Prices have also experienced certain alterations. We have therefore decided to issue a thoroughly revised List. The first instalment appears to-day, and will continue till finished, when it will be issued in book form, and forwarded gratis to all Dealers known to us.

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From the U.S.: *The Post Office, The American Journal of Philately, The Perforator, Filatelic Facts and Fancies, The International Philatelist, The Monthly Bulletin of the Postal Card Society, The Metropolitan Philatelist, The Home Worker, The Evergreen Philatelist, The Weekly Stamp News, The Columbian Philatelist.*

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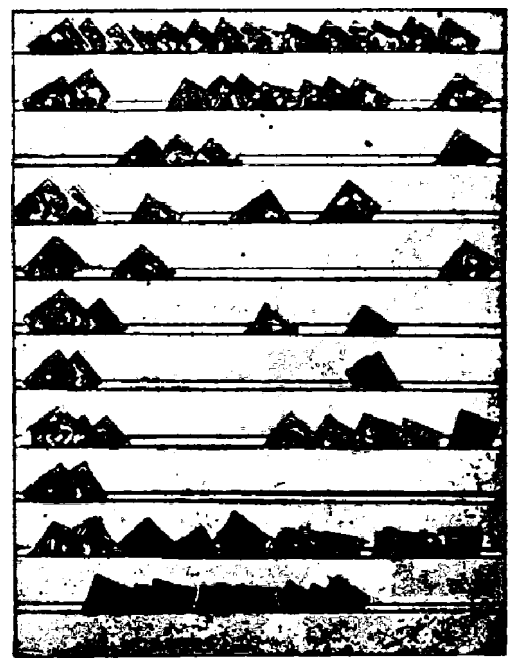
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No. 77.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### STAMPS AND MONEY, ESPECIALLY MONEY. INTERESTING PHILATELIC ACTION.

ON Friday, August 22nd, in the City of London Court, before Mr. Assistant Registrar Tattershall, the case of Buhl & Co., Limited v. Calvert was heard. The plaintiffs, foreign stamp importers, sued Mr. A. F. Calvert, to recover the sum of £40, the price of stamps sold and delivered between June, 1896, and January last. In the alternative they claimed the return of the stamps and damages for their alleged unlawful detention. Mr. G. H. B. Kenrick was the plaintiffs' counsel, and Mr. E. Poole, solicitor, appeared for the defendant. It seemed that about two years ago the plaintiffs were then known by the name of Theodore Buhl & Co. That firm was dissolved, and the business was purchased by a Traders' Assets Association, who ultimately sold it to the present proprietors, a limited company, of which Mr. Theodore Buhl had been and still remained manager. During the time that the business was carried on by the old firm, the defendant lent that firm the sum of £200, carrying interest which made the amount due £205. He succeeded, after some difficulty, in recovering the sum of £162 5s., leaving a balance due to him of £42 15s., which he now wished to counter-claim for against the present claim of the plaintiffs. A great deal of correspondence had taken place between the parties, and from that it clearly appeared that the plaintiff company took over the liabilities of the old firm with regard to the debt due to the defendant. The question for consideration now was the value of the stamps which had been sup-

plied to and detained by the defendant. The plaintiffs' claim was composed of four items, viz., £6 15s., £8, £1 10s., and £66. With regard to the first three items the defendant admitted being indebted, but the whole question in dispute was the supply of Trinidad and Barbadoes stamps to the value of £66. Evidence was given as to the value of the particular stamps according to the catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. The secretary of the plaintiff company was called and gave evidence as to eight of the Trinidad stamps having been sold to the well known collector, Mr. Ferrari, of Paris, for the sum of £12. The allegation now made was that the stamps had depreciated in value by the sum of £20 since the supply of them to the defendant, in addition to which the plaintiffs sought to recover damages for detention.

Mr. Kenrick contended that, as no counterclaim had been properly filed, the defendant was debarred from raising his claim.

The Assistant Registrar pointed out that the counterclaim had really been admitted by the plaintiffs themselves in the correspondence. In February the plaintiffs told the defendant he might, by a particular date, return the stamps.

Mr. Kenrick submitted that that amounted to an actual sale, and that, whatever was the price charged, the defendant could not now say if it was excessive or otherwise.

The Assistant Registrar said that might have been so, but the plaintiffs had claimed as an alternative remedy the return of the stamps themselves or their value. He should certainly entertain the defendant's right to return the stamps. He would adjourn the case for expert evidence to be called as to the value of the stamps at the date when they were supplied, and the value at the present time, and he would also direct the defendant to file his counterclaim, so that it could be heard on the adjournment. It that was not done a settlement should be arrived at. The defendant had admitted the first three items of £16 5s. The plaintiffs admitted owing the defendant £42 15s. The deduction would leave the sum of £26 10s. still due to the defendant. There would be something, no doubt, to allow for the depreciation and detention in the way of damages. The defendant consented to the amount of £16 being allowed for that, leaving still £10 due to him on his returning the stamps to the plaintiffs. Ultimately, after much consultation, the defendant agreed to forego his £10, and he handed the stamps then and there to the plaintiffs. The Assistant Registrar said he thought this a most generous proposal, and so the matter was at an end, on the understanding that each party paid their own costs.

### THE A.P.A.'s. ANNUAL CONVENTION.

THE American Philatelic Association is, at the time of writing, assembled in annual convention at Boston. An important item on their agenda is the question of "speculative" stamps. "Speculative" stamps (as the *Daily Chronicle* informs its readers), are those that are issued on special occasions by Governments, and greedily bought up by stamp collectors. Into this category come the Jubilee issues of the Canadian stamps, showing portraits of the Queen in 1837 and 1897. The *Chronicle* also includes the new Newfoundland issue; but this is, to say the least, premature.

### THE COOLGARDIE CYCLE POST.

WRITING from Coolgardie, under date, June 9th, Mr. James



A. Healy says: "My attention has been drawn to a paragraph appearing in your paper, in reference to the Cycle Stamps used by me, in connection with forwarding mails per Cycle Express. I have much pleasure in forwarding you sets of each issue 1894 of 1/- and 2/6, and 1896 of 6d., 2/- and 5/-, and should appreciate a couple of papers in exchange, with

the above reference to the stamps. I may mention I am disposing of these stamps as under:—1894 issue (few left) at 5/- each; 1896 (limited number on hand), at 7/6 per set. The dies have been destroyed and no fresh issue will be made as the service has now been discontinued."

### NEW VARIETIES IN CURRENT 1d. ENGLISH.

MR. PEARSON of Queen's Road, Bayswater, kindly sends us a specimen of the current 1d. stamp which has a very peculiar plate fold on the neck of the stamp. He states that he has 6 copies which he got from one and the same Post Office. The defect consists of a very considerable blot on the neck of the Queen's head which covers the end of the fourth, fifth and sixth shading line completely. Anyone who wishes to see this stamp can have it on approval from our publishers.

### DUTTIA AND CHARKHARI STATE.

WE are indebted to Mr. Lionel Fanshawe, of Poona, for very interesting particulars as regards the newly discovered Duttia State and Charkhari State postage stamps. This is what our friend writes:—"I enclose herewith for your acceptance a specimen each of the stamps just issued by the Duttia and Charkhari States. They were chronicled in Gibbons' *Monthly*, for April, but the colours given there were quite incorrect. The exact lists are as follows:

CHARKHARI STATE,	½ anna lilac rose on white.
	½ " purple on white.
	1 " " "
	2 " " " bright green on white (aniline col.)
	4 " " " "
	postcard, ½ anna lilac rose on thin yellow wove.
	envelope, ½ anna purple on white laid paper (137 × 78).
DUTTIA STATE,	½ anna black on orange red.
	½ " " " bright emerald green.
	1 " " " white.
	2 " " " yellow.
	4 " " " deep rose-red.
	postcard, ½ anna black on thin wove (164 × 105)
	envelope, ½ " black on white laid paper (137 × 78) not 120 × 68.

All the Duttia stamps, envelopes, and cards are stamped with the Rajah seal in blue before leaving the Post Office.

### THE "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS: ITS HISTORY.

"CERNE," writing to the *Westminster Gazette*, says: "Sir, An explanation of the great rarity of the 1847 postage stamps of Mauritius may interest your philatelist readers. In that year the heads of departments, civil servants, and members of the Governor's staff agreed to give a ball in return for a like entertainment given by the officers of H.M. 12th Regiment. A consignment of stamps for the postal service in the island had been received some days previous to the issue of the invitations. This was the first time postage stamps

were used there, and the Postmaster-General, who was on the ball committee, thought it right to have the envelopes containing the invitation cards stamped by way of introducing the system to the inhabitants. But the Radical element was then strong in the Legislative Council, and the chance of having a slap at Government House was too tempting to let slip. So at the next meeting of Council a resolution was passed declaring that postage stamps for a small island were quite unnecessary, and an order given that they should be destroyed. The only stamps used were those on the invitation cards, between two and three hundred in number."

### NEW ZEALAND'S STAMP-COLLECTING GOVERNOR.

IN the leading newspapers of New Zealand appear paragraphs animadverting upon the fact that Lord Ranfurly, the new Governor of that Colony, is an ardent philatelist. In stamp circles the fact has naturally given rise to the liveliest satisfaction; and the hope is expressed that Lord Ranfurly may be induced to become Honorary President of the New Zealand Philatelic Society, or in some way identify himself with the philatelic community out there.

### MORE ABOUT SPANISH FORGERIES.

FOLLOWING up the interesting series of studies which have been appearing of late in the *Madrid Filatelico* upon Spanish forgeries, these additional particulars will doubtless be found useful, viz:—

*Spain, 1851, 10 reales green.* In this case the differences between the genuine and the forgery are that the genuine measures 18 × 22mm. whereas the size of the forgery is 17½ × 21½mm. The shape of the O in "certificado" is more round in the forgery than in the genuine. Again, the word "Correos" is smaller in the forgery than in the genuine type. This forgery has been printed on quite different paper, that is, whiter than in the genuine, and the end of the hair which falls over the ear of the figure is so coarsely finished that the clumsy hand of the forger can be easily detected without difficulty.

*Spain, 1852, 6 reales blue.* This is one of the most dangerous forgeries in existence, and only a most careful examination of its details can detect any difference at all from the genuine stamp. Its dimensions are exact, and the tints perfect. The only difference we have been able to discover in them, is to be found in that cluster of dots which constitute the shading under the chin. These, instead of being placed in regular rows as in the genuine, the forger seems to have placed them pall-mall. The paper too, is thicker in the forgery than in the genuine.

*Spain, 1854, 2 cuartos green.* In this case we have noticed that the forgery has been printed on thicker paper than the genuine, tending, moreover, towards a yellowish colour, and the shading of the crown differs considerably from the genuine. The original measures 18½ × 22½mm., the forgery, 18 × 22.

All the above types are sold as used and many of them are on entires.

### JUBILEE CANADIANS FOR THE DUKE OF YORK.

H.R.H THE DUKE OF YORK, on Friday, August 16th, was the most interested party in a little function not without interest for philatelists. This was the presentation to His Royal Highness of a handsomely bound volume in which was mounted a complete set of the Canadian "Jubilee" stamps. The book, which is entirely the result of Canadian workmanship, was presented to the Duke by Captain H. Bate, aide-de-camp to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Canadian Premier.

Commenting on this, the *Newcastle Daily Leader* says:—In the matter of the album of Canadian jubilee stamps just presented to the Duke of York, it may be well to correct some errors that are being industriously circulated. His Royal Highness is not himself a working philatelist at all, in the sense of commissioning dealers to bring rarities to his notice. His collection was over-hauled and arranged by a member of the Philatelic Society, who chose the loose sheet and cabinet in preference to the album form, as being easier for purpose of public exhibition. Some of the Duke's specimens are unique, such as a sheet of West Indian stamps which was purposely overprinted in honour of his visit to a certain island with the Bacchante. There is no prospect of the Duke of York's collection being sold.

### TO COLLECT A MILLION STAMPS.

SOME stamp dealer has been talking to a representative of *Cassell's Saturday Journal* about the popular delusions concerning the accumulation of a million stamps.

"There is nothing very wonderful or out of the way in the accumulation of a million postage stamps," said he, "many such parcels pass through my hands every year, and each has its well-recognised trade value, according to the nature of its contents.

But the power of getting children into institutions, or endowing hospital beds through the collection of a million stamps, is a delusion that even at the present day has not entirely died out, and leads to much unnecessary waste of time and trouble.

Just consider the useless labour involved in getting together a million stamps from one's friends, when any wholesale dealer can supply you with almost as many millions as you want, at from something like £5 per million.

The man who first started the idea of philately in this connection was, I am afraid, hardly so disinterested as his dupes believed.

For one thing, he may have hoped to find rare varieties among the masses of common ones submitted to him, such discoveries being of comparatively frequent occurrence. Or again he may have had in view some scheme for defrauding the post office, by piecing together the uncanceled parts of two or more stamps, and using the composite result a second time.

But charity pure and simple did not, I fear, play any appreciable part in his calculations. I say this because, although there is a fairly steady demand nowadays for the common varieties, which are bought for the purpose of being made up into packets for beginners, at the time when the 'million stamp craze' was first started the demand was not by any means large enough to warrant such methods of supplying it."

### STRAY JOTTINGS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

CANADA, in addition to her Jubilee stamps, has a Jubilee postmark. It represents a large ensign with the Union Jack in the top left hand corner, and across the rest of the flag the inscription, "1837—Victoria—1897." This is really a gem for the philatelists.

\* \* \*

Mr. Eustace B. Power, who personally visited the London Philatelic Exhibition, is the writer of a capital report of the same appearing in the *Post Office* for August.

\* \* \*

The publishers of the *Philatelic Monthly* state they have recently seen an envelope used in Tonga in 1896, bearing a piece of the margin of a sheet of stamps with "½d." written on in ink and duly postmarked.

\* \* \*

Stamps, it now appears, are in a fair way to be put on the "Free List" of the American tariff.

## New Philatelic Publications.

### FOR SPECIALISTS OF FRANCE AND COLONIES.

SPECIALISM is still the flowing tide, if the output of catalogues and albums for specialists may be accepted as any reliable index. Messrs. Yvert and Tellier, of Amiens, publishers of our esteemed contemporary *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, have just issued a popular "Catalogue of All the Postage Stamps, Fiscal Stamps, and Entires of France and the French Colonies," at the price of 1 franc 50 centimes (1s. 3d). The book is well arranged and copiously illustrated. Its six parts deal with (1) France, (2) Alsace-Lorraine, (3) Monaco, (4) French Colonies, (5) Countries under French Protection (6) French Post Offices abroad. The only point in this classification that rivets the eye and makes one ask oneself questions, is the inclusion of Monaco. The book is one that should be of very great value to a large and growing

section of philatelists. We say growing because there cannot be much doubt that as time goes on, the stamps of France will receive closer attention at the hands of specialists than they have done in the past.

## The "Large Service" Indian Stamps.

BY J. SEYMOUR SUMMERS.

IT may not be generally known that, in the "large service" series of Indian Stamps, there exists a variety, as far as I am aware not hitherto chronicled or catalogued. I propose therefore, to describe it for the information of readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. While engaged in examining a large number of "large service" Indian stamps, I noticed a variety consisting of a dotted "s" in "Service" thus:—"š." The dot varies in size in different specimens, sometimes occurring as shown above and at others as a minute dot thus:—s—. At first I was inclined to the view that this dot was due to bad printing, resulting in the broken top of the "S," which showed separately to the rest of the letter; but on further search this explanation did not quite satisfy me, as I found that the dot not only varied in size and in distance from the top of the letter "S," but that it also occurred in quite a large number of the stamps under examination. In fact the number found without the dot was, comparatively, much less than those possessing it; so that to my mind it is a distinct variety of the series in question. Possibly it occurs on all values of this series, though I have seen it only on the four values, one, two, four and eight annas. The rarer of the two varieties would of course be those occurring without the dot.

I have also seen a variety of the 1 anna in which the surcharge appears in thinner lettering and from a different point. There is also a variety of the "large service" in which the line of perforations is absent in the vertical direction, from its normal position, i.e., between the two stamps, thus leaving the bottom of one and the upper end of the other unperforated.

(1) L — on current ½ anna.

VIZAG †  
LFB — on ½ anna blue E. H. wmk.

V  
(3) MC — on ½ anna, current.

o o o o o o  
o " o o o o  
o " o o o o  
(4) o o o o o o o o on ½ anna, current.

All these surcharges are in black with the exception of No. 3 which is in violet, and No. 4 in which the letters are perforated through the stamp running from below upwards. The above additions to the list have been kindly furnished me by Mr. L. W. Grey, Pykara.

9/8/97.

† This surcharge it appears to me denotes the headquarter station of the district, viz.: Vizagapatam.

\* This probably means Vizagapatam Municipal Council or Committee.

### DEXTRINE, OR GUM ARABIC ?

Can you give a simple method by which it can be determined whether a stamp mount has been made adhesive by dextrine or by pure gum arabic ?

The above query was addressed to us some time ago, and we are indebted to Mr. Charles Whatmore, of Hinckley, for the following reply: "I should think," writes Mr. Whatmore, "that the following would answer: soak several of the suspected mounts in water and thus get a solution of the adhesive substances. Then add a few drops of a solution of iodine in potassium iodide, when dextrine will give a red colouration, and pure gum only a faint yellow, which yellow is really owing to the iodine added."

### General Notices.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 4, 1897.



We read in the *Matabele Times*, a mining journal of Bulawayo, under date July 31st, 1897, that a "Memorial Gumpaps. stamp" will be issued on the occasion of the opening of the Railway on the 4th November. The following letter appears in the paper mentioned:

#### COMMEMORATION STAMP.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I am pleased to hear that the Railway Celebration Committee have adopted the proposal made by me at the public meeting on Monday week last, namely, to issue a memorial stamp, by way of marking the felicitous completion of the railway. I now beg leave further to suggest: (1) That the memorial stamps be distributed in such a manner as to render it possible for the people of Bulawayo to take up the whole issue if they wish, rather than that it should pass into the hands of the stamp-dealers; (2) That the circulation of the stamp be entrusted to various local firms (in return for a small commission) instead of to the already overworked and under-manned Post Office.

I venture, in the interests of my fellow citizens, to call the attention of the Celebration Committee to these recommendations.

Yours truly,

FRED. N. JOSEPH.

And in the Editorial of the same journal the following comment is made:

#### THE MEMORIAL STAMP.

We would direct the attention of our readers to the communication on the above subject which appears to-day in our correspondence columns. The method of marking the auspicious advent of the iron road by a limited and unique issue of stamps, especially recommends itself to us, for the reason that it happily combines the sentimental and the practical. On the one hand those small printed emblems will travel to the confines of many oceans, bearing a visible message of progress from the men of Bulawayo to the nations of the earth. On the other hand, if the issue be judiciously managed, a considerable sum should accrue to the Festival Fund, and the people of Bulawayo should likewise benefit (by way of premiums) to no mean extent. In order, however, that these manifold objects should be fully secured, the Festivities Committee must proceed with due deliberation and forethought. It is, we suppose, inevitable that the memorial stamps should be used for ordinary postal purposes, so that they may be able to bear the postal mark, but it is to be hoped, nevertheless, that a part at least of the face value will be handed over to the Festival Fund. Above all, it is imperative that measures should be adopted to prevent the stamps from falling, in the first instance, into the grip of professional stamp-dealers, who, we doubt not, would readily take over the whole issue. Our citizens should reap a well-deserved harvest from the memorial

stamps, and we look to the committee both in this and other respects to accord a preferential treatment to the local community.

The above is "the last straw that breaks the camel's back."

Some time ago we stated that as soon as a savage country became a trifle civilised it began to issue stamps. The Rhodesians have been a bit smarter and before civilisation has entered the country they have started celebration stamps. Somehow we fancy the dealers' won't tumble over each other to secure this precious issue, as the correspondent of the *Mining Journal* seems to assume. Mr. Castle in the August number of the *London Philatelist* finishes up a lengthy leader on the "Consumptive Hospital Jam Label" as follows:

"The flooding of the market with pretty pictures tends to degrade philately to the level of Liebig picture collecting and must inevitably have the worst possible effect on the future of the dealers. It will either cause the retirement of many of their best customers or compel them to restrict still more the limit of their acquisitions. We cannot too strongly urge upon all those—and there are many—who have a heavy financial stake in Philately that confidence forms the foundation of stamp collecting, and that if this were seriously shaken the whole fabric would collapse."

Thus Mr. Castle, whose remarks echo some of the leaders we published three years ago in the early numbers of the FORTNIGHTLY. Then we started a hot crusade against gumpaps, which finally resulted in the formation of the S.S.S.S. some two years ago. We have mentioned in these columns that it seems impossible to wake the Secretary of that Society from his lethargy. Innumerable letters have been written to him, but for some reason or other, which we in our ignorance cannot fathom, no reply can be obtained.

Some may call this discourteous, but we believe we know the Secretary better. Anyhow outside his secretaryship we have never found him discourteous, but we really should like to know for what reason the S.S.S.S. was permitted to collapse. If the lines on which the Society was started were found to be impracticable that was no reason why some suitable modifications should not have been introduced. In any case the circulars of the Society have been very well received all over the world, and carefully quoted in every philatelic paper of note, and thus collectors became acquainted with the dicta of the Society very rapidly. That this publicity had a most beneficial effect cannot be doubted, and we believe the true reason why the S.S.S.S. has been permitted to collapse lies in the fact, that whilst some dealer members loyally kept to the compact, others, and we are told a good many, although remaining members of the S.S.S.S. in name, did not remain so in practise. We know of some cases where very reputable dealers although openly dealing in the most utter rubbish, still permitted their names to figure as supporters of the S.S.S.S.

That there is a great deal of trade jealousy at the bottom of this cannot be doubted, but we think the time must come when something on the lines proposed by Mr. Nankivell in the *American Journal of Philately* will have to be attempted. Mr. Nankivell there states, and this reiterates what we have stated dozens of times, that a general meeting of the S.S.S.S. members should be called as soon as feasible in order to overhaul the present position of the Society, with a view of making a fresh start. The matter is too important and too serious to be kept back by petty trade jealousies. From the point of view of £ s. d. alone, dealers should for once attempt to work together, and here we think the committee of the "London Society" should as a body of collectors take the initiative. This would have a twofold effect: not being started by any single dealer or set of dealers, it would be more acceptable to the trade and coming from collectors it would also be acceptable to collectors. We earnestly submit this proposal to the governing body of the "London Society" for consideration.

H.H.

\* \* \*

With our next number (78) appearing on the 18th September, we shall complete our third volume. Many subscriptions will fall due, and to avoid interruption in the despatch of the FORTNIGHTLY, we would be glad of prompt renewals.

To Our  
Subscribers.

## The Adhesive Stamps of Prussia.

BY WILLIAM KÜHN.

(Continued from page 243.)

### First Issue.

1850, 15th Nov. Printed on white watermarked paper. Engraved.

1.  $\frac{1}{2}$  (sgr.) 6 pfennige, vermilion .. .. 9,000,000.

Printed on coloured watermarked paper. Engraved.

2. 1 silbergr., black on pink .. .. 26,000,000.

3. 2 .. black on blue; dark blue .. 9,000,000.

4. 3 .. black on yellow; pale yellow 9,000,000.

1856, 1st May. Printed on white watermarked paper. Engraved.

5. 4 pfennige, green .. .. 13,500,000.

The colour of the printing, done in the Prussian State printing office, and of the paper is very equal, showing perhaps only two distinct shades of each value, apart from the 6 pf., which is often found much oxidized.

### Second Issue, June 1857.

A widely different style of production as compared with the first issue has been employed in manufacturing the second set, which made its appearance about 7 years later. Not only were the coloured paper abandoned and colour printing used throughout, but also the more costly copper engraving given up, costly, because it required more care, and not being very durable necessitated frequent renewing of dies. Typography took its place.

The design remained unchanged, with the exception that the head of the king appears on a solid background, and is showing an old expression, quite unlike the British stamps whereon the head of the Queen preserved its youthfulness through all the changing years of more than half a century.

We note also the disappearance of the watermark, never to be used again. In its stead as a test of genuineness comes a rather strange device, viz., an invisible network covering the whole sheets, and consequently every stamp all over. It is in shape much alike the coloured network of the war stamps used in 1870 in Alsace and Lorraine, possibly the one suggested the other, but being printed with carbonic oxid of lead (sugar of lead) this in itself, white metal, oxid colour can be seen only through the influence of sulphur, for instance in the shape of sulphuretted hydrogen, or hydro sulphuric acid, etc., when the network appears from brownish grey to black. Even foul air has sometimes effect on it, causing the network to be visible. Formerly such stamps were looked at as varieties.

### Second Issue.

1857, June. Head on solid ground, printed on white paper (as are all the following issues) no wmk. Typographed.

6. 1 silbergr., rose, carmine-rose .. .. 10,000,000.

7. 2 .. blue, dark blue .. .. 1,000,000.

8. 3 .. yellow, orange .. .. 4,000,000.

Two different shades are mostly catalogued of each stamp.

### Third Issue, August, 1858 and May, 1860.

The preceding series of 3 stamps had only a very short life, for in the next year the authorities abandoned the solid background and reverted again to the crossed line ground-work, same as on the first issue, without, of course, returning to copper printing, typographed printing fulfilled all demands. In addition to the 1, 2, and 3 silbergr, the 4 pfennige stamp, formerly engraved, now made its appearance in the new mode of production, yet, strange to observe, the  $\frac{1}{2}$  silbergr-6pf. issued, May, 1860, on paper, which, like the rest, had no watermark, but the already mentioned invisible network, appears as "the last of the Mohicans" again in copper printing, same as in 1850.

This is perhaps all that can be said about this issue, the main purpose of which is to do away with the solid background, and returning to the crossed lines, to give the stamp a softer appearance. Even the difference "Pfenninge" and "Pfennige" has been left untouched, and there is no indica-

tion yet of the perforating machine, which had three years before this issue came begun to work its way across the globe, slow at the beginning, but faster and faster as time went on, and the comfort of the perforation got more and more appreciated. Prussia, in fact, never resorted to this mode of separating stamps. However, the third issue, the one under consideration, was the last imperforated one, and as we shall see, the next set of stamps were rouletted, putting the scissors at rest. The same network as described before was also employed as a safeguard against forgeries, though I think a very weak one.

### Third Issue.

1858, August. Head on cross lined Background. Typographed. Imperf.

9. 4 pfennige, green, dark green .. .. 18,500,000.

10. 1 silbergr, rose, carmine-rose .. .. 24,000,000.

11. 2 .. blue, dark blue .. .. 7,300,000.

12. 3 .. yellow, orange .. .. 7,000,000.

1860, May. Same stamp as No. 1, but without wmk. Engraved. Imperf.

13.  $\frac{1}{2}$  (sgr.) = 6 pfennige vermilion, orange .. 1,500,000.

Two or three distinct shades of colours, same as before.

### Fourth Issue, November, 1861 and April, 1865.

On the 2nd January, 1861, King Frederick William IV. died at the age of 65, and his brother who had been Viceroy for the last three years, as mentioned before, ascended the throne of Prussia as William I. In consequence of this event a new issue had to be prepared, and made its appearance in November of the same year. An entire change in design, style of printing, etc., calls for some remarks.

In the first place we note the discontinuation of showing the King's portrait on the stamps. It is said King William did not approve of his effigy being defaced by the cancelling stamp, therefore the eagle, the arms of Prussia, took the centre of each adhesive. Besides the design an entirely new shape was brought out with this, the fourth issue; the pfennig series being upright octagonal in shape with figures denoting the value in the otherwise left bare triangular corner-segments, whilst the "silbergr" series shows an upright oval, but no corner-numerals.

There is furthermore a change in the style of printing also, which is now relief printing, but not stamping, for although the design—Eagle, lettering, lines—is somewhat raised, yet it is not raised enough as it would be in the case of stamping, and as can be seen by comparing it with envelopes which are generally in relief stamping.

The paper too underwent a change, and is now wove machine made paper, same as used almost everywhere. No watermark, and no repetition of the coloured network.

A remarkable feature of the issue is the adoption of a mechanical aid for separating the stamps, a great convenience no doubt, both to the public and to the post officials. Hitherto stamps were issued imperforated, but the new set comes a step nearer to perfection: it was issued *rouletted* (117). It seems rather strange that in spite of the acknowledged merit of the perforation machine Prussia should have taken to rouletting. For eight years this transitory style remained in use, until 1869, when in the second issue of the North German Confederation it was abandoned for ever as being unsuitable. Of course this rouletting has done one good thing—good from a generalist's standpoint. I allude to the consequent absence of puzzling varieties in perforations found frequently in the stamps of other countries.

A reduction in the postage for printed matter necessitated the creation of a new stamp of a lower value, and on the 1st April, 1865, it made its appearance in the same shape as the other two "pfennig" stamps, that is, octagonal with figure values in the corners.

Before continuing the reference list I must draw attention to the spelling of the value in the 6 pfennig stamp; after innocently bearing—and that through a useful career of 10 years—a word differently spelt from the same expression on the other stamps, it is now written *pfennige* in uniformity with the rest.

(To be Continued).



# Our Review of Reviews.

## Our Exhibition through American Spectacles.

MR. EUSTACE B. POWER, the head of a big stamp dealing concern in New York, was one of the not too numerous American visitors to the London Philatelic Exhibition. We of the FORTNIGHTLY had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Power, and of "talking stamps" with him. His impressions of the London show are well set out in a report he has contributed to the *Post Office*. Here is Mr. Power's tribute to the excellence of the arrangements.

What was most noticeable was the excessive care paid to the collections shown, the richness of the mountings and the glorious ranges of shade, all carefully and artistically carried out. Some collectors claim that certain unused stamps listed at a low price cannot be found and such is really the case, but when one sees blocks and even sheets of the particular stamp shown by specialists, one can readily appreciate why the stamp is not common. America was well represented in "the 100 rare stamps" class.

## Our Debt to Mr. J. A. Tilleard.

Everyone has not one, but many, good words just now for Mr. J. A. Tilleard, and not without reason. To his efforts the success of the London Philatelic Exhibition was largely due. As the London correspondent of the *Stamp Collectors' Journal* puts it:—

By general acclamation Mr. J. A. Tilleard, the indefatigable secretary, is accorded high honour. Only those visitors to the exhibition who "did" the show in its entirety can form a correct idea of the immense amount of work involved in the organization of such a show. To each and every member of the Executive Committee, and to Mr. J. A. Tilleard and the Hanging Committee in particular, British philatelists owe a deep debt of gratitude, and the suggestion has been made that this debt should be partly liquidated, in Mr. Tilleard's case in some practical and tangible way. Partly liquidated I say. One cannot really discharge such a debt in worldly goods or in £ s. d.

## THE GREAT QUESTION OF THE MOMENT.

The same writer adds that the great question of the moment is, did it (the Exhibition) pay? "Judging," writes he, "by the amount of money netted for dealers' stalls and for entrance tickets on the opening day, the answer ought to be an emphatic YES. However, we shall see." And, presumably, we shall. It is significant, however, that one or two usually knowing gentlemen have been offering to buy up guarantors' shares for hard cash.

## The Bolivian Stars and their Signification.

"An interesting bit of history (Mr. A. D. Schoch tells us in the *Evergreen State Philatelist*), is recorded by the stars on Bolivian stamps. The 1869 issue has nine stars, the 1871, 1876, and 1887 issues have eleven stars on each stamp. Beginning with 1890 the two upper stars are omitted on all but the 5-cent lithographed. Bolivia, Peru and Chile have been at war at various times and their boundaries have often been changed by the result of war. Bolivia at present has nine departments or provinces, one star representing each on the arms of the nation. Two other departments were added about 1871 and lost about 1890 as the stamps show."

## Resolutions of the Washington Congress.

To *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies* we are indebted for the following concise tabulations of the net result of the deliberations of the Washington Postal Congress.

The use of any kind of commemorative stamps on international postal matters shall be suppressed; on domestic matters it is left to the discretion of the various governments. This resolution should be of great benefit to philatelists.

The limit of weight for samples of merchandise shall be raised from 250 to 350 grammes (about  $\frac{3}{4}$  pound). Objects of natural history as animals, dried plants, geological specimens, etc., are hereafter to be admitted under this class.

A universal colour of postage stamps is to be adopted, but the proposition to create a universal postage stamp was by a nearly unanimous vote defeated. This result could easily be foreseen. For the present time and for many years to come the financial conditions

of the various members of the postal union will not admit of a universal postage stamp. It should not be very hard to work out a scheme with a return envelope, somewhat on the line of the international return postal card, that could do away entirely with the desirability of an international postage stamp, which always will present very important objections.

The fee for money orders from 100 francs and over was reduced about one half.

Registered letters can be sent C. O. D. up to the amount of £40, but this new rule is not compulsory with all countries.

Typewritten circulars are admitted as printed matter if sent in not less quantities than twenty of the same tenor at the same time.

It was agreed that the year on letter cancellations in the coming century shall be expressed as follows: 00 to mean 1900, 01-1901, 02-1902 etc.

The Orange Free State entered the Postal Union, as did Corea, and China is to follow as soon as some contemplated reorganizations in this vast empire permit. This will make every country of any importance a member of the Postal Union.

A very important measure was defeated by the countries using the English-American system of weight, pounds and ounces. This was the motion to increase the limit of a single letter to 20 grammes. The present limit is 15 grammes in countries with the decimal system and  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce or about 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  grammes in countries with the old pound system.

The next postal congress will be held in Rome in 1903.

## "Consumptive" Stamps Not Gumpaps! Oh Dear No!

Mr. Fred Hagen publishes, and Mr. A. F. Basset Hull edits, a remarkably able paper in the *Australian Philatelist*. It is a paper with a glorious past, and that isn't at all a bad thing to have. But the conductors of the *Australian Philatelist* must not tell us that black is white, because that is to big a bite for us to swallow. Dealing with the shilling and half-crown "Consumptive" stamps issued under the auspices of the New South Wales Postmaster-General and His Excellency the Governor of the Colony, the *Australian Philatelist* gives us this extraordinary paragraph:—

The investing these stamps with a postal value is a step in advance of the English Hospital stamp idea, and should tend to interest stamp collectors in them to a large extent. The issue can hardly be described as "speculative," such a term being usually reserved for stamps prepared with a view to enhancing the postal revenues. In this case the Postal Department cannot reap more than the cost of production and distribution, and the collector who would reject a stamp issued for such a laudable and humanitarian object because it is not strictly necessary from a postal point of view is unworthy of the consideration of all right thinking philatelists.

Well, we flatter ourselves we are right-thinking philatelists, but may we be shot if we should withhold our consideration from any collector who ventured to reject these wretched labels. We are not surprised to find that other editors view this matter in the same light as ourselves. The next journal to the *Australian Philatelist* in the pile on our table chances to be *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies*, which has this to say in reply to our colonial contemporary:—

We beg to differ decidedly from the view given in the last paragraph. The stamps are speculative, pure and simple; they are even a bit worse than many so-called speculative issues, and rank just about one step below the "Henry the Navigator" and "St. Antonius," labels of Portugal and the Jubilee issues of San Marino. If the Colony of New South Wales needs a Consumptive Home she ought to build one from the funds subscribed by the people of that Colony. Taxing just one class of people—strangers—all the world over is, to say the least, a somewhat enforced kind of beggary.

It is very doubtful if philatelists in general, having lots of things to attend to at home, are particularly interested in the consumptives of New South Wales, and it is quite sure that by their own free will they would not care at all to help the apparently consumptive treasury of that colony along by donating 3s. 6d. to the same. Nevertheless 50,000 stamps will perhaps easily be disposed of at a net profit of close on £3,000 to the Colony, and the worst of it is this will encourage others to go and do likewise.

We fear so!



# AUCTION SUPPLEMENT.



**Class A**—Superb condition; if *unused*, absolutely mint state if *used*, perfect and fine in every respect; (if *imperf.* with fine margins; if *perf.*, evenly centred).

**Class a**—Fine condition; if *unused*, may be without gum when otherwise brilliant.

**Class b**—Fair average "Catalogue" copies, without any defect.

**Class c**—Rare stamps with slight defects, heavy postmark, faded colour, thinning, crease, cut, or tear.

All Stamps are to be taken as used, except those marked (\*).

(Continued from page 248).

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, July 27th and 28th, 1897.

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
b	Gibraltar, first issue, 1/- bistre	2 2 0
2a1c	Great Britain, V.R., strip of 3, one cut into	34 0 0
a	Hamburg, 4sch. green, imperf., pair	3 0 0
a	ditto, a single	1 10 0
b	Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 2sch. grey-lilac	1 13 0
A	Nevis, 4d. orange, litho. sheet of 12	70 0 0
a	6d. grey, ditto	8 5 0
a b	Nova Scotia, 1d. red-brown	0 17 0
a	6d. dark green	2 0 0
a	St. Christopher, 6d. olive	1 10 0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	1 16 0
a b	(6d.) green, ditto	1 11 0
a	6d. lilac	2 6 0
a	1/- orange-brown, no gum	3 0 0
a b	1/- orange, SHIELDING STAMP	1 12 0
a	Straits Settlements, 96c. grey, perf. 12½	3 0 0
A	Transvaal, "2½ Pence" (error) on 1/- green, pair, one normal	1 1 0
A	ditto, similar pair, inverted	1 12 0
a	Trinidad, 6d. green, imperf.	1 10 0
a	1/- indigo, ditto pair	2 15 0
b	grey, litho. late	1 2 0
1b1c	4d. brown-lilac, pin perf., vert. pair	3 0 0
A	ditto, clean perf., pair	3 0 0
a	6d. green, ditto, strip of 3	5 0 0
b c	United States, St. Louis, 10c. black on greenish, outer line cut at bottom, penmark, on entire	10 0 0
a	5c. brown, imperf., on piece	1 10 0
b	(1869), 90c.	1 12 0
b	ditto, ditto, used	1 3 0
b	State, 2 dollars	2 0 0

Messrs. BUHL & CO., Limited, July 28th and 31st, 1897.

a	Antigua, 2½d. brown, CC.	1 2 0
a	Bahamas, 1d. lake, imperf.	1 18 0
b	Barbados, 6d. orange-red, large star, clean perf., pair	1 18 0
a	5 - rose	1 17 6
a b	British Honduras, 6d. rose, CC., perf. 14	2 15 0
b	ditto, used	3 0 0
a b	2c. small on 6d. rose, perf. 12½	0 18 0
A	Dominica, 1/- lilac-rose, CA.	3 0 0
b	Grenada, ½d. double surcharge	1 0 0
b	2½d. claret, wmk. broad star	1 0 0
b	2/- orange fiscal, surcharged 1d. REVENUE (with-out "Postage")	6 6 0
a	Montserrat, 2½d. brown, CC.	1 4 0
b	2½d. brown, CA.	0 16 0
a b	4d. blue, CA.	2 7 0
b	Nevis, 4d. rose	2 6 0
b	6d. grey-lilac	1 16 0
a b	1/- green, perf. 13	1 10 0
b	4d. orange, engraved	1 12 0
b	1/- blue-green	1 0 0
b	6d. grey, litho.	8 0 0
a	1/- yellow-green, ditto	1 1 0
a	1/- dark green, ditto	1 0 0
a	2½d. brown, CC.	1 0 0
A	1/- lilac	£1 9s. od. and
a	6d. green, St. Kitts. Revenue, on piece	1 10 0
b	Roumania, 5b. blue (error)	2 12 0

CONDITION.	DESCRIPTION.	PRICES REALIZED.
		£ s. d.
b	St. Christopher, 4d. blue, CA.	1 1 0
a	6d. olive	2 2 0
a	1/- pale lilac-rose	0 18 0
a	1/- deep ditto	1 0 0
a b	St. Lucia (4d.) blue, star	2 0 0
b	(6d.) green ditto	1 18 0
a	1/- black and orange	2 4 0
b	St. Vincent, 4d. yellow	1 16 0
a	ditto, used	2 17 6
b	1 - slate, perf. 15	1 3 0
a	1 - indigo	2 10 0
a	4d. deep blue star	1 1 0
a	½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair	2 7 6
a	ditto, a single, used	1 15 0
a	Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d. grey	2 17 6
a b	ditto, used	1 16 0
a	Virgin Islands (1879), 1d. green	1 12 0
a	2½d. brown, CC.	0 19 0
a	4d. chestnut	16/-, 17/- and 0 17 0
a	4d. on 1/- crimson	19/- and 1 5 0
a	6d. violet	1 0 0
a	1/- crimson, single line	3 3 0
b	ditto	2 4 0
A	1 - crimson border	1 0 0
a	ditto	0 17 0
a	1/- sepia	£1 and 2 0 0

Messrs. BUHL & Co., Ltd., August 4th, 1897.

b	Brazil, sloping figures, 300r.	3 10 0
b	Canada, 10d. blue, on thin	1 0 0
b	Hanover, 10gr. green	1 8 0
a	St. Vincent, ½d. red on half 6d. yellow-green, pair	2 4 0
b	United States (1855), 90c. blue	2 11 0
b	Victoria, Too Late	1 0 0

End of 1896 - 7 Auction Season.

## WHAT IS "GOOD STUFF" AND WHAT IS "TRASH?"

In the course of the editorial articles in the August *Post Office*—articles that are always closely-reasoned and eminently readable—we find the following.

There is much heard among collectors and dealers about "good stuff," "trash," and similar things expressed in like terms. It is sometimes a puzzle to discern just what is meant by these phrases, and we have often thought that their authors did not know themselves just what they meant, inasmuch as what is called "trash" by one, another calls "good stuff." The distinction seems to be largely a matter of opinion, since a great deal that is low-priced is spoken of as "good stuff," while some high-priced stamps are denominated "trash." A fair distinction in the quality of stamps may be made by noticing which of the world's governments have gone into the business of stamp speculation or have allowed employees to do so. The stamps of such countries speedily degenerate from good stuff to trash. Notice particularly Portugal and colonies, French colonies (Labuan, Ceylon, and shall we add Canada and Newfoundland?) These last two countries with their jubilee issues limited in quantity, have put themselves into the class of the above nations in the minds of many collectors. The stamps of those nations remain "good stuff" which are not sold for other than legitimate postal requirements.

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20c. blue	5 0	1 riksdaler, perf. 14	12 6
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1865.		4 .. grey	0 9
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40c. carmine	10 0	20 .. vermilion	1 0
1fr. lilac	25 0	24 .. yellow	1 3
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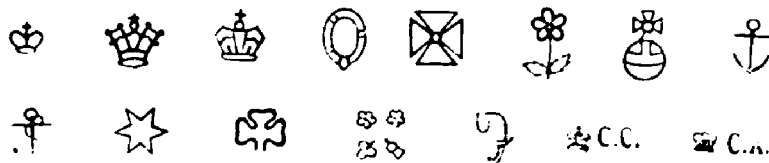
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(Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of 3d. for every word.—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**WANTED.**—Old Collections, rare single stamps, unused current Colonials. Exchange or Cash. SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey [15]

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CHAS. J. SMITH, [18]

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OF  
**Postage Stamps.**

**MR. MACKAY** begs to intimate that his First SALE BY AUCTION will take place

On **SATURDAY, 2nd OCTOBER, 1897.**

Catalogues will be ready 14 days before date of Sale. Commissions entrusted to the Auctioneer will receive careful attention.

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95, BATH St., GLASGOW,

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**A VALUABLE COLLECTION** and **VARIOUS LOTS.** . . . .

Catalogues ready shortly.

Lots of Medium Rarity and Collections wanted for future Sales, which will be continued at judicious intervals during the Season. See next issue of this paper.

[6] References: Cheveley Whitfield King, utler

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Hawal, 12c black . . . . . 2 6  
50c. orange-vermilion . . . . . 8 0  
\*Newfoundland, 5c. brown . . . . . 30 0  
5c. black . . . . . 20 6  
Persia, 1894, 16sh rose . . . . . 1 0  
5 kran violet and silver . . . . . 1 3  
Liberia, 1897, 1c-50c. . . . . 8 0  
Greece Olympic, 1l-1 drachma . . . . . 2 6  
Hong Kong, 5 dollars on 2/10 . . . . . 8 0  
Gambia, 4d. brown, CC. . . . . 4 0  
Lagos, 2d. blue, CA. . . . . 4 0  
7 1/2d. and 10d. . . . . 1 9  
1/- green and black . . . . . 0 9  
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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No 78.—VOL. III.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. The City of London Philatello Club. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

## Revised Wholesale List.



SINCE we issued our Wholesale List in May, 1896, we have sold out many lines and added others. Prices have also experienced certain alterations. We have therefore decided to issue a thoroughly revised List. The second instalment appears to-day, and will continue till finished, when it will be issued in book form, and forwarded gratis to all Dealers known to us.

ALL USED UNLESS MARKED \*

BAVARIA.		Per 12		Per 100		BELGIUM continued.		Per 12		Per 100		BRAZIL continued.		Per 12		Per 100	
1849-50, imperf.,	1kr. rose	..	1/3	9	—	1863.	..	1c. green (Newspaper Stamp)	..	2/6	—	1878-9	..	50r. blue	..	1/3	—
"	3kr. blue	..	1/-	7/6	—	"	..	2c. blue. do.	..	12/6	—	"	..	100r. green	..	8d.	5/-
"	6kr. brown	..	7d.	4	—	BERMUDA.						"	..	200r. black	..	6/6	—
"	3kr. rose	..	7d.	4	—	CC.	14.	4d. brown	..	2/6	—	"	..	perf. 300r. green & orange	..	9/6	—
1862 issue, imperf.,	18kr. red	..	22/6	—	—	"	..	1d. rose	..	2/-	—	"	..	roul. 3000r. bistre	..	2/6	17/6
1867.	3kr. rose	..	1/3	—	—	"	..	2d. blue	..	3/6	—	"	..	1000r. grey	..	15/-	—
"	6kr. blue	..	4/6	—	—	"	..	4d. orange	..	3/6	—	1881, perf.,	200r. red-brown	..	5/6	—	
"	6kr. stone	..	10/6	—	—	"	..	6d. violet	..	7/6	—	1882	..	200r. pink	..	1/-	7/6
1870-3, perf.,	3kr. rose	..	9d.	5/6	—	"	..	1/- green	..	15	—	"	..	10r. black (head)	..	1/-	—
"	7kr. blue	..	1/3	—	—	CA.	..	1d. carmine	..	6d.	3/9	"	..	10r. orange	..	6d.	—
"	9kr. brown	..	2/6	—	—	"	..	23d. blue (unused)	..	3/9	—	"	..	50r. blue	..	6/6	—
"	10kr. yellow	..	1/6	—	—	"	..	24d. .. (used)	..	1	22/6	"	..	100r. lilac	..	1/3	—
"	15kr. red	..	1/9	—	—	BOLIVIA.						1883-5	..	100r. lilac (lined ground)	..	1/-	7/6
1876,	25 pf. brown	..	1/6	—	—	1866, imperf.	5c. green	..	4/-	—	—	1885	..	100r. lilac plain	..	18d.	5/-
1881,	1M. violet	..	1/6	10/6	—	1876, perf.	20c. "	..	1/6	—	—	1887	..	50r. blue (figure)	..	9d.	5/6
1888,	25pf. brown	..	4d.	2/6	—	1887, roul.	1c. rose *	..	10d.	—	—	"	..	300r. blue	..	4/-	—
BELGIUM.						"	..	10c. orange	..	10d.	6/-	1888	..	1000r. pearl grey	..	8	—
1851, wmk., L.L.,	20c. blue	..	2/3	—	—	BRAZIL.						1890-2	..	50r. green	..	6d.	—
"	40c. red	..	6	—	—	1886, perf.	10r. vermilion	..	1	—	—	"	..	red violet	..	6d.	3
1861, No wmk.	10c. brown	..	2	—	—	"	..	20r. lilac	..	1	—	"	..	200r. purple	..	1d.	2/3
"	20c. blue	..	1/3	9	—	"	..	50r. purple	..	3/3	—	"	..	300r. deep-violet	..	1/6	—
"	40c. red	..	5/6	—	—	"	..	100r. green	..	8d.	—	1892	..	100r. blue and red	..	6d.	3
1863, perf.,	20c. blue	..	6d.	3/9	—	"	..	200r. black	..	2	—	1891	..	700r. violet and black	..	1/-	—
"	40c. carmine	..	3/6	—	—	"	..	500r. orange	..	10/-	—	NEWSPAPER STAMPS.					
1866,	10c. grey	..	1	—	—	1876, roul.	100r. green	..	1/3	—	—	1889, perf.,	10r. olive	..	1d.	2/6	
"	20c. blue	..	1/3	9	—	"	..	200r. black	..	2/3	6/6	"	..	20r. green	..	5d.	3/-
"	30c. brown	..	3/6	—	—	"	..	10r. red	..	1/3	—	"	..	50r. pale-brown	..	6d.	3/6
"	40c. rose	..	2/3	—	—	"	..	20r. mauve	..	1/-	—	1890-81	..	10r. violet-blue	..	4d.	2/6
1886-91	2 francs	..	5/6	—	—	"	..					"	..	10r. blue on buff	..	9d.	5/6

HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

HELD BY . . .

## MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER,

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At the **St. MARTIN'S TOWN HALL, Charing Cross, S.W.**

MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER beg to announce that their Dates of Sales for the ensuing Season will be as under:

October 14 and 15, 28 and 29; November 11 and 12, 25 and 26; December 9 and 10. 1898—January 13 and 14, 27 and 28; February 10 and 11, 24 and 25; March 10 and 11, 24 and 25; April 14 and 15, 28 and 29; May 12 and 13, 26 and 27; June 16 and 17.

**SEPTEMBER 30th and OCTOBER 1st.**—A very Private Collection, including the following rarities: Switzerland, double Geneva. Zurich, 4 rappen, Vaud, 4c., Basle. Neuchatel and Winterthur; France, 1 franc, orange; Naples, arms and cross; Tuscany, 2 soldi and 60 crazie; Spain, complete, including all the rarities, errors, etc.; Philippines, nearly complete; Moldavia, 54 paras on piece, 40 and 80 paras on blue paper; Russian Levant, brown and blue and blue and red; Wendenschen Kreises, 1st issue, black on rose, used; Gibraltar, complete, used; Heligoland, complete, used, including the error; Hamburg, 9 sch., imperf., used; Bremen, complete; Lubeck, error, used; Mecklenburg-Schwerin, 1 sch., rouletted; Schleswig-Holstein, 1st issue, 1 and sch., used; Oldenburg, complete, and very fine; Saxony, 3 pfennige, red; Wurtemberg, 70kr., fine; Ceylon, 4d., 8d., 1/9, and 2/-, imperf.; India, 2 annas, green, used; fine early Mauritius; Cape Woodblocks; Lagos, complete, including 2/6, 5/-, and 10/-, used; New Brunswick, 1/-; Nova Scotia, 1/-; Newfoundland, 1/-; a grand lot of West Indies, including most of the rarities; British Guiana, 1st issue, 8c. and 12c., 1851-4c., 1856-4c., etc.; United States, a fine lot, including 15c. with inverted centre; Departmentals, nearly complete; Columbia, nearly complete, including rarities; Antioquia, 1st issue, 1 peso; Bolivar, 1st issue, 10c. green; Peru, 1/2 peso, rose, and 1/2 peso, yellow, 1 dinero, green, with inverted centre, etc.; Bolivia, 1st issues, complete; Buenos Ayres, 3, 4, and 5 pesos; Brazil, slanting figures, 180, 300, and 600 reis; and many others.

These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining special days of sale should communicate as early as possible, as the days are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large number of applications that the Auctioneers receive from America and the Continent for their Catalogues, these are issued, when practicable one month before the date of sale. In order to facilitate this arrangement, owners intending to include Stamps should forward them at the earliest possible moment. The greatest care is requisite in the preparation of these Catalogues, so that a correct and comprehensive description of the Stamps may be given.

Valuations made if required.

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" .. rouletted, 1sgr. yellow .. ..	1	10	0
France, 20c. blue (error), 1876 .. ..	1	0	0
The German Confederation, 7kr., rouletted .. ..	1	2	6
Greece, Paris print, 10lep. .. ..	1	10	0
Hanover, 1851, 1/10th. yellow, with rose gum .. ..	1	0	0
" .. 1856, 1/10th. black and orange, with rose gum .. ..	1	0	0
" .. 3 pfening, large network .. ..	2	0	0
" .. 1859, 1gr. claret, with rose gum .. ..	2	0	0
" .. 2gr. Prussian blue .. ..	1	10	0
" .. 3gr. orange-yellow .. ..	0	10	0
" .. 3gr. brown .. ..	1	10	0
" .. 10gr. olive green, fine margins .. ..	4	0	0
Oldenburg, 1855, 1/4sgr., on green .. ..	1	15	0
" .. 1/4sgr. black on green, superb specimen, with enormous margins .. ..	12	10	0
Prussia, 1861, 2sgr. Prussian blue .. ..	7	10	0
Russia, 1865, no wmk., 1kr. .. ..	1	10	0
Sweden, 1866, 17 ore red-lilac .. ..	0	8	6
" .. 17 ore grey .. ..	5	10	0
Wurtemberg, 1859, 3kr. yellow .. ..	5	10	0
" .. 1861, 9kr. rose .. ..	3	10	0
" .. 1862, 6kr. green .. ..	1	0	0

WANTED TO BUY: Greece, Denmark, Belgium and Scandinavian, unused.

I AM A BUYER OF LARGE LOTS OF . . .

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BRITISH STAMPS ONLY.

# THE STAMP COLLECTORS

## FOR TWENTY-NIGHTLY.

With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY."

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY  
HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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Bristol Philatelic Society. | Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 78.—Vol. III.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1897.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### "CONSUMPTIVE" STAMPS SELL AT A PREMIUM!

THE *Sunday Times*, of New South Wales, reports that the special stamps issued in aid of a contemplated Consumptive Home, have been eagerly bought up by collectors and others. There is much virtue in that "others." The half-crown stamp, it appears, is at a healthy premium, and the shilling label seems likely to follow its example. The *Sunday Times* goes on to say:

"Mr. Harry S. Levy, one of the treasurers of the Hospital Fund, and a most conspicuous worker on its behalf from the initiation of the movement, purchased some of the half-crown stamps when they were issued to the public, with the view of re-selling to collectors on the inevitable rise. He sold some at 3s. 6d., 5s., and lastly at 7s. 6d. The profit thus made he hands in to the Hospital Fund, which thus secures additional benefit.

"Mr. Levy is convinced that these stamps will see a very high price when the English and American collectors come forward to purchase, and those who bought at the face value, and are later disposed to sell, will make a handsome profit.

"The Shilling stamp will, of course, also have value added to it, and those of the public who have sought to aid the Hospital for Consumptives movement by purchasing them will actually find themselves with money in pocket. This may be termed profitable charity.

"The supply of shilling stamps will shortly be exhausted, and those who delay purchasing may be disappointed."

"Disappointed" is delicious!

### WHY WE NEED INTERNATIONAL STAMPS.

WHETHER the "international" stamp will ever become an accomplished fact is problematical, but there can be no

doubt that it would be a distinct boon. "Ron," in the course of a letter to the *Sydney Bulletin*, shows how the issue of such a stamp would benefit our colonial brothers and sisters. Why (asks he) cannot the Postal Union arrange for the issue of international stamps, which could be used to frank out-going letters, or be convertible into cash, on a sliding scale of commission, within the Union? In these days of universal travel and correspondence, both old and new business would benefit. In Sydney no more than 10d. worth of British stamps can be obtained from the G.P.O. without extra charge! For any excess the commission imposed is 2d. on every 5d. worth; and private competition is prohibited by law. Is this not tyrannical idiocy? The P.O. objects to the idea, from a mistaken notion that it would be impossible to estimate the sales apportionable to each province or country, and to adjust the international accounts; but a small private mark on each stamp would easily secure that essential.

### NEW ZEALAND'S FORTHCOMING NEW ISSUE.

NEW ZEALAND it appears, will not be out of the Jubilee stamp business. The *Canterbury Times*, of Canterbury, N.Z., states that shortly after Mr. Sedden, the Prime Minister, arrived in London he discovered that the designs sent over some time ago had not been placed in the hands of the die-makers. He at once gave orders for the immediate execution of the work, and the stamps will be issued before the end of the present year.

### THE CANADIAN JUBILEE ISSUE.

REGARDING the Canadian Jubilee Stamps, G. A. G. writes: "In your issue of 7th inst., you say, p. 236, 'The Canadian Jubilee issue is in every respect a copy of the American Jubilee issue of 1873.' 'The only difference is in the period of availability, etc.'"

"If you will pardon me I would call to your notice the following points of difference:

"The Columbian stamps were sold everywhere to all comers until the supply was exhausted with no limit as to quantity, from one cent upwards, and were still on sale in many post offices of the country in August, 1897.

"The Canadian Government has restricted the sale from the start of their Jubilee stamps, notably of the 1d., 6d. and the dollar values, of which none could be purchased, with few exceptions, apart from full sets. Had the Government simply desired to guard against speculators, 2,000 of each variety could easily have been reserved to cover the full set requirements, but on this side the water indications are strong that the speculators are within the post office department.

Orders for instance, sent to Montreal with cash enclosed are turned over by the postmaster to a *stamp dealer*, who answered letters sent to the post office department and regrets (for the postmaster) the inability of the office to send the desired stamps, but he, the aforesaid dealer, can furnish the desired stamps at such and such prices over face, from his private supply.

"Such actions as the above are what has brought this issue into disrepute, and if in the United States such collusion was demonstrated, you would find a vacancy existing at once in the office where found.

"The only points of similarity in the two issues mentioned are that both contain values for which there is no possible need, and that the size renders them a nuisance to the general public."

#### MISSING PHILATELIST AND MISSING BOOK.

MR. CLARENCE L. HUNT, of Old Town, Clapham, writes to a local journal, the *Clapham Observer*, as follows:

Yesterday (Sept. 7th), a young man called upon me about 9 o'clock and made a purchase of "foreign postage stamps," to the value of 1s. 8d., tendering in payment a half-crown. I went into the parlour to ask my wife if she could give me change. Replying in the negative, I was about to go and get it, when the young man said he would come with me. On my return I found to my astonishment that the book (a red cover one), from which he had made several selections, had gone away with him. Inside the cover is written "Imperial Stamp Company," value £5 1s. 4d. If you will enable me to recover the same by giving this notice publicity in your Journal this week I shall esteem it a great favour.

Your obedient servant,

CLARENCE L. HUNT.

P.S.—Description of young man—about 21, rather dark, pleasant looking and very chatty gave the name of Lee.

#### PHILATELY IN VICTORIA.

From Mr. D. S. Abraham, of Melbourne, the Hon. Secretary of the Philatelic Society of Victoria, we have received the Fifth Annual Report of that very "hive" and useful organisation, as submitted to and adopted by the annual general meeting held at 272, Flinders Street, Melbourne, on July 14th, last

The Society appears to be in a flourishing condition.

The number of members now on roll is 67, comprising 47 town, 19 corresponding, and one honorary member. 12 new members were elected during the year, and 6 resigned. The balance at the Society's credit is £33 5s. 9d.

At a special Meeting held during the year Rule 3 was altered to read—"Ladies and Gentlemen over 18 years of age, interested in the aforesaid objects may be elected as members or *honorary* members of the Society," and consequence upon such alteration, Mr. James Smibert, then Deputy Postmaster-General was elected the first honorary member of the Society.

The Committee has to tender the thanks of the Society to Mr. James Smibert, Ex-Deputy Postmaster-General for his courtesy in allowing all new issues of the countries comprised in the Postal Union received by him to be exhibited at the meetings, and also to Major Outtrim, the present Deputy Postmaster-General, who has kindly promised to continue the privilege.

During the year Mr. A. J. Derrick read an interesting paper on the Sydney View stamps, written by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, and illustrated with lantern slides, which was greatly appreciated, and the thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Basset Hull for the loan of his manuscript, and also to the Sydney Philatelic Club, and Mr. F. C. Krickauff, of Adelaide, for the lantern slides.

The following are the officials of the Society: Life Hon. President, Mr. D. H. Hill; President, Mr. A. J. Derrick; Vice-President, Mr. W. R. Randell; Librarian, Mr. A. W. L. Paul; Hon. Sec., Treas. and Ex. Sup., Mr. D. S. Abraham; Committee, Messrs. J. Davis, A. S. A. Whelen, O. W. Rosenham, A. McDonald.

With regard to the contemplated "charitable" stamps to be brought out by the postal authorities of Victoria, in imitation of the successful New South Wales scheme, the Philatelic Society of Victoria "view the issue with disfavour,

but are unable to enter a strong protest on the ground of charity."

Charity! charity! What a lot thou hast to answer for!

#### ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE A.P.A.

ABOUT seventy-five members of the American Philatelic Association assembled in Boston on Tuesday, August 24th, for the Twelfth Annual Convention. The sessions (says the *American Journal of Philately*) were held in Wesleyan Hall, and were marked by great harmony and the evident desire to promote the welfare of the Association. The attendance represented an unusually large number of states.

The report of the Secretary, Mr. Joe F. Beard, showed a falling off in membership of 170, leaving a total of 879. These losses are attributed to business depression and a certain amount of dissatisfaction with regard to the management of certain branches of the Association. The Treasurer's report on the other hand showed the Association to be financially sound.

The following officers were appointed: H. E. Deats, Librarian; W. C. Stone, Literary Exchange Manager; R. R. Bogert, Examiner of Sale Books; J. W. Scott, Counterfeit Detector; J. A. Wainwright, Collecting Agent; P. M. Wolsieffer, A. W. Bachelder and W. F. Gregory, Auction and Purchasing Agents. All the old resident and state vice-presidents were re-appointed.

The surprise of the convention, if there was a surprise, was the choice of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* as official organ. The *Era* is published by Mr. W. W. Jewett, of Portland, who has issued it regularly, first as a monthly, and latterly as a weekly, for more years than many of the stamp journals at present in existence will ever attain to. By profession, Mr. Jewett is a printer, and though he collects, he does not, we believe, deal in stamps. He is a man of honest, upright views, and few will grudge him the new distinction conferred upon him and the *Era*.

The next A.P.A. convention will be held in New York City, August 23rd, 1898.

#### TO REMOVE PRINTING FROM "ENTIRES."

A READER of the *Bazaar* having enquired if there is any way of removing printing from post-cards, the editor of that journal replies: "To remove printers' ink, a more or less strong solution of caustic potash should be laid on lightly with a brush over the ink, and then washed away with water afterwards. To remove any discolouration of the paper as far as possible, wash it over with a solution of bi-sulphite of lime (Clevely powder) or chloride of lime, and expose to the sun to dry. Instead of the above, equal parts of crystallized carbonate of soda (common washing soda) and lime (calcic oxide) may be mixed together, made into a paste by moistening with water, and laid on the printing. To restore the gloss to the surface rub it over with the bone handle of a knife or tooth brush. Sulphuric ether will also remove the ink, so will benzine; but do not bring the latter near a flame.

#### A LADY'S TIPS ABOUT KEEPING DUPLICATES.

MISS AMY L. SWIFT is a prolific writer for American stamp journals. She pens a workmanlike little article on the subject of "The Care of Duplicates" for the *Columbian Philatelist*. Miss Swift has her own ideas about this important matter. Thoroughness is her motto. "I have good large envelopes" she writes, "for each country represented by my duplicates, and as soon as new stamps come in they are at once assorted, each being placed in the envelope of its country. Those of which there are a great many of a kind, such as the common continentals, are given a small envelope to each value, the small envelopes being afterwards slipped into the larger one. Each large envelope is clearly labelled 'Belgium,' 'Germany,' or whatever it needs to be, and each small one is also labelled according to the stamps it contains, so that I know at a glance where to find any stamp I want. When there are a hundred of a kind I tie them up together and put them aside to await future examinations for future discoveries, thus getting them out of the way for the present. The united family of envelopes—and it really is quite a sizable one—reside in a large paste-board box, which an amused but good natured 'masculine' kindly



donated for the purpose. I rather suspect that box originally contained his foot gear, but it is such an extraordinary big one I dare not give my suspicious voice, as the erst-while owner, being a relative, would be apt to take sudden and dire vengeance for the insult.

"Of course it took considerable time and patience at first to do all this sorting and get all the envelopes in smooth working order, but the resulting convenience is wonderful and really worthy of a little extra work. The high-grade stamps, such as one seldom has long in stock, I keep between the pages of a blank book."

#### KINGS AND PRINCES WHO COLLECT STAMPS.

THE stories about the royal philatelists of Europe (writes "Missouriensis" in the *Weekly Stamp News*) are vague enough, and hard to verify. The writer does not pretend to any special information upon the subject, but ventures to repeat first of all, the rumor that the Czar of Russia is, or was prior to the time of his accession, a philatelist. Doubtless the cares of such an empire leave this imperial collector little time for the pursuit, and it is no wonder that recently his album has been laid aside.

The young Queen of Holland, now nearly 17 years of age, has been for some time known as a collector. Many will remember to have read that the Dutch Consul at New York bought for her one of the first sets of our Columbian stamps sold in that city.

The enterprising King of Siam, who is now visiting in Europe, has also been claimed as a philatelist, but with how much justice it is hard to tell, as the Lord of the White Elephant goes about as he pleases, and has no fear of the reporter before his eyes.

The Duke of York, now past 32 years of age, and in the direct line of succession to the British throne, is, perhaps, the most interesting figure in the stamp world to-day. What an influence will his example have in the future if he still continues to collect!

Collectors of noble blood are found in almost every European country. Whilst the writer was preparing the copy for the last edition of Mekeel's Address Book of Foreign Collectors, he was impressed with the large number of titled nobility that were found amongst its names. Some cursory mention of these may perhaps be found interesting.

Italy makes the largest showing in this line. In the particular publication referred to, there will be found the names of one duke, four counts, two barons and a marquis. Titles are proverbially plentiful in this fair land, but even so it would seem as if a remarkably large proportion of these who collect stamps came from nobility.

Russia gives us two princes and two barons. But it must be remembered that in this country prince does not denote the high rank which would be indicated by that title in Western Europe. Indeed, the writer has vivid recollections of sending an exchange lot of stamps in answer to the advertisement of a Russian "prince," and he is still waiting for a "letter that never came."

France has one prince collector whom we would judge from his name to be of the Russian variety. Barons seem to go in pretty extensively for stamps. Our list introduces us to two in Belgium, which also has a baroness; then there is another one in Switzerland, and still another one in Holland.

In Austria and Hungary are to be found quite a number who bear the title of knight or freiherr.

Spain gives us a "gentleman to His Majesty," which, whilst not a title of nobility, yet indicates the highest social position.

In almost all the countries of Europe, military titles are common in lists of philatelists. Amongst these are found a good many of high rank. A large proportion of the available philatelic addresses in the smaller colonies, such as those of France, are those of subaltern officers.

A review of the number of titled persons who collect stamps reveals the fact that our hobby is highly popular with these influential classes, which gives an additional argument in favor of the view that it will continue to expand throughout the world.

#### DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN PHILATELIST.

THE American stamp journals chronicle, with great regret, the death of Mr. W. T. Curtis, the well-known specialist of Colombian and other South American stamps. The following is an eloquent "appreciation" of Mr. Curtis, contributed to *Mekeel's Weekly* by one who knew him well:

William Theodore Curtis is no more. The Columbian enthusiast, who dwelt lovingly on Grenadine Confederation and Antioquian rarities, the philatelist who could expatiate for long hours on the scarcity of Tolima issues, and who could look with unfeigned pleasure upon any collection of Colombia stamps, lies silently in the grave. During his long last illness he often turned to the subject of philately with apparent relief and satisfaction. Seven days before he breathed his last he wrote to me about the recent exhibition of Colombias here:—"I wish I could have seen the collections. I would have gone on purpose and have taken some stamps, but I am still confined to an invalid's bed." All who knew him admired his untiring energy in unearthing new and interesting things in Colombias, and we all give him credit for very many discoveries in his special field of research. His great regret during his philatelic career has always been the fact, also too true, that so very few collectors appreciated the value and scarcity of Colombias. One of his common expressions when he was exhibiting his Caucas was: "I will guarantee that my prices are one-half what the stamps are worth, if you find me the party who really knows what they are worth"; and the challenge was never accepted, as far as I am aware, and the party who knows what Colombias are worth has not yet been found.

Mr. Curtis travelled extensively in South America, and during his wanderings picked up many stamps and much philatelic knowledge.

### City of London Philatelic Club.

COMMITTEE FOR SEASON 1896-1897.

*Vice-Presidents:* Mr. Harry Hülkes and Mr. John J. Lane.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. C. Forbes.

*Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent:* Mr. J. E. Joselin.

*Committee:*

Messrs. T. H. Thompson, W. Morley, Theo. Bull, D. T. Nops, F. B. Carr, H. Thompson, N. Z. Dracachis, H. Plumridge, John B. Camaschella, and H. Atherley.

*Hon. Secretary:*

Mr. C. Forbes, 42, Chester Road, East Ham, Essex.

The Twenty-first Meeting of the present Season was held on Monday, Sept. 6th, at Kennan's Hotel, Crown Court, 64, Cheapside, E.C., the following members being present: Messrs. H. Hülkes, C. Forbes, J. E. Joselin, H. W. Plumridge, F. B. Carr, J. B. Camaschella, H. Thompson, L. Bruce, J. Bornefeld, L. Vanden Bronque, D. Thomson and J. B. Neyron.

At the Committee Meeting held in the early part of the evening the following new members were duly elected: Mrs. A. C. Close (London) and M. A. Yarendji (Smyrna).

A proposition was also made that, commencing from Oct. 1st, the minimum price for stamps for the "Rarity" Exchange Packet be reduced from 5/- to 2/6.

Also that the Fifth Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 20th.

Our Fourth Magic Lantern Display will be held during November, and the Secretary will be pleased if any member having any good forgeries will kindly lend them to him for display that evening.

Our next ordinary meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 20th.

With reference to the Medals offered by the City of London Philatelic Club, at the Exhibition, for the Best Collection of Used "British Colonial Stamps," they were awarded by the judges as follows:

Gold Medal.—Baron A. de Worms.  
Silver .. Baron A. de Reutersköld.  
Bronze .. Mr. W. W. Blest.

C. FORBES, *Hon. Sec.*

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 64, Cheapside, E.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ½d. for every word.

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C."

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 18, 1897.



WE are getting quite aged. With this number our third volume concludes, and we complete our third year of life. Also, if we may mention the fact in passing, some hundreds of subscriptions to the FORTNIGHTLY become due. We venture to solicit prompt renewals, in order that there may be no hiatus in the delivery of the paper.

It is not our intention to formulate any definite programme for the future on this occasion. Some papers begin and end their every volume with a programme, and sometimes work in a programme or two "between whiles"—at holiday time, or on quarter days, and other periods of that sort when the mind of man is given up to sober reflections. It is a bad habit to get into, this framing of programmes, and we for one—or rather, we for two—do not propose to allow it to grow on us. No; the "index" we issue at the end of each yearly volume shall serve us as programme, and it will differ from all other programmes in this respect, that it will be a record of things that are done, and thus cannot be "altered at the discretion of the management."

But if we deny ourselves a programme, we may at least be permitted to take a retrospective glance. How do we stand now, as compared with the position of Philately at the time when the FORTNIGHTLY first appeared? Could a plebiscite be taken on that question, the answers would be mixed. The position of Philately at the present moment is good, and yet it is not good. The enthusiastic among us believe that the London Philatelic Exhibition has given the hobby a wonderful fillip, and probably that is true. The effects (from a business point of view) will doubtless be felt in the course of the season now opening—a season which the prophets are declaring will be remarkable for a notable philatelic revival. While we think that "revival" is hardly the word to use (there having been no real "slump" in good, marketable stamps), yet we are not disposed to quarrel as to terminology. As against this optimistic view, there is the very widespread feeling that all is not as it should be with Philately. There are still many black sheep in the fold, though the FORTNIGHTLY is doing its level best to exclude them; and furthermore, the "gumpap" we have always with us. And a very real difficulty it is, this problem of the "unnecessary stamp." Recent numbers of the FORTNIGHTLY have borne eloquent testimony to the fact. Mr. Nankivell, in the current issue of the *Philatelic Record*, speaks of the "Jubilee postal epidemic" now raging virulently, and Mr. Castle again writes of "The Rock Ahead." There is good reason for all this perturbation

in the many issues of "Hospital" stamps by the Australian Colonies, and in the Jubilee stamps of Canada.

How to combat this still growing evil is one of the problems of the immediate future, and in the solution of that problem the FORTNIGHTLY will not neglect to bear its part. But stay! enough of this, or we shall be formulating a "programme" after all.

Looking backward upon the part the FORTNIGHTLY has played since its inception in September, 1894, we can fairly take some credit to ourselves for producing a paper which, whatever its shortcomings, has been uniformly honest and clean-handed. We have feared nothing, and have truckled to nobody. We have tried above all things to "get the news" and to convey it to our readers in the most attractive form, and in addition to this, which is the primary reason of our existence, we have fought strenuously for straight dealing in Philately, and for the suppression of all frauds. And in the pursuit of that policy we shall persevere—but what are we saying? Our "programme" has got into print in spite of us.

With this number we finish the article on Prussian Stamps, and we hope to begin in our next a most exhaustively written essay on the Stamps of Finland, by a specialist who has devoted the last two years to the study of these stamps. The article will be profusely illustrated, and will give a vast amount of information never yet published.

We shall again resume our habit of illustrating forgeries, which we have discontinued for a time, owing to certain wiseacres' representations, who maintain that the publicity given by us to the details of these forgeries are injurious to philately. We are always happy to receive suggestions from our readers to improve the FORTNIGHTLY, and, if possible, adopt such suggestions, as we wish the FORTNIGHTLY to be, what it always has been hitherto, an honest help to the genuine collector.

### "Honduras, Limited."

A SYNDICATE SAID TO HAVE BOUGHT UP THE REPUBLIC—  
HOW WILL THIS AFFECT THE STAMPS?

SOME sensation has been caused by the newspaper statements to the effect that the Republic of Honduras—"Spanish" Honduras, of course, not British—is about to be acquired as a more or less "going" concern by a Syndicate of wealthy capitalists. The idea is unique, and opens up a vista of piquant possibilities. At some time in the future somebody may, as has often been suggested in comic songs, "buy the earth" and "run" it on limited liability lines. But, returning to Honduras, it must indeed (as the City Editor of the *Star* has it) be a bold syndicate that would desire to step into the shoes of this bankrupt Central American Republic. The area of Honduras is about 40,000 square miles and the population not much more than a quarter of a million, chiefly Indians. The question may well be raised how such a one-horse State found capitalists in Europe willing to lend it five millions of money. It is the incomplete railways that the Valentine Syndicate now regards as advantageous to acquire. Some sections of the railway—about 60 miles in all—were opened for traffic, but the works on the remaining section were never completed. The latest news from New York is to the effect that the Valentine Syndicate, in buying up the goodwill of Honduras, will make itself responsible for the expenses of carrying on the Government. It is to be reimbursed out of the revenues of the country, including the Customs, all of which are to be handed over to its tender mercies. Its programme is "colonisation, retrenchment, and high railway fares."

And what of stamps? Surely a business-like syndicate will not neglect such an important branch of Central American government as the Board of Philatelic Revenue? Possibly the existing contract with Mr. Seebeck will be annulled, in order that "Honduras, Limited," may sell its own stamps to the best advantage.

And—horrible thought!—will the future stamps of the country be inscribed: "Honduras, Limited"?



met with, even at a much later period, but always with the addition of the numerals showing the year.

*Reprints.*—Of the first issue, two reprints were taken officially, the first time—January 1864—without the watermark, the second time—July 1873—with the regular watermark, but in dull greyish colours as against the bright colours of the originals.

The so called reprints of the second issue—done in 1864 and 1873—are like the so-called reprints of Alsace and Lorraine, nothing sort than an official forgery; new dies had to be made, showing some differences by which they can be identified. Happily not many have been printed.

Of the watermarked reprints of the first issue considerable numbers were, however, put in circulation through dealers. 750,000 each are the figures given for the 4 and 6 pfenning reprints, while the 1, 2, and 3 silbergr. reprints are put down in Krötzsch's Handbook with 300,000 each.

More details are to be found in Dr. Kalckhoff's Book on Reprints, a British edition of it is published by Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., London.

#### Conclusion.

The efficiency of the Prussian post has always been well maintained, and received special care accordingly to the word of King Frederick William I. (? 1740): "The post is the oil of the whole state machinery." Frederick II. wrote in one of his decrees: "the post serves the interest of the King and People alike, interests who are practically identical, therefore it must be organized well," that is to be able to fulfil its mission. And it was well fitted to develop to its present extension.

As mentioned before, the Prussian stamps with the exception of the 10 and 30 Silbergr. ceased to be in use on January 1st, 1868, after an existence of a little over 17 years, the adhesives of the North German Confederation taking their places. The bulk of the eagle series still in hand on that date (IV. and VI. issue), were sold to a Hamburg dealer in 1869 for 1000 thaler (£150); for this modest sum he received not less than 280,000 copies of 11 different kinds; prices, however, were not affected by it, and have kept a pretty equal level. By one or two sales later, on the whole remainders were cleared out.

The stamps which are the subject of this by no means exhaustive study are within the reach of everyone. The entire absence of any intricate ways in severing the labels, often found so puzzling to collectors, or the non-appearance of the not less puzzling different watermarks and shades makes the collecting of the adhesive stamps of Prussia delightfully simple, yet through their variety they are not lacking in absorbing interest to an earnest student.

### 'Twixt Editor and Reader.

G.R., an Australian reader to whom we are indebted for news concerning the now notorious "Consumptive" stamps of New South Wales, writes: "I have much pleasure in enclosing 3/3 for next twenty-six numbers of the FORTNIGHTLY. I could not now get on without your newsy little paper, so different from the usual Trade Circular papers, and doing an immense amount of good among collectors—revealing shady transactions. I enclose clipping from *Sunday Times*, re the Hospital Consumptive Stamps; the 2/6 is now selling at a large premium, and the 1/- have all been bought up. I do not care to handle them, the issue being purely speculative."

Here, then, is independent testimony to the accuracy of the information quoted elsewhere in this number of the "S.C.F." from the *Sunday Times* of New South Wales. The 2/6 "Consumptive" stamps are selling at "a large premium." Some accounts put the premium at 200 per cent. It is extraordinary, almost incomprehensible. One would like to know exactly the proportion of philatelists among the purchasers of the "stamps," but that perhaps is too much to wish for.

Some time ago, in our "Review of Reviews," we alluded to a paragraph in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* which stated that there were in all the world, 200,000 post offices, and that of this number the United States could lay claim to 70,000. We took leave to doubt the accuracy of these figures. The *American Collector*, of New Oxford, Pennsylvania, commenting on this, says:

We confess we have no means of forming an estimate of the number of those in foreign countries, but the number in the United States officially reported by the Post Office department in different years is as follows:—

June 30th, 1890	..	..	..	..	62,401
" 1891	..	..	..	..	64,329
" 1892	..	..	..	..	67,119
" 1893	..	..	..	..	68,403
" 1894	..	..	..	..	69,805
" 1895	..	..	..	..	70,064
" 1896	..	..	..	..	70,360

Our own state (Pennsylvania) has always led all other states in numbers, ranging from 4570 in 1890 to 4974 in 1896. Second comes New York with 3608, third Ohio with 3282 and fourth Virginia with 3211.

For ourselves, we still think that the total of 200,000 quoted by *L'Echo de la Timbrologie* represents a miscalculation.

\* \* \*

Mr. Charles J. Phillips scores more than one good point in the long letter he has recently addressed to the daily newspapers on the subject of the absurdly stringent regulations as to the employment of postage-stamp illustrations embodied in the Post Office Protection Act, which Act seems to have been recently "re-discovered," in a sudden fit of unwonted energy, by the officials at Somerset House. *Modern Society* shows up the folly of the situation in a few telling sentences:

Whatever else there may be to be said on the subject of the philatelic craze, it provides a great number of people with employment, and it would certainly be a thousand pities if the large business at present carried on in this country in the manufacture of stamp albums and catalogues were to be allowed to be handed over to Germany without a protest. Owing, however, to the red-tape-bound action of our postal authorities in enforcing the law intended to prevent the forging of postage stamps in such a way as to prevent the perfectly harmless production of illustrated stamp-catalogues, there seems to be every probability that in a short time this industry will have passed entirely away.

That is exactly our fear, and though it is not a matter that affects either our publishers or ourselves, we strongly feel that the policy now pursued by the Somerset House bureaucracy is a wrong headed one. British and German albums each have their good points, but that is not the question at all. The question is, should a legitimate British industry be harassed almost to the point of extinction? And the answer, we fancy, will be a unanimous "no!"

\* \* \*

The other day we heard from one of our subscribers that in reply to one of the small exchange advertisements he received what he considered very poor value for his money. We at once communicated with the advertiser, and are happy to say that the matter was at once settled. This little incident should remind our readers that we are always very desirous of being informed of any malpractices on the part of any black sheep which, in spite of the great care we take, might now and then creep into our covers. We wish our readers to have every confidence in our advertisers, and to inspire such confidence it is obviously necessary that the latter scrupulously avoid anything approaching unfair dealing.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING OCT. 2nd, 1897.

##### Auction Sales.

- September 21st and 22nd. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely, each day.
- September 28th and 29th. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 6 precisely each day.
- September 30th & October 1st.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 6 p.m.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Question of Substituted Stamps.

“W. E. D.” in the August issue of *Stamps*, replies to our reply to his—but we shall get hopelessly mixed if we go on at this rate. The writer in question pursues the subject of substituted stamps in exchange packets in this strain:—

I do not for one moment think that the stamping of one's initials on the back of a stamp in very small letters would in any way damage it, as I have frequently seen it done and have by me several specimens in that condition which are on the face every bit the same as if there was no such mark.

If, writes the editor of the *S.C.F.*, “each seller has to stamp his initials on the back of the unfortunate stamp, there would be a great deal more aniline on the back of the specimen than would be good for it.” But sir, I consider it is highly improbable that a stamp would be bartered more than once or twice on an exchange club; we are not all so mercenary as the editor of the *S.C.F.*, and want to sell our specimens directly we have purchased them; and even suppose the stamp in question was sold 3 or 4 times, there are 4 corners to most stamps, and ample room for the initials in small letters of 4 people, and the stamp would be practically unhurt if the stamp is used properly and lightly.

Another argument the editor of our contemporary brings forward is, the usual tendency of the seller to regard his stamps in the most favourable terms, and to look with a lenient eye upon any little shortcomings they may display. Here then is another evil practically done away with by the adoption of my scheme; this system will do away with false descriptions, as everyone will immediately notice wrong descriptions and tax the owners with their errors. I know it will make a little extra work for the sellers, but if they are not willing to do their share in the work of exterminating the philatelic thief, then they do not deserve to participate in the benefits derived therefrom. If the writer in the *Fortnightly* expects to have everything cut and dried ready for him, without any exertion on his part, he will find a considerable difficulty; if on the other hand he will lend a hand, I believe the extermination of the rogues is possible.

Again, if the members of a club have not thorough confidence in their Secretary, that club cannot succeed; yet the editor of the *Fortnightly* states that the Secretary of the club would be given a power of supervision which in all probability he does not desire and possibly deserve. Perhaps the writer of the article in question does not know how very awkward it is for a club secretary to have a case of changing occur in his club, and of the difficult position in which that Secretary is placed, and speaking as a Secretary, I would rather go carefully through 200 sheets a month, than have one case occur on my club.

In conclusion, may I again express my opinion that the plan suggested is a workable and feasible one.

## Brisbane to follow Sydney's Lead.

Queensland, it appears, also has a Home for consumptives in contemplation, and this may mean a Queensland issue of “Consumptive” stamps, similar to those of New South Wales. The *Week*, of Brisbane, says:—

This proposal to promote charitable giving by means of stamps is not entirely new, and it has been found to be profitable. The report states that in New South Wales the sale was fairly rapid, and it was expected that the whole issue would speedily be exhausted. If in New South Wales and Victoria, why not in Queensland, where also the Government scheme is a home for consumptives? Having secured a presentable design, and in doing that with so many budding artists in our midst, there should be no difficulty the Government lithographer could as readily produce the requisite number of such stamps as of any other. Beyond Executive selection and sanction no Ministerial authority would be needed, and, believing as we do that the sale of stamps would be ready and the exhaustion of the issue speedy, the proposed Queensland home for phthisic patients should be considerably and substantially assisted.

We should add that we are indebted to Mr. W. H. Robinson of Brisbane, for the above significant cutting.

We also gather that Victoria will perpetrate something of the same sort. Next, please!

## Decadence of Postage Stamp Art.

There is an article quite after our own heart in the July issue of the *Australian Philatelist*. It is headed “The

Decadence of Art in Postage Stamp Production.” As one argument in favour of the emission of artistic stamps, the writer urges that beautifully designed stamps, finely printed, can actually be produced as cheaply as the common place surface-prints now so general; and he then proceeds:—

A look into the published facts with regard to the cost of producing certain stamps will abundantly prove this fact. The present United States stamps are engraved, printed from steel plates, gummed, and perforated at a cost of seven cents, or 3½d. per 1000 labels, while those large and elaborate Columbians cost 17 cents, or 8½d. per 1000. The natural desire for beautiful and artistic work and high class printing would be sufficiently satisfied by the possession of such stamps; but what do we find? That gaudy, cheap-looking, surface prints of woefully uniform design, are gradually taking the place of the diversified and ever-beautiful works of art produced under the Perkins, Bacon régime. And are these surface prints any cheaper? On the contrary they are very much dearer. The plainest things printed in one colour cost 6d. per 1000 labels, or nearly 100 per cent. more than the current Americans, while those wall paper-like bicoloured monstrosities cost 1s. per 1000.

We are not taking into consideration the cost of dies and plates, which, in the latter case is extra, except where the contract is so large that the printers can afford to “throw them in”; but in the case of the Americans the cost per 1000 includes both dies and plates.

So much for the question of the relative cost of beautiful and common-place stamps. Now to see how far the latter are sweeping away the former.

We have recently had a melancholy example of the destructive flow of De la Rue's flood, in the suppression of the handsome St. Helena stamps of Perkin's and Bacon's engraving by the “key die” things of the former firm. And looking back through past years, how many similar cases can be cited? Trinidad, Mauritius, Grenada, St. Lucia, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Tasmania, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia—the roll of shame is enough to bring tears to one's eyes. How grandly those dignified steel engravings held their graceful positions in our albums, and oh! How pitifully cheap the surface-prints looked beneath them! When will another Humphrys create again such masterpieces as the St. Vincents, the square New South Wales, the first Queensland and all those other classically simple and eminently beautiful British colonials?

## Where is the New Collector now?

The July issue of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* reveals Mr. William Brown of Salisbury, as an artist. Most of us know him as a stamp dealer only, but among a select few his artistic abilities has long been known and appreciated. He is a very capable etcher. It is an open secret that the front cover designs of our Salisbury contemporary has been Mr. Brown's personal work, and now in this July issue of the *P.J.G.B.* he turns his attention to the designing of headlines, and with very satisfactory results.

We read rather less now a-days of the New Collector. Probably the Canadian Jubilee stamps, combined with the New South Wales Consumptives and rumours of such coming luxuries as the Matabele Hand Railway Jubilee stamps, has taken all the heart out of that somewhat extraordinary type of philatelist. The *P.J.G.B.* still pursues its placed way, describing the stamps of 1891, but it is noticeable that some issues of the paper appear without any reference whatever to such modern stuff, while in others the wealth of headline to which we had become accustomed is conspicuous from its absence. The New Collector, in short, is singing small, are at any rate, very small type.

Mr. George B. Duerst is indefatigable. He has two serial articles running in the *P.J.G.B.*, and yet finds time to keep the various features of the paper up to a very respectable level.

Forgeries are now described in the *P.J.G.B.* on the Fortnightly plan, with enlarged comparative illustrations, and this feature alone should commend our contemporary to all philatelists who wish to keep themselves *au fait* with matters of the moment.

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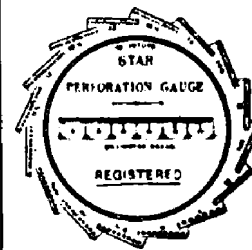
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