

*Branford 2184*

THE  
STAMP COLLECTORS'  
FORTNIGHTLY,

(With which are Incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY" and the  
"STAMP COLLECTORS' GUARDIAN.")

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A JOURNAL FOR PHILATELISTS,

Edited by PERCY C. BISHOP.

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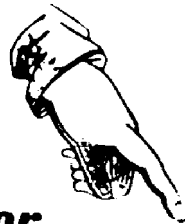
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Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
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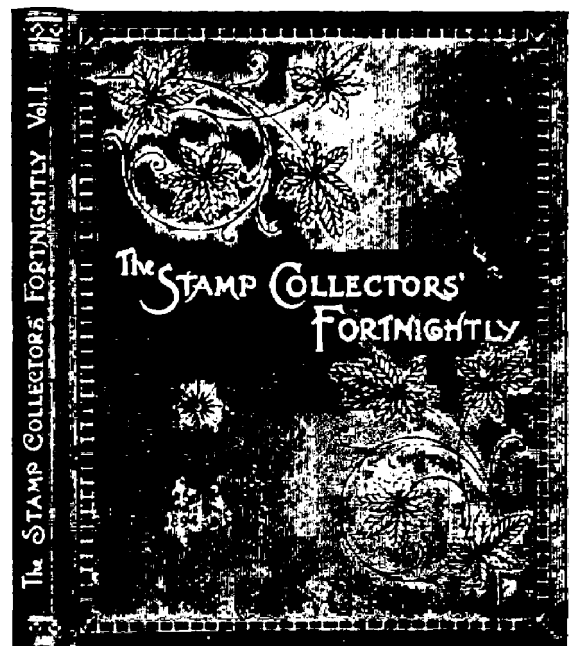
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*Doings of Societies.*

**CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.**

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St. Albans.

*Sec. and Treas.:* H. A. Slade, Ingleside, St.  
Albans.

At a Committee meeting held at "Ingle-  
side," on Sept. 20th, in addition to ordinary  
business, it was resolved that the first general  
meeting be held at the Inns of Court Hotel,  
London, W.C., on Tuesday, October 18th, at  
7 p.m., arrangements to be made for the read-  
ing of a paper, displays of stamps, social inter-  
course, etc. Members to be invited to introduce  
friends interested in philately. Thirty-one  
members were proposed and accepted at this  
meeting. Exchange packets, confined to mem-  
bers of the Society will be started on Oct. 20th,  
sheets to be received by the Secretary on the  
morning of that day.

**PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.**

THE ordinary Monthly Meeting of the above  
Society, was held at 271, Collins Street,  
Melbourne, on Wednesday, 10th August, 1898,  
Mr. W. R. Rundell, President, occupying the  
chair.

Mr. J. Refford Corr M.A. was unanimously  
elected a member of the Society.

A discussion was held upon the Exchange  
system and several suggestions were made and  
referred to the Committee for their consider-  
ation and report.

Mr. A. W. L. Paul exhibited his Australian  
collection which was greatly admired by the  
members present. It included among other  
rarities, pair of 'Too Late's Victoria, used as  
registered.

Mr. W. Brettschneider exhibited, Victoria,  
2 copies 2d.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length and 2/- postage at sides  
perforated, and 1/- octagonal, all unused, and  
a used copy of 2d.  $\frac{1}{2}$  length fine background.

The Hon. Secretary exhibited Tasmania  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.  
surcharged with "al" inverted, which was a  
forged surcharge, and warned members respect-  
ing the stamp.—D. S. ABRAHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

**COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.**

TWENTY-NINTH meeting of the Board of  
Governors held at the Club House, September  
12th, 1898.

Present, Dr. Stebbins who was called to the  
chair, Messrs. Luff, Scott and the Secretary.

The Treasurer presented his report, which  
was accepted, showing a balance in bank of  
\$123.26, exclusive of \$500 U.S. Bonds.

The chairman of the House Committee read  
his report, which was received.

The Secretary was directed to insert in next  
month meeting's notice a request to the  
Governors for full attendance in order to discuss  
the question of a stamp exhibition, as proposed  
by Mr. Scott.—J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary*,  
451, Fourth Avenue, New York.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word  
displayed) are inserted at the rate of  $\frac{1}{4}$ d.  
for every word.—Address, Exchange De-  
partment, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**CHEAPEST SETS.** Lists gratis and post free. W.  
N. CULLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. [107]

**BRITISH** Central Africa.—Rare Stamps.—"One  
Penny" on  $\frac{3}{4}$ -, unused, 1/6 each; "One Penny"  
on  $\frac{3}{4}$ -, used, 2/- each.—Apply TUCKETT, 457, Padiham  
Road, Burnley. [105]

**CORRESPONDENCE** desired with Collectors  
residing in Gibraltar, Virgin Islands, Falkland  
Islands, Nevis, Fiji, St. Helena, Trinidad, West  
Australia, Uganda, B. Guiana, Gold Coast, Gambia,  
St. Vincent, Seychelles, Turks Islands. No dealers.—  
J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba,  
Bombay, India. [108]

**W. F. WADAMS** having many duplicates of obsolete  
and current issues in unused Colonials, offers  
singles, pairs, blocks and sets (mint state), at reason-  
able prices to cash buyers. Selection sent on approval  
loose. No sheets.—Address: COPELY DENN, White-  
hall Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**KASHMIR** (Cashmere) Stamps exchanged for good  
Colonials not under 1/-. Catalogue value.  
Every Stamp guaranteed. State wants.—D. P. MASSON,  
Lahore, India. References to Messrs. Allen Bros. &  
Co., Albion Place, London Wall, E.C. [105]

**WANTED.**—Monaco all kinds, especially the one  
franc, first issue. Also used Falkland Isles.—  
SHARPE, Chateau Surmont, Courtraï.

**APPROVAL.**—Fine selections, medium and rare  
stamps, mostly half-price; extra discount 5 per  
cent. £1 to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. £10.—H. EDGAR WESTON,  
30, Richmond Gardens, Goldhawk Road, W.

**FOR Sale.**—Complete Collection of Unused Belgium  
Fiscal Stamps.—Address, A. DE SCHEPPEK, Rue  
St. Jean, 8, Bruges, Belgium. [2]

**6,000** 1d. and 2d. Queensland Stamps, current and  
obsolete for 20/- P.O.O.—W. H. ROBINSON,  
Swan Hill, Brisbane, Queensland.

**VIRGIN ISLANDS, 1870-88, 4d.** green, unused, 4d.,  
1882, 1d. red, unused, 6d. Breaking up collection.  
Write for list. ARCHIBALD KEMPTER, 51, Woodstock  
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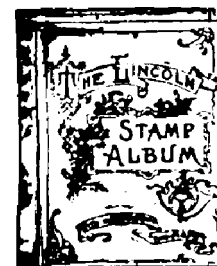
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No. 105.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### HOW NOT TO COLLECT STAMPS.

#### A PECULIAR CASE AT CROYDON.

THE case in which Frederick Deane, aged 42, described as an accountant, formerly of 227, Whitehorse Lane, South Norwood, is charged with defrauding Miss Albinia Locke, of Wick Ferry, Christchurch, Hants, of two books of foreign postage stamps, value respectively £4 5s. and £33 10s., in July, 1897, came before the mayor and other magistrates at the Croydon Borough Police Court on Wednesday, Sept. 21st.

Mr. F. G. Fraying appeared for the Treasury, and said there was another case against the accused of defrauding a Mr. G. T. L. Peek, of the Beeches, Bellemor Road, Southampton. There was reason to believe that the accused, by representing himself as a private collector, had been systematically defrauding collectors by answering their advertisements in the *Exchange and Mart*. He addressed his letters from a tobacconist's at 64, High Street, Thornton-heath.

The facts of the case, as disclosed by the prosecutrix, are somewhat peculiar.

Miss Locke stated that she advertised in the *Exchange and Mart*, and received a letter from F. Deane, in consequence of which she sent two books of valuable stamps to the address given. In the note the writer said that he had been a private collector for twenty years, and did not do anything with common stamps. The prosecutrix said she could not get her stamps or the money, although she wrote several times. On August 24th she received a letter from F. Deane apologising

for the delay; and subsequently she placed the matter in the hands of the police.

Mrs. Gertrude Miller, of 64, High Street, Thornton-heath, said that she agreed to take a letter in for the accused, who said that communications would be sent there by his mother. Letters and a registered parcel came for accused. Witness, who did not generally take in letters, told the accused that she could not receive any more, as her husband had objected. Another letter came which she returned to the postman. Later a telegram arrived from Miss Locke, and the witness replied to it.

Mr. G. T. L. Peeke, of the Beeches, Southampton, a dealer in foreign stamps, stated that he advertised in the *Exchange and Mart*, and received a reply from Mr. F. Deane, who requested stamps to be forwarded for inspection to 64, High Street, Thornton-heath. The witness sent them. They were chiefly British, Colonial, and old European, and were valued at £11 odd. Not receiving the stamps or the money in six days, the witness wrote to 64, Thornton-heath, and received a reply asking for time to August the 20th. On August 23rd he went to the address mentioned, where he was unable to get the address of accused. Eventually he saw the wife of accused at 227, White Horse Lane, who said he was out, and she said she would tell him when he came home. The accused temporised, and the witness allowed him time, but the stamps were not returned.

On being cautioned, the accused said he did not understand from the evidence where the false pretences came in.

The mayor said that that was a question which could be argued at the trial. The accused was then committed for trial at the next Croydon Quarter Sessions.

### "BUY OF THE MAKERS!"

THE *Globe*, of September 3rd last, has some eminently sensible remarks upon what it is pleased to call "the craze for stamp collecting." It seems that the chuckle that went up from philatelists over the news that no more Cashmere stamps will be issued was, perhaps, a little previous. "A short time ago (says the *Globe*) we referred, in connection with the death of the Rajah of Faridkot, in the Punjab, to the advantage which some of the smaller States of India have taken of the craze for stamp collecting to increase their postal revenue, and to the improbability that the Faridkot State—whose legitimate postal business scarcely exceeds that of an English country town—will forego the opportunity afforded by the Rajah's death of issuing a complete new set of stamps, and selling the entire old stock for



what it will fetch in the philatelic market. Cashmere is now about to test the elasticity of the philatelist's purse strings. The Cashmere stamps used to be picturesque wood-block productions, but among the other tokens of reform in the State these were lately abolished and the Indian postage adopted. At the time when the change was made paragraphs appeared in the Indian papers stating that the stock of Cashmere stamps was to be burned and the blocks destroyed: announcements which were not without effect in sending up the local value of Cashmere stamps. And now it is officially announced that the State authorities have determined to sell the old stock; and a State agent has been appointed to dispose of them to the best advantage. In the catalogues of stamp-dealers many Cashmere stamps are highly priced: and it is evident that the Cashmere State need only adapt its own lower prices to the market to make a very good thing out of the business to the end of time. When the stock is exhausted what is there to interfere with the printing of a new supply for trade purposes? In the circumstances our advice to philatelists is simple: do not buy any Cashmere stamps in future which have not been through the post."

#### INDIA'S NEXT PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

The following "First Prospectus" of the Philatelic Exhibition to be held in India, under the Auspices of the Philatelic Society of India, during Christmas week, 1898, is circulated with the August issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India*!

##### Committee of Management :

C. Stewart-Wilson, Esq., *President of the Society.*  
 Lady Collen, *Vice-President.*  
 Major L. E. DuMoulin, *Rawal Pindi.*  
 Surgeon-Major G. F. A. Harris, *Nagpore.*  
 A. A. Lyall, Esq., *Calcutta.*  
 Professor O. V. Muller, *Bombay.*  
 E. Sassoon-Gurbay, Esq., *Calcutta.*  
 C. F. Larmour, Esq., *Calcutta.*  
 G. A. Anderson, Esq., *Bombay.*  
 W. Corfield, Esq., *Hon. Treasurer of the Society.*  
 P. Aylwin Selve, Esq., *Hon. Secretary of the Society.*

The Philatelic Society of India will hold an Exhibition of Postage Stamps during the Christmas week of 1898. The place where the Exhibition will be held will be announced later.

The Exhibition is open to all collectors, whether members of the Society or not. Adhesive stamps only (including stamps on entires or portions of originals) will be admitted. Envelopes and post-cards will not be accepted for exhibition.

Stamps must be mounted on sheets measuring as nearly as possible 11 x 8½. The sheets will be arranged in glazed frames measuring inside 2-11¼ x 1-11¼, and 8 sheets of the measurements given can be placed in each frame. The Committee recommend that sheets from interchangeable albums be used, or if these cannot be procured, suitable sheets of the proper size will be supplied at cost price on application to the Secretary.

Collections, or stamps in bound books, will not be accepted.

All exhibits sent in for competition must be *bonâ fide* the property of the exhibitor, and a declaration to this effect must accompany the exhibit.

(This does not apply to exhibits which are not sent in for competition).

Notice from intending exhibitors of their intention to exhibit and of the approximate number of sheets they will send, must reach the Secretary before the 1st December, 1898, and exhibits must be in the hands of the Committee before the 7th December. *Special attention is requested to this rule, as non-compliance makes the task of the Committee an almost impossible one.*

No charge will be made for space, but exhibitors must bear all expenses of carriage to and from the place of exhibition, and for insurance against fire if they desire their exhibits to be insured. Intimation to this effect must be sent with the exhibits.

The Committee will take every possible precaution for the safety of exhibits while under their charge, but cannot hold themselves responsible for theft or loss.

Exhibitors sending their exhibits by rail or post are requested to pack the sheets flat (not rolled up) in wooden cases, either tin-lined or securely covered with wax cloth. Insurance against loss in transit should be effected. This will be done by the Committee with exhibits when returned, if the exhibitors desire it, and at their own expense.

The Committee have selected certain countries and groups in which exhibits will be admitted for competition, and rewards consisting of silver and bronze medals for the most meritorious exhibits in those groups will be awarded. In the selections thus made, the Committee have borne in mind the fact that this exhibition is not intended to be either comprehensive or final, and have therefore left over a large field for selection in future exhibitions and competitions.

Where more than one country is allowed in any group, exhibitors are not bound to exhibit the full number allowed. They may take only one or more, as they please.

A second medal will not be awarded in any class unless there are at least four exhibitors competing in that class.

No exhibitor shall be allowed to take more than three silver or three bronze medals. This will not apply to medals presented for special exhibits.

Collections which secured medals in Classes I and V in 1897 are not eligible for competition in these classes.

Judges will not compete in any class in which they have consented to act as judges. The judges shall be empowered to refuse an award in any class in which there is no exhibit of sufficient merit to deserve one. They may also award a bronze, instead of a silver, medal in any class in which, in their opinion, there is no exhibit deserving of a silver medal.

It shall be optional with the Committee to reject any exhibit which, in their opinion, is not of sufficient merit for exhibition.

Exhibits may consist of unused or used stamps, separate or mixed.

Forgeries in any exhibit, unless exhibited as such, will disqualify that exhibit from competition.

The Committee earnestly solicit the co-operation of collectors everywhere, in order that this Exhibition, unlike the first held by the Philatelic Society of India, may be truly Imperial and not merely local. Several philatelists have already very kindly promised medals for rewards, and the Committee trust to receive further help in this direction.

The Government of India will, it is hoped, grant the Society once more the privilege of importing exhibits from abroad, free of duty.

The following are the countries, arranged in classes, which have been selected for exhibition:—

- CLASS I.—British India—  
 1 Silver, 2 Bronze Medals.
- CLASS II.—Afghanistan and Cashmere—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS III.—Any two from the following group of Native States:—  
 Hyderabad, Travancore, Jhind (native issues only), Soruth, Bhopal—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS IV.—Not more than two from the following group of British Indian stamps surcharged:—Jhind, Nabha, Patiala—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS V.—Great Britain—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS VI.—Not more than two from the following Colonies:—  
 Heligoland, Malta, Hongkong, Straits Settlements (excluding Native States)—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS VII.—Not more than two from the following:—Cape of Good Hope, Natal, British Bechuanaland—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS VIII.—Not more than two from the following:—Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- CLASS IX.—One from each of the following sub-classes A & B:—  
 (A) Bahamas, Grenada, Trinidad, Turks Islands. (B) Montserrat, St. Christopher, Tobago, Virgin Islands—  
 1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

CLASS X.—Not more than two from the following:—New South Wales, Tasmania, Fiji, South Australia—

1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

CLASS XI.—Not more than two from the following:—Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium—

1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

CLASS XII.—Not more than two from the following:—Switzerland, Austria, Hungary—

1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

CLASS XIII.—Portugal and any one Portuguese colony (excluding Portuguese Indies.)

CLASS XIV.—One from the following:—Japan, Philippine Islands—

1 Silver Medal.

CLASS XV.—The United States of America—

1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

CLASS XVI.—Not more than two from the following:—Argentina, Chili, Equador—

1 Silver Medal, 1 Bronze Medal.

#### SPECIAL.

1. The meritorious exhibit of rare stamps not to exceed 30 or be less than 15 in number—

1 Silver Medal.

2. The best exhibit of adhesive fiscal stamps (excluding telegraph stamps) of Great Britain or of India and Ceylon—

1 Silver Medal.

3. The best exhibit of telegraph stamps of India and Ceylon—

1 Silver Medal.

All communications relating to the Exhibition should be sent to the Honorary Secretary, P. AYLWIN SELFE, Esq., Bank of Bengal, Calcutta.

#### VERY MEAN OF THE GOVERNMENT!

RUSBRIDGE of Colombo (the gentleman who sells all sorts of un-catalogued varieties), has had an "On Service" 1 rupee 12 cents Ceylon on sale for ever so long, says the *Philatelic Journal of India*. We see that the Ceylon Government have followed suit and have quite recently issued one of their own. So now our poor friend has to contend with Government competition. Another piece of Saxon injustice!

#### POSTAL CHANCES AT GIBRALTAR.

WE are indebted to Mr. A. Mattana, and to another correspondent whose name is not given, for copies of the *Gibraltar Official Gazette*, containing this official decree:

#### GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

His Excellency the Governor desires to notify for public information that Orders in Council have been approved by Her Majesty making British Sterling Money legal tender in Gibraltar under the conditions of the Coinage Act 1870.

It is intended to promulgate these Orders on the 1st proximo, from which date the Order in Council of 1881, regulating the Currency of Gibraltar, will be repealed, but the Spanish Coins specified therein will continue to be legal tender in payment of all engagements entered into before the promulgation of the new Orders in Council.

From the 1st October, 1898, all postage fees will be payable in British money, and stamps having the duties expressed in Spanish currency will cease to be valid in prepayment of postage in Gibraltar, but those overprinted "Morocco Agencies" will continue to be valid in the Postal Agencies maintained in Morocco by the Gibraltar Government.

From the 1st to the 15th day of October next, both days inclusive, unused Postage Stamps having the duties expressed in Spanish currency will be repurchased at the Post Office at their face value, provided that the stamps be not soiled or otherwise damaged, and that they are presented in strips of not less than two.

The new postage stamps, &c., with sterling duties will be on sale on 1st October, 1898.

By Command,

H. M. JACKSON,  
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,  
Gibraltar, 14th September, 1898.

#### PROJECTED EXHIBITION AT MANCHESTER.

WE learn that at the Committee meeting of the Manchester Philatelic Society held last Friday, it was decided to hold an Exhibition next year under the Society's auspices. We know from personal knowledge that some of the finest collections in this country belong to the Manchester district, and knowing that the Committee consists of very able and enthusiastic philatelists, we have no doubt of the eventual success of the venture, especially if it is true as we have been told, that the Manchester Society will work in conjunction with the Birmingham Society. Of course we know no details yet, but we sincerely hope that every endeavour will be made to avoid any sort of friction or clashing of opposing interests. Many an exhibition has failed simply because the best men have had different ideas on the subject, and have refused to concede anything to those who thought differently. We shall be only too happy to assist the Committee in giving their notifications and circulars the widest publication.

#### A REVENUE STAMP MYSTERY.

AT the West Ham Police-court on Thursday, September 15th, William Walker, 56, a box maker, of 10, Robertson Road, Stratford, was charged, before Mr. Baggallay, with being found in the possession of certain stamps (of the face value of £17 1s. 9d.), which had been fraudulently cut, torn, or otherwise removed from certain materials.

Mr. B. Hawkins prosecuted for the Inland Revenue authorities; and Mr. F. Stern appeared for the accused.

Detective-sergeant White said that on Wednesday morning, at about seven o'clock, accompanied by Detective-sergeant Bell, he saw the prisoner outside his premises, and said to him, "We are police officers, and hold a warrant to search your premises, as we believe you have a number of Inland Revenue stamps in your possession. The prisoner said "Yes," and they entered the house. In the front room on the ground floor the prisoner opened a chest of drawers and took out a paper bag, from which he drew out some packets of stamps, saying, "This is what you want." He was asked to account for the possession of them, and said, "I clear out warehouses of lumber and waste paper, and I got these from some warehouse." The witness said, "What was the name of the firm, and where are their premises?" and the prisoner answered, "I cannot remember. I have tried to change some at the post office. I've given some away." There was something else in the bag, and when the prisoner was asked what it was he produced 33 slips of blue paper with stamps affixed. He was then taken to the West Ham Police-station, and when the charge was read over to him he said, "It was found in waste paper. I was going to take them to Somerset House to see if they were of any use."

Detective-sergeant Bell said he had counted the stamps, and found there were 935, including those on the blue slips. The face value of the stamps was £17 1s. 9d.

Leonard H. Clark, a clerk in the Stamps Department of Somerset House, said he had seen the stamps, which were stamps used for bills of lading, policies, and other documents.

On this evidence a remand was ordered.

Mr. Baggallay said the stamps were obviously genuine and had been taken off documents and put on paper. Without an accomplice a man in the prisoner's position could not have got possession of all these, and under the circumstances he would not grant bail.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Oct. 15th, 1898.

##### London Auctions.

Oct. 4th and 5th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.

Oct. 6th and 7th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63 1/2, Chancery Lane, at 6 o'clock each day precisely.

Oct. 11th and 12th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., each day precisely.

Oct. 13th and 14th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Co., at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.

##### Tapling Collections.

Mr. C. D. Bacon informs us that the following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.  
Spain from 1/1, 1873 to date, and  
France up to October, 1862.

# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 1, 1898.



WE commence our fifth volume under very favourable circumstances. The Competition now in progress **Our New Volume.** has already proved a great success, and this means a vast accession of new readers of the paper. Commencing with our next number we intend to furnish "S.C.F." readers with a very full and up-to-date New Issue Chronicle, and other new features which we think will commend themselves to all our readers are in contemplation.

\* \* \*

WE have a few serious words to say on the subject of **The Overdone Auction.** auctions. It has become increasingly apparent that philatelic auction sales no longer form a reliable guide to the values ruling in the philatelic market. The reason is simple; auctions are overdone.

When we first started the FORTNIGHTLY'S "Auction Supplement"—for a long time one of the most popular features of this journal—it was avowedly to provide an intelligible guide to current philatelic values. But we regret to say that the prices realised at auction are now so hopelessly erratic as to be almost utterly useless as an indication of the course of philatelic prices. Auctions, as we have already said, are overdone. There are too many of them; the "lots" offered are nowadays seldom of the superb description ruling in the seasons of '93, '94 and '95; and from various other causes the results of any one auction cannot be taken as reflecting actual market worth. A stamp is sold one day for £2 10s.; the following week a precisely similar specimen will go for 30/- or 35/-. And the reason? A rainy day, or a bad attendance at the sale, or a philatelic engagement somewhere else which draws away some of the "best buyers." Another very important factor is the comparative lack of interest in auctions now displayed by "the trade." Formerly, every sale was well attended by dealers, and there was then a certainty that each lot in the catalogue would realise at least its full "trade value." He would be a bold man who would say as much of some of the smaller auctions held nowadays in London. The sales, in fact, have so increased in number that "the trade" has not the power, even if it have the inclination, to "support" them, to say nothing of the time required for examining lots.

The facts set forth here have led us to gravely consider the advisability of discontinuing our auction reports; and as a result of very careful consultation with prominent philatelists, we have decided *not* to resume publication of the "Auction Supplement." In coming to this decision we have been influenced to a great extent by the opinions of our readers. Recent months have brought many letters from subscribers suggesting that the space given up to Auctions might be more usefully employed in other directions. And we think so, too.

It has been our policy at all times to enlist the assistance of our readers in shaping the policy and contents of the FORTNIGHTLY. Some two years ago we held a plebiscite of "S.C.F." readers on the question whether the auction reports should be continued or not. The result was a good majority in favour of the continuance of the supplements; but we venture to think that another such plebiscite would now evoke a contrary verdict.

We by no means intend to ignore auctions altogether in the FORTNIGHTLY. We shall simply cease publishing systematically a classified list of auction prices.

WHEN we drew attention, in the last number of the "S.C.F.," to Mr. H. A. McMillan's scheme for a new Philatelic Club for London, to meet at the premises of the Imperial Club in Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, we were not aware that negotiations were in progress between Mr. McMillan and certain committee-members of the City of London Philatelic Club, having for their object the complete amalgamation of the two concerns—or rather, the *one* concern and Mr. McMillan's scheme. As a result of these negotiations and a resolution of the C.L.P.C. committee, all the members of the C.L.P.C. have been circularised with a request that they vote one way or another on the question whether the City of London Philatelic Club shall be merged in the projected Central Club, though how you can merge a *going* concern in a concern which is only *coming* is something that passes our poor comprehension.

The proposal is a distasteful one for the reason that the City of London Philatelic Club, a five-year-old organisation with a spotless reputation and a good record of useful philatelic work, would lose its identity in the event of the so-called "amalgamation" (which is really "assimilation") coming to pass. The C.L.P.C. is now well known the wide world over. It is a Club which has won for itself a respected place. It is well officered and in every sense well conducted; and as proof of its vitality, it has weathered more than one serious misfortune.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Club to be held on Monday next, October 3rd, the question is to be put to the vote. We have no hesitation in asking members to vote *against* it, as it stands. We have nothing against Mr. McMillan or his scheme; on the contrary, we have shown ourselves to be warmly in favour of both. It would be a distinct advantage, of course, to the London members of the Club to enjoy the billiard, card, and refreshment facilities offered by Mr. McMillan; but it is our impression that the City Club could obtain these facilities by affiliation on advantageous terms, and thus avoid the suggested sinking of the title and identity of what has been the only successful Philatelic Club in the metropolis.

\* \* \*

MR. J. W. PALMER, in his new zeal for newspaper letter-writing, is in danger of harming, rather than benefiting, what he is wont to mouthingly describe as "the cause." When not speaking of the Palmer Clause, Mr. Palmer is wont to rave of "the cause" for which he "has worked so long and so faithfully." Well, his latest method of serving the philatelic cause is to suggest new ways of swindling the philatelic public by means of "Hospital" or "Disease" stamps. He writes as follows to the *Standard* and other morning papers:—

Now that public attention is again directed to the new issue of Hospital Stamps for 1898, I beg to make a suggestion that may be of use. New South Wales has issued Hospital Stamps for 1s. and 2s. 6d. The first gives 1d. and the second 2s. 3d. profit to the Hospitals. These stamps are beautiful, and *much sought by the public and collectors*, and their value greatly increases. Now we should follow the Colonial example with stamps of face value, from 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s., and 10s., the postage or carrying value being respectively 1d., 2d., 5d., and 10d. Then thousands on thousands would be sold above the common demand; people would send them to their friends, and also keep them unused, while collectors would be extensive patrons and safe custodians. Without doubt the Colonials have issued some beautiful stamps, and on the right plan to benefit the Hospitals.

This from the man who has, or professes to have Philately's best interests at heart! In a former letter to the Press, dealing with another subject, Mr. Palmer declares grandiloquently: "my family and I for fifty years have fought to purify the stamp market." Now if Mr. Palmer were to abandon the stamp market to its awful fate we do not know that anyone would miss him; but we may surely demand from this "tried servant of Philately" that he leave off agitating for highly-priced "Hospital" gumpaps!

## A Plea for Post-Card Collecting!

By C. F. DENDY MARSHALL.

THE fashion which has lately sprung up of collecting picture post cards suggests a pertinent question: if these are so fascinating and easy to collect, why have the majority of philatelists always turned a cold shoulder on what is certainly a legitimate branch of their science, namely the official post cards? It has always been given as a reason that they are so unwieldy and awkward to arrange, necessitating the use of boxes instead of albums, and consequently uncomfortable to handle and examine. But no such difficulty seems to block the way now that this new collection has taken root. I understand albums are forthcoming abroad, and are found entirely satisfactory; so that there seems no real reason why philatelists, casting about for fresh worlds to conquer, should follow an illustrious precedent by sitting down and weeping (at the catalogue prices of their wants). They should rather stroll round in an unobtrusive way and ask to see dealers' stocks of post cards. They can say it is for their little boy if they like—to avoid making a flutter in the market. A philatelic collection of postcards is at once interesting and scientific, to say nothing of the charm of exploration in a country which, though scarcely undiscovered, has at all events been much neglected.

This amassing of picture post cards, of course falls very far short of our hobby for the following reasons, firstly, being unofficial, there is no possibility of attaining completeness in any branch; secondly, it is offering a direct inducement to designers and printers and even governments to multiply commemorative issues, etc., let us hope it may divert the attention of these gentry from us! and of course there is no room for any subtleties such as shades, small varieties, or errors (the absence of the last will not be an unmixed sorrow); thirdly and lastly, it is unlikely that there could be any great treasures on account of the facilities for re-issue and imitation, possibly such things as the Heligoland post cards with a picture of the island, which are the first that came under my notice.

The Chicago Exhibition cards will be among the rare ones, as they were rather before their time; but as a general rule I expect the supply will be fully equal to the demand.

Collectors of these private cards will be speedily swamped by their multiplication. Rabbits in Australia will not be in it, for if the craze continues, every village stationer will issue postcards with a picture of the Church or the pump or the police station on them, to say nothing of Hospital Cards, and even, it makes the brain dizzy to contemplate it, "epidemic" postcards, because these will no doubt arise when another Maidstone falls a victim, possibly to conscientious objectors!

It is then that collectors in their disgust will turn back to Philately as the only outlet for the enthusiasm which has been created in the beginning by these trifles.

Having dealt somewhat at length with a subject which is perhaps hardly worth so much notice, I will venture to suggest a means of quietly coping with all speculative issues, which I think has the merit of simplicity and effectiveness.

Whether you are a general collector or confine your operations to a group of countries, such as our own Empire, directly a government offends you, draw a hard and fast line at that date, and take no subsequent issues of that country. The appearance of a commemorative issue by no means detracts from the interest of the preceding stamps; it is visiting the sins of the children upon the fathers to eschew the country altogether as so many collectors have done, and it is submitting to be fleeced to keep on taking whatsoever an unscrupulous government chooses to bring out, for the sake of keeping one's old friends in the shape of earlier issues. If everyone would do as I suggest, the authorities would be more careful not to wound the susceptibilities of philatelists, or would at all events ignore them, which is all they ask.

[\* A Post card collector of long standing has kindly consented to write a series of articles on this fascinating, but much neglected subject. These will commence in an early number of the FORTNIGHTLY.—EDS.]

## The Bermuda Mystery.

POSTAGE STAMP, OR SURCHARGE?

HITHERTO the "Post Office" Mauritius stamps and certain rarities of British Guiana have held undisputed sway in the philatelic world as the rarest adhesive stamps known to collectors, but that position has recently been challenged by the discovery of what is alleged to be a still rarer stamp issued at Bermuda for the purpose of franking local letters through the post. Two specimens, and two only, of the new claimant for philatelic supremacy are known to exist.



One made its appearance rather more than a year ago, being chronicled in the *Monthly Circular* of July, 1897—and the other was discovered this year in an old drawer in the island.

Both stamps are stuck on to portions of letters. The one is printed in carmine, the other in black. Each bears in printed characters the words "Hamilton, Bermuda," arranged in a circle with a date printed in the centre—in one case 1854, in the other 1849. Above the date in each case are the written words "one penny," and below the date the signature "W. B. Perot," which has been identified as the signature of the postmaster of Hamilton on the dates indicated. This would seem to indicate that the stamps do date back to the time to which they purport to belong.

Inquiries addressed to the present colonial postmaster at Bermuda have elicited the reply that no official information can be obtained as to the stamps in question, but that from a reliable private source it has been ascertained that at the period in question sheets were impressed with a hand stamp, each stamp was verified by the signature of the postmaster, and the individual stamps were cut off as required and affixed to letters, the postage on which was thus prepaid within the Colony.

If this account can be accepted, it would seem to establish the claim of these Bermuda stamps to be by far the rarest adhesive stamps in existence, and their value would have to be reckoned in hundreds of pounds each. But Major Evans, who has gone into the subject somewhat exhaustively in the *Monthly Journal*, is sceptical. Neither of the stamps is obliterated, and it is considered to be greatly against their genuineness that they have never been heard of until the present day, although local collectors have been keenly on the look-out for "finds" for many years past. The theory supported by Major Evans, is that these hand stamps were made on insufficiently paid letters to denote postage due, and that the stamped portion was subsequently cut out of the original letters and stuck on to other letters. If this be the correct explanation, the stamps in question were never used as adhesives at all. Further light may be thrown on the subject, but in the meantime it represents a very pretty philatelic mystery.

In the September issue of *Le Timbre Poste* (which contains a full translation of Major Evans' last article on the subject) Mr. J. B. Moens expresses himself as in "absolute agreement" with Major Evans in the conclusion he arrives at.

### NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Through a very unfortunate error on the part of our printers, all those subscribers whose subscriptions did not expire with 104 received a blue notice saying that it did expire, and in consequence of this mistake, we have been inundated with numerous complaints, indignantly stating that they had paid their subscriptions to such and such a number. It was of course impossible to write to every one, but we shall mark on the outside of every wrapper on No. 106, published on the 15th October, 1898, the number with which the subscriptions expire. Meanwhile, we can only state that we are very sorry we have given our subscribers such a great deal of trouble.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



IN reference to a letter Mr. J. W. Palmer sent to the Press on the subject of Forgeries of Samoan Stamps, we suggested that it would be interesting to hear Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., on the subject. Too late for notice in our last number, the following appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette*:

DEAR SIR,—The forged stamps described by Mr. Palmer in your issue of the 2nd instant have been known to most stamp dealers for years, and have been described in most of the philatelic journals. Some two or three years ago we came across a set obliterated, and traced them to the postmaster of Apia (Samoa) himself. The post office at Samoa is not a Government institution, but is held under a concession from King Malietoa (dated December 20, 1886) by a Mr. John Davis, who is also a photographer at Apia.

Mr. Davis has sole right of the issue and sale of stamps and conveyance of mails in Samoa and is in the habit of supplying obliterated sets at a reduction in price. Now the Samoa Express stamps were not issued by Mr. Davis, but became obsolete four years before he obtained his appointment as postmaster. They were issued by a Mr. Griffiths, who started a post office at Somoa in 1877 as a private commercial venture. This was abandoned a few years later, as it did not pay, and we purchased in 1883 from Mr. Griffiths the whole stock of Samoa Express stamps remaining in his hands, and no longer good for postage, amounting to some £700 worth. We also purchased from him the lithographic stones from which they were printed, and some years later we had considerable numbers of the stamps reprinted for sale to collectors.

This having come to the knowledge of Mr. Davis, he wrote to us and purchased a good many sets, as he stated he was constantly being asked for them. We subsequently found out that he was selling these reprints with postmarks on them, upon which we wrote and pointed out to him that such a proceeding might lead to fraud, whereupon he replied that if people asked him to cancel the stamps he did not see why he should not oblige them. Mr. Davis is not a philatelist and cannot expect to see these matters in the same light as a philatelist does. It must be understood that these reprints are from the original lithographic stones; the forgeries referred to in the commencement of this letter are quite another matter. It appears from inquiry we made that Mr. Davis bought a number of them from a German stamp dealer, who offered to supply him with the reprints at a lower rate than ours. The stamps received from Germany, however, proved to be forgeries, and on our pointing this out to Mr. Davis, he destroyed the balance in his hands.

We may add that the original lithographic stones, from which the Samoa Express stamps were printed, were destroyed by our order on June 1st, 1897, a full account of which appears in the *Australian Philatelist* for that month, and which has been copied into several English philatelic journals. Therefore, no further reprints of Samoa Express stamps can be made.—We are, Sir, yours faithfully,  
Ipswich, Sept. 9th. WHITFIELD KING & CO.

"F.W.L.," a constant reader of the "S.C.F.," has a grievance against auctions.

"I think," he writes, "the commissions charged at most of the auction rooms is nothing more nor less than an imposition, and the sooner collectors cease to patronize them the better. The prices named in the auction summaries are incorrect for the reason that only the gross prices realized are quoted. The majority of people overlook the fact that something like 15 per cent., has to find its way into the auctioneers' pockets. They get all the profits and collectors must content themselves with a change for sixpence and in many cases be at a loss."

But what would you have, F.W.L.? Is the auctioneer to work for nothing? Besides, to be quite fair, the seller's commission is seldom so high as 15 per cent. It is now the general custom to charge only 5 per cent., on single lots realising £5 or more, and for other lots the commission ranges from 7½ per cent., to 12½ per cent., according to

arrangement. We do not think the auctioneer's rates are excessive. The prices realized are the reverse of excessive; that is the matter with auctions just now.

"A Collector from China" has an interesting communication with reference to the high-value Chinese stamps:—

Under the heading "Review of Reviews" for September 3rd of your Journal, I see a doubt expressed whether or not the Dollar of Chinese stamps are solely speculative.

Your readers may be interested to know that I have in my collection among others, a block of 8-2½ candareans, a block of 5 and another of 4. One Dollar stamps (1897 surcharged on 3 cents, fiscal) all of which were given me after being postally used in the usual course of business.

Actus, these are the largest value blocks I have myself there are much larger ones existing in other collections.

In 1894 I remember a friend of mine receiving a parcel at Shanghai from Tientsin. As the highest value was then 5 candareans, the parcel was plastered all over with dozens of these 5 candarean stamps.

## For The Best "Flip"

A LONDONER WINS THE PRIZE.

A NUMBER of "flips," good, fairly good, and indifferent, have reached us as a result of the competition announced in our No 102. The work of judging has not been a very arduous one, the prize being easily captured by Mr. G. C. Morris, of 9 Stockwell Grove, London, S.W.

The prize-winner's effort runs as follows:

There once was a sharp from Jamaica,  
Who bought for a quid from a Quaker,  
Three "Post-Office" blue—  
That was also *his* hue,

When he found they were watermarked "Straker."

From the same competitor came the following:

She lacked that unused; she attained her  
Desire—the cost never restrained her;  
Still she didn't feel gay  
When she read the next day  
"Of this stamp there's a million remainder."

The Boss of the Gumpapper's journal  
Wrote on "Issues for postage internal";  
But he tore from his head  
All his hair, when instead  
He found it intitled "... infernal!"

\* \* \*

An unsigned post card bears the following unsevered pair. The first needs a little sand-papering as to metre, but the second is good:

There was an old maid of Obock  
Who went clean off her block;  
She sold all her stamps  
And bought herself gamps,  
Then drowned herself in the dock.

There was a Dervish of Soudan  
Who hit on an excellent plan;  
Said he, "If I'm short,  
A new issue I'll start,  
And get the S.S.S.S. to ban."

\* \* \*

Mr. John Clements chants the praises of the FORTNIGHTLY:

A collector, a countryman raw,  
Used to buy *any* stamp that he saw,  
But he learnt to do rightly  
When in every FORTNIGHTLY  
He perused Philatelic law.

And it is only right to state here that the writer of the following—a well known Brighton philatelist—encloses with it a humorously-worded apology:

There once was a man in Cheapside  
Whose manners I couldn't abide.  
When I asked quite politely  
"Who sells the FORTNIGHTLY?"  
"That beast of a *Hilks*" he replied.

Mr. J. Wilmer, of Falmouth, sings as follows:

There was an old man of Havana.  
Who specialised British Guiana.  
When he got them completed,  
He had them re-sheeted  
And swapped them for half-a-banana.

Messrs Fisher & Co., of Park Row, Bath, contribute a very presentable couple:

A specialist, strong in Mauritius  
Remarked as he showed his first issues  
"Now, these you'll be pleased at,  
They're not to be sneezed at,  
In spite of their being first *tishoos!*"  
A collector of—well a Hong Kong 'un.  
Had the Indian six annas, the long 'un  
Said he, "To my sorrow  
Tis sinful to borrow  
So I'll sell," which he did,—'Twas a wrong 'un!

The first of these we have no hesitation in characterising as the second-best "flip" we have received.

To the writers of all the above, and to many others whose "flips" we have no space to reproduce, and again to the hundreds of FORTNIGHTLY readers who doubtless commenced a flip and never finished it, our thanks are due for their participation in this little digression. It is *not* Philately, but "a little nonsense now and then —."

Notes on New Issues.

\*\* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

CANADIAN SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMPS.



CANADA, following the example of her neighbour, the United States, has inaugurated a Special Delivery Postal System, carrying with it an oblong stamp of the value of 10 cents. An illustration is appended. The stamp is perf. 12.

Special Delivery Stamp, 10 cents, light blue.

SUDANESE MILITARY TELEGRAPHS.



LIKE the Soudanese postage stamps, these new Military Telegraphs are bi-coloured. The set consists of four stamps, of the following values and colours:

- 5 millièmes, marone and lilac.
- 1 piastre, black and carmine.
- 2 piastres, green and marone.
- 5 " violet and black.

INDIA: NEW ¼ ANNA STAMP.

INDIA has a new ¼ anna (3 pies) stamp—or, to speak more correctly, the current half anna green has been surcharged "¼" to provide the new value. This however is to be followed, according to the *Philatelic Journal of India* by an entirely new stamp of the same design as the obsolete nine pies carmine of 1883.



On the subject of this surcharge, by the way, a correspondent of *The Statesman*, of Calcutta, writes as follows:

From the illustration of the new surcharge given in the *Journal* it seems, however, a pity that a less easily forged surcharge has not

been adopted by the authorities. The surcharge ¼ is large and extremely crude. It could be successfully imitated by almost any type-setter. I am aware, of course, that for ordinary purposes it would not pay to surcharge an unused half-anna stamp so as to reduce its value to 3 pies, but lightly post-marked half-annas stamps could probably be so carefully cleaned that when disfigured by the large heavy surcharge that has been selected for adoption, it would be no difficult matter for them to pass muster. From the collectors' point of view, the design of the new surcharge is most objectionable. The Indian adhesives are high favourites with collectors, and the intrusion of an ugly surcharge into their ranks, even when genuine, will be by no means welcome. The new provisional stamp, will, of course, circulate chiefly in India. Its use for six months will prevent its becoming common for many years here, but in other lands this will not be the case, and it is unpleasant to think of the thousands of collectors who will, as the years go on, have spurious copies of the ¼ anna surcharge of 1898-99 foisted upon them. This will all tend to break down the popularity of our beautiful Indian series, and also to react unfavourably upon the revenue derived from the sale of unused Indian stamps to collectors. It is evident we must put up with a surcharge (though why it should require half-a-year to procure a supply from England of the new stamps prepared from an altered, but previously used design, is not so evident), but it seems to me that the inevitable surcharge might at least be of a character sufficiently complicated to render the detection of a forgery easy to anyone.

To all of which there will be a very fervent "Hear, hear!" from the great body of philatelists.

PAHANG.

WE learn from Mr. Benjamin that the current set of Perak have been surcharged in black Pahang, the following values being issued so far:—



- 10 cents lilac and orange (price, 6d.)
- 25 " green and carmine (price, 1/3).
- 50 " green and black (price, 2/6).
- 1 dollar green and bright green (price, 4/6).
- 5 " green and blue (price, 22/6).

GUATEMALA.

THE ordinary 20 centavos green, lithographed, has been surcharged—

- 1898.
- 10 " in carmine (price, 8d.)

NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE current 2½d. we learn from the *Dresden Philatelist*, has been issued in blue instead of as in deep violet as hitherto. Of course the reason for this change is to conform to the rules of the Postal Union.

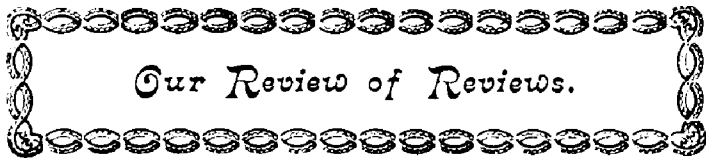
2½d. blue.

PARAGUAY.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON send us a copy of the current 40 centavos blue, surcharged in black:

- Provisorio
- 10 " on 40c. blue (price, 3d.)

The figures in brackets represent the prices at which Messrs. Hilckes & Co., Ltd. can supply the stamps mentioned. Postage extra.



## Our Review of Reviews.

### In Favour of Fiscals.

IN the opinion of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, "there are undoubted signs of a general revival of interest in the collection and study of fiscal stamps." Our contemporary cites the question recently raised in the *FORTNIGHTLY*, as to whether or not we should give up a portion of our space to Fiscalism, as one of the signs of the times.

"The fiscal stamp," adds our contemporary, "as an institution has an antiquity to be proud of. Its study is however in its infancy, and offers an endless and nearly virgin field for the ardent philatelic explorer.

"That it will increase in popularity is a certainty of the near future. The telegraph stamps of Great Britain, once sadly neglected, are now largely sought after. The continued demand for the various and varied revenue issues of the United States of America knows no abatement. Canadian fiscal stamps have long commanded the respect of all collectors in the Western World, while those of Mexico never seem to relax their hold upon the affections of philatelists across the water.

"A universal reaction in favor of these virtuous products of our philatelic fields is setting in. No longer regarded as tares, the whirligig of time will bring revenge, and the opening of the century witness a fiscal boom of the greatest significance and importance to our pursuit."

### ALAS, POOR BUNDI!

The same clever Indian contemporary, not long ago, had reason to commend the small state of Bundi for its virtuous decision to issue no unnecessary high-value stamps; but now a change has come over the spirit of the dream. Bundi has broken loose:—

The temptation has been too much, and Bundi has started 8 annas and 1 rupee stamps again. When we heard of this, we wrote to the Diwan and reminded him of his promise which we printed at the time. This is his reply:—

"I am in receipt of your kind letter of the 7th instant and thank you for it. In reply I write to say that the discontinuance of the issue of one rupee and eight annas stamps caused the stock of the stamps of the lower value to be exhausted very soon. Consequently I have recently ordered a few sheets of one rupee and eight annas stamps to be printed with those of lower value for the convenience and interest of the State."

The italics are ours, but we fear that they point to the root of the matter. Well, philatelists can only blame themselves, and perhaps one cannot expect little Bundi to attain to a higher philatelic virtue than many a rich and powerful country. At all events it resisted the temptation for a time.

We have not seen the new stamps yet, so cannot say whether they differ much from the first issue.

### Colonial Postal Officials in Conference.

A conference of postal and telegraphic representatives from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and Tasmania, was recently held at Hobart. Several subjects of interest to philatelists were dealt with (the *Australian Philatelist* tells us) the principal decisions being:—

1.—The word "Specimen" is to be placed across all stamps issued to collectors, *i.e.*, gratis, or at a fixed price under face value per set.

2.—All postage stamps issued to the Berne Postal Bureau or exchanged between Postal Administrations, shall be obliterated with a date stamp.

3.—It being impossible to introduce the universal use of the Reply Postage Stamp without interfering, more or less, with the postal revenue of the countries concerned, the adoption of the scheme cannot be advised.

4.—Obliterated stamps may be sent at commercial paper rates within the Colonies subject to usual packet regulations; but this cannot be done internationally, as the rules of the Universal Postal Union Convention require letter rate to be paid

5.—It is recommended that the Colonies print their postage stamps in the colours stipulated by the Washington Congress, *viz.*:—2½d., in dark blue; 1d., in red; ½d., in green.

With regard to the first recommendations, the debate was as follows:—

As to the obliteration of stamps issued to the collectors, Hon. J. Gavan Duffy said that this matter was becoming somewhat of a nuisance. Many people seemed to be fanatics in regard to collecting stamps, and latterly in Victoria the department had been placing a courtesy postmark upon them. This was done in order that the stamps might not be used for postage purposes by those who obtained them. That did not do away with the philatelic value of the stamps. He thought that a uniform method ought to be adopted by the different Colonies. It should be clearly arranged so that stamps given out for purposes of collection could not be otherwise used. He moved, "This Conference is of opinion that all stamps issued to collectors should be postmarked, so as to prevent them being used for postal purposes."

Hon. J. R. Dickson seconded the motion.

Hon. J. G. Jenkins moved as an amendment, "That the word 'Specimen' should be placed across the stamps issued to collectors."

Hon. Joseph Cook seconded the amendment.

Hon. J. Gavan Duffy said that, as the weight of opinion appeared against him, he would withdraw the motion.

The amendment was then put, when the President said that it appeared from the voices that it would be his duty to give a casting vote. He regarded the Post Office as an institution maintained by the Government for postal purposes only, and would therefore vote for the amendment, and declared it carried.

Hon. Joseph Cook moved, "That all postage stamps issued to the Berne Postal Bureau, or between post offices, shall bear an obliteration with the date stamp."

Hon. J. G. Jenkins seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

### An Excellent Belgian Journal.

*Le Moniteur Philatelic* ranks high among the excellent stamp journals that hail from Belgium. The number before us comprises thirty large pages, exclusive of advertisements. An excellent serial article on the stamps of Austria-Hungary and Lombardy is continued; and there is one of the best arranged "Chronicles of New Issues" we have ever seen. An odd thing about *Le Moniteur Philatelic* is that, although printed in the French language, it is the official organ of a Munich society.

### GERMAN COLONIALS SHOULD BE SCARCE.

A useful article, in the well compiled "Pele mele" of the *Moniteur*, demands attention. This is given on the authority of the *D.B.Z.*, and furnishes interesting statistics as to the mail business of the various German colonies from July 1st, 1896, to June 30th, 1897. When it is noted that the total correspondence (including newspapers) of all the German colonies for that year aggregates only 212,000 odd, it will be seen that some of the issues of the various colonies (especially the Marshall Islands for instance) should be fairly scarce.

### One More Inverted Centre.

The number of stamps with inverted centres has been increased by one, according to the *Revista de la Soc. Phil. Argentina*. It is the brown-red and black 25c. stamp of Uruguay of the 1895 issue. It seems that one or at the most two sheets of this stamp with the inverted centre were placed on sale during the first days of the month of May, 1896. All the known copies are cancelled on the 2, 4, 6 and 7 of May.

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As the Stamps on the Exchange Sheet are entirely different from those contained in the packet you actually receive **150 DIFFERENT VARIETIES**, which if purchased in the usual way, would cost you close on **THIRTY SHILLINGS**. On receipt of a remittance for 2/2, the packet and Exchange Sheets will be forwarded **ON APPROVAL**, and if not suitable and returned within two days, cash will be refunded.

**ARE YOU A BEGINNER, A MEDIUM OR ADVANCED COLLECTOR ?**

Beginners will find the **ECLIPSE PACKET** admirably suited for their requirements. The contents will not be easily duplicated. Medium Collectors will rejoice at being able to fill up so many blanks in their Albums at such a trifling cash outlay. Even advanced Collectors will find many interesting varieties. This is no "catch-penny" advertisement, but a genuine offer made in order to circulate my New Price List, and to obtain Customers for my Approval Sheets, and if you don't take advantage of it you will be so much the loser. Remember cash will be willingly refunded if the Packet and Sheet do not come up to your expectations. Better send in your order to-day. All letters answered by return of post.

**Do you wish to purchase Good Stamps at from 50 to 75 per cent. below Catalogue ?**

If so, send for my New Season's Approval Sheets. **CHEAP STAMPS A SPECIALITY.** Only fine copies are included, and although every Specimen is marked at an extremely low figure, a discount of 25 per cent. is allowed on all purchases.

**Catalogue Prices are entirely ignored and the Stamps**

**are priced at a very small percentage above cost.**

You should send for a selection immediately. You will certainly be surprised and delighted with the class, condition, and prices.

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** 213, WEST CAMPBELL STREET,  
GLASGOW, SCOTLAND.



# 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:—

**1898.** OCTOBER 13th and 14th, 27th and 28th.  
NOVEMBER 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th.  
DECEMBER 8th and 9th.

**1899.** JANUARY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th.  
FEBRUARY 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th.  
MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th.  
APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st.  
MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th.  
JUNE 8th and 9th.

OCTOBER 13th and 14th.—A FINE COLLECTION, by order of Executors, including the following Rarities:—GREAT BRITAIN, 2d. blue, no lines, unused; 2/- brown, rare private Telegraph stamps. GIBRALTAR, complete. HELIGOLAND, 3pf. red and green, used. A fine lot of unused GERMAN STATES. Rare GREECE, in mint state. A fine collection of RUSSIAN LOCALS. Rare EASTERN ROUMELIAS. BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 1d. on 3d., a pair. CAPE WOODBLOCKS. LAGOS, used. CANADA, 6d. purple on laid, unused, and very rare; 7½d. green, superb, on entire; 6d., perforated, unused, in mint state. NEW BRUNSWICK, 3d., in mint state. NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. vermilion, used and fine. NOVA SCOTIA, 2½ 3d. blues, used as 7½d., on entire. UNITED STATES, 3c., grill all over, unused, mint; 1869, reissue, 24c. unused; Periodicals, complete up to \$60, unused; Justice, complete; State, \$2, used. PORTO RICO, 1877, 10c. brown, error. ST. LUCIA, 1/- black and orange, unused. TOBAGO, 6d. ochre. CC., unused. FINE NEVIS. A fine and rare lot of FRENCH COLONIES. NEW ZEALAND, thick paper, 6d. brown, serrated perf., rare pelures. VICTORIA, 5/- blue on yellow, a fine pair. NEW SOUTH WALES, fine, 6d., laureated. Rare MEXICAN errors. Several fine Collections, &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 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. Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076.

ESTABLISHED 1781.

## SPECIAL DISCOUNT.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** During the Season, we have much pleasure in offering to send on Approval, any of our

# Special Books of separate Countries

AT 25% DISCOUNT OFF MARKED PRICES.

As is well-known, our Catalogue Prices are, on the average, about 33½ / 100 BELOW GIBBONS', so with the discount deducted, the NET cost of most of the Stamps will be

# 50% BELOW GIBBONS' PRICES

and in many instances, **EVEN MORE.** These Books contain a large quantity of Unused Stamps, and many **Great Rarities in FINE CONDITION.** Nearly every Country is made up, ready to send out to applicants.

THIS IS A GRAND OPPORTUNITY for EARNEST COLLECTORS.

The 'A B C' CATALOGUE (2nd Edition) is still the Latest and Best. Price 2/6 post free.

NOVELTY LIST of SETS, PACKETS, ALBUMS, etc., Post Free.

CHEAPEST WHOLESALE LIST, Post Free.

**BRIGHT & SON, The Arcade, Bournemouth.**

**MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
*Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,*  
**47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,**  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS**  
**A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their Sales for next Season have been fixed as follows:

**1898.**

Oct. 4th and 5th.—A very fine Selection, including some superb early used and unused Mauritius, and many other Rarities.

Oct. 18th, 19th and 20th.—A magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, entirely consisting of Unused Stamps, in fine Condition, and including a great many Rarities.

Nov. 1st, 2nd and 3rd.—A very fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, mostly unused

Nov. 15th and 16th.—Vacant.

Nov. 29th and 30th.—The second portion of the Collection of A. F. CALVERT, Esq.

Dec. 13th and 14th.—The LARGE AND FINE COLLECTION formed by the late GRAND DUKE ALEXIS MICHAELOVITCH, of Russia.

**1899.**

January 10th, 11th, 24th and 25th. February 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. March 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th.  
 May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st. June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**6** OWING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

**LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.**

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London.**

**ESTABLISHED 1764.**

**ERNST STOCK, BERLIN, W. 2 STÜLERSTRASSE,**

The Largest and Finest

Stock in Germany.

**SPECIALITY: RARITIES**

ABSOLUTELY FINEST STOCK IN THE WORLD OF

**USED and UNUSED GERMAN STAMPS**

*ALL THE FINEST SELECTED COPIES.*

**SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL TO RESPONSIBLE PERSONS.**

**STAMPS PURCHASED.**

also GERMAN ENVELOPES,

Mr. STOCK is always open to buy Rare Stamps of all kinds, EUROPEAN STATES, FRENCH and ENGLISH COLONIALS.

**ESPECIALLY WANTED.**

(100 & 102-112)

**SPECIAL OFFER.**

**A FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH STAMPS.**

Over 500 varieties; all in fine condition.

Price, £10, a bargain.

**COMPLETE SET OF PLATE NUMBERS.**

½d. red, set of 15 .. .. .	6 0
1d. set of 150 (without 225) ..	4 6
2d. blue, set of 7 .. .. .	1 0
2½d. lilac-rose, set of 18 ..	7 6
3d. rose, set of 20 .. .. .	8 6
6d. lilac, set of 8 .. .. .	4 0
6d. grey, set of 8 .. .. .	5 0
1/- green, set of 13 .. .. .	10 0

½d. red, plate, 2/- 100; 15/- 1000.

1d. red, ditto 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000. [105

Packet of 65 varieties, price 5/-. Good copies only. Approval books of all varieties at reasonable price sent to responsible applicants.

**RILEY & NISSEN, 108, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.**

**ALL BLOCKS . .**

Which have appeared in the "S.C.F." can be hired from the Publishers at the rate of 1/- per block, or bought outright at the rate of 1/6 or 3/- per block. Address—

**Publishers, 'Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,' 84, Cheapside, E.C.**

**ENGLISH ALBUM.**

The Prices are :—

Half Morocco, 10/6 Cloth Bound, 4/6

Cheap Edition .. .. . 2/6

CARRIAGE EXTRA.

**Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside.**



**SENF'S POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM**

IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD.  
Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.  
108] Price List on application.

**C. F. LUECKE, Publisher, LEIPZIG, Saxony.**

**H. ROSS-SHIELDS & CO.,**  
75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

WHOLESALE LOTS CHEAP.

Job Line to Sell ½d. to 3d. each. 4/- per 1000 (sample 100 for 6d.) Mixtures at 1/-, 2/-, 4/- and 8/- per 100  
Hayti, used, assorted, 6d. per dozen, 4/- per 100. 500 varieties, no fiscals, reprints or damaged stamps, 3/6. 100 varieties as above, 12/-

Selections sent on approval. 110

**Inch Space. .**

12 insertions .. .. . £1.

20 " .. .. . £1 17s. 6d.

**THE "METROPOLITAN PHILATELIST,"**

The best Weekly Stamp Paper.

SUBSCRIPTION :

35c. per year, post free, in Canada and Mexico.  
All other Countries, 75c. per annum, post free.

All the news and valuable advertisements of all live dealers.

The J. W. SCOTT Co., Ltd., [127  
40, John St., New York City, U.S.A.

**J. H. TELFER**

Has removed from 112, Leadenhall Street, E.C., to Raven's Park, Catford, S.E., from which address he will in future carry on business by correspondence only.—

Large stock of medium and rare stamps always on hand at bargain prices.

Send for price list of Stamps, singly and in sets. Stamps bought. Offers requested. Record Set! 40 Japanese, different, 8d.

**BRIDGER & KAY,**

**85, BISHOPSCATE STREET (without) E.C.**

Selections of medium and good stamps from ¼ to ½ catalogue prices. Sent on approval to responsible applicants.

WANTED TO PURCHASE. [109  
Collections and Good Stamps. Highest prices paid.

**H. H. ASHWORTH & Co.,**

**63, Brown St., Manchester.**

Retail or Wholesale List free on application. Approval Selections sent to responsible applicants.

Large Stock of Rare Stamps. Inspection cordially invited. Large Collections or Wholesale Parcels wanted for cash. [110

**QUEENSLAND,**

1882-86 (Gibbons' type 9 and 10), 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, the set of 5 for 4/9 Post Office Order.

Dealers and Collectors write for my New Price Lists of Cheap Sets, &c.

**W. H. ROBINSON, Swan Hill, Brisbane, QUEENSLAND.** [108

The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City.

**J. LOUIS,**

**42½, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.**

(CORNER OF UNION COURT).

200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free, 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference. [106

**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. [109

**HUBERT BUCKLEY,**  
CHRISTIANIA.

**SPECIALITY: Scandinavians.**

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

SEND 2d. for Specialists' Catalogue of the Stamps of Norway. [111

**HUBERT BUCKLEY,**

CHRISTIANIA,

PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.

Kindly send selections. [117

**The CITY STAMP EXCHANGE,**

**18 and 20, Cheapside, London, E.C.**

Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

Agents Wanted in the Provinces and Abroad.

Wholesale Consignments from Abroad particularly requested. [121

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms :

One to three stamps .. .. . 6d.

Each additional specimen .. .. . 2d.

Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.

**HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD., 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.**

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

ONE to five specimens, 10d; any more specimens, 1d each. Examination of Postmarks (Old Italian States only), one to five specimens, 5d each; any more specimens, 2d each. Please always join stamps for return postage and registration.

D. EMILIO DIENA, [112

40, Via Vittoria Colonna. Rome (Italy).

**Exchange Desired.**

In return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/- or 1/- over; we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 pies carmine, Gwalior, 13½ mms., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 830 ever issued). B. GORDON JONES.

Calcutta Philatelic Co., 62-1, Bentinck Street, Calcutta. Reference: Messrs. Hilckes & Co. 112

**Forged Surcharges**

Can be easily Detected with the aid of our

**' UNIVERSAL ' IVORY MEASURE**

Divided into 96 parts of an inch on one side and ¼ millimetre on the other side, mathematically correct.

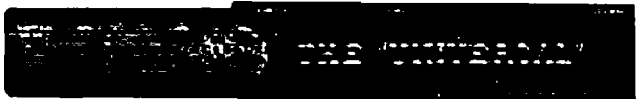
Invaluable to detect forged Surcharges; on finest Ivory,

**POST FREE, 4s. 6d.**

DESIGNED AND PUBLISHED BY

**Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,**

**64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.**



# PHILIPP KOSACK,

39, NENE KÖNIGSTRASSE,

 **BERLIN.**

TELEPHONE VII. No. 307.

**WISHES TO BUY** ❁

## Rarities of all Countries

(USED AND UNUSED) ESPECIALLY

**BELGUIM, FRANCE, RUSSIA, FINLAND, ITALIAN STATES,**

*Et c. Et c. UNUSED.*

WHOLE COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS. COLLECTIONS OF ENTIRES. FIRST-CLASS RARITIES.  
STAMPS ON ENTIRE ENVELOPES. RARE ENVELOPES. RARE TELEGRAPH STAMPS. ESSAIS.  
**LARGEST FIRM FOR ENTIRE ENVELOPES.**

**PHILIPP KOSACK.**

**BERLIN.** 105-134

### SPLENDID VALUE.

Our No. 4 Packet contains 100 varieties, all different, including the following:—British South Africa (1898), China, Cameroons, Cochin, Deccan, Dhar State, Eritrea, Gambia New Issue, German South-West Africa, Japan (Silver Wedding), Mauritius (1898), Sirmoor (Elephant), Soudan (Camel Trooper), Straits Settlements, Travancore, Trinidad, Zambesi, Great Britain (Army Official), &c., &c., sent post free on receipt of postal order, 1/1.

To all purchasers of this No. 4 Packet we will present Two Entires, viz., Holkar Envelope and Post Card.

	s.	d.
12 Austria, 1881-91, 1kr. to 1 gulden .. .. .	0	3
8 Bavaria, 1881-91, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf., 1 and 2mks. ..	0	3
7 Germany, 1875-89, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2 mks. ..	0	1
7 Wurtemberg, 1875-93, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2mks. ..	0	4
These four sets will be sent, post free, 9d.		
4 Travancore, complete, ½, 1, s and 4ch., used .. ..	0	10
5 Gambia, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d., unused ..	1	0
30 Portuguese Colonies, Crown Type .. .. .	2	6
5 Tunis, 1888, used .. .. .	0	3
10 Mozambique Company, 1886, 2½ to 3c reis. complete ..	3	6
<i>P. 'age on the above sets extra.</i>		

Agents wanted to sell our stamps; liberal terms; write for particulars.

Consignments of New Issues and Provisionals from abroad particularly requested. Cash and postage guaranteed per return mail.

Selections sent on approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

### The City Stamp Exchange

18 and 20, Cheapside, [96-121]

LONDON, E.C.

### Published in October.

— THE —

## INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC DIRECTORY.

Part I.—Contains Addresses of Collectors and Dealers of the whole world, carefully arranged in alphabetical order. To each address is added

- (a) If a Collector; what he collects, whether used or unused, and whether willing to exchange, &c.
- (b) If a Dealer; his special line of business, terms of purchase, sales, exchange, &c.

Part II.—Contains the Names of all important Societies of every country, rates of subscription, entrance fee, official organ, advantages, &c.

Part III.—Contains Names of nearly all existing Philatelic Papers relating to stamps, giving their dates of publication, rates of subscriptions, terms of advertisements, &c.

Part IV.—Contain a large number of Advertisements.

It will be seen from the above that the Directory will be of great value to Collectors and Dealers of every country, especially as all notes, explanations, &c., are given in English, French and German.

**PRICE, post free, 3s. 5d.**

*Cash with order, either by Money Order or Postal Order.  
(No Stamps).*

I shall be pleased to receive any Addresses not yet contained in the Directory, with precise indication as to objects collected, &c. These will be inserted gratis in a supplement to be published within a few months of the first edition.

WRITE DIRECT TO—

**W. GIESSMANN,**

Magistrate's Assistant, [104-105]

Saalfeld on the Saale (Thuringia), GERMANY.

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

**£5 PRIZE.**

5TH MONTHLY COMPETITION.

BRITISH AUTHORS.

THIS month our 1/- Packet contains 35 different Stamps, from 35 different countries, the Initial Letters of which, taken altogether, exactly spells the names of Five Very Well-known British Authors, chosen from living and dead Novelists and Poets. Everybody who can read know their names.

Send 1/- for Packet and try and arrange the Initial of the Countries from which the Stamps come so that they will spell these five names; if more than one succeed, the prize of £5 will be divided; but in case no one is successful, the Prize will go to the sender of the most correct list.

Fuller particulars sent with the Packet, which contain among others:—

SPAIN, 1898 war stamp (already obsolete); HONG-KONG, 20c. on 30c.; AUSTRIA, 1st issue; CHINA (German); URUGUAY; MALTA; NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION; GREENADA; GAMBIA (new issue); ORANGE FREE STATE (obsolete); NEWFOUNDLAND, with portrait of Prince Edward of York, etc., etc., etc.,

This Packet differs entirely from our previous ones. Last day for solutions October 31st.

Winner's name in *Fortnightly* of Nov. 12th. Result of British Towns Competition next Number.

**28, Radipole Rd., Fulham, London, S.W.**

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that in consequence of the great success of their first Manchester Sale, at which there was a record attendance for the Provinces and best prices were obtained for good stamps, they will hold a

**PHILATELIC AUCTION IN BIRMINGHAM, On the 3rd November next.**

TIME AND PLACE WILL BE ADVERTISED LATER. Collections &c., for this Sale must reach us by October 11th. *This will be the first Sale held in Birmingham* and we anticipate as great a success as at Manchester.

**The Second Manchester Sale WILL BE HELD AT THE Grand Hotel**

**On THURSDAY, October 20th, At 8 o'clock in the evening.**

Amongst the lots offered will be Mauritius, Postpaid 2d. earliest impression, 1d. later impression, and 2d. small fillet, Denmark unused in blocks, rare St. Christopher, Nevis, Sweden, Straits, Bechuanaland and others, an exceedingly good and rare selection of stamps in fine condition.

**Prompt Settlements Guaranteed.**

In proof of this, all the accounts for the first sale were paid within eight days of the sale in spite of the fact that we ourselves had not been paid for several lots.

Best references given, Member of Birmingham and Manchester Philatelic Societies, on *Bazaar Reference List*, &c., &c.

**Future Sales, Nov. 17th and Dec. 15th in Manchester, and 1st Dec. in Liverpool.** All enquiries to be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW, Stamp Auctioneers, 18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.**

	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 25c. on 2d. used ..	1	3
" 40c. on 4d. used ..	2	9
" 50c. on 6d. used ..	4	0
B. E. A. 98 large type, 1 rupee, mint.	1	9
" " " 2 " " ..	3	6
" " " 3 " " used ..	5	0
" on Zanzibar, 1/2a. to 8a. used or unused, set of 10 ..	4	0
Zanzibar, old Sultan, 1 rupee, used ..	1	9
Seychelles, used, 2c. to 18c. set of 8 ..	2	3
Saint Lucia, 98, 2d. mint ..	1	0

CASH WITH ORDER.

**ISAAC CANSINO,**

45a, MARKET STREET,

104 143] - - - MANCHESTER.

**JAGGARD & CO.,**

39, Renshaw St., Liverpool

	s.	d.
HAMBURG, 1/2 black, imp. ...	12	6
BADEN, 30kr. orange ...	10	0
HANOVER, 1/2 green, black, no wmk.	10	6
" 3 perf. green, no wmk.	10	6
HUNGARY, 3kr. green litho ...	15	0
CEYLON, 10d. orange, imp. ...	21	0
GAMBIA, 6d. blue, imp. C.C. ...	15	0
MAURITIUS, 2d. blue, worn plate ...	12	0
U.S.A., 90c., blue grill ...	25	0
" 24c., 1369 ...	15	0
LABUAN, 8c. on 12c. claret ...	15	0
DENMARK, 16s. lilac, rouletted ...	9	6

[80-105]

**Francisco F. Meneses**

343, CASILLA, GUAYAQUIL (EQUADOR).

I wish to enter into exchange relations with collectors all over the world, especially wish to complete my collection of Ecuador and also want the greater Rarities of the South American States. Exchange basis:— catalogues of Gibbons, Scott, Senf and Belin. I do not make the first selection or do I wish to have selections under the value of £1.

Open to receive Philatelic Magazines, Catalogues and Price Lists. First-class references if desired.

Any Philatelic Magazine copying this advertisement in its own language will receive on receipt of voucher copy 30 stamps of South America, valued £2 (catalogued Scott). [100-105]

**CHEAP SETS OF British Plate Numbers**

	Complete Set of.	My price. s. d.	Catalogue price. s. d.
1d. red ..	151	12 6	67 0
1 1/2d. red ..	2	0 3	0 8
2d. blue ..	7	1 0	2 9
2 1/2d. rose ..	18	7 0	15 3
2 1/2d. blue ..	7	0 9	3 0
3d. rose ..	20	7 6	21 1
4d. orange ..	10	2 6	6 9
6d. violet ..	8	3 0	6 7
6d. grey ..	8	5 6	9 8
1/- green ..	13	9 0	18 7

The 10 sets for 45/- nett.

New Price-Catalogue of British Stamps, 2/6, post free.

Albums for British Stamps, 5/- and 7/6.

Weekly Circular for British Specialists. The only Stamp Weekly published in Great Britain. Specimen free.

Approval Books—send for list.

SPECIALITY:

**Railway Letter Post Stamps**

**H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN, 32H, PALACE SQUARE, NORWOOD, S.E. (103-122).**

**Princess of Wales. Her Portrait for 3d.**

On Newfoundland 3 cents orange. Just issued.

**Trinidad Commemoration. LANDING OF COLUMBUS.**

A few copies at 6d. each.

British Honduras, 1898, 25c., only 1/6, unused.

Canada, latest issue, figures in corners, 1 and 3c. for 2d., used. All postage extra.

**SPECIAL "EL BUENO"**

**500 Variety Packet**

No Cut Squares, Fiscals or Locals. Fine value. A few of Last Season's Stock to clear at only 5/- each [97-124]

**CHAS. J. SMITH, Upper Park Rd., Kingston Hill, Surrey**

**Every Stamp a Bargain!**

Approval Books and Sheets of Rarities and Medium Stamps now ready to be sent to Collectors and Dealers.

**BARGAINS GOING BEGGING.**

**EUROPEAN RARITIES. COLONIAL SCARCITIES. UNITED STATES VARIETIES.**

Send in your List of Wants before the Season begins and secure some of the unpicked Plums. Selections at 25, 33, and 50 per cent. discount. References required. [104-124]

**W. MARCHBANK, 104, Holly Avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne**

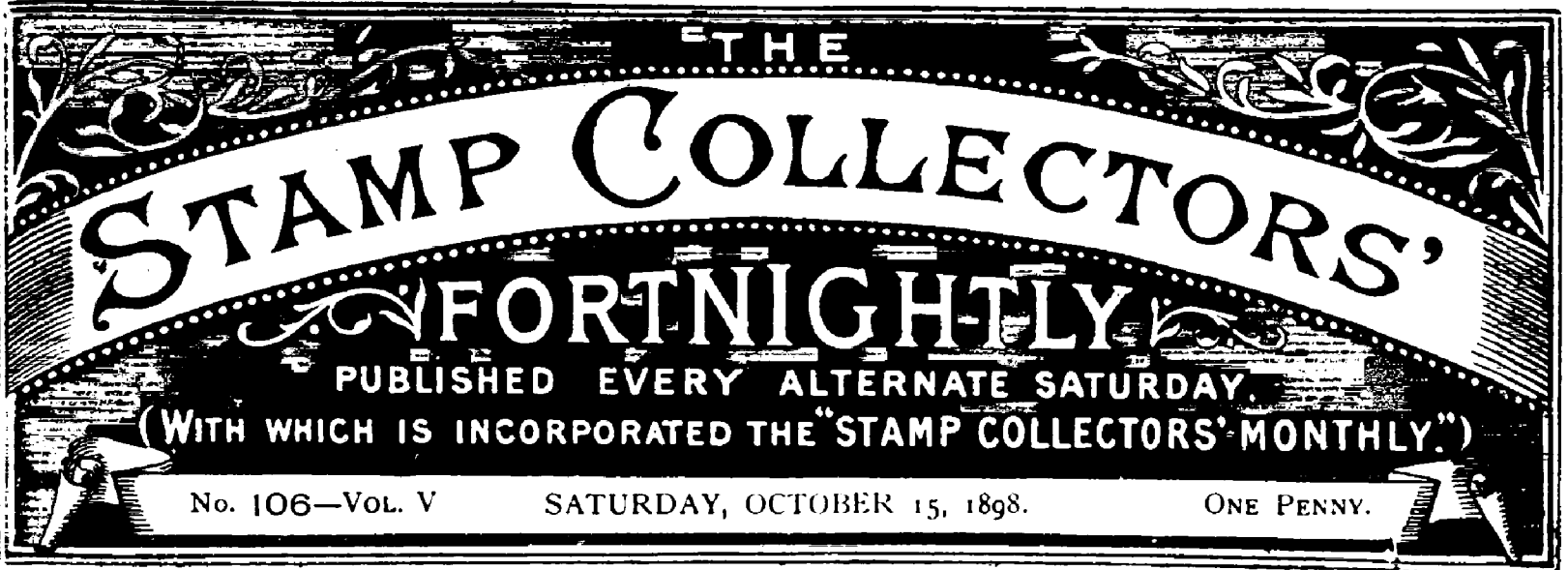
Out of an edition of 2500 copies,

we have a few left of our

**REPRINT = = = CATALOGUE**

Price, 1/-, post free.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.**



No. 106—Vol. V

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

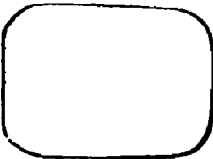
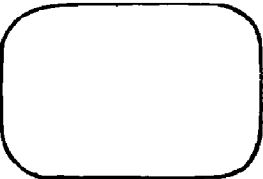
The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
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**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

*Doings of Societies.*

**BRISTOL & CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE first meeting of the present Session was held on Thursday evening the 6th inst. The Vice-President occupied the chair.

After the election of several new members, there was a display of the stamps of the West Indies, those of Messrs. Ellison, Dalton and Reynolds being especially admired. Amongst those shown by Mr. Ellison, was a remarkably fine specimen of an unused St. Vincent, bright vermilion 1/-, with 4d. surcharge, also a 1d. lake, imperf., used "Bahamas." Amongst those of Dominica a half 1d. lilac with vertical black surcharge HALF PENNY was used in combination with another half 1d. with the "1/2d." red surcharge, a space about equal to one of them being left between and the colonial obliteration covering the whole.

A vote of thanks was recorded to the publishers of the *Philatelic Chronicle* for the copies of their journal duly received.

The Hon. Librarian will be glad to receive donations of literature for the use of the Society. Mr. Cartwright notified that he had lately seen several specimens of our current 4d. with the inside of the bottom left-hand 4 without the usual lines in, and also that the control number of the 1d. lilac had been changed from V to W—T. G. CARTWRIGHT, *Hon. Librarian*, 17, York Crescent Road, Clifton, Bristol.

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**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**C**OLLECTOR wishes to sell a considerable number of really good stamps at half catalogue. Approval References.—LAUREL BANK, Monmouth. [106-107]

**W**ILL Secretary of first-class Stamp Club, send rules to NORMAN RICCARD, Westgate-on-Sea.

**G**OOD STAMPS for Sale at one-third catalogue. W., 215, CARLTON VALE, KILBURN.

**C**CHEAPEST SETS. Lists gratis and post free. W. N. COLLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements [107]

**B**BRITISH Central Africa.—Rare Stamps.—"One Penny" on 3/- unused, 1/6 each; "One Penny" on 3/-, used, 2/- each. Apply TUCKETT, 457, Padiham Road, Burnley. [105]

**C**ORRESPONDENCE desired with Collectors residing in Gibraltar, Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands, Nevis, Fiji, St. Helena, Trinidad, West Australia, Uganda, B. Guiana, Gold Coast, Grenada, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Turks Islands. No dealers.—J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [104]

**F**OR Sale.—Complete Collection of Unused Belgium Fiscal Stamps.—Address, A. DE SCHREPPER Rue St. Jean, 8, Bruges, Belgium. [1]

**215** FOREIGN and Colonial stamps, all unused. Also Jubilee Post Card and envelope, unused. Cash offers.—PYBUS, 49, Chapter Road, Lorrimer Square, Waiwoth, London.

**A. C. BRAUN**, Eleonor-nhain, Bohemia, Austria, collects stamps, cards, &c., of all countries, especially of the English Colonies and wishes to enter in exchange relations with collectors all over the world. His objects of exchange: Austrian and Hungarian Stamps in complete sets, issues 1891 and 1893, and duplicates of all countries. Correspondence in English, French and German. [106-108]

**S**TAMPS on approval, liberal discount.—W. GARR, 102, Southampton Lane, London, E. [110]

**B**REAKING's Collection, stamps, suit advanced, medium, and beginners, half catalogue, clean, state wants.—PREKE, Greaves Villa, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

**M**ULREADY wrapper, 2d. blue, unused, 15/-; British South Africa, 1896, 3d.-1/- inclusive, 3/6; many other cheap stamps.—PHILATELIST, St. Valentin Rd., Brixton.

**A BIG DISCOUNT OFF CATALOGUE!**

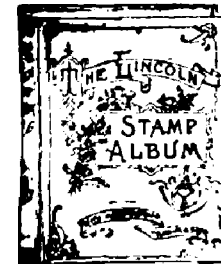
B. C. A., 1897, 6d. and 1/-, the two, price	1	6
*Gambia, 1895, 1/2 to 1/- (obsolete), mint set	3	3
*Gold Coast, 1894, .. .. .	3	3
Hawaii, 1893, 12c. mauve, very fine	5	0
" 1894, 25c. blue	1	6
*Tobago, 1885, 3d. to 1/-, mint set	2	6
Newfoundland, 1893, 1/2c., 1c., 2c., 3c., mint set	0	6
U.S., 1869, 12c., very fine, no gum, cat. 17/6	5	0
" 1861, 5c. mustard, extremely fine, cat. 50/-	27	6
" 1871, 7c. vermilion, mint	15	0
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**L**INCOLN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM and Descriptive Catalogue, with useful Geographical and Historical Notes (seventh edition). Containing Atlas of 16 coloured maps, with spaces to hold over 6,500 Stamps, and giving the dates and colours of every stamp. Cloth, 5/-; post free, 5 6.

A new list of 800 cheap sets with over 680 small pictures sent post free. Twopence [3]

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**INDIA-RUBBER STAMPS.**

FEW will deny that the indication of varieties of Watermarks, Perforations, etc., by pen or pencil, lends an untidy and unsatisfactory appearance to the pages of the Album. To remedy this blot upon "Philately's fair page," so to speak, the "Indicator" Rubber Stamps have been prepared. They are mounted on small wooden handles and the following illustrations are the *actual size*, all of which are in stock:

9d.

each ;

7/6

per dozen.

SIX PENCE	ONE PENNY	THREE PENCE	FOUR PENCE	PROVISIONAL	NO WMK	ERROR	ROSE PAPER	N.Z.	DIE I.	DIE II.
WHITE PAPER	BLUED PAPER	DIE.	LARGE.	MEDIUM.	SMALL.	PEN CANON	PLATE			
REPRINT	HORIZ.	VERTIC.	WOVE	RIBBED	POSTMARK.	LAND	FISC. CANON	MINT.		
ROUL	NO WMK	UNUSED	USED	IMPERF.	SILK THREAD.					
PERF. 10	PERF. 10½	PERF. 11	PERF. 11½	PERF. 12	PERF. 12½	PERF. 9	PERF. 9½			
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PERF. 13	10 x 11	11 x 11	10 x 12½	11½ x 12½	12½ x 10½	12½ x 11½	12½ x 14	14 x 15		
1	2	4	6	8	10	1	2	3	4	5

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTNIGHTLY.

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co. Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

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. | Bristol Philatelic Society. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rookdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 106.—Vol V

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### A STIFF SENTENCE FOR FREDERICK DEANE.

THE jury at Croydon Quarter Sessions last week convicted Frederick Deane, forty-two, on the charge of obtaining by false pretences, from Miss Albinia Lock, of Wick Ferry, Christchurch, Hants, foreign stamps of the value of £37 15s., and from Mr. George Thomas Keeke stamps valued at £11 8s. 2d.

It will be recollected that the prisoner obtained the stamps from Miss Lock, who advertised them in the *Bazaar*, and sent them according to instructions, to an address given by Deane at a tobacconist's shop at Thornton Heath. Miss Lock could neither get the money or the stamps back again. Mr. Peeke was victimised in a similar way.

Detective-sergeant Hawkins said that since 1893 the prisoner had been an unscrupulous adventurer, and had swindled people in almost every county in England out of foreign stamps. He was charged in 1892, but not convicted, but he had been fined for defrauding a railway company. The Recorder passed a sentence of eighteen months' hard labour.

### WE CAN LICK AUSTRALIAN STAMPS, ANYHOW.

ENGLISHMAN : " Is it true that you are going to have the impression of your cricket team on your new issue of stamps ? "

Australian : " That is so. "

Englishman : " But why ? "

Australian : " To give you a chance to lick them. "

### WANTED, A NAME FOR POSTER COLLECTING.

ALL that is required to make the poster boom a success, (says the *Western Morning News*) is that somebody should invent a pretty name for the cult. The love of stamp-collecting was largely stimulated by the dignity to which the fad attained. The title philatelist carried with it a notion of learning. The *marchands de timbres* who live in grand houses and cultivate orchids out of their profits [!!!!—Eds. "S.C.F."] find that there is as much room for enterprise in this as in other branches of commerce, while the vendor on the banks of the Seine, whose collection numbers only a few dozen, realises also that even on a small scale the business affords a pittance. The poster collecting hobby is still new to England, and, in fact, only one shop is at present devoted to it. But, after all, the posters should have a much greater chance of fame. They are decorative, and they have the gift of humour, and now that they are done by real artists their issue is strictly limited, so that in the course of time they grow in value.

### MEETING OF C.L.P.C. MEMBERS.

WE are requested to announce that a meeting of the members of the City of London Philatelic Club will be held in the rooms of the Central Philatelic Club, 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, W.C., on Monday next, October 17th, when the question of continuing the Club's exchange packet will be discussed, as well as other matters.

### REVENUE STAMP MYSTERY.—Continued.

AT the West Ham Police-court, William Walker, 56, a box-maker, of 10, Robertson-road, Stratford, was again brought before the magistrate on a charge of "being in the possession of certain stamps, fraudulently cut, torn, or otherwise removed from certain documents".

Mr. Hawkins prosecuted for the Inland Revenue authorities ; Mr. F. Stern defended.

On September 14th, in consequence of information received, Detective-sergeants White and Bell visited the Prisoner's house and found there 934 stamps, which Prisoner had endeavoured to change at a local post-office. Walker told them he gathered waste paper, and had got the stamps among some office clearings.

Mr. Hawkins for the prosecution, said the greater part of the stamps had been discovered to have been cut from policies of insurance issued by the British and European Life Assurance Association, now carrying on business at Ludgate-hill, but formerly of King-street, Cheapside. All the policies had been sent out of the Company, the stamps on them having been impressed at Somerset House, this showing that they had been ordered in large quantities. On 69 of the stamps



there was a small margin, and here portions of words, or a device corresponding with words on the face of the policies, were found, and on the back of one of the stamps were letters and words printed, which could only have come from the face of one of the policies. The stamps bore the date of their impression at Somerset House, and it was found that at that very time the Assurance Company were taking out stamps in large quantities; and the face value of a large number of the stamps found at the Prisoner's house was of the value supplied to the Company on May 3rd, and 4th, 1897. In all, 817 of the 934 stamps had been accounted for. Speaking of the manner in which the stamps might have come into the possession of the Prisoner, Mr. Hawkins said that when policies were spoiled they could be returned to Somerset House and be changed. The policies were sent out to district agents already stamped, and a large number of these were never used.

Mr. George N. Gold, a clerk to the British and European Assurance Company, produced some policies of the Company bearing stamps similarly dated to those in the possession of the accused. Policies, he said, were sent out to the various superintendents of the Company, and sometimes the Company applied for a return of spoiled policies. With this exception no stamps could leave the office.

Cross-examined, Mr. Gold said that last year the Company had in their employ a superintendent named Spencer, who was reduced to an assistantship. The stamps as they were would be of no value to accused. They could only be exchanged at Somerset House.

Mr. Stern, for the defence, urged that there was no case on which to send the Prisoner for trial, and that no Jury would convict him of having obtained those stamps in any other than an honest way.

William Bodell, of Fairfield-road, Bow, said he formerly kept a stationer's shop at High-street, Stratford. Among his customers was a Mr. James Spencer, who, some six or seven months ago, offered him a large number of stamps similar to those produced. He asked Witness to buy them, saying that they might be sold in penny packets in the shop; but Witness said they were worthless to him.

James Spencer, a greengrocer, of 119, Abbey-lane, Stratford, said he was formerly employed by the British and European Assurance Company. He had a very large number of lapsed policies and policies not taken up, and each of them bore an impressed stamp. He cut the stamps from them and sold about 2 cwt of the policies as waste paper. He remembered taking over a thousand of the stamps to Mr. Bodell, and as he said that they were worthless, Witness going home threw the packet of them on some waste ground off Abbey-lane, Stratford.

Cross-examined, Witness said 75 per cent. of the policies issued to him lapsed or were not taken up. He began with the Company as a canvasser, but was never reduced from superintendent to assistant superintendent as stated. He had no instructions from the Company to return these policies; on the contrary, he had instructions not to return them. He had not thrown away all the stamps he had; some he had at home now, and he had given Mr. Stern some. He was on salary—2*l.* a week, and drew no commission.

Mr. Baggallay said he would send the Prisoner for trial, and accused, after being committed, was allowed bail.

#### A TARDY ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

AFTER taking to themselves all the credit of the discovery of the forged one shilling green, after influencing a paragraph in the London daily papers, which was copied into scores of provincial newspapers, all of which paid tribute to the perspicacity of Messrs Stanley Gibbons, Limited—after all this, nearly two months after it, the Strand firm vouchsafe this tardy acknowledgment to Mr. C. Nissen:

While on the subject of the forged English, we think it fair to mention that a Mr. Nissen, of the firm of Riley and Nissen, first pointed out the forgery to one of our shop employees, but the gentleman who wrote the article that appeared in our July *Journal* was not informed of this, or the fact would of course have been mentioned.

"The gentleman who wrote the article" should have been informed, that's all! The name of the discoverer was of

equal importance with the discovery itself; and Messrs Stanley Gibbons would find it difficult to convince the public that the failure to "inform" the "gentleman who wrote the article" was not a piece of carefully-arranged forgetfulness.

#### ANOTHER FIND OF "POST OFFICE" MAURITIUS.

STILL they come, these specimens of the "Post Office" Mauritius. In the *Timbre Post* appears the announcement that in Bombay a letter has been discovered, bearing two specimens of the rare issue. The two stamps, it seems, are undoubtedly authentic, the letter being marked in Bombay "insufficiently prepaid." This, remarks the *Timbre Post*, is a discovery calculated to arrest the upward movement in the price of these stamps.

#### AN ORDER FOR PROVISIONALS COUNTERMANDED.

LET us, for goodness sake, lose no chance of praising a French Colonial Official for limiting the output of French Colonial Provisionals. It is not every day that such a chance occurs. A correspondent informs us that the news circulated in the Continental Journals to the effect that various surcharges would shortly appear in Madagascar was premature, and, in point of fact, untrue, General Gallieni, Commander-in-Chief in the Island, having ordered that the stamps at present in stock should be made to answer present postal needs until the arrival of fresh supplies. In confirmation of this we find, in the *Echo de la Timbrologie* for September, a decree to this effect signed by General Gallieni.

#### SOME BIC COLLECTIONS TO BE DISPERSED.

THE philatelic season now upon us will be a very active one in at least one respect—the dispersal of large collections. Following is a list of just a few of the philatelists who are selling out, with some particulars of their accumulations.

MR. R. PEARCE. Perhaps the finest collection of Transvaal in existence.

MR. A. F. CALVERT, so well known in city circles as a daring and resourceful financier. His splendid collection of Australian stamps is to be sold by auction forthwith.

MR. ISIDORE DREYFUS. This gentleman's remarkable accumulation of Swiss stamps is, according to present arrangements, to be sold intact.

Well, well, collectors come and collectors go—with this exception, that very few of them do really go. It is fairly safe to predict that these and other collectors who are selling their fine specialised collections will be "at it again" on some new country before the year is out. Once a man "takes" Philately he does not readily abandon it.

#### THE N.S.W. "DIADEM" SWINDLE.

THE Sydney *Telegraph*, of August 23rd, brings us further news of this case, in the shape of the subjoined report:

A Japanese named Jonoski Takuma and his wife, an English-woman, named Elizabeth Takuma, pleaded not guilty to a charge of forging and uttering certain postage stamps and were defended by Mr. C. Bull.

The case for the Crown, it will be remembered, disclosed a singular state of affairs. It appears that in the paper on which each postage stamp is printed there is a water-line figure denoting the value of the stamp, just as bank-notes are similarly water-lined. Somewhere away back early in the sixties, a mistake was made in the printing of some 2d. stamps, inasmuch that the wrong paper was used, and on a limited edition, a twopenny face appeared printed on a fivepenny water-lined paper. The mistake was not long in being discovered by the authorities, but the result was that these misprinted "twopennies" as they became scarce and scarcer assumed a value in the eyes of philatelists immensely beyond their intrinsic worth. It was alleged that Mr. Hagen, stamp collector of Elizabeth Street, purchased some of these stamps from the defendants, and being informed that more were to be obtained, had his suspicions aroused as to their genuineness, as he was aware such stamps were very scarce, and, indeed, for seven of them which he purchased he gave £45. He forwarded these stamps to his agents in London, but they were pronounced by the experts who examined them not to be genuine. They were returned to Mr. Hagen, and then, by experiment, he found that by some process a fivepenny stamp face had been bleached off, the paper had been reduced in thickness, and the remaining paper, which, of course, retained the 5d. water-line,

had been used as a backing upon which an ordinary 2d. postage stamp (the paper of which had also been reduced in thickness) was gummed. When accused of this fraud the male defendant denied that he had forged the stamps, and asserted that they had been brought into his shop by a woman, who asked him to sell them on commission. After most of the evidence of the Crown had been taken, Jonoski Takuma—acting on the advice of his attorney—withdrew his plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty to the minor charge of uttering.

Mr. Bull intimated that he could call evidence in support of the contention which his cross-examination had outlined that Mrs. Takuma, in all she did in the matter, had acted upon the control of her husband. In the circumstances he thought the Crown might accept the plea of the husband, and refrain from proceeding further against the wife.

The Crown Prosecutor said he would not object to pursue the course suggested, and by his Honor's direction the jury found the male prisoner guilty of uttering, and his wife not guilty.

Mr. Bull said he desired to call a number of gentlemen, who were not then in attendance, to speak on behalf of accused. Takuma was therefore remanded for sentence.

The italics in the above report are ours. Mr. Fred Hagen, writing under date, August 23rd, reiterates his previous statement that the faked stamps were accepted as genuine by the London experts. Furthermore, Mr. Hagen points out that the above report is inaccurate in regard to its description of the stamps; but that is only what we expect from the average newspaper reporter engaged on a philatelic case.

#### SENTENCE PASSED AND RESCINDED.

On the day following the proceedings reported above—viz., on August 23rd—Takuma was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment with hard labour, but was eventually released under the First Offenders' Act. He will have to report himself to the police every month, and also to refund all the monies he has received for the fraudulent stamps.

#### TRADESMEN AND HOSPITAL STAMPS: A WARNING.

*Truth* contains this eye-opening paragraph anent the Prince of Wales's Hospital Stamps:

In connection with the stamp subscription to the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund, a stationer suggests that it might be interesting to know how much of the £35,000 raised by the first issue has been involuntarily contributed by tradesmen who bought the stamps for sale. The managers of the Fund decline to receive back unsold stamps, and my correspondent thinks that a good many are left on the hands of the tradesmen, who had to estimate what quantity the public would require, and make their purchases in advance. In his own case, he is considerably out of pocket over the first issue, and he has decided to buy the new stamps only as orders come in from his customers. This course is certain to be adopted by many shopkeepers who have similarly suffered, and in the long run the Fund will probably lose a good deal more than it has gained from the refusal of the managers to accept "returns."

#### A SEAMLESS ENVELOPE WITH A STAMP OF SILK.

A PARIS newspaper published especially for women, announces the invention by one of the members of its staff of a most important postal novelty. The inventor has constructed a seamless envelope of silk made stiff and smoothed by a secret process. She has petitioned the Government to be allowed to weave a 15 centimes postage stamp into the material, which she will guarantee as proof against counterfeiters. The novel envelope is intended only for lady correspondents and will cost too much to ever be a generally used article. It is to be exhibited, however, at the Paris Exhibition of 1900.

#### AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION IN CONVENTION.

THE THIRTEENTH Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association was held in New York, August 23rd to 26th, at the Collectors' Club, 451, 4th Avenue.

The election showed the following changes in the Board of Directors: Messrs. E. M. Carpenter, C. P. Kranth and P. F. Bruner were elected in place of J. L. Kilbon, E. Doebelin and Geo. R. Tuttle.

A vote was taken as to the Official Organ for the coming year. This resulted in 66 votes in favour of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* and 102 for the *Metropolitan Philatelist*. This latter was largely made up of proxy votes, while most of the mem-

bers present seemed to be in favour of the *Era*. However, it was soon discovered that this vote was void, as a change could only be made by amending the By-Laws.

Detroit was selected for the place of meeting of the next convention by an almost unanimous vote.

There was little other business of importance before the convention, and this gave time for a number of enjoyable excursions, on which many of the members were accompanied by the ladies of their families.—*Philatelic Monthly and World*.

#### PROVIDENCE STAMPS TO BE REPRINTED.

MESSRS. Bogert & Durbin, the well-known American dealers, make the following announcement:

It is well-known that we are the owners of the original plate from which these stamps were printed.

We purchased this plate just five years ago, in September, 1893.

We have now decided to place reprints on the market and have had same prepared. Although the color is almost exactly the same as that used for the originals, the paper varies somewhat. As an additional preventive of fraud we have had our name printed on the back of each sheet, in the following manner, so that one letter comes on each stamp.

B	©	G
E	R	T
D	U	R
B	I	N

This is the exact type used. It will be noticed, there are two B's and two R's, but the position of each stamp on the plate can be easily ascertained for the first B comes on the back of the 10c. stamp and the second on a 5c. stamp; the first R comes on the back of No. 5 without period after "CENTS" and the second on No. 7 with period after "CENTS."

After consultation with a number of dealers and collectors we have placed the price of these reprints at \$5.00 per sheet.

#### A LITTLE PHILATELIC SCANDAL.

ACCORDING to that vivacious little journal, the *Pelican*, it is whispered in "sassiety."

That a very disagreeable case is likely to engage the attention of the Courts in the near future, and

That the chief disputing persons are two ladies fairly well known in Society.

That one of these is, and has been for years past, a collector of foreign stamps, and

That her collection is undoubtedly of great value and contains, or did contain, certain specimens declared unique.

That one lady, who is, among other things, possessed of a title called upon the possessor of the stamps, and

That during her visit she was shown the Album containing them.

That her hostess was called out of the room for a few minutes, and

That the visitor was left alone with the collection.

That later on, the possessor looking through her book discovered that certain of her most valued treasures were missing.

That she naturally wrote to her friend to ask if she knew anything of the missing stamps, and

That the "friend" equally naturally replied she knew nothing.

That the law-courts are to be invited to guess how much she really does know!

#### THE FIRST MANCHESTER STAMP AUCTION.

WE had arranged, in spite of the short time available, to secure a report of Messrs. Ostara & Darlow's auction at Manchester on September 15th for the last issue of the FORTNIGHTLY. Unfortunately, however, our Manchester correspondent's despatch reached our printing works some hours too late. It appears that the great "gem" of the sale, the penny "Post Office" Mauritius, was, for some reason unknown, "withdrawn" from the sale at the last moment. Many of the results of the sale, such as (to give only one instance):

ST. LUCIA, 1s. black and orange, pair, mint, £12 5s. od. strike us as being a little curious; and until we learn from the auctioneers full particulars as to lots "bought in," we think it as well not to publish the figures in our possession.

## 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, OCTOBER 15, 1898.



FREDERICK DEANE has gone to hard labor for eighteen months. From the point of view of a philatelist, the prosecution of this man on charges of false pretences will stand out as one of the great events of the year. Frederick Deane presumed a little too much on the popular assumption that no Judge will punish a man who swindles a philatelist. That there is such an assumption in the public mind cannot be denied; but, like the perversity of legal luminaries when dealing with philatelic cases, it is slowly but surely disappearing. Many a scoundrel, waxing fat and sleek on the "approval lots" that confiding philatelists have sent him, has counted upon getting off by the plea that he "meant to pay in the end." That was Deane's plea, but Deane has gone to eighteen months hard labor. All honour to the Recorder of Croydon for recognising the true character of the man brought before him! The sentence, according to Recorder Glenn, was "the smallest he could impose," and he warned the prisoner that if he pursued the same course when released from prison he would certainly be sent to penal servitude.

Let this case be a warning to philatelists, both amateur and professional, not to part with stamps "on approval" save to persons of undoubted integrity. This man Deane, according to the police evidence, has swindled stamp collectors and dealers on a wholesale scale. How did he do it? or, rather, why was he able to do it? He was able to do it simply because some philatelists are very bad business men. Either because they are very anxious to sell, or because they are lazy, they go to little or no trouble to ascertain the bonafides of persons who apply to them for stamps on approval. The result is an easy road to illicit gain for such men as Frederick Deane. We counsel all who are in the habit of doing philatelic business through the post to take heed of these few words. One of the Frederick Deanes is removed from our midst, but—*there are others!*

OWING to a slight delay in the preparation of the index to Volume IV., that very necessary document cannot be circulated with this number of the "S.C.F.," but will be sent out with our next issue. We are glad to note, from the numerous binding orders our publishers have already received, that the "S.C.F." is held in undiminished regard, not only as a philatelic newspaper, but also as a publication of permanent value.

## Notes on New Issues.

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

### SURINAM.

A VALUED correspondent in Paramaribo advises under date 12th September, that the remaining sheets of King Head issue, Surinam, have been surcharged in very heavy block type, 10 cent as per illustration annexed. The following values were issued:



10 cent on 12½ cents, slate.
10 " 15 " grey.
10 " 20 " light green.
10 " 25 " grey-blue (price 1/9)
10 " 30 " lilac-brown (price 1/6).

As a very small number are issued these stamps should be rare but we have no information so far as to the actual number put on sale.

### CHINA.

MR. DAVID BENJAMIN sent us on 3rd September, the 1 dollar value of this country belonging to the London printed series, the colour is carmine with an underprint of yellow. We may here mention that the higher values are printed in small sheets of eight horizontally, and six vertically, 48 in all; whereas the lower values are printed in two panes of 60, or 120 in all.



1 dollar, carmine on yellow (price 4/9).



### NECRI SEMBILAN.

We have also received from Mr. Benjamin two new values of this colony in the annexed type.

2 cents lilac, value deep brown (price 2d.)
" " " " sky blue (price 5d.)

### GREAT BRITAIN.

MR. W. T. MARK, of Cardiff, sends us two current ½d. wrappers, one without the printed directions and one with. In other respects it is precisely the same. We have also been informed by an officer in the Post Office that a few wrappers without the inscription were put on sale in London. Whether it is intended to issue the wrappers without the inscription we are unable at present to say, but we are told that this latter course is to be adopted.



The figures in brackets represent the prices at which Messrs. Hilckes & Co., Ltd can supply the stamps mentioned. Postage extra.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Oct. 29th, 1898.

London Auctions.

- Oct. 18th, 19th and 20th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.
- Oct. 24th. Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m.
- Oct. 25th and 26th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., each day precisely.
- Oct. 27th and 28th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Co., at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

### Tapling Collections.

Mr. C. D. Bacon informs us that the following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.  
Spain from January, 1873 to date, and  
France up to October, 1862.

## The New London Stamp Club.

AMALGAMATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB WITH THE CENTRAL PHILATELIC CLUB, OF CURSITOR STREET, CHANCERY LANE.—A POST-MORTEM COMMITTEE OF THREE APPOINTED TO WIND UP THE C.L.P.C.'s AFFAIRS.

"THE Central Philatelic Club, with which is incorporated the City of London Philatelic Club." That, according to present arrangements, is to be the title and style of Mr. H. A. MacMillan's new philatelic resort in Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, W.C.

Constant readers of the FORTNIGHTLY will not need to be reminded of the movement which has culminated in the fusion of the City of London and Central Philatelic Clubs. The prospectus of Mr. MacMillan's new venture which we gave in our No. 104, and the editorial article on the same subject which appeared in our No. 105, tell their own tale. It may be well, however, to briefly recapitulate the sequence of events:

Mr. MacMillan, having conceived the notion that a central rendezvous for philatelists might be opened in Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, as an adjunct to his own concern, the Imperial Club, the matter was informally discussed by various members of the "C.L.P.C.," notably Mr. Joselin and the Editors of this journal. The idea was cordially approved, and it was suggested that some satisfactory arrangement might be come to, whereby the "C.L.P.C." could be affiliated at a reasonable figure and thus enjoy the long-desired "comforts of a home."

In due course Mr. MacMillan produced an attractive prospectus, which was circulated among the best known philatelists and philatelic societies. What the response of the philatelic world may have been we are not in a position to say, but we believe it was of a most favourable character, for at about this time the original idea of affiliating the "C.L.P.C." was abandoned and out-and-out amalgamation began to be discussed.

Now that the irrevocable step has been taken, it is useless to speculate here as to the very rapid growth among a section of the "C.L.P.C." membership of a feeling inimical to the *status quo* and in favour of a complete change of constitution. To those who had not been specially canvassed on the subject the motion put to the committee meeting a month ago came as a veritable thunderbolt. At first blush the proposal to sink the name of the "C.L.P.C." and lose the benefit of a well-established reputation seemed a monstrous one; yet it was passed at the committee meeting under notice by a majority of the whole committee of the club.

In the issue of the FORTNIGHTLY following that meeting we urged the members of the club to vote against the proposal. As founding members of the club, and having its best interests at heart, we felt compelled to take that course. It seemed to us wicked in the extreme that the work of five years—onerous work, sometimes—should be thus wantonly sacrificed.

We now append a brief report of

### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE "C.L.P.C."

There was an attendance of fifteen members. Mr. Harry Hulkes, Vice-President, occupied the chair, and in his opening remarks said:

Before we commence the formal business of this meeting, I wish to make a few remarks on the history and present position of the "City of London Philatelic Club."

Early in the year 1893 I consulted, in conjunction with Mr. Percy Bishop, two or three collectors known to me, with a view of forming a Club on popular lines, which was specially intended to assist the small and medium collector by means of weekly meetings on a social basis. After a great deal of opposition, especially on the part of the trade, known then as the Philatelic Protection Association, the "C.L.P.C." was inaugurated on the 3rd August, 1893; and for five years the Club has enjoyed uniform prosperity.

Although we have had to encounter many serious checks, I can proudly say that the Club is in a very healthy condition. It is very well spoken of abroad and the initials "C.L.P.C." added to a

person's name is recognised as a guarantee of good faith and standing, thus acting as a most valuable reference.

From the beginning it was our aim to eventually obtain permanent Club premises the moment the funds of the concern should warrant us in doing so. So far we have been unable to attain this very desirable end, chiefly for financial reasons. That the expense of furnishing and maintaining a permanent suite of rooms, would be a very large one is obvious, and therefore it occurred to me some months ago, that since Mr. MacMillan was in a position to offer most of the advantages we desired without the Club incurring the heavy initial expense, some arrangement might be made by which the members might have all the advantages of a permanent home without its responsibilities.

I had various conversations with Mr. MacMillan, and if my memory does not play me false, and I believe I have a very good memory, the question of affiliation *only* was discussed.

The terms were left to Mr. MacMillan to formulate with a view of putting them before the Committee in proper form.

Now within the last few weeks such a proposal has been put before your Committee suggesting that the "C.L.P.C." should form the nucleus of a new Club called the Central Philatelic Club. Here I must be allowed to remark, with deep regret that our Secretary, Mr. C. Forbes, who worked very hard indeed at the beginning of his term and did a great deal of much patient and painstaking work, does not appear to have consulted the best interests of his Club in this respect.

Mr. Forbes convened a Committee Meeting for the discussion of Mr. MacMillan's proposal without explaining to his colleagues (or at any rate to Mr. Joselin, Mr. Morley, myself, possibly also others) the precise object he had in view.

Thus the proposed resolution of which you all received a copy since, came as an absolute surprise to us, and also I *hope* to the other Committee members present at the meeting.

I am sorry that Mr. Forbes should have seen fit to act in this mysterious fashion, and *furthermore* I regret to find that Mr. Forbes has (evidently in anticipation of the winding-up of the "C.L.P.C.") allowed his name to be used as that of Secretary of Mr. MacMillan's new concern, the Central Philatelic Club. I shall say no more of this matter at the present moment, but will proceed with this question of amalgamation.

At the said Committee meeting the formal resolution was passed recommending that the "C.L.P.C." be merged in the Central Philatelic Club. All members have been circularised and invited to vote on the question, but since this meeting, at which by the way Mr. Joselin and myself were the only dissenting members, there appears to have been a change of view, among some of the Committee members at least. Second thoughts seem to have convinced them that the so-called amalgamation would mean the utter break-up of the City Club, and I cannot but think that the decision of the Committee a fortnight ago was come too hastily and without due consideration.

When Mr. Percy Bishop and I first conferred with Mr. MacMillan about the matter there is no doubt that only an affiliation scheme was intended, but evidently Mr. MacMillan has grown more ambitious since, and has substituted a proposition which amounts to wilful murder of the City of London Club.

I sincerely trust therefore that when you have fully seen the matter from all sides, the sunny as well as the shady, you will come to the conclusion that it would be very desirable indeed to preserve the Club in its old style and appoint a Committee of two or three members whose duty it would be to make a bargain with Mr. MacMillan, which, while obtaining for us all the facilities of a home, would still maintain the Club distinct and on its old basis. You must not forget that we have to think of the country members as well as our London members and such benefit as the Cursitor Club offers, will be chiefly for the benefit of London members.

As there has been a great deal of talk as to dealers serving on Committees I may here mention that I do not propose to offer myself for re-election, and I hear another member, our good friend Mr. Morley, is of the same opinion as regards himself.

Mr. C. Forbes, Hon. Secretary and Librarian, then read the minutes of the previous annual meeting, and afterwards gave a brief report of the past year's working. Both items having been passed by the meeting.

Mr. J. E. Joselin, Hon. Treasurer and Exchange Superintendent, proceeded to report upon the Club's finances. In doing so he criticised the Secretary's dilatoriness in rendering accounts of secretarial receipts and expenditures. This led to a desultory discussion, culminating in the Hon. Treasurer's report being formally adopted.

Mr. H. W. Plumridge and Mr. Percy Bishop were elected as auditors.

The question of suggested amalgamation was then entered upon. A long discussion took place, in which Messrs. Hilckes, Joselin, Bishop, Forbes, Edward Buhl, Carr, Morley, T. H. Thompson, H. Thompson and Neyroud took part.

Mr. Walter Morley spoke in favour of affiliation, and moved as an amendment to the Committee's proposition, that the matter be referred back to the Committee, with an instruction to confer with Mr. McMillan on the question of affiliation.

Mr. Bishop seconded.

After another protracted discussion as to the legality of the amendment, it was put to the meeting, and a show of hands resulted as follows: For the amendment, 4; against, 10.

The amendment, therefore was lost, and the Committee's proposition—"that the C.L.P.C. amalgamate with the Central Philatelic Club, with a subscription of 10s. 6d. for London, and 5s. for country members; and that no dealers be eligible for election on the Committee"—was endorsed.

It was then proposed, and agreed to unanimously, that a committee of three be appointed to wind up the affairs of the City of London Philatelic Club. The selection of this Committee—Messrs. Joselin, Hilckes, and T. H. Thompson—concluded the business of the meeting.

### On the Genuineness of Imperforates.

BY ALFRED L. BECKER.

ONE of the most difficult problems that the thorough-going philatelist must solve is the question, have the perforations been clipped? This problem is of the utmost importance to him, unless he collects imperforates in pairs and blocks only. Although it happens sometimes that the greatest expert cannot be sure of a doubtful specimen, there are usually minute indications of genuineness or falsity which do not escape his notice, but enable him to form a definite opinion. I do not claim to be a philatelic expert, but I have made something of a study of imperforates and think I can offer a few hints.

The first thing to notice in examining an apparently imperforate specimen of a stamp which also exists perforate is, does it bear any external, obvious indication of its character? Many stamps have been issued imperforate in certain shades in which they do not appear perforate, and *vice versa*. The listing in the catalogue of a great many shades (a feature which some writers have foolishly deprecated), is very useful in this regard. For example, the ten cent stamp of the United States issue of 1851-56 appears imperforate only in clear bright green. If any sheets printed in this color ever were perforated, the stamp perforated certainly is far rarer in that condition. This shade is not so distinctive, however, as the dark, murky green found practically never except in the perforate issue of the same stamp. Now, an imperforate stamp of the former shade is pretty surely genuine; one of the latter shade very probably clipped. These shades are not well described in the catalogue, but they are hinted at there. Anyone who has seen quantities of these stamps, will recognise my descriptions. Probably this ten cent stamp was first printed in the clear green, later in the yellow-green shade, during which period the stamp was first perforated, and still later in the dark murky green. Of course, these are not absolute signs; there are many other shades of this stamp, and I have seen specimens that contradict my rule. Taken in connection with other signs, these are, however, valuable as evidence. They simply illustrate how one can go to work to investigate a stamp.

The collector will do still better if he studies his imperforates with the help of such a work as Mr. John N. Luff's history of "The Postage Stamps of the United States."

Here we find, with reference to this same ten cent stamp, that there are six distinct types, of which type II. is commonly found imperforate, types IV. and V. perforate. Type I., III., IV., V., and VI. are all so scarce imperforate that doubt would immediately be cast upon specimens of types IV. and V. without perforations. Types I. and III. are sufficiently scarce both perforate and imperforate, so that no inference

could be drawn one way or the other. I should advise anyone wishing to be sure of his imperforates to study them carefully in the advanced catalogues, noting all the individual characteristics of perforate and imperforate issues of the same stamp. He can then draw his own conclusions.

One important extrinsic sign remains, the date of use. Of course, the fact that an imperforate specimen was used after that stamp began to be perforated does not condemn it, but, on the other hand, a date of use before the time when the stamp was first perforated absolutely assures its genuineness. Here is another reason for preserving stamps on the original covers. The date of use is often impressed on the envelope, but not on the stamp. The collector should beware of counterfeited cancellations with early dates by making himself familiar with the appearance of genuine cancellations. The catalogues are not as explicit as one might wish in giving dates of issue. A list of earlier dates on which stamps were issued both with and without perforations are known to have been used in the latter condition might be useful if prepared by some competent philatelist.

It often happens that no external signs dependent upon knowledge of the history of stamps, can be discovered, so that it is desired to study internal indications, such as the appearance of the individual stamp.

First and most obvious is the width of margins. An imperforate stamp with no margins at all is likely not to be genuine. In the first place, when one is cutting stamps out of a sheet, he is pretty sure to give some stamps very narrow margins all around, and others very wide margins all around. A stamp may suffer on one or two sides, but will gain on the other margins at the expense of its neighbours. This may seem trivial, but it is unquestionably true. Even more significant is the fact that many collectors in the early days of philately cut down their stamps to fit the stingy space in their albums. Specimens thus treated may just as well have been perforate as imperforate; you cannot tell which. No doubt, many clipped specimens now masquerading as imperforate with narrow margins originated under the scissors of pioneer philatelists.

Sometimes clipped stamps have suspicion first thrown upon them by reason of traces of the arrows or lines used to indicate the point of separation of the large sheet into two or more panes. The margins that are widest and consequently most suitable for clipping by dishonest persons are found on these stamps, which are naturally imperforate on one or two sides because they lie next the centre of the large sheet, thus cut up into two or four panes by the bank note company. In the early issues of the United States and in some British colonials, the panes are separated by colored lines extending the whole distance. Later issues have the arrows at the margins. Traces of either arrows or lines on a suspected imperforate would tend to show that the perforations had been clipped from two or three sides of a stamp chosen for this treatment because of its wide margins.

One is always tempted to try the microscope in philatelic study, but experiment shows that it is not generally as useful as a magnifying glass of low power. Sometimes clipped stamps show traces of the original perforations that are not easily perceptible to the naked eye. Rarely one can perceive with a microscope the difference between a recent scissors cut and an old one. The new cut is likely to look cleaner and fresher. Time wears the edge of an old cut so that it is ragged and brown. This roughness must be carefully distinguished from that caused by a tear made with a ruler or similar instrument. One important sign that should be watched for in this connection is more easily seen with a magnifying glass or a microscope. A scissors or knife ordinarily bends the paper slightly at the edge of its cut. This curve flattens out when the stamp is pasted down or pressed, but it is otherwise perceptible for some time; it affords pretty conclusive evidence of a recent cut.

If the margins of a stamp offered at a low price are narrow, and if an imperforate copy catalogues \$2,000, a perforate copy \$5.50, as is the case with the first one-penny stamp of the Bahamas, the collector had better save his money and wait until he can buy an undoubted specimen.

—From the *Columbian Philatelist*.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



WE have, of course, received many letters on the subject of our decision to discontinue the reports of Auction Sales. Some readers applaud the course we have taken; others deprecate it. Perhaps the most remarkable of the letters we have received is from a Glasgow reader. Says this gentleman:

"You are making a very great mistake in discontinuing the Auction Supplements. The reasons given for a discontinuance are to my mind, puerile—especially those of a 'rainy day' and the support of the trade. The real reasons are not so difficult to understand; but I am afraid the non-appearance of the Auction Supplements will hardly help to bolster up inflated prices."

Now, a man does not need a microscope to see that there is an inuendo here, and that inuendo is that we are discontinuing our Auction Reports for the purpose of throwing dust in the eyes of collectors. We do not blame our correspondent for speaking out; indeed we should have been better pleased had he conveyed his meaning a little more frankly. It hurts us in a weak spot, though, after four years of hard fighting for honest Philately, to be made the target of such an insinuation as this.

After four years, during which the FORTNIGHTLY has suffered greatly, from a financial point of view, for its fearless outspokenness, we find it the reverse of pleasant to be told that we are playing crooked. The sensation becomes still more unpleasant when it is suggested that our policy is dictated by a desire to "bolster up inflated prices." We who have written more strongly against price-inflation than anyone in this or any other country! More in anger than in sorrow we ask our Glasgow friend to "guess again."

It is precisely because we do not wish collectors to be hoodwinked that we are discontinuing the Auction Supplements. The results of auction sales are at present absolutely unreliable as a guide to market values; and old readers will remember that it was simply to provide some sort of guide to the values ruling in the philatelic market that we commenced the publication of the "Supplement."

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In a recent editorial article anent "American Philatelic Politics," we implied that *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* was a candidate for the honour of acting as official organ of the American Philatelic Association. From a recent issue of our smart contemporary we find that that was not the case, and we are sorry for having made such a slip. We are equally sorry that our other remarks in the article referred to, revealing the jealousy subsisting among the three weekly stamp journals in the States are only too true.

\* \* \*

"How shall I remove stamps from an album?" asks Henry.

Well, if the album is your own, Henry, you can get the stamps out easily enough by pulling them, if they are hinged, or by steaming them, if they are stuck down tight. But if the album is somebody else's it will be as well to get the owner's permission before pulling or steaming.

Next time, Henry, ask us something more difficult. We like to hear from you, and it is a pleasure to answer our reader's questions; but what we crave for in this office is a real brain-racking philatelic problem, something we can pore over, something that will give us a chance to distinguish ourselves.

\* \* \*

Very frequently the complaint is heard that persons receiving letters and parcels from abroad find the stamp or stamps missing, owing to philatelic leanings on the part of a Post Office sorter or letter-carrier. It is a good plan to request one's foreign or colonial correspondents to make a

note, on the envelope or wrapper, of the number and value of stamps affixed. As thus:

STAMPS NOT TO BE REMOVED. Four Stamps.  
Value 6s. 6d. Affixed in Antigua.

This system has proved quite effectual in one case recently brought to our notice. The law on the subject, we believe, is that the stamps are the property of the Postal authorities while the package is in transit, but only as trustees. The absolute owner in the end is the consignee.

## Brazil: 90 reis.

OUR readers will remember that we published in No. 103 a full-sized photograph of a complete pane of the 90 reis first issue Brazil. We then expressed the opinion that only one plate was made. It appears, however, that though only one plate may exist, certain retouches have taken place, owing no doubt to the worn state of the plate by which the individual stamps, as well as the surrounding guide lines, appear to be totally different to the one photographed by us. Mr. Robert Ehrenbach has shown us an almost complete pane unsevered, in a magnificent state of preservation which certainly shows the guide lines quite distinct. He has also shown us corner blocks and pairs which do not fit into either of these two panes. It therefore appears to be a fact that at least three different plates were made.

As we think it almost unlikely that three distinct steel plates were made, we should rather favour the idea that only one plate was used, which through bad workmanship in the printing, soon wore down and had to be repeatedly retouched. Whether this retouch consisted of mere deepening of the lines or whether the plate was permitted to be worn down to such an extent, that a re-engraving of the whole plate took place (which of course would mean that the old design was ground off) we are not able to say as yet, but we shall no doubt eventually be able to elucidate this point. As Mr. Ehrenbach is plating this issue he would be very pleased if anyone who is in possession of corner blocks and side pairs would kindly communicate with us, we would then compare these stamps with the plate in our possession and those owned by Mr. Ehrenbach, and might eventually be able to finally settle these debatable points.

## Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

"Briton" writes to the *Weekly Philatelic Era* pointing out that there is a broken die variety in the United States 2c "I.R." Stamp, the "I" of the overprint being imperfect.

\* \* \*

In 1883 the Lydia E. Pinkham Co., a Patent Medicine firm, offered the U.S.A. Government \$10,000 a month for the privilege of attaching an advertisement to the cancelling stamps of the New York Post Office; but the offer was declined.

\* \* \*

The *Evergreen State Philatelist* thinks "we may wake up some day and find the Omaha stamps are not as common as they might be"; but on the other hand we may really wake up a little later and find we have been dreaming things.

\* \* \*

Continental philatelists have occasionally to put aside their albums and shoulder the rifle. Mons. Bossakiewicz, editor of *Courrier des Timbres Poste*, announces in his issue of September 15th that as he is to enjoy "a period of military exercises" his next issue will make its appearance on Nov. 15th.

\* \* \*

The U.S.A. stamps surcharged "I.R." were issued in enormous quantities—eight millions of the 1 cent and two millions of the 2 cents.

\* \* \*

A collection of 2000 varieties including many valuable European, was destroyed on the Vizcaya in the Hispano-American war. It was the property of Midshipman Morris.

## Our Review of Reviews.

### The Indian "Postal-Fiscals" of 1872.

ON the above named stamps and the "consequences" of same, Mr. C. Stewart Wilson writes in the *P. J. I.* as follows: "When in 1870, the Indian Court Fees Act came into operation, there being no supply of adhesive Court Fee stamps available, permission was given in a notification, dated 19th March, 1870, to use Foreign Bill adhesive stamps and postage stamps for the purpose after they had been surcharged "Court Fees" by the superintendent of stamps. Both in Bombay and Calcutta that officer had an excess supply of Service postage stamps of certain values. Hence it came about that Service postage stamps in Bombay of the value of 1, 2, 4, and 8 annas; and in Calcutta of the last three values were surcharged "Court Fees" in large quantities. These stamps, being of very small value, had frequently to be used in very large numbers in suits where any considerable amount of money was involved.

In June, 1872, some forged four-anna postage stamps were detected in the Calcutta General Post Office on a letter posted by the office of the Sheriff of Calcutta. This discovery led in a few weeks to the arrest of a man called Baroda Kanta Haldar, who had been supplying Court Fee stamps of his own make for a year or so previous to this. He began by collecting some thousands of unused Service postage stamps of the 2, 4, and 8 anna values. It must be remembered that, as long as these stamps were purely Service postage stamps, they were of no value to an outsider, as no outsider could use them for postal purposes without the almost certainty of instant detection and punishment. But once surcharged "Court Fees" they became worth their face value. Having collected these stamps, he proceeded to erase the word "Service" as was done in the case of genuine Court Fee stamps and printed "Court Fees" on them in a manner which closely resembled the original surcharge. It seems quite possible that he might have plied this trade for years without detection had not success made him bolder. He began to extend his business by manipulating cleaned Service postage stamps which had been used postally. Finally he had dies made to produce imitations of the 4 and 8 anna postage stamps. These he surcharged with "Service," which he then scored out, and with "Court Fees." No doubt a good deal of ground bait was required to get these stamps used in the Courts, but once this had been arranged for and the stamp affixed to the record had been duly punched, the remainder was so well covered with well executed surcharges that detection was not likely unless the stamp was carefully examined. In this way, Baroda got rid of thousands of rupees worth of his forgeries. On one pliant alone no fewer than 1,420 were discovered.

He probably had no intention at first to use his dies for the production of purely postage stamps, but, as he grew bolder, he did issue them unsurcharged for the purpose of sending to Courts for payment of sundry Court charges, and it was no doubt some of these that were found on the Sheriff of Calcutta's letters. Very few indeed seem to have been used postally, for the stamps were far too clumsy imitations to take in anyone except an interested party.

Baroda got seven years for his trouble. His die-maker and assistants in distributing the stamps got sentences varying from 2 to 10 years.

Of course the use of Service stamps for this purpose was immediately stopped, and the use of adhesive stamps for Court fee purposes was rigorously confined to cases of real necessity, *i.e.*, when the value on the impressed paper required to be supplemented. Even then the use of the smallest number and the highest possible value of adhesives was insisted on.

But there were other consequences of the case. The Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, expressed his opinion that the current Service postage stamps were very unsafe, as the

word 'Service' could be cleaned off, and the stamps used as ordinary postage stamps. It was also possible in those days to draw a thick line in ink through the word 'Service' and so hide the surcharge. Although the Director-General of the Post Office did not believe that the surcharge could be cleaned off and Messrs. De La Rue denied the possibility of such an operation, it was thought advisable to discontinue the use of the stamps so surcharged, and to order Service stamps of quite a different design from those used for ordinary postage. The case was finally compromised by the substitution of the letters 'On H.M.S.' in the form of a crescent, thus obviating all chance of total erasure by the straight line or lines commonly drawn through ordinary postage stamps as a protection against their removal for the purpose of sale. This new surcharge, which is still current, was sanctioned by the Secretary of State on 12th February, 1874.

These are the facts of the case on which the myth of these so-called 'postal fiscals' appears to have risen. While on this matter it may be well to kill the 'postal fiscal' fallacy altogether as far as India is concerned. No fiscal stamps, unless surcharged 'Postage' by authority, have ever been permitted in India to do postal duty. Most of the fiscal stamps professing to have done postal duty have been taken off covers with the 'Postage Due' duly noted on them. In some few cases they have passed by mistake or carelessness on the part of postal officials. But this does not constitute them postage stamps.

### A Big Bonfire of Ecuador Stamps.

*Philatelic Facts and Fallacies* translates the following official decree from the state journal of the Republic of Ecuador:—

In view of the necessity to give the department of the treasury an organization which protects the fiscal interest against certain speculations of the holders of old stamps, it is decreed:

1.—That the stock on hand of all stamps, impressed and adhesives, postage and telegraph, which do not belong to the last issue, shall be incinerated.

2.—All dies, numbering dies and surcharging dies, which have been used to make former issues once more valid, shall be destroyed.

3.—The incineration of the stamps, as well as the destruction of the dies, shall take place in a public place and in the presence of Secretary of State, the Assistant Secretary of that department and the chief of the treasury department, which officers shall with their signatures certify to such an act.

4.—The 9th day of the present month shall be fixed for the execution of the above decree, the fulfilment of which is left to the Secretary of State.

Given in Quito, on the 6th day of May, 1898.

If this programme has been adhered to, the "incineration" is now an event of the past; and "good riddance to bad rubbish" will be the verdict of the philatelic public.

### India and Imperial Penny Post.

It appears almost as if India were on the verge of a complete change of letter postage-rates. If India joins in the Imperial Penny Postage scheme, it will be necessary, says the *Philatelic Journal of India*, to reduce our inland rates also. It is not likely that any change would be made in the half-tola for half-an-anna rate. This is a *special* rate, and is the cheapest in the world except for purely local letters. But 1 tola is rather less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., and it would not do to have a cheaper rate between Calcutta and London than between Calcutta and Howrah. In this connection it may be of interest to put on record that the recent reform of inland letter postage in England was advocated by the Indian Post Office over 10 years ago.

## Our Advertisement Rates.

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OUR phenomenal success with good STAMPS on this Coast, and the constantly increasing demand, lead us to confidently believe that we can place practically any amount of such Stamps, and for this reason, to solicit further Selections on Approval. If Dealers only realized what a Splendid Market they were missing, many of the Bargains advertised would have been placed in our hands and promptly sold at much better prices. As we do not expect Stamps to be marked at home prices, dealers can profit accordingly.

Our idea is to have a trial affair with every dealer who wishes it, and, afterwards, to continue the relations only with those who suit us best.

Our Sales are the best evidence that the market we control has no equals, and any dealer testing it properly, cannot fail to be convinced of that fact.

"Want lists" are unnecessary, as we have never had to return any good Stamps that were in perfect condition. However, we advise any person wishing to buy, sell, or exchange with us, to first obtain our Price List, as it contains many useful hints. It is free from . . .

**Smyth & Co., 1, Campbell Rd., Bournemouth ; Philatelic Pub. Co., Handsworth, Birmingham.**



# 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:—

1898.—OCTOBER 27th and 28th; NOVEMBER 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; DECEMBER 8th and 9th.

1899.—JANUARY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; FEBRUARY 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th;

APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

**OCTOBER 27th and 28th.**—A FINE COLLECTION including the following rarities: GREAT BRITAIN, a fine lot of various issues, unused and imperforate, including 5/-, 10/- and £1 brown, and £1 green, all with full gum; BADEN, 3 kr. small perf. unused; DENMARK, 1st issue, 2 rbs. blue, 4 rbs. light-brown, 8 and 16 sk. rouletted, etc., all in mint state; MALTA, 4d. brown, an unused imperforate pair; CYPRUS, 1st issue, 6d. grey, an entire unused sheet, and fine unused blocks of later issues; MALTA, ½d. on bluish, an unused block of four in mint state; NAPLES, ½t. blue cross; OLDENBURG, 1st issue unused, 2nd issue, ¾d. sgr. unused; SPAIN, 1851, 2 reales, unused with gum, 1852-53, 2rls. SWEDEN, 17 öre, grey; SWITZERLAND, the double Geneva, the envelope stamp cut out and used on piece; BASLE, 2½r., VAUD, 4c. and 5c. unused; WINTERTHUR, and NEUFCHATEL, MOLDAVIA, 1st issue, 27 paras; CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Woodblock, 1d. and 4d. used and unused; GOOD COAST, 20/- green and red, unused; BARBADOS, 1d. on half 5/-; NEVIS, 1/- blue-green, imperf. and unused, 6d. green, unused; ST. VINCENT, 1/- rose, unused with gum; TRINIDAD, a very fine lot of the Lithographed issue; VIRGIN ISLAND, perf. 15, 6d. rose, unused, 1/- single lined border, unused; UNITED STATES, Justice, 90c., Periodicals, 1c. to \$100, used; CANADA, 10d. blue, unused; NEWFOUNDLAND, 4d. carmine, unused, 1/- carmine, 6d. orange, unused; NEW BRUNSWICK, 6d. yellow, unused, with gum, 1/- violet; ANTIOQUIA, 1st issue, 2½c. blue unused, 5c. green, and 10c. lilac; BRITISH GUIANA, 1862, provisionals, a fine lot of 1c. and 4c., 1863, perf. 15, 6c. and 24c. unused with full gum; BUENOS AYRES, 5 pesos, yellow (two shades); TASMANIA, 1d. blue, unused, 1858-70, issues, a fine lot of unused; A very fine lot of unused QUEENSLANDS, VICTORIAS (including 5/- blue and yellow with full gum) and WESTERN AUSTRALIAS (including 1st issue 2d. and 6d.) 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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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

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

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Oct. 18th, 19th and 20th.—A magnificent PRIVATE COLLECTION, entirely consisting of Unused Stamps, in fine Condition, and including a great many Rarities. The Property of F. D'A. VINCENT, Esq.

Nov. 1st, 2nd and 3rd.—A very fine PRIVATE COLLECTION, mostly unused

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Nov. 29th and 30th.—The second portion of the Collection of A. F. CALVERT, Esq.

Dec. 13th and 14th.—The LARGE AND FINE COLLECTION formed by the late GRAND DUKE ALEXIS MICHAËLOVITCH, of Russia.

**1899.**

January 10th, 11th, 24th and 25th. February 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. March 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th.  
 May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st. June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**O**WING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

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1/- green, set of 13 .. .. .	10 0

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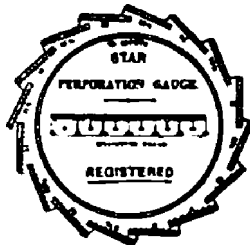
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**MAURITIUS**, 1878, 2r. 50c. on 5/- lilac, 6.-; 1879, 56c. green, 9d.; 2r. 50c., 3/6. **INDIA**, 1891, 4 rupees, 8d.; 3 rupees, 10d.; 5 rupees, 1/9. **ZULULAND**, 1894, 3d. very scarce, 8d. **HONG KONG**, 1898, 1d. on 96c. black, 1/6. **NEWFOUNDLAND** (jubilee), used, 3c. 1d.; 5c. 4d. On Sale by **A. BOUCARD**, 48a, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. (late from Holborn & Sloane St.)

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Has removed from 112, Leadenhall Street, E.C., to Raven's Park, Catford, S.E., from which address he will in future carry on business by correspondence only.—

Large stock of medium and rare stamps always on hand at bargain prices.

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WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

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PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.

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Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

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We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:

One to three stamps .. .. . 6d.

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Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.

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[In return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/- or over; we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 piens carmine, Gwalior, 13½ mins., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 1350 ever issued). **B. GORDON JONES,**

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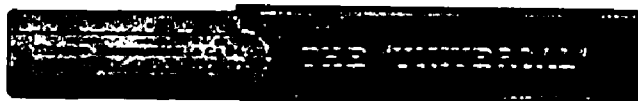
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STAMPS ON ENTIRE ENVELOPES. RARE ENVELOPES. RARE TELEGRAPH STAMPS. ESSAIS.

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Our No. 4 Packet contains 100 varieties, all different, including the following: British South Africa (1898), China, Cameroons, Cochin, Deccan, Dhar State, Eritrea, Gambia New Issue, German South-West Africa, Japan (Silver Wedding), Mauritius (1898), Sirmoor (Elephant), Soudan (Camel Trooper), Straits Settlements, Travancore, Trinidad, Zambesi, Great Britain (Army Official), &c., &c., sent post free on receipt of postal order. 1/1.

To all purchasers of this No. 4 Packet we will present Two Entires, viz., Holkar Envelope and Post Card.

12 Austria, 1881-91, 1kr. to 1 gulden .. .. .	0 4
8 Bavaria, 1881-91, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf., 1 and 2mks. ..	0 3
7 Germany, 1875-89, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2 mks. ..	0 1
7 Wurtemberg, 1875-93, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2mks. ..	0 4
These four sets will be sent, post free, 9d.	

4 Travancore, complete, ½, 1, 5 and 4ch., used .. .. .	0 10
5 Gambia, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d. and 3d., unused ..	1 0
30 Portuguese Colonies, Crown Type .. .. .	2 6
5 Tunis, 1888, used .. .. .	0 3
10 Mozambique Company, 1886, 2½ to 30 reis, complete ..	3 6
<i>Postage on the above sets extra.</i>	

Agents wanted to sell our stamps; liberal terms; write for particulars.

Consignments of New Issues and Provisionals from abroad particularly requested. Cash and postage guaranteed per return mail.

Selections sent on approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

The City Stamp Exchange  
18 and 20, Cheapside,  
LONDON, E.C.

96-111

### Concerning Stamp Auctions.

PERHAPS you meditate disposing of your Collection or Duplicates by Auction. You naturally wish to sell in the best market. Many will tell you London is the place; before deciding however, see what claim Glasgow has. The following few arguments are advanced for your careful consideration.

1. Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.

2. London has many Stamp Auctioneers, Glasgow has only one.

3. The Sales introduced and conducted by me during last season were most successful, and it is a positive fact that better prices were obtained at them for Rare and Medium Stamps than at any other Auction Mart in the Kingdom. Should you doubt this statement write for priced catalogues and other convincing evidence, which will be instantly furnished.

4. Having been in the Stamp business for a considerable number of years I am well-known and in touch with most of the principal Scottish collectors. My register contains the names of hundreds of Collectors resident in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c., to whom sell catalogues are regularly dispatched; consequently the sales are particularly well attended. Besides, a large number of catalogues are despatched to England and the Continent, and the number of commissions received is very considerable. At a Sale comprising 500 lots, held last season, commissions were received for over 250 lots, or for half the entire Sale. Absolute fact.

5. Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite often enough.

6. The Lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.

7. Commission charges are extremely moderate.

Next Sale will be held Early in November; consignments are now being received. Give Glasgow a trial. Send in a few good things for this sale! You will be more than satisfied with the prices realized.

ROBERT S. GRAY, Auctioneer,  
213, West Campbell Street, GLASGOW.

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

**£5 PRIZE.**

**Result of 4th Competition.**

The Winner in our September Competition is Miss A. J. LINDNER, Chad Valley, Edgbaston, Birmingham. To whom we have awarded the £5 Prize. Miss Lindner got three out of the five names of Towns right. The correct solution is as follows: Cambridge, Oldham, Wigan, Hastings, Ventnor. With the exception of the winner no other competitor succeeded in getting more than two names correct.

**5th COMPETITION.**

We give a Prize of £5 to the one who arranges the initial letter of the stamps in our October 1/- Packet to spell the names of **Five well-known British Authors**—Names that everybody knows, they must be either Novelists or Poets, living or dead, but they are all of British birth. The Packet which will be sent, with further particulars, for 1/- Postal Order or Stamps, post free, contains:—  
HONG KONG, 20c. on 30c; U.S. WAR (Iron-clad); SPAIN, WAK, 1898 (already obsolete); ANORA; GRENADA; GAMBIA, New Issue; NEWFOUNDLAND (with portrait of Prince Edward of York); ANGOLA; ERITREA; URUGUAY; CHINA (German surcharged for use in Kaioo Chow), etc., etc. The above Packet differs entirely from all our previous Packets.

**28, Radpole Rd., Fulham, London, S.W.**

**CHEAP SETS OF British Plate Numbers**

	Complete Set of.	My price. s. d.	catalogue price. s. d.
1d. red ..	151	12 6	67 0
1½d. red ..	2	0 3	0 8
2d. blue ..	7	1 0	2 9
2½d. rose ..	18	7 0	15 3
2½d. blue ..	7	0 9	3 0
3d. rose ..	20	7 6	21 1
4d. orange ..	10	2 6	6 9
6d. violet ..	8	3 0	6 7
6d. grey ..	8	5 6	9 8
1/- green ..	13	9 0	18 7

The 10 sets for 45/- nett.

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Albums for British Stamps, 5/- and 7/6.

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(103-122).

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that they will hold a Philatelic Auction in Birmingham, at the Grand Hotel, on THURSDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER, next, at 6 o'clock in the evening. This sale will include Collection of U.S. Departmentals and others all unused in blocks, Portuguese India, first and second issues, Trinidad, 5/- surcharged O.S., Rare Spain, Oldenburg, &c. We expect that this sale will be a greater success even than our first in Manchester.

**The Second Manchester Sale**  
WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel**

On THURSDAY, October 20th, At 6 o'clock in the evening.

Amongst the lots offered will be Mauritius, Postpaid 2d. earliest impression, 1d. later impression, and 2d. small fillet, Denmark unused in blocks, rare St. Christopher, Nevis, Sweden, Straits, Bechuanaland and others, an exceedingly good and rare selection of stamps in fine condition.

**Prompt Settlements Guaranteed.**

In proof of this, all the accounts for the first sale were paid within eight days of the sale, in spite of the fact that we ourselves had not been paid for several lots.

Best references given, Member of Birmingham and Manchester Philatelic Societies, on Bazaar Reference List, &c., &c. Future Sales, Nov. 17th and Dec. 15th in Manchester, and 1st Dec. in Liverpool.

All enquiries to be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**  
Stamp Auctioneers,  
**18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.**

**OYEZ! OYEZ!! OYEZ!!!**  
**LOST**

ON or about April 1st, 1898, between Iceland and Fiji, a Postal Order for ONE SHILLING.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that any Person or Persons bringing or sending the same (or one like it) to CHARLES JOHN SMITH, Philatelist and Philanthropist, of Kingston Hill, in the County of Surrey, shall receive as Reward the following:

- 1 Portrait of Prince Edward of York,
- 1 Collection of 100 different Postage Stamps,
- 1 Album (well bound) to mount them in,
- And Stamp Mounts to do it with.

Dated this 15th day of October, 1898.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

**BARGAINS.** £ s. d.

- Great Britain, block of 4 unused 1d., Plate 132, catalogued by Gibbons, 50/- each—£10 .. 4 17 6 (Also two single specimens, 25/- each)
- Nova Scotia, 5 cents blue, unused Gibbons, 30/- 0 15 0
- St. Lucia, 1/- deep orange. CC., perf. 14, unused Gibbons, 60/- 1 10 0
- Wurtemberg, 70 kreuzer, used Gibbons, 80/- 1 17 6
- Straits Settlements, First Issue, complete set, used and unused Gibbons' 117/- 2 17 6

All above are in very fine condition. [104-124] Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps. Absolutely Lowest Prices.

**W. MARCHBANK,**  
104, Holly Avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne

	s.	d.
Gibraltar, 1898, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 4, 6 & 1/-	2	10
1899, 5, 10, 20, 25c., 40 and 50c., 1 and 2pts. ..	4	0
Grenada, 1882, 6d. mauve ..	1	6
Natal, 5/- ..	6	0
Trinidad, obsolete, 5/- ..	7	6
Tobago, 2½ on 4d. ..	2	3

ALL MINT. CASH WITH ORDER. POST FREE.

**ISAAC CANSINO,**

45A, MARKET STREET,

104 143] - - - MANCHESTER.

**W. H. HODGSON & Co.,**

4, ALLEYN TERRACE,

**West Dulwich, S.E.**

OFFER THE FOLLOWING:

Barbados, 5/- rose, light postmark ..	35/-
B.E.A., on Zanzibar, set ½-7½ annas, unused	45/-
Lagos, 2/6 olive black CA. superb, unused ..	100/-
Mauritius, the Britannia vermilion stamp USED ..	21/-
Newfoundland, 2d. orange vermilion, unused	32 6
New Zealand, 1/- green (Gib. 137), unused	14/6
West Australia, 1st issue, 2d. brown unused	15/-
" " 4d. carmine CA. 11 ditto ..	12/6

Good Colonial Selections sent against first-class References.

For New Issues, further correspondence from Colonies invited. Reference—Editor of this paper. [111]

**GIBRALTAR. . .**

ALL UNUSED.	PER 1.	PER 12.	PER 100.
1886, 1d. ..	8d.	—	—
1887, ½d., 1d. & 2½d. assorted	—	1/6	11/6
1889, 5c. and 10c. obsolete	—	6d.	3/0
25c. blue, obsolete ..	—	8d.	4/0
40c. red-brown, obsolete	6d.	—	—
1 peseta, bistre ..	4/9	—	—
1895, 20c. olive, ..	3d.	—	—
1p. blue and brown ..	1/6	—	—
2p. black and red ..	2/6	—	—
NEW ISSUE—	PER 1.	PER 12.	
1898, 2d. brown and blue, used ..	4d.	—	—
" 4d. brown and green, used ..	8d.	6/0	—
" 6d. violet and red, used ..	10d.	8/0	—
" 1/- bistre and red, used ..	1/0	17/0	—

**Chas. T. REED,**

ROUTH ROAD, LONDON, S.W.

LATE MANCHESTER SQUARE MANSIONS.

3rd Edition. Ready in December, 1898.  
**THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY**

Revised to date by FREDK. A. WICKHART, Hon. Sec. of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society. The book will be the popular Pocket Size (about 8 by inches), and advertisements will be received at a very cheap rate for this edition. As the book will be kept for continual reference by collectors and dealers it forms the most excellent advertising medium possible. The large second edition (1897) is now sold out.

2 6 per in. across page. 1 6 per in. single column. Business Card in Medallion, 1/-

These rates are altogether irrespective of the amount of space taken, and include cost of a voucher copy. Advertisements should be sent by December 1st. Advertisement Pages will face Directory Pages. The publishers anticipate a demand of 1,000 in the first month.

Prepaid Orders for Copies of the Directory can be booked, and will be executed in rotation. [111] Price—ONE SHILLING (25 cents), Post Free.

**THE PHILATELIC PUBLISHING Co.,**  
Fentham Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 107—Vol. V

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies:

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

## A BARGAIN IN HIGH VALUES OF BRAZIL.

We have purchased a small lot of the undermentioned Stamps, which we are enabled to offer at very low prices. Having only a small number of certain values, we can only supply a LIMITED NUMBER of COMPLETE SETS of 35 STAMPS.



**NEWSPAPER.**

	Gibbons' Catalogue s. d.	Our Price s. d.
1889, 10r. yellow .. ..	1 0	0 8
" 20r. " .. ..	0 9	0 6
" 200r. " .. ..	1 3	0 7
" 300r. " .. ..	1 6	1 0
" 500r. " .. ..	2 6	1 10
" 700r. " .. ..	4 0	2 9
" 1000r. " .. ..	6 0	3 9



1890, 10r. olive .. ..	0 2	0 1
" 20r. green .. ..	0 2	0 1
" 50r. brown .. ..	0 3	0 1
" 100r. violet .. ..	0 6	0 3
" 200r. black .. ..	1 0	0 6
" 1000r. brown .. ..	4 0	2 9



1890-91, 10r. blue .. ..	0 3	0 2
" 20r. green .. ..	0 2	0 1
" 100r. rose .. ..	0 6	0 3

1891-93, 10r. blue, C.P. ..	0 2	0 1
" 10r. " .. ..	0 1	0 1
" 20r. green.. ..	0 2	0 1



**UNPAID.**

	Gibbons' Catalogue s. d.	Our Price s. d.
1890, 10r. carmine .. ..	0 4	0 2
" 20r. " .. ..	0 4	0 2
" 50r. " .. ..	0 6	0 3
" 100r. " .. ..	0 8	0 4
" 300r. " .. ..	2 0	1 9
" 500r. " .. ..	2 6	1 9
" 700r. " .. ..	3 6	2 4
" 1000r. " .. ..	5 0	3 3



1890-91, 10r. orange .. ..	0 2	0 1
" 20r. blue .. ..	0 2	0 1
" 50r. olive .. ..	0 3	0 1
" 200r. violet .. ..	0 9	0 4
" 300r. green .. ..	1 3	0 9

**ADHESIVES.**

1882, 10r. black .. ..	0 2	0 1
1892, 100r. blue and red ..	0 4	0 2
1893, 100r. pink .. ..	0 3	0 2



**Catalogue Price : £2 2s. 7d. ;  
Our Price : £1 7s. 4d.**

Set of 35 different Stamps, ALL UNUSED, for £1 1s. ; or less than HALF Gibbons' Catalogue.

For above Brazilian Stamps apply: Messrs. HARRY HILCKES and Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside

*Doings of Societies.*

**BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, Oct. 11th, at Messrs. Gordon & Co's offices. There was a large attendance of members. Mr. O. Firth occupied the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and duly confirmed, and the formal business disposed of, Mr. Gray then exhibited his magnificent collection of British North America, the pence issue of Nova Scotia on original covers being especially admired, other good stamps were shown by Mr. Gray; one that received marked attention being the 1/- St. Lucia, orange, mint state, this was followed by an animated discussion on inflated prices, as revealed by recent Auctions in which several members took part. The Exchange Packet was put in circulation on the 1st inst. Thirteen members contributed 29 sheets, value £94 nett.

W. E. WHITE, Exchange Sec.

**LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE opening Meeting of the new Session was held on October 4th, on the kind invitation of the president, Mr. Eugene Egly, at his residence, Victoria Road, Headingley. There was a fair attendance of members, who were most hospitably received and entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Egly. By request, the members brought their collections of the stamps of Portugal and its colonies, and a very interesting display was the result. The President also showed his newly-mounted collection of British postmarks, with town numbers, as well as an interesting series of stamps on entire envelopes. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

OCT. 6th—Annual General Business Meeting. The officers for the ensuing year were elected. The accounts shewing a nett cash balance in hand of £62 19s. 4½d., were audited, found correct and approved. The election of Mr. W. Schwarte was approved. The following were unanimously elected members:—Madame C. Capt, Mrs. H. G. Campbell, Rev. W. D. B. Curry, Rev. J. H. Astley, Messrs. G. A. Coombs, V. Essayau, R. C. Bach, E. D. Hissard, A. Manoli.

**NEW SOUTH WALES HOSPITAL STAMPS.**



A few sets have been received from a correspondent, and we are able to sell the set of two values, **1- and 2/- at 7/6.** Post Free. **HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,** 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**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.]

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**C**OLLECTOR wishes to sell a considerable number of really good stamps at half catalogue. Approval References.—LAUREL BANK, Monmouth. [106-107]

**W**ILL Secretary of first-class Stamp Club, send rules to NORMAN RICCARD, Westgate-on-Sea.

**G**OOD STAMPS for Sale at one-third catalogue. W., 215, CARLTON VALE, KILBURN.

**C**CHEAPEST SETS. Lists gratis and post free. W. N. CULLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. [107]

**B**RITISH Central Africa.—Rare Stamps.—"One Penny" on 3/-, unused, 1/6 each; "One Penny" on 3/-, used, 2/- each.—Apply TUCKETT, 457, Padham Road, Burnley. [105]

**C**ORRESPONDENCE desired with Collectors residing in Gibraltar, Virgin Islands, Falkland Islands, Nevis, Fiji, St. Helena, Trinidad, West Australia, Uganda, B. Guiana, Gold Coast, Grenada, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Turks Islands. No dealers.—J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [108]

**F**OR Sale.—Complete Collection of Unused Belgium Fiscal Stamps.—Address, A. DE SCHEPPER Rue St. Jean, 8, Bruges, Belgium. [107]

**215** FOREIGN and Colonial stamps, all unused. Also Jubilee Post Card and envelope, unused. Cash offers.—PYBUS, 49, Chapter Road, Lorrimer Square, Walworth, London.

**A. C. BRAUN**, Eleonorenhain, Bohemia, Austria, collects stamps, cards, &c., of all countries, especially of the English Colonies and wishes to enter in exchange relations with collectors all over the world. His objects of exchange: Austrian and Hungarian Stamps in complete sets, issues 1891 and 1883, and duplicates of all countries. Correspondence in English, French and German. 106-108.

**S**TAMPS on approval, liberal discount.—W. GAPP, 102, Saïmon Lane, London, E. [110]

**M**ULTIREADY wrapper, 2d. blue, unused, 15/-; British South Africa, 1896, ½d.-1 - inclusive, 3/6; many other cheap stamps.—PHILATELIST, St. Valentin Rd., Brixton.

**T**HE "Premier" Stamp Hinge Perforated can be used to fix the stamp either at top or side. Will allow the stamp to be turned up or down for examination of watermark, &c. Finest gum. Best graceproof paper. The latest. The best. Price 1-1000 Abroad 5d. ex. SOLD AS AN ADVERTISEMENT.—No. 82 contains United States War Stamp (Battleship), Portuguese Africa, New South Wales Jubilee, British Guiana, Chinese Empire (latest), Jamaica, Newfoundland (portrait Prince Edward of York), Roumania, Macao da Gama, Ottoman Empire, etc. Price 3d. Postage extra. The PREMIER STAMP Co., Edgbaston, Birmingham

**90** CENTS. United States, 1868 issue, grilled, used. Singles, pairs or blocks—3 to 10 each. Perfect. Offers to BILSON, 83, Windsor Road, Southport.

**S**TAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. Vols. 2, 3, 4, quite clean, 4 - lot.—EDMUND TATHAM, Great Horton, Bradford.

**C**OLLECTORS! Join Belgrave Stamp Club and purchase your stamps ½ to ¼ catalogue prices. References required. Secretary, 13, Brewer Street, Belgavia. [13]

**3** FOREIGN Postcards Free to all applicants for my Approval Sheets. DEVERELL, 17, Brecknock Road, N.

**B**RITISH CENTRAL AFRICA, 3/- CC., used. Gibbons, 12/-; price 3/-. New Zealand, current, 5/-, 9d., 6d., 3d. unused, for 7/7. Others equally cheap. State wants.—WATFORD, Bookseller, Eastbourne.

**E**STABLISHED City Stamp Business. Good buying connection. Excellent shop and showing convenience. To be let at low weekly rental.—Apply HARRY BLOK, 7, Broad Street, Station, evenings, 7-8.

**G**UIANA, 1852, 4cts., (mended) 63/-, also bargain lots. LATE, Leicester Street, Southport. [6]

**B**RITISH COLONIALS from Canada (new and obsolete issues), Cape, New Zealand, New South Wales, etc., etc., very good mixture, several new issues, sample, 1,000/9. Price for larger quantity on application. Very good variety for packets. Postage abroad extra. Wholesale price list post free. WILLIAMS STAMP COMPANY, 113, London Wall, London.

**D**UPLICATES, 1d. to 2/-, 66½ per cent. discount. PHILATELIST, 8, Valentine Road, Brixton, London.

**G**IBRALTAR, 1898, unused, ½ to 1/-, 2 11, postage extra.—F. WADAMS, 95, Whitehall Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**B**REAKING several Old Collections stamps, clean, Half Catalogue, sheets on approval.—PEEKE, Greaves Villa, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

**CAMPBELL INGLES & CO.,**

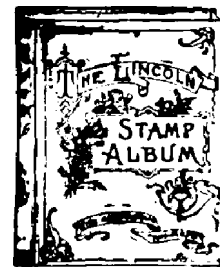
12, TOWER CHAMBERS,

CARLISLE.

BOOKS AND SHEETS SENT ON APPROVAL. 50 PER CENT. DISCOUNT. [103-122]

Wants Supplied. Agents desired. References.

**Lincoln Album.**



**L**INCOLN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM and Descriptive Catalogue, with useful Geographical and Historical Notes (eleventh edition). Containing Atlas of 16 coloured maps, with spaces to hold over 6,500 Stamps, and giving the dates and colours of every stamp.

Cloth, 5/-; post free, 5/6.

A new list of 800 cheap sets with over 680 small pictures sent post free. Twopence [102-107]

**W. S. LINCOLN,** 2, Holles Street, Oxford Street, London, W.

**CHEAP SETS**

OF

**British Plate Numbers**

	Complete Set of	My Catalogue price.	My Catalogue price.
		s. d.	s. d.
1d. red ..	151	12 6	67 0
1½d. red ..	2	0 3	0 8
2d. blue ..	7	1 0	2 9
2½d. rose ..	18	7 0	15 3
2½d. blue ..	7	0 9	3 0
3d. rose ..	20	7 6	21 1
4d. orange ..	10	2 6	6 9
6d. violet ..	8	3 0	6 7
6d. grey ..	8	5 6	9 8
1/- green ..	13	9 0	18 7

The 10 sets for 45/- nett.

New Price-Catalogue of British Stamps. 2 6, post free.

Albums for British Stamps, 8/- and 7/6.

Weekly Circular for British Specialists. The only Stamp Weekly published in Great Britain. Specimen free.

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SPECIALITY:

**Railway Letter Post Stamps**

**H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN,** 32H, PALACE SQUARE, NORWOOD, S.E. (103-108).

# STAMP COLLECTORS

## FORNIGHTLY

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 Philatelic Society. | Bristol Philatelic Society. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rookdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 107.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### FRENCH NATIONAL STAMP COLLECTION STOLEN.

ON Friday, October 7th, a daring theft was effected in Paris. The whole national collection of the Paris chief post office was stolen. It is well known that the chief post offices of every nation keep collections of stamps, specimens being sent thither from the postal headquarters at Berne, whenever a new issue appears.

There is a collection of this kind in the London G.P.O., and another (of British stamps only) at Somerset House.

A great deal of the value of these national collections lies in the fact that they contain specimens of all the proofs, essays, and errors issued since the practice of compiling national collections in this way was inaugurated. It is sought to make these collections as complete as possible, and often the stamps lacking are bought afterwards.

The value of the collection stolen in Paris has been variously computed at £5,000, £10,000 and £30,000. This is all mere guesswork, probably; but there is an apparently well-authenticated statement to the effect that the collection is remarkably rich in desirable stamps, including the rare Reunions.

Up to the time of writing, the manner of the theft, like the personality of the thief or thieves, is utterly unknown.

### FORCING THE CURRENT GERMAN STAMPS.

QUITE recently, at Ottensen, near Hamburg, two men were caught in the act of counterfeiting the current German 10 pfennig stamps in large quantities. Lithography was the

method they employed. The face of the forged stamps appears flat and somewhat rough; the size is correct as to height, but as to width the counterfeit is larger than the original.

### JOURNALIST, NOVELIST, AND PHILATELIST.

MR. HAROLD FREDERIC, the well-known journalist and novelist, died last week at Kenley, Surrey.

Mr. Frederic, who was born in Utica, in the State of New York, left school at the age of twelve, and became proof-reader on the "Utica Herald," afterwards becoming chief reporter, and then securing the editorship of the "Utica Observer." He was a precocious youth. At about fourteen years ago he first came over to Europe as a representative of the "New York Times," to report on the terrible cholera visitation in Spain and the South of France. Having fulfilled his task, he settled down as that paper's regular correspondent in London.

Not only a journalist, he was also a very clever novelist, and the author of "The Lawton Girl," "In the Valley," "Seth's Brother's Wife," "Illumination," "The Copperhead," and "The Return of the O'Mahony." Not only journalist and novelist, but also philatelist. Mr. Frederick was well known as a lover of stamps, and he wrote extensively on philatelic matters, his articles having that rare quality of being readable and enjoyable by all, philatelists or otherwise.

### THE REVENUE STAMP CASE CONCLUDED.

AT the West Ham Quarter Sessions on Friday, October 14th, William Walker, 56, a box-maker, was indicted for "having in his possession, without lawful excuse, certain (934) stamps which had been fraudulently cut, torn, or otherwise removed from certain material."

Mr. Grubbe prosecuted for the Post Office.

On September 14th, Detectives Bell and White went to the prisoner's house at Robertson road, Stratford, and questioned him about some stamps he had endeavoured to dispose of. The prisoner produced 934 stamps, all of which had been impressed on sheets of paper and had been cut therefrom. In the first instance the prisoner said he must have got the stamps among waste paper he collected from offices, and later on he said he found them on some waste land at Stratford. Inquiries made showed that the stamps had been impressed to the order of the British Natural Premium Life Assurance Company, and had been used for the purposes of policies. These policies were sent out to various superintendents, and it happened that many policies lapsed, from one or another cause. These were supposed to be returned to the office, by whom alone they could be returned and changed by the Post



Office, but it transpired that one of the superintendents had not returned all his spoiled policies, and the suggestion of the prosecution was that the stamps found in the possession of the accused had been taken from those particular lapsed policies, and some of them had been affixed to sheets of blue paper. Some the prisoner had taken to a local post office, where he was told that only penny stamps could be exchanged, and he had asked another person if they would be of any value to him.

For the defence James Spencer was called, and said he was formerly an agent, then superintendent of the assurance company. He and his colleagues for eight weeks were not supplied with policies, even for people who had paid several weeks' premiums, and when the policies were taken they were refused. These spoiled policies he was told to do as he liked with, and they amounted to hundreds and thousands. He knew one man who said he had boiled his kettle for three months with his collection of policies. When the witness moved to his present residence he cut out from the policies all the stamps, and sold 2 cwt. of the policies for waste paper, and tried to reap a little benefit by selling the stamps. But the man to whom he offered them said they were not worth a penny a hundred, and soon after that he threw the packet containing about 1,000 on a dustheap.

Walker declined to give evidence on oath, but stated that he bought vanloads of paper, &c., from City offices, and sorted them on the dustheap spoken to by Spencer. There it was that he found these stamps. He had them eight months. He had shown them to hundreds of people, and had taken them to all the post offices. He was told they were useless, and had never sold any of them, but had given some away.

The jury found the prisoner Guilty, and expressed their opinion that "the witness Spencer was at the bottom of the whole case."

The Recorder said he had not much hesitation in expressing his opinion that prisoner and Spencer were in concert in the matter. The prisoner, who probably did not realise the seriousness of the offence, would go to gaol for six months, with hard labour.

#### STAMPS AT THE OMAHA EXHIBITION.

The exhibit of the Nebraska Philatelic Society in the Nebraska Building at the Trans-Mississippi Exhibition Omaha, is a very fine one (writes "H.C.B." in the *International Philatelist*). It occupies the east wall, and is in large frames. Mr. T. G. Saunders exhibits the United States adhesives complete (with the exception of a few of the August 1861), also the Departments complete, with exception of 90c. Justice. Mr. F. W. Rothery has a frame of 50 rare stamps, mostly unused United States; all stamps that are treasures. He also exhibits some fine departmentals and revenues. Mr. W. F. Hendricks shows some very fine U.S. and Canadian revenues, including many rarities. The Nebraska Philatelic Society shows three large frames of counterfeits. In the Government building, the Post Office Department and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing have very fine exhibits, the latter showing full sheets of proofs of all the U.S. stamps they have printed in regular colours and also in trial colours, all tastefully arranged. The Post Office Department has a fine exhibit of stamps of all countries arranged in large frames, with beautiful drawn pictures as a back ground.

#### N.S.W. STAMPS NOT DEMONETISED AFTER ALL.

We clip the following from the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* of September 2nd:

When on June 22nd, 1897, the present postage stamps of 1d., 2d., 2½d. and 5s. denominations were issued, it was intimated that the stamps of similar values previously current would be recognised as valid for the prepayment of postage up to the 30th of June last, and that after that date any such stamps would be exchangeable at face value for those of new designs. The postal authorities now advise that as there appears to be a considerable number of the old stamps still in the hands of the public, it has been decided to revive and extend the validity of the superseded stamps for purposes of postage.

#### MISS GRIFFIN'S "PHILATELIC SNOWBALL."

In the *FORTNIGHTLY* of August 20th we quoted from *Truth* a paragraph referring to a "chain-letter," or "snowball," started by an Australian lady, Miss Griffin. The appearance

of this paragraph in our columns has, we understand, given great annoyance. The *Virginia Philatelist*, the excellent journal conducted by Mr. Aug. Dietz, of Richmond, Va., declares that Miss Griffin, of Sydney, is a young lady of rare refinement and personal charm, "whose social position in Sydney, as well as that of her father, should alone preclude every doubt as to the purely philanthropic object of her scheme." Well, we are quite prepared to take the *Virginia Philatelist's* word for all of it, but we can only say that it is a great pity Miss Griffin cannot work her philanthropic schemes in a less harmful way. When a person's conduct looks like a swindle, that person must not make too much fuss if the word "swindle" is spoken. These "chain-letters" or "snowballs" are almost invariably dishonest in effect, if not in intention, and we shall spare no effort to warn people against such of them as beg consignments of stamps. At the same time, if we have wounded anyone's feelings unnecessarily, or rather, if we have assisted *Truth* in doing so, we very sincerely regret it.

#### HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY'S FIRST MEETING.

The first general meeting of this new Society was held at the Inns of Court Hotel, W.C., on Tuesday evening, October 20th. Major E. Evans, taking the chair in the absence of the Hon. President, Mr. Harold J. White. The ordinary business of the meeting being concluded, Major Evans handed round his superb collection of Confederate States for the inspection of members, and imparted much interesting information as to the different plates, printings, etc., of these stamps. Curiosities and new issues were displayed by Messrs. Boig and Boadbury, and lack of time prevented the reading of a paper prepared by the Secretary. A cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the meeting.

The first Exchange packet of the Society was put into circulation on October 26th. Any particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Slade, Ingleside, St. Alban's.

#### PENNY POSTAGE TO THE STATES NEXT!

The following Washington despatch, published in the *London Daily Mail*, on October 20th, is of particular interest:

Third Assistant Postmaster-General Merritt, in his forthcoming report to the Postmaster-General, will recommend that the minimum rate of letter postage between the United States and Great Britain be reduced to two cents, or one penny English money.

He also recommends that the same arrangement be made with France and Germany, if they desire to join.

Mr. Merritt's recommendation may or may not be endorsed by Postmaster-General Smith in his annual report, which will be submitted to the Congress next December.

Mr. Merritt's report contains the following expression of opinion: "I believe that special reductions of postage are practicable through special arrangements between the United States and England and perhaps other European sea coast countries which the Postal Union Convention permits.

"My opinion is that the time has come when we should at least attempt to secure special arrangements with England and other maritime countries, and bring the rate of letter postage down to that established in this country for first-class mail matter—namely, two cents per half-ounce or fraction thereof.

"I therefore urge that negotiations to that end be begun with the postal administrations of England, France, and Germany without delay."

The adoption of Mr. Merritt's recommendations meets with general approval from the newspapers and the business public.

#### POSTAL AFFAIRS IN MADAGASCAR.

*Le Courrier des Timbres-Poste* gives the following list of post offices established by the French in Madagascar:

Tananarive, Tamatave, Beforona, Andevorante, Mananjary, Fianarantsoa, Fort-Dauphin, Diégo-Suarez, Nossi-Bé, Majunga and Tulléar.

Also this list of auxiliary offices:

Andriba, Anjozorobé, Ankazobé, Ankeramadinica, Anosi-Bé, Antsirabe, Ambatondrazaka, Ambositra, Arivonimamo, Betafo, Miarinarivo and Morananga (under Tananarive).

Fénérive, Mahambo, Mahatsara, Maroantsetra, Sainte-Marie and Vatomandry (under Tamatave), Mahéla (under Mananjary).

Faranfogana (under Fort-Dauphin), Marovoay and Maevatana (under Majunga), Nossi-Bé (under Tulléar).

*Le Courrier* and other French and Belgian papers, including the excellent *Moniteur Philatlique*, of Ghent, definitely state that the separate issues of stamps for Nossi-Bé, Diego-Suarez, Mayotte and Anjouan are now suppressed; and that the stamps of "*Madagascar et Dépendances*" will do duty in their stead. The remainders on hand of these stamps have been "retired," and these, together with the "Ste. Marie de Madagascar" labels, will be made into one jolly big bonfire, we learn. So note it be.

#### LAST CONSIGNMENT OF BRITISH GUIANA CUMPAPS.

WE are indebted to Mr. G. Wyatt for a copy of the *Official Gazette* of British Guiana, dated September 28th, and containing the following "Treasury Notice":

The following number of stamps, which will complete the quantities ordered, are expected to be received from the Crown Agents for the Colonies by the 30th of November next, after the sale of which no further issue of Jubilee Stamps will take place:—

One Cent, 540,000	Ten Cents, 30,000
Two Cents, 720,000	Fifteen ,, 66,000
Five ,, 150,000	

Treasury, Georgetown,  
27th September, 1898.

C. B. HAMILTON,  
Commissioner of Stamps.

For accuracy's sake the worthy Commissioner should have said "No further issue of Jubilee stamps will take place—until there is another Jubilee!"

#### THE FRENCH 20c. BLUE ON ROSE.

THERE has always been a doubt as to whether the famous French stamp of 20 centimes, blue on rose, unperforated, of the issue of 1853-1860 ever existed. Mons. Arthur Maury, Editor of the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste*, now settles the question; and his testimony has much weight as it comes from a man notoriously denying the existence of the variety in question. Mons. Maury says, that up to very recently he firmly believed that the rosy tint seen on some of these stamps was due solely to the contact with rose-colored blotting paper placed between the sheets for drying them. After seeing the collection of M. Haro, however, Mons. Maury changed his mind. He now says: "Well, I have been able to see that the rosy tint must have been printed, for on a block with margins on two sides I have seen that the rose ground-tint projects over the borders of the stamps by at least three millimeters on either side."

#### WHEN IS A POSTAGE STAMP NOT A POSTAGE STAMP?

"S.E.L.," the Boston correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, commits himself to the assertion that the United States "Special Delivery" stamps are not postage stamps. He works it out this way: "It is especially stated in the rules and regulations made by the powers that run the postal business of this country that a special delivery stamp will not pay postage and can only be used in connection with other stamps to be of any use whatsoever. Therefore a special delivery stamp can not be a postage stamp."

Rather a large assertion, this! Does not the special delivery stamp pay for accelerated postage? By some of the most competent authorities in this country the British Railway Letter Fee stamps are undoubtedly postage stamps. And the U.S.A. "Special Deliveries" are practically on all fours with these labels.

#### PENSIONED IN STAMPS; THE STORY OF THE LUBECK REPRINTS.

It is not generally known (says the *Philatelic Monthly*), that the reprints of the stamps of Lubeck of the 1850 issue, which are scarcer and more expensive than even the originals, were made in quite a curious manner. An invalid soldier of the Franco-German war returned home finding his business gone, his wife dead and his home burned, while he had been fighting valiantly against the enemy, being left for dead on the battlefield. As an assistance the senate of the City of Lubeck decided to allow him to take a thousand impressions of each of the plates of the Lubeck stamps, then in the museum of the Board of Trade. The old soldier so constructed the privilege, that but to impressions were made of each plate, which at 100 stamps each gave him one thousand sets of the stamps which even at that time were valued very highly. At

any rate he obtained enough for his stamps to purchase a neat cottage upon the outskirts of the city where he lived until his death some twelve years ago.

These reprints were made on thin white paper, without watermarks and in somewhat fresher tints than the originals. They are exceedingly scarce now.

#### THE "BULL'S EYE" ISSUE OF BRAZIL.

*Apropos* to the discovery of a complete pane of the 90 reis of the first issue of Brazil—recently illustrated in the FORTNIGHTLY, and at present in the possession of our publishers—the following chat about the issue generally will be new to many. It is extracted from Messrs. Alfred Smith & Sons' *Monthly Circular*.

Dr. Gray, in his catalogue, tells us that the introduction of these stamps was due to a Brazilian Consul, residing in Europe, who was so struck with Rowland Hill's invention that he successfully pressed it on the authorities in Brazil, and a Decree ordering postage to be prepaid by stamps was issued 29th November, 1842, though the stamps did not actually come into use till July 1st, 1843.

It was originally intended to adopt the Sovereign's portrait for the design, but it is said that the Postmaster-General of Brazil considered that it would be a species of sacrilege to cancel the Emperor's head, and so a similar design of numerals was adopted.

Everyone knows the 'bull's eye' design of a transverse oval about 29 by 26 mm., but how did they manage to make the stamps? It was long before the time when electrotyping was invented or applied to stamp-producing. They bear on the face the appearance of having been engraved, but how were the stamps reproduced? Each value appears to come from a common matrix, and we can only suppose that they were laid down on a plate of copper in the same way as those of Belgium.

We are at a loss to know why the stamp of 90 reis is so much more difficult to find than that of 30, as there were the same number of copies on the sheet. The only way we see of accounting for this is to suppose that the sheets were cut into the respective values after printing, and that when the issue was superseded by that in small numerals the stock of 'bull's eyes' were destroyed."

#### Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

The Indian society known as "The Dum Dum Stamp Club" has ceased to exist.

"There have been some good stamp collectors spoiled by becoming poor speculators," says a sage contributor to *Meckel's Weekly*.

Now that the Yankee Spankey war is all over, it is said that philatelic affairs are beginning to boom again in the States, especially as regards what is elegantly termed "the kid trade."

There is in the opinion of *Meckel's Weekly*, nothing that can match the eager anticipation of a small-boy collector nervously tearing open a two-penny packet of stamps.

We philatelists take ourselves with terrible seriousness sometimes. Here is the *American Journal of Philately* devoting eight solid pages of its October issue to an article on the errors of the 5 bani of Roumania, in which article something like sixty different authorities are cited. And as if this were not enough space in which to discuss these two stamps, there are the words "To be continued" at the end!

*La Presse*, one of the few Canadian Journals printed in French, regards Postmaster-General Mulock's scheme to issue special stamps commemorative of the inauguration of Imperial Penny Postage as designed "to exploit the innocent mania of the timbrophiles." *Innocent mania* is exquisitely unkind.

Writes Mr. F. S. Sanborn in the *Philatelic West*: "The £5 South African Republic stamp is used to prepay postage on gold dust sent through the mails, this being recognized as the safest and best way to send it."

### General Notices.

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

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  $\frac{1}{4}$ d. for every word.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (13 numbers)	...	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
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."

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, OCTOBER 29, 1898.



It seems to us that when the detectives and other officials attached to Somerset House have got nothing better to do they sally forth to make a raid on some stamp dealing firm. It doesn't much matter which firm; it doesn't matter whether there is a good case to be made out. Somerset House must find work for idle hands to do. Not long since the Inland Revenue Department annexed our publishers' note paper, the pretty pictures of stamps appearing thereon being a little too artistic to suit the prosaic tastes of the powers that be.

Now we have to record a second raid at 64, Cheapside—a raid that failed, this time. Two individuals, who moved in the atmosphere of pronounced innocence and unobtrusiveness common to detective officers, called at the FORTNIGHTLY offices and asked to see "the Secretary" of Harry Hilckes & Co., Limited. Well the Secretary was far away just then, endeavouring to impress a West End dealer with the fact that the FORTNIGHTLY was the best possible journal for advertising purposes; and so the innocent-looking strangers had to content themselves with a mere Managing Director. To Mr. Harry Hilckes, therefore, they explained that they had just looked in to enquire about a certain cargo of forged Surinam stamps which the said Harry Hilckes did feloniously import into this country, with intent to do the purses of Her Majesty's lieges grievous harm—or something of that sort. The Managing Director of the firm shoved a packet of 5000 hinges into his mouth to keep himself from laughing, and then produced from the firm's safe the little lot of so-called forgeries referred to by his visitors.

After a great deal of chin exercise on both sides it was brought home to the astonished minds of the two detectives that the Surinam stamps were perfectly genuine in every respect. The worthy men had brought large glasses with them in order to compare the stamps with some genuine specimens with which they had provided themselves. It was a well organised and properly equipped raid, you see; but owing to the simple fact that the stamps were perfectly genuine the raiders went empty away.

And now for an explanation of this extraordinary occurrence, which, ludicrous as it may seem at first glance, in reality reflects the greatest credit upon our Inland Revenue Department.

The stamps—several sheets of the King's Head Issues of Surinam—came to our publishers in a cigar box; and as this cigar box came from Berlin, and as there was evidently an idea in the minds of Somerset House officials that most forgeries, like most everything else, are made in Germany, it was concluded, erroneously of course, that these Surinams were spurious. There you have the cause, and the effect we have described above.

\* \* \*

As promised, the Index for Volume IV. of the FORTNIGHTLY is circulated with this number, no extra charge being made. We specially invite readers to note the advertisement at back of this index concerning bound volumes. Those who desire same, or wish to purchase covers for binding, are earnestly advised to order early, and thus obviate possible disappointment.

### Notes on New Issues.

\* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

#### PERU.

Messrs. Williams and Co., of Lima, inform us that the 1 centavo of the current issue is now issued in green, instead of blue as hitherto, and that on the 19th September orders were sent to New York for 50,000 each of the 5 and 10 sol. stamps, which should therefore soon be put on sale.

1 centavos green	?
5 soles.	?
10 "	?

#### BAHAMAS.

THERE seems to have been a slight change in colour in the current 1/- which is now a decided green, not yellow-green as before, as we are informed by Mr. Wadams, of Birmingham. The perforation is 14 and the stamps have the usual white gum, not yellow.

1sh. deep green.

#### NEW ZEALAND.

WE hear from Mr. Rosenberg, of New Zealand, that a new registered envelope has been issued in this Colony, bearing on the flap the 1873 type of the brown threepenny stamp, but printed in blue. They are issued in three sizes,  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ ;  $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ ; and  $11\frac{1}{2} \times 6$ . The two former sizes are sold at 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d., but the largest size cost 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Registered Envelope, 3d. blue, size $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ .	
" " " " $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$ .	
" " " " $6 \times 11\frac{1}{2}$ .	

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Nov. 12th, 1898.

##### London Auctions.

- Nov. 1st, 2nd and 3rd. — Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47 Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.
- Nov. 3rd and 4th. — Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m. each day.
- Nov. 8th and 9th. — Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., each day precisely.
- Nov. 10th and 11th. — Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Co., at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. each day.

##### Provincial Auctions.

- Nov. 3rd. — Messrs. Ostara and Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 6 p.m.

##### Philatelic Exhibition at Birmingham, fixed 7th to 9th of Dec.

##### Tapling Collection.

The following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.

Spain from January, 1873 to date, and  
France up to October, 1862.

## On the Collecting of Entirets.

By B. W. W.

AS Mr. Dendy Marshall remarks in the "S.C.F." of Oct. 1st, "Why have philatelists turned a cold shoulder on a legitimate branch of their science, namely the official [ly issued] post cards?" Recently in stating my opinion as to the slump in adhesives, I was said to be a pessimist, but the reasons then given apply equally, if not more forcibly, to the neglect of collecting "Entirets," whether cards or envelopes; and the chief reason is, that adhesives when bought can be kept in such a small compass that 'bloating' or cornering becomes easy, and the holder may be making a little fortune by judiciously holding certain issues, but entirets take up room and become very heavy if held in quantity.

How I wish sometimes that Mr. de Ysasi had not bought that "Transvaal" error from me at 1/6 about 20 years ago, and tempted me with a sight of his blocks of 6 to 12 triangular Capes and 2/6 in cash to sell him another. The third one however is snugly housed close to my hand, and being one of a block of four is declared unique. What has this to do with post cards, the reader will ask? Nothing more than this, that my small profit on these and other stamps just then received from the Transvaal, caused me to buy at the same dingy little shop in Nicholas Lane (I wonder how many remember it), my first lot of post cards, numbering less than 100, for about 10/-; half-a-dozen of which, such as early German and first U.S. with extra dots, would if sold now, repay me my speculation with interest.

May I suggest, incidentally, that the use of the word "Entirets" be restricted to cards, envelopes and wrappers, in an entire or uncut condition; and not be applied to adhesives on covers? Last year a man sent me some stamps to buy, which were returned with the remark that I only collected entirets now. To my surprise, by next post came a card (followed by a parcel) with the message that he was so glad to hear that, as he had accumulated the accompanying packet of entirets, and wished to dispose of them. On opening the parcel, it was found to contain nothing but envelopes with adhesives, English, French, and Italian, &c. The expression to be used for these should be, such and such stamps on original covers.

Philatelists, we know—or we are told so—have no such sordid motive before them as money-making in the pursuit of their hobby, or must we say, science,—so we will blame the mere collector (such as myself) for having neglected post cards so long. The new craze for getting picture cards will not last long, being merely a revival or survival of the English propensity for collecting anything portable when touring about. This is how we became possessed of India, Australia and a quarter of Africa, but as they were not portable, we made beautiful pictures of them and then claimed the originals! I have still, somewhere, over a thousand of these cards, mostly about 30 to 40 years old,—but, as these new cards have nothing to do either with philately or stamp collecting, as adhesive stamps have to be used on them as a rule, they need not concern us any more than the older craze. Yet—to quote Mr. Marshall again—the time may come when such "collectors will turn back to philately as the only outlet for the enthusiasm which has been created in the beginning by these trifles."

Enthusiasm—yes, that's the word. Stamp collecting would never have advanced to philately, but for the enthusiasm of a few some 30 odd years ago, but how can one be enthusiastic about post cards? Adhesives were, and some are now, beautifully engraved, veritable works of art in miniature, says a reader. Yes, but can you find me a stamp more beautifully engraved than the 1875 card of Guatemala, with its elaborate engine turned frame and ornamental scrolls round the central stamp? Many of the more recent and Seebeckian issues of these Central American States, it must be admitted, are over done with ornamentation, but if good engraving and design are desired, there are plenty of other issues, such as those of Canada, Newfoundland, Hawaii, &c., that should satisfy an art critic; and for embossed designs, look at our own envelopes and that first one of Sweden.

Philately, however, as such, pays no regard to mere beauty, or where would the British Guiana wobble circles be, or the lovely portraits of Her Most Gracious One on certain Mauritian stamps? It does, or at any rate it ought to, demand consistency from its followers, and a 'specialist' cannot possibly have a complete collection without the postal covers and cards of his chosen district.

Among my first purchase of cards, I found this reproachful query written on the back of the square English card of 1870—"Have you quite forgotten an old friend?" Alas, this was so, for copies could be picked up then at a penny, though now priced at a shilling each. This neglect of the cards of one's own country is still very great. Not long since a friend was boasting that he had at least kept up his English entirets, and showed what he had. Certainly there were from one to six specimens, shades, &c., of 29 out of the 30 cards named in standard catalogue, besides envelopes and wrappers, but when asked how many different perforations of the reply cards he had, would refer me to one only, never having heard of the four varieties; so with the higher values. He knew nothing either of the two types of stamps in use on the half-penny cards since 1890, though there are packets containing both types even now to be got occasionally at post offices. Another collector of stamps did not know a plain newsband with a 3d. green stamp on it, nor had he heard of a penny wrapper, or seen a 2d. "foreign" envelope.

Some collectors tell me, when accused of neglect in this particular direction, that they have always gone in for card and envelope stamps, pointing with pride to their albums, in which spaces have been marked for cut specimens. But this is not collecting envelopes or cards, for they are not even stamps. An unused adhesive stamp mounted on any envelope or cover will pass it through the post of its fatherland, but cut off the stamp from a card or a wrapper, paste it on a letter, and see if it will pay postage. A cut envelope or card is just as valuable (or valueless) as an adhesive torn in two would be.

(To be concluded.)

## Mr. Punch on Philately.

[“A French stamp-collector is dissatisfied at being called a philatelist. Stamp-collectors, he considers, have a right to be called philosemeiotiscomistographists.”—*The Globe*.]

DESCEND, ye Nine! Descend and sing  
Without your best assistance  
I can't so much as name this thing  
That's come into existence.  
Descend, Urania! Descend,  
Melpomene and Clio!  
Pronounce this word—without an end,  
Pronounce Philosemeio—  
In vain! Not all your arts, ye Nine,  
Can work through half the letters,  
And I must even seek the shrine  
Of them that are your betters.  
Ye Gods! to you my prayer I raise!  
Put forth your best devices,  
And help me when I try to praise  
Philosemeiotis—  
What! Have not even ye availed?  
Then is our case distressful,  
For when the very Gods have failed  
Who else may be successful?  
Ah! there is yet one hope—yes, thee,  
I call on thee, Mephisto,  
Come! help me sing of Philose-  
meiotiscomisto—  
Ah! cruel, cruel! Foiled again,  
When I'd all but succeeded!  
Can any mortal lungs contain  
One half the breath that's needed?  
If Muses, Gods, and I—too,  
Can get it no correcter,  
I think 'twould be as well, don't you,  
To stick to "Stamp-Collector."

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



MANY people who talk glibly of millions, only faintly realise what an enormous number a million is. Now and then one sees on offer a million common stamps, price, perhaps, £2 or £3. Work the former price down into thousands, and you get a rate of, roughly, ¼d. per thousand. Then you are better

able to realize what a million is. Our immediate object in thus writing about millions is to properly introduce the following note from Mr. C. Nissen, of 106, High Holborn :

As one of the oldest advertisers in the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, and believing it may interest you and the other advertisers, I think it well to tell you that the small advertisement I have contributed to the journal, almost as long as it has been in existence, has been the means of selling over 7,000,000 (seven millions) of the one penny rose-reds, to customers from all quarters of the globe. This I may fairly claim to be a record: and you have my consent to use this as you choose.

This letter is a striking tribute to Mr. C. Nissen's activity as a dealer, and also a splendid testimonial to the value of the FORTNIGHTLY as an advertising medium.

\* \* \*

"Ferdinand" writes :

In my British Guiana series I have used a copy of the 1868 (oval garter, type of 1860) issue; black, thin paper, perf. roughly 10, with wmk. in large clear letters AUN. (inverted). Now, although AUN, as three distinct letters are included in the word "Guiana" they nevertheless do not follow each other in the above order.

If other collectors have noticed this peculiarity in their specimens of the '68 issue and can offer a reasonable explanation would they acquaint me of their ideas in your columns.

\* \* \*

"H. W. G.," writing from India, under date September 26th, draws attention to the fact that there is a duty of 9 per cent. on foreign postage stamps coming into that country. "The only way this can be avoided," he adds, "is by not registering the stamps. It is an unjust duty." Most unjust.

\* \* \*

Many thanks, A. W. G., T. L. L., and "Lucius," for kind letters to hand. In reply to "J. F. B.," Belfast, on the subject of the Auction Reports, we assure our correspondent that his supposition is not only a mistaken one, it is absurd in the extreme.

\* \* \*

One of our readers has sent us a copy of the little trade circular issued periodically by Mr. Palmer, with its margins embroidered with various comments of a scarcely eulogistic character. Although we do not propose to reproduce these criticisms, we must admit that they are well-deserved, for the "Stamp King," as Mr. Palmer delights to style himself, has a strange way of consulting the best interests of his subjects. Thus, on the front page of the circular, Palmer offers among other "interesting souvenirs" of the Soudan campaign, *sheets of Soudan stamps, postmarked!* On another page, the "Stamp King" refers to "an illegal purchase" of 2/6, 5/., 10/., and £1 British stamps removed from telegraph forms. But surely his acquisition of *sheets of Soudan stamps, postmarked,* is a purchase quite as illegal?

Mr. Palmer is one of the most eloquent men in existence on the subject of other people's shortcomings; but he must look to the beam in his own eye, or he may go down to posterity, not as the King of Stamps, but as that which is represented by the card next-door-but-one in the pack. So solicitous is this man for the welfare of Philately that he advocates the issue of Hospital Postage Stamps of the face value of 1/., 2/6, 5/., and 10/., whose actual postal franking power shall be 1d., 2½d., 5d., and 10d. respectively. Faugh!

## Stamps Worth "Full Catalogue."

BY WILLARD O. WYLLIE.

- I HAVE received from a well-known Boston philatelist this list of stamps considered to be worth full catalogue:
- Argentine Republic, 1873, 30c. orange; 1888, 2c. green, 5c. carmine, type I, and 6c. red.
  - Austria, 1850, 1kr. yellow, 1kr. orange, 2kr. black; 1858, 2kr. yellow; 1861, 2k. yellow, and 3kr. green.
  - Lombardy Venice, 1863, 3s. green.
  - Baden, 1851, 1kr. buff, and 1862, 3kr. rose.
  - Bavaria, 1849, 6kr. brown (broken circle).
  - Belgium, 1851, 40c. carmine; 1861, 1c. green and deep green, and 1882, 1fr. lavender.
  - Bermuda, 1865, 1d. dull rose in unused condition.
  - Bosnia, 1882, 5 on rose, envelope.
  - Brazil, 1866, 20r. dull violet; 1878, 700r. red-brown, 1881, 50r. blue, 100r. olive, 200 reis red-brown, and 1883, 100r. lilac, plain ground.
  - Canada, 1872, 10c. rose-lilac.
  - Ceylon, 1886, 25c. brown; same value, olive-yellow.
  - Chili, 1862, 1c. yellow, used postally; 1867, 1c. orange and 2c. black, and 1877, rouletted, 2c. orange.
  - Denmark, 1870, 3s. brown-lilac and grey, and 1874, 50. carmine and blue.
  - Dutch Indies, 1876, 2c. brown-violet and 2½c. orange.
  - Egypt, 1872, 10pa. mauve, 19pa. grey-lilac; 1879, 10pa. lilac, 10pa. pink, and the entire set of four of unpaid letter stamps of 1886.
  - Finland, 1891-92, the entire issue from 1k. to 7r. black and orange, 13 var.
  - France, 1852, 25c. blue on bluish, and dull blue on bluish; 1863; 5fr. violet, type II.; 1870, 20c. dull blue and bright blue; 1876, 2, 4, 10c. green; type II., 2, 10c. green.
  - French Colonies, 1877, 10c. green.
  - Thurn and Taxis, 1852, ¼sgr. red-brown; 1859, ¼sgr. red.
  - German Empire, 1871, ¼gr. violet, 5gr. bistre, 7kr. ultramarine; 1884, Levant, 1pi., blue surch., on 20pf. blue.
  - Great Britain, 1840, 1p. black; 1865, 3p. rose; 1880, 1p. lilac, 14 dots in each angle; 1883, 4p. and 9p. green.
  - Levant, 1885, 80pa. green.
  - Greece, 1875, 60l. green.
  - Grenada, 1891, Nos. 36 and 37, 2½d. surch on 8p. bistre.
  - Hanover, 1851, 1g.g. grey-green and yellow-green.
  - Hawaii, 1893, 12c. mauve.
  - Hayti, 1891, the two 3c. slate and lilac.
  - Hong Kong, 1063, 30c. vermilion.
  - India, 1854, Nos. 7 and 8; 1865, 8a. rose.
  - Italy, 1856, Nos. 19, 18, 21, 22, shades of the 10 centesimi; 1862, Nos. 35, 36, two more shades of the 10 centesimi, perforated; 1879, 30c. brown, used, 2l. vermilion; 1861, newspaper, 2c. black, used, and 2c. buff.
  - Jamaica, 1868, two shades of the 1p.; 1871, 3p. green, and 1897, 2sh. claret.
  - Japan, 1876, 6s. orange, and the two 30sen., same issue.
  - Luxemburg 1882, 30 and 50c. and 1fr.
  - Netherlands, 1869, 1c. black; 1891, 1gl. lilac.
  - Nicaragua, 1881, 50c. violet.
  - Norway, 1854, 4s. blue; 1856, 3s. lilac; 1863, 24s. brown; 1872, 4s. purple, 6s., red-brown, 7s. brown; 1883, 12 o. pale green, 20 o. pale red-brown; Unpaid Letter, 20 and 59 ore.
  - Philippines, 1892, newspaper, 1-8c., 1, 2, 5m.
  - Portugal, 1879, 10r. blue-green.
  - Prussia, 1856, 1sg. rose, 3sg. orange.
  - Roumania, the issue of 1893, four values, wmkd. P. R.
  - Russia, 1858, No. 1, 10k.; 1882, 70k.; 1889, 50k.
  - Saxony, 1851, ¼n.6. grey, 1n.g. rose, 3n.g. yellow.
  - Seychelles, 1890, 8c., 10c.; 1892, 12c. on 16c.
  - Spain, 1872, 48c.; 1873, 40c.; 1874, 20c.; 1877, 50c.; and 1882, 75c.
  - Sweden, 1864, 17 o. mauve; 1872, 60 o. grey, and in the same year Nos. 36 and 36a.
  - Switzerland, 1862, 3c. black, 30c. vermilion; 1882, 3c. grey and grey brown, 15c. yellow; 1890, 3fr.
  - Wurtemberg, 1851, 1kr. buff, 9kr. rose, 9kr. dark rose; 1874, 1kr. green.—From the *Boston Stamp Book*.

## Our Review of Reviews.

### All about the "Post Office" Mauritius.

MOST opportunely, having regard to recent sensational "finds," *Filatelie Facts and Fallacies* translates from the *Illustrirte Briefmarken Journal* a most interesting article on the rare early stamps of Mauritius by Herr Theodore Haas, the gentleman who so ably superintends the literary side of the great German firm of Senf. It is the complete "story" of the "Post Office" Mauritius that Herr Haas tells, and we feel sure that to "boil it down" would be to spoil it:—

Within the past few years these two rarities have been repeatedly touched upon in the daily press as well as in our philatelic papers, either for the reason that one or the other was sold at exorbitant prices, or because to those few specimens known another copy was added several months ago. Owing to such occurrences many of our readers inquire whether, in reality, such fabulous prices have been paid for these stamps? Why they are such rarities? etc. We therefore wish to publish in brief the history of the Mauritius Post Office, also all that may be of interest pertaining thereto.

Seventeen years after their issue (in 1864), these "Post Office" stamps were entirely unknown, and even Randot, in the *Magazin Pittoresque*, published 1865, knew nothing of their existence. It was the prominent French collector and expert, Herpin, who, so to say, discovered and described them. He, however, mistook them for errors of the later "Post Paid" stamps.

As early as 1865, in consequence of Herpin's information, mention was made regarding the "Post Office" in *Le Timprophile*. Dr. Legrand (*non de plume* Dr. Magnus) thoroughly investigated the matters concerning these stamps later on in *Le Timbre Poste*. He had several copies of the 1d. and 2d. at his disposal, also re-constructed plates of the 1d. and 2d. "Post Paid." He proved, although the twelve stamps of the "Post Paid" plates represented twelve distinct types, that an error of the word "office" instead of "Paid" plates represented twelve distinct types, that than an error of the word "office" instead of "Paid" was out of the question, the difference being far too great. The initials of the engraver J. B. (J. Barnard) were only printed on the "Post Office" stamps.

Legrand, contrary to Herpin, was of the opinion that these stamps were essays, of which some were accidentally used for mailing purposes without the officials noticing the mistake. In England they were generally taken for errors, and Evans, as late as 1877, mentions in *The Philatelist* that they were merely errors. To the same Evans it was given shortly afterwards, to prove that in these two stamps the discovery in the first issue of the stamps of Mauritius made. The well-known stamp dealer and expert, J. B. Moens, of Brussels, was, from the beginning, of the opinion that the Post Office stamps were neither essays nor errors, but actually real postage stamps. For nearly ten years this opinion was shared by hardly anybody.

The well-known collector, Captain Evans, of the Artillery, who was for some time stationed at Mauritius, succeeded about 1877 or 1878 in discovering in some records a number of important letters, which, despite the want of official documents, almost unveiled the mystery that for thirty years hovered over these stamps. Through these letters it was learned that the engraver (who was also a watchmaker) entrusted with the engraving and the printing of these stamps, made just one die for each value. The printing naturally progressed very slowly, and only 1000 stamps in all were printed. The people became almost frantic trying to obtain these stamps, and they were all disposed of within a few days. A further printing of both stamps was made impossible, as only one die for each existed, and the printing could be accomplished only at an exceedingly slow rate, as the large margin of each stamp had to be cut off; and lastly, each specimen had to be gummed separately—if they were gummed at all—which at this late date cannot be proven.

Then a new issue was prepared, the so-called "Post Paid" issue.

By the above mentioned facts, the rarity of the "Post Office" should be clear to every one, as only 500 copies of each value were issued, and after a few days were entirely sold out for postage purposes, not for collectors, who at that time did not exist.

The year of issue is known to us from letters found by Major Evans, which originate from Postmaster Brownrigg, and were forwarded by the latter, but without the exact date, the certainty of which can be established by the following:—On September 20th, 1847, Postmaster Brownrigg, writes to the Colonial Secretary that the stamps, of which 700 were printed, could soon be issued. In accordance with this it was ascertained that the earliest date must

have been at the beginning of October, 1847. Furthermore, there exists a postage stamp on which, next to the black cancellation die, is a red French mark signifying the arrival on January 2nd, 1848. In those days mostly sailing vessels traversed the waters, and from five to six weeks elapsed ere a letter from Mauritius arrived in France. For that reason the stamps with the French mark of January 2nd, 1848, can at the latest have made its appearance in the latter half of November, 1847. Consequently the date of issue of the Post Office falls during the period from October 1st to November 25th, 1847.

The number of the known Post Office stamps in 1870 was three pairs, or six copies, of which half were unused; in 1873, eleven copies were known to the *Gazette des Timbres*, viz., five orange-red 1d. and six blue 2d. In 1878, Moens knew of six pairs, and to-day, nine or ten are known. Of these eighteen or twenty copies three are on letters, one letter with 1d. originates from Evans (now known as part of the Tapling collection exhibited in the British Museum). For this letter Tapling paid at the beginning of 1880 £65, while it is said that a London dealer recently paid for a similar letter, which was found in Mauritius, ten times that amount. These two letters are in fine condition, a fact that cannot be said of the one with the 2p. stamp. Only a dirty, torn part of the face of the envelope is left of the latter.

Conclusions can be drawn regarding the rarity of the Mauritius Post Office from the foregoing. Nevertheless, we explicitly wish to mention that among the real postage stamps issued, these are only *the third in rank of rarity*. Of the British Guiana 2c. pink, first issue, only eight copies are known and of the Hawaii 2c. blue only four or five are believed to exist in collections.

### Poets, Painters, Playwrights on Brazilian Stamps.

Brazil is going to give us a series of stamps that will be quite a history in itself. In addition to the commemorative stamps already announced, the *Jornal Filatelico* promises a number of interesting novelties. These (the *Philatelic Monthly* notes) will include postal cards with the portraits of poets and authors: 50 reis, Gregorio de Mattos; 50x50 reis, Thomas a Gonzaga; 100 reis, José de Alencar; 100x100 reis, Basilio da Gama. Letter cards with portraits of musicians dramatists: 100 reis, Martins Penna; 200 reis, José Maricio Garcia; 300 reis, Carlos Gomes. Envelopes with portraits of scientists: 100 reis, Bartholomeu de Gusmao; 200 reis, Fr. J. M. da Conceicao; 300 reis, Varnhagen (N. de Porto Seguro); 500 reis, Science (allegoric figure). Wrappers with pictures of men prominent in commerce: 20 reis, Anchieta; 40 reis, Antonio Rapsa; 60 reis, N. de Mauá. Postage due stamps illustrating the products of the country: 10 reis, silk industry; 20 reis, cotton cultivation; 50 reis, sugar plantation; 100 reis, tobacco plantation; 200 reis, coffee plantation; 300 reis, mining industry; 500 reis, cattle raising; 500 reis, view of the Foz de Amazonas; 1000 reis, view of Cachoeiro de Paulo Afonso, and 2000 reis, view of Sugarloaf Mountain near Rio de Janeiro.

### Plain Words on Philately, with some plain Hints.

There is a somewhat remarkable article in the end-of-September number of *Stamps*—remarkable for outspokenness and other things. It is described as by "A Reader of *Stamps*," and it professes to give "Some plain words about Philately, Present and Future." The writer draws attention to the slump in prices, and casts about for some explanation of the same. He blames the catalogue chiefly, and goes on to say that he has heard a rumour—which others also have heard—to the effect that the next edition of the leading British catalogue will show an all-round fall in prices.

Timid souls (he writes) may be shocked when the fall comes, but come it must; for nothing in this world can be maintained for an indefinite period at a fictitious price, unless the whole stock of the commodity in question be held by a syndicate of millionaire "bulls." And as there are no syndicates of millionaires "supporting" Philately the inevitable will happen.

Meantime, what shall it profit us to have our stamps of, say, Nevis catalogued at four or five times their actual worth?

How, if at all, will the slump affect the future of Philately? Substituting "the fall in catalogue quotations" for "the slump," I

am sanguine enough to believe that the effect will be good. Amongst the more timorous philatelists there will at first be a panicky feeling; but those who sincerely believe, as I do, in the lasting charm of the philatelic hobby, will see nothing but good in the common-sense course of lowering prices to something like their proper level.

Then, when the cost of getting together a moderately good collection of stamps is brought down to something less than a prince's ransom. Philately will spread and flourish, and find new votaries in every land.

We certainly hope so. And after? When prices are down to their true level will they begin to rise again, "in spots," at the nod of the dealer and the speculator? The plain writer of the plain words under notice thinks not. He is of opinion that philatelists have learnt their lesson; but for those in need of guidance he tabulates a few "golden rules." As thus:—

1. Never be led away by a "boom," cleverly worked by a ring of selfish speculators, who by various tricks inflate the prices of a particular group of stamps in order that they may "unload" on the market at an utterly fictitious price.

2. Accept auction "realizations" with all due reserve. Sales are now held with such frequency that hundreds of good stamps are sacrificed at ruinously low prices. Auction results, which at one time were regarded and rightly regarded as the most reliable guide to philatelic values, are now far less trustworthy, for reasons which I may, if permitted by my editor, explain in some future paper.

3. Test the actual value of stamps by close attention to exchange packets, conducted for preference on the principle of nett cash settlements.

Excellent. We cordially advise the ordinary philatelist, the man of limited cash and leisure, to paste these hints in his hat, and—abide by them.

#### Connell and his "Essay."

In the latest issue to hand of the *International Philatelist* (H. C. Beardsley, St. Joseph, Mo., U.S.A.), appears an interesting paper on "Essays," signed "E.H.T." The writer has much to say concerning the difficulties besetting the collector of essays, owing to the doubtful character of many so-called essays; and then, in a chat about the most celebrated of these "still-born stamps" he writes:—

Another essay much prized by those who like such things is what is known as the Connell stamp. This was designed by Charles Connell, Postmaster-General of New Brunswick. It was intended to fill the place of the ordinary five cents, green, the stock of which had been exhausted. The device very much resembles the five-cent of the regular issue, with the exception that Connell's head appears in the oval, instead of Queen Victoria's. At times there has been much wrangling among philatelic writers concerning this essay, some contending that a few specimens passed through the mail. I have thoroughly investigated the subject, and have arrived at the decision that not a single specimen of the "Connell" stamp was ever used for mailing purposes. Philatelists who have investigated the facts will bear me out in this decision. Connell was dismissed before his essay could become current.

#### The Moribund S.S.S.S.

The *Philatelic Record*, Mr. Heygate's *Stamps*, and now the *Philatelic Supplement to the Bazaar*, have all said, in effect, "sad thing about the S.S.S.S., isn't it? What! haven't you heard?—dead! yes, dead as a doornail!" And as every educated person knows, the deadness of a doornail is something too funeral for words. But why these tears? The S.S.S.S. is, although apparently comatose, still alive; and while there is life there is hope. A good philatelist, earnest, sincere, energetic, could yet galvanise it into vigorous, healthy life.

#### From Across the Channel.

*L'Echo de la Timbrologie* (Amiens) has its usual abundance of gossip notes, but is lacking in serious articles just now.

*Le Moniteur du Collectionneur* (Luxemburg) is always a paper worth reading, if only for its "Zigzag" and its "Miscellanées." There is a good editorial article in the September issue regarding the use of telegraph stamps for express postage in Belgium.

*Bulletin Mensuel* (Liège) is the organ of the "Société les Echangistes Reunis." Its October number presents us with a portrait of Mdlle. Misson, who is one of the "Echangistes."

The Journal gives a four-page supplement, *L'Affictie Artistique*, for poster-collectors.

*Le Timbre Poste* (Brussels) pursues its sober way from year's end to year's end. (One of the October articles, which we must carefully read in our post leisure hour, deals with Belgian reprints.)

*Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste, Le Philatelite Français, and Revue Philatelite*, are a welcome trio from Paris. The last-named gives latest particulars concerning the projected Paris Exhibition of 1900.

*Le Timbrophile Poitevin* (Poitiers) is not elegantly produced, and, moreover, is not always infallible; but we should be sorry to miss it nevertheless. We do not intend a back-handed compliment in saying that *Le Timbrophile Poitevin's* best feature is the page headed "Echos."

#### THE OLDEST BELGIAN STAMP COLLECTOR.

*L'Annuaire Timbrologique* (Brussels) gives a portrait of M. Kuhnén, whom it describes as the *doyen* of Belgian philatelists. M. Kuhnén's collection, it appears, was begun in 1859, and at the commencement of 1887 contained 11,000 varieties, valued at £2,000.

#### Mr. Louis Prang; His Colour Chart.

Mr. J. W. Scott, in the latest of his "Weekly Letters" to readers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, tells us that Mr. Louis Prang, of Boston, has long been working on a philatelic color chart. Now, if there is one thing outside of stamps and albums required by a stamp collector it is (as Mr. Scott observes) a color chart. He not only wants one himself, but he wants every stamp cataloguer and chronicler of new issues to have one—and all to have and use the same. "To provide such a work as a stamp collector requires," Mr. Scott goes on, "I believe to be well nigh impossible." I spent all the leisure time of two years and over one thousand dollars in cash in an endeavour to produce a standard color chart. My production was endorsed by the National Philatelic Society and used as long as copies could be obtained; nevertheless, I acknowledged that it was entirely unsatisfactory.

"Mr. Prang's production is in many respects similar to my own, although arranged on a scientific plan, which may be described as follows: Each plate is divided into twenty-four panes of primary colors and these are each shown in seven shades, according to the amount of color retained on the plate in printing; thus, the top one is solid, the second is crossed by faint white lines which are increased as the blocks reach the bottom of the page. The horizontal lines show the primary colors and are initialed to correspond with the colors. Commencing red (R), red-red-orange (RR), red-orange (RO), orange-red-orange (ORO), orange (O), orange-yellow-orange (YO), yellow-orange (YO), yellow-yellow-orange (YYO), yellow (Y), yellow-yellow-green (YYG), yellow-green (YG), green-yellow-green (GYG), green (G), green-blue-green (GBG), blue-green (BG), blue-blue-green (BBG), blue (B), blue-blue-violet (BBV), blue-violet (BV), violet-blue-violet (VBV), violet (V), violet-red-violet (VRV), red-violet (RV), red-red-violet (RRV), thus working back to the starting point, this gives 168 distinct shades to the plate and there are seven plates in the book."

Mr. Scott regards the work as a very valuable one, and warmly recommends it. From a close study of the subject he opines that a perfect color chart is an impossibility; but in his opinion Mr. Louis Prang's work is as near perfection as it is possible to get.

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- 2d. blue, set of 7 .. .. 1 0
- 2½d. lilac-rose, set of 18 .. .. 7 6
- 3d. rose, set of 20 .. .. 8 6
- 6d. lilac, set of 8 .. .. 4 0
- 6d. grey, set of 8 .. .. 5 0
- 1/- green, set of 13 .. .. 10 0

½d. red, plate, 2/- 100; 15/- 1000.

1d. red, ditto 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000. [111

Packet of 65 varieties, price 5/-. Good copies only. Approval books of all varieties at reasonable price sent to responsible applicants.

**RILEY & NISSEN, 106, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.**

**WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,**

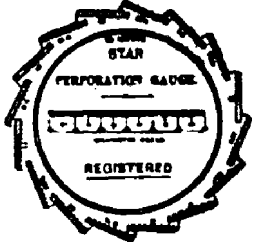
113, LONDON WALL, LONDON, E.C.

250 Genuine Stamps, all different, 1/4 post free. Approval selections much below Catalogue Prices. Stamps bought in small or large quantities. Foreign wholesale consignments respectfully requested. Wholesale Price List on application. [12

**GEORGE CALLF & CO., Seaford, Sussex.**  
(Established 20 years).

HAVING decided to Greatly Reduce Stock this season, they will be pleased to hear from Genuine Buyers. Special Terms to large purchasers. Now Ready for approval:—3 Specialists Collections, 80 Books of Separate Countries, An immense stock of old Australians including 500 Sydney Views, 2000 Laureated Head, and many extreme varieties sent on approval, against 1st class references.

Try the



THE only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as at the bottom of stamp, when hinged.

Price 6d. each.  
3 for 1/3.

OF **JAMES BENNETT,**  
Dealer in Foreign and Colonial Stamps,  
**STOKE BISHOP, near BRISTOL.** [117

**NEW SEASONS BARCAINS.**

MAURITIUS, 1878, ar. 50c. on 5/- lilac, 6/-; 1879, 56c. green, 9d.; 2r. 50c., 3/6. INDIA, 1891, 2 rupees, 8d.; 3 rupees, 10d.; 5 rupees, 1/9. ZULULAND, 1894, 3d. very scarce, 8d. HONG KONG, 1898, 1d. on 56c. black, 1/6. NEWFOUNDLAND (jubilee), used, 3c. 1d.; 5c. 4d. On Sale by A. BOUCARD, 48a, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. (late from Holborn & Sloane St.) A. B. holds a Large Stock of Rare Stamps, which he is now selling at much under catalogue prices. List of wants requested. Rare and medium stamps and collections bought for cash. Established 1887. [111 Monthly list of bargains sent post free.



**SENF'S POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM**

IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD.  
Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.  
108] Price List on application.

C. F. LUECKE, Publisher, LEIPZIG, Saxony.

**H. ROSS-SHIELDS & CO.,**  
75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

**WHOLESALE LOTS CHEAP.**

Job Line to Sell 4d. to 3d. each. 4/- per 1000 (sample 100 for 6d.) Mixtures at 1/-, 2/-, 4/- and 8/- per 100 Hayti, used, assorted, 6d. per dozen, 4/- per 100. 500 varieties, no fiscals, reprints or damaged stamps, 3/6. 1000 varieties as above, 12/- Selections sent on approval. [110

**Inch Space.**

12 Insertions .. £1.  
26 ,, .. £1 17s. 6d.

**THE "METROPOLITAN PHILATELIST,"**

The best Weekly Stamp Paper.

**SUBSCRIPTION:**

35c. per year, post free, in Canada and Mexico.  
All other Countries, 75c. per annum, post free.  
All the news and valuable advertisements of all live dealers.  
The J. W. SCOTT Co., Ltd., [127  
40, John St., New York City, U.S.A.

**J. H. TELFER**

Has removed from 112, Leadenhall Street, E.C., to Raven's Park, Catford, S.E., from which address he will in future carry on business by correspondence only.

Large stock of medium and rare stamps always on hand at bargain prices.  
Send for price list of Stamps, singly and in sets.  
Stamps bought:—Offers requested. Record Set! 40 Japanese, different, 8d. [105 130

**BRIDGER & KAY,**  
65, BISHOPSCATE STREET (without) E.C.

Selections of medium and good stamps from ¼ to ¼ catalogue prices. Sent on approval to responsible applicants.  
WANTED TO PURCHASE. [109  
Collections and Good Stamps. Highest prices paid.

**H. H. ASHWORTH & Co.,**  
63, Brown St., Manchester.

Retail or Wholesale List free on application.  
Approval Selections sent to responsible applicants.  
Large Stock of Rare Stamps.  
Inspection cordially invited.  
Large Collections or Wholesale Parcels wanted for cash. [123

**QUEENSLAND,**  
1882-86 (Gibbons' type 9 and 10),  
2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, the set of 5 for  
4/9 Post Office Order.

Dealers and Collectors write for my New Price Lists of Cheap Sets, &c.  
**W. H. ROBINSON, Swan Hill, Brisbane,**  
**QUEENSLAND.** [123

The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City.

**J. LOUIS,**  
42½, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.  
(CORNER OF UNION COURT).

200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free, 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference. [118

**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. [109

**HUBERT BUCKLEY,**  
CHRISTIANIA.

**SPECIALITY: Scandinavians.**

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

SEND 2d. for Specialists' Catalogue of the Stamps of Norway. [111

**HUBERT BUCKLEY,**  
CHRISTIANIA,

PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.  
Kindly send selections. [117

**The CITY STAMP EXCHANGE,**  
18 and 20, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.  
Agents Wanted in the Provinces and Abroad.  
Wholesale Consignments from Abroad particularly requested. [121

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:  
One to three stamps .. .. 6d.  
Each additional specimen .. .. 2d.  
Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.  
**HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD., 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.**

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

ONE to five specimens, 10d.; any more specimens, 1d each. Examination of Postmarks (Old Italian States only), one to five specimens, 5d each; any more specimens, 2d each. Please always join stamps for return postage and registration.

D. EMILIO DIENA, [112  
40, Via Vittoria Colonna, Rome (Italy).

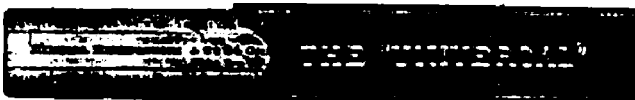
**Exchange Desired.**

[N return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/- or over; we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 pies carmine, Gwalior, 1¼ mms., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 830 ever issued).  
**B. GORDON JONES,**  
Calcutta Philatelic Co., 62-1, Banting Street, Calcutta.  
Reference: Messrs. Hilckes & Co. [112

**Forged Surcharges**

Can be easily Detected with the aid of our

**'UNIVERSAL' IVORY MEASURE**



Divided into 96 parts of an inch on one side and ¼ millimetre on the other side, mathematically correct.

Invaluable to detect forged Surcharges; on finest Ivory.

POST FREE, **4s. 6d.**

DESIGNED AND PUBLISHED BY

**Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,**  
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# PHILIPP KOSACK,

39, NEUE KÖNIGSTRASSE,

**BERLIN.**

TELEPHONE VII. No. 307.

WISHES TO BUY ❁

## Rarities of all Countries

(USED AND UNUSED) ESPECIALLY

BELGIUM, FRANCE, RUSSIA, FINLAND, ITALIAN STATES,

*Et c. Et c. UNUSED.*

WHOLE COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS. COLLECTIONS OF ENTIRES. FIRST-CLASS RARITIES.  
STAMPS ON ENTIRE ENVELOPES. RARE ENVELOPES. RARE TELEGRAPH STAMPS. ESSAIS.

LARGEST FIRM FOR ENTIRE ENVELOPES.

PHILIPP KOSACK.

BERLIN. 105-134

### SPLENDID VALUE.

Our No. 4 Packet contains 100 varieties, all different, including the following: British South Africa (1898), China, Cameroons, Cochin, Deccan, Dhar State, Eritrea, Gambia New Issue, German South-West Africa, Japan (Silver Wedding), Mauritius (1898), Sirmoor (Elephant), Soudan (Camel Trooper), Straits Settlements, Travancore, Trinidad, Zambesi, Great Britain (Army Official), &c., &c., sent post free on receipt of postal order, 1/1.

To all purchasers of this No. 4 Packet we will present Two Entires, viz., Holkar Envelope and Post Card.

12 Austria, 1881-91, 1kr. to 1 gulden .. .. .	0 3
8 Bavaria, 1881-91, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf., 1 and 2mks. .. .	0 3
7 Germany, 1875-89, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2 mks. .. .	0 1
7 Wurtemberg, 1875-93, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50pf. and 2mks. .. .	0 4
These four sets will be sent, post free, 9d.	
4 Travancore, complete, ½, 1, 5 and 4ch., used .. .. .	0 10
5 Gambia, 1898, ½d., 1d., 2½d. and 3d., unused .. .. .	1 0
30 Portuguese Colonies, Crown Type .. .. .	2 6
5 Tunis, 1888, used .. .. .	0 3
10 Mozambique Company, 1886, 2½ to 30 reis, complete .. .. .	3 6
<i>Postage on the above sets extra.</i>	

Agents wanted to sell our stamps; liberal terms; write for particulars.

Consignments of New Issues and Provisionals from abroad particularly requested. Cash and postage guaranteed per return mail.

Selections sent on approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

### The City Stamp Exchange

18 and 20, Cheapside, 96-121

LONDON, E.C.

### Concerning Stamp Auctions.

PERHAPS you meditate disposing of your Collection or Duplicates by Auction. You naturally wish to sell in the best market. Many will tell you London is the place: before deciding however, see what claim Glasgow has. The following few arguments are advanced for your careful consideration.

1. Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.

2. London has many Stamp Auctioneers, Glasgow has only one.

3. The Sales introduced and conducted by me during last season were most successful, and it is a positive fact that better prices were obtained at them for Rare and Medium Stamps than at any other Auction Mart in the Kingdom. Should you doubt this statement write for priced catalogues and other convincing evidence, which will be instantly furnished.

4. Having been in the Stamp business for a considerable number of years I am well-known and in touch with most of the principal Scottish collectors. My register contains the names of hundreds of Collectors resident in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c., to whom sell catalogues are regularly dispatched; consequently the sales are particularly well attended. Besides, a large number of catalogues are despatched to England and the Continent, and the number of commissions received is very considerable. At a Sale comprising 500 lots, held last season, commissions were received for over 250 lots, or for half the entire Sale. Absolute fact.

5. Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite often enough.

6. The Lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.

7. Commission charges are extremely moderate.

Next Sale will be held Early in November; consignments are now being received. Give Glasgow a trial! Send in a few good things for this sale! You will be more than satisfied with the prices realized.

ROBERT S. GRAY, Auctioneer,

106-125] 213, West Campbell Street, GLASGOW

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

**£5 PRIZE.**

Sixth Monthly Competition for £5. (Living Celebrities).

This month our 1/- Competition Packet contains 35 different stamps from 35 different countries, the initials of which, taken altogether (35 in all) exactly spell the names (surnames only) of

**FIVE LIVING CELEBRITIES**

of British Nationality, selected from the most noted men and women, in politics and the different branches of art. Among the 35 stamps in the packet, are—

NEWFOUNDLAND, 1898, 1c. rose, obs. CANADA, 1898, obs. FIJI, ½d. perf. 11. GIBRALTAR, (new issue). KASHMIR, used.

CEYLON (catalogued 6d.) ERITREA, 2c. AUSTRIA, 1st issue. TUNIS, 1st issue. SANDWICH ISLES, 2c. violet. TIMOR. ICELAND. LEEWARD ISLES. OCEANIA, ETC., ETC.

This packet differs entirely from all our former ones, and will be sent with further particulars of the Competition on receipt of postal order for 1/6, or 12 penny stamps.

The Prize will be given to the one who sends us, written on the form supplied with the packet, the five correct names of celebrities, to reach us not later than **Wednesday, 30th November**. If more than one correct solution is received the £5 will be divided.

The result will be announced in the "FORTNIGHTLY" of December 10th. 105-110]

**28, Radipole Rd., Fulham, London, S.W.**

**IMPORTANT SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS.**

**Mr. Mackay**

Will resume his SALES for the Season on SATURDAY, 5th NOVEMBER, at 1 p.m. with a Superb Collection of . . .

**British, Foreign and Colonial**

STAMPS, from the Collection of a Spanish Gentleman, lately deceased; also a few RARE BRITISH COLONIALS, the property of a Lady; including: Ceylon, 9d. and 1/6, imperf.; the rare Victoria, 6d. orange, 1862; Wurtemberg, 18kr., imperf., 1857; 18kr., perf., 1858; and many other rarities, all in fine condition.

Full particulars in Catalogues, now ready, and can be had on application to the . . .

Stamp Bureau: 34, Frederick Street, EDINBURGH.

**A BIG DISCOUNT OFF CATALOGUE ! s. d.**

B.C.A., 1897, 6d. and 1/6, the the two, price	1	6
*Gambia, 1887, ½ to 1/- (obsolete), mint set	3	3
*Gold Coast, 1884, ..	3	3
Hawaii, 1883, 12c. mauve, very fine ..	5	0
.. 1894, 25c. blue ..	1	6
*Tobago, 1885, ½d. to 1/6, mint set ..	2	6
Newfoundland, 1898, ½c., 1c., 2c., 3c., mint set	0	6
U.S., 1869, 12c., very fine, no gum, cat. 17/6 ..	5	0
.. 1861, 5c. mustard, extremely fine, cat. 50/-	27	6
.. 1871, 7c. vermilion, mint ..	15	0
.. War Dept., 24c., strip of 3, mint ..	3	0
.. Omaha issue, 1 dollar, very fine ..	3	

\* SIGNIFIES UNUSED.

Cash with order, returnable if unsatisfactory. Postage extra. Selections on approval. References required.

J. G. CUTHBERTSON,

40, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [103-108

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that they will hold a Philatelic Auction in Birmingham, at the Grand Hotel, on THURSDAY, 3rd NOVEMBER, next, at 6 o'clock in the evening. This sale will include

Collection of U.S. Departmentals and others all unused in blocks, Portuguese India, first and second issues, Trinidad, 5-surcharged O.S., Rare Spain, Oldenburg, India, first issue, with blue dividing line, unused, with gum, Nova Scotia, 1/6, unused and magnificent, U.S.A. Periodicals, complete set 1c.-100 dollars, all used, in superb condition, Ceylon, 1/6 green, perforated, &c.

**The Third Manchester Sale**  
WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel**

On WEDNESDAY, November 16th,

At 6 o'clock in the evening.

Lots for this Sale must reach us not later than November 2nd.

Prompt Settlements Guaranteed.

All the accounts for the 2nd Sale have already been paid out.

Best references given, Member of Birmingham and Manchester Philatelic Societies, on Bazaar Reference List, &c., &c.

Future Sales, Dec. 14th, Jan. 18th, Feb. 15th, and March 15th in Manchester, and Dec. 1st in Liverpool.

NOTE.—All our future Manchester Sales will be held on a Wednesday Evening instead of Thursday.

All enquiries to be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**  
105-110] Stamp Auctioneers,  
**18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.**

**Some 1898 Issues:**

ALL UNUSED. POSTAGE EXTRA.  
Bechuanaland Prot. ½d., 1d.; Bolivia, 1 cent green, 1d.; Borneo, 2c. unpaid, 2d.; Brazil, 10 reis, 1d.; B. Central Africa, 1d. on 3/-, 1/6; British Guiana, 1 cent, 1d.; Ditto, 2 cent, 2d.; British Honduras, 25 cents, 1/9; British Morocco, 5c., 1d.; B. South Africa, ½d., 1d.; Ditto, 1d., 2d.; Canada, figures in corners, used, 1c., 1d.; Ditto, ditto, 3c. used, 1d.; China, ½ cent., 1d.; Ditto, 1 cent., 1d.; Cuba, 1 mil brown, 1d.; Ditto, 2 ditto, 1d.; Ditto, 3, ditto, 2d.; Ditto, 5, ditto, 2d.; Egypt, unpaid, ½ mils. on 2 pl., ½d.; Gambia, ½d., 1d.; Ditto, 1d., 2d.; Ditto, 2d., ½d.; German S.W. Africa, 3pl., 1d.; Ditto, ditto, 5pl., 2d.; Havaii, 2c., 3d.; Hong Kong, 1 dollar on 96c., 3/6; Mauritius, 1 cent., 1d.; Ditto, 36 cent. 10d.; Newfoundland, 1c. GREEN, 1d.; Ditto, 3c. PRINCESS OF WALES, 3d.; Ditto, ½ cent. Prince Edward, 1d.; New Zealand, 2½d. error, Wakitupu, 6d.; Peru, 1 cent, 1d.; Ditto, 2 cent, 2d.; Ditto, 5 cent, 4d.; Philippines, 1 mil brown, 1d.; Ditto, 2 ditto, 1d.; Ditto, 3 ditto, 2d.; Porto Rico, 1 mil brown, 1d.; Ditto, 2 ditto, 1d.; Ditto, 3 ditto, 2d.; Ditto, 5 ditto, 2d.; Samoa, 2d. yellow, 4d.; Spain, War Tax, 5 cent, 1d.; Sudan, "Camel", 1 mil, 1d.; Ditto, ditto, 2 mil, 2d.; Ditto, ditto, 3 mil, 2d.; 5mil, 2d. [79-122 Chas. J. Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey

**BARGAINS. £ s. d.**

Great Britain, block of 4 unused 1d., Plate 132, catalogued by Gibbons, 50 each—£10	4	17	6	
(Also two single specimens, 25/- each)				
Nova Scotia, 5 cents blue, unused				
Gibbons, 30/-	0	15	0	
St. Lucia, 1/- deep orange, CC., perf. 14, unused	Gibbons, 60/-	1	10	0
Wurtemberg, 70 kreuzer, used	Gibbons, 80/-	1	17	6
Straits Settlements, First Issue, complete set, used and unused	Gibbons' 117/-	2	17	6

All above are in very fine condition. [104-124 Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps. Absolutely Lowest Prices 104-123

**W. MARCHBANK,**

104, Holly Avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne

	Cat. Price. s. d.	My Price. s. d.
Gibraltar. IN FINE CONDITION.		
1866, ½d., 1d., and 2½d., used ..	5 0	2 0
.. 2d., used ..	10 0	6 0
.. 4d., ..	15 0	10 0
.. 6d., ..	25 0	14 0
1887, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., used ..	3 2	2 6
.. 4d., used ..	15 0	7 6
.. 6d., ..	20 0	10 0
.. 1/- ..	35 0	21 0
1889, 5c. to 75c., used ..	25 10	14 0
.. ditto, unused ..	19 3	12 6
.. 50c. on 6d., used ..	10 0	4 0
.. 25c. on 2d., small I used ..	30 0	10 0
.. 75c., 1 and 5ptas., mint ..	22 0	12 0
.. 5c. to 50c., mint or used ..		1 6
1895, 20, 1 and 2pta. used or unused ..		3 6
1898, ½d. to 1/6, used or unused ..		2 10

**ISAAC CANSINO,**

45a, MARKET STREET, 105 122 MANCHESTER.

**W. H. HODGSON & Co.,**

4, ALLEYN TERRACE, West Dulwich, S.E.

OFFER THE FOLLOWING

Barbados, 5/- rose, light postmark ..	35/-
B.E.A., on Zanzibar, set ½-7½ annas, unused	45/-
Lagos, 2/6 olive black CA. superb, unused ..	100/-
Mauritius, the Britannia vermilion stamp USED .. .. .	21/-
Newfoundland, 2d. orange vermilion, unused	22/6
New Zealand, 1/- green (Gib. No. 137), unused	14/6
West Australia, 1st issue, 1d. brown unused	15/-
.. .. 4d. carmine CA. 14 ditto ..	12/6

Good Colonial Selections sent against first-class References

For New Issues, further correspondence from Colonies invited. Reference—Editor of this paper. [106-111

**GIBRALTAR. . .**

	PER 1.	PER 12.	PER 100.
1886, 1d. ..	8d.	—	—
1887, ½d., 1d. & 2½d. assorted	1/6	11/6	
1889, 5c. and 10c. obsolete	6d.	3/0	
25c. blue, obsolete ..	8d.	4/0	
40c. red-brown, obsolete	6d.	—	—
1 peseta, bistre ..	4 9	—	—
1895, 20c. olive, ..	3d.	—	—
1p. blue and brown ..	1/6	—	—
2p. black and red ..	2/6	—	—
NEW ISSUE—	PER 1.	PER 12.	
1898, 2d. brown and blue, unused ..	4d.	—	
.. 4d. brown and green, unused ..	8d.	6/0	
.. 6d. violet and red, unused ..	10d.	8/0	
.. 1/- bistre and red, unused ..	1/0	17/0	

**Chas. T. REED,**

ROUTH ROAD, LONDON, S.W. LATE MANCHESTER SQUARE MANSIONS.

3rd Edition. Ready in December, 1898. **THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY**

Revised to date by FREDK. A. WICKHART, Hon. Sec. of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society. The book will be the popular Pocket Size (about Size about 8 by inches), and advertisements will be received at a very cheap rate for this edition. As the book will be kept for continual reference by collectors and dealers it forms the most excellent advertising medium possible. The large second edition (1897) is now sold out.

2 6 per in. across page. 1 6 per in. single column. Business Card in Medallion, 1/-

These rates are altogether irrespective of the amount of space taken, and include cost of a voucher copy. Advertisements should be sent by December 1st. Advertisement Pages will face Directory Pages. The publishers anticipate a demand of 1,000 in the first month.

Prepaid Orders for Copies of the Directory can be booked, and will be executed in rotation. [106-111 Price ONE SHILLING (25 cents), Post Free.

**THE PHILATELIC PUBLISHING Co.,** Fentham Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 108—Vol. V

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1898.


ONE PENNY.


The Official Organ of the following Societies:


Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Reehdale Philatello Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

## A BARGAIN IN HIGH VALUES OF BRAZIL.

We have purchased a small lot of the undermentioned Stamps, which we are enabled to offer at very low prices. Having only a small number of certain values, we can only supply a LIMITED NUMBER of COMPLETE SETS of 35 STAMPS.


NEWSPAPER.	Gibbons' Catalogue		Our Price	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
 1889, 10r. yellow .. ..	1	0	0	8
" 20r. " .. ..	0	9	0	6
" 200r. " .. ..	1	3	0	7
" 300r. " .. ..	1	6	1	0
" 500r. " .. ..	2	6	1	10
" 700r. " .. ..	4	0	2	9
" 1000r. " .. ..	6	0	3	9


 1890, 10r. olive .. ..	0	2	0	1
" 20r. green .. ..	0	2	0	1
" 50r. brown .. ..	0	3	0	1
" 100r. violet .. ..	0	6	0	3
" 200r. black .. ..	1	0	0	6
" 1000r. brown .. ..	4	0	2	9

 1890-91, 10r. blue .. ..	0	3	0	2
" 20r. green .. ..	0	2	0	1
" 100r. rose .. ..	0	6	0	3

1891-93, 10r. blue, C.P. ..	0	2	0	1
" 10r. " .. ..	0	1	0	1
" 20r. green .. ..	0	2	0	1



UNPAID.	Gibbons' Catalogue		Our Price	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
 1890, 10r. carmine .. ..	0	4	0	2
" 20r. " .. ..	0	4	0	2
" 50r. " .. ..	0	6	0	3
" 100r. " .. ..	0	8	0	4
" 300r. " .. ..	2	0	1	9
" 500r. " .. ..	2	6	1	9
" 700r. " .. ..	3	6	2	4
" 1000r. " .. ..	5	0	3	3

 1890-91, 10r. orange .. ..	0	2	0	1
" 20r. blue .. ..	0	2	0	1
" 50r. olive .. ..	0	3	0	1
" 200r. violet .. ..	0	9	0	4
" 300r. green .. ..	1	3	0	9

ADHESIVES.				
1882, 10r. black .. ..	0	2	0	1
1892, 100r. blue and red ..	0	4	0	2
1893, 100r. pink .. ..	0	3	0	2



**Catalogue Price : £2 2s. 7d. ;**  
**Our Price : £1 7s. 4d.**

Set of 35 different Stamps, ALL UNUSED, for £1 1s. ; or less than HALF Gibbons' Catalogue.

For above Brazilian Stamps apply: Messrs. HARRY HILCKES and Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside

Doings of Societies.

HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE second general meeting of the above Society was held at the Inns of Courts Hotel, on Tuesday, Nov. 1st, at 7 p.m. As it was resolved that meetings should be held in London for the present, it was deemed advisable to reconstitute the Committee, and the following were elected to serve: J. Bradbury, W. A. Bois, G. Gaffe, E. A. Mardon, Rev. Walter Jenks, F. A. Wickhart, with power to add two more to their number. It was agreed that the name of the Society be placed on the prospectus to be issued in connection with the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held at Manchester in July next, and that steps be taken for offering at least one medal for competition.

At the termination of the business, Mr. Herbert R. Oldfield gave a display of his collection of Bolivian Stamps, accompanied with lucid and interesting explanations of the various plates, &c.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Oldfield brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

The first exchange packet of the Society contained 28 sheets value at £372 3s. 4d.—H. A. SLADE, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Ingleside, St. Albans.

LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

At the first meeting of the present Session, Mr. E. D. Bacon read a paper on "The Supposed Bermuda Stamp of 1849-55." In introducing the subject the author reserved the right of publication, as he considered that the paper, being intended for a reply to an article which had appeared in the *Monthly Journal*, ought to be offered to the editor of that journal. After stating that he had entered into the investigation on the assumption that the stamp in question was not a genuine issue, Mr. Bacon explained the result of the researches he had made and the information obtained from official documents in connection with the Postal Service of the Bermudas, and the reasons which had induced him to come to the conclusion that the stamp had, in all probability, been *bona fide* issued by the Postmaster at Hamilton, and used by the public for the postage of inland letters.

A long discussion ensued, in which many of the members present took part. Mr. Henry Calman, present as a visitor, explained the circumstances which had influenced him in deciding against the stamp when it first came to his notice, and Major Evans reiterated his views against the genuine character of the stamp in question.

On the motion of Major Evans, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, the very cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Bacon for his most interesting paper.

The following are the Society's arrangements for future meetings during the present session.

- Nov. 25. Display—"The Stamps of Moldavia and Roumania." The Vice-President.
- Dec. 9. Paper—"The 1866-1872 Issues of Uruguay." Mr. R. Ehrenbach.
- Dec. 30. Display—"The Stamps of Hongkong." Mr. L. I. R. Hausburg.
- Jan. 6. Paper—"Behind the Scenes." Mr. E. J. Nankivell.
- Jan. 20. Display.
- Feb. 3. "On Speculative Issues." Mr. R. Meyer.
- " 17. Display.

MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE opening meeting of the Session 1898-9 was held at the Grand Hotel, on Friday, September 23rd. The president, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, occupied the chair, and there were nineteen other members present.

Mr. A. H. A. Bennett was duly elected an ordinary member, and Mr. John Westhorp a corresponding member of the Society.

Mr. Dorning Beckton read a paper on "The 1899 Exhibition in Manchester."

It was afterwards unanimously resolved "That an International Philatelic Exhibition be held in Manchester during the summer of 1899," and an Executive Committee of twenty members, with Mr. Petri as Treasurer, was appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements.

The Hon. Secretary of the Society, Mr. G. F. H. Gibson, of Kersal, Manchester, was elected Hon. Secretary of the Executive Committee, and all communications should be addressed to him at the Exhibition Offices, 2, Cooper Street, Manchester.

Following are the Manchester Society's arrangements for future meetings during the present session:

- Dec. 2. The Stamps of Baden. G. B. Duerst
- " 9. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 16. The Stamps of France from 1870. W. Grunewald.
- " 23. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- Jan. 6. Annual Dinner, 7. p.m.
- " 13. The Stamps of Venezuela (Part II). W. Dorning Beckton.
- " 20. Triangular Stamps of the Cape (with Display) Vernon Roberts.
- Feb. 3. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 10. Mulready Envelopes (with Display) J. R. Hesketh.
- " 17. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 24. Stamp Collector or Philatelist? J. J. Leech.
- Mar. 3. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 10. The Scamy Side of Philately. J. C. North.
- " 17. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 24. The Stamps of the Italian States E. Petri.
- " 29. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- April 7. Lantern Exhibition. J. H. Abbott.
- " 14. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange
- " 21. Philately as an Educator. O. Gillett.
- " 28. Meeting for Discussion and Exchange

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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A. C. BRAUN, Eleonorenhain, Bohemia, Austria, collects stamps, cards, &c., of all countries, especially of the English Colonies and wishes to enter in exchange relations with collectors all over the world. His objects of exchange: Austrian and Hungarian Stamps in complete sets, issues 1891 and 1883, and duplicates of all countries. Correspondence in English, French and German. 106-108

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS

## FOR TNAIGHTLY.

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No. 108.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### PORTO RICO'S POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS—UNDER SPAIN.

THEY WILL BE DIFFERENT UNDER AMERICA.

A COMMITTEE despatched to Porto Rico to enquire into the postal arrangements of the island has now reported to the United States Government, and this report, as is shown by the *Post Office*, of New York, furnishes some interesting facts for philatelists.

At Mayaguez the committee had to employ Thomas C. Vera, a Puerto Rican, as temporary Postmaster at \$60 per month, owing to the in-experience of clerks assigned there.

The Spanish Postmaster received \$1,500 per annum, Puerto Rican money, equal to about \$750 of ours, and his principal assistant, who also managed the telegraph department, which was an adjunct to the postal system, both being under one central administration, received the same salary.

"At offices visited by us," the report says, "it has been impossible to obtain accurate information relating to salaries of Postmasters and clerks as well as receipts and expenditures, from the fact that the Spanish Postmasters have decamped and taken with them all supplies and records. Further efforts will be made, however, and it is hoped a careful examination of affairs at the capital, when our forces take possession, may result in the discovery of the necessary records.

"We have learned that stamp supplies have not been kept on sale at the Post Office, but have been sold at the Custom House to firms and individuals, who received a discount of

3½ per cent. on all sales. The salaries of the Postmasters and clerks also were paid through the Custom House. Under the Spanish system, letter carriers are paid by the citizens at 1 centavo for each letter delivered, except in the case of large firms and corporations, who pay a specified amount weekly or monthly, approximating in some instances as much as \$5 per month. These carriers are not paid by the Government, and where our Post Offices have been established, the system has been temporarily continued on the same terms.

"In an interview with Lieut.-Col. Classford, Chief Signal Officer of Puerto Rico, the practicability of having some of the enlisted men of the Signal Corps on duty at the military telegraph offices on this island act as Postmasters also was discussed. The committee has considered this matter and deems it to be in the interest of the development of the service to utilize these men as far as possible, and on the 20th Sept. Superintendent Robinson was authorized to accept details by military authorities of such branch offices, where they can perform postal service in connection with their military duties."

### NEXT YEAR'S EXHIBITION AT MANCHESTER.

The arrangements for the Manchester International Philatelic Exhibition, to be held in the City Art Gallery next summer, are getting into ship-shape. The Executive Committee consists of the following twenty members of the Manchester Society: Messrs. Abbott, Barratt, Beckton, Buxton, Castle, Coote, Duerst, Garson, Gillett, Grunewald, Harrison, Heginbottom, Hesketh, Munn, North, Ostara, Oxley, Petri, Roberts, and Wanstall, who at their first meeting formed five Sub-Committees, viz., Advertising, Exhibitors', Finance, General Purposes, and Prospectus.

The Prospectus Committee have drafted the Prospectus, which, after being finally approved, will be circulated among collectors.

The Finance Committee report that the promises of guarantees are very satisfactory; and bearing in mind that several members of the Society have still to be approached, they have little doubt that the requisite amount will be forthcoming. The list of guarantors is strictly confined to members of the Manchester Society; but to enable Philatelists outside who take an interest in the success of the Exhibition to participate, it is intended to form a subscription list, particulars of which will appear shortly.

All communications are to be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Fred H. Gibson, at the Exhibition Offices, No. 2, Cooper Street, Manchester.



### BECAUSE RUSSIA LACKS A POPULAR POSTAL SYSTEM.

AN interesting extract from Mr. Seton Merriman's successful novel, "The Sowers":—

The whole country [Russia] is a volcano which may break forth at any moment. But the control is strong and therefore there is never a large eruption—a grumble here, a gleam of fire there, a sullen heat everywhere! But it is held in check by the impossibility of communication. It seems strange, but Russia stands because she has no penny postage. The great crash will come, not by force of arms, but by ways of peace. The signal will be a postal system: the standard of revolution will be a postage stamp.

### A TURKISH SURCHARGE ON GERMAN STAMPS.

IN connection with the German Emperor's trip to the Holy Land, it is stated, a German Post Office has been opened at Jaffa, whence there will be in future a direct postal service to the Fatherland. The German stamps used at Jaffa will be given a surcharge in black, which, according to the *Timbrophile Poitevin*, will indicate their value in Turkish characters.

### TRADING STAMPS AT BIRMINGHAM.

WE have made various references to the American institution known as "Trading Stamps," which has recently become acclimatised in this country. It is worth noting that a Birmingham jury have awarded Herbert Wells Baird, trading as the Free Stamp Company, one farthing damages in an action which he brought against Frank Pryne, grocer, to recover £6 for breach of contract. The case revealed some of the inner mysteries of what is known as the "free-stamp system" of trading. Baird's principle was to supply books of perforated stamps to shopkeepers, which they paid for at the rate of half-a-crown per 100, the shopkeepers presenting these stamps to their customers. One stamp was given to a customer who purchased sixpence worth of goods, two in respect of a shilling purchase, and so on. These stamps the customer could take to Baird's shop and exchange for articles of jewellery, furniture, &c. In June defendant entered into an agreement with plaintiff to carry on a stamp system for a year. After a month, however, defendant refused to issue any more stamps. Plaintiff, in examination, said that among the things they had at the shop where the stamps were redeemed was a bicycle. To get that bicycle a person would have to bring 9000 stamps. The cost of the bicycle was £6, while the value of the stamps necessary to get the bicycle was £12 10s. The difference between these sums was Baird's profit.

### THOSE CONGO PHILATELIC VILLAGES AGAIN.

M. LE CHANOINE DE ROY, the head of the Seminary at Liège, has issued a statement as to the marvellous results obtained by the collection of old postage stamps for charitable purposes. Since the movement was started seven years ago 300,000,000 stamps have been collected, which realised 50,000fr. With a portion of this sum the Belgian Missionaries have been able to establish and thoroughly organise five Christian villages on the Congo. The collection of stamps is to be continued, and the proceeds will be devoted to erecting a Cathedral at Leopoldville, in the Congo Free State.

### ANOTHER AMERICAN STAMP SWINDLER.

GUSTAVUS KOHN, arrested on Saturday, October 8th, on a charge of using the United States mails for illegal purposes, was brought before Commissioner Graves at Detroit, on the Monday following. He entered a plea of not guilty, and his examination was postponed for one week.

It is said that Kohn and two or three other persons have conspired to defraud various American stamp-dealing firms. Their scheme was exposed by the *Virginia Philatelist* for August, which printed one of Kohn's letters ordering stamps. It seems that Kohn would send for a price list of stamps, and then in course of time order a small lot. These would be sent by registered letter and he would sign the receipts. Later letters of enquiry to him were unanswered. His Detroit address was 333, Michigan Avenue. Many complaints have been received at the Detroit post office from Philadelphia and Cincinnati concerning him during the past few months.

### PHILATELIC TAXATION IN INDIA.

THE following letter has been addressed by the President of the Philatelic Society of India, to the Secretary to the Government of India, Finance and Commerce Department, Simla, under date, Simla, the 23rd September, 1898.

SIR,—I am directed by my Society to ask the attention of the Government of India to the Customs duty at present levied on postage and other stamps imported into India for the purpose of sale to stamp collectors, with a view to its being abolished.

2. As you are aware, the collection of postage and other stamps is a hobby which has been popular for 50 years or more. It finds its devotees in all classes of society and among persons of all ages. It is only very exceptionally taken up as a means of investment or profit. Its own interest keep the pursuit alive.

3. The centres of philately being mainly in London, New York, Leipzig and Paris, it follows that stamp collectors in this country are obliged, if they are to keep up with the times, to largely import stamps from these and other places abroad. If this were all, however, there would be but little reason for complaint against an impost of only 5 per cent. on the actual value of stamps thus obtained. But the peculiar circumstances of philately are such that, for every stamp kept, it is often necessary to see 50 to 100. The duty, however, is not levied on the stamps kept, but on the stamps imported. To take a concrete case. A has stamps sent to him worth £100. He retains stamps worth £3 and returns the rest. His £3 worth cost him £8, i.e., £3 plus £5 Customs duty. No drawback is granted, nor indeed is it easy to see how this could be done when once the stamps have left the hands of the Customs authorities.

4. There is also a very serious difficulty in assessing the real value of such stamps. Their market price fluctuates considerably. If a few dozen copies of a rare stamp are found, the price of this stamp falls very greatly. Our standard catalogues, too, are full of mistakes, and being productions of the trade, are not always free from intentional errors inserted, no doubt, with the intention of giving an exaggerated idea of the value of stamps, a large stock of which is held by the firm issuing the catalogue. It not unfrequently happens that stamps can be had at half, or even less than half, the prices in the so-called standard catalogues. In addition to this it has to be remembered that a very slight difference of shade, a slightly different perforation, a water-mark, or the difference of a few lines in the design of a stamp—all of which points are visible to an expert only—very often make all the difference in the world between the prices of two apparently exactly similar stamps.

5. If any fair appraisalment of the real value of such consignments of stamps is to be made, it follows that there must be some check on the part of the Customs authorities on the prices entered by the senders. Were this not so, seller and buyer could easily enter into collusion to defraud the Government. But, unless Government are prepared to appoint highly expert philatelists as appraisers, the only means at hand for checking the real value are in these catalogues. As I have endeavoured to show, this evidence is, to a large extent, worthless and difficult to use without some philatelic knowledge, and the application of such a check may result in 10 per cent. or more being levied on the actual value of stamp imported. Thus, in the illustration given in paragraph 3, it is quite possible that the appraiser might value the stamps at £200 and that the unfortunate importer would have to pay £13 for the £3 worth of stamps kept by him. I wish it to be understood that this instance is not an exaggerated one in any way.

6. I do not wish to enlarge further. But I would point out that numismatists are already freed from the payment of Customs duty. (Old coins are not thus taxed.) The circumstances of the two cases seem to us to be very similar, and it would seem to be only fair that philately should be treated in the same way as numismatics.

7. In conclusion, I would point out that the actual revenue gained by the Government by keeping up this prohibitive Customs duty on our hobby must be very small indeed. So long as this duty exists, collectors dare not, except in very exceptional cases, ask for consignments to be sent on inspection. When they are sent for, no doubt precautions are taken to evade the payment of the duty, and this, as long as inquisitorial measures are not taken, is easily done. We believe that this consideration, along with the arguments advanced above, is what induced the Government of the United States of America recently to abolish this tax. So far as we are aware, no other country imposes Customs duty on stamps.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

C. STEWART-WILSON.

The issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, from which we glean the text of the above letter, also contains the following communication, addressed to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal by the Assistant Secretary to the Finance

and Commerce Department of the Government of India:—

In continuation of the letter from this Department, No. 5316, S.R., dated the 9th December, 1897, I am directed to say that the Government of India have decided to permit, on the conditions mentioned in that letter, the refund of the customs duty leviable on collections of postage stamps intended for the Philatelic Exhibition, which is to be held in Calcutta in December, 1898.

This, it may be hoped, is the "thin end of the wedge" of the ultimate freedom of Indian philatelists from an obnoxious and unfair taxation.

#### SOME OF OUR AMERICAN CONTEMPORARIES.

A WONDERFULLY well produced journal is the *Virginian Philatelist*, hailing from the old Confederate capital of Richmond, Va. Well and artistically printed on good paper, the *V. P.* reflects infinite credit on Mr. Aug. Dietz, its editor, Mr. Franklin Stearns, its business manager, and also on the Virginia Philatelic Association, whose official organ it is. The journal shows commendable courage in attending to the stamps of Paraguay and other countries that have been much neglected by writers and collectors.

That strangely-named production, the *Peforator*, has grown very fat and important-looking, owing to its absorption of Mr. C. W. Kissinger's paper, the *Pennsylvania Philatelist*. One regrets to note that the old Kissinger influence is still alive, the paper being rich in puffs and personalities.

Mr. Royal Bennett Bradley is to be congratulated warmly on his *Lone Star State Philatelist* (Waco, Texas). Instead of being filled with personal notices of the various young gentlemen who may be offering themselves as candidates for this or for that, Mr. Bradley's journal makes an honest attempt to provide good articles about stamps, which, when you come to think of it, should be the aim of every philatelic journal. Short papers on Italy, Switzerland and Confederate States make the August issue of the *Lone Star State Philatelist* quite an acceptable addition to any philatelic library.

There has lately been a very great sameness about the *American Journal of Philately*, owing to the abundance of matter relating to U.S. stamps. Doubtless this is just the kind of matter that American collectors need, but the *A. J. P.'s* subscription list is, we should imagine, a world-wide affair.

The *Post Office* is still the *Post Office*, despite the complete change of ownership and editorship. Messrs. J. C. Morgenthau & Co., of New York, are doing their best to maintain the honoured traditions of the late Henry Gremmel's journal.

*Mekel's Weekly*, the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, and the *Weekly Philatelic Era*—these three; and the greatest of these is— which you please. All three of them cover themselves with ignominy by placing advertisements among reading matter; but apart from this serious defect, the three American weekly papers are doing excellent work, and probably the much-catered-for American Philatelist would find it a difficult matter now to worry about without them. The *Metropolitan*, especially, has distinguished itself for smart reportorial work in connection with the American Philatelic Association's annual convention.

#### STAMPS THAT STICK TOGETHER.

In hot weather, or if kept in a damp place, one's unused stamps are apt to form themselves into pairs—back to back pairs—and how to get them apart is a question that has bothered many a philatelist. In the latest issue of *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*—a capital number of a capital paper—the experience of Mr. J. Rausch, of Napal, California, is given. Mr. Rausch deals with his too-adhesive stamps in this way. He takes the corners of the stamps where the two specimens are apt to be slightly apart, and blows warm breath between them. This gradually softens the gum, until, with the exercise of care and patience, the stamps may be wholly separated without injury to the specimens or gum.

#### ONE EFFECT OF INDIA'S NEW POSTAL RULES.

THE little journal, *Stamps*, issued by Mr. B. Gordon Jones, of Calcutta and Darjeeling, has, up till now, been sent gratis to all and sundry. One of the new postal rules in India changes all that, as Mr. Jones explains in his issue of September 15th:

The new postal rules for "privileged newspapers" come into force from the 1st October. One of the principal conditions is, that newspapers to secure the half rates "must have a *bona fide* list of subscribers." We had intended to continue the publication of *Stamps* gratis as hitherto; but if we do so, the enhanced rate of post-mean age will a considerable loss to us monthly. We are therefore compelled to introduce a nominal rate of subscription. The amount is fixed at the extremely low rate of 12 annas per annum, post free.

#### MR HENRY CALMAN ON THE OUTLOOK.

MR. HENRY L. CALMAN, the Lead of the well-known Scott Stamp & Coin Co. of New York, has recently been visiting London and (says the *London Philatelist*) he states that, now that the war is over, he believes there will be a marked Philatelic revival in the United States, all the present appearances pointing to brisk conditions of trade. Mr. Calman says that the stamps of Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines are in great request just now in America, and are evidently to be "boomed."

#### THESE U.S.A.S ARE NOT ON LAID PAPER.

MESSEURS. MORGENTHAU & CO., of New York, do not believe in the recent discoveries of current U.S.A. stamps on laid paper. They write in the *Post Office*:

"We have lately had submitted to us what purported to be the current one-cent green on laid paper. The stamp certainly had a ribbed appearance, but the piece of marginal paper which was left attached to the stamp was certainly wove paper, pure and simple, and the laid appearance of the paper on which the stamp itself was printed, was undoubtedly due to something in the process of printing the sheet. We have also seen a pair of the current 4-cent stamps on a paper of similar appearance, but we should not hesitate to pronounce the paper in both cases as *wove*."

#### THE CASEY PHILATELIC LIBRARY AT AUCTION.

MR. JOSEPH J. CASEY has long been an enthusiastic collector of philatelic literature, and now we glean from the American stamp journals that his library is to be "auctioned." Mr. Casey made a point of binding all his philatelic books sumptuously—indeed, four dollars per volume is mentioned by Mr. J. W. Scott as being approximately the cost of the bindings. The J. W. Scott Company will offer the library at an early sale during the present season.

#### STRAY JOTTINGS.

WE recently announced the death of the Dum Dum Stamp Club, once a most useful Indian philatelic society. We are now happy to announce its resuscitation, with Major du Moulin again at the helm. The *Philatelic Journal of India*, the source of this information, also speaks of the inauguration of a strong Exchange Club in Western India.

MR. WETHERALL, a member of the Philatelic Society of India, warns philatelists against the Hyderabad envelopes sold by a firm called Phillips & Co., Aurangabad. He ordered three dozen and got them. They were beautifully adorned with the Aurangabad registration and date stamp, although they had not even an address on them!

MR. FORBIS, of Paris, has been on a bargain-hunting expedition to London. He has shown our publishers many startling results of his tour around the metropolitan stamp shops, proving to us that the stranger in this village sometimes "gets there" more effectually than the native.

OWING to the assassination of the Empress of Austria, the projected Regensburg Exhibition, referred to in a previous FORTNIGHTLY, has been postponed to May, 1899.

THE fiscal boom grows. The *Bazaar's* latest "Philatelic Supplement" has an interesting article on the subject, remarkably well illustrated.

THE gentleman who has sent us a long, unsigned statement to the effect that the French at Fashoda, have issued a provisional stamp, is invited to call at 64, Cheapside for a little chat with our new sub-editor. Our new sub-editor, by the way is six feet four inches, and weighs about 257lbs.

### 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."

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 12, 1898.



We make no apology for inserting in a prominent position in this number a fairly exhaustive report of a case tried in Vienna, affecting the responsibility of experts. *Prima facie*, the article is one that has nothing whatever to do with Philately; but substitute "stamp" for "emerald" and you get at once a pronouncement which should be of great interest and possibly value to the philatelic community. The precise position of the expert in connection with any trade, profession, or hobby, is a question on which more light is urgently needed; and any contribution, especially in the shape of a pronouncement by a high legal tribunal, is most welcome.

THE burning question of the day—whether the new catalogues will show rises or falls—is thus dismissed by our contemporary, *Stamps*:

For some time past Dame Rumour has been busy prophesying that the new Gibbons' Catalogue (which is expected in the spring of next year) will be notable for its extraordinary reduction in prices. In fact, pessimists declare that every country and colony, almost without exception, will show at least a 50 per cent. reduction off the prices in the 1897 edition. We do not know upon what information the pessimists found their prediction, but if the rumours which come Rushden way are to be relied upon, those particular pessimists will have a remarkable awakening. Instead of an all round lowering of prices, we believe the new catalogue will show a startling advance, especially in the stamps of some of the West African Colonies, and in unused and superb used stamps of Australasia. Whatever reductions are made it must be remembered that Gibbons' rates are always *net.*, so that even the reduced prices should have the effect of sending up market rates for really good stamps. We believe that collectors of British West African stamps will be wise in completing their sets as far as possible *before* the new catalogue appears, as the surprises in store will show how scarce many African stamps really are. Only a large firm like Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., can correctly gauge the values of stamps, for in keeping up their stock books they naturally find out which stamps are most difficult to obtain.

We say ??? to that last assertion, and on the question of the "remarkable awakening" that awaits the so-called "pessimists" we have only to remark that there will certainly be—an awakening. The "tip" given in the above article to buy West Africans before the rise looks very like

an "inspiration" by some large holder of these stamps. We do not wish to impugn the good faith of the Editor of *Stamps*, but we would like to suggest, in the friendliest possible manner, that various of our contemporaries would do well to abjure contributors who write, not for money, but for wire-pulling purposes. These gentlemen know better than to come to the offices of the FORTNIGHTLY with their specious taradiddles.

We express no opinion here as to the probable course of auction prices, but we earnestly advise our readers not to be led into making rash purchases by promises of catalogue increases.

\* \* \*

As originally arranged, the unique Competition now in progress in connection with the FORTNIGHTLY was to have terminated in time to

Our Competition. permit of the result being inserted in our Christmas Number. We find, however, that the time allotted leaves some of our Colonial readers only a slender chance of a good showing in the result. It is our earnest desire that all should have a fair field and no favour, and we feel sure that this is the wish of every reader of the FORTNIGHTLY also. We have decided, therefore, to give a little more time for late letters from the colonies to arrive, and shall postpone publication of the result of the Competition until our issue dated January 8th, 1899.

Otherwise the conditions of the Competition will remain in every respect unaltered.

### Notes on New Issues.

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

#### A NEW HUNGARIAN WATERMARK.

A NEW watermark has been introduced in Hungary, says the *Monthly Journal*. Instead of interlaced ovals (34 × 39mm.), with the letters "kr." in the centre, we find ovals, 44 × 48mm., overlapping to a smaller extent, and with the Hungarian Crown in the centre. It seems to take a block of six stamps, two horizontal rows of three, to show the new watermark; the old one might come into a block of four. The specimens before us show the watermark sideways in both cases.

We have received the following values with the new watermark; all except the 1kr. orange, have the figures in black:—

Adhesives.	1 (kr.)	black.
	3	green.
	5	rose.
	10	blue.
	20	grey.
	24	puce and red.
	30	olive-green and brown.

Newspaper Stamp. 1 (kr.) orange; imperf.

#### THE STAMPS OF DHAR.

FROM the *Philatelic Journal of India*, the *Monthly Journal*, and other sources, we gather that this State has abandoned the type-set device hitherto in use in favour of a lithographed design of a far more pretentious nature. The illustration given in the *P. J. I.* shows an elaborate Coat of Arms, with Elephants rampant for supporters, within an oval band, inscribed "DHAR STATE POSTAGE" above, and with value in words below, surrounded by a rectangular frame with native inscriptions at top and bottom. Only one value of the adhesives has been seen at present, but there are also a ½a. envelope (square shape, laid paper), and a ½a. post card (face lilac and black cream), with impressions of a similar stamp. The inscriptions on the card are "Dhar State Post Card," and "The address only to be written on this side," in English and in Hindi.

Adhesive.	½a.,	carmine; <i>fin. perf.</i> 11½.
Envelope.	½a.,	ultramarine on laid; 120 × 95 mm.
Post Card.	½a.,	purple on lilac; 121 × 75 mm.

## Responsibility of Experts.

LIGHT ON THIS SUBJECT IS PROVIDED BY A  
NON-PHILATELIC CASE.

A VERY big case has recently been decided in the Vienna High Courts in which the responsibility of experts was clearly laid down. As the case went before the highest tribunal we have deemed it well to give at least the outline of the same, as reported in the *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung*.

A gentleman calling himself a dealer in jewels from Salonica, accompanied by an interpreter from a well known Vienna firm, offered an emerald of magnificent size and beauty to a firm of jewellers. The emerald was set in quite a modern fashion and the firm of jewellers were willing to purchase same for £400, if the genuineness of the stone were confirmed by the greatest expert in Vienna, Mr. F. S. Thereupon the Oriental and his interpreter called upon Mr. F. S., who declared the stone to be genuine and charged 10/- for a written certificate, upon which Messrs. Schwarz and Steiner, the firm of jewellers in question, purchased the stone; only to discover after a few days on removing the setting that the stone consisted of two pieces, the top being a genuine emerald and the lower part a forgery—most likely a plain crystal. They thereupon sued the expert for the amount of £360, valuing the faked stone and setting at about £40.

They declared in their statement of claim that the expert had made a mistake in deciding the degree of hardness and also accused him of negligence in not having removed the stone from the setting. In his reply however the defendant stated that plaintiffs were experts themselves, that he had no right to remove the stone from the setting, and finally suggested that the stone produced now might not be the stone examined by him.

The experts in court declared among others that if genuine this stone would be worth about £2,500. The genuineness of an emerald would be ascertained by testing its hardness on the polishing disc; moreover the expert had no right to remove the stone from its setting, and on taking the stone to pieces they declared them to be two pieces of crystal with a pigment of colour in between. In its judgment the court decided against the expert for half the amount and half the cost, because the expert had made a mistake in deciding the hardness of the stone, but on the other hand the plaintiffs ought to have removed the stone from the setting before handing it over to the expert.

The question would arise whether the 10/- expert fee was asked before giving a decision or not. On the question of identity, no suspicion arose so far as the evidence went, but the plaintiffs ought to have thought of a forgery when an unknown jeweller offered them a stone worth £2,500 for £400, i.e. a sixth part of its proper value; they should not have sent the seller to the expert without a representative of their firm being present and on these last two points they lost half the amount claimed.

Both appealed and the Judge of the Court of Appeal decided that the plaintiffs had failed to make out their case and therefore ought to pay the cost of the whole proceedings. The judgment was founded upon the following points:

- (a) There was no doubt that the defendant was a well-known expert and no evidence was before the Court that he was negligent in the exercise of his duty.
- (b) If the plaintiffs chose to buy a stone for the 6th part of its proper value and permitted the seller to leave the country before taking the stone from the setting, they had not exercised due caution and ran their own risk, which could not possibly be transferred to the defendant, who had no knowledge of the character of the seller nor was he present when the contract was made, although his written opinion might have induced the plaintiffs to make the purchase.

The plaintiffs were not satisfied with this adverse verdict and now appealed to the highest Court in Vienna (which is equal to our House of Lords) which confirmed the judgment of the Appeal Court, adding to the verdict that the plaintiffs' firm ought to have proved that the expert in examining the stone had been negligent; this was not proved nor was it

proved to the satisfaction of the Court that the stone had not been changed after being examined by the expert; as therefore the identity was not clear the plaintiffs would fail in their action.

This decision should be of very great interest to all experts of stamps who often might be placed in a precisely similar position. Needless to say, from the stamp expert's point of view, the decision is highly gratifying. It would be hardly a satisfactory state of affairs if an expert examining stamps at 6d. a piece should run the risk of being mulcted at any time in damages to the value of some hundreds of pounds. It would simply come to this, that no expert would give any opinion if he ran that risk.

## New Philatelic Publications.

ALBUM OF THE REVENUE STAMPS OF THE BRITISH COLONIES;  
*Vol. I. Antigua to India; Price 12s. 6d.; Published by Walter Morley, 15, Bronnhill Gardens, Hather Green, London, S.E.*

MR. MORLEY is to be warmly congratulated on this excellent album, which both as a philatelic work, and as album pure and simple, fulfils all one's expectations and requirements. The book is a large quarto, being as near as possible the size of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Imperial Albums. No collector need be at a loss as to how to arrange his Revenue collection with an album such as this available. The arrangement is simple, clear, and exceedingly neat.

As in postal collecting, so in regard to Revenues, there is great disproportion as to the numbers of stamps issued by the respective colonies. Ceylon, in this album of Mr. Morley's, bulks large, occupying no less than 36 pages, whereas some larger colonies are as dwarfs in their output of revenue labels.

We can cordially recommend Mr. Walter Morley's album to the Revenue collector. FORTNIGHTLY readers who desire to do so can secure copies from our publishers, Messrs. Harry Hildes & Co., Limited, 64, Cheapside, E.C.

\* \* \*

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S "A.B.C." Catalogue, third edition;  
*Now in preparation by Messrs. Bright and Son, Bournemouth.*

Messrs Bright and Son, have sent us advance proofs of the first pages of their forthcoming Third "A.B.C." Catalogue. These advance pages include Great Britain and from Abyssinia to Belgium. Judging from this advance section the new edition will in all respects maintain the excellent reputation the "A.B.C." Catalogue has achieved. There is marked improvement in the illustrations, which now leave only one thing to be desired—uniformity as to size, or at any rate some fixed proportion to the actual size of the stamp.

And prices? That is the point which will excite the most widespread curiosity in connection with each catalogue issued in the near future. It would, however, scarcely be reliable, or even fair to Messrs. Bright, to indulge in any generalities as to the prices in their "Third "A.B.C." on the strength of the small proportion of the book we have seen thus far.

CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST OF BRITISH RAILWAY LETTER-FEE STAMPS; *price 6d.; published by Walter Morley, Hather Green.*

REFERENCE LIST OF RAILWAY LETTER POST STAMPS; PRICE ONE SHILLING; *compiled and published by H. L'Estrange Ewen, Norwood.*

The first of the two pamphlets named above was in our hands early in October; the second has reached us within the past fortnight. Although both treat of the same subject they are in fact quite dissimilar, Mr. Morley's publication being a priced list of these interesting stamps and Mr. L'Estrange Ewen's a handy guide to the same, without prices. The student of the British Railway Letter Fee Stamps will find something of value in each of these books, and our advice is that he purchase both.

## That Early Bermudan Stamp.

AN INVESTIGATION BY MR. E. D. BACON.

WITH regard to the much-talked-of Bermuda stamp of 1849-55 (concerning which an illustrated article appeared in a recent number of the FORTNIGHTLY), Mr. E. D. Bacon contributes to the October *Monthly Journal* the results of a searching investigation he has made into the question of the stamp's *bona fides*.

Mr. Bacon is inclined to regard the stamp as genuinely intended and used to prepay postage.

Approaching the subject in the spirit of thoroughness, characteristic of the true scientific philatelist, Mr. Bacon closely examines the postal arrangements of the islands of Bermuda. In the period affected by the question he finds two Acts, dated respectively 1846 and 1848. The earliest of these was not the first to establish an inland post in the islands; it merely extended and developed the system already in existence.

Mr. Bacon refers to Major Evans' theory that the stamp which has been illustrated in the *Monthly Journal*, the FORTNIGHTLY, and other papers was, at the best, a mark to denote postage due. At first Mr. Bacon was also of that opinion, but he has seen cause to change his views. To summarise his investigations: he finds that the stamp in question is simply the acknowledged Bermuda Postmark of the period with the day and month plugs removed, and he naturally regards it as unfeasible that Mr. Perot, the Postmaster, should go to this trouble in order to get a postage due stamp, when he could quite easily have adopted the system of the mother country by scribbling on the wrapper "id. to pay."

On the other hand (to quote Mr. Bacon):

I see no reason why Mr. Perot should not have issued the labels as adhesive stamps for the convenience of those of his customers who cared to purchase them. He must have been well acquainted with adhesive stamps; and, considering the position the Bermuda Islands occupy as regards the United States, it is not stretching the imagination very far if we suppose he may have seen one or more of the early Postmaster's stamps of the latter country, some of which are not unlike his own label.

Summing up, Mr. Bacon writes:

I entered upon this investigation with the opinion that the label was a postmark of the postage due order, and my researches were made with the object of establishing this as a fact beyond dispute. It will, however, be seen from the remarks I have made that I have been led to entirely change my belief. I am now persuaded that it is a genuine postage stamp of a very interesting, if not unique, class; and I believe that the information contained in the letter of the present postmaster of Bermuda will eventually be proved to be entirely correct. Looking at the number of years the stamp was in use—from 1849 to 1855, and the period may have been even longer than this—it can hardly be called a provisional, but it was essentially of a local nature, inasmuch as it could only be used on inland correspondence forwarded from Hamilton. In a word, it seems to correspond exactly in character with the Government Postmaster's stamps of the United States. Whether Major Evans or Mons. J. B. Moens, or both these gentlemen, will likewise be led to change their opinion after reading this paper remains to be seen; but I shall certainly await to see what conclusion they come to with singular curiosity.

### AN IMPORTANT POSTSCRIPT.

To this article Mr. Bacon appends two postscripts, and the second of these is as important as the typical post-script of the typical young lady letter-writer:

POSTSCRIPT.—This paper was written and completed in the above form within a month after the original article appeared in the July number of the *Monthly Journal*, but was held over for reading at the first meeting of the London Philatelic Society's new season in October. In the September number of the magazine named, some further letters have been published which support the theory that the label is a *bona fide* postage stamp in every way.

SECOND POSTSCRIPT.—Since reading the paper before the Philatelic Society I have discovered that "An Act in furtherance of arrangements for establishing uniform Rates of Postage between Great Britain and the Colonies" was passed in the year 1853, Sec.

I. of which reads as follows:—"It is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of the same, That from and after the commencement of this Act, so much of the Twentieth and Twenty-second Sections of the Act of the Legislature of these Islands passed in the Year One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Forty-six, intitled 'An Act relating to the Post Offices'—as allows any Inland Postage upon the transmission by Post, by any one Post Office in the Islands to any other Post Office in these Islands, of any Letter intended to be forwarded from these Islands to any part of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; or as allows any Inland Postage upon any Book, Parliamentary Paper, or Document, or any Magazine, Pamphlet, Review, or Parcel of Patterns arriving at these Islands by any Ship or Vessel, and passed through any Post Office in these Islands—shall be and the same hereby is repealed."

This Act abolished all inland postage on letters, magazines, &c., coming from, or going abroad, so that after it became law there was absolutely no class of correspondence on which inland postage had not to be prepaid. I think I can now claim to have proved that the label could not be a postmark of the postage due order, and therefore if not a postage stamp, what was it?

## Stamps Worth "Full Catalogue."

SECOND SERIES. BY WILLARD O. WYLLIE.

FROM Mr. Gardner R. Kennedy, Mr. Willard O. Wyllie, of the *Boston Stamp Book*, has obtained this supplementary list of "Stamps Worth 'Full Catalogue'":

- Argentine Republic, 1878, 16c. green.
- Austria, 1858-9, 2kr. yellow; 1861, 2kr. yellow, 3kr. green; 1854, 2kr. yellow, 3kr. green.
- Belgium, 1883, 25c. blue: newspaper, 1863, 1c. green.
- Brazil, 1878, 80 reis lake.
- Bulgaria, unpaid letter, 1884, 50s. blue; 1886, 50s. blue.
- Chili, 1867, 2c. black; 1877, 2c. orange.
- Danish West Indies, 1873-96, 7c. lilac and orange, 12c. green and lilac.
- Denmark, 1864-6, 3sk. violet; 1870, 3s. lilac and gray, 16s. green and gray, 5s. carmine and blue, and 100s. orange and gray.
- Egypt, 1879-82, 10pa. pink, 10pa. lilac.
- France, 1870-71, 10c. bistre on yellowish; 1876, type I., 1c., 4c. and 10c. green on greenish; 1877-78, 5 francs violet.
- Haiti, 1881, 3c. bistre.
- Iceland, 1882-92, 40 aur violet.
- Mauritius, 1860-62, 1sh green; 1865-72, 1sh blue.

And from Howard K. Sanderson, of Lynn, Mass., comes the following list:—

- British Columbia, 1868, 1 dollar green, perf. 14.
- Bavaria, 6kr. broken circle.
- Belgium, any first issue, watermarked.
- Lagos, 1885-6, 2d. grey.
- England, 12 pia, Levant.
- Netherlands, 1891-4, 1 gulden lilac.
- Persia, 1881, 25c. green.
- Russia, 1868-79, 3kr deep green and black.
- Tobago, 1880, ½d. brown violet, 1d. brown.
- Dutch Indies, 1864, 10c. carmine; 1868, 10c. carmine.

It is to be noted that these lists include some few stamps comprised in Mr. Wyllie's first list, already published in the FORTNIGHTLY.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Nov. 26th, 1898.

#### London Auctions.

- Nov. 14th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 5.30 p.m. precisely.
- Nov. 15th and 16th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. precisely.
- Nov. 22nd and 23rd.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., each day precisely.
- Nov. 24th and 25th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

#### Provincial Auctions.

- Nov. 16th.—Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at Grand Hotel, Birmingham, at 6 p.m.

# Our Review of Reviews.

"Me too, I" says Mr. M. P. Castle.

THE Editor of the *London Philatelist* has been impressed by the suspension of the *Stamp Auction Reporter* and the discontinuance of the FORTNIGHTLY'S "Auction Supplements," and, finding that his sentiments on the subject of auction prices—present day auction prices, that is to say—are in harmony with those expressed in the FORTNIGHTLY, Mr. Castle has decided, and wisely decided, to omit from future issues of his journal even the very sparse and scrappy auction chronicles he has hitherto provided. And thus runs his explanation:—

As auctions became more frequent in their occurrence there was a decided tendency to entrust the bids to agents, and to remain content with noting the result in the published lists of prices realized. During the last three years, however, the number of auctions held has not only enormously increased, but in the aggregate, and perhaps as a natural result, the general quality has distinctly deteriorated. The publication of excerpts from the auction lots, with the prices attained, has for both these reasons become increasingly difficult. During the past season the number of prices quoted in the *London Philatelist* was materially reduced, and we have now decided to entirely omit any stereotyped tables of the values realized. We have not taken this step without due consideration and respect for the wishes of the several parties concerned, and we are confident that in the best interests of the auctioneer, the dealer, and the collector, the withdrawal of these price lists is eminently desirable.

In taking this step it must clearly be understood that it is conceived in no spirit of opposition to the auctions, which we and all collectors welcome—especially under the able guidance of the leading houses—as being of the greatest value and interest to Philatelists in general. Where the collector has been enabled to personally inspect the lots perhaps not much harm is done, but when the description alone is relied upon, the value realized is frequently most misleading. Stamps, in a small way, are like other goods that auctioneers dispose of, e.g., houses or horses or furniture, any of which articles would be unsafe to bid for from catalogue description only.

## COLLECTIBLE VARIETIES OF "SYDNEY VIEWS."

What should prove to be a most valuable contribution to the Philatelic literature of Oceania is Mr. Castle's article on the above subject in the same issue of the *London Society's* organ. Mr. Castle lays stress upon the necessity for absolute completeness in such a section of Philately as the Sydney Views, and as a stimulus to effort he mentions that "the horizon of completeness in these stamps is bounded by the acquisition of about one hundred specimens." Then follows this "Synopsis of Shades and Papers"—an excellent instance of Mr. Castle's thoroughness in philatelic work.

### 1d. Plate I.

- A. *Paper—soft, yellowish wove.*  
Pale carmine-red. Full carmine-red. Lake-red (shades).  
Bright brick-red. Bright brownish red. Dull lake. Rose to pink. Brownish red.
- B. *Paper—hard, closely ribbed, bluish to almost white.*  
Dull brownish red. Lake-red. Dull pink.
- C. *Paper—hard, bluish.*  
Dull pink (shades). Reddish pink. Brownish red.  
Bright red (the only specimen I have seen of this value).

### 1d. Plate II.

- A. *Paper—hard, yellowish.*  
Vermilion. Bright red. Orange-vermilion. Brownish red.
- B. *Paper—hard, bluish.*  
Crimson-lake. Brownish lake.
- C. *Paper—blued on both sides.*  
Dull pink. Dull brownish pink.
- D. *Paper—hard, dull greyish.*  
Rich lake (generally known by the expression "gooseberry," which faithfully represents the shade).
- E. *Paper—grey.*  
Dull red. Dull brownish red.

- F. *Paper—bluish to yellowish, laid (or ribbed) horizontally.*  
Deep crimson. Crimson-lake. Warm brownish red. Dark red. Bright red.

### 2d. Plate I.

- Paper—soft, medium, thick, and yellowish.*  
*Early impressions (showing full details, etc.).*  
Greyish blue. Pale blue. Indigo-blue. Violet-blue.  
Prussian blue (very rarely seen in this condition of plate).
- As preceding, but plate more worn.*  
Dull blue. Greyish blue (pale to full). Prussian blue.
- The later worn specimens also include:—*  
Dark greyish blue. Light blue. Blue. Prussian blue.

### 2d. Plate I. (retouch).

- Paper— as last.*  
Pale blue. Milky blue. Prussian blue. Blue.

### 2d. Plate II.

- Paper— as last.*  
*Early impressions showing full clouds and details.*  
Pale milky blue. Pale blue. Deep chalky blue. Bright blue.  
Dark blue. Prussian blue.
- As preceding, but more yellowish.*  
Blue. Blue-violet (light to dark).
- As preceding, but with plate gradually becoming more worn.*  
(a) Dull blue. Bright blue. Prussian blue.
- Paper—hard (occasionally showing narrow vertical ribbing).*  
(b) Dull blue. Bright blue. Prussian blue.

### 2d. Plate III.

- A. *Paper—hard and greyish.*  
Ultramarine (this is a very scarce variety, and I do not remember seeing a specimen other than in my own collection).  
Lilac-blue. Pale to full blue (shades).
- B. *Paper—rather harder; and impressions showing less distinctly.*  
Deep bright blue. Deep lilac-blue.

### 2d. Plate III. (first retouch).

- Paper—hard, blue to grey.*  
Dark slaty blue. Rich dark blue. Prussian blue. Deep ultramarine. Violet-blue.
- Paper—laid (or ribbed) vertically, and yellowish.*  
Dullish blue (shades).

### 2d. Plate III. (second retouch).

- Paper—hard, grey.*  
Violet-blue (shades), as last.
- Paper—laid (or ribbed) vertically.*  
Violet-blue (shades).

### 3d.

- Paper—hard, bluish.*  
Bright green. Dull green. Apple-green. Full green.  
Brownish green.
- Paper—soft, yellowish wove.*  
Slightly bluish green. Green. Deep apple-green. Myrtle-green (shades). (Rare.)
- Paper—soft, bluish to greyish.*  
Emerald-green. Dull brownish green. Pale green.
- Paper—horizontally laid (or ribbed).*  
Yellowish green. Dull green.
- Paper— as last but bluish.*  
Pale yellowish green. (Extremely rare; only one or two copies known.)

## Our Advertisement Rates.

PAGES OF TWO COLUMNS.			
<i>For One Insertion—</i>	£ s. d.	<i>For Six Insertions—</i>	£ s. d.
Whole Page ... ..	5 0 0	Whole Page ... per ins.	4 0 0
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Quarter Page ... ..	1 10 0	Quarter Page ... ..	1 5 0
One-Eighth Page ... ..	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page ... ..	0 12 6
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Half Column ... ..	0 12 0	Half Column ... ..	0 15 0
Quarter Column ... ..	0 10 0	Quarter Column ... ..	0 8 6
One Inch ... ..	0 5 0	One Inch ... ..	0 3 6

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At the request of many readers who missed the initial announcements of this Competition, we repeat the Conditions, List of Prizes, &c., as follows:—

## OUR GREAT PRIZE SCHEME.

WE are desirous of distributing the following handsome Cash and other Prizes among those who are willing to go to a little trouble—a very little trouble—in helping us to increase the circulation of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY:

1st Prize £20 in cash.		3rd Prize £1 in cash.
2nd „ £5 „		4th „ £1 „
5th Prize £1 in cash.		

	£	s.	d.
Prize No. 6, an "International" Album published at	1	5	0
„ No. 7, „ „ „ „	0	17	6
„ No. 8, „ „ „ „	0	15	0
Prizes Nos. 9, 10, and 11, three "Internationals" at 5/-	0	15	0

Also upwards of ninety other prizes, including valuable Stamp Albums, volumes of the FORTNIGHTLY, Packets and Sets of Stamps, Accessories, &c., &c. A prize guaranteed to every competitor, provided certain simple conditions are carried out.

### TOTAL VALUE OF PRIZES, OVER £50.

1.—To win these prizes it will be necessary simply to supply us with names of philatelic friends not at present subscribing to the FORTNIGHTLY.

2.—To make this easy we supply with every copy of this number of the FORTNIGHTLY a form, on which the names and addresses of six stamp collectors may be written. To each of the persons whose names are thus supplied we shall send the FORTNIGHTLY for three months (six issues) free of all charge.

3.—Competitors are invited to fill up as many of these forms as they possibly can. One form will be supplied with every copy of the FORTNIGHTLY for thirteen fortnights, that is to say from No. 95 to No. 108 inclusive. The competition will thus extend over six months, giving all readers at home and abroad ample time.

4.—

#### EXTRA FORMS

may be obtained by purchasing extra copies of the "S.C.F." or will be supplied from the office of the journal at the rate of one shilling per dozen, post free. We are impelled to make this charge for reasons which will doubtless be obvious to the competitor; but we should greatly prefer that readers who enter the competition would obtain the extra forms by ordering extra copies of the "S.C.F." which can and will be procured to order by any newsagent throughout the United Kingdom.

5.—In order to induce every reader of the FORTNIGHTLY to go in for this competition, we are prepared to guarantee a prize to everyone who fills up at least twenty-four of the forms.

6.—There is no expense to the competitor beyond the trifling cost of the extra forms. YOU SUPPLY THE NAMES; WE DO ALL THE REST.

7.—Every reader probably knows many persons who collect stamps and would like to see a good stamp paper. Well, here is a good chance to please them, free of all charge, to please yourself, and to please us.

#### ABSOLUTE FAIRNESS ENSURED.

7.—The first prize will go to the sender of the greatest number of names that are new to our list. We reserve to ourselves the right to withhold this first prize should the number of names be less than 250.

The other prizes will be awarded in the strictest accordance with the order of merit; and in order that the most absolute fairness may be observed, we have decided to place the judging in the hands of a committee of eminent London philatelists, whose decision shall be final.

When filled, the Forms should not be kept, but should be at once forwarded by Post to

**THE COMPETITION DEPARTMENT (Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly),**

**64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

Arrangements have been made by which the Forms will be carefully filed, after the names they contain are entered into our subscription ledger, and when the Competition concludes—in November—the results will be adjudicated upon with the utmost care and precision.

The results of the Competition will be published in January.

**YOU CAN ENTER NOW!**

**JUST PUBLISHED.**

# MORLEY'S Revenue Stamp Album

FOR THE  
**BRITISH COLONIES,**

Containing spaces for all known varieties.

Vol. I. ANTIGUA to INDIA.

(Carriage Abroad Extra). Price, **12,6**, post free.  
(SPECIMEN PAGE ON APPLICATION).

Vol. II., when ready, will contain the remainder of the  
British Colonies.

**FOR SALE. . . .**

A Collection of 305 United States Revenue and Telegraph  
Stamps, containing many rare varieties, mounted in Scott's  
United States Album (as good as new). Catalogue value about  
£32. Offered for £10 nett.

British Railway Letter Fee Catalogue, with prices for all  
varieties I have on sale. Post free, 6d.

Reconstructed Plate (240 stamps) of 1d. black English, fine copies.  
Price, £4 (less than wholesale price).

**WALTER MORLEY,**

18, Brownhill Gardens, Catford, S.E.

**NOW READY**

# NEW PRICE LIST

FOR 1899.

Enlarged to 52 pages, entirely re-written and prices  
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stamp for postage. The list of sets has been brought  
up-to-date and the prices will be found to compare  
favourably with those of any other firm.

The "Whitfield"

*Interchangeable Albums*

FOR ADVANCED COLLECTORS.

New Edition for 1899, can now be had in a great variety  
of styles, and is without doubt the best for advanced  
collectors. Write for full particulars and unsolicited  
testimonials from leading philatelists.

**WHITFIELD KING & Co.,**

**IPSWICH.**

ESTABLISHED 30 YEARS.

## ON ACCOUNT OF DEATH OF OWNER

The Executors have placed in my hands **FOR SALE** a

# Superb Collection of Postage Stamps

About 17,000 Stamps, valued by Senf, '97, £3,200. Containing amongst others:

Egypt, first issue.  
Cape of Good Hope, error, 4d. red.  
U.S.A., Departmentals.  
Transvaal, Provisional Govt.  
U.S. of Columbia, nearly complete.  
Brazil, all rarities.  
Nevis, all except 6d. green.  
Cuba, Porto Rico, nearly complete.  
Sydney Views, 10 copies.  
St. Vincent, all rare varieties.  
Turks Island, rare Provisionals.  
Victoria, 6d. and 5/- yellow.  
French Colonies, very complete.

Bavaria, 25 copies, 1kr. black; 6kr. brown, type II., unused.  
Bremen, complete.  
Great Britain, all high values, I.R. Official, used; Compound  
envelopes  
Roumania, first issue, 54 paras.  
Wurtemberg, complete.  
Spain, all 2 reales and 19 cuartos.  
Switzerland, Double Geneva, Zurich, 4r. (3), 6r. (3); Waadt, 4c.  
Sweden, complete.  
Saxony, 3pf. red, and error, 1/2 blue.  
Hong Kong, Japan, Ceylon, India, Dutch Colonies,  
Straits Settlements, Philippines, Persia, practically  
complete.

## Each Country will be sold separately if desired.

Can be seen by appointment at my Office, 15, QUEENHITHE, UPPER THAMES STREET, LONDON, E.C.,  
UP TO END OF NOVEMBER.

# F. STÖTZER, Paper Agent.

Detailed List Free on Application.



# 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:—

1898.—NOVEMBER 24th and 25th; DECEMBER 8th and 9th.

1899.—JANUARY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; FEBRUARY 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

NOVEMBER 24th and 25th.—A fine selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including the following Rarities:—Great Britain, 1d. red, on Dickenson paper; Levant, 1865, the blue and red; Prussia, block ground, 2 sgr. unused; Spain, 12 cts. imperf. with inverted centre; Oldenburg, 2nd issue, ½gr. black on green, unused; Tuscany, 1 quat. black, a block of 14; Transvaal, ½d. on 1/- green, an unused block of 4, one stamp *l'ite-bêche*; Cape Wood Blocks; British Bechuanaland, ½d. on 4d. error Ponny; Zululand, 5/- (3, one used); St. Vincent, 2½d. on 4d., unused block of 6; Turks Islands, ½d. on 4d., a pair; Nevis, a fine lot, including 1/- litho. used; Tobago, 1st issue, 6d., an entire unused sheet, 2½d. on 4d. ditto, ½d. on 4d. ditto, ½d. on 6d. orange, unused pairs with rare type; Trinidad, a very fine unused lot; Montserrat, 4d. blue, C.A.; a superb lot of United States, also a block of 6, 90c. blue with grille; fine unused Australians, and several Collections.

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. Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076. ESTABLISHED 1761.

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POST FREE.

### Third Edition "A B C" Catalogue.

Will be published about the end of December, and will consist of over 800 pages Catalogue matter, well and fully illustrated. Many countries have been entirely re-written and brought up to date, notably Holland and Colonies, Portugal and Colonies, Luxemburg, Austria, France, Denmark, and every country has been revised. A large number of new and greatly-improved illustrations have been added. Great attention has been paid to the pricing, and this Catalogue will be in this, and other respects, the most reliable ever published.

ALL COUNTRIES IN STRICTLY ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

NO LOSS OF TIME AND TEMPER IN HUNTING FOR THE COUNTRY YOU WANT.

EVERY STAMP-ISSUING COUNTRY IN ONE COMPACT VOLUME.

The Motto of the "A B C" is "EASY, CHEAP, and TRUE."

*Novel Feature.*

Owing to the courtesy of the Inland Revenue Authorities, we are at last able to illustrate the stamps of Great Britain. About 100 splendid three-quarter size illustrations of English Stamps, Envelopes, &c., will be given in this Edition.

A few copies of the Second Edition are still on hand, 800 pages, price 1s. 3d., post free.

Stamps to suit all classes of Collectors. Approval sheets, selections of mixed countries, with liberal discounts. No stamps priced at enormous rates to allow fictitious high discounts. Fine selections of separate countries for advanced collectors. New Wholesale List, just out, the cheapest in the trade. Novelty list of sets, &c., post free. Collections and loose stamps bought to any amount.

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*Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,*  
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 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS**  
**A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on Nov. 15th & 16th, and will consist of Four Fine Private Collections in Lots. Catalogues Now Ready.

**FOLLOWING SALES.**

1898. Nov. 29th and 30th.—The second portion of the Collection of A. F. CALVERT, Esq. Catalogue in preparation.

Dec. 13th and 14th.—The LARGE AND FINE COLLECTION formed by the late GRAND DUKE ALEXIS MICHAELOVITCH, of Russia. Catalogue in preparation.

1899. Jan. 10th & 11th.—A FINE SELECTION.

Jan. 24th and 25th.—The third portion of the Collection of A. F. CALVERT, Esq.

**1899.**

February 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. March 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th. May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st. June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**O**WING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

**LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.**

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London.**

**ESTABLISHED 1794.**

I have the Largest and  
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**SPECIALITY: RARITIES**

**European Stamps** (Chiefly Unused); **English & French Colonies**

ALL FIRST-CLASS SELECTED COPIES.

*ABSOLUTELY FINEST STOCK IN THE WORLD OF THE STAMPS OF THE*

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**SELECTIONS SENT ON APPROVAL TO RESPONSIBLE PARTIES.**

**STAMPS PURCHASED.**

MR. STOCK is always open to buy—also to exchange:

All kinds of Rare Stamps.

Rare German Envelopes and Stamps on Originals.

Reprints and Essays (Proofs) also good Forgeries.

Medium Stamps of all European States.

Varieties and Curiosities of all Countries

Large and Small Collections of all Countries.

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**A FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH STAMPS.**

Over 500 varieties; all in fine condition.

Price, £10, a bargain.

**COMPLETE SET OF PLATE NUMBERS.**

- ½d. red, set of 15 .. .. . 6 0
- 1d. set of 150 (without 225) .. 4 6
- 2d. blue, set of 7 .. .. . 1 0
- 2½d. lilac-rose, set of 18 .. .. 7 6
- 3d. rose, set of 20 .. .. . 8 6
- 6d. lilac, set of 8 .. .. . 4 0
- 6d. grey, set of 8 .. .. . 5 0
- 1/- green, set of 13 .. .. . 10 0

½d. red, plate, 2/- 100; 15/- 1000.  
 1d. red, ditto 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000. [111]  
 Packet of 65 varieties, price 5/-. Good copies only. Approval books of all varieties at reasonable price sent to responsible applicants.

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**WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,**

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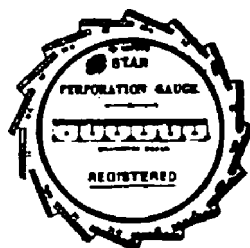
250 Genuine Stamps, all different, 1/4 post free. Approval selections much below Catalogue Prices. Stamps bought in small or large quantities. Foreign wholesale consignments respectfully requested. Wholesale Price List on application. [118]

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 (Established 20 years).

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Now Ready for approval:—3 Specialists Collections, 80 Books of Separate Countries, An immense stock of old Australians including 500 Sydney Views, 2000 Laureated Head, and many extreme rarities sent on approval, against 1st class references. [118]

Try the



THE only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as at the bottom of stamp, when hinged.

Price 6d. each.  
 3 for 1/3.

**JAMES BENNETT,**

Dealer in Foreign and Colonial Stamps,  
 STOKE BISHOP, near BRISTOL. [117]

**NEW SEASONS BARAINS.**

MAURITIUS, 1878, 2r. 50c. on 5/- lilac, 6/-; 1879, 56c. green, 9d.; 2r. 50c., 3 6. INDIA, 1891, 2 rupees, 8d.; 3 rupees, 10d.; 5 rupees, 1/9. ZULULAND, 1894, 3d. very scarce, 8d. HONG KONG, 1898, 1d. on 96c. black, 1/6. NEWFOUNDLAND (jubilee), used, 3c. 1d.; 5c. 4d. On Sale by A. BOUCARD, 48A, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. (late from Holborn & Stoane St.)  
 A. B. holds a Large Stock of Rare Stamps, which he is now selling at much under catalogue prices. List of wants requested. Rare and medium stamps and collections bought for cash. Established 1887. [111]  
 Monthly list of bargains sent post free.

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**Philatelic Printers,**

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**THEY SELL in SELLSCHOPP'S SHOP:**

- 30 diff. guine used Salvador .. 2/-
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- U.S. 50c., 1893, 1895, 1898 and unpaid at Wholesale.

**W. SELLSCHOPP & Co., 118, STOCKTON ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. [143]**



**SENF'S POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM**

IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD.  
 Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.

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WHOLESALE LOTS CHEAP.  
 Job Line to Sell ½d. to 3d. each. 4/- per 1000 (sample 100 for 6d.) Mixtures at 1/-, 2/-, 4/- and 8/- per 100  
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 The often quoted Monthly from the Pacific Coast  
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 All the news and valuable advertisements of all live dealers.

The J. W. SCOTT Co., Ltd., [127]  
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Has removed from 112, Leadenhall Street, E.C., to Raven's Park, Catford, S.E., from which address he will in future carry on business by correspondence only.

Large stock of medium and rare stamps always on hand at bargain prices.  
 Send for price list of Stamps, singly and in sets.  
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Selections of medium and good stamps from ½ to ¼ catalogue prices. Sent on approval to responsible applicants.

WANTED TO PURCHASE. [109]  
 Collections and Good Stamps. Highest prices paid

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Retail or Wholesale List free on application.  
 Approval Selections sent to responsible applicants.

Large Stock of Rare Stamps.  
 Inspection cordially invited.  
 Large Collections or Wholesale Parcels wanted for cash. [123]

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1882-86 (Gibbons' type 9 and 10),  
 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, the set of 5 for 4/9 Post Office Order.

Dealers and Collectors write for my New Price Lists of Cheap Sets, &c.

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**Inch Space.**

- 12 insertions .. 21.
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The Prices are:—  
 Half Morocco .. 10 6  
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The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City.

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200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free. 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference. [118]

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Will buy large lots of Stamps for ready cash to large amounts, no waiting, promptness always.

One of the finest stocks in London. [109]

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**SPECIALITY: Scandinavians.**

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SEND 2d. for Specialists' Catalogue of the Stamps of Norway. [111]

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PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.

Kindly send selections. [117]

**The CITY STAMP EXCHANGE,**

18 and 20, Cheapside, London, E.C.

Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

Agents Wanted in the Provinces and Abroad.  
 Wholesale Consignments from Abroad particularly requested. [121]

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:

- One to three stamps .. 6d.
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- Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.

**HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD. 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON E.C.**

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ONE to five specimens, 10d.; any more specimens, 1d each. Examination of Postmarks (Old Italian States only), one to five specimens, 5d each; any more specimens, 2d each. Please always join stamps for return postage and registration.

D. EMILIO DIENA. [112]

40, Via Vittoria Colonna, Rome (Italy).

**Exchange Desired.**

In return for Colonial stamps, catalogued at 1/- or over, we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 pies carmine, Gwalior, 1 1/4 mms., surcharge, price 2/- cash (only 830 ever issued).  
 B. GORDON JONES.

Calcutta Philatelic Co., 62-1, Bentinck Street, Calcutta  
 Reference: Messrs. Hillekes & Co. [112]

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LINCOLN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM and Descriptive Catalogue, with useful Geographical and Historical Notes (eleventh edition). Containing Atlas of 16 coloured maps, with spaces to hold over 6,500 Stamps, and giving the dates and colours of every stamp.  
 Cloth, 5/-; post free, 5 6.

A new list of 800 cheap sets with over 680 small pictures sent post free. Twopenny.

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I have removed to much larger premises. Same are in one of the most fashionable streets, and in order to fulfil all possible requirements, I am open to receive offers of

## LARGE and SMALL COLLECTIONS.

PACKETS OF DIFFERENT STAMPS.

SETS. NEW ISSUES. SETS.

### RARITIES OF ALL COUNTRIES,

Used and Unused. Loose and on Original.

COLLECTIONS OF ENTIRES.

ESSAYS. RARE TELEGRAPHS. CURIOSITIES.

Lots on Approval requested. Prompt Returns. List of Wants.

PHILIPP KOSACK, 8, Burgstrasse, BERLIN, C 2.

(Opposite the Royal Palace).

105-134

## SPLENDID VALUE.

British Central Africa, 1895, 3s., no wmk. ..	..	3	d
Mozambique Company, 1886, 2½ to 300 reis, unused, complete ..	..	3	6
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British South Africa, 1891-91, 8d., used ..	..	1	6
Cape, 4d., triangular, on original paper ..	..	1	3
British South Africa, 1896. ½, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6d. and 1s., used	..	2	6
Mauritius, 1895-97, 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c. and 18c. ..	..	0	5
Soudan, Camel Trooper. 1, 2, 3 and 5m., unused..	..	0	6
Newfoundland, ½c. olive-green (Prince Edward of York), 1c. green (Queen), 2c. orange (Prince of Wales), and 3c. orange (Princess of Wales), per set of 4..	..	0	6
Negri Sembilan, 1892-96, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8 and 10c., unused ..	..	1	3
Johore, 1896, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6c., unused ..	..	1	3
China, 1898, ½, 1, 2, 5 and 10c., unused ..	..	1	3

Postage extra.

Agents wanted to sell our stamps; liberal terms; write for particulars.  
 Consignments of New Issues and Provisionals from abroad particularly requested. Cash, commission and postage guaranteed per return mail.  
 Selections sent on approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.

## The City Stamp Exchange

18 and 20, Cheapside, 96-111

LONDON, E.C.,  
 (ENGLAND).

## Interesting to Collectors

ABOUT TO REALIZE.

The Glasgow Auction Sales continue to increase in popularity. They form the very best medium for the disposal of

### Collections, Rare and Medium Stamps.

Many Collectors believe that London has the best Market, but the results of the Sales conducted by me during last Season has proved this to be a fallacy. The opening Sale for the season was held on the 26th ult. The attendance exceeded 60 (many of the best Collectors in Scotland being present) and prices were well maintained. The next Glasgow Auction Sale will take place in The Bath Hotel, on Tuesday, 22nd inst., at 6.45 p.m., when a Very Fine General Collection will be exposed. Catalogues ready 16th inst. The following Sale will be held about the Middle of December, and Stamps for inclusion should be sent in immediately. A good opportunity arises for the Disposal of a Large Collections (divided into lots), and I shall be glad to hear from any Collector who meditates realizing. Further information will be furnished and a special early date could be arranged. Commission Charges are extremely moderate. Catalogues sent regularly to Collectors desiring them, and commission executed with absolute fairness free of charge.

ROBERT S. GRAY,  
 AUCTIONEER,

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**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

**£5 PRIZE.**

Sixth Monthly Competition for £5.  
(Living Celebrities).

This month our 1/- Competition Packet contains 35 different stamps from 35 different countries, the initials of which, taken altogether (35 in all) exactly spell the names (surnames only) of

**FIVE LIVING CELEBRITIES**

of British Nationality, selected from the most noted men and women, in politics and the different branches of art. Among the 35 stamps in the packet, are—

NEWFOUNDLAND, 1898, 1c. rose, obs.  
CANADA, 1898, obs. FIJI, 3d. perf. 11.  
GIBRALTAR, (new issue). KASHMIR, used.

CEYLON (catalogued 6d.) ERITREA, 2c.  
AUSTRIA, 1st issue. TUNIS, 1st issue.  
SANDWICH ISLES, 2c. violet. TIMOR.  
ICELAND. LEWARD ISLES.  
OCEANIA. ETC., ETC.

With full Particulars of Competition,  
1/- post free.

We consider this the most difficult Puzzle we have yet had, and if no one gets it right, the Prize will go to the sender of the List which is most nearly Correct. Last Day for Solutions, November 30.

**Result of 5th Competition.**

The £5 last month was divided among 22 successful Competitors, each one received 4/7. We regret that lack of space prevents our giving the names of all these winners. The correct solution was as follows:—Besant, Swinburne, Haggard, Chaucer, Milton.  
105-110]

**28, Radipole Rd.,  
Fulham, London, S.W.**

**3rd Edition. Ready in December, 1898.  
THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY**

Revised to date by FREDK. A. WICKHART, Hon. Sec. of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society. The book will be the popular Pocket Size (about 8 by inches), and advertisements will be received at a very cheap rate for this edition. As the book will be kept for continual reference by collectors and dealers it forms the most excellent advertising medium possible. The large second edition (1897) is now sold out.

2/6 per ln. across page. 1/6 per ln. single column.  
Business Card in Medallion, 1/-

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Prepaid Orders for Copies of the Directory can be booked, and will be executed in rotation. [106-111  
Price ONE SHILLING (25 cents), Post Free.

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**A BIG DISCOUNT OFF CATALOGUE!** s. d.

B.C.A., 1891, 1d., 2d., and 4d., used and fine	1	6
" " 6d. ultramarine, do., Cat. 6/-	2	0
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" 1897, C.A., 1d., 6d. and 1/-, do.	1	8
Grenada, 1d. on 4 pence, used & extremely fine	10	0
*Newfoundland, 97/98, 4c., 1c., 2c., 3c. mint	0	9
" " 1866, 2 1/2cts., mint	2	0
" " " 13cts., mint	4	0
Oil Rivers, 1/2 to 1/-, used and very fine	6	6

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Trinidad, 1d. lake, no wmk. perf. 13, unused with gum	35 0	13 6
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" 3d. brown, an equally fine pair	40 0	15 0

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We desire further correspondence from British Colonies. Reference Ed. of this Paper. [106-111

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THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**

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

No. 109—Vol. V

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1898.

ONE PENNY.



The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatelic Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Roohdale Philatello Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Sheffield Philatelic Society.

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*Doings of Societies.*

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

OCT. 20TH.—The meeting was devoted to a discussion re Exhibition to be held in December.

Nov. 10th.—The following were unanimously elected members: Messrs. W. Scott, H. F. W. Deane, J. H. Telfer, R. Lajos, O. Grilstad, S. Frascati.

The PHILATELIC EXHIBITION is to be held in Birmingham (at Grave's Picture Gallery, 44, Cherry Street), from Dec. 7th to Dec. 9th, 1898. Admission free by ticket, to be obtained from the Hon. Sec. or on presentation of address card. All collectors are welcomed.

The exhibition will be open on Wednesday, Dec. 7th, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 8th, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 9th, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

At the meeting held on November 1st at the Municipal Buildings, the chair was occupied by the President, Mr. E. Egly. After a discussion on the forthcoming Manchester Exhibition it was resolved to offer a medal in the name of the Leeds Philatelic Society, the appropriation of it being left in the discretion of the Exhibition Committee. Novelties were shown by two members. Mr. T. K. Skipwith brought the current English penny and halfpenny stamps with the latest control numbers, "W" and "Q," and also the penny on fine-ribbed paper. Mr. J. H. Thackrah showed six values of the fourth issue of Uganda stamps, including the one and five rupees.

The feature of the evening was a display of the stamps of North American countries. Collections were shown by the President and Mr. Thackrah, Mr. T. K. Skipwith, Mr. J. W. Duffield, and Mr. Denison Kochuck. Mr. Egly's series included the 2d. and 8d. scarlet vermilion, a full set of the lake issue, a 5 cents brown (seal), and the three cents orange vermilion, unused, all of Newfoundland; of British Columbia, 2½d. and 3d., 5 and 10 cents of 1865, the 2 cents and five cents on 3d.; of Canada, the ½d., 3d., 6d. black, sixpence sterling green, and 10d., all imperforate; of New Brunswick the 3d. red of 1851; of Nova Scotia, the 1d. red-brown on blue paper; and of Prince Edward Island, the 1d., 3d., 6d. green, and 9d., and the 2d. with large perforations. Mr. Thackrah had, of Newfoundland, several values of the lake issue, also the 3d. green, 5 cents seal, and the three cents orange-vermilion, perforated; of New Brunswick the 3d., and all the values in cents, used and unused; and of Nova Scotia, the 3d. and the "cents" values complete on yellow paper.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE Annual General Meeting for the year 1898-99 was held in the Society's room on the evening of Wednesday, 5th inst. There were 17 members present. The President, Mr. J. F. Peace, occupied the chair. After the minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed, the Secretary read the report of the previous year's work of the Society; he said, "that the year 1897-98 may justly be considered as the most successful the Society had enjoyed. The number of names on the register is 47, of which 35 reside in the district, 18 new members and associates were elected, and three have retired, an increase of 15. The usual number of meetings were held, the average attendance was 13. During the year a new code of rules were drawn up by the Committee and accepted by the General Meeting on October 20th, they are embodied with the programme and list of office-bearers on the card of membership. A very successful conversazione was held in January, at which

many distinguished visitors were present, including the Lord Mayor of the City, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress. Mr. Hilckes, of London, gave his interesting lantern demonstration, an attraction which the visitors highly appreciated." The Librarian's report shewed that more than £4 had been expended on the library, 22 new books, many of them gifts, had been added, an increase much appreciated by the members, as shown by the fact of 118 volumes having been lent out during the year. The Exchange Secretary said "that more interest had been taken in his branch than in previous years, the purchases had increased over 100 per cent. he ascribed this to a better class of stamps having circulated in the exchange packets, he suggested to members, that it would be of benefit to use an india-rubber stamp, bearing the name or monogram, instead of pencil or pen, to mark the spaces from which they made their purchases." The Treasurer said "the funds were stronger than at the beginning of the year, they had then £6 9s. 6d. to their credit, the balance now being £7 1s. 4d. and this notwithstanding the extraordinary expenditure in connection with the Library and a contribution to the expenses of the conversazione. The office-bearers for the year were then elected by ballot. Messrs. Peace, President; Beckett, Vice-President; Chapman, Treasurer; H. Hawley, Librarian; Sneath, Exchange Secretary; Pike, Honorary Secretary, who with Messrs. Hunt, Taylor, and Darwent form the Committee. Messrs. J. S. Nowill and Rodgers, of Sheffield, were elected members, and Mr. W. S. Webb, an associate.

A MEETING of this Society was held on 2nd November last, in their Rooms at Bird's Restaurant. There was a large attendance of members, the subject under discussion being "Stamp Catalogues and Discounts." Messrs. Peace, Sneath, Chapman, Hunt, and others took part in the debate, during the course of which it was shown that catalogues were of great value to collectors, but that the discounts varied according to the state of the stamp, for whereas a bad specimen could be obtained at even up to 75 per cent. discount; for a good specimen it was frequently necessary to pay the full catalogue price.

The Meeting then adjourned until the 16th November, when it was decided to hold an Exchange of Stamps.

**HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

PROPOSED ALTERATIONS IN RULES.

On front page.—List of Committee: W. A. Bois, Louis E. Bradbury, E. A. Mardon, and F. A. Wickhart, to be substituted for Dr. Norman and J. H. Roskilly.

First par., first sentence to read "Members are entitled to subscribe to the L.P. and the P.F.G.B. at the reduced rate of 4s. 2d. and 2s. per annum, respectively. Second sentence "many" instead of "all."

Exchange rule, No. 26, to be inserted between first and second pars.

Fourth par. "Twelve" for "the." Parenthesis omitted.

On page 2. 2nd rule.—Third and fourth sentences to be omitted.

Rule 3.—"8" altered to "7."

Rule 4.—"Four" altered to "eight."

On page 3.—Rule 5, "at least" to "if possible."

Rule 6.—"In lieu of yearly subscription" to "a commission of."

On page 4.—Rules 24 and 26 to be taken out.

These alterations, proposed by the Committee, will be discussed at the meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 6th, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.

**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.]

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**BRITISH POSTMARKS**—Collectors should send for illustrated Price List, post free, 3d. from DUPLEX, 50, Broad Street, Stamford.

**LUXEMBURG**.—1 offer post free, 25 different Luxemburg, 1/8; 40 different Luxemburg, 5/5; 50 different Luxemburg, 8/6; Issue 1893, 10 centimes to 1 franc (8 varieties), 1/8; Ditto, S.P., 3/10; Issue 1883, 1 centime to 1 franc (11 varieties) 2/-; Ditto, S.P., 5/-; 1000 Luxemburg (5 varieties), post free 8/10. Complete price list of Luxemburg, 2d. Cash with order. Returned if not satisfactory. First-class references given and required.—MATHIAS H. ENGELS, Luxemburg, G.D. 108-109

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**COLLECTORS!** Join Belgrave Stamp Club and purchase your stamps 1/2 to 1/3 catalogue prices. References required. Secretary, 13, Brewer Street, Belgravia. [109]

**GUIANA**, 1852, 4cts., (mended) 63/-, also bargain lots. LATE, Leicester Street, Southport. [112]

**BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA**—Rare Penny Provisionals, "unperforated signed issue" few 10/- each. Unperforated second issue, 3/- each. One Penny on 3/-, irregular surcharge, used, 2/6. Approval.—THOMPSON, 7, Tideswell Road, Eastbourne.

**COLLECTORS** duplicates sent on approval cheap.—D. LLOYD, 325, Fulwood Road, Sheffield.

**RAILWAY** Letter Stamps wanted. Some duplicates for sale or exchange. New issue North Stafford, 4d each. Unused pairs, red penny 9s., 9s. 10s., 13s. 16s., 22s. 25s. wanted. MR. EARL, Newcastle, Staffs. 109-110

**A STAMP Dealer's Business** for sale in a London main thoroughfare. Address, HUMPHRY, 38, West Road, Stratford, E.

**SPECIAL OFFERS**—Lagos Collection, 30/- catalogue 90/-; Great Britain, ditto, superb, £8; Borneo, nearly complete, 40/-; Wurtemberg, ditto, all 18 and 70 kr. 100/-, many other bargains. NEWLAND, 5, Little Trinity Lane, City. [119]

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**BRITISH COLONIALS** from Canada (new and obsolete issues), Cape, New Zealand, New South Wales, etc., etc. very good mixture, several new issues, sample, 1,000 2/6. Price for larger quantity on application. Very good variety for packets. Postage abroad extra. Wholesale price list post free. WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY, 113, London Wall, London.

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Stamps on Approval. Packets, Sets, &c., Cheap [103-122]

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FOR TWO MONTHS.

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

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Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 109—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1898.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### WHY PHILATELISTS BOYCOTT THE HOSPITAL STAMPS.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *London Evening News* has discovered that a rather serious state of affairs exists in connection with the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. As every reader is aware, a set of two stamps was issued last year—values, 1s. and 2s. 6d.—the idea being that philatelists and others would buy up these stamps, and in so doing contribute directly to the hospitals. Recently a new and more elaborate set of stamps for 1898 was issued, the full values being 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s. and 10s. A leading firm of stamp dealers now refuses to sell them, declaring that in so doing they have the support of the philatelic world, and the other side put down the loss to the hospitals on account of this refusal at no less a figure than £50,000 per annum. Readers of the *Evening News* have been invited to draw their own conclusions as to the rights and wrongs of the case from the interviews that follow :

#### SIR HENRY BURDETT'S COMPLAINT.

The *Evening News* representative first saw Sir Henry Burdett, whose active interest in the Hospital Fund is well known, and elicited from him the facts of the case from the hospital point of view.

"We want £70,000," he said, "before December 31st, and this stamp difficulty is a very serious one indeed. We have now issued new stamps of exceedingly pretty design, especially the ten shilling ones. They are quite works of art, and worth possessing as such, and we have also published a

small stamp album, containing spaces for the complete sets, a facsimile letter from the Princess of Wales, and other things.

"Last year a leading dealer in stamps, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, sold large numbers of them; but this year, for reasons best known to themselves, they have declined to take any of them in. The Duke of York is president of the Philatelists' Society, and takes a great interest in the fund, and has expressed himself warmly in favour of it. Of course he is in a delicate position, and we could not ask him to take any particular line.

"Some collectors may say," Sir Henry went on, "that they are not real stamps. But they are real stamps. The issue is strictly limited; the stamps are made by the firm of De La Rue and Co., who make all the other British Stamps, and they have a full claim to go into the stamp albums along with many others. It is a reflection on the hearts and consciences of a large body of philatelists that they will not co-operate with the Prince of Wales in this matter.

"£50,000 per annum will be the loss to the hospitals," Sir Henry concluded.

#### THE STAMP DEALER'S REPLY.

On the other side Mr. Charles J. Phillips, the managing director of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, stated his views to the *Evening News* man very clearly.

"My directors are dead against these hospital stamps," he plainly stated, "and so is the whole of the philatelic world. We don't wish to be misunderstood. We have the greatest sympathy with the object of the fund, but we don't see why we should be asked to collect stamps which are not stamps at all. You cannot send them through the post, and cannot get a postmark put upon them except by dodgery. The Post Office authorities were asked to allow the hospital stamps to be used through the post as penny stamps. If they had done that the philatelists would have been quite satisfied. But St. Martin's-le-Grand would not listen to it.

There is another point. A collector buys stamps because they are rare, or because the issue is limited. But these stamps can never become rare. We made a very great mistake in taking them up last year, but we did it for a special reason."

"And will the hospitals lose £50,000 a year in consequence of the refusal?"

"That's utterly absurd. I don't think the whole issue is worth that. Last year we sold about £600 worth."

"There is no likelihood of philatelists giving way?"



"As philatelists, none. These are not stamps. They are simply receipts for money paid and have no more right to be in a stamp album than a receipted gas bill."

Thus far the *Evening News*. We have italicised one sentence in Mr. Phillips' remarks and readers will find this and other points dealt with on our editorial page.

#### SOME STAMPS WORTH MORE THAN "CATALOGUE."

We have recently reprinted from the *Boston Stamp Book* lists of stamps worth, in the opinion of the compilers, "full Catalogue prices." Mr. H. W. Plumridge, in a very readable series of London notes he has contributed to the *Philatelic Journal of India* goes one better than our transatlantic contemporary in the course of some remarks on the latest "Senf" Catalogue. He points out certain stamps which he regards as being worth more than Catalogue—i.e., more than Senf:—

The C.C. 14 fourpenny brown Gambia is catalogued unused at six shillings, and several dealers here to my own knowledge have paid 30s. each. A somewhat similar stamp, the C.C. 14 fourpence mauve Gold Coast, is *Senfed* (please excuse the impression) at 5 shillings unused, but if anything is rarer than the Gambia.

Specialists who find that their school-boy delight in triangular capes still clings to them, would regard the wood-block 4d. dark blue as a very great bargain at m. 250 in the unused state, and would, in all probability, snap up the 1d. red and 4d. blue at 175 and 200 shillings respectively.

Of the Lagos stamps a mint copy of the C.C. 14 shilling orange-yellow is not easily found, and in my opinion £7 10s. would be nearer the mark than £3 15s. If I had a nice unused 2d. scarlet vermilion Newfoundland offered me at £50, I should probably think twice before returning an answer in the negative, and at £7 10s. Messrs. Senf's catalogue price, should feel inclined to remember the seller in my will.

Again, the St. Helena imperf. 6d. carmine, without the surcharge in black, although really a proof, is exceedingly scarce and at all events would be a bargain at £17 10s. I went to Paris a short time back accompanied by a member of the London Philatelic Society and a Specialist in the stamps of this interesting Colony. When this gentleman was offered this stamp he bought it at, as far as I remember, £60.

However, as Mr. Plumridge magnanimously adds, "pricing an entire catalogue is a difficult task, and mistakes are bound to creep in."

#### CONFEDERATE STATES: THEIR "FORM AT A GLANCE."

A WRITER on the subject of the Confederate States stamps in the *Philatelic Journal of India* gives this "table of comparative rarity":—

1. 10c. blue, engraved, perf.
2. 10c. blue, engraved, outer line.
3. 2c. green, lithographed.
4. TEN c. blue, engraved.
5. 10c. red, lithographed.
6. 2c. rose, engraved.
7. 20c. green, engraved.
8. 10c. blue, lithographed, Die A.
9. 10c. blue, lithographed, Die B.
10. 5c. blue, lithographed.
11. 5c. green, lithographed.
12. 5c. blue, typographed, local print.
13. 5c. blue, typographed, London print.
14. 10c. blue, engraved.

But, really, these "tables of comparative rarity," although acceptable enough, as "something to go on with," are of very little use until one has some sort of a "unit of value." Now would it not be a good plan in such cases to assume the value of the lowest stamp in the scale to be, say, a farthing, or a halfpenny, or a penny; and then with this unit as a basis, and with all available information as to quantities for a guide, it should be easy to arrive at something like the comparative value as well as the comparative rarity.

Or, failing this, could not the thing be so worked out that one could see the ratio of No. 1 to No. 14, No. 2 to No. 14, and so on. That would be form-at-a-glance indeed, and "Tables of Rarity" would become vastly popular.

#### "NOTES ON NEW ISSUES."

We regret that, owing to great pressure on our spaces, and also to a paucity of new issues intelligence, the above feature is held over until our next number.

## The Manchester Philatelic Exhibition.

THE following prospectus of the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition, 1899, has been issued.

#### CLASS I.

Will consist of Special Collections of Postal Adhesive Stamps of Great Britain.

*Division 1.* Postal Adhesive Stamps of Great Britain. *unused only.*  
 .. 2. " " " " " " (single specimens only)  
 .. 3. " " " " " " *used only.*

*Awards.* Div. 1. One Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.  
 .. 2. One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.  
 .. 3.—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

#### CLASS II.

For Special Collections of Postal Adhesive Stamps of any one of Countries or combinations of Countries named below:—

*Division 1.* British Empire, including Protectorates, etc.

#### A.

British Guiana.	New South Wales.
Cashmere and Native States of	New Zealand.
India (any two).	Queensland.
Ceylon.	South Australia.
Mauritius.	Victoria.

*Awards.*—1 Gold and 2 Silver Medals.

#### B.

Canada.	Straits Settlements and Depen-
Cape of Good Hope.	dencies.
India.	South Australia, departmental
Natal.	stamps.
Newfoundland.	Tasmania.
New Brunswick, Nova Scotia,	Trinidad.
British Columbia and Vancouver.	Western Australia.

*Awards.*—One Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

#### C.

Barbados.	Nevis.	Ceylon, from 1863.
Fiji Islands.	St. Lucia.	New South Wales, from 1860.
Heligoland.	St. Vincent.	Victoria, from 1862.
Labuan.	Turks Islands.	Western Australia, from 1861.

*Awards.*—Two Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

#### D.

Bahamas.	British Central Africa	} Any two.
British Bechuanaland.	" East "	
British Honduras.	" South "	
Cyprus.	Oil Rivers and Niger Coast	}
Grenada.	British Guiana, from 1865.	
Griqualand.	Mauritius, from 1863.	

*Awards.* One Silver and 2 Bronze Medals.

#### E.

Any two of the following:—

Antigua.	Ionian Islands.	St. Christopher.
Bermuda.	Jamaica.	Seychelles.
Cook Islands	Lagos.	Sierra Leone.
Dominica.	Leeward Islands.	Tobago.
Falkland Islands.	Malta.	Virgin Islands.
Gambia.	Madagascar.	Uganda.
Gibraltar.	Montserrat.	Zanzibar.
Gold Coast.	North Borneo.	Zululand.
Hong Kong.	Prince Edward Island.	

*Awards.* One Silver and 2 Bronze Medals.

#### Division 2. Europe.

#### A.

Austria, Austrian Italy, and	Russia, Finland, Russian Levant
Hungary.	Wenden and Poland.
France and Monaco.	Spain.
Greece.	Switzerland.
Roumania with Moldo-Wallachia.	Turkey.

*Awards.*—One Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

#### B.

Germany, any two of the following:—  
 Baden, Bavaria, Bergedorf, Bremen, Brunswick, German Confederation and Empire (including Alsace-Lorraine), Hamburg, Hanover, Lubeck, Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Strelitz, Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Schleswig-Holstein, Thurn and Taxis and Wurtemberg.

Italy, any two of the following:—  
 Italy, Modena, Naples, Papal States, Parma, Romagna, Sardinia, Sicily, Tuscany.

*Awards.*—One Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

C.  
Bulgaria, Southern Bulgaria, Eastern Roumelia, Servia, Montenegro,  
Bosnia and Herzegovina (any 3).  
Roumania. Russian Locals. Switzerland (including Federals).  
Germany, any three of the following:—  
Baden, Brunswick, German Confederation and Empire, Alsace and  
Lorraine, Hanover, Lübeck, Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Strelitz,  
Prussia, Thurn and Taxis.  
Italy, any three of the following:—  
Italy, Papal States, Parma, Roumagna, Sardinia, Sicily, San  
Marino, Eritrea.  
*Awards.*—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

D.  
Belgium. Luxembourg. Portugal.  
Denmark and Iceland. Norway. Sweden.  
Holland.

*Awards.*—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.  
*Division 3.* Asia and Africa.

A.  
Afghanistan. Philippine Islands. Transvaal.  
Japan. Portuguese Indies.  
*Awards.*—One Gold and 1 Silver Medal.

B.  
Azores and Madeira. Persia  
Egypt and Suez Canal. Shanghai and China (no locals).  
New Republic.  
*Awards.*—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

C.  
Any four French Colonies or Possessions.  
" Portuguese " "  
Orange Free State and Swaziland.  
Any four of the following:  
Congo, Liberia, Dutch Indies, Sarawak, Siam, Corea, Formosa,  
German Colonies.  
*Awards.*—Two Bronze Medals.  
*Division 4.* America.

A.  
Brazil. Hawaii.  
Buenos Ayres. Mexico (including locals).  
Bolivia. Peru and Pacific Steam Naviga-  
tion Co.  
Colombian Republic (including  
various states). San Domingo.  
*Awards.*—One Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

B.  
Confederate States of America (including Postmaster stamps).  
United States of America including Postmaster stamps).  
United States Locals.  
*Awards.*—One Gold and 1 Silver Medal.

C.  
Argentine Confederation & Republic. Uruguay.  
Chili. Venezuela and La Guaira.  
Cuba, Porto Rico and Fernando Poo. Hawaii, from 1864, & Tonga.  
And two of the following:—  
Corrientes, Cordova, Costa Rica, Curacao and Suriname, Danish  
West Indies, Ecuador, Hayti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador,  
Guatemala, Paraguay.  
*Awards.* One Silver and 2 Bronze Medals.

*Division 5.*  
A: Any three countries in Europe.  
B: Any three countries in Asia or Africa.  
C: Any three British Colonies or Possessions in Australia, North  
America or Asia.  
D: Any three British Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates in  
Africa or West Indies.  
E: Any three Countries in America or elsewhere and not coming  
within the definition of sub-divisions, A, B, C, D.  
*Awards.* One Bronze Medal in each sub-division.  
N.B.—Division 5 is not intended for the advanced Specialist, and  
no one who has gained a medal at the Exhibition in  
London in 1897 is eligible to compete.

### CLASS III.

For Collection of Rare Stamps.

*Division 1.* Each Exhibit to consist of not less than 75 nor more  
than 100.

N.B.—In this division pairs and blocks of the same stamp will be  
counted as one, but in no case must the total exhibit  
contain more than 200 stamps, each stamp in the block  
for this purpose being counted separately.

*Division 2.* Each exhibit to consist of not more than 50 stamps,  
and each stamp in Division 2 not to exceed catalogue  
(Stanley Gibbons') value of £2 each.

*Awards.*—Division 1, One Gold and 1 Silver Medal.  
" " 2, One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

### CLASS IV.

Will consist of entire General Collections of Postal Adhesives with  
or without Envelopes, Postcards, &c., in Albums or Volumes not less  
than 10 countries to be shown in any exhibit in Divisions 1, 2 and 3.

*Division 1.* Without limit as to number.

*Awards.* One Gold and 1 Silver Medal.

" 2. Total number not to exceed 10,000.

*Awards.*—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

" 3. Total number not to exceed 5,000.

*Awards.*—Two Bronze Medals.

" 4. Collections of British Railway Stamps.

*Award.*—One Bronze Medal.

" 5. Special Collections of a single country.

*Awards.*—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

" 6. Special Collections of any three of the British Colonies  
(all of whose stamps are obsolete at the date of  
this prospectus). *Award.*—One Silver Medal.

" 7. Special Group Collections.

N.B. In the grouping of Collections in Division 7 regard must be  
paid to considerations of either a Geographical, Historical, or  
Political Character.

*Award.* One Silver Medal.

### CLASS V.

*Division 1.* For collections of entire Envelopes and Wrappers of  
one or more of these countries or combinations of countries:

Austria, Hungary and Lombardy. Mauritius.  
Great Britain. Russia, Finland and Poland.  
Germany and States. United States of America.

*Division 2.*—Not less than three of any Countries not enumerated  
in Division 1.

*Awards: Division 1.*—One Gold and 1 Silver Medal.

" 2.—One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

### CLASS VI.

Will consist of Collections of entire Post Cards and Letter Cards.

*Division 1.* One or more of the Countries, or combinations of  
Countries enumerated below.

Russia and Finland. Belgium.  
Germany and all States. Mexico.  
Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad. Roumania.  
Japan. Spain and Colonies.  
Luxemburg.

*Division 2.*—Not less than three of any Countries not enumerated in  
Division 1.

*Awards: Division 1.* One Silver and 1 Bronze Medal.

" 2.—One Bronze Medal.

### CLASS VII.

For Exhibits by Stamp Engravers and Manufacturers of Postage  
Stamps and Telegraph Stamps.

N.B. —Stamps shown by any person, firm, or company, in this Class,  
must be limited to specimens of their own work, and may com-  
prise Stamps as issued, Proofs or Essays, or all three.

*Award.* Two Silver Medals with Diplomas

### CLASS VIII.

For Philatelic Literature and Works.

*Division 1.* Current Philatelic Journals Exhibited by the Publishers.

" 2. Philatelic Works published since 31st October, 1890,  
and shown by the Publisher.

N.B. In the case of serial publications in Division 1, *the last  
volume published.*

*Awards.*—Division 1. Two Bronze Medals with Diplomas.

" 2. Two " " "

### CLASS IX.

For Albums, etc.

*Division 1.* The most suitable Album or Book for a special collection.

" 2. " " " " general "

*Awards.*—Division 1. —Two Bronze Medals with Diplomas.

" 2. — " " " "

### CLASS X.

For Philatelic Accessories and Appliances for use by collectors.

*Awards.* Two Diplomas.

### CLASS XI.

Special arrangements of Stamps on Original Letter Sheets or  
Envelopes, Proofs, Essays, Curiosities, and Objects of Interest  
in connection with Philately and Postal Service (including  
engravings).

*Awards.*—Two Bronze Medals.

A Special Gold Medal, being the Grand Prize of the Exhibition,  
will be given the most meritorious Exhibit of Adhesive Postage  
Stamps shown in the Exhibition.

### 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, NOVEMBER 26, 1898.



IN accordance with our usual custom, we are going to put "all we know" into the Christmas number of the FORTNIGHTLY, which will be our next issue, dated December 10th. In addition to various good philatelic articles (including a further contribution on Queensland, by the author of the papers we have already published), we shall give a number of things that may be described as "in lighter vein"; and we can promise that the result will be a splendid all-round number.

The circulation of this Christmas Number will be 5,000 copies, and we could write very convincingly on the question of its great value as an advertising medium; but on second thoughts we won't, because that is a point that will be obvious to the pushful advertiser. Suffice it to say, that there will be no increase in the tariff.

While on this always interesting subject of ourselves, we wish to draw particular attention to the new feature just inaugurated under the heading of "Asked and Answered." This is a column to which we hope all our readers will endeavour to contribute.

\* \* \*

THE intelligence that the Virgin Islands will shortly re-appear in the list of stamp-issuing countries is not entirely welcome news. There is no doubt whatever that stamps of the Leeward Islands group gained greatly in philatelic popularity by reason of the "postal amalgamation," so to speak, of that interesting archipelago. It is perhaps going over well worn ground to remind our readers that, prior to 1890, Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, and the Virgin Islands had distinct postal issues; and when these separate issues were superseded by a general emission for the "Leeward Islands," and the remainders bought up at a tall price by Mr. T. H. Thompson, there came a boom in the old issues, principally for the reason that they represented a "finished chapter" in philatelic history.

But now—? This Virgin Islands move may mean the indefinite lengthening of that chapter. We do not say that this will re-act on the values of the stamps; we do not even think it, for Leewards, like Humpty Dumpty have "had a big fall," and in some cases are now quoted far below their real value. Can we blame the Virgin Islands, though, for wishing to regain their old postal individuality? The editor of the *Philatelic Record* thinks not, and we are inclined to agree with him.

At the time that these and other islands of the Leeward group were amalgamated for postal purposes (writes Mr. Nankivell), we

expressed our surprise at such an obvious sacrifice of revenue on the part of small colonies with a very restricted income, no small proportion of which was derived from stamps sold to collectors. Therefore we are not at all surprised to hear of the return of one of the group to the list of separate stamp-issuing colonies. And probably this is only a beginning of a general return to the old arrangement. Those who imagined that one stamp for all would make little difference, while it simplified the postal arrangements, knew little of stamp collecting. The stamp collector will probably continue to neglect those countries which issue stamps solely for the purpose of providing revenue out of his pocket; but the Leeward Islands in their separate postal issues were most popular, and few, if any, of their issues ever justified an objection from a purely philatelic point of view. We are generally more than pleased when a few colonies federate, and so lessen the number of stamp-issuing colonies but there has always been a fondness amongst philatelists for the necessarily limited issues of these little colonies of the West Indies.

The italics are ours. Should the prophecy prove to be true, we could scarcely blame the Leeward Islanders, for in many ways the old régime must strongly appeal to them. Nowadays, countries must advertise just as individuals do; and what better advertisement could any country desire than a well circulated postage stamp? As component parts of the "Leeward Islands," St. Kitts and Dominica and the others are in danger of being forgotten; it is but natural that they should want their own stamps again. And then there is the question of money. These West Indian colonies, well nigh ruined by hostile sugar bounties, devastated in parts by storms and cyclones, and as a general thing sadly neglected and misunderstood by the mother country—is it surprising that they should wish to make the most of such "philatelic revenue" as they can get? Dollars are great and shall prevail.

\* \* \*

UNDER "Philately At Home and Abroad" in this number we reprint from the *London Evening News* various interesting items regarding the Hospital Fund Gumpaps. Therein, Mr. C. J. Phillips, the stamp dealer, is represented to have said that had the Post Office permitted these highly-priced pieces of gummed paper to frank letters through the post, "philatelists would be quite satisfied." Now Mr. Phillips knows quite as well as we do that this is very far from the truth. Philatelists will never heartily support any charitable undertaking which takes the form of an issue of stamps, and, consequently, amounts to a levy on one particular class of the community.

Sir Henry Burdett, again, is made to play it down very low indeed, by stating that "philatelists will not co-operate in this matter with H.R.H. the Prince of Wales."

We make bold to say that philatelists, as a body, are fully as loyal and charitably-minded as their fellows; but they are not to be made catspaws of, and the sooner this is recognised by the Committee of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund the better.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Dec. 10th, 1898.

#### London Auctions.

- Nov. 26th.—Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63/64, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 2.30 p.m., precisely.
- Nov. 28th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 6 o'clock precisely.
- Nov. 29th and 30th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day, precisely.
- Dec. 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., each day precisely.
- Dec. 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day, precisely.

#### Provincial Auctions.

- Nov. 26th.—Mr. Robt. S. Gray, at the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, at 5 p.m., precisely.
- Nov. 30th.—Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Aytown Street, Manchester at 6 p.m. precisely.
- Dec. 7th & 8th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co., in Birmingham.

#### Herts Philatelic Society.

- A Special Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6th, at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 7 p.m. Mr. W. Simpson will exhibit his collection of Colonials, etc.

## The Collecting of Entires.

BY R. W. W.

(Continued from page 21).

**ENTHUSIASM**—yes, as was before remarked—that is the word, or the emotion needed to make a successful collector. Two friends of mine last year bought up the small stocks of Entires held by two dealers who were giving up the sale of these, and, after satisfying themselves, find they can get rid of their surplus through Exchange Clubs. And someone well-known to me (who shall be nameless), a few years ago went to the extravagance of clearing out another firm's stock of over 25,000 pieces, from which he added about 2,000 varieties to his collection, now getting on for five thousand,—but he justifies his enthusiastic outlay in this way, that to buy that 2,000 singly, or in two would have cost him more than half the amount he paid for the lot, and he has the sale of the large remainder to recoup him with, many of which can only be had at fancy prices. Not that such proceedings are recommended, for after all, it is selfish work doing so, and dealers want encouraging to keep fair stocks, not to sell in a panic because trade is dull in a particular line.

But what is the enthusiasm to feed upon—there are no novelties or rarities in post cards as there are in adhesives! says someone. There you are mistaken, my friend. Look at the beautiful Guatemala card referred to last week. I cannot say how many designs were engraved or why such differences exist, but there are twelve varieties in my collection (besides a proof of unfinished or incomplete design) which can only be discovered by close examination of sundry curls in the ornamentation. Of Norway, first issue, there are five or six varieties mentioned though not detailed in Catalogue; but including watermarks—a novelty in cards—there are something like 18 differences. Even in the overprinting on a provisional card of Ceylon, there are five or six settings to be found in the three lines, if you look for them.

As to rarities, look at those Ceylons in your catalogue, and you will find these prices—£10, £7, 10/-, four at 50/- each, four at 20/- to 30/-, besides others so scarce that no prices can be given. Again, 6/-, 10/-, 17/6 and 20/- are not uncommon for used cards,—as in Jamaica, Heligoland and Trinidad; and even 60/- for a Tasmanian, and 30/-, 40/- and 50/- for early Japanese. On the other hand, some are so cheap that they might be used advantageously for covering your walls—they would certainly be more economical than Mr. Whitfield King's adhesives as wall papers.

Discoveries may be made years afterwards that have not been chronicled in English journals, as unfortunately the collection of entire cards has not been advocated or taken up so much as on the Continent even, nor so much as the wasteful and extravagant habit of obtaining whole sheets of adhesives has been defended in this country. The one difficulty that must be admitted is that so few stamp dealers have thought it worth while to stock or push the sale of cards and envelopes, that one has to trust largely for shades, &c., to those offered by members of exchange clubs who have had their entires sent them by friends abroad or who buy from dealers in different parts of the kingdom. A curious instance of this has just been told me by a collector who wanted to make up a sheet of the "eight minor varieties" (I have found sixteen) of one issue or type of Mexico. He went through one of the largest dealer's immense stock, but could get only three;—trying another dealer, he found, out of hundreds examined, but one type only; and looking over the stock of another, he obtained two more—each dealer having no general mixture, but hundreds of his particular variety in stock.

The fascination of collecting anything, it seems to me, consists in the discovery of unusual specimens, and the difficulty occasionally experienced in obtaining some of the commonest. In collecting entires, there is one consolation, that a man of moderate means can approach finality, which is out of the question in the case of adhesive stamps, coins, and many other objects of a collector's activity. Six thousand entires, issued from 1870—the first year of post-

cards in general use—as compared with twenty-six thousand stamps from 1850, may be considered the proportion, and the new issues as a rule not one-fifth those of adhesives. As no face values are higher than fourpence, except a few of those confounded—yes, that's the right word, Mr. Printer,—and compounded English envelopes (which, not being official issues, are usually ignored), there is not the dread of a Columbian or a Jubilee issue requiring the disbursement of a good many dollars to obtain one a set. Then there are no varieties of watermark and of perforation (with two or three exceptions) to drive one mad, or wear out one's precious eyesight to discover. The one dreadful fear, too, of a stamp collector in the usual way—the paying of a heavy price for what turns out to be a forgery—does not haunt the collector of entires, there not being any known forgeries of the cards, I believe, though there are a few bogus surcharges and some imitation envelope stamps on pieces of paper.

This last is another reason for rejecting cut envelopes or cards—besides that previously given of their uselessness for defraying postage, which is the one object of all postal stamps—and yet another reason is that the same stamp is often impressed on entirely different issues. The commonest instance, perhaps, is to be found in our first English half-penny and penny cards, and again in those of Mexico, where the same stamp is embossed on about twenty different types of cards and envelopes, so that no particular issue can be recognised by the "cut square" stamp.

Used *versus* unused can hardly be discussed in connection with cards, for the very simple reason that, with few exceptions, used cards cannot be had from the dealers, who consider the stock of unused ones to be bulky enough, but who clear out some used from time to time at a few shillings per thousand. However, used cards are preferred by many enthusiasts who like to trace the route and the time occupied in transit by the various postmarks, and there is certainly some very amusing, if not instructive, reading to be found on the backs thereof. Indian cards are beauties in these respects, especially if you can appreciate the various writing characters used in Hindostan; one now before me has twelve postmarks, including one of "Refused" and another "1 anna to pay"—the only portions that are readable to me. Orders for soap and grocery, and complaints about the butter in Melbourne are not exhilarating, but there are a few funny stories to be made out from some in my collection—lovers' appointments—family history—baby's first tooth and Jane down with the mumps—reminders of subscriptions due—offers of bargains—programmes of touring companies—and regrets that so-and-so has left the faith and joined the ranters. Envelopes too often get torn badly in opening and occasionally have big seals, so are not popular in a used state.

One drawback is the matter of a suitable receptacle for one's "entires." A few hundreds may be pasted down at the corners in a plain scrapbook, or, as just shown me by a philatelic friend, by using two strong stamp hinges close to sides and about three-quarters-of-an-inch from bottom, four cards on a page overlapping one-half. When one gets into thousands drawers can be utilised if you only wish to store them for your own gratification, but you cannot show them well to your friends in that condition. My preference is for a book made with four strips or pockets across each page (like the dealers stock books for stamps), but oblong in form, say 13/16 in. by 10/16 deep, the cards arranged in four overlapping rows of two side by side. Ten volumes specially built would thus be required for about 5,000 pieces. There is a very good stockbook sold by some publishers with twelve strips across a page 12 x 9, which by using alternate pockets will admit five cards to a page, and by placing each card half-an-inch to right or left of preceding one, allows of a hinge being fixed under top corner to hold it in position, and leaving a little space for cut specimens of extra shades by their sides. Of course nine pockets could be so used, but the thickness of the overlaps would be so great as to burst the binding.

The simplest way to begin a general collection is to buy a few packets from different dealers, thus ensuring a greater variety—the few duplicates thus obtained are always useful for exchange purposes.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



APROPOS to our remarks of a fortnight ago on the subject of catalogue prices, "Country Collector" has a growl to emit; and a very reasonable growl it is, as all who read may see:—

I read with pleasure your comment on "Catalogue Prices" in your last issue, for it is quite time that the public at large

were acquainted with the fact that Cat. prices are made too free use of by private persons who have stamps to sell to get unfair prices. I will only give one illustration. In the last Gibbons the British Central African 6d. ultramarine, 1891 issue, is catalogued at 25/- unused and 6/- used. These stamps can be bought over the counter at Gibbons's shop for 4/- and 1/- respectively. I am positively tired of having books of stamps sent to me by private sellers who get hold of my name in which no end of stamps are offered at "half Gibbons," which, in reality, are "twice Gibbons" and often more than that.

\* \* \*

The utter fatuity of collecting very common postage stamps for charitable objects is well illustrated by the following comment on the report that some 3,000,000 stamps had been collected and sold for a matter of £2,000 and that this money had helped to found a number of Christian villages on the Congo:

One of your correspondents alludes to the sale of three hundred millions of old postage stamps, collected by a Religious Order, and sold for £2000, as a marvel. It is marvellous to have collected so many old stamps in two years, but the price realised, a trifle over £6 per million, is a very inadequate return for the labour and expense of organising so vast an undertaking. A fiction that dies hard is that a million old stamps is worth £350 or more, and I may here remind your readers of the gigantic snowball, which recently emanated from New South Wales, asking charitable people to send twelve stamps each, as some person (unnamed) would give a good sum for a million stamps to help to build a Hospital. As the postage to Australia is 2½d., it is easy to see that the postage of a countless number of envelopes containing twelve stamps, each would run into thousands of pounds, whereas it would appear that the selling price of old stamps is but £6 a million. More money could be obtained at far less trouble and expense by the sale of old paper.

\* \* \*

Under date, Glasgow, Oct. 30th, an old-time collector sends the following very interesting letter:

DEAR FORTNIGHTLY. I happened in a local news shop to see your issue of 15th inst., and a note about old Mauritius post stamps. Now I have two of the stamps referred to, very old, with 'Post Office' up the side, a one-penny dull red, and a two-pence dark blue. These I remember were given me, as a boy, as his contribution to my young collection, by a friend of the family, along with a varied lot of British Guiana, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Jamaica, Nova Scotia, Barbados, Trinidad, the friend in question being the head of a colonial shipping firm here, dealing chiefly with the West Indies. The old stamps I refer to are 55 in number, and were given me about 1860 or 1861. I am especially strong in St. Vincent and British Guiana.

In an album which I lately saw (of Stanley Gibbons, Limited), on the front page are shewn representations of some rare postage stamps, with the price which the publishers offer for them. A Mauritius is so priced at £8, and another, 1d. and 2d. at £70 each!

Your article leads me to say that my old stamps are all off the original paper, though everyone genuine beyond possible suspicion. The first thing a boy does with his stamps is to stick them into water, and then to paste or gum them into a nice clean penny or twopenny pass book.

I may mention that when a boy at school, the old Moldo-Wallachia stamps, with a bull head, star, and trumpet, though not exactly 'common,' were in regular exchange among us boys, 'a '27' and an '81' are in mind particularly. I see one of these, the '108' in the illustrations spoken of above, at £8! The then current 'Guiana' and 'Canadian' issues, including the 3d., 6d., 3d.—and 10c., 12c., 17c.—were in any boy's possession who was agreeable to give a fair exchange.

You will pardon me signing by a '*nom de plume*,' as I have kept my old colonial stamps so long, that I have no thought of parting with them now. I am aware that many of them are of value, the parcel may be worth a round £100, but it is my intention to keep them.

I am, yours truly,

'1860 COLLECTOR.'

P.S.—I remember well the old figure 'Brazils' in my early school days. As might be expected, I have a strong show of these, all 1861, or prior to that year.

## Stamp Mounts and their Manufacture.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

WHEN looking through collections, large and small, I often find that the stamps are mounted in a most unbusiness-like manner—in many cases in a way most injurious to the life of the philatelic treasures. It is not enough to buy a first-class stamp mount; in fact it is even better to mount stamps on a scientific basis with a bad stamp mount, than to manipulate a good mount in such a way as to injure the stamp.

I propose in this little article to explain a mode I have adopted in my stock for many years and which I have found to work most satisfactorily.

In the first place care must be taken that a good stamp mount is selected. I am well aware that mounts can be bought at 2d. per 1,000 but rather than use these I would resort to the ordinary margin from English penny postage stamps: there at least I know that the mucilage used is free from acid. I have often been asked why it is that some stamp mounts can be sold at 2d. while others very similar to them cost as much as 1s. 6d. per 1,000. The explanation is a very simple, although an almost unknown one.

The ordinary cheap stamp mount is covered with a compound of which dextrine is the chief element. This mucilage is applied to the paper by means of rollers which are kept moist by mechanical means. Hence a roll of paper can be inserted in the machine, run over the gum rollers, and conveyed direct to the drying sheds with only a boy or two to attend to the whole process. The endless length of paper thus gummed and dried in this fashion, is then rolled up again and keeps, of course, perfectly flat and smooth, and is easily cut up in sheets.

It may be news to most that our present English stamps are printed on paper already gummed. Unfortunately the compound used for covering the paper has a tendency to affect all vegetable colours and therefore is highly dangerous to use as stamp mounts. For this reason most dealers prefer to use stamp mounts covered with pure gum arabic; and here the trouble begins. In the first place gum arabic is an expensive article in the pure state, but the chief cause of the expense is the fact that it cannot be used on the rollers as explained above, as it is apt to froth soon after being put on the machines. It is therefore necessary to gum the sheets by hand with brushes, when of course many sheets are spoilt in the manufacture. It also has a very nasty habit of contracting the paper on which it is applied making it extremely crinkling and unfit for cutting. It is therefore necessary to put the sheets, after they are thoroughly dry, into hydraulic presses, and quite recently a batch of sheets thus pressed had to remain in the presses for a fortnight before they were ready for the cutters; naturally again many sheets are spoilt in the presses through sticking together, etc. It will therefore be hardly a surprise to find that the manufacturers' cost is very much higher for the gum arabic coated sheets than for the dextrine-coated ones. If one further takes into consideration the fact that stamp mounts are after all only a small article commanding a limited sale and that a very large number must be sold to make it a profitable investment, the price of 1/3 or 1/6 per 1,000 is reasonable.

Finally, careful attention must be paid to the paper itself. It should be a thin, hard transparent paper, grease-proof, made of very strong fibre to prevent the paper from tearing.

So much for the manufacture of the mounts: now as to their proper use. Naturally, doctors differ on this point and here I can only give my own opinion leaving it to my readers to judge for themselves. Taking a mount of the conventional size, which is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch long, I turn over about an eighth—certainly not more—and affix the turned over part to the stamp in such a fashion as *not to protrude beyond the perforation*. This is a most important point, as I consider nothing looks more hideous in a nicely arranged collection than to see the stamp mount sticking beyond the sides of the stamp. Having prepared my stamp so far, I moisten the lower part of the remaining stamp mount and affix it to the album. When dry it will be seen that owing to the mount not being fixed down entirely a certain amount of play is obtained, which, when lifting the stamp prevents the perforation being bent. The stamp can easily be examined without removing it from the album. Again, if it is necessary to remove the stamp from the album there would be little trouble in doing so without tearing the hinge. I shall be very pleased to send to any of my readers a specimen of a stamp mounted in the fashion mentioned above, on receipt of postage.

Of course our publishers sell stamp mounts and some of my readers will no doubt consider the above article a kind of superior advertisement. Well, so it is, but at the same time I hope that by giving the above explanation I shall have interested some of the readers of the S.C.F.

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It has often been suggested to us to commence a feature of this sort in the *Fortnightly*, and we have at length decided to do so. It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for every *acceptable* reply we receive the sender will be awarded a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility to philatelists. Hereunder are the first six questions:

- 1.—What is *burele*, as applied to a postage stamp?
- 2.—Which is the rarest of all "local" stamps?
- 3.—Is there any group of countries (or colonies) whose stamps are identical in design and only distinguishable by a difference of colour?
4. What is the meaning, or origin, of the Hungarian watermark, "'K.P.' in circle"?
- 5.—Why, and to what extent, are the Russian Locals more "collectible" than the Locals of Germany and the Scandinavian Countries?
- 6.—Which is really the rarest postage stamp in the world, having regard simply to the number of specimens known to exist?

Answers to any or all of these should be written on one side of the paper only, and sent to the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C., not later than Tuesday, December 6th.

THE United States postal authorities have apparently determined that there shall be no Hawaiian remainders, for an order has been issued from Washington to the various postmasters interested to the effect that hereafter Hawaiian postage stamps shall be received at their face value for the payment of postage on all articles mailed in Hawaii, whether for delivery in the United States or elsewhere.—*Metropolitan Philatelist*.

## Our Review of Reviews.

### The "L.S.D. Feeling" in Philately.

MR. C. F. LARMOUR can always chat very entertainingly about Philately when he feels "so disposed"; but as this gentleman once humorously remarked in a letter to the *FORTNIGHTLY*, he has to snatch an hour or so now and then to attend to his business! Consequently Mr. Larmour's contributions to philatelic literature have not been so frequent as one could wish. In the October issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, however, he has a most interesting article, headed, "Is Philately on the Decline?" His answer to this question is an emphatic "no!" but he admits (and deplores) that the slump in prices and other things would give one the impression that our hobby is on the down grade. Mr. Larmour resents what we may call "the L.S.D. feeling" in Philately.

I remember (he writes) a conversation I had once with a tyro who came to me for advice. In looking through his album (he was a general collector), I noticed that he was numerically very strong in certain despised countries. In an airy sort of way he said he thought he would give up those countries and confine himself to a few in which he was hopelessly weak.

I asked him why he proposed doing this.

His reply was that the former were "such awful rubbish" and that he could get nothing for them if he wanted to realise, while the latter would always bring him back his money.

I asked him if that was the only motive that actuated him. He replied not exactly, but mainly so.

Then I said, it would be better that he gave up collecting altogether than allow such a feeling as that to be the moving spirit of his actions. I furthermore pointed out to him that those particular countries, in which he wanted to invest (for I could hardly call it collecting), were at that time in the very height of fashion, and in order to attain even respectable mediocrity in them he would have to pay "through the nose" for all he wanted. I also showed him that the stamps of themselves possessed no intrinsic merit, that they were dull and uninteresting, that their only attractiveness was their rarity, while for philatelic research they were very little better than useless. To my thinking, I said, they were greater rubbish than those he despised, whose only fault was that they were common.

True Philately, I contended then, as I have always contended, recognised no such distinctions.

There speaks sound common-sense, and it is good to learn that the tyro profited by Mr. Larmour's advice. But the worship of the scarce is still, by some people, carried to the length of ignoring all stamps "whose only fault is that they are common."

Mr. Larmour, in his further remarks, echoes the now well-worn truism that "auctions have been overdone," but he is silent on the subject of catalogues, and he holds dealers blameless.

It is absurd to blame the dealers, he writes. I have had some experience of dealers (I do not mean stamp dealers only), and that experience tells me that a good dealer, whatever may be his wares, is rarely a speculator. He is quite content to get his profit and seldom holds out for a big rise. The speculator forces up the price, and small blame can be attached to the dealer if he takes advantage of that forcing. It is the public, not the dealer, who makes the price, and so long as the speculator forces the public, the dealer would be a fool not to turn that fact to his own benefit.

This again is irrefutable. Mr. Larmour, in short, thinks that the "speculator" is at the bottom of the seeming decline in Philately, which in reality is no decline at all.

"The shadow," he declares, "will pass!"

### Are "Officially Sealed" Labels Collectible?

Discussing the question of "officially sealed" labels, Major Evans, in the *Monthly Journal*, writes:—

We all know that some of these labels are adorned with more or less elaborate and interesting devices, and in different countries they appear to be used in rather different ways. In Great Britain, whose Officially Sealed Labels we have never seen either catalogued or provided for in albums, these patches seem to be applied to all packets that are found to require them, and the date stamp is struck

upon the label to show when and where the cover was found open or torn. In other places the "Official Seals" are much more sparingly used, we believe. In Canada we are told that they were only affixed to letters that had been opened unnecessarily in the Post Office; for instance, letters that could not be delivered for any reason, but which bore the address of the sender on the outside, and could therefore be returned unopened. If such a letter as this was opened by mistake at the Dead Letter Office, it was reclosed with one of the Canadian Officially Sealed Labels, to show that it had been opened by proper authority; and we were given to understand that these labels were not used in Canada for ordinary broken packages, and being employed for the special purpose just described, they were not allowed to be given away to collectors. In all cases, however, these labels are used, as their inscriptions denote, for sealing up letters and packets; they denote neither postage nor freedom from postage in any shape or form, and our personal opinion is that they have no claim whatever to be considered stamps. We must confess that we do not know what is the correct definition of a stamp, but we should be inclined to define it as a label denoting either a sum paid, or a sum to be paid, or that there is nothing to be paid, on the article to which it is attached; thus a postage stamp may denote either postage paid by the sender, postage to be paid by the receiver, or that the letter or packet passes post free. We have seen it argued that Unpaid Letter or Postage Due stamps are not postage stamps; but surely the charge for transmission is postage, whether it be paid by the sender or by the receiver, and naturally different forms of stamps are employed in the two cases. Again, a Special Delivery stamp denotes payment for transmission by a special means, and thus is a postage stamp, in spite of the fact that it may not be available for payment of ordinary postage. It is a little more difficult to find an excuse for including the stamps impressed upon Registration Envelopes. They certainly come within our definition of a stamp, and they represent a charge upon letters sent by post; still, that charge is not exactly postage, because it is not for transmission, but for insurance. The stamps, however, are postal, and ordinary postage stamps can be employed for denoting the same charge, so it is fair enough, perhaps, to include these in a collection of postage stamps.

"Official stamps carry us a little further. We can hardly reject such stamps as those of Denmark and the Departmental issues of the United States, which have a value expressed upon them, and which are used precisely as ordinary postage stamps are used, representing the actual postal charges upon letters and packages of certain weights, &c. Our own Government Parcels, I.R. Official stamps, &c., come into this same category. Some extreme purists have raised objections to these stamps, on the ground that they do not denote postage paid, but rather freedom from postage. We doubt, however, whether this is always correct; in some cases we believe the amount represented by the stamps thus used is credited to the postal revenue, and charged against the departments using them. Official stamps which have no value expressed, and which frank an unlimited amount of official matter, certainly occupy a different position; they seem rather to indicate that the packets to which they are affixed are Official, and therefore not chargeable with postage. Still, they seem to come so near to the postage stamp proper, that there is some excuse for their admission.

"The 'Officially Sealed' labels are quite outside any of these classes. They are not stamps, unless we are to admit that any piece of gummed paper with something printed upon it is a stamp. If we admit these, we should admit the Registration Labels large 'R,' &c.—affixed to registration letters in our own and other countries. All these are Postal Labels, but not stamps. Of course they are collectible by anyone who chooses to collect them, but they have no place in a Stamp Album or Catalogue."

### A Brief History of B.C.A. Stamps.

We think it will be space well filled to reprint the following short article from the *London Philatelist*:

It would seem that, through lack of proper information, Philatelists generally have come to wrong conclusions with regard to the *bona fides* of the stamps issued from time to time by the Imperial Administration of the British Central Africa Protectorate.

When, in 1891, Sir Harry Johnston preceeded to British Central Africa, and the present Protectorate was created, he found it necessary to issue postage stamps. The Protectorate geographically forms part of that huge tract of country lying north to the river Zambesi, and known as Northern Zambesia. The Protectorate is the most eastern portion of this territory; the remainder, and by far the larger area, being in the hands of the British South Africa Company. There being no facilities in British Central Africa for making stamps, Sir Harry Johnston did the best thing he could to meet the demand, namely, to surcharge the stamps of the British South Africa Company with the letters "B.C.A."

A that time the British South Africa Company had no representatives in Northern Zambesia, and Sir Harry Johnston acted for them as well as for the Imperial Government. Later on, somewhere about the end of 1891, the British South Africa Company sent out an administrator for their territory, and Sir Harry Johnston apparently thought it a fitting time for the creation of an Imperial stamp for the British South Africa Protectorate; and, being an artist of some repute, he himself drew out the design which appeared on the stamp issued in 1895. Through an oversight this stamp was printed on paper having no watermark. This omission was pointed out officially, and attention was called to the fact that it facilitated forgery. A new issue on watermarked paper had then to be printed.

This accounts for the first three issues. The fourth and present issue was decided upon after very lengthy and careful consultation here in London with the authorities at the General Post Office. One of the main points which caused the fourth issue to be created was, that it was thought absolutely necessary for each stamp to have a different colour as in the previous issue; two stamps the 3s. and the £1, were so similar in size and appearance that serious mistakes were likely to occur in their use, the 3s. stamp being largely used throughout the Protectorate for the collection of the native hut tax.

#### THE ALLEGED LOSS OF AN ISSUE OF STAMPS.

Reference has been made to the loss of a case of stamps at Chinde, and it has been stated that this case contained a fifth issue. This is incorrect. The case contained a repetition of stamps of certain values of the present issue, mostly, if not entirely, of the lower values.

The loss of this case caused the postal authorities in British Central Africa to run out of the 1d. blue stamp, and to meet the demand the Postmaster-General decided to surcharge the 3s. green stamp. He selected this stamp for the reason that it was being no longer used for the collection of the Hut Tax, an embossed stamp being now used for that purpose. When his stock of 3s. stamps gave out, and sufficient time had not elapsed for the arrival from England of a second supply of the original blue penny stamp, the only thing to be done was to print a temporary stamp locally, and this was done by printing on small sheets of paper twenty-four squares of blue lines, with the two words "Internal Postage" in each square. These squares were then passed one at a time through a die press, which embossed a red oval stamp of the value of one penny, ordinarily used for cheques. These stamps were not sold over the counter to the public. Letters had to be brought to the Post Office, the cost of postage paid, and the stamp was stuck on by the Postmaster, so that in no case was an unused stamp issued to the public. Further, when attempts were made by certain people to obtain numbers of these stamps by sending, say, sixty letters all addressed to one person at one place, the attempt was promptly defeated by the Postmaster tying all the letters into one bundle and affixing a 5s. stamp.

In conclusion, it has been asserted, and in the catalogues issued by some dealers it has been specially noted, that some of the issues above referred to were made for the purpose of creating a revenue. It appears to have been overlooked that the British Central Africa Protectorate is under the control of the Foreign Office, that it is not a colony with its own independent Government, and obliged to make a revenue somehow, but that it is a Protectorate pure and simple, does not pay its way, and receives each year a large grant from the British Government to enable its work to be carried on. Add to this the fact that the Treasury distinctly and imperatively discountenances and prohibits the creation of a fictitious revenue by the sale of stamps, the genuineness and *bona fide* of each of the British Central Africa issues must be admitted by everyone who takes the trouble to go carefully into the matter.

The Editor of the *London Philatelist* is careful to add that, though the foregoing interesting article emanates from an excellent authority on the subject, he does not go quite so far as the correspondent in some respects.

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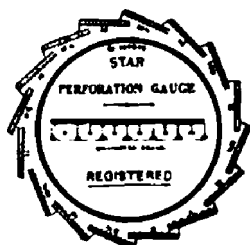
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We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:  
One to three stamps .. 6d.  
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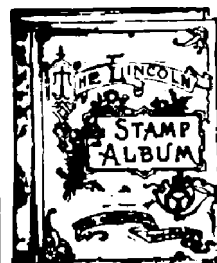
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**D. EMILIO DIENA,** [112]  
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IN return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/ or over, we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 pies carmine, Gwalior, 13 1/2 mms., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 230 ever issued).  
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(Opposite the Royal Palace).

105-134

**Our "Want List."**

*ALL the rare and medium stamps, but especially U. S. and British Colonial, including varieties of perforations, shades, &c. Books of such sent us on approval are sure to be appreciated.*

*Returns can be made by following steamer if specially desired. Plenty of good customers here with ready money.*

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For **£5 PRIZE.**

WE have been trying for some time to think of a New Competition in which anybody might compete, without putting themselves to much trouble, and the following is our new scheme:

**WE WILL GIVE £5 PRIZE**

to the person who finds out, and sends to us written on the form supplied with our **Shilling Packet of 35 Varieties for December**, the name of a certain very well-known

**HOLIDAY RESORT**

in Great Britain. This name can be formed from *some* of the initials of the 35 different countries represented in each packet.

A HINT.—The name of the County in which the town is situated can also be formed from the 35 initial letters, as in the case of the town itself; but it is only the latter name which need be sent.

**THE PACKET CONTAINS:**

U.S. OMAHA, 10c. black; FIJI, 2d. green; SOUDAN, used; COLUMBIA; LAGOS; PERSIA, 1898, 1 kran blue; MEXICO; ECUADOR; SELANGOR, GOLD COAST; LEEWARD ISLES; ZAMBESI, Etc., Etc.

The above packet differs from all previous ones, price, 1/- post free. Orders may be sent in at once, but no packets will be sent out till the 1st December. If more than one correct answer be received, the £5 will be divided. Competition Closes Dec. 31st. Name of Winner, FORTNIGHTLY, January 7th

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

28, Radipole Rd.,  
Fulham, London, S.W.  
105-110]

3rd Edition. Ready in December, 1898.  
**THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY**

Revised to date by FREDK. A. WICKHART, Hon. Sec., of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society. The book will be the popular Pocket Size (about Size about 8 by inches), and advertisements will be received at a very cheap rate for this edition. As the book will be kept for continual reference by collectors and dealers it forms the most excellent advertising medium possible. The large second edition (1897) is now sold out. 2/6 per in. across page. 1/6 per in. single column Business Card in Medalion, 1/-

These rates are altogether irrespective of the amount of space taken, and include cost of a voucher copy. Advertisements should be sent by December 8th. Advertisement Pages will face Directory Pages. The publishers anticipate a demand of 1,000 in the first month.

Prepaid Orders for Copies of the Directory can be booked, and will be executed in rotation. [106-111] Price—ONE SHILLING (25 cents), Post Free.

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49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [109-114]

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that  
Their Third Manchester Auction  
WILL BE HELD AT THE  
**Grand Hotel**

On WEDNESDAY, November 30th

At 6 o'clock in the evening

And will include the finest series of Danish stamps ever offered, over 60 lots unused and others, very fine U.S.A., and a fine Private Collection.

If you want to dispose of your Stamps, send them to us, we send you cash within eight days.

In consequence of circumstances, over which we have no control, all our hitherto advertised sale dates are cancelled.

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Read what one of our clients says:

LIVERPOOL, November 9th, 1898.

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Dear Sirs.—Thanks for yours duly to hand with cheque, for which I thank you. The promptitude with which you settle up accounts should be more generally known. The leading Auctioneers might profit considerably by your example, and collectors generally would be more than likely to do your firm a turn than patronise those who take from two to six weeks in settling up. I am not afraid to make my opinion known, and will do so in those quarters likely to be of service to you.—I am, yours faithfully,  
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All enquiries to be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**  
105-110] Stamp Auctioneers,  
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While they last I can supply as under:  
Sets of 5: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 annas ... 5/6  
Sets of 7: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8a., 1 and 5 rupees.  
COMPLETE ... 35/-

Puttialla, 2 annas Service, black surcharge, unused	7 6
Spain, War Tax, 5c. de p. error in color of 10c.	60 0
United States, 1/69, 24c. very fine, used	15 0
" " 10c.	45 0
" " 1871, 90c. used	2 6
" " 1887, 90c. violet, used	3 6
NEW PRICE LIST FREE.	197-122

Chas. J. Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey

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British Honduras, CA., 6d. yellow, used, very fine	3 15 0
Canada, 7 1/2d., cut close, but fine	1 5 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d., fine	0 17 6
Great Britain, 4d., wmk. Garter, Plate 17, unused	0 12 6
Gibraltar, 4d., used, Second Issue	0 7 6
Transvaal, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1, used, the set	1 0 0

Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps at Lowest Prices  
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Gibraltar, 1857, used, 4d. to 1/-	4 0 0
do. 1859-96, mint, 5c. to 2ptas.	1 15 0
Morocco Agencies, used, 5c. to 2ptas., or unused	0 4 6
Newfoundland, Jubilee, used, 1c. to 60c.	0 3 9
Nova Scotia, 1, 2, 8 1/2c. mint	0 12 6
Oil Rivers, used, 1/2 to 1	0 4 0
St. Helena, 1/2 to 10d., used or unused	0 7 6
U.S.A., Columbus mint, 1c. to 5 dollars	0 3 2
105 122]	3 15 0

**W. H. HODGSON & Co.,**  
4, ALLEYN TERRACE,  
WEST DULWICH, S.E.

OFFER THE FOLLOWING:	Cat. Price	Our Price
Barbados, 5/- rose, star, nice copy	60 0	35 0
B. E. A. on Zanzibar, unused set, 4-7 1/2as.	93 0	45 0
" 1st issue, 4a on 1d. lilac (scarce) on piece	24 0	10 0
Gibraltar, 1898, mint set, 4d.-1/- (postage extra)	12 6	9 0
Cape, Triangular, 1/- yellow-green, unused and very fine	70 0	35 0
" 5/- orange, CC. 14, unused, with gum	40 0	18 0
Trinidad, 1d. lake, no wmk. perf. 13, unused with gum	35 0	13 6
Queensland, 1860-1, 1d. carmine, star, rough perf., superb mint pair	30 0	12 0
" 3d. brown, an equally fine pair	40 0	15 0

Selections of good medium and rare stamps against first-class references.

We desire further correspondence from British Colonies. Reference Ed. of this Paper. [106-111]

**WANTED.**

**RAILWAY**

**LETTER**

**STAMPS.**

COMMON OR RARE.

Small or Large Quantities.

HIGH PRICES PAID.

**H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN,**

32h, Palace Square,  
Norwood,

LONDON, S.E.

(103-122).

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORT-NIGHTLY

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

No. 110—Vol. V      \* SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1898.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

- Bristol Philatelic Society.      Cambridge University Philatelic Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society.      Edinburgh and Leith Society.      Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
 Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.      Sheffield Philatelic Society.

# "HILCKES"

## NEW PERMANENT ...

# Postage Stamp Album.

We have Just Published an Album with Moveable Leaves under the above title with a very ingenious patent mechanism, which allows a very easy moving of the sheets. The leaves are of strong card board, with double linen hinge, and covered with the well-known small squares in faint ink, in order to facilitate the arranging of the stamps.

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GLASGOW: Mr. ARCH. MCAUSLAN, 93, Bath Street.

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And at our Offices, 64, Cheapside.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON,**  
E.C.

**Doings of Societies.**

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE fourth general meeting of this Society was held on 16th November last in their rooms at Bird's Restaurant. The evening was devoted to the sale and exchange of stamps, a number of stamps changing hands at very fair prices. It was decided that at the next meeting a display of the Stamps of North America should be held.

**BRISTOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE usual fortnightly meetings were held on Nov. 3rd and 17th, when several new members were elected.

The stamps exhibited were those of Queensland and France. Amongst the latter attention was drawn to several varieties in the type letters inserted at the foot of the Colonials, Mr. Cartwright showing a very distinct specimen of the 25ct. COTE D'IVOIRE on an entire dated March 31st, 1898, on which there was no foot to the final E which therefore was a perfect F.

On Dec. 1st (the President being in the chair and Mr. T. C. Cartwright acting as Sec. in the unavoidable absence of Mr. R. Dalton) there was a large attendance of members, some of whom exhibited their collections of "India" amongst which were some fine specimens.

The monthly exchange packets have considerably increased both in bulk and value. Intending members should send in their applications at once to the *Hon. Sec.*, Mr. R. Dalton, 30, Carnarvon Road, Redland, Bristol, in order that they may be proposed and elected prior to the General Meeting in January next.

**LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

IN the unexpected absence from home of Mr. H. M. Hepworth, the last meeting, which had been originally arranged for Headingley House, was held in St. Michael's Road, by the kind invitation of Mr. John H. Thackrah, on Tuesday, 15th November. Several novelties were shown, including from the President (Mr. E. Egly) a letter which had eluded the vigilance of the London Post-office officials, having been delivered without bearing either stamp or surcharge. He also showed a new value of Portuguese stamp, 65 reis, on the original envelope, the issue of which was necessitated by the fall in the currency. Mr. T. K. Skipworth showed the two plates of the current 2½d. stamps of New South Wales, and explained the chief points of difference between them. Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., showed examples of the "official" stamps of Uruguay on the original envelopes, the values being 7 and 10 centesimos.

The subject of the evening was a display of West Indian Colonies. Mr. John H. Thackrah had a large series of these attractive and popular stamps, and amongst the many good things were noticeable: St. Vincent, unused copies of 1s. slate and 1s. blue, the 4d. yellow, 4d. blue, 6d. green and 1d. drab with star watermark; also two used copies of the 1s. brown; St. Lucia, a specially fine display, including 18 unused copies of the first design, various values; Bahamas, 1d. imperforate, on thin and thick papers, unused; 1d. small perforation, and ten examples of the issue without watermark; Barbadoes, many unused copies of the earliest issues; British Guiana, nearly complete from 1860, both used and unused; and British Honduras, first three issues complete. The president had examples of many of the St. Vincent stamps already mentioned, and also the following:—Jamaica, 2s. and 5s., perforated 12½, unused; St. Christopher, 1s.;

Dominica, 1s., perforated 12½; Virgin Islands, the 6d. and 1s. with red border, of the first issue, and the 4d. surcharged on 1s.; Nevis, 1s. engraved, and the 4d. blue, watermarked with C.A., and crown; a very fine copy of the £1 stamp of Bahamas; Antigua, 1s.; Grenada, 1s. of 1884; and both the 5s. stamps of the Barbadoes. Other members present showed only single examples on original envelopes. The members spent a most pleasant evening, and were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Thackrah.

**BRIGHTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE first meeting of the season 1898-99, was held at Markwell's Hotel on Tuesday, November 15th, at 8.15 p.m., when six members were present. The President took the chair, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, a slight discussion took place with regard to future meetings. The President (Mr. M. P. Castle) read some notes on the 1876 issue of Spain, stating that he had discovered that for most of the values two plates were used, and that these had been retouched in many places, causing numerous varieties, the most prominent of which he described in detail. He also mentioned that this set of stamps was prepared in London and was the only issue made out of Spain. A cordial vote of thanks was passed for the President's most interesting paper.

**LIVERPOOL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

SEASON 1898-99.

*President:*

W. F. H. HILL.

*Vice-Presidents:*

F. B. BRADBURY. O. H. CECIL.

*Committee:*

A. M. COATES. C. S. MILNER.  
J. HUGHES. J. G. TWEDDLE.

H. WOODS.

*Hon. Sec. and Treasurer:*

W. HALFPENNY,  
28, Dacy Road,  
Liverpool.

*Hon. Exchange Sec.:*

THOMAS WHITWORTH,  
1, Green Bank,  
Waterloo.

MEETINGS of the Society will be held in the Alexandra Hotel, Dale Street, Liverpool, on the dates named below, at 6.30 p.m. prompt.

1898—Monday	November 7th.
do.	do. 21st.
do.	December 5th.
do.	do. 19th.
1899	January 9th.
do.	do. 23rd.
do.	February 6th.
do.	do. 20th.
do.	March 6th.
do.	do. 20th.
do.	April 10th.
do.	do. 24th.
do.	May 8th.
	June, July, August.
	No Meetings.
do.	September 11th.
do.	October 9th.
do.	do. 23rd.
do.	November 6th.
do.	do. 20th.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Halfpenny, reports that the Society has a remarkably good year. The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is reappointed as official organ.

**BRADFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE monthly meeting of this Society was held on the 8th of November. The President, Mr. Stamford, occupied the chair, and there were also thirteen members and one visitor present. After the election of one new member, which will bring up the membership of the Society to thirty-eight, it was resolved by the Society to offer a gold medal for competition at the Manchester International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in June next. There being no other formal business, Mr. Gray then read his paper on "The Triangular Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope," which was both instructive and exhaustive. He illustrated his remarks by some fine specimens from his own collection, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him at the close of his paper.

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 ½d. for every word,—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

CHEAPEST SETS. Lists gratis and post free. W. N. COLLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. 108-119

STAMPS on approval, liberal discount.—W. GAPP, 102, Salmon Lane, London, E. 110

GUIANA, 1852, 4cts., (mended) 6½; also bargain lots. LATT, Leicester Street, Southport. 112

SPECIAL OFFERS—Lagos Collection, 50/- catalogued 90/-; Great Britain, ditto, superb, £8; Borneo, nearly complete, 40/-; Wurtemberg, ditto, all 1s and 20 kr. 10/-, many other bargains.—NEWLAND, 5, Little Trinity Lane, City. 119

NO dealers admitted. Members wanted for West-Australian Exchange. Established 3 years. No coms. Secretary H. PEARSON, 58, Queen's Road, Bayswater. 110

LEGACY. Sack full old penny red stamps, 1 - 1,000. Whole lot cheap. Other stamps at best offer.—NELLI HAYNES, 19, Kensington Park Road, W. 110

U.S.A. Fine Collection over 700, good proportion unused, some unique. Estimated cat. price about £200. £40 cash or part exchange. MARISSON, Inverness Place, Bayswater. 110

XMAS SPECIAL. Gratis, List 500 Sets, Packets, etc. Sheets 4d. stamps up. Good discount and prizes. All remitting us 10/- and upwards secure an Album free. Agents wanted. Established 12 years. F. A. McANULTAN & Co., 95, Bath Street, Glasgow.

STAMPS. 80 good, clean varieties, 4d.; 100, 7d.; 200, 1s.; 300, 2s.; 500, 5s. Cheap Approval Sheets.—F. STANLEY, 142, Southampton Row, W.C.

WE are not collecting Post Cards; but if you wish to fill up the blanks, send us one with your name and address in exchange for our New and Enlarged List.—JOHN VENN, 11, Crescent Road, Wimbledon (Surrey). 110

B.C.A. High values and others, for sale cheap.—TERRY, 66, Windover Road, Harlesden, N.W.

BREAKING small collection. Approval books—suit all collectors—sent on receipt of references.—BERTRAM POOLE, Stamford.

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 3d., 1d. 1/- (obsolete). B for 1.—MONTAGUE HERD, 1, Flanders Road Chiswick

COLLECTORS who wish to buy, sell, or exchange stamps to the best possible advantage should join the "EXCELSIOR" Stamp Exchange. Write for rules.—Secretary, WILLIAM C. WESTON, S.E.P.S., Bengoe, Hertford Herts. 110-112

Continued on page 3 of Cover.

# THE PHILATELIC STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY

## FOR TWENTY YEARS

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 Philatelic Society.  | Bristol Philatelic Society.              | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society. |
| The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.  | Rochdale Philatelic Society.             | Sheffield Philatelic Society.         |
| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

No. 110—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1908

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### BELGIANS DO NOT LOVE THE SUNDAY STAMP.

It appears that Postmaster-General Vandepereboom's obstinate resolution to preserve the "Sunday" stamp as a permanent feature of the Belgian postal administration is causing no little exasperation in Brussels and elsewhere. So much the *Philatelic Monthly* gleaned from a cursory perusal of some of the leading daily papers of Belgium.

*Le Soir*, for instance, writes as follows in a recent issue: "Tired of useless efforts people have almost given up protesting against the retention on the postage stamps of the non-delivery coupons which, owing to the pigheadedness of Mr. Vandepereboom is still an essential feature of our postage stamps. What was to be merely an experiment has come to stay as an established feature and no amount of reasoning can prevail against this ridiculous and odious innovation."

As an instance of inconveniences arising from the protracted use of these Sunday stamps the following pathetic story is related:

In a town near Brussels a man fell very sick and his wife wrote immediately, on Saturday noon, to her son who is working at the capital, about the condition of his father asking him to come on at once. She had no stamps in the house and confided the letter to a child who ran to buy a stamp, but of course did not think of taking off the coupon before posting the letter. Unluckily there was a holiday on Monday and this particular letter was therefore not distributed until Tuesday. Frightened by the news the son

took the next train and on reaching his parents found that his father had been dead for 24 hours.

### THAT BERMUDAN LOCAL IS GENUINE.

Mr. E. D. Bycos, as we have already shown, believes in the local stamp of Hamilton, Bermuda, recently illustrated in the *Fortnightly*. Major Evans does not, or to speak more correctly, *did not*. In the latest issue of the *Monthly Journal* the Major confesses frankly that his scepticism is beginning to give way before the evidence that is accumulating in favor of the stamp. For two letters have turned up from St. George's and Hamilton respectively, tending to show most conclusively that Postmaster W. B. Perot "a very methodical old gentleman" it appears did indeed take impressions from his cancelling stamp, *minus the date*, and *did* use these, or permit them to be used, as penny postage stamps. "He had no legal authority for the issue," writes Mr. Joseph M. Hayward, who is Mayor of St. George's, "but used them as a matter of convenience to himself." Major Evans, as he almost needlessly tells us, is quite ready to admit any mistakes he makes; and he is beginning to think that his doubts regarding this old Bermudan local are unjustified. In his own words, "we are coming round to the belief that the "Hamilton" stamp will have to find a place some day in the catalogues, and that it will be found to equal in rarity though not perhaps in interest or value our old friends, the "Post Office" Mauritius."

### MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS NEW DEPARTURE.

The days of the one-volume Catalogue are numbered. Our "Gibbons" is at present in three pieces; next year it will be a four! Messrs. Stanley Gibbons propose thus to divide the work:

- Part I. Stamps of British Empire.
- Part II. Stamps of Foreign Countries.
- Part III. Local Postage Stamps of the World.
- Part IV. Envelopes and Post Cards.

The "new departure" is Part III, which Messrs. Stanley Gibbons "venture to think will be fully justified." Well, if justification here means profit, that is entirely Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' affair; but they are well within the truth in adding that the collector of *Government Issues only* will be glad to get rid of these things in Parts I. and II. He will.

### THE DUKE OF LEINSTER'S COLLECTION.

The *London Philatelist* has received from Mr. W. R. Joynt a communication with regard to the difficulties he has



to overcome in carrying out the late Duke of Leinster's bequest to the Irish nation:

"The arrangement of the collection is now finished; but before mounting it on the sheets for exhibition purposes I propose, with your permission, giving in the *London Philatelist* a list of some of the principal wants. As pointed out in my former communication (see February No., p. 50), owing to the collection having been made in Lallier (1870 Edition) Albums, varieties of paper, watermark, perf., and shade were ignored, and the British Colonies consequently require a good deal of filling in.

"I hope Philatelists in Great Britain and also in the countries named below will generously aid in the completion of the gift made to the museum by the late Duke of Leinster. I know that his desire would be to have it useful as a work of reference, as well as interesting as an exhibit, and in the former state its value would undoubtedly be enormously increased. Space permits me to enumerate only the chief stamps and varieties lacking, but I will be only too pleased to give further particulars about any country to collectors interested in the matter. All communications should be addressed to—

WM. R. LANE JOYNT,

c/o Col. Plunkett,

Director, Science and Art Museum, Dublin.

"All stamps presented will have the donors' names indicated.

List of stamps wanted:—

TASMANIA.

4d., Plate II., and on laid. Star, imperf., 1d. No wmk., 1d. and 2d., and 1d. on *pelure*. All roulettes and pin-perf. except 1d. All issues from 1870 are unused.

WEST AUSTRALIA.

First issue, 1s.\* 2d. and 1s. roul. 1860, 2d., orange.\* No wmk., 6d. CC, 12½, 2d.\* and 1s.\* All subsequent issues unused.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Imperf. London prints, 2d. and 6d. Colonial, 1d. Rouletted series, shades of all values. Perf. and roul., all. All subsequent issues.

QUEENSLAND.

First issue, imperf., 2d. and 6d. Clean-cut perf., large star, 1d. and 2d. Rough perf., small star, 1d., 2d., and 1s. 1854-5, all. 1866, script, ditto, and all subsequent issues.\*

NEW ZEALAND.

First issue, London, printed on white, 1d. and 1s. on *bleuté*. No wmk., thick and thin papers, all; and ditto, pin-perf. and roul. No wmk., perf. 1s. 2d. *Pelure* paper, imperf., 1d. and 2d., all roul., and 1d. and 1s. perf. Wmk. star, imperf., 2d., lavender, 1s., dark green. NZ, imperf., 2d., 6d., and 1s., all values roul., and 1s. perf. All subsequent issues unused.

VICTORIA.

1850, 1d., brown shades; 2d., Type 1; Type 2, cinnamon shades; Type 3, lilac shades. 3d., Type 1. 1854, engraved.\* lithographed,\* and used copies, showing different stages of error of plate. 1854, 1s., roul. Emblems, star, 1d. and 4d., roul. No wmk., roul., all. Laid paper, imperf., 4d., roul., 2d. and 4d. 1862, 2d., value in words, and 2d., error. Diademed heads on 6d. of 1865, all errors of watermark. All subsequent issues.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sydneys, Plate I., 1d., date on white, and all shades on blue. Plate II., 1d. on yellow and on laid, and errors. 2d., Plate I., Plate II., III., on wove and laid. 3d. on laid. Laureated, 1d. on laid. 1d. on wove, light shades. 6d., Plate II., and all varieties of this issue. Diadem, imperf., all errors of watermark. Everything subsequent to 1871.\*

FRANCE.

First Republic, 40c.,\* and 1 franc, orange and orange-vermilion. 1870, Bordeaux, 2c.;\* Paris, 40c., pale orange.\* 1876, Type 1, set.\* Type 2, 75c. and 1 franc, all.\* Current 5 francs.\* Unpaid letter stamps, 1884, 2 francs.

FRENCH COLONIES. All the general issues.

DENMARK.

1851, 4 R.b.s.,\* same, perf. (? Ed.) 1853, 4,\* 8 roul., 4, 8, 16 perf. 1858, all roul. and perf. 1870-1, set.\* 1896, 5, 10, 20 small and medium figures.\*

DANISH WEST INDIES. 1873-91, set.

ICELAND. All.

HOLLAND. First issue in pairs."

MISS GRIFFIN'S "PHILATELIC SNOWBALL".

ON this now familiar subject Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull, the well known Editor of the *Australian Philatelists*, writes the following letter, to which we gladly give full publicity in the hope that such publication may in some measure mitigate the annoyance complained of:

DEAR SIRS,

I noticed a little while ago in your *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY*, an article reflecting in no measured terms upon Miss Griffin and her chain-letter scheme in connection with the Hurstville Cottage Hospital.

Feeling sure that you wrote that article without being fully informed as to the true state of the case, and more with a view to comment adversely on what you considered an objectionable system, than to purposely injure any individual, I take the liberty to give you a few particulars that may possibly induce you to alter or at least modify your judgment.

Miss Griffin is the daughter of Mr. J. G. Griffin, Mayor of Hurstville, a suburb of Sydney, and she is not a collector of stamps. As some little time ago the Hurstville Cottage Hospital was in want of an additional ward, Miss Griffin undertook to canvass for funds to provide the required ward. A stamp-collecting friend, having read of the chain-letter scheme in America, suggested that a similar plan might be adopted here with some measure of success, and offered to purchase the resulting stamps at the rate of £50 per million. The idea was acted upon by Miss Griffin with very little anticipation as to the marvellous effect it would have. It was never intended that the letter should go beyond the Australian Colonies, and so far as England and the Continent are concerned, no one connected with the matter imagined that the letter would spread there.

However, it did spread, and the result is that many thousands of utterly useless current English and Continental stamps have been received. If it were only possible to stop the stream everyone concerned would be pleased. Mr. Griffin says "we cannot advertise this expression of our wishes because of the expense of so doing, but if you can prevent its continuance in any way we shall be obliged to you." About £63 has been obtained by the sale of marketable stamps, and there are hundreds of thousands of common English, and a good many thousand Continental stamps to be disposed of. Sufficient has been raised to erect the ward, and the object being thus gained, the promoters would be glad to be relieved from any further work in connection therewith.

Yours faithfully,

A. F. BASSETT HULL.

We wish to add one word more, and then we must regard this subject as closed. We cannot conscientiously admit that we are sorry that we wrote as we did on this matter. The "snowball" is a device that leads to wanton and world-wide waste of time and money; it may not always be conducted for some shady purpose, but it generally is, and in any case those who promote a snowball must expect criticism, for in nine cases out of ten criticism they will surely get. Miss Griffin is not a stamp collector, says Mr. Bassett Hull, and we fully accept his word for it; but we understand that Miss Griffin's father, the worthy Mayor of Hurstville, is an ardent philatelist. We have read so, somewhere.

COUNTY COURT JUDGE'S PHILATELIC PHILOSOPHY.

IN the Brentford County Court, on Friday, November 25th, George E. D. Morey, a stamp dealer, sued Mr. A. J. Moore, barrister, of 53, Lammas Park Road, Ealing, for £16 19s. 6d., the value of stamps sold.—Defendant did not appear but sent a letter saying that he had returned the stamps and His Honour Judge Bagshawe commenting upon the high prices of some of the old stamps of Van Dieman's Land said that were he Chancellor of the Exchequer he should be tempted to have new issues frequently so as to run up the prices of the old ones—Judgment was given for the plaintiff.

SOME WATERMARK VARIATIONS.

MR. BERTRAM W. H. POOLE, of Stamford, writes:—"Having occasion a short time ago to examine a number of the Victoria 2d. mauve, perf. 12, 1886 issue, I was struck by the very noticeable differences in the length of the watermark. Upon measuring I found one was 19 mills, and the other 22 mills long. This variety has, I believe, never before been chronicled. Amongst the stamps I examined the varieties were evenly divided and thus I am unable to state which is the rarer."

STRIP AND BLOCK EXCHANGE SOCIETY THAT'S THE LATEST.

OUR friend, Mr. Frederick C. Fisher, of 43, Park Street, Bristol, must be given full credit for evolving the Strip and Block Exchange Society. It's an idea we should certainly never have thought of ourselves. For full particulars as to how the Strip and Block Exchange Society is to be

worked we refer our readers to Mr. Fisher, who will, we are quite sure, send any reader of the FORTNIGHTLY the fullest particulars.

#### QUEENSLAND: AN ALTERATION OF COLOUR.

THE annual report of the Post and Telegraph Department of Queensland contains the following paragraph: A new article in the detailed regulations of the Postal Union provides that the postage stamps representing the postage rates of the union or their equivalent in the currency of each country are to be printed as far as possible in the following colors: Stamps of 25 centimes (2½d.) in dark blue, stamps of 10 centimes (1d.) in red, stamps of 5 centimes (½d.) in green. The Queensland 1d. stamp has always been printed in red and the ½d. in green. The alteration of colour of the 2½d. stamp has been anticipated, and as soon as blue water-marked paper has been received from London the stamp will be printed thereon, red on blue, like the English 2½d. This has been found necessary in consequence of the similarity of colour to the 1d. stamp.

#### NO SPECIAL STAMPS FOR IMPERIAL POSTAGE.

MANY people have been wondering whether it is the intention of the Post Office officials to celebrate the inauguration of Imperial penny postage by the issue of a special souvenir, such as an Imperial penny stamp, or an illustrated envelope.

Those who entertained the hope of a souvenir will be disappointed, because none will be issued. That is a certainty.

The official explanation is in a nutshell, says the *Daily Mail*, which journal then proceeds to enunciate the astounding proposition that the Post Office, being merely a business concern, has no time to think out ways of "supplying rare issues to voracious philatelists."

"Imperial penny postage," said an official to a *Daily Mail* representative, "is a vast and important undertaking, and we hope it will prove highly successful. But it is not our intention to issue any souvenir of its inauguration, as no useful purpose would be served. We are business people here, and we do not intend to give the new movement any philatelic colour whatever.

"Other countries, we know, frequently issue new stamps or cards on the least provocation, but we do not intend to do the same. In our opinion the institution of penny postage throughout the greater part of the British Empire will best form its own commemoration.

"The present penny stamp can be used for many purposes, and if we issued a new one very necessary work in hand would be seriously hampered. We should, for instance, have to provision thousands of offices with the new issue, as naturally it would not do to supply only London with it, and the labour which that in itself would involve would be enormous. Such an issue would not benefit anyone except philatelists."

For "except" in that last line, Mr. Postal Official, please read "not even," and then everything will be quite O.K.

### Stray Jottings.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made by the Canadian Government by which postage stamps of the Dominion, of all denominations from half a cent to fifty cents, may be purchased at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, S.W.

THE official list of British Colonies and Possessions to which the penny post will be available after Christmas is as follows:—Bahamas, British Central Africa, British East Africa, British India, Canada, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Newfoundland, Niger Coast Protectorate, St. Helena, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Straits Settlements, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks Islands, Uganda, and the Windward Islands.

THE new colors of U.S. stamps recently noted in our columns are now in general use.

\* \* \*

MR. J. E. NEWELL BULL, of Kilkivan Junction, Queensland, has recommenced publication of his monthly journal, the *Australian Stamp News*. It is indifferently printed, but Mr. Bull gets a deal of interesting matter into his very limited space.

\* \* \*

IT is said that the new Canadian stamp for Imperial Penny Postage, to come into use on Christmas Day, is now in course of production under the direction of Mr. Mulock, Canadian Postmaster-General. Instead of a Queen's head, it will represent two sides of the globe, with the British Empire defined on its surface, and coloured red.

\* \* \*

THE Government of India has decided to join in the scheme of Imperial Penny Postage from the beginning of its operation on December 25th next. This decision makes Australia the only portion of the Empire to stand outside the scheme.

\* \* \*

SINCE the first philatelic exhibition was held at Dresden in 1870, no less than forty-four stamp shows have been held—forty-one of them in Europe.

\* \* \*

SOMEBODY has been adding up the "frequent and free" issues of B.E. Africa, B.C. Africa, B.S. Africa and Zanzibar, and finds that the total output up to date is 240 stamps, without counting minor varieties.

\* \* \*

A PARCELS POST convention has been concluded between the British Colony of Trinidad (including Tobago) and the United States of America.

\* \* \*

ONE of the Brazilian journals has taken a census of the number of stamps of the denominations of 180, 300 and 600 reis of the issue of 1844-46, reclining figures, known to exist in Brazilian stamp collections. There are but 33 of the 180, 34 of the 300 and 29 of the 600 reis stamps. Only one collector has a block of four of the 600 reis stamp in his possession.

\* \* \*

IT now appears that the French Venetian-red 1 franc stamp was first used as early as February, 1849.

\* \* \*

THE British 1d. black stamp is, in the opinion of many people, much undervalued by present quotations. *Stamps* notes that a pair realised 6s. at a recent auction in Boston, U.S.A.

\* \* \*

BEWARE (says Mr. J. M. Andrieni) of surcharges on the Porto Rican stamps of 1890. "I have positive information", this gentleman declares, "that surcharges on the 1890 stamps are fraudulent".

\* \* \*

WATERMARKING has not been a very conspicuous success in connection with the stamps of Mexico; and it appears now to be the intention of the postal authorities in the land of the Aztec to abjure watermarking henceforth.

\* \* \*

IT seems that there were only twenty thousand of the 4c. 1898-99 issue of Cuba, Porto Rico, and Philippine Islands stamps sent to each of the above places. This small number will account for their scarcity.—*Weekly Philatelic Era*.

\* \* \*

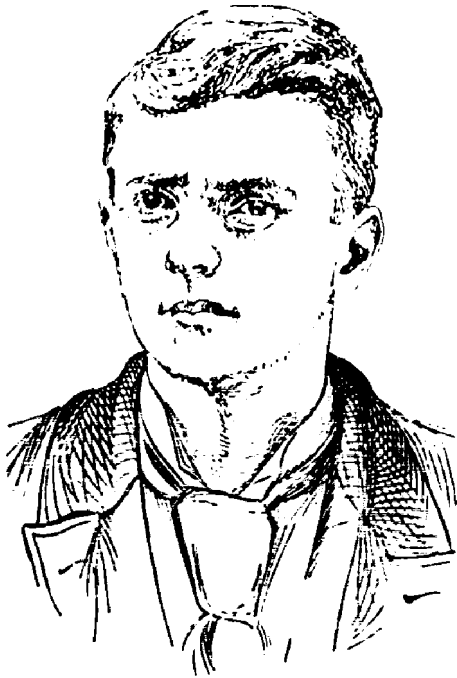
#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Dec. 24th, 1898.

- London Auctions.  
 Dec. 13th and 14th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.  
 Dec. 19th. Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 6 p.m.  
 Dec. 20th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m.

## A Man of Many Names.

RICHARD P. WOLLE, ALIAS HERMANN R. KAISER, ALIAS PAUL FISCHER, ETC., ETC., IS SENTENCED TO HARD LABOUR FOR PHILATELIC FRAUDS.

THAT daring and resourceful rogue, Richard P. Wolle, whose fraudulent schemes for plundering philatelists have been the subject of frequent paragraphs in the FORTNIGHTLY has at length got his deserts. Judge Elmer B. Adams, in the U.S. District Court of St. Louis, Mo., on Tuesday, November 15th, sentenced the man to pay a fine of 500 dollars, and undergo eighteen months imprisonment with hard labour in the Missouri Penitentiary.



To *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News* great credit is due, not only for the exhaustive report it gives of the proceedings, but also for the timely warnings it has frequently issued in the past with regard to Richard P. Wolle's schemes of plunder, his newest aliases, etc.

There is no doubt whatever that this Wolle is a swindler of the first magnitude. By his plausible manner and his ready assumption of a new name as soon as the old one became unproductive he succeeded in swindling half the stamp dealers in America. For two whole years he has been preying upon the philatelists, amateur and professional, of the United States.

Richard P. Wolle is of German birth, aged about 26, by profession an artist.

It is believed that he commenced his operations in Chicago several years ago, and since then he has covered nearly all the large cities, notably St. Louis and Cleveland.

At the latter place he was imprisoned for 30 days for theft. On two occasions he escaped officers who had him in charge, as related in the FORTNIGHTLY.

After his escape from the clutches of Detective De Celle at Cleveland, Wolle was not heard from until arrested at Oyster Bay, L. I., some months ago, and he was then safely taken to Cleveland, and the editor of *Mekel's Weekly*, on hearing of his latest arrest, at once notified the federal authorities in St. Louis, and by the determined and energetic action of Inspector Williams, Wolle was conveyed thither, and remained in goal in St. Louis until his trial at the U.S. District Court in that city on Tuesday, November 15th.

The evidence as reported verbatim in *Mekel's Weekly*, would be of little interest to readers on this side of the Atlantic, but it will be worth while to quote the speech for the prosecution and the judge's summing-up, as reported in our contemporary.

Mr. Rozier, the prosecuting attorney, addressed the jury in the following terms:

The defendant stands before you accused of having perpetrated a crime against the laws of the United States by the perpetration of a scheme to defraud, and in proceeding to execute such scheme, he made use of the United States mails. The scheme followed as a rule was that he represented himself as doing business in the city of St. Louis, and the State of Missouri, under several names, first as Herman R. Kaiser & Co., doing business at 114½ South Fourteenth street, and next as the German-American Publishing Company, of 1219 Franklin avenue, and carrying out this scheme he would write to various persons who dealt in postage stamps, requesting them to send a collection of postage stamps to the address given, the stamps usually asked for being rare and valuable, and in most instances he would ask for the 5-cent and 10-cent stamps of the United States of 1847. There is, Gentlemen of the Jury, the profession or fad of collector of postage stamps, both cancelled and uncanceled. Gentlemen engaged in this business collect cancelled and uncanceled postage stamps, and place them in albums arranged for such purpose, and there are also persons who make a business of buying and selling such stamps.

The defendant's scheme was to represent himself as a dealer or collector of such stamps. The custom among such dealers is to send lots of various kinds of stamps for the approval of the person wishing them, and for such person to select such stamps as he may wish, paying for those selected and returning the remainder. In this case he represented that he wanted certain valuable stamps, some of which had been already used, and were known as cancelled stamps. He would write under his own name of Richard Wolle, also under the name of Paul Fisher, and also under the name of Herman R. Kaiser. We charge in this case the perpetration of three different offences, securing in each case a lot of stamps which he represented he desired to purchase, and which testimony will show were sent to him on approval. The first count is for the fraud perpetrated upon one John Arbtin, of Des Moines, Iowa, in securing by such fraudulent means a lot of valuable postage stamps. The second count is that he perpetrated a similar fraud upon H. C. Crowell, of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Crowell will show that he had a personal acquaintance with the defendant, and that the defendant wrote to him under three aliases, viz., Richard Wolle, Paul Fisher and Herman R. Kaiser. The third count will be a Nebraska case, being a fraud upon Samuel P. Hughes, of Howe, Nebraska. Evidence will also be given of numerous other frauds. It will also be shown that in no case did he pay for or return any of the stamps. The evidence will go to show, Gentlemen of the Jury, that he went under these various names; it will show that there was no such firm as Herman R. Kaiser & Co., and that this Publishing Co., on Franklin avenue had no existence, and that these were simply devices to gain the confidence of these people so that they would forward these valuable stamps, which he converted to his own use, and either sold or attempted to sell. We will show the delivery of these stamps in the registered packages by the letter carrier, and we will show the number of persons victimised and that this scheme contemplated the use of the United States mails for the purpose of defrauding these people. When the evidence has been completed showing these facts, we will ask for a verdict of guilty at your hands.

The Judge in his summing-up, said:

This defendant is charged in the indictment in three counts; first, with having devised a scheme to defraud H. C. Crowell; second, with a scheme to defraud John Arbtin, and, third, to defraud Samuel P. Hughes. The scheme alleged in the indictment is a scheme to defraud by procuring the property of these persons without intending to pay for it. It is alleged that this defendant devised the scheme to secure from these three men a large number of stamps, either postage stamps, revenue stamps or department stamps without intending to pay for the same, and for the purpose of working out the schemes, he intended to use the mails of the United States, and did actually use them. You have heard the testimony of H. C. Crowell, who is himself a dealer in stamps, and I confess that it was a matter of surprise to me that there should be such an extensive business of this kind, but it seems that there is. He says that he was engaged in this business at a certain time in January, 1898, and that he received addressed to him a letter purporting to be signed by one Kaiser, that he answered the letter after having made some examination into the reference furnished him; that he sent to the address of Kaiser, according to the request of the letter which was written to him, a supply of these stamps, and that he never received any money for them, and that they were never returned. According to his testimony these stamps were obtained from him with no intention to pay for them at the time.

Such also is the testimony of John Arbtin; such also is the substance of the testimony of Samuel P. Hughes. It therefore

remains for you to say whether defendant devised these schemes, and whether he actually mailed the several letters set out in the three counts of the indictment in the execution of the scheme.

You have the testimony not only of these three persons, but also the testimony of numerous other persons who testified to similar transactions. The outside transactions are brought to your attention for the purpose of showing the defendant's intention and purpose in the matters complained of in the indictment. These witnesses all testify that they received letters asking them to send certain stamps to the defendant; that they sent the stamps and the defendant never paid for them. The only defence attempted to be made is that the defendant was not the real party in interest; that he was not the Richard R. Kaiser testified about.

The letter carrier, when he first went to deliver mail, asked for Richard R. Kaiser. As you all know letter-carriers are required to ascertain who the persons are before they deliver registered mail, with the view of performing their duty. This letter carrier found the defendant at 114½ South Fourteenth street. He testified that this man stated that he was Richard R. Kaiser, he asked him if he was Richard R. Kaiser and he said "Yes, I am Richard R. Kaiser." Not only this, but you have the testimony of Mrs. Annie Ritz. She says he came to her and wanted a room. He said his name was Richard R. Kaiser. She says he paid for the room; he took the room for his own office. Then another witness was Mrs. Rosie Spreen. She testified that a stranger engaged a room of her on Franklin Avenue, and that the defendant came there and he was the man who brought the valise referred to in evidence, and this valise contained nothing except an old pair of trousers and a shirt, and a few letters and papers. It looks to me as if there was no person involved in this transaction but this man, the defendant in this case, whether he calls himself Paul Fisher, Wolle, Kaiser or Stein, or any other name.

It is a very strange circumstance that no person can be pointed out by him if there was such person as Richard R. Kaiser, besides himself that he was working for. If there was such a person it seems that he ought to be able to point out such a person and certainly so if it was a legitimate business in which he was engaged that justified the printing of these flourishing letter-heads, one at 114½ South Fourteenth street, and the other on Franklin Avenue, one being an electrical concern and another a publishing concern. There is nothing to indicate that any business of this sort was carried on at either of these places. The room on Fourteenth street was used simply as a place where this person, and possibly some one confederate, might receive mail.

In concluding his address the judge invited the jury to carefully weigh the prisoner's own statement, made while in the witness box; he also reminded them that a prisoner is to be regarded as innocent until proved guilty.

The jury, after an absence of three minutes, returned a verdict of "guilty."

Thereupon the judge directed that the defendant come forward.

Judge: Richard Wolle, have you anything to say why the court should not now sentence you in accordance with the verdict of the jury?

Defendant: Have mercy.

Judge: I would like to have mercy but what can I do; what claim have you to mercy?

Defendant: Your honor, I was used as a tool in this case.

Judge: The jury did not take any stock in that story, neither did I. You have, according to the evidence, a dreadful character. I will give you the maximum punishment allowed by law for the offence you have committed. Your sentence is to pay \$500.00 fine, and be confined at hard labor in the Missouri Penitentiary for the period of eighteen months.

## About Reprints.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF HERR C. LINDENBERG, M.L.P.S.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

THERE are still many collectors who have a great objection to unused stamps, owing to the prevalence of Reprints. Every unused stamp is looked at distrustfully, since it *might* be a Reprint or—worse. There are not a few

collectors who, judging prematurely, pronounce a rare, unused stamp to be a Reprint, to their own loss and disadvantage.

It would lead too far were I to attempt to point out the mistaken idea some collectors have in considering any postmark a kind of guarantee of authenticity. Next to the so-called "postmarks to order," i.e., those postmarks which are applied to stamps to please some collector or dealer, and other abuses of the obliterations of stamps, I consider that forgeries of postmarks play an even more important "role" in Philately than the fakes of postage stamps. I will even maintain that *unused* forgeries are very scarce, the forgery monger having more or less ground to fear the penal code relating to such misdemeanour. Therefore I contend that an unused stamp bears in itself a guarantee of genuineness which should not be underrated.

With Reprints, however, it is different, as they mostly exist in the unused state only, and are difficult to distinguish from the Originals, as far as the medium collector is concerned. The fear to obtain a Reprint instead of an original, when buying unused stamps, is justified to a certain extent, although in many cases it is very exaggerated. There are far less Reprints in circulation than is generally supposed, and most of these are more easily recognisable than many of the beginners would believe. There is always some mistake in the manufacture, really very few reprints being made sufficiently well to almost defy detection.

It is, however, not without reason, that some fear, that with the spread of Philately, the number of reprints will increase. The continual demand for old issues, the interest which some Royalty evinced in the science of Philately, has mostly been the reason of these reprints; the future will teach us that these factors will always play an important part; but it is all the more imperative, that everything which has hitherto been reprinted, is "nailed to the wall" and a watchful eye be kept on all those yet to appear.

Let me at first define the term Reprint, a point on which even old collectors do not always agree. A REPRINT means the manufacture of obsolete stamps, which however, *might* still be admitted for postage; they are printed from the ORIGINAL DIES or PLATES as used at the time when the stamps were issued to the public by the Post Office. It differs therefore from the "counterfeit" in so far that the former is *always* from the *original* die, whereas the latter is either printed from altered plates or from new plates altogether; whether officially or not has little to do with it, as the reprinting might be done from the real plates without the sanction of the Government; or by the authorities themselves from manufactured plates as the so-called Reprints of Alsace-Lorraine stamps testify.

There are two ways by which Reprints are produced, either they are made by the Government, or they are done privately by those who bought the dies from the authorities. Of course, plates, dies, &c., of stamps, which are still admitted for postage, are never sold to private parties.

In the early days, stamps were only reprinted by the State; however they have changed this practice, and to-day most of the Reprints made are done by private people who acquired the plates from the authorities, and with them the right to print as many stamps as they liked, and in as many colours as they think fit. It is evident that the latter method is far more dangerous to the interest of Philately than the former. As long as the Government had the manufacture in their own hands the printing was kept within certain bounds; either the Reprints were done in response to orders from some dealers, or they were purely made for official purposes; in both cases, a limited quantity only was produced. Quite a different thing is it, however, once the plates have passed into private hands; then Reprints are produced in such quantities as to swamp the markets, disgusting the collectors and rendering the country in question almost obnoxious in the eyes of the latter; they are sold at such low prices that it is scarcely worth while to collect them.

(To be concluded).

\* This article forms a preface to our well known "Catalogue of all known Reprints and how to detect them." Price, 1.6, post free. HARRY HILCKES AND CO., LTD.

\* Equal to Original dies are of course the Stereotypes, Galvanos or Reports (used in the lithographic process) taken from them.

## General Notices.

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

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.

## Our 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
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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ½d. for every word.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 10, 1898.



For the fifth time we wish every reader of the Fortnightly the jolliest and happiest of Christmases. This present number of the "S.C.F." is its fifth Christmas issue. How time flies to be sure! Just four years ago we provided the philatelic world with a big sensation in our denunciation of the now defunct Philatelic Protection Association. There is no "sensation" in this number, but instead a variety of good, useful philatelic reading.

The *Australian Philatelist*—still edited by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, we are glad to note—has its own Postmarking-views concerning certain aspects of the to-order. postmarked-to-order question. As thus:—

An English philatelic journal, published in the interests of a stamp dealing firm, makes some remarkable comments on the decision arrived at by the Intercolonial Postal Conference to place the word "Specimen" across the stamps issued to collectors, and to date-stamp those issued to the Postal Union. These remarkable remarks are: "Now, if the Post-offices in these colonies, and other places, must go in for the obliterated stamp trade, we certainly think that the word 'Specimen' is the only kind of cancellation which they can legitimately and honestly apply to their wares. A postmark implies postal use; these copies issued to collectors have never been used, and are not to be used; to apply a postmark to them is therefore strictly speaking fraudulent."

If we concede this point, a stamp so cancelled becomes a fraud, pure and simple. How then can the publishers of this journal conscientiously offer for sale, except as acknowledged frauds, the hosts of stamps of such countries as Tonga, North Borneo, Labuan, Honduras, Bolivia, Faridkot, Samoa, *et hoc genus omne*, of which the greater proportion of so-called used stamps are simply obliterated in sheets and sold to and by dealers without even going through the flimsy pretence of having the gum washed off? Possibly these

parists who prate so glibly about "fraudulent postmarks" would argue that they simply accept and sell these stamps as genuinely used specimens because they might have passed them through the post, but to do delivery of them without going through that formality to save time and the trouble of sticking them on letters. But then what about the price paid? If this were face value there might be something in the argument, but we know as a matter of fact that these post-marked-to-order stamps are sold at prices ranging from 50 per cent. off face down to a trifle over the actual cost of manufacture!

Really it seems only a question of who gets the profit. If the dealer, then all is done decently and in order. If the Post Office, then all is done fraudulently and crookedly! Alas! our friends' principles appear to be governed by their pockets!

Few will seek to deny the justice of the rebuke, but would it not have been better to identify "the high class English philatelic journal" in question a little more clearly? To mention a paper in such vague terms is invidious, and distinctly unfair to other journals that might be held to answer to the same description. Let that pass, however. The interesting thing about the *Australian Philatelist's* article is its conception of the dealer-publisher in the character of Satan rebuking sin. Whose is the greater sin, from the philatelist's point of view—the government which issues the newspaper (with or without postmark), or the dealer retailing the same? Unquestionably the government is the chief offender, for without his supplies how could the dealer sell? The day when stamp dealers were their own manufacturers is now happily past, and so there is only one source of supply available—the governments of the various countries. The government having issued the stamp, or in the particular case in question, having postmarked a few hundredweight of same for sale to collectors, the dealer, who is the middleman as between government and philatelist, steps upon the scene—"an accessory after the fact." It is an unedifying business, and the *Australian Philatelist* does well to remind the type of dealer who lives cheaply by the sale of rubbish that he is playing pot to the Government kettle.

It has occurred to us that we might have allowed a little more time for replies to the questions given "Asked and Answered" in the new feature we inaugurated last fortnight, "Asked and Answered." We therefore repeat the questions here:

1. What is burele, as applied to a postage stamp?
2. Which is the rarest of all "local" stamps?
3. Is there any group of countries (or colonies) whose stamps are identical in design and only distinguishable by a difference of colour?
4. What is the meaning, or origin, of the Hungarian watermark, "'K.P.' in circle"?
5. Why, and to what extent, are the Russian Locals more "collectible" than the Locals of Germany and the Scandinavian Countries?
6. Which is really the rarest postage stamp in the world, having regard simply to the number of specimens known to exist?

The replies so far received are very good, but we want to see a greater number of our readers represented. The prize, every fortnight, for the best reply or replies will be half-a-crown's worth of stamps, selected from the lists or books of our publishers. The second "Asked and Answered" article, giving replies to above questions, and a further set of queries will appear in our next number.

THERE must have been a snowball fiend at work somewhere in connection with our big Prize Competition for the results have exceeded our most sanguine expectations. The work of checking and filing the names sent in has been simply stupendous.

For the United Kingdom the competition is now closed, and for foreign and colonial readers we have decided that all letters posted up to November 30th shall be eligible.

## Notes on New Issues.

\* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

### THE LATEST SAMOA SURCHARGE.

MESSRS. W. SELLSCHOPP & Co., of San Francisco, send us the latest surcharge of Samoa—the one shilling of the "tree" type, overprinted thus:—

Surcharged

2 1/2d.

"From entire sheets we have had an opportunity to compare" (write Messrs. Sellschopp) we find that the surcharging was done by hand, each specimen being surcharged separately. We believe a new 2 1/2d. stamp will soon be ordered from Auckland, New Zealand, to supersede this provisional issue."

### CIBALTAR (MOROCCO AGENCIES).



MR. J. CASSINO, of Manchester, has submitted to us a copy of the 50 centimos, Gibraltar, surcharged "Morocco Agencies" in blue instead of black.

We have not seen this chronicled as yet, and are not able at present to explain the why or the wherefore. Of course it may be that a whole issue has been overprinted in blue.

### SIERRA LEONE.

MESSRS. MYERSCOUGH & Co. have sent us the new 2 1/2d. envelope in the well-known De la Rue type.

2 1/2d. blue on white; size, 136 x 107 mm.

### HAYTI.

OUR old friend Mr. Fouché of Jamaica tells us of a new set of Hayti stamps which unfortunately came too late for illustration in this number. He supplements his information with the following note on the 20 cents orange of the last issue. When the 20 cents arrived from the printers to supersede the old 20 cents brown it was found that there was still a sufficient stock left of the old one to go on for some time. The 20 cent orange was therefore kept back; meanwhile a surcharge of Deux cents was decreed and for this purpose the 20 cent orange was used, consequently only very few of the 20 cents orange were really used as the 20 cent stamp, and therefore will eventually become rather scarce, especially unused.—

1898.

1	cent blue (head)
2	" orange ..
3	" green ..
4	" vermilion (arms)
5	" red-brown (head)
7	" grey ..
8	" carmine (arms)
15	" olive-green ..
20	" black (head), (set of 9, used. 4/9)

### FRANCE.

MR. JOSLIN has shown us a copy of the current French 75 centimes black on yellow, not printed on a solid yellow ground but on a kind of net-work showing a distinct pattern. We do not remember having seen this mentioned anywhere and we should say this was something of an error as the copy which is before us is dated 1894. Perhaps our French readers can let have a note on the subject.

### THE S.S.H.C.S.

The newest suggestion from across the herring pond is made by Mr. A. G. Gibb in the *Virginia Philatelist*, who is much concerned regarding the prevalence of heavy postmarks. He advocates the formation of a new Society—international, not to say world-wide—to be known as the Society for the Suppression of Heavily Cancelled Stamps. Prodigious!

## A Short Account of Stamps used for Military Purposes.

By M.J.D.C.

AT a time when we are hearing of little but "war and rumours of war" it may not be inopportune to give a sketch of some facts connected with military postage, a branch of philately that has not, I believe, received the attention due to its interest.

Couriers, or in other words postmen, would seem to owe their origin to a necessity of warfare. At a remote period commanders realized the advantages to be gained by early intelligence, and by the rapid conveyance of orders. We have it on the authority of Xenophon that Cyrus, during his expeditions, employed couriers, both mounted and on foot. Granted that the duty of these couriers was primarily to bear dispatches from a General in the field to the Civil powers at home, we may yet surmise that many of the soldiers would seize on so good an opportunity of getting their private letters conveyed by a trusty messenger. To come down to modern times, Gale states that during the Scottish War of 1542, changes of riders were established on the English side at stations twenty miles apart, who handed letters one to the other, by this means expediting them 200 miles a day; while at the beginning of the 18th century, Mart Borrough instituted a service of "running footmen" for the transmission of dispatches and letters. These footmen are represented in the tapestries at Blenheim. The gulf between this system and the present is a wide one, and the advantages derived from the invention of the postage stamp are felt by soldiers in the field no less than by citizens at home.

The history of military stamps can be traced through three stages, and we may here remark that the first suggestion of stamped paper indicating that a letter had been prepaid is thought to have originated in the brain of a military man, Lieut. Trekenber, a Swedish artillery officer. (See "S.C.F." Vol. II, p. 140.)

In the first stage the military departments used the same official stamps as the Civil. To include all these would be to go beyond the scope of this article; however, as they cannot be altogether passed over, I will lightly touch on some of the most important. To begin with there is the 1d. black "VR" (1840) intended for use by government officials but never thus used except experimentally. From 1854-1886 we have the official stamps of Western Australia punched with a small round hole; and as there was a small military establishment there during that period, we may take it that these stamps were used in the Orderly Room. Then in 1866 we have the Indian stamps surcharged for the first time "Service." Bearing in mind that our tenure in India is of the sword, it stands to reason that the number of these surcharged stamps used in the various military departmental offices is large.

The second stage, that of special surcharges, is reached between 1868 and 1874 by South Australia, where we find stamps having the earliest true military surcharges, namely, the single letters 'M' signifying "Military" and 'V' signifying "Volunteers." To these we may, I think, add 'C.D.' for "Commissariat Department." Surcharges of a like nature were used during the following campaigns:

EGYPTIAN WAR, 1882-83. For the first week after the bombardment of Alexandria, during its occupation by the British forces, the ordinary English penny stamp was sold to the troops, with a small 'E' penmarked in red ink across it; the obliteration also being done by pen, but with black ink. After the first week the stamp was postmarked with a narrow lozenge of dots ("S.C.F.," Vol. II., p. 277).



**SUDAN CAMPAIGN, 1884.** The two stamps, 1d. lilac and 1/- green. Perf.  $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ , known as "unappropriated dies" (i.e., stamps on which a space is left blank for the insertion of the name of any colony or possession desired), were surcharged with the value and the words "Military Telegraphs." The lists of Stamps are from Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue.

- (a) 1d. lilac and black }  
 3d. " " brown } Wmk:—Orb.  
 6d. " " green }  
 8d. " " carmine }  
 1/- green " black }  
 2/- " " blue } Wmk:—'V.R.' in script.  
 5/- " " mauve }  
 10/- " " red }  
 20/- lilac " black } Wmk:—Two Orbs sideways.
- (b) 1/- on 5/- green and mauve } Surcharged with black  
 1/- on 20/- lilac and black } pen-stroke

**BECHUANALAND, 1885.** Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, surcharged "Military Telegraphs," in black.

- 6d. violet (wmk. Anchor).  
 1/- green (wmk. Crown and CC.)



**NILE EXPEDITION, 1885-86.** "Unappropriated dies," surcharged "Military Telegraphs," and value in local currency. Surcharged in Egypt and used in Cairo only.

- 0.10 piastre on 1d. lilac and black }  
 0.25 " 3d. " brown } Half stamps  
 1 " 6d. " green } divided diagonally.  
 5 piastres on 1/- green and black.  
 10 " 2/- " blue.  
 25 " 5/- " mauve.  
 50 " 10/- " red.  
 100 " 20/- lilac and black.

There is another set surcharged in London:

- 1 dime on 1d. lilac and black.  
 2 dimes on 2d. " blue.  
 5 " 3d. " brown.  
 2 piastres on 8d. lilac and carmine.

The 1 piastre and values above, same as above.

**MATABELE REBELLION, 1893.** Three stamps of the issue of the British South African Company were surcharged for provisional use at Bulawayo, during the insurrection.



- 1d. in black on 3d., grey-black and green.  
 1d. " 4/- " vermilion.  
 1d. " 5/- orange-yellow.

This is not strictly speaking a military stamp but is worthy of inclusion, as the surcharge was an immediate effect of the war.

**ASHANTEE WAR, 1895.** "Unappropriated dies" surcharged "Military Telegraphs."

- 1d. lilac and black.  
 2d. " blue.  
 3d. " green.  
 1/- green and black.  
 2/6 " brown.  
 5/- " mauve.  
 10/- " red.  
 20/- lilac and black.

**AUTUMN MANOEUVRES, 1896.** Some values of the "Army Telegraphs" used in the Ashantee Expedition, 1895, were also used during these manoeuvres.

- 3/4d. vermilion and black.  
 1d. lilac and black.  
 2d. " blue.  
 3d. " green.  
 8d. " carmine.  
 1/- green and black.  
 2/6 " brown.



We arrive at the third stage in England in 1896, when we have the permanent surcharge "Army Official."

**ARMY OFFICIAL, 1st September, 1896.** The following values of the current issue were surcharged "Army Official" in black.

- 3/4d. vermilion.  
 1d. lilac.  
 2 1/4d. purple on blue.

**SUDAN CAMPAIGN, 1898.** In the special stamp issued for this campaign, a new departure has been made. I have been allowed to examine a series of envelopes sent from the front during this campaign:



I. Postmarked "Louxor, 6.3.98," and stamped with the ordinary 1 piastre blue. Egyptian stamp.

II. Without stamp, but has in the sender's autograph "On Active Service, no stamps available." Postmarked "Halfa, 9.4.98," and below, "2 1/4d."



III. Without stamp. Inscribed "On Active Service, etc." Postmarked "Halfa, 10.4.98." Letter subsequently stamped at Cairo.

IV. The "5 millimes" Egyptian stamp surcharged in Arabic and English "Soudan." Name of place on postmark illegible; date—?4.98.

V. The new Sudan postage stamp, postmarked "Wade, Halfa, S.P.S., 3.8.98."

VI. Same stamps. Postmarked "Atbara, S.P.S., 23.8.98.

I have in my possession a letter written from a battle field forty years earlier than this. The envelope is directed from the Camp, Balaclava, and is without a stamp. Above the address is written "Via Marseilles, Jan. 5th, 1855"; across the left-hand bottom corner the signature of the sender and his regiment, "11th Hussars, Crimea"; and across the face of the envelope, in another hand, a large letter or figure closely resembling a 3. On reverse of envelope are two postmarks, the first as here given, the second being partly illegible, "Post Office, Ja . . . 1855 . . ." also what appears to be a large 3 (? postage due).

The foregoing is, of course, the merest outline; it has not taken foreign stamps into account at all; but if it be the means of drawing forth further information, its object will have been attained.

## Manchester Philatelic Exhibition.

### SOME SPECIAL PRIZES.

**SUPPLEMENTARY** to the prospectus given in our last number, we have now received the following list of Special Prizes to be awarded in connection with this Exhibition:

*Manchester Philatelic Society.*—One Gold and one Silver Medal for the two best Exhibits in Class II. shown by a Philatelist resident out of the British Isles.

One Silver Medal to the Society whose members figure most numerous in the list of Exhibitors.

*The Philatelic Society, London.*—One Gold Medal for the finest Special Collection of any one country, having regard to the difficulty in forming it, apart from the monetary value.

One Silver Medal for the best Special or General Collection shown by a lady.

*Herts. Philatelic Society.*—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit by a member of the Herts. Philatelic Society in Class II.

*Leeds Philatelic Society.*—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit shown by a member of the Leeds Philatelic Society.

*Mr. A. H. Stamford* (President of the Bradford Philatelic Society).—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit shown by a member of the Bradford Philatelic Society.

*Mr. H. T. Wilson* (President of the Birmingham Philatelic Society).—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best Exhibits shown by members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

*Mr. J. H. Abbott.*—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit from Scotland.

One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit from Ireland.

*Mr. W. Darning Bepton* (President of the Manchester Philatelic Society).—One Gold Medal for the most meritorious Exhibit amongst those which have gained a Silver Medal in the open competition in Class II.

One Silver Medal for the most meritorious Exhibit amongst those which have gained a Bronze Medal in the open competition in Class II.

*Mr. William Brown.*—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best Collections of Stamps issued since 1890, and shown in Class IV., Division 3.

*Mr. J. E. Heginbottom, B.A.* One Gold Medal for the best Exhibit of West Indies.

One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit in Class IV., shown by an exhibitor under 21.

*Mr. W. H. Peckitt.*—One Gold and one Silver Medal for the two most meritorious Exhibits, regard being paid primarily to the question of condition, in Class III.

One Gold and one Silver Medal for the two most meritorious Exhibits in Class I.

*Mr. Ernest Petri.*—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best Exhibits shown by a lady resident within a radius of 15 miles from the Manchester Royal Exchange.

*Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.*—One Gold and one Silver Medal for the two best collections of Australian Stamps.

One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best collections shown by a youth under 21 in Class IV., in an album of English manufacture.

*Mr. Vernon Roberts.* One Gold Medal for the best Exhibit shown in Class II., Division 1.

One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit of St. Lucia.

One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit from Wales.

*Mr. George H. Caff.* One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit of Sydney Views.

*Mr. Adolf Rosenberg.*—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit shown by a German resident in Germany.

*Mr. Thomas Bepton.* One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit by a member of the Manchester Philatelic Society failing to obtain a Medal in the open competition.

One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit in Class II., Division 5.

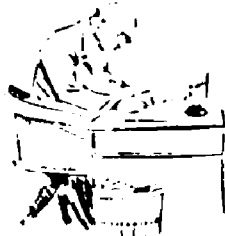
*Mr. Arthur H. Harrison.*—One Silver Medal for the best collection of either Sweden, Norway or Denmark and Iceland, shown in Class II., Division 2, D., by an exhibitor resident in any of these countries.

*Mr. G. Fred H. Gibson.*—One Silver Medal for the best Exhibit in Classes I. or II., shown by a member of a Provincial Philatelic Society (Manchester excluded).

*Mr. D. Ostava.*—One Silver Medal for the most meritorious Exhibit of Adhesives on entire shown in Class IV.

*Mr. G. B. Duerst.*—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the two best Exhibits shown by an exhibitor resident within a radius of 20 miles of the Manchester Royal Exchange, and not a member of the Manchester Philatelic Society.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



BY one of those curious slips of the pen that will occur in the best regulated, etc., we recently remarked upon the iniquitous tax imposed upon stamps imported into *India*, whereas what we intended to draw attention to was a projected import duty on stamps in Cape Colony. *India* is the country chiefly associated in our minds with a tax of this description; hence the mistake. We are now glad to learn, on the authority of Mr. H. B. Guest, of Cape Town, that the Cape Government's resolution to impose a tax of 9 per cent. on philatelic imports has been rescinded.

"Duplex" has sent his best compliments to the editors of the "S.C.F." and along with them a copy of a very curiously produced pamphlet, bearing the title: "A Price List of some Modern British Postmarks, First Edition, post free, 3d."

The cult of the Postmark is to the fore just now, and "Duplex" has wisely set his sails to the passing breeze. We suspect that "Duplex" is his own printer; most certainly he is his own lithographer, or perhaps we should say hectographer. The illustrations, interleafing the little book now before us are clearly home-made, and the printing of the pamphlet throughout is on "one side of the paper only." Well, more power to "Duplex" for his resource!

The little work illustrates and lists thirtysix types of moderate British Postmarks, and also gives prices for a number of small "collections" and "odd lots." When we say that the average price per postmark is something under a farthing, and that for 12s. 6d., "Duplex" will supply "a magnificent collection of 500 varieties," it will be seen that the author's terms are, like his publication, modest in the extreme.

If one may judge from the very small number of letters we have received on the subject of the publication of auction prices, it is evident that the decision to suspend the FORTNIGHTLY'S "Auction Supplements" has been received with indifference by the great majority of our readers. So far, the letters of those who have thought fit to write us on the subject are about equally divided for and against. The latest, which comes from a well-known Glasgow philatelist, we give here:

Seeing expressions of opinion are going, allow me to say that I am glad you have stopped the Auction Reports. With these being scattered broadcast, whenever a stamp happened for any reason to be knocked down cheaply, this figure immediately became in the minds of the readers of the Auction Reports the *highest* price that ought to be paid for another such; and this fact was not without its influence upon prices obtained, you may depend upon it.

The writer of the foregoing has got to the crux of the whole question—many of the auction realisations are unreliable; and being unreliable do serious harm both to philatelists and philately.

An odd thing has happened in connection with one of our subscribers, resident in the Reading district—we say one of them advisedly, for the "S.C.F." has many firm friends in Biscitopolis. The wrapper containing the usual copy of the FORTNIGHTLY for the gentleman in question was inscribed:

Reading,

London, W.

Now London is a village that grows quickly, but it has not yet corralled such outlying spots as Caversham and Reading; and it would not have greatly surprised us to receive back that strangely-addressed package. We have a great and wonderful postal system, however—when business is really meant; and we are happy to say that our subscriber received his FORTNIGHTLY after only a trifling delay.

But that's just a peculiarity of the FORTNIGHTLY. It "gets there" every time!



## Emergency Issues of Cuba and Puerto Rico.

By J. M. ANDREINI.

Read before the Philatelic Society, New York, Monday evening,  
Oct. 17th 1898, and here reproduced from the Metropolitan  
Philatelist.

A NON-PHILATELIC friend in San Juan, Puerto Rico, has just sent me a lot of provisional stamps which I have great pleasure in showing to you to-night as a souvenir of the out-going régime.

I have not been able to find all the stamps duly chronicled in the philatelic journals, nor can I assure you as to their comprising the full list of stamps surcharged in San Juan during the recent unpleasantness. I may be able to obtain full particulars later on.

There are two kinds of surcharges. The *Habilitados* are regular postage stamps of obsolete issues made good for the years 1898 and '99, and consist of the following varieties :

"Habilitado

" PARA

" 1898 y 99."

1 mil., lilac-brown, of 1896.	4c., brown, 1896.
2 " yellow-green, "	5c., light blue, "
4 " blue-green, "	6c., lilac, "
1c., claret, "	8c., rose, "
2c., red-brown, "	20c., olive-gray, "
3c., ultramarine, "	40c., salmon, "
3c., claret-brown, 1897.	80c., black, "

Habilitado

PARA

1898 y 99.

The first line of the surcharge measures 15 by 2½mm. ; the second, which is in small capitals, 5½ by 1¼ ; the third line measures 16½ by 2¼.

The overprintings are all in aniline ink ; purple on the 8c., rose, and red on all other values.

The source of supply having been cut off by the blockade and the current series being partly or wholly exhausted, it was necessary to use the stock of old postage stamps on hand. I therefore see no reason why these provisional stamps should not be classed as an emergency issue and duly catalogued as such.

Unlike the Puerto Rico stamps, which are all surcharged, I show you now a few uncharged provisionals of Cuba used in 1894. The use of these stamps, which were then obsolete, was authorized by a local law dated Habana, May 22, 1894, which appeared in the *Graceta de la Habana* of the 23rd, a copy of which you have now before you. The enactment reads as follows :

" Having been authorized by the Secretary for the Colonies to use in this Island postage stamps of 2½ and 4 centavos of previous issues until the stamps ordered for the current year are received from the National Factory, the following stamps are delivered to the Spanish Bank for distribution :

" 2½c., rose, with the bust of King Alfonso XIII.

" 5c., light blue, of previous years.

" His Excellency the Treasurer-General in virtue of the foregoing authority hereby directs that said stamps remain in circulation until the new requisition of stamps is received and that the fact be published by this means so that it may be generally known.

Habana, May 22nd, 1894.

The Sub-Treasurer,

VICENTE TORRES.

These stamps form a series of provisionals which are the more interesting because, being unsurcharged they cannot possibly be catalogued in the present style of catalogues.

I have only seen the following varieties :

2½c., brown, of 1882.	25c., blue, of 1880.
2½c., emerald-green, of 1890.	5c., blue, of 1881.
2½c., salmon, of 1891.	5c., blue, of 1882.

They can only be distinguished by their postmarks and it is to be observed that the 2½c. rose, mentioned in the law, must allude to the 2½c. salmon, so-called in our catalogues, and issued in 1891, because there had never existed a 2½c.

rose, previous to 1894. Another noticeable feature of these provisionals is that they are found used on letters as early as March 14, thus antedating the decree authorizing their use.

The other surcharged Puerto Rico stamps are of a more complex nature and we must classify them under two heads :

(a) Postage stamps surcharged " War Tax Stamps," without change in value.

(b) Postage stamps surcharged " War Tax Stamps," with a change in value.

(a)

IMPUESTO  
DE GUERRA.

First line measures 12½ by 3mm.

Second line measures 16½ by 3mm.

2c., dark violet, of 1890.

2c., red-brown, of 1896.

5c., yellow-green, of 1891.

(b)

IMPUESTO  
DE GUERRA.

2 ctvs.

First and second lines measure as above.

Third line, 10mm., the figure 2 is 2½mm. high and ctvs. measures 6mm.

2mil., flash, of 1894.

IMPUESTO  
DE GUERRA.

5 ctvs.

Measurements exactly as above.

1mil., dark violet, of 1891.

1mil., blue, of 1894.

Surcharged in aniline purple, except the two values

changed to 5ctvs., which are in aniline red.

Of course the only war tax stamps that can be considered at this juncture are those that have been used as an additional postage rate on letters and other mail matter.

Unused war tax stamps in a philatelic collection are but interesting curiosities.

I am unable to say just at present for what purpose the reported 3c. and 4c. values were surcharged, if it is true that they exist, but those surcharged with a change in value to 2c. and 5c., as well as those which retained their original values of 2c. and 5c., were mainly used on letters and mail matter of all kinds, the tax being, as I am informed, two cents on foreign parcels and five cents on island parcels, it being necessary to mention in connection with these rates that the current provincial money is worth about 50 per cent. of our American money.

It is my humble opinion that stamps surcharged " War Tax " placed on letters that cannot be forwarded without them, after they are cancelled on such postal service, do become worthy of being collected as postage stamps. I base that opinion principally on the law of 1874, of which I have translated the following salient paragraphs :

" All letters and parcels are subject to this extra and temporary charge. . . . The stamp of 5c. (1c.) must be placed on the address side of such letter or parcel by the sender, besides the postage to be placed on same according to weight. . . . This new but temporary additional charge on mail matter will be imposed on and after January 1st, 1874, and all postmasters must therefore detain each and every parcel or letter on which no special war tax stamp appears, notifying the addressee of such detention in the manner in which the detention of unstamped letters is at present notified."

Madrid, December 15th, 1873.

I desire to call the attention of the members present to these facts and to elicit their opinions thereon. My sole interest in them is the interest of an earnest philatelic enquirer.

The cataloguers, I think, very plainly say that these war tax stamps are simply revenue stamps and cannot become postage stamps or be incorporated in a postage stamp catalogue, though they generously concede that such stamps are required to have a letter forwarded to destination. I believe, if I am not much mistaken, that there are in the present postage stamp catalogue a few stamps catalogued as revenue stamps used for postage. Are not these Puerto Rico stamps legally and legitimately used in the same way? The extra 2c. or 5c. stamp is required as an additional postage charge to be paid by a specific stamp, and as evidence to this effect I show you here the last issue of Spain which is labelled no longer " War Tax " but " Recargo," meaning additional charge.

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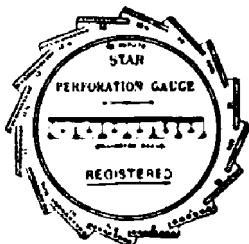
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Ditto, ditto, 2d. on entire	1	11	0
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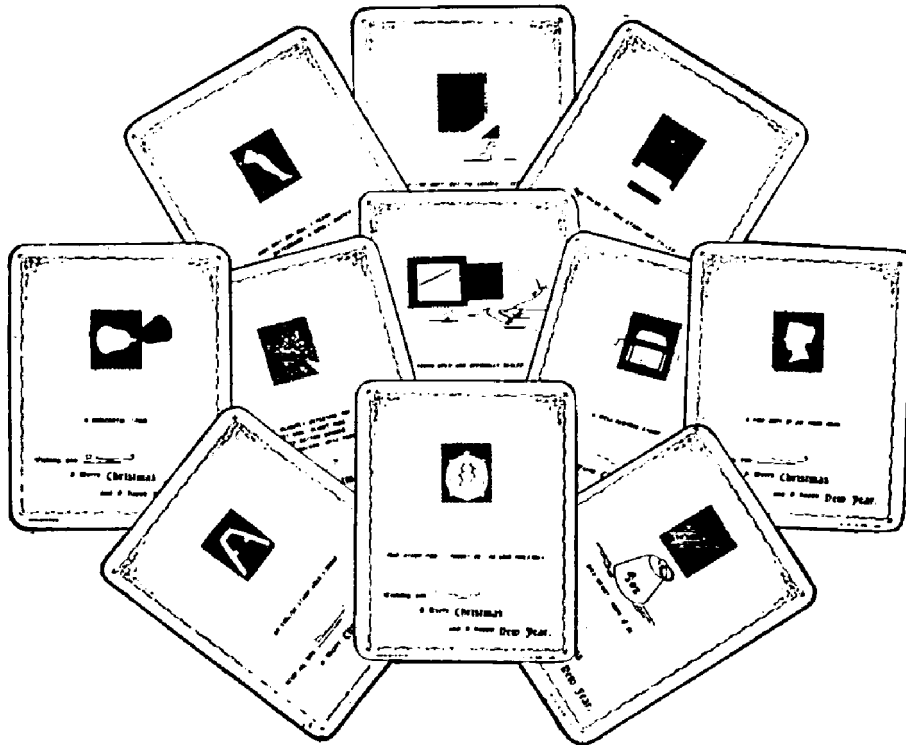
Splendid Selections specially made up for Societies—useful for ALL Collectors. Price List of Sets (about £00) at very low prices sent post free everywhere.

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WE want to draw your attention to our

## Novel Philatelic Christmas Cards!

We have twenty-four distinct varieties of these Cards for sale, in two packets of 12 each, called Series I. and Series II. respectively.



They are our own copyright designs, and the idea is entirely ours.  
They are Hand-made with  
GENUINE STAMPS.

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What could be better than to send that old philatelic chum of yours a Truly Philatelic Xmas. Card?

Perhaps you have an old friend in the colonies, or in some distant land. You weren't on very good terms when you last saw him; but blood is thicker than water—you would like to renew the old friendship. Send him one of these Philatelic Cards. They are warranted.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

**W**ISH to make friendly exchanges with amateurs in all parts of the world and purchase old collections—A. DENYS, 42, Rue de Livourne, Brussels. 110-113

**BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA** stamps supplied wholesale and retail by STROUD, 55, Cotlands Road, Bournemouth.

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**100 STAMPS** all different. 2 entire Post Cards, catalogued 3/6 the two. One Envelope, catalogued at 1/-. The above for one shilling.—SANTOS STAMP COMPANY, 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury, London, W.

**WHOEVER** sends me 5, 10, or 15 Illustrated Post-cards addressed singly as at foot, or whoever will send me 10—100 different Entires, used or unused, will receive in exchange Stamps of the old German Entires. For enquiries send reply postage.—ANTON WAGNER, Augsburg, II., Bavaria. 110-112

**50 STAMPS** all different, given away free to genuine collectors applying for Approval sheets and enclosing 1d. stamp for postage.—ERNEST WOOD & Co., 9, Hoxton Street, London, N.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**, 1860, 1c., 2c. and 5c., unused, 9d. Lagos, 1/2 on 4d., unused, 5d. Philippine, 1/-, provisional, 3c. red, surcharge, used, 6d. and other good stamps. Each specimen guaranteed a genuine original. Breaking up collection. ARCHIBALD KEMPSTER, 51, Woodstock Road, Bedford Park, London

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Established 1870

## United States Revenues New Issue (Hattleship)

Set of 12, unused, price 1.0

Ditto set of 4, used (5, 10, 25, 50c.) price 1.-

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(Antigua to India). Price 12 6.

SPECIMEN PAGE ON APPLICATION

## GREAT BRITAIN FOR SALE

Unique. An entire uncut sheet of 12 Newsbands, 1/3 green on white.

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"One Penny" on 3/-, unused . . . . . 1 3 each  
 Provisionals " used . . . . . 1 6 "  
 1d. Internal Postage . . . . . 3 6 "

**TUCKETT, HAZEL MOUNT, BURNLEY.**

110-112

## 1000 BRITISH COLONIALS New & Obsolete Issues

Splendid value for only 3-5000 for 12 6 Per Set  
 Canada Jubilee, 3c. to 50c. complete . . . . . 10-  
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 U. S. Omaha, 1898, 50c. to 2 dol . . . . . 12 6  
 Postage for abroad extra. (Will be scarce).

Selections on approval at 50 per cent to 75 per cent under catalogue. Stamps bought in large or small quantities. Wholesale Price List post free

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We are now prepared to accept

## CONTRACTS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

for the ensuing season, and offer Special Terms if contracted for a series to the end of May. Apply for particulars to the Publishers,

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Issued December 15th. 2 1/2d. Post Free. Useful information for Beginners & Advanced Collectors. Bright and Chatty Paragraphs. Lists of New Issues, &c.

Stamps on Approval. Packets, Sets, &c., Cheap.

103-122

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CARLISLE.

# The "INTERNATIONAL"

# Postage Stamp Album

## Christmas Presents.

NEW EDITION.

JUST OUT.

### FOR BEGINNER:

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ENGLAND.



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**RESULT OF 6th COMPETITION.**

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MISS JESSIE FLEWKER, Ditto.

MR. W. J. GAITSKELL, Denbigh Lodge, Southsea.

Each of the above-named were successful in our Celebrities Competition, and each receives £1 13s. 4d. one-third share of £5.

The correct five names are Hicks-Beach, Balfour, Lawson, Gilbert, Patti (the last named is a naturalised British subject.)

**7th MONTHLY COMPETITION.**

In each of our 1/- Packets this month are 35 different Stamps from 35 different Countries, and from some of these 35 initials can be formed the name of a certain well-known HOLIDAY RESORT in Great Britain. No initial may be used twice unless it occurs twice.

The £5 Prize will be given to the one who finds out the name of this Holiday Resort and sends it to us written on the form supplied with the Packet.

**A HINT.**—The name of the County in which the town is situated can also be formed from the 35 initial letters, as in the case of the town itself; but it is only the latter name which need be sent.

**THE PACKET CONTAINS:**

U.S. OMAHA, 10c. black; FIJI, 2d. green; SOUDAN, used; COLUMBIA; LAGOS; PERSIA, 1898, 1 kran blue; MEXICO; ECUADOR; SELANGOR, GOLD COAST; LEEWARD ISLES; ZAMBESI, Etc., Etc.

The above packet differs from all previous ones, price, 1/- post free.

If more than one correct answer be received, the £5 will be divided. Competition Closes Dec. 31st. Name of Winner, FORTNIGHTLY, January 7th.

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**

28, Radipole Rd.,

Fulham, London, S.W.  
105-110]

3rd Edition. Ready in December, 1898.

**THE BRITISH STAMP DIRECTORY**

Revised to date by FREDK. A. WICKHART, Hon. Sec. of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

The book will be the popular Pocket Size (about Size about 8 by inches), and advertisements will be received at a very cheap rate for this edition. As the book will be kept for continual reference by collectors and dealers it forms the most excellent advertising medium possible. The large second edition (1897) is now sold out.

2/6 per in. across page. 1/6 per in. single column. Business Card in Medallion, 1/-

These rates are altogether irrespective of the amount of space taken, and include cost of a voucher copy.

Advertisements should be sent by December 8th. Advertisement Pages will face Directory Pages. The publishers anticipate a demand of 1,000 in the first month.

Prepaid Orders for Copies of the Directory can be booked, and will be executed in rotation. [106-111] Price ONE SHILLING (25 cents), Post Free.

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B.C.A., 1d. on 3/- used, fine	2 0
" 1d. Internal Postage, imperf	4 0
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Canada, Maple leaf, 1/2c. to 10c. superb copies	1 9
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Cash with order, Postage extra. Returnable if unsatisfactory. Approval Selections on receipt of good references.

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49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [109-114]

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that

**Their Fourth Manchester Sale**

WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel**

On WEDNESDAY, January 4th

At 6.30 pm

The lots will include an extremely fine lot of

Ceylons in mint condition; Natal, 3d. blue, wmk. star, mint; France, 1 franc, vermilion and others.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS, BEST PRICES and SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

Read what one of our clients says:

LIVERPOOL, November 9th, 1898.

Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW,

Dear Sirs,—Thanks for yours duly to hand with cheque, for which I thank you. The promptitude with which you settle up accounts should be more generally known. The leading Auctioneers might profit considerably by your example, and collectors generally would be more than likely to do your firm a turn than patronise those who take from two to six weeks in settling up. I am not afraid to make my opinion known, and will do so in those quarters likely to be of service to you.—I am, yours faithfully, I.G.C.

All enquiries to be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**

105-110] Stamp Auctioneers,  
18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.

**Uganda** \* TYPE SET ISSUE, Now Obsolete.

I HAVE received the last of these Stamps which have reached the coast, and no more will be obtainable when present small supply is exhausted.

While they last I can supply as under:  
Sets of 5: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8 annas ... 5/6  
Sets of 7: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8a., 1 and 5 rupees.  
COMPLETE ... 35/-

ALL UNUSED.

Puttialla, 2 annas Service, black surcharge, unused	7 6
Spain, War Tax, 5c. de p. error in color of 10c.	60 0
United States, 1869, 24c. very fine, used	15 0
" " 90c. " "	45 0
" " 1871, 90c. used	2 6
" " 1887, 90c. violet, used	3 6
NEW PRICE LIST FREE.	107-122

Chas. J. Smith, Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey

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British Honduras, CA., 6d. yellow, used, very fine	3 15 0
Canada, 7½d., cut close, but fine	1 5 0
New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d., fine	0 17 6
Great Britain, 4d., wmk. Garter, Plate 17, unused	0 12 6
Gibraltar, 4d., used, Second Issue	0 7 6
Transvaal, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and £1, used, the set	1 0 0

Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps at Lowest Prices. 104-123] Approval against References.

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	s. d.
2 annas	3 0
4 "	4 0
3 " surcharged L	6 0
8 "	7 6
Set of 3, 2, 4, and 8 annas	13 6

A few pairs and strips of above in stock.

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MANCHESTER,

105 122]

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4, ALLEYN TERRACE,

WEST DULWICH, S.E.

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	Cat. Price	Our Price
Barbados, 5/- rose, star, nice copy	60 0	35 0
B. E. A. on Zanzibar, unused set, 2-7½as	93 0	45 0
" " " 2½ on 3as.	—	10 0
" 1st issue, ½a on 1d. lilac (scarce) on piece	12 6	9 0
Gibraltar, 1898, mint set, ½d.-1/- (postage extra)	—	3 3
Cape, Triangular, 1/- yellow-green, unused and very fine	70 0	35 0
" 5/-orange, CC. 14, unused, with gum	40 0	18 0
Trinidad, 1d. lake, no wmk. perf. 13, unused with gum	35 0	13 6
Queensland, 1860-1, 1d. carmine, star, rough perf., superb mint pair	30 0	12 0
" 3d. brown, an equally fine pair	40 0	15 0

Selections of good medium and rare stamps against first-class references.

We desire further correspondence from British Colonies. Reference Ed. of this Paper. [106-111]

**WANTED.**

**RAILWAY**

**LETTER**

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COMMON OR RARE.

Small or Large Quantities.

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Norwood,

LONDON, S.E.

[103-122].

A MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS.

THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**  
PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")  
No. III—VOL. V      SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1898.      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society.      Cambridge University Philatelic Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatelic Society.      Edinburgh and Leith Society.      Rookdale Philatelic Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.      Sheffield Philatelic Society.

“HILCKES”

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# Postage Stamp Album.

We have Just Published an Album with Moveable Leaves under the above title with a very ingenious patent mechanism, which allows a very easy moving of the sheets. The leaves are of strong card board, with double linen hinge, and covered with the well-known small squares in faint ink, in order to facilitate the arranging of the stamps.

PRICE, post free - - - **25/-**

For the convenience of our customers, Sample Copies can be seen at the following addresses :

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BIRMINGHAM: Mr. GEORGE MACKAY, 70, New Street.

GLASGOW: Mr. ARCH. MCAUSLAN, 93, Bath Street.

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CITY STAMP EXCHANGE, 19 2c, Cheapside, E.C.

And at our Offices, 64, Cheapside.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON,**  
E.C.

**Doings of Societies.**

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE members of this society held their usual meeting on Thursday, Dec. 8th, at Bird's Restaurant. The evening was devoted to an exhibition of the stamps of North America. The principal collections shown were those of Messrs. Peace, Hunt and Chapman. That of Mr. Hunt contained some very valuable stamps, and was practically complete, whilst amongst others, Mr. Peace, showed a set of the noted Omaha Exhibition stamps. The meeting afterwards adjourned, Mr. Chapman promising to read a paper on the stamps of Belgium at the next meeting.

The society's arrangements for the new year are as follows:

Jan. 4.—Display—West Indies.

„ 18.—Annual Dinner.

Feb. 1.—Discussion—"What shall we Collect."

„ 15.—Mr. Bramah on South Africans.

Mar. 1.—Display—Spain and Colonies

„ 15.—Mr. Sneath on Forgeries.

Ap. 19.—Mr. Sutton—"Some Pleasures of Stamp Collecting"

May 8.—Display—France and Colonies

„ 17.—Rev. A. V. Roosmalen on Stamps of South Australia.

**THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A MEETING of this Society was held on Thursday evening, the 15th inst., the President being in the chair. There was a very good attendance of members, on this, the last meeting of the year. Twenty-one sheets of very fine specimens of 'Ceylon' were exhibited by the President, amongst them being several of the very rare early issues, which were much appreciated both for colour and condition. Mr. Cartwright also showed 11 sheets of later and less noteworthy stamps of the same colony.

The new catalogue of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons was discussed and criticized, the addition of the blocks for Great Britain were welcomed, but the addition of the 4th volume was thought to be unnecessary.

The question of issuing the Club sheets priced subject to a discount of 50 per cent. instead of as at present nett prices, was discussed, and the general opinion was that it was not advisable to alter our rule; the possibility of allowing more than one clear day for seeing the sheets was pronounced to be impracticable, though much to be desired by many.

The next and annual general meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year, will be held on Thursday evening, January 5th, 1899.

**HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT a special meeting held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on Tuesday, December 6th, the proposed alterations and additions to the rules were carried unanimously. The expense for reprinting the new rules was sanctioned. The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: W. Brown as Life member; C. D. Lord, W. H. Peckitt, J. C. Sidibotham, as ordinary members; E. D. Bacon, Chas. J. Phillips, and W. A. Westoby, as honorary members. W. G. Cook and W. Simpson were voted to the two vacant seats on the Committee.

At the close of business, Mr. Simpson gave a display of his general collection, and of some unique blocks of the 1fr. France, 1853-60 issue. A vote of thanks to Mr. Simpson for his entertainment terminated the meeting.

Hon. Sec., H. A. SLADE, Ingleside, St. Albans.

**COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.**

THIRTY-FIRST meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, Nov. 14, 1898. President Thorne called the meeting to order at 8.20 p.m. Present, Messrs. Bruner, Luff, Stebbins and Scott and the Secretary.

The hearty thanks of the Governors were unanimously offered to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., London, for gift of bound volumes of the *Journal* and for their promise to send their publication to the Club each month; to Mr. C. H. Mekeel for gift of bound volume of Tiffany's History of U.S. Stamps; to Messrs. J. W. Scott and Alvah Davison for gifts of A. P. A. photographs taken during a summer's convention.

Communication from the Hon. Sec., Manchester Philatelic Society, about the International Philatelic Exhibition of 1899, was read, and it was unanimously agreed to permit the use of the Club's name in connection with the list of exhibition supporters.

Treasurer's report was received, showing balance in bank of \$413,16 exclusive of U.S. bonds.

J. M. ANDREINI, Secretary, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

**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.]

GUIANA, 1852, 4cts., (mended) 63/-, also bargain lots. LATE, Leicester Street, Southport. [112]

COLLECTORS who wish to buy, sell, or exchange stamps to the best possible advantage should join the "EXCELSIOR" Stamp Exchange. Write for rules.—Secretary, WILLIAM C. WESTON, S.E.P.S., Hengeo, Hertford, Herts. [110-112]

WHOEVER sends me 5, 10, or 15 Illustrated Post-cards addressed singly as at foot, or whoever will send me 10-100 different Entires, used or unused, will receive in exchange Stamps of the old German Entires. For enquiries send reply postage. ANTON WAGNER, Augsburg, H., Bavaria. [110-112]

ENTIRE Postcards, Envelopes, &c. Cheap Packet List from BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paulsons Square, London, S.W. [110-115]

WISH to make friendly exchanges with amateurs in all parts of the world and purchase old collections.—A. DENYS, 42, Rue de Livourne, Brussels. [110-113]

CANADA STAMPS, Wholesale and Retail. Lists Free. CARTIER STAMP COMPANY, Toronto, Canada. [113]

WESTERN AUSTRALIA. "One Penny" in green on 2d. yellow, used, cat. 6/-, Gibbons' '99, 2/6 each. H. LICKMAN, 50, Edingham Rd. Harringay.

RAILWAY Letter Stamps wanted. Some duplicates for sale or exchange. New issue North Stafford, 4d. each. Unused pairs, red penny 98, 99, 105, 132, 161, 222, 225, wanted.—MR. EARL, Newcastle, Staffs. [111]

BREAKING up large collection. Selections sent on approval. Thirty Colombian, all different, 13d. Hundred Colombian, well mixed, 7d. Antioquia and Tolima, 10 different, 13d. Guatemala, 7 new surcharges, 13d.—SIMONS, 5, Baldwin Crescent, Camberwell.

B.C.A. "One Penny" on 3/-, unused 1/3 each, used, 1/6. Provisionals, 1d. Internal Postage 3/6 each.—TUCKERTY, Hazel Mount, Burnley. [110-112]

100 STAMPS all different, 2 entire Post Cards, catalogued 3/6 the two. One Envelope, catalogued at 1/-. The above for one shilling.—SANTOS STAMP COMPANY, 35, Alwyne Villas, Canonbury, London, W.

**A BOON**

To COLLECTORS desiring assistance are our APPROVAL SELECTIONS of all Countries properly arranged with full printed description. Special Books of GREAT BRITAIN, UNITED STATES, JAPAN, GREECE (very fine) NEW SOUTH WALES, TASMANIA, GERMANY and STATES, FRANCE and Colonies, Spain and Colonies, and all other countries.

LOW PRICES. GOOD DISCOUNT. GENUINE STAMPS. Any reasonable exchange entertained.

**WINCH BROS., Colchester.**  
Established 1870

**United States Revenues** (New Issue (Battleship)

Set of 12, unused, price 1/6

Ditto set of 4, used (5, 10, 25, 50c.) price 1/-

**Vol. 1.—NEW COLONIAL FISCAL ALBUM**

(Antigua to India). Price 12 6.

SPECIMEN PAGE ON APPLICATION

**GREAT BRITAIN** FOR SALE

Unique. An entire uncut sheet of 12 Newsbands, 1/2 green on white.

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
15, BROWNHILL GARDENS, CATFORD, S.E.

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Issued December 15th. 2 1/2d. Post Free.

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- - CARLISLE.

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- 3.—Ditto, 1,725 varieties. Cat. value about £30. Price, £5 15s.
- 4.—Ditto, 1900 varieties. Cat. value about £25 (in Sent's large album). Price, £3 10s.

Can be seen by appointment in the City.

Address:  
**A.L.B., THE FERNS, COPERS COPE ROAD,**  
BECKENHAM, S.E.

100 vars. British Colonials, adhesives only, 2/-; 10 pkts., 17/6; 500 vars. Foreign and Colonial, 3 6; 1000 ditto, 12 -; 6 Hayti, 5d. per set; 12 sets, 3 6.

**H. ROSS SHIELLS & CO.,**  
75, Little Britain, London, E.C.

111-116]

Two minutes from G.P.O.



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

No. III—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1898

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## RUBBER-STAMPED "I.R. OFFICIALS."

A STARTLING DISCOVERY.

THE November issue of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, reaching London this week, brings with it a startling communication from Mr. A. J. H. Smith. This gentleman sends the Editor of the *P.J.I.* two English stamps, purporting to be the ordinary 1d. and 2d. postage stamps surcharged with the familiar "I.R. Official." It is in the surcharge that the surprise is to be found, for instead of being printed, this is in each case hand-stamped, probably with rubber. "On first seeing them," Mr. Smith remarks, "one would condemn them as forgeries; but if that is the case the Government has been defrauded with respect to these as well as the one shilling green," he adds. This is somewhat of an exaggeration, however, as we do not gather from the *P.J.I.* that there is any suggestion as to the stamps themselves being other than perfectly genuine. Indeed, no one surely would essay a forgery of the current 1d. British!

"I possessed," adds Mr. Smith, "at one time about half a-dozen of these official stamps. If I remember correctly they all came from Bath and were genuinely used."

Is it possible that there can have been an emergency issue of rubber-stamped "I.R. Officials"?

### NOTES ON THE PHILATELIC MARKET.

THERE was a good attendance at Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's rooms on Wednesday, December 14th, to

witness the break-up of the collection formed by His Imperial Highness the late Grand Duke Alexis Michaelovitch of Russia. The more important items included:—Russia: Moscow envelopes, 1845-6, five kopecks, red, used and entire, £21, another, £22. Spain: 1851, two reales, red, large margins, £17. Tuscany: First issue, two soldi, red, a pair used together, with a one soldo yellow, £13 10s.

A somewhat persistent rumour has been in circulation to the effect that the Duke of York's collection would be sold in aid of the Prince of Wales's Hospital Fund. We are assured that nothing of the kind is contemplated, although those who say it has been "talked of" are just, but only just, within the truth.

Messrs. Venton Bull & Cooper had a very satisfactory sale, concluding on Friday, December 9th, at this firm's fixed resort, the St. Martin's Town Hall. A fair collection of Portuguese stamps realised £40, and a few other noteworthy prices were:—Spain, Madrid, 3 cuartos, unused, £14; Ceylon, 1s. 9d., green, imperforate, £3 10s.; United States, 1851, 5c. brown, unused, £6; ditto, 1855, 90c. blue, an unused pair, £6 10s.; Bahamas, no watermark, 4d. rose, unused, £2 17s. 6d.; Cuba, an unused collection, £4 15s.; Dominican Republic, 1rl. black on green, £2 16s.; Trinidad, litho., 1d. blue on card, £5; Queensland, 2d. blue, imperforate, £2 17s. 6d.

In connection with the Birmingham Philatelic Exhibition—all accounts of which point to a very gratifying success—Messrs. Plumridge & Co. held a sale that included many very desirable "lots." That prices were good is obvious from the report that only about half-a-dozen items in the catalogue remained unsold.

### MR. PALMER, HIS ALMANACK, HIS SHOP, HIMSELF.

THE trouble with Mr. J. W. Palmer's "Philatelists' Almanack" is just this: it is mis-named. Were it called "Palmer's Almanack" we should have nothing to say, for there is a maximum of Palmer and a minimum of Philately. The births and the deaths of the Palmer family are gravely recorded side by side with such names as Milton, the Ex-Empress Eugenie, Lord Salisbury, &c., &c. Apart from the calendar, the tiny booklet is simply an advertisement of Mr. Palmer and his wares. The price is one penny too much. Mr. Palmer is the only man in the stamp trade who gets money for his own advertisements.

Accompanying the "Almanack" comes a copy of Mr. Palmer's quaint little monthly sheet, *Bric à Brac*, from which we glean that "the Father of Philately" (for that is Palmer's latest title, if you please) is at length moving from what he

calls his "historic address" in the Strand. He is tired, presumably, of waiting for that long-delayed "Strand improvement" which is, at some future time, to widen his premises off the face of the earth.

#### THE LONDON SOCIETY'S WORK ON BRITISH STAMPS.

WE are glad to be in a position to announce that the important work on British stamps, undertaken by Mr. Creeke, in conjunction with the late Mr. Hastings Wright, is now in the Press, and should be ready for the public some time in February next.

#### HE COLLECTED ON A PLAN OF HIS OWN.

THE craving for postage stamps has of late become world-wide in its scope and illimitable in its intensity, but the young stamp collector who called at the Stationery, Fancy Goods and Account-books Company's premises, in Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, the other day, differed from most philatelists, both in his method of collecting and in the kind of stamps he chose. Old issues had no charms for him; his desires were concentrated upon the 1898 issue, and were sufficiently strong to command success. He was a well-dressed youth, and when he presented a cheque for £5, drawn by J. B. Thompson on the Colonial Bank, the salesman, though demurring at accepting it in payment, thought that perhaps the drawer was known to the manager, and left the counter to make enquiries. Finding that the signature was not known, he returned to the shop only to find that the customer had collected the £5 worth of stamps left there by the simple process of putting them in his pocket and strolling out of the shop. The cheque, needless to relate, proved to be valueless.

This comes from one of the colonial newspapers, and we have to thank Mr. G. Vaile, of Melbourne, for sending it to the FORTNIGHTLY for reproduction.

#### SPAIN'S SO-CALLED "MOURNING" STAMP.

PARAGRAPHS that are now going the round of the press relative to the black war-tax stamps at present in use in Spain, are calculated to mislead the public in a most ludicrous manner. Because these particular "Impuesto de Guerra" (War Impost) stamps happen to be of a funeral hue, the Yankee papers have hastened to describe them as being in mourning for the Spanish soldiers and Spanish lands lost in the war, and this fanciful notion has been copied into British journals as sober fact. Well may our American cousins declare that we, as a nation, have no humour!

#### PHILATELY BETTER THAN COIN COLLECTING.

COMPARISONS are odious, but one cannot resist the temptation to quote the following passage from the leading article of a great London daily:

"Philately is superior to Numismatics, for the coinage is not always an accurate reflex on the political status of a country, while its postage stamps almost invariably are."

#### SIERRA LEONE REVENUES NOT GOOD FOR POSTAGE.

OUR publishers have received the following communication from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, under date December 12th, in reply to a letter asking why certain Revenue stamps on a letter from Sierra Leone had been left uncanceled, whereas others of same denomination on a similar letter had been duly postmarked:

"With further reference to your letter of the 22nd June and to our reply of the 3rd October, I have now to inform you that a letter has been received from the Government of Sierra Leone explaining that the stamps on the slip of paper which you sent us, and which is returned herewith, should not have been recognised in the Post Office, and they were evidently obliterated by one of the sorters who failed to observe any peculiarity about them; and as regards the registered cover, also returned herewith, it was properly treated by the Post Office officials in obliterating the stamps of the current issue and taking no notice of the Revenue stamps.

#### THE "HARMLESS BUT UNNECESSARY" PHILATELISTS.

"To the great disappointment of those harmless but unnecessary people who call themselves philatelists, the Post Office has decided not to issue any souvenir of the inauguration of Imperial Penny Postage" remarks the *Glasgow Evening News*.

Since we harmless and unnecessary philatelists are thus plunged into a state of such dire disappointment it comes as

some small consolation to us to know that Messrs. Beechings, Limited, the enterprising stationers, have produced a very tasteful, but of course utterly unofficial, "Penny Postage" envelope. This will have no postal or philatelic value, but doubtless many persons who write on Christmas Day to friends abroad, will signalise the occasion by making use of these envelopes.

#### PHILANTHROPY AT PHILATELISTS' EXPENSE.

REFERRING to the revolt of stamp collectors against the Hospital stamps the *Birmingham Argus* very sensibly observes: "The attitude of the objectors is certainly logical, and the strange part of the matter is how stamp collectors could ever have taken the dodge seriously." On the same subject Major Evans, in the *Monthly Journal*, has spoken out in good soldierly fashion, roundly denouncing the issue of the Prince of Wales' stamps as a charitable scheme designed to exploit one special class of the community.

#### THE STORY OF THE POST CARD.

NOW that "entires" are showing signs of renewed vitality the following chatty paragraphs sent to us by a correspondent may be of interest:

Postcards have been in circulation a little over twenty-nine years. It is generally believed that the idea originated with Dr. Emmanuel Hermann, a professor of Natural Economy at the Imperial Academy of Wiener, in Neustadt, Lower Austria.

The Director-General of the Posts took up the idea, and succeeded in having an issue of postcards put in circulation in 1869.

This new move on the part of Austria quickly excited other countries to adopt a similar method of correspondence, and before the close of 1870 nearly all the European countries were using postcards.

Germany was really the second country to use them, and a special series was issued to the soldiers engaged in the Franco-German War. These were called the field postcards, and the soldiers had the privilege of using them without paying postage.

Another series was issued for civilians. These had a place left for a stamp, and the writer had to affix a German postage-stamp to the card before posting. The field postcards are now rare, the used ones being scarcer than the unused.

Another card of equal rarity, and also a reminder of the same war, is the balloon postcard, issued by France during the siege of Paris. The cards were sent up from Paris in balloons, and the mail-bags were thrown off into the surrounding country, where there was the least possible opportunity of their capture by the enemy.

How many varieties of post-cards are there; is a question often asked. We have no up-to-date statement on this point, but as long ago as 1893 there were fully 8,000 varieties.

#### AN OLD DELUSION THAT IS NOT DEAD YET.

IT is still firmly believed by some people that if a million used postage stamps are collected and forwarded to someone a bed will be provided for an invalid boy in some hospital, or an home for an orphan will be secured, or a large amount of money will be paid, or some other benefit will accrue to the accumulator of the stamps.

Churches have been the special victims of this delusion, and there is hardly a city in England, the United States, Australia, India, or any other country that has not had several church members begging, borrowing, and helping themselves to postage stamps in order to make a million that will go to clothe and feed some orphan.

The swindle originated in the fertile brain of a postage-stamp collector in Stettin, Germany. He desired to get vast collections to sort out and sell again, and hit upon the plan to set the whole civilized world at work for him gratis. He preyed on the sympathies of people by announcing that an orphan would be cared for in the Syrian orphan home for every million stamps sent to him. This worked well, and the next dodge was the starting of a mythical mission in China, the holy sisters of which were said to have agreed for every

million of stamps sent to them to save from the jaws of the crocodiles of the Yellow River at least one Chinese baby, and then educate and Christianize it. The stamps were to be sent, not to Jerusalem or China, but to Munich or Strettin. The last claim on the sympathy of the world that has been made by this German is that for a million stamps a home for an old lady or an old gentleman will be provided in one of three homes—one in London, another in New York, and a third in Cincinnati. For 500,000 stamps a bed will be endowed in a hospital, and for 100,000 a home will be found for an orphan for one year. It is estimated that the Strettin man has collected over 100,000,000 stamps in the United States alone. One of his circulars was received by a New Haven yesterday. It is a clever dodge to get something for nothing, and in the modified form of the "snowball" it is still being worked.

And apropos of this subject of a million stamps it is astonishing how few realise what a million means, although it is easy enough to say "ten hundred thousand." Well, then, suppose a collector to be able to get together an average of fifteen stamps per hour for eight hours a day. He would have 120 for the first day and 720 for a week of six days. We can scarcely expect this rate to continue for more than fifty weeks in a year, when the store would amount to 36,000. Pursuing the same dull round and with equal success, at the end of five years the sum would be 180,000; at the end of ten years it would be 360,000; after twenty years it would be 720,000; five more years would raise the pile to 900,000, and if our figures are correct, the grand million would be completed after twenty seven years, thirty-eight weeks, five days and a few odd hours. If the accumulator began his work at the age of 20, we might ask, "Pray, how old might he be" when he ended it? If his time and expenses were worth 3d. per hour, the stamps will have cost him £833 6s.

### Stray Jottings.

MR. H. L'ESTRANGE EWEN is forming an Exchange Club for Collectors of British Railway Letter Stamps.

\* \* \*

JENKINSON, an enthusiastic stamp collector, was showing his treasures to the clergyman who had just dropped in. "This," he said with conscious pride, "is the finest collection in the town!" The rev. gentleman eyed the volumes containing Jenkinson's specimens, and then he tenderly took them up in his arms. "What's the matter?" said the stamp collector nervously. "Oh, I beg pardon," was the reply; "but I thought I should just like to see how it felt to take up a decent collection."

\* \* \*

THE cost of manufacturing French postage stamps, which was 1*fr.* 50*c.* per thousand in 1851, is now down to 26*c.* per thousand.

\* \* \*

SAN MARINO, which has issued more stamps than some of the biggest nations, is a "spot" 33 square miles in area. Monaco, which has been more modest in its output, is only an eight mile affair.

\* \* \*

PAPIER-MACHE manufacturers buy up large quantities of common stamps—provided they are very, very cheap—for the sake of the gum they contain.

\* \* \*

It has been said that the portraits on all the American stamps are taken from busts or statues. This is a mistake. The portrait of Abraham Lincoln, on the 4 cent stamp, of 1890, is after a photograph from life, and the same is true of the 5 cent Grant stamp and the 6 cent stamp bearing the face of ex-President Garfield. The 10 cent stamp, of 1890, has a portrait of Daniel Webster after a daguerreotype from life, and the same is the origin of the portrait of Henry Clay on the blue 15 cent of the same issue. The remainder of the stamps of the issue bear pictures taken from busts, and Commodore Perry's picture on the 90 cent stamp is after Wolcott's statue.

## Birmingham Philatelic Exhibition.

### LIST OF EXHIBITORS AND THE CHIEF EXHIBITS.

W. Dorning Beckton (Manchester).—The collection of Greek stamps, which was awarded the silver medal of the L. P. Exhibition.

J. Bernichon (Paris).—1*d.* and 2*d.* "Post Office" Mauritius.

T. Buhl (London).—Proofs and trial impressions of English stamps.

M. P. Castle (Brighton).—The unique collection of Saxony, which includes the block of 4, ½*g.* in the colour of the 2*g.*, with a grand lot of the 3*pf.* of 1850, used and unused, and the whole 1851 issue by pages in mint condition.

E. A. Clark (Aberdeen).—British Guiana, 1852-6, in singles, pairs and strips; Newfoundland, orange-vermilion; Labuan, 6 in red on 16 blue; Barbados, 1*d.* on 5; British East Africa, ½ on 2, signed A.D.; Dum-Dum (Calcutta), Post Office book showing early postmarks.

G. A. Coombs (Bath).—A fine collection of triangular Capes.

E. Hegnbottom (Rochdale).—Barbados; Virgin Islands, used, complete; S. Vincent, 5/- star (used), ¼*d.* on half 6*d.*, 1*d.* on 6*d.*; Lagos, 1885, 2 6, 5/-, 10/-, all used; collections of Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Gambia.

R. Hollick (Birmingham).—African Colonies, including a nice lot of "Post Paid" Mauritius in all stages of the plate, Cape Wood blocks and many other rare stamps; sheets of Indian Native States.

G. F. Jackson (Birmingham).—The complete and rare collection of Spanish stamps, which was awarded the silver medal of the L. P. Exhibition.

G. Johnson (Birmingham).—Hawaiian Islands, 1862-94, including errors of surcharge; reconstructed sheets of English.

C. F. Larnour (Calcutta).—Complete sheets of 1*li* Han with margins uncut, including ¼*a.*, 1*a.* and 2*a.* of first issue.

H. Loveridge (Wolverhampton).—Complete collection of Tasmania, including reconstructed sheets of plates 1 and 2 of the first issue, 4*d.*

H. F. Lowe (London).—A fine collection of Ceylon, including 4*d.* and 8*d.*, imperf. on originals, 2*d.* deep green, CC., 25*c.* on 3*2c.*, perf. 14×12½; also a grand collection of S. Helena, including the error of 1863, 6*d.* without surcharge.

G. Mackey (Birmingham).—Block of 12 1*d.* black Royal Reprint; block of 11 L.C. imperf.; block of 84 Prince Consort Essay; block of 84 2*d.* blue, no lines.

J. A. Margoschis (Birmingham).—An artistically arranged frame of Colonies, mostly unused, but including 4*d.* and 8*d.* imperf. Ceylon used.

W. Pinn (Birmingham).—Fine collections of Canada, S. Lucia, S. Christopher and Tobago, used and unused.

J. E. Sparrow (Aberystwyth).—A fine display of triangular Capes of all values, in mint condition, in large blocks as well as in singles, pairs, etc.

Major Stockdale (Plymouth).—A very good collection of French and French Colonies.

C. F. Farmer (Birmingham).—A good lot of unused Colonials and U.S.A.; the Ceylons, Victoria, S. Lucia, S. Vincent, were especially good.

Mrs. Tebay (London).—A good collection of Uganda.

Miss J. Weston (Bournemouth).—S. Vincent, nearly complete, making up a very nice collection.

F. E. Wilson (Birmingham).—Good collections of Austria and Belgium.

W. T. Wilson (Birmingham).—One case of stamps on original covers and two cases of rare stamps, including fine copies used and unused of the following: N.S.W. "Sydney's" all values; British Guiana, early issues; British Honduras, ditto; Buenos Ayres, India, provisionals; British Colombia and Vancouver Island; Canada pence issues; Nova Scotia 4*d.*, 1/-, and a good number of other values; New Brunswick 3*d.*, 1/-; Nevis; West Australia, etc.

**General Notices.**

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**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, DECEMBER 24, 1898.



HERE, in parallel columns, are two flowers culled from the journalistic rose-garden of Mr. Edward Mr. Nankivell. J. Nankivell, the retiring Editor of the *Philatelic Record*. We invite our readers, and indeed all philatelists here and in America to give the extracts a careful reading.

In the *Philatelic Record* for December, Mr. Nankivell writes: "With this number we relinquish the editorial control of the *Philatelic Record*. For three years we have endeavoured to the best of our ability to produce what should be, from our journalistic point of view, an ideal philatelic journal. Our friends assure us we have largely succeeded. We relinquish the task, but we adhere to our belief in the ideal. In parting from the *Philatelic Record* it is only right that we should acknowledge and emphasize the fact that the publishers have never once interfered with our editorial control of the literary portion of the journal.

In the *American Journal of Philately* (London letter), Mr. Nankivell writes: "Mr. Macmillan, formerly a dealer, but now a club proprietor, has invited stamp collectors to avail themselves of his club premises as a meeting place, and he is having some success. The City of London Philatelic Club has gone over bodily, to the disgust of Mr. Harry Hülckes, the founder thereof, for, in consequence of a regulation proposed by Mr. Macmillan, no dealer is to be elected on the committee of management, therefore Harry is thus ousted from the committee of his own club. Could base ingratitude further go? Sauerkraut Alley has been very considerably perturbed over this business.

Mr. Nankivell has endeavoured, while editing the *Philatelic Record*, to produce "an ideal philatelic journal." Possibly he thinks he has also endeavoured, while contributing to the *American Journal of Philately*, to produce "an ideal London letter." As to that we may get some pronouncement from Mr. Nankivell when the time comes for the Messrs. Scott, of New York, to put a period to this gentleman's vulgar and insulting lucubrations. It hurts us to speak slightly of a fellow journalist, and especially of one who, like Mr. Nanki-

vell, can turn out work of the highest order; but we must confess to a feeling of undiluted pleasure at the announcement that the London correspondent of the *American Journal of Philately* is no longer to occupy the editorial chair of the *Philatelic Record*—a journal with clean and dignified traditions.

We could if we chose tell a story or stories concerning Mr. E. J. Nankivell which might possibly explain the why and the wherefore of the fierce abuse reprinted above; but we shall not take up further space with what is largely a personal question.

We shall only add that Mr. Nankivell has edited the *Philatelic Record* well, and that in this connection his only sin has been a somewhat reckless picking of the brain and work of his contemporaries, the FORTNIGHTLY being only one of many papers that have had to complain of unacknowledged "borrowings" of this description. But as London Correspondent of the *A. J. of P.*—a paper which we should have thought incapable of giving currency to such scurrilous paragraphs as that quoted above—Mr. Nankivell leaves much to be desired. We shall confidently expect the Scott Stamp and Coin Company to look to it.

THIS number of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY should reach every subscriber on the Once Again. morning of Saturday, December 24th—Christmas Eve. We have taken every possible precaution against delay in view of the exceptional amount of postal work at this festive season; but it is quite possible that a subscriber here and there may get his copy a day behind time. Once again we wish every reader a jolly Christmas and, after it, a prosperous New Year!

**Notes on New Issues.**

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**CANADA.**



THE long promised Imperial stamp came to hand by last mail through the kindness of The Cartier Stamp Co., Toronto. It is printed in black and very pale blue with a map showing the British Empire in crimson red. Somehow, we do not think that the stamp will be long in existence as it does not conform to the rules of the Postal Union. The penny values of all countries should be red and not bi-coloured.

zc. black, pale and red.

**UNITED STATES.**

ONE of the recent mails brought us the 4 cent hitherto printed in black-brown in a very light lake-brown shade, something similar to the 6 cent same issue. Whether these stamps are printed in error or whether the change was intentional we do not know. So far we have only seen the one lot we received.



4c. lake-brown.

**HAYTI.**



WE are now able to give the illustration of the new issue mentioned in our last number. As will be seen from the stamps, they are printed by The American Bank



Note Co., New York, in their well-known excellent style.



## CHINA.

SUPPLEMENTING our note on this country, we have now received from Mr. David Benjamin the further values of the London printed issue as follows:

4 cents,	deep brown.
20 ..	dark lake.
30 ..	carmine.
50 ..	light-green.

These we believe complete the whole series, and the Japanese printed stamps which were only in issue a short time and which were practically an emergency issue, should become very rare.

## MOROCCO AGENCIES.

AS error has been discovered in this surcharge which exists on all values. The "A" in the word Agencies has no bar and looks like an inverted "V." This error occurs once on the pane of 60 only, and should be fairly scarce.

5c.	green.
20c.	olive.

At the moment of going to press we receive the following very curious information from Mr. Maxted, in Gibraltar:

GIBRALTAR, 17th Dec., 1898.

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

DEAR SIR.—With reference to your note on Gibraltar (Morocco Agencies) in your issue of 10th inst., I beg to inform you that I brought the same to the notice of the Postmistress here, and I am authorized by her to state that no stamps bearing surcharges in blue have been issued by the Gibraltar Post Office for the Morocco Agencies, the surcharge on the 50c. chronicled by you is, therefore, unofficial and a forgery (although the stamp may have passed through the post).

The Postmistress also states that she will give instructions to the Postal Agents in Morocco to ignore all stamps bearing surcharges in blue.

Please give full publicity to the above in your next issue.

If the forged surcharge has been made in Morocco (which I have no doubt is the case), the British Government is, I am informed, unable to prosecute the forger. More's the pity!

There is an error in the Morocco Agencies Stamps in a few sheets of each value, one of the stamps shews a "V" upside down in "Agencies" in the surcharges instead of an "A." A few sheets of each value were printed and issued before the error was discovered; this has now been corrected.

I believe this error has not yet been chronicled. I possess the 20c. bearing the error.

Yours truly,

HERBERT F. MAXTED.

As regards the blue surcharge we cannot agree with the postal authorities at Gibraltar that it is a forgery. We believe they were sold at different post offices, and so far only one value, the 50c., is known to exist. It is much more likely that these surcharges were made by mistake and soon rectified. We have communicated with the Home Authorities and shall no doubt soon learn the truth.

The latter part of Mr. Maxted's letter supplements our above note, to which we have now to add the 20c.

## The New Catalogues.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS' PRICED CATALOGUE: PART I., BRITISH EMPIRE, 23, post free.—London, 391, Strand.

LET us say at once that the 1899 Gibbons, so far as it has gone, is a good deal better than its immediate predecessors. As to the style and binding of the book it is not necessary to say more than that the style of the last "Vol. I." is pretty faithfully adhered to.

A welcome innovation, both in Messrs. Gibbons' new catalogue and in Messrs. Bright's new ditto, is the introduction of illustrations of British stamps—hitherto strictly "taboo" except in catalogues printed and published in other countries.

On the whole, the first volume of the new Gibbons is well produced. Internally, there are things we like and things we do not like. We like the admirable exposition of the three types of the Penny Inland Revenue die (corner ornaments), but we do not like the antiquated arrangement of the British plate numbers still adhered to by Messrs. Gibbons.

The evils of the system of plate-number pricing adopted in this book are many and obvious. For instance, all the numbers of the 2½d. lilac-rose, from 4 down to 16 are priced at 3d. per copy—as if all these showed anything like equality in point of scarcity. Great as Messrs. Gibbons' knowledge of the stamp-market must be, it seems to us that a ten-year-old philatelist of fair intelligence could give them occasional points on catalogue making. The matter of the British plate numbers becomes still more ludicrous when we turn to the threepenny value. Will it be believed that every plate number from 6 down to 19 is put down at one invariable 4d.?

As to prices—the all important point of speculation for months past—there are many reductions and some increases. The former occur notably in West Indies—Nevis suffering heavily. In unused Australians, and certain sections of Africa, prices show rises which in our opinion are fully justified. In fact, this catalogue strikes us as being the best, from the point of view of faithful interpretation of the market, that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons have issued since the time when their old quarto style was abandoned. With regard to the reductions that have been made, these have been, we think, largely discounted by the public, and nothing in the nature of a rush to sell out will result—that is quite certain. It is fallacious to regard these reductions of the mere catalogue figures as being in any sense reductions of the real market value. The prices in this book are prices, not values—that must always be borne in mind. We think that Messrs. Gibbons have not for a long time so successfully interpreted the present state of the market as in the volume now before us; but it is more than ever borne in upon us that this book is merely a dealer's list and is no longer the "standard" of values that philatelists once considered it to be. The day when any dealer could get his own prices accepted as those ruling in the market is gone for ever. We may take a list of prices from "Gibbons" or "Bright" as affording some slight idea of comparative values, but—that is all.

We have said, however, and we repeat it, that this book seems to us to reflect very fairly the prices ruling in the open market at this moment—with exceptions, of course. There will always be exceptions. Perhaps we can best crystallise our view of this book into a sentence by saying that it is the end of the 50 per cent. It will puzzle any save those who are in the stamp trade for philanthropy to offer more than a very nominal discount on the new Gibbons' prices.

Just a grumble or two ere we conclude. We cannot understand why, in British Central Africa, nigger design, the 3s. no watermark is catalogued 2s., while the same stamp with watermark is catalogued 12s. Are Messrs. Gibbons' specimens of the former stamps those fiscally cancelled for Hut Tax purposes?

B.C.A. again: the penny "internal" stamp is catalogued imperf. 5s., perf. 7s. 6d.; and this seems to us to be quite an inverse ratio.

Messrs. Gibbons, as we have already noted, are separating all Local stamps from Government issues, and giving locals a volume to themselves. But what about the Native Indians, all of which are included in this first volume; are not most of these quite on a par with the Russian Kurals?

There is just one touch of humour, and in connection with this we advise Messrs. Gibbons to delay shipment of their catalogue to France as long as possible. Our Gallic confrères may not like to see "Soudan" included in the British Empire—just yet, at any rate.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON'S "A.B.C." CATALOGUE, complete in one volume; price 2s. 6d.: The Arcade, Bournemouth.

The new "Bright" is being bound up at full speed at the moment of writing, and by the time this number of the FORTNIGHTLY is in the reader's hands the book will be on sale.

Can be obtained of Messrs. Hilckes & Co., 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.



It is a good book. It has its blemishes, of course, but these are very few. The chiefest of them is the size of the blocks used for the illustrations. These, in our judgment, are far too large for the purpose. There is no proper sense of proportion in using "life size" blocks on a small octavo page. We think, as we have always thought, that the Senf system of giving a reduced facsimile is far the better way.

However, this is quite a minor detail beside the great, the all-absorbing question of prices.

Doubtless the first impulse of the average purchaser of the new "Bright" will be to take it home, with a copy of the new "Gibbons" to keep it company in his jacket pocket and afterwards to burn the midnight oil in comparing the two works. Well, he will find his patience well rewarded, if it be startling divergencies of price that he is after. What do you say to this, as an example:

	<i>Gibbons'</i>	<i>Bright.</i>
Barbados, 5s., used ..	40s.	50s.

But that is only one instance out of many; and it must not be thought on account of the instance we have singled out that the Gibbons' prices average less than those of the Bournemouth firm. Nor is the contrary the case. The two firms have been working on their catalogues simultaneously, each being absolutely in the dark as to the others views, and intentions, and the inevitable result is that there are differences all along the line. It is interesting and instructive, for it is about the last nail in the coffin of the dealers' "Standard" Catalogue.

For one thing in particular Messrs. Bright & Son deserve the very highest praise. Their catalogue is not merely intelligently, it is also ingeniously, arranged. The system of classification employed is a simple and natural one, and this not only in regard to the order in which the countries are placed, but also in the arrangement of the varieties of plate-number, surcharge, etc. One may take as a good instance the watermarks of Victoria. The arrangement of these in Bright's Catalogue is admirable. As in plate-numbers, so in these varieties of watermark, the chronological system is not always practicable, and we trust that Messrs. Gibbons will soon awaken to that fact.

We note that our Bournemouth friends price such rare stamps as the early British Guianas, and though they may have no stock to guide them as to the values of such gems as these, we think they are wise to furnish approximate prices. But they should do the thing thoroughly if at all. We find blanks where we want prices in the case of many old Europeans, notably Tuscans.

## Recent B.C.A. Provisionals.

FACTS ABOUT THE "ONE PENNY" ON 3S., AND THE ONE PENNY "INTERNAL POSTAGE."

TO the several interesting notes, published recently in the "S.C.F.," on the issue of B.C.A. 1d. provisionals and surcharges, perhaps the following addition may prove of interest to readers.

As already stated, the issue of the Penny "Internal" provisional was brought about by the alleged theft of a consignment of stamps, on its way up the Zambesi. The box, or case, containing the stamps is said to have been dropped accidentally in the river.

The surcharging of the 3s. green thus became necessary, and, subsequently, the 1d. "Internal" provisionals.

The issue of the surcharged 3s. green (I have it from a reliable source) amounted to £140, face value.

Concerning these, I have come across several notable peculiarities. In one case the "One Penny" is printed high on the stamp towards the right-hand corner, the "One" being over the word Africa. In another case it is very low and more central, the "One" coming directly underneath the coffee bush. Again, I have seen the "e" in "One" just touching the top of the coffee bush. It would be interesting to know if any other peculiarities have been noticed.

Respecting the 1d. Internal provisionals, the issue was

very limited, for, owing to the precautions taken by the authorities, very few—if any—were used except for *bona fide* purposes. Of these, the first issue was imperforate and are embossed in blue squares, which appear to be slightly larger than those in which the perforate issue were printed, and also of a paler blue.

Of this first issue, about two pounds' worth are franked on the back by the Postmaster-General, chiefly by initials, J.T.G.; in a few cases, J.G.; and on other: a full signature, J. T. Gosling. The reason for this, I am given to understand, was that the machine with which they were embossed was not then fitted to add certain private marks which appear on the rest of the issue in the shape of a letter or numerals. The imperforate issue, including those signed, I believe, amounted to about £100, and the perforate issue to £15 only.

The majority of the signed issue is no doubt scattered about in different parts of B.C.A., and the rarity which these will probably attain will almost persuade some enthusiasts to make a trip to Darkest Africa in search of specimens.

F.W.

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

IT has often been suggested to us to commence a feature of this sort in the *Fortnightly*, and we have at length decided to do so. It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best *acceptable* reply we receive the sender will be awarded a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility to philatelists. Hereunder are the answers to the first six questions:

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

#### 1.—What is *burelé*, as applied to a postage stamp?

This word literally means with a "net-work." The Queensland stamps of 1879 being printed by accident on paper which was originally intended for Fiscal stamps, have a blue "net-work" or "moiré" printed on their backs. This printing is known as "*burelé*."—*M. L. Fraser.*

Replies also received from "Ruby," C. V. O'Neill, and George Upton.

#### 2.—Which is the rarest of all "local" stamps?

As to this there is great conflict of opinion among our readers, the majority of those sending in voting for the recently discovered local of Hamilton, Bermuda. Mr. C. V. O'Neill considers that the Annapolis embossed envelope stamp of 1846 is the rarest local, there being only one known copy. But is this stamp absolutely well authenticated? Another competitor instances the Swiss Cantonals as being the rarest group of Local stamps, and this is undeniable. But we sought the rarest *single* local, and are still seeking it.

#### 3.—Is there any group of countries (or colonies) whose stamps are identical in design and only distinguishable by a difference of colour?

The group we had in our mind was the Dutch Indies—the only group exactly answering the above description. In this group of colonies the unpaid letter stamps are identical in design and are only differentiated by colour. This question was misunderstood by almost every competitor, whose replies consequently are very wide of the mark, the best attempt at a solution being by Mr. M. L. Fraser, who instances some of the earlier Cuban and Philippine stamps.

#### 4.—What is the meaning, or origin, of the Hungarian watermark, "K.P. in circle"?

This question, as it stands, contains an inaccuracy which many 'cute' readers have hastened to point out. Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., Hon. Secretary of the Birmingham Society,

reminds us that on January 6th, 1898, in a paper on Austria and Hungary, he explained that the watermark is properly kr (both "lower-case" letters, in sans serif type) enclosed in interlaced ellipses.

Mr. W. Kuhn writes: It is Kr, and nothing else, meaning probably "Királyi," that is, Royal, written and contracted "Kir," in the wording on the stamps themselves. Stanley Gibbons' British, and Senf's German Catalogue both give rightly Kr in circles as the correct watermark; Scott's American Catalogue, however, also Dr. Moschkau's Great Handbook (German), and now the FORTNIGHTLY make it out to be K.P., whilst Mr. Westoby, the eminent author of "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe" goes one better still and sees in it a KL, even illustrating the watermark in his book accordingly. In the latter case the error can be explained; the watermark has been looked at in a wrong way when the small r will resemble an L.

Replies also received from C. V. O'N., "Ruby," C.G.B., and M.L.F.

**5.—Why, and to what extent, are the Russian Locals more "collectible" than the Locals of Germany and the Scandinavian Countries?**

Russian locals, in common with the Interpostal Egyptians, represent an official service, organised to meet a demand on the part of the public, and they are consequently more collectible than those of Germany and the Scandinavian countries which are issued (as far as they continue to exist), by private individuals and firms for their own profit as carriers.—C. V. O'Neill.

Replies also received from M. L. F., G. N. Junior, and W. K.

**6.—Which is really the rarest postage stamp in the world, having regard simply to the number of specimens known to exist?**

As only one properly authenticated copy is known to be in existence, the British Guiana, 1856 issue, 1 cent black on magenta, may be said to be the "rarest postage stamp in the world." By an error which was quickly rectified certain of these stamps were lettered "one" instead of "four." The value attached to this rarity is necessarily mere guess work, as it has never changed hands. It is in the possession of Monsieur Philip von Ferrary of Paris.

The red variety of this stamp without the error is worth only £25. In blue it may fetch anything from £100 to 300 according to condition.—John Hall.

Replies also received from M. L. F., C. V. O'N., B. W. W., and G. N. Junior.

THE PRIZE WINNERS.

The prizes of 2s. 6d. worth of stamps to be selected from our publishers' books or lists, go to Mr. M. L. Fraser, Mr. W. Kuhn, Mr. C. V. O'Neill, and Mr. John Hall.

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

Below we give a further list of queries, replies to which should reach the offices of the FORTNIGHTLY not later than Monday, January 2nd, 1899.

- 7.—What is the meaning of the numbers printed in moire on the back of the Spanish stamps of 1875?
- 8.—How can one distinguish between the 1d. South Australia of 1875 and the re-engraved 1d. S.A. of 1897?
- 9.—What country using the word "country" as meaning any stamp-issuing state, dependent or independent—can fairly be described as the most prolific in postal emissions?
- 10.—How many countries (autocracies, monarchies, or republics) are still without adhesive postage-stamps, and what are the prospects of these places coming "into line" in the near future?

ONE of the oldest collectors (the Dundee Courier declares) has devised an entirely new use for stamps. He procured a few gilt casels and placed in them the portrait of Queen Victoria out of a 1d. envelope. The result was charming, the effect being that of a delicate cameo.

About Reprints.

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN OF HERR C. LINDENBERG,  
M.L.F.S.

BY HARRY HILCKES.

(Continued from p. 45.)

ANOTHER way is to produce them in limited quantities only, closely imitating the original state, and palming them off as original, on the far too confiding collector. This lasts till one day the plates are worn down to such a pitch as to render them useless, which happens, as a rule, much sooner than would be the case if left in the hands of the authorities, owing to careless treatment. A good illustration of this is afforded in the case of the stamps of Bergedorf, Hamburg, and Heligoland.

Reverting now to the question of the value of Reprints, as such, I fancy I hear already the majority of my readers condemning them, although perhaps not going so far as a writer in the *Illustrirte Briefmarken Zeitung*, of 1888, who considered them more dangerous than forgeries. The author admits he is only a young collector, but even old and experienced collectors are known to have pronounced against the very existence of Reprints. I would scarcely go so far. Of course there is an enormous difference between an original and a reprint, but I must openly admit that where I find it impossible to obtain an Original, I take a Reprint to fill its place, rather than having nothing at all, provided I am fully aware of the character of my substitute. I justify this with the fact that my Reprint was struck from the same plate as the original, and therefore resembles the latter as near as possible. It is by no means my intention to advocate the manufacture of Reprints in general, but though declaring above the difference between Reprint and Original to be enormous, I can still find some kind of relation, a factor which is entirely absent when drawing a comparison between an Original and a facsimile (forgery). A forgery, if once known, has no right of existence, whereas a Reprint is in my opinion a fit substitute for the real stamp, it may be openly known in its true character; nobody need have any doubt about it.

It is a fact that most Reprints owe their existence to dame Philately only, the State itself having very little interest in the manufacture of their stamps, and cases in which Reprints were made for official purposes only are very few and far between. The earliest Reprints, therefore, were made in the beginning of the time when stamp collecting came more to the fore. It was done then to satisfy the demand for old issues; they were even sold at face value. It is strange, but true, that many Government officials up to this day fail to perceive any difference between an Original and a Reprint. I am even convinced that many Post Office authorities have so far forgotten the fact that part of their stamps were printed after they were withdrawn from sale, that they themselves consider them part and parcel of the official remainders.

Of course, we collectors had our eyes wide open, and soon found such small differences, which were entirely overlooked by the authorities, as to enable us to recognise the intruders at once in their true characters. Some Governments have even profited by our alertness, and it is almost disquieting how some of them have improved on their Reprints, as, for instance, Austria.

I maintain that the Reprint is a good substitute in cases where an Original is unobtainable; but it is to be a substitute, not a representative of the real stamp; it is wrong, therefore, to entirely condemn it altogether. It should be the endeavour of every collector to replace any Reprint by the proper stamp should an opportunity occur, but in cases where an original is beyond his means a reprint is far better than a facsimile or even an empty space. Of special importance are Reprints to those who collect unused stamps only; to them they are simply indispensable. I admit it is very expensive to replace

these gradually by Originals, but if the collection is to be of philatelic value it is imperative that this should be done.

Collectors of special countries are likewise bound to pay some attention to the Reprints of those stamps of which they make a speciality. It appears to me necessary that a specialist should know everything referring to them, and that his collection should represent all postal issues, whether Reprint or Original.

To remind the *advanced* collector that there is such a thing as Reprints seems to me to carry coals to Glasgow. Certainly no class of collector knows the value of a Reprint better than he!

The vital point in the Reprint question is simply the facility of recognising them as such. It is only through the inability of the majority of collectors to distinguish between the Reprint and the Original that so many have pronounced against the former. Once recognised it is a harmless object. But how to recognize it? With the exception of the Australian Authorities who surcharge all Reprints as such, no Government has ever been so candid. There is only one way and that is to describe those marks by which they can be easily distinguished from the Originals even risking that these disclosures might be used for future manufacture.

#### GENERAL SIGNS ARE THE FOLLOWING :

- I. The *Paper* differs in most cases from the original, it is often thinner and of a lighter tint, and if white of a slightly bluish tone; in some cases the thickness of the paper forms the only perceptible difference (early issues of Baden and France).
- II. The *Gum* is in almost all instances a sure test. It is either conspicuous by its entire absence, or, if any, of such a light colour as to at once betray its modern origin. Even the condition of the gum alters in the course of years, it becomes brittle and to a certain extent decayed.
- III. The *Colour* is brighter and in most cases of a much lighter hue than in the Originals; there are really very few Reprints which could not be recognised at once by this difference of colour on comparison with an Original.
- IV. If the Original shows a *Watermark*, it is generally missing in the Reprint.
- V. *Silkthreads* have been left out on purely economical grounds, or used in the wrong colour (Wurtemberg, II. issue).
- VI. A very important factor in detecting Reprints is the *perforation* gauge, as it enables even a beginner to determine by its aid whether the specimen is a Reprint or an Original without necessitating a comparison. Unfortunately many of the earlier stamps which were reprinted are in the imperforate state only.

"Entire Envelopes" differ chiefly in the shape, the length of the gum and the tress on the flap. There are sometimes, very minute but sure differences which are known to a few only, and many collectors and dealers do not care to communicate their special knowledge for the benefit of the masses.

In conclusion, let me repeat the essential points in connection with Reprints in a few words:—

1. A Reprint must emanate from the Original die.
2. The number of Reprints is far less than generally known.
3. A Reprint is of undoubted Philatelic value as it is the nearest substitute for the original.
4. A Reprint is only dangerous if not known as such, therefore a close study of the same is very desirable.
5. A Reprint can always be distinguished from the Originals by either the paper, gum, colour, watermark, silk-thread or perforation.

This article forms a preface to our well-known "Catalogue of all known Reprints and how to detect them." Price, 1/6, post free.—HARRY HILCKES AND CO., LTD.

## The Stamps of Kashmir.

REPRINTS, OR REMAINDERS?—AND, IF REMAINDERS, HOW MANY?

WE have already referred to a warning article in the *Globe* on the subject of Kashmir stamps. "Viator" now writes from Kashmir, under date November 17th, as follows:

In an article published in the *Globe* of September 2, 1898, you advise your readers not to purchase any Kashmir stamps which have not been through the post, on the grounds that the Kashmir stamps are being reprinted. You state that "the Kashmir stamps used to be picturesque wood-block productions." May I inform your readers through your columns, that this is not the case? The stamps of the Kashmir State were printed from brass dies, and these dies were defaced when the Kashmir State handed over its postal system to the Indian Government. The Kashmir stamps left in stock were therefore genuine stamps—I think "genuine remainders" would be the correct term. The stamps were certainly not reprinted after the Imperial Government took over the Kashmir post offices. Nor does it appear likely that they were struck off with a view to being put on the market in large quantities after the Imperial Post came to Kashmir; for the Rev. C. B. Simons, the State Agent for the Kashmir stamps, informed me at Srinagar that there were very few specimens of the older issues. If the stamps had been reprinted for sale, it seems reasonable to suppose that more of the rarer varieties would have been impressed. As regards the later issues, there are, as might be expected, a greater number of these, but I am told no very large quantity. Their genuineness is admitted by the principal experts of the Punjab, in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. I am in no way interested in their sale. But as your readers have been warned against the purchase of these stamps, I should like to state a few facts which will certainly interest those of them who are stamp collectors to know. First, the original brass dies have been defaced, and are now in the possession of the State and are to be placed in the State Museum. Secondly, the stamps now with the State Agent where struck with these dies, and nothing more than the present stock can ever be produced. Thirdly, the stock is limited, and when sold out the stamps must become uncommon.

The foregoing appeared in the *Globe* of December 12th, and in the following day's impression we find this editorial note:

The letter which we published yesterday regarding Kashmir stamps would seem to confirm our warning to philatelists against purchasing obsolete Kashmir stamps which have not passed through the post. There is no limit to the number of labels which the State officials may have caused to be printed, and now retain in stock for sale to collectors through an agent for that purpose. Though such stamps may be described as "genuine remainders," they are not necessarily genuine postage stamps; and half the charm and interest of philately will be destroyed in the future, if Governments find it pays to keep unused stocks of all obsolete issues for sale to collectors.

Thus the *Globe*, which knows more than a thing or two about Philately, takes leave to accept "Viator's" version of the matter *cum grano salis*, despite that gentleman's protestations of disinterestedness. We like the *Globe* for that, and we like it still more for the passages we have italicised in its editorial note above. To find a London daily paper speaking even tolerantly of our hobby is an unusual treat, but "the charm and interest of Philately"—Well, well!

We need scarcely add that we heartily endorse the *Globe's* warning against these stamps. Doubtless they are perfectly genuine, but the extent of the remainder may be as deeply shrouded in mystery as that of the Nova Scotia "cents" issue. And those who were bitten in connection with the Nova Scotia deal will think twice before they go in for the Kashmir Remainders.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Jan. 7th, 1899.

London Auctions.

Jan. 5th and 6th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. each day, precisely.

Jan. 10th and 11th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5-30 p.m. each day.

Provincial Auctions.

Jan. 4th.—Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Aytown Street, Manchester at 6 p.m. precisely.

Printed for the Proprietors, HARRY HILCKES & CO., LIMITED, by PARDY & SON, Philatelic Printers, 8, The Triangle, Bournemouth, and Published at 62, Cheapside, London.

THE  
**Glasgow Auctions are going strong**

A MOST successful Sale, the attendance at which again exceeded 50, was held on the 26th ult., and the following are some of the prices realized:

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain, 1d. black, unused, mint, block of 12	9	5	0
British East Africa, set surcharged on Compy's	14	10	0
Cape Woodblock, 1d. red, fine, no margins	1	14	0
Ditto, ditto, 4d. blue (catalogued, 45/-)	2	5	0
Hong Kong, 10 dollars, rose	1	5	0
Ionian Islands, 4d. and 1d. (cut close), on entire	3	5	0
Ditto, ditto, 2d. on entire	1	11	0
Mecklenburg Schwerin, 2sch. grey, rouletted	2	9	0
Natal, 1/- green, surcharged Postage, S.G., No. 32	2	14	0
New Zealand, blue paper, no wmk., 1/- green	1	2	0
Nevis, 1/- green, engraved	1	0	0

All the above stamps were positively sold.

Space will not permit publication of a larger list, but you can have a fully-priced catalogue for 1/- postal order.

Please note this: The Sale consisted of 365 lots, 355 of which was positively sold. If you have good stamps and wish to realize, it is impossible for you to find a better market than Glasgow. This is fact, not empty bounce.

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Will be held early in January: Lots can be accepted if sent in by the 22nd inst. Commission charges extremely moderate.

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1899.—JANUARY 5th and 6th, 19th and 20th; FEBRUARY 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

January 5th and 6th.—The remaining portion of the FINE COLLECTION formed by the late GILBERT LOCKYER, Esq., including the following rarities:—NEW SOUTH WALES, Sydney Views, 2d., Plate 1., 3d. green (2), laureated 1d. on blue, no leaves, all unused and superb. TUSCANY, 2 soldi and 6 crazie. ANTIGUA, 1d. red, imperf. NEVIS, 6d. and 1/- on black, 4d. orange, 6d., litho., 6d. green, all unused. VIRGIN ISLES, perf. 15, 6d. rose, unused. BARBADOS, a superb and practically complete collection. ST. LUCIA, 1st issue, 6d., mint, and 1/- black and orange, mint. ST. VINCENT, star, 4d. blue, mint, 5/-, mint, 1d. on 6d., 3d. on 6d., and 4d. on 1/-, vermilion. BRITISH HONDURAS, perf. 12½, 3c. on 3d. CEYLON, 1st issue, 5d., unused, 1/9 and 2/-, no wmk., 9d., unused. GIBRALTAR, complete. GRIQUALAND, a fine lot. LAGOS, 1st issue, unused, 2/6 olive and black, fine. PORTUGAL, 1st issue, 100 reis, unused, o.g. ST. HELENA, complete. SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 10d., wmk. C. & S.A., and many others. The collections of all the above-mentioned countries, and also others, especially Australian, are practically complete and in very fine condition.

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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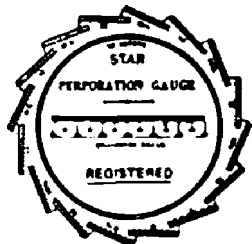
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No. 112—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

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# STAMP COLLECTORS

## FOR TWO WEEKS

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

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co. Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

PRODUCED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

- The Liverpool Philatelic Society.
- Bristol Philatelic Society.
- Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
- The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.
- Rochdale Philatelic Society.
- Sheffield Philatelic Society.
- Stamp Exchange Protection Society.
- Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 112—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### BAD AUCTION "LOTING" MEANS LOW PRICES.

A "FRIENDLY WARNING" BY MR. C. J. PHILLIPS.

THE FORTNIGHTLY has frequently called attention to various of the small but serious eccentricities displayed by the philatelic auctioneers. Mr. C. J. Phillips has now spoken out in the same strain. It was time. We have been doing our little best, and it may be hoped that the protest of Mr. Phillips—a man who, except in one or two well-known instances, has shown great shrewdness and aptitude in his conduct of the great business committed to his care—will at last bring the auctioneers to a better sense of the possibilities, both for good and evil, of their section of the philatelic trade. Mr. Phillips has been long silent, but:—

One result of the most recent auction, and that of a very important collection, has been so disastrous that we cannot any longer refrain from calling notice to what is, we are fully convinced, a crying evil, which we hope the auctioneers themselves will remedy before they kill their trade entirely.

Mr. Phillips is careful to point out that this is said quite with an unprejudiced mind. He then goes on to refer to one particular instance in order to illustrate his points. Quite recently the well known collection of a deceased philatelist was given to one of our auctioneers to be sold without reserve.

This Collection (Mr. Phillips writes) contained, amongst other things, one of the finest lots of unused envelopes, chiefly of Russia, Finland, and the German States, that has ever been offered for sale in the London market. These envelopes, as is well known, are very little sought for in England, where there are few collectors of entires, but they are sought for in Russia, Germany, Austria, and France.

In such a case as this, in justice to their clients, the auctioneers should issue a catalogue several weeks before the auction takes place. In this particular case what they did was to issue a catalogue on the Friday, and hold their auction on the following Tuesday evening, exactly four days' notice, not time even to allow the buyers in Berlin to send commissions; the result being that we estimate several hundreds of pounds more could have been obtained for the envelopes in question, if proper time had been given for collectors abroad to negotiate with their agents in London.

This is the first point, but the second is, in our opinion, quite as serious, and that is the extremely bad, faulty, and deceptive descriptions of most of the lots. So much is this the case that we believe that it would be absolutely impossible for any collector who had not seen the stamps personally to bid for anything, at least with any knowledge as to what he was buying. Let us take a few cases in point. The Baden envelope, 18 kr., red, large size, entire: this is one of the rare envelopes, and sold for £6 7s. 6d. It was an extremely dirty specimen, which no advanced collector would put in his collection, and yet not a word is said about the condition. A fine specimen would have been cheap at £20. In the same country, lot 9, we have the 12 kr., brown, described as "entire, unused, very scarce." This was a damaged copy with the flap nearly separated from the envelope, and sold for the sum of £4 2s. 6d., barely a quarter of its value. The red Moscow envelopes in the small and middle sizes were certainly fairly described, and brought £21 and £22 respectively, whereas if time had been given for commissions to be sent from St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa, they would probably have brought at least £50 each. They are worth considerably more. Then how is a collector abroad to understand the description, say, of lot 172a, which reads, "Russia, collection of envelopes, 150 pieces"? One can form no idea what is in such a lot without seeing it; this lot went for £4 12s. 6d., probably cheap at £20. In the rare German envelopes, such as Prussia, no distinction was made between the different tresses and as to whether they had short or long gum; the result is that many first-rate rarities were picked up in small mixed lots by a few dealers. Again, take the stamps in the same sale. There was an extremely fine collection of Peruvian stamps, for which we believe the collector paid a London dealer £350. This whole lot brought about £52, and this is the way it was described: "No. 394, Peru, 7th portion Arequipa, 135 stamps." "Lot 395, ditto, 8th portion ditto, 116 stamps." How is it possible for anyone, except just the few people who happen to be in town, to bid for things that are so badly described?

Mr. Phillips, in conclusion, repeats his warning that if these matters are not seen to the auctioneers will find their business slipping through their hands. He claims to speak generally without aiming at any one particular firm, and he asks the philatelic auctioneers, severally and individually to take his words as "a friendly warning in their own interests."

### THE IMPERIAL PENNY POST.

#### SOME NOTES, COMMENTS, AND GRUMBLES.

PHILATELISTS as much, perhaps more than, any other class are interested in everything appertaining to Imperial Penny Postage. And as much confusion seems to exist as to the precise limits of the New Postal Reform, let us give here the official list of colonies to which letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight may now be posted for one penny:

Aden	Montserrat and the Virgin Islands
Ascension	Malay States (federated), viz.:
Bahamas	Perak
Barbados	Selangor
Bermuda	Negri-Sembila and Pahang
British Central Africa	Natal
British East Africa	Newfoundland
British Guiana	Niger Coast Protectorate
British Honduras	Niger Territory
Canada	St. Helena
Ceylon	Sarawak
Cyprus	Seychelles
Falkland Islands	Sierra Leone
Fiji Islands	Straits Settlements
Gambia	Tobago
Gibraltar	Trinidad
Gold Coast Colony	Turks Islands
Hong Kong	Uganda
India	Windward Islands, viz.:
Johore	Grenada
Lagos	St. Lucia and St. Vincent
Leeward Islands, viz.:	
Antigua	
St. Kitts	
Nevis	
Dominica	

Letters to and from Her Majesty's Ships abroad will be transmissible at the same rate of postage.

Notable exclusions from this list are: Cape Colony, all the Australian Colonies, Jamaica and Malta.

Regarding the last-named, Mr. E. A. Reynolds-Ball writes from the Authors' Club: Why should Malta be excluded from the Colonies and possessions to be benefited by this new Imperial Penny Postage? It is a strange anomaly that Cyprus, which is still in theory an integral part of the Ottoman Empire, temporarily administered by Great Britain, should enjoy a privilege denied to an English possession like Malta.

Now it has been made a great point in all the newspapers giving accounts of the inauguration of Imperial Penny Postage that a large proportion of the people who posted letters to the Colonies on Christmas Day were ignorant as to the exact scope of "the new postal charter." Many sent letters to India stamped 2½d., instead of 1d., while many others placed only 1d., instead of 2½d., on letters directed to the Cape. Some of the wisecracks of the Press talk glibly of the public ignorance, and one writer in the *Globe* falls to wondering whether the regrettable demise of Queen Anne is a fact known to every inhabitant of these islands. As a matter of fact, a certain section of the Press is itself responsible for much of this public ignorance. There is a paper calling itself *All Sorts*, and this journal published in its issue of December 24th what it probably deemed a very clever article on Imperial Penny Post. In that article Cape Colony is mentioned as one of the colonies to which letters may be sent for a penny! And we have little doubt that there are other periodicals of the same class quite as ignorant and inaccurate as *All Sorts*.

#### THE FIRST AGITATOR FOR OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

The *Sketch* has some notes concerning the first agitator for Ocean Penny Postage—Elihu Burritt—the "learned blacksmith," as he was invariably and quite accurately designated—acted as a sort of inspiration. Away back in the early 'fifties the erudite American dreamed of universal penny postage, and to the editor of a Northern journal wrote on an octavo sheet of notepaper, with a drawing at the top of a ship ploughing through a heavy sea, and the words "Ocean Penny Postage" inscribed on its wind-filled sails, the following couplet and letter:

Fair speed the ship whose signal is unfurled—  
The Ocean Penny Postage of the world.

London, Jan. 27, 1853.

MR. EDITOR,—You would confer a favour and promote the movement for Ocean Penny Postage by inserting the enclosed paragraph.—Yours truly,

ELIHU BURRITT.

The possessor of this autograph letter values it highly. He is doubtful if the "paragraph" ever appeared, and is, consequently, ignorant as to its exact purport.

#### CRITICS OF THE CANADIAN IMPERIAL STAMP.

Admiral de Horsey, writing from Cowes, has criticised Canada's "Imperial" Stamp on various grounds. He thinks the proud motto, "We hold a vaster empire than has been," a little too proud; and in his latest letter he falls foul of the designer of the stamp on the ground that he has depicted Canada as being of greater superficial area than the United States, Mexico, and the States of Central America all rolled into one. And the Admiral, being an old gentleman who takes himself very seriously, quotes figures from "Whitaker" to show that the bold bad designer is quite at fault. It is all very dreadful, but latest advices from the philatelic market are to the effect that the stamp still rules firm at twopence a copy.

It is pleasant to turn from the carping criticism of Admiral de Horsey to the eulogistic letter which Mr. C. A. Duff Miller writes to the *Times* of December 27th. This gentleman asks: "Will not this wonderful little stamp, by constant iteration and reiteration, also tend to develop in the minds of stay-at-home Englishmen the fact that the British Empire is one country—one and indivisible—just as much one country as are England, Scotland and Wales?"

Again, as to the motto—"We hold a vaster Empire than has been"—Mr. Duff Miller cannot agree as to its being in bad taste. It is simply stating a grand fact in a very few words. It may be unpalatable in some quarters, but surely to few recipients of letters within the Empire. It must be remembered, too, that this stamp is specially designed for "private circulation only"—that is, within the family circle of the British Empire.

#### JERSEY STAMP DEALERS BURNT OUT.

WE regret very much to hear that our good friends Messrs. G. Francis & Co., of Jersey, have had the misfortune of having their premises gutted, which most effectually stopped their business for a time. We are informed that as soon as they had an opportunity to provide fresh stock they will once more be able to issue their price list, of New Issues.

#### A RUN ON THE "A.B.C." CATALOGUE.

MESSRS. BRIGHT AND SON, of Bournemouth, are weeping tears of joy. They tell us that their new "A.B.C." Catalogue has met with a reception they neither hoped for nor anticipated. Such was the rush to secure copies of the new catalogue that only about a half of the orders could be executed before Christmas. Copies of the new "A.B.C." are still being sent out to customers as fast as the binders can fit them out in their scarlet suits.

#### A PHILATELIST HOME FROM THE WAR.

MESSRS. SELLSCHOPP, of San Francisco, tell a good story of the excuse given by a correspondent of theirs for not answering letters. The young man wrote: "I have a reasonable excuse for not writing before, as I have been in camp and in Cuba, and have been home only eight days having been sent to the hospital from El Caney, near Santiago, with a Mauser bullet through my leg. To use a philatelic description I am red-brown, perforated irregularly, small piece gone from lower left hand corner, a little thin, but a good copy otherwise." To this Messrs. Sellschopp add an appropriate hope that by this time the philatelic warrior is "skilfully mended."

#### FORGERIES OF "BOY KING" CUBAN STAMPS.

MESSRS. J. C. MORGENTHAU AND CO., of New York, warn philatelists that the present issue of Cuba, *i.e.*, Boy King 1898-9 set, has been forged. Among a large purchase of the used stamps Messrs. Morgenthau found counterfeits of the 3 and 6 centavo values. These counterfeits were undoubtedly

made to cheat the government, and are easily recognised from the originals by their general appearance, being very coarse lithographs, and by the perforation, which in the case of the forgeries is an irregular pin perforation, in place of the clean cut perforation of the genuine stamps. Messrs. Morgenthau do not know whether any other values have been counterfeited, but the inference to be drawn is that the scarce high values have also been made, and it is necessary that philatelists should be on their guard.

#### DEATH OF SIR ROWLAND HILL'S SON.

THE death is announced of Mr. Pearson Hill, the only son of the late Sir Rowland Hill, K.C.B., which took place at 6, Pembroke Square, on the 13th inst. Mr. Pearson Hill, who died at the age of 66, entered the public service (says the *Monthly Journal*) in 1850, being appointed to a junior clerkship in the Secretary's Department of the Post Office. Like his father and his uncle, Mr. Edwin Hill, he possessed great ability in mechanics, and invented, amongst other things, an improvement in the apparatus for the exchanging of mailbags at stations at which the mail trains do not stop, and, in 1859, a machine for the rapid and legible post-marking of letters, which is, we believe, still in use at St. Martin's-le-Grand. At the end of 1858, or beginning of 1859, Mr. Hill was sent out to Mauritius to re-organize the postal service in that Colony, and as a consequence, was able to provide philatelists with much useful information.

By the death of Mr. Pearson Hill, we may hope that the unprofitable controversy of Hill v. Chalmers is for ever closed. The fighting on this question was occasionally more acrimonious than one could wish. FORTNIGHTLY readers will remember that we took occasion to criticise Mr. Hill's somewhat tactless references to a deceased opponent. But—*de mortuis nil nisi bonum*. Mr. Pearson Hill, too, has left us now; and we respectfully offer our condolences to his relatives and friends.

#### A NOTORIOUS "FILOUTELIST" LAID BY THE HEELS.

HARRY OHLSEN, late of Copenhagen, has long been a noted Filoutelist in international fame, writes "Philologus" in the *Monthly Journal*. A few weeks ago he entered the shop of Herr Philipp Kosack, in Berlin, and asked to see a selection of very rare stamps, as the representative of a London firm. Strange to say, the head of the firm had called at Herr Kosack's shop only a few hours previously. On being told of this, Ohlsen said he was the brother of the chief of the London firm. Thereupon Herr Kosack displayed his wares, and meanwhile telephoned for Berlin is supplied with an excellent telephonic system, and is unhampered by vesteries, &c.) When the putative brother from London arrived on the scene fraternal greetings were not exchanged, and Ohlsen threw up his hands; he confessed that he had intended to steal what rare stamps he could get, and that he had only 3d. in his pockets. He then accompanied a policeman in a stroll as far as the nearest police station. While passing the time there in turning over the leaves of a Filoutelist Album, which happened to be in the room, the host recognised a much-wanted criminal, Johansson, in his guest Ohlsen. For five years the police have been vainly trying to come up with Johansson, and the capture reflects great credit on Herr Kosack.

#### SOME FANCIES ABOUT THE NEW CATALOGUES.

Why, oh why (some people are asking) did Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, change their minds.

It was given out with every show of authority that we should have nothing further from the Strand firm until well on in 1899, perhaps not till 1900. Yet here is a new catalogue spring upon us at a very short notice. A writer in *Mekel's Weekly*, whose guess is at any rate ingenious, writes:

My own surmise is that the appearance of Bright's catalogue is the cause of the publication of Stanley Gibbons'. There is more rivalry among English firms than there is on this side of the water, and there may be more connection between these two events than is evident on the face of things.

#### WHY A SEPARATE VOLUME FOR LOCALS?

"Incog." the London Correspondent of the *Stamp*

*Collectors' Journal*, vainly endeavours to arrive at some "hidden meaning" in the decision of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons to devote one of their four volumes exclusively to Locals.

The other day (he writes) I heard the opinion expressed that in this new arrangement one could see a desire to "boom" locals, but if there be any shrewdness in that guess I cannot quite see the wisdom of relegating the local stamps to the dangerous solitude of a separate volume. Experience has proved that philatelists are pleased to be able to reduce the bulk of their catalogues, and hence the collector of Government adhesives only will rejoice that two of the Gibbons volumes will furnish all he requires. How, then, do Messrs. Stanley Gibbons gain by this innovation? I think their only gain will be the gratitude of all philatelists for this new and welcome simplification of the catalogue.

### Stray Jottings.

CANADA now has two weekly stamp papers, and both are sailing under the same name, viz.: *The Canadian Philatelic Weekly*. Both publishers claim that they used it first, and as yet the dispute stands at that.

SWITZERLAND has one Post Office for every 900 inhabitants; Germany for 1900; Great Britain, 2000; France, 4600; Austria, 5000; Turkey, 15,600; Servia, 20,000; Bulgaria, 24,000; and Russia, 27,000.

THE recently deceased Mr. W. L. Jackson had one unique distinction. He alone among her Majesty's subjects could point to his head figuring upon a stamp. It was a threepenny telephone stamp, and Mr. Jackson looked right royal upon it. The people of the Post Office, however, thought he looked disloyal upon it. So the stamp was suppressed; but a few copies of it are to be found in philatelic collections.

THE so called rice-paper is not made from rice, as its name implies, but from the snow-white pith of a small tree belonging to the genus *Aralia*. The tree grows in Formosa, and, so far as is known, nowhere else. The stems are transported to China, and there the rice-paper is made.

IN accordance with a scheme already alluded to in the "S.C.F.", a silk merchant at Lyons has now obtained permission to weave the 50 centimes stamps into silk envelopes for sale at the great exhibition of 1900.

THE *Bazaar* very opportunely reproduces what must have been one of the very earliest of "Ocean Penny Postage" Envelopes. It hailed from Sydney and was franked with a 3d. green stamp of New South Wales. On the front is a steamship, bearing on its sails various mottoes advocative of Ocean Penny Postage, and on the back is the date of posting—26th July, 1853!

IT is a strange trick of fate that just after the FORTNIGHTLY's observations with regard to "Miss Griffin's Philatelic Snowball," a copy of the Snowball letter should come to 64, Cheapside. It is requested therein that the recipient of letter No. 180 is requested to return the letters, "as that completes the chain." We have done our little best to complete the chain by dropping our copy of the letter into our waste basket.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Jan. 21st, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

- Jan. 10th and 11th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.
- Jan. 17th & 18th. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m.
- Jan. 19th & 20th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. each day, precisely.

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. 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, JANUARY 7, 1899.



THE talk everywhere is of catalogues and prices. Let us gather up a little of this talk and see to what end it leads us. The whispers wafted in the direction of Cheapside, coupled with things that have been communicated to us by various little birds, point to anything between admiration and contempt as the popular verdict on the new stamp dealers' catalogues. Some people are praising the undoubted improvements in both "Gibbons" and "Bright;" others are bitterly complaining that the catalogues are again "rigged" in the interests of the dealers who publish them. We should hesitate to endorse this latter indictment, although we are fully prepared to believe that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons and Messrs. Bright & Son have so arranged their priced catalogues as to be able to do business at a profit to themselves. To expect anything else would be to ignore the natural tendencies of mere ordinary mortals. But the astounding differences in the prices given in the Gibbons and Bright catalogues!—this is the topic of the moment, and it is one that provokes indignation—or laughter. Why, asks a well-known stamp dealer, should the shilling Nova Scotia be priced £15 in "Gibbons" and £20 in "Bright." One price must be right and the other wrong; and personally we lean to the opinion that the true quotation is that given in the "A.B.C." Catalogue. In the case of glaring differences of this sort the true test, of course, is whether the cataloguer giving the lower quotation can supply a fair copy at the figure he gives? If Messrs. Stanley Gibbons can supply decent copies of the shilling Nova Scotia at £15 to all who present themselves as customers at that figure, then £15 is the market price. But can they?

When prices are all at sixes and sevens, as they undoubtedly are at the present moment, there is no room for any further talk as to these catalogues being accepted as standard catalogues. They constitute no sort of standard whatever,

and the sooner the philatelic public learns that they must be regarded solely as the priced lists of the dealers who publish them, so much the better for the philatelic public.

We trust that these few lines on the burning question of the hour will not be construed into any sort of personal attack on the catalogues or their publishers for such a thing is far from our thoughts. We have attempted merely to interpret for our readers a little of the "catalogue talk" that has been going on around us during the past few weeks. In the near future—perhaps in the next FORTNIGHTLY—we shall return to this subject of catalogues and prices, a subject at the very roots of philately and demands the most serious attention from all followers of the hobby.

FATHER TIME has given us his latest New Issue—1899.

May it prove to be the source of happiness and prosperity, not only to the readers of the New Year. FORTNIGHTLY, but to philatelists, amateur and professional, old and young, big and little, the old world over!

It would be somewhat of a strain on men's optimism to describe 1898 as an altogether satisfactory

The year for philatelists. True, it was a year that Old Year. saw a slight revival from the dull depression of 1897; but it was a year that saw also what

was apparently the final demise of the S.S.S.S., and, in other directions, more than one serious check to good philately. It was a busy year in some respects; a year of much talking and planning, and a prolific year—more's the pity—for new issues of stamps. 1899 has opened with every promise of activity and prosperity among philatelists. In the Colonies and in India philately is in a particularly healthy condition; in America there has been a great revival since the termination of the war; on the Continent there is undiminished enthusiasm, save, perhaps, in France, where political uncertainties cloud the horizon. Everywhere the speculator, a source of untold evil, appears to be scotched; and philatelists may, we think, pursue their studies with every confidence in the future stability of their hobby.

## "Asked and Answered."

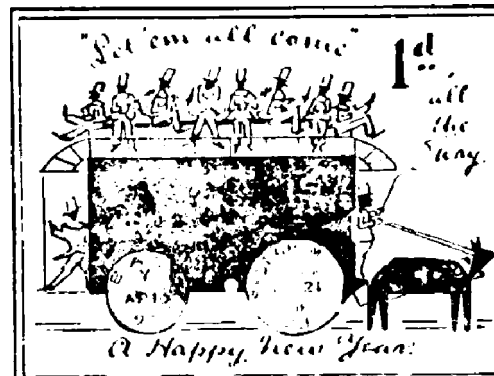
THE replies so far received to questions 7, 8, 9, and 10 are poor both in quality and quantity. We have therefore decided to allow more time, and have fixed Monday, January 16th, as the last date for receiving replies.

## French Ocean Postage.

FROM the first of January, 1899, the postage from France to any of the French Colonies and vice versa has been reduced from 25c. per 15 grammes (about half-ounce) to 15c., thus bringing it to the same figure as the inland postage. We should have thought that this would have been the proper occasion to respond to the universal clamour and to reduce the postage for inland letters at least to the popular 1d. or 10c.

## One of our Christmas Cards.

THE Editors of the FORTNIGHTLY again have to thank a host of readers in all parts of the world for Christmas Cards received.



These came this year from Germany, Africa, Persia, Portugal, and America—literally from all quarters of the globe. Mr. G. C. Warden again distinguished himself with the annexed ingenious design, which happily hits off the topic of the moment—

Imperial Penny Postage.

Notes on New Issues.

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**BRAZIL.**



MR. F. H. HILL, of Liverpool, has been good enough to send us a copy of the new Brazilian surcharge, the first one by the way issued in the Republic. The old Journal stamp of 100 reis mauve has been used for this purpose. The slanting surcharge is, we fear, not very clearly shown in the illustration annexed.

200r. on 100r. mauve.

**CRETE.**



This unfortunate island has added to its burdens a postal service, of which the first outward sign has appeared in the shape of a stamp as per annexed illustration. We presume the stamp is only meant for internal use, but perhaps those of our readers who are at present with the troops stationed in Candia can give us some further information.

**COAMO, PUERTO RICO.**

CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO
CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO	CORREOS 5 CTS. COAMO

We gather from the *Metropolitan Philatelist* that a set of provisional stamps were issued for this town at a time when it was occupied by the American troops. Below is the translation of an official letter which speaks for itself. We may add that the stamps in question are surcharged "R Santiago," in red.

During the Spanish American war the different towns in the island, which were occupied by the American Army (and among these the town of Coamo) were shut off from postal communication with those occupied by the Spanish forces, and likewise with others occupied by the American troops. The service was therefore temporarily interrupted.

Some time after the city council was authorised to organise this postal service and to charge a postage of 2 to 5c. for each letter delivered to the postal service.

At the same time the magistrate determined to issue on this occasion a special stamp of the value of 5 centavos each.

This stamp was in use from August 13th until about the 4th of September of this year, when the Post Office received instruction from the Military Postal Station at Ponce to use the regular American postage stamps in paying the postage for letters sent from there.

Coamo, Oct. 20th, 1898.

Secretario del Ayuntamiento,

M. MARGUEZ.

Seal of the Alcaldia,  
Municipal de Coamo.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**

MR. MARK, of Cardiff, draws our attention to the fact that the Money Order Office has changed the style of its Official envelope. Formerly Foreign Money Orders were remitted by the Post Office in Envelopes bearing the inscription at the top "On Her Majesty's Service" and in the left hand corner the additional remark "Money Order Office No. 1." These envelopes were sent through the mails unregistered and were of course easily recognised by dishonest persons as containing value. Money Orders have gone astray most mysteriously, and naturally the blame was laid on the Post Office. It has therefore been decided to send out these Money Orders in plain envelopes without any inscription whatever, and, as an additional safeguard, the inside of the envelopes are coloured with a view of making the same less transparent. Of course the envelopes bear the Official Paid stamp the same as any ordinary missive, but there is nothing to especially distinguish them from any other letter sent by another department of the Post Office.

**QUEENSLAND.**

Our indefatigable correspondent Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Brisbane, advises us, by the mail leaving there on the 26th November, that the penny stamp of Queensland, with numbers in all four corners, has just been issued with a new style of perforation, which after all is not a perforation at all but an improved style of roulette. It is done with brass rules, which are the patent of a German engineer, much in the style of the old Finland stamps, but the teeth are not so large. We fancy, however, that for general use this style of perforation will be found inefficient, and that the Government will find itself compelled at an early date to revert to the old style of perforation, as it will be found in practice to be a somewhat tiresome proceeding to separate the stamps, the paper being so thick that the roulette will not be deep enough, and therefore the stamps will be torn in greater proportion than has hitherto been the case.

We are further advised by Mr. Robinson that on or about the 18th November the ½d. stamp was issued with the figures in the four corners, of which we give an illustration, and, further, that the 3d. has appeared with these figures. To summarise, the following values with figures in corners are now current in Queensland:—½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., while the 5d. and 1/- values are still in use without the figures, but of course as soon as the present stock is exhausted they will appear in the altered die.



Since writing the above, a reader has shown us the same stamp rouletted on coloured lines, whereas those described above are rouletted on white lines. We have no hesitation in saying that the coloured lines are an after thought. The machines have been much improved and the saw-tooth like perforations are cut through in a very efficient manner.

When we say coloured lines we use a mis-nomer, as the rouletting is done in red and in black, the latter colour being on top of the red one, which proves that the rouletting has been done at the same time as the stamps were printed, and that the black was added owing to the sheets being imperfectly rouletted in the first process. We shall watch this experiment with great interest, but we are afraid philatelists will be blessed with a number of varieties before the final and perfect stage is reached.



## How Postage Stamps are Printed.

A VISIT TO MESSRS. DE LA RUE'S.

AS every reader knows, the whole of the postage stamps used in the United Kingdom are printed by Messrs. De La Rue & Co., in their stamp factory, Bunhill-Row, London. The various operations by which the stamps, post-cards, wrappers, and embossed envelopes are manufactured, and the machinery by which they are effected, are most jealously guarded and kept secret—the most minute precautions being taken by the Government controlling staff, as well as by Messrs. De La Rue, to secure secrecy with regard to their methods, as well as safety for the enormous quantities of stamps which are always in process of manufacture. When it is stated that more than two thousand millions of adhesive stamps are now issued annually, and that of this number more than fifteen hundred millions are penny stamps, some idea may be formed of the vastness of the interests which are involved in the proper administration of this important department of the State.

In connection with the issue of the "Jubilee Envelope" in 1890, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the introduction of the penny postage, a privileged party was permitted to go over the works, but this is a favour granted only under exceptional circumstances.

All the dies and plates are produced under the immediate control of the Inland Revenue officers, and when finished are retained by them, and only handed out to the firm for use under the authority of warrants received from the Inland Revenue Department. Even when they are in use by the firm, an officer is present where the work is carried on, and controls the operations. All the adhesive stamps are printed on watermarked paper, which is supplied by the Government, and counted out to Messrs. De La Rue, who have to give a strict account of it, either in the form of perfect sheets of stamps or by way of spoilage. Should a sheet of paper by any chance be lost, the firm is held responsible for the value of the stamps which should have been printed upon it, and it says much for the management of the factory that the loss of a sheet of paper is practically unknown. All the finished work is subjected to most careful examination by a highly trained staff, and stamps are rejected for the most minute fault. Even the destruction of such rejected stamps is the subject of the solicitude of a responsible officer, who presides over a specially constructed crematorium connected with the works. Considerable astonishment was evinced by the visitors at the remarkable expertness of the women whose duty it is to examine the stamps. So trained does the eye become to the detection of the slightest flaw in the printing or perforation of the sheets, that the process of inspection is carried on with a rapidity which to the casual spectator appears little short of marvellous.

The printing plates used for printing adhesive stamps are of a bright metal, and each contains as many stamp-pieces as there are to be stamps upon the sheet. Every stamp exactly resembles the others, and they are all absolute *facsimiles* of the die from which the plate was made. The die consists of a block of steel upon which all the work has been most carefully engraved. The embossing of stamps upon envelopes, the gumming of adhesive stamps and wrappers, the processes of the glazing and perforation, the cutting of postcards, the counting, boarding, and packing, are all processes of the most interesting character, and serve to impress the spectator with a sense, not only of the magnitude of the operations carried on, but also of the perfect discipline which is everywhere enforced. The factory is admirably constructed with a view to the comfort and health of those employed in it, and the most perfect system of protection against fire and of fire-extinguishing appliances has been adopted.

THE U.S.A. 15 cents stamps will shortly be changed in colour to an olive-green.

## The Half-penny Stamps of Malta.

BY EDMUND RIZZO,

In the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*.

OUR ½d. yellow local stamp was first made use of in 1861. Although all catalogues state the Malta ½d. yellow stamp dates from 1860, yet from reliable information which I will quote later on, I am led to the conclusion that the above mentioned stamp was not made use of before the subsequent year.

Some months ago, a friend of mine acquired from a Maltese merchant his old correspondence, dating from 1824. This friend, himself an ardent collector, invited me to help him in classifying the letters.

Among the whole lot there was a good number of ½d. yellow Malta on the original cover.

We classified these Malta Stamps according to date, but on getting down to 1860 we found that at that year no stamps were to be found on the letters and that only a post-mark bearing the date was to be seen.

I still thought that the halfpenny local stamp might have been brought into use towards the middle or even the end of that year, and I continued my researches with greater diligence. At last I found a letter bearing date 25th December, 1860, this letter had no stamp on, and since up to the 25th of December letters were posted without being stamped, of course we may with certainty conclude that this stamp was not used before 1861.

The first order sent by the Post Office to the Crown Agents for the manufacture of this stamp was of the amount of £40. As these stamps were only used locally (letters sent abroad being stamped with the stamps of Great Britain) more than five years elapsed before this first stock was exhausted.

In classifying the above mentioned stamps of Malta we met with several ½d. yellow on bluish ground used in 1861 and '62, and at the same period we also met with ½d. yellow on white. The first stock of these stamps was therefore printed on a different kind of paper and the ½d. yellow on bluish paper, and that on white paper were contemporaneously printed and used. To be more correct we may point out that the white paper variety, although met with obliterated in the same year, viz., 1861, yet the post mark bore the date of November, but the circumstance may be attributed to the fact that the sheets of those on bluish were placed above while those on white were placed among the lower rows of sheets; but that was only a mere chance.

Calculating the number of stamps on bluish found in the correspondence in question and those on white paper, I dare to say that the difference of price between these two stamps is not adequate to their respective rarity.

In proportion we found four times as many on white paper as on bluish. Whilst the former is catalogued at £2—which is a fair and reasonable price—the latter ought to be catalogued at not more than a quarter that price.

## A Philatelic Guide to Gardening.

WE have received for review a copy of "The Philatelic Almanac, for 1899," price fourpence, published by Smyth & Co., Boscombe, Bournemouth. We have a shrewd suspicion that Messrs. Smyth & Co. are believers in the adage that the "public likes to be fooled;" but we have our doubts as to whether that adage applies to the philatelic section of the community. Messrs. Smyth & Co. appear to have obtained what we may call a "stock interior" for their almanac, and adding to this eight pages of philatelic items and advertisements and a coloured wrapper—presto! there is your "Philatelic Almanac," price fourpence. Unfortunately for our bright young friends at Boscombe the "stock interior" is not at all philatelic, but contains monthly notes on Gardening and kindred subjects. Messrs. Smyth & Co. must do better than this next time.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## More Stamps "Worth Full Catalogue."

WE have given in the FORTNIGHTLY two of Mr. Wylard O. Wylie's *Boston Stamp Book* articles on "Stamps Worth Full Catalogue." The third of the series gives further lists received from a number of prominent American philatelists:

Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer, of Chicago, regards the following stamps as worth full catalogue:—

- United States, 1873, 2c. brown and dark brown.
- Austria, Nos. 18, 25, 26, Scott.
- Belgium, 1870, 1fr dull violet and 1 fr lilac; 1883, 25c. blue, newspaper stamps, 1869-70, 8c. dull violet and lilac.
- Denmark, No. 22, Scott.
- India, 1892, 1 rupee carmine and green.
- Luxemburg, 1874, 40c. orange.
- Newfoundland, 1887, 10c. black.
- Nicaragua, 1862, 2c. blue, 5c. black.
- Norway, 1854, 4s. blue.
- Russia, 1884, 5okr.
- Siam, 1887, 64 atts.

From the Colonial Stamp Company, of Boston, the following list was received:—

- Tobago, 1880, ½d., brown violet unused.
- Niger Coast, 1893, 2½d. carmine, unused.
- Trinidad, 1882, 1d. on 6d. gr. and blk. unused.
- Zululand, 1874, 3d. lilac and brown, ..
- Belgium, 1849, 10c. brown, used.
- New South Wales, 1888, 5s., wmkd "5 N. S. W.," used.

Mr. F. P. Richardson, Salem, Mass., states that in giving a list of the stamps underpriced by the catalogue "the trouble would be to know when to stop as there are hundreds of stamps that are much underpriced." He considers the Antigua shilling, used, an underpriced stamp. Also the Argentine Republic, 1876, 5c. vermilion; Canada, 1875, 5c. olive green, unused; Antioquia, the first four; Cyprus, Scott, No. 27; Dominica, 1879, 1d. lilac, unused; Fiji Islands, 1882, 1s. brown; Gambia, 1880, 3d., ultramarine, 6d. blue, and Gibraltar, 1886, 6d. violet.

To close the budget, Mr. Rudolf C. Bach, editor of the *Montreal Philatelist*, furnishes the following list:—

- Dutch Indies, 1864, 10c. carmine; 1876, 2g. 50c. green and lilac.
- Thurn and Taxis, Northern District, 1852, 18gr. light blue
- Prussia, 1896, 10sgr. rose.
- Canada, 1882, ½c. black.

In this last stamp particularly, Mr. Bach has great faith. He has sold copies of it at 5 cents Canadian money.

## St. Helena's Philatelic Revenue.

From one of the St. Helena newspapers, the *St. Helena Guardian*, the following precious letter has been reprinted by the *Philatelic Record*. It is distinctly *ben trovato*.

"SIR,—Mr. Morrice, in a letter to last week's *Guardian*, seemed to infer that the solvency of the Colony depended upon a sum of £8447, the value of certain obsolete stamps.

"These stamps are, of course, only valuable from a philatelic point of view; but unfortunately the conditions of their sale are such as to prohibit any philatelist from purchasing them.

"An intending purchaser, if he wants to obtain say a 2½d. and a 5s. specimen to complete his collection, cannot do so unless he buys all the 2½d. and 5s. stamps of this kind held by the Colonial Agents; and as there are over a hundred thousand of some of the smaller values, it follows that a considerable sum would have to be spent to obtain the stamps from this source.

"Now, although stamp collectors are generally described as mad, their madness would hardly reach the degree of paying hundreds of pounds for a stamp which they could purchase from a stamp dealer for a few pence.

"There remain the large stamp dealers to consider. These stamps have been in the hands of the Colonial Agents for a number of years, and it is presumed that stamp dealers were informed or ascertained that these stamps were for sale; if so, they have been singularly slow in buying them up.

"Messrs. Stanley Gibbons (a large stamp dealing company in

London), charge the following prices for the stamps in an unused condition:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
½d., green .. ..	0	2	4d., sepia .. ..	1	6
1½d., red and green ..	0	4	6d., grey .. ..	1	6
2d., yellow .. ..	0	9	1s., yellow-green ..	2	6
2½d., blue .. ..	0	9	5s., orange .. ..	12	6
3d. lilac .. ..	1	0			

"If the Colony or Colonial Office, whoever has the final say in the matter, were to sell these stamps in detail, or appoint an agent to sell them at face value, giving him a percentage on the amount sold, it is more than probable that a large amount would be bought by the mad stamp-collecting public, and the asset of £8447 would not be such a farce as it is at present.

"Believe me, yours faithfully,

"ONE OF THE MAD ONES."

"The mad stamp-collecting public" is, perhaps, a phrase not altogether unmerited.

## U.S.A. Watermarks are not so Shy Now.

Much has been said and written concerning the present U.S.A. watermarks, and Mr. H. B. Steele in the *Evergreen State Philatelist* writes some more.

The watermarks appear somewhat plainer on some stamps than on others, says Mr. Steele. For instance, the 10c. value shows the mark very plainly while on the 1c. it is hardly ever to be seen perfectly. This is most probably due to the dense green color of the 10c. stamp which affords a better background than the blue of the 1c. stamp. The watermarks are also found in some of the stamps inverted, due no doubt to the careless handling of the paper in printing.

On the whole, however, the U.S.A. watermarks are better now than when they were first introduced; but Mr. Steele, in conclusion, contends that from the point of view of the public the marks are and always will be utterly useless.

## Other Journals Received.

The *Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, Malta's only philatelic journal, is improving month by month. The twelfth, which is the Christmas number is the best we have yet received. Mr. Edward Kizzo commenced a series of articles on the stamps of Malta, the first of which we are reprinting in its entirety.

*Le Courier des Timbres-Poste* is very angry with the FORTNIGHTLY for daring to suggest, quite in fun, that a provisional stamp had been issued by the French at Fashoda. This little quip of ours is fully translated, and is held up to *Le Courier's* readers as a piece of "truly British rhodomontade," illustrating the fiendish delight that Britishers take in aggravating the French! Well! Well! If Scotchmen need surgical operations for humour, what about our friends across the Channel?

The *Revue Postale* announces, on what authority we do not know, that in future the regulations concerning the "I.R. Official" Stamps of Great Britain will in future be enforced, and that unused specimens of these stamps offered or advertised for sale will be seized by the authorities.

Always readable and informing is the Bogert and Durbin Company's journal, the *Philatelic Monthly*. Specialists of Bulgaria (we read in the December issue) will find many varieties of paper and perforation in the current issue. For instance, the 5 stotinki stamp has recently appeared on thick paper, wide perforation (11-1), the colour being a light green.

*L'Annuaire Imbrologique*, that excellent Belgian journal, published and edited by Mons. Armand Dethier, brings a mysterious note concerning one Harold Conne, a person much "sought after" some two or three years ago by philatelists, and who it is now stated will shortly be heard of again.

Mr. Webb, in his "Notes On English Stamps," in the *Philatelic Chronicle*, describes a variety of the 1½d. green and purple overprinted "Government Parcels"—now no longer used with this overprint. In the variety the leg of the "P." has a decided curve under its body, apparently endeavouring (as Mr. Webb puts it) to kick the left foot of its neighbour, "A."

### The L.S.D. Power in Philately.

In a recent review we were speaking of the "L.S.D." feeling in philately", taking our cue from an article in the *Philatelic Journal of India*. As a sequel, it will not be inopportune to glance at the "L.S.D. Power in philately". It is a force not to be despised, rest assured. Mr. J. Luther Kilbon, the Editor of the *Boston Stamp Book*, in the course of a long but interesting dissertation on philatelic supply and demand, illustrates the power of capital in philately as in everything else. His particular instance happens to be the Nova Scotia deal:

The dealers who bought the stamps (he writes) were possessed of sufficient capital and were doing a sufficiently large business in other lines to allow them to fix the price at which they would sell the stamps and to maintain that price. There is, of course, practically a limit to their power in this direction. If, for instance, they had fixed the price at one hundred dollars a set, they would have sold practically none of them. Most of us could not afford to pay a hundred dollars for any set of stamps, anyway. To those who could afford it, such an expenditure for these particular stamps would be out of the question, because the necessarily great number of sets which would be left in the dealers' hands would be a constant menace to the value of the set which might be purchased. For, however strong financially the holders might be, and however strongly determined that no sets of stamps should be sold at less than a hundred dollars, there is always the risk that impaired financial strength, or change of mind, or the passing of the business by death or sale into the hands of some one else, might lead to the large number of stamps being put upon the market at a very much lower price and the consequent loss of the greater part of the money which had thus been spent. But it still remains true that within certain limits a dealer with large capital and good general business can force up the price of some stamps beyond the natural price.

And every word of it applies equally strongly, of course, to the *speculator* with capital, for, although Mr. Luther Kilbon does not mention the fact, the Nova Scotia transaction was engineered, in its primary stages, by speculators, not dealers. And Mr. Larmour has well said that the average dealer is not a speculator.

### This Indian Stamp is to go.

From an interesting article in the *Philatelic Journal of India* for November—a fat number well filled—we glean a complete history of the 1½ anna stamp of India, now being withdrawn from use. This value was first called for in 1880, it appears, to meet a special newspaper-postage need, and the first supply of the 1½ anna stamps reached India in October or November, 1881; but were not placed on public sale until the early days of 1882. About half-a-million annually were sold until 1892, when there came a reduction of the single newspaper rate to ½ anna. That naturally curtailed the demand for the stamp, which is now seldom asked for. In all, some six millions of the 1½ anna stamp have been printed, of which number about half-a-million remain on hand. These, the *P.J.I.* announces, will be disposed of in the usual way, but from January, 1899, the stamp will no longer figure in the official list of postage stamps. Of course it will not be demonetized; equally of course, the supply of surcharged 1½ anna stamps to the native states will cease.

### SOME WILL BE RARE.

It is worth noting, by the way, that some of the surcharged 1½ anna stamps will be scarce, notably those supplied to Chamba and Jhind. Gwalior and Patiala, the *Philatelic Journal of India* notes, have had large quantities, Nabha has had 14,900, Faridkot none.

### About Auctions and Auction Reports.

"Are auctions doomed?" asks R.P.J. in the *Philatelist's Supplement to the Bazaar*, and himself supplies the answer—"As a means of disposing of stamps, No!—As a means of deciding their market values, most certainly, Yes!"

It is astonishing with what unanimity the philatelic journals of the world are following the lead of the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* in this matter. First it was the *London Philatelist*, then the *P.J.G.B.*, then in America, the *Weekly Philatelic Era* was converted, confessedly as a result of the

*FORTNIGHTLY's* leading article on the subject. Now, to complete the circuit of the globe, the *Philatelic Journal of India* discontinues the excellent summary it has been in the habit of borrowing (and *inter alia*, most handsomely acknowledging) from the "S.C.F."

It will be worth while, by the way, to quote the views of a stamp auctioneer on stamp auctions, as embodied in Mr. H. W. Plumridge's London Letter to the *Philatelic Journal of India*. "Of course," says Mr. Plumridge, "stamps do occasionally go cheaper under the hammer, and this is due to a variety of circumstances." He is inclined to agree with the editors who have discontinued the reports, not so much on the score of unreliability of auction realisations as on the ground that the published reports do not always adequately describe the condition of the stamps.

### Our Colonies are not Foreign Countries.

In a letter to the *Weekly Philatelic Era* of recent date, Mr. W. A. McDonnell asks whether, in view of the Postal Union recommendation that all stamps for foreign postage be blue, it will not be necessary to alter the colour of the 2 cent Canadian stamp when Imperial Penny Postage is *un fait accompli*.

Mr. McDonnell, it seems to us, is floundering. The recommendation of the Postal Union, as he quotes it (and we have not the text before us at the moment), speaks of foreign postage when it recommends a blue 2½d. or 25 centimes stamp. There is no question of foreign postage in an arrangement within the British Empire. To us Britishers the Dominion of Canada is no more a foreign country than the Isle of Man, although there are people who would like it to be.

### A real Criterion of Value.

Mr. Edgar Nelson chats very interestingly about philately generally and Mushroom Issues in particular, in an article he has contributed to the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, headed "The Dangerous New Issue." In Mr. Nelson's opinion "the real value of any *unused* stamp, in a philatelic sense, is determined by what it will sell for at auction, *above its face value*." There is no gainsaying that!

### Brief Notices of other Journals.

The December number of the *Junior Stamp Collector* contains a philatelic story—"What Ho! An Adventure of Two Junior Philatelists," by Frank C. Harris. Miss Sybil Bishop writes in the same number on "Bogus Stamps," illustrating her own article.

The *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* makes a proud boast that it has no need to increase its circulation by such adventitious means as prize competitions, complimentary copies, etc. What a singularly fortunate journal is the *P.J.G.B.*!

Of late the *Boston Stamp Book* has worn an attenuated look not usual to this excellent publication. The stock features, however including the useful "Reference Lists of Type and Die Varieties," are well maintained.

The *Evergreen State Philatelist* is indeed the evergreen among philatelic plants. It has sometimes the scrappiness that seems inseparable from American Stamp Journals, but its worst is better than some others' best.

A new Rajah now reigns at Sirmoor, notes Mr. B. Gordon Jones, of Calcutta, in his useful sheet, *Stamps*; and presumably the new Rajah will want to see his own head on a new set of nice new stamps.

From Alexandria comes the *Bulletin des Annonces Timbrologiques*. It is presumably published more for the accommodation of advertisers than for the benefit of private philatelists.

The *Herald Exchange*, of New York, shows marked improvement.

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

1899.—FEBRUARY 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

**January 19th and 20th.**—A Fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL STAMPS, including the following:—CEYLON, 4d. rose, imperf.; 1/9 green, C. & C.C.; 5d. brown in mint state. NEWFOUNDLAND, 1/- orange used on entire letter. UNITED STATES, periodicals up to \$60, unused. BRITISH EAST AFRICA, no wmk., set up to and including £25, unused; a fine lot of B.E.A. on Coys. stamps. ZANZIBARS, ETC., a very fine lot of early unused Victorians, including mint strip of three 2d. purple rouletted on laid paper; 4d., no wmk., rouletted, the Too Late, etc.; 5/- blue on yellow used on piece with 2 others. NEW SOUTH WALES, an unused strip of 3 3d. green Sidneys, with part gum but poor; 1/- carmine imperforate, unused and used blocks of 12 and 10, and many others. Also a fine lot of Collections.

**February 2nd and 3rd.**—A Fine Selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

*By Order of the Receiver.*—February 16th and 17th.—MESSRS. VENTOM BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the first portion of a Very Fine Collection, including most of the well-known rarities. Detailed advertisement will appear shortly.

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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076.

ESTABLISHED 1761.

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ALL COUNTRIES IN STRICTLY ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

NO LOSS OF TIME AND TEMPER IN HUNTING FOR THE COUNTRY YOU WANT.

EVERY STAMP-ISSUING COUNTRY IN ONE COMPACT VOLUME.

### NOVEL FEATURE.

Owing to the courtesy of the Inland Revenue Authorities, we are at last able to illustrate the stamps of Great Britain. About 100 splendid three-quarter size illustrations of English Stamps, Envelopes, &c., are given in this Edition.

APPROVAL SHEETS. Priced from ½d. to 6d. each 25% discount ...  
 SECONDARY SELECTIONS of Medium stamps, containing many unused stamps 25% discount ...  
 SPECIAL SELECTIONS OF SEPARATE COUNTRIES for advanced collectors, containing the rarities 10% discount ...

Off our New Catalogue Prices.

# BRIGHT AND SON, BOURNEMOUTH.

**MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
*Literary, Fine Art and Philatelic Auctioneers,*  
**47, LEICESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.C.,**  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS**  
**A SPECIALITY.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on January 10th and 11th, and will consist of a Fine Selection of RARE Stamps including—SAXONY, 3 pf. brown-red, unused and fine; SPAIN, 1853, 2 reales, scarlet, unused and fine; CAPE, Woodblocks, 1d. red, a superb block of 4; LAGOS, 2/6 and 5/- unused in mint state; CANADA, 7½d. green, unused in mint state; NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/- mauve, very fine; NEWFOUNDLAND, 6½d. carmine (2) unused and very fine, one in mint state; NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- purple, three fine shades; NEVIS, lithographed, 6d. grey, used and unused, very fine; and engraved 1/- yellow-green, unused in mint state, superb copy and wmk. CA., 6d. green, unused in mint state; ST. VINCENT, 5/- rose-red, a superb well-centred copy, unused in mint state; BRITISH GUIANA, 1850, 4c. yellow on pelure, cut square and on entire original, and 12c. blue cut round, very fine on ditto, and 1852 1c. magenta, a block of four, very fine on ditto, and 4c. blue, a superb copy on piece of original; NEW SOUTH WALES, Sydney Views, 1d. red. and 3d. green, unused and very fine, and a number of fine used copies and many others.

**FOLLOWING SALES.**

1899.—Jan. 24th and 25th.—The third portion of the Collection of A. F. CALVERT, Esq. February 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. March 7th, 8th, 21st and 22nd. April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th. May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st. June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**O**WING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.

The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

**LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.**

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London.**

**ESTABLISHED 1764.**

**ERNST STOCK, BERLIN, W. 2 STÜLERSTRASSE.**

Dealer in RARE STAMPS and EXPERT,

ALWAYS OPEN TO BUY

**RARITIES of all COUNTRIES**

ESPECIALLY WANTED: 

**UNUSED & USED Rare and Medium Stamps of all European Countries**

**RARE OLD GERMAN ENTIRES.**

*Reprints and Essays (Proofs).*

Large and Small Collections of Stamps, Reprints, Proofs, Entires.

COLLECTIONS OF SPECIALISTS PREFERRED.

Good Prices for Good Quality.

Approval lots solicited.

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**A FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH STAMPS.**

Over 500 varieties; all in fine condition.

Price, £10, a bargain.

**COMPLETE SET OF PLATE NUMBERS.**

½d. red, set of 15 .. .. .	6 0
1d. set of 150 (without 225) ..	4 6
2d. blue, set of 7 .. .. .	1 0
2½d. lilac-rose, set of 18 .. ..	7 6
3d. rose, set of 20 .. .. .	8 6
6d. lilac, set of 8 .. .. .	4 0
6d. grey, set of 8 .. .. .	5 0
1/- green, set of 13 .. .. .	10 0

½d. red, plate, 2/- 100; 15/- 1000.  
1d. red, ditto 1/3 1000; 7/6 10,000. [137]

Packet of 65 varieties, price 5/- . Good copies only. Approval books of all varieties at reasonable price sent to responsible applicants.

**RILEY & NISSEN, 106, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.**

**WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,**

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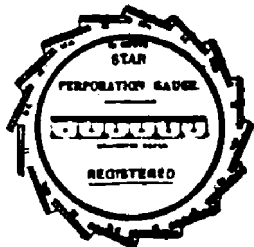
250 Genuine Stamps, all different, 1/4 post free. Approval selections much below Catalogue Prices. Stamps bought in small or large quantities. Foreign wholesale consignments respectfully requested. Wholesale Price List on application. [118]

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(Established 20 years).

HAVING decided to Greatly Reduce Stock this season, they will be pleased to hear from Genuine Buyers. Special Terms to large purchasers.

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THE only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as at the bottom of stamp, when hinged.

Price 6d. each.  
3 for 1/3.

**JAMES BENNETT,**  
Dealer in Foreign and Colonial Stamps,  
STOKE BISHOP, near BRISTOL. [117]

**STAMP COLLECTORS' ALMANAC, 1899.**

Issued December 15th. 2½d. Post Free.  
Useful information for Beginners & Advanced Collectors. Bright and Chatty Paragraphs. Lists of New Issues, &c.  
Stamps on Approval. Packets, Sets, &c., Cheap. [103-122]

**CAMPBELL INGLES & CO.,**  
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PARDY & SON,  
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30 diff. guine used Salvador ..	2/-
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Ranging from 4d. to £6 5s.

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[105 130]

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Retail or Wholesale List free on application.  
Approval Selections sent to responsible applicants.  
Large Stock of Rare Stamps.  
Inspection cordially invited.  
Large Collections or Wholesale Parcels wanted for cash. [123]

**QUEENSLAND,**  
1882-86 (Gibbons' type 9 and 10),  
2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, the set of 5 for 4/9 Post Office Order.

Dealers and Collectors write for my New Price Lists of Cheap Sets, &c.  
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12 insertions ..	£1.
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**J. LOUIS,**  
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200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free, 1/-  
Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

100 vars. British Colonials, adhesives only, 2/-; 10 pkts, 17/6; 500 vars. Foreign and Colonial, 3/6; 1000 ditto, 12/-; 6 Hayti, 5d. per set; 12 sets, 3 6.

**H. ROSS-SHIELLS & CO.,**  
75, Little Britain, London, E.C.  
111-116] Two minutes from G.P.O.

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PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.

Kindly send selections. [117]

**The CITY STAMP EXCHANGE,**

18 and 20, Cheapside, London, E.C.  
Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references. Agents Wanted in the Provinces and Abroad. Wholesale Consignments from Abroad particularly requested. [121]

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We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:  
One to three stamps .. .. . 6d.  
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IN return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/- or over; we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 piers carmine, Gwalior, 13½ mms., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 130 ever issued).  
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LINCOLN Postage Stamp Album and Descriptive Catalogue, with useful Geographical and Historical Notes (eleventh edition). Containing Atlas of 16 coloured maps, with spaces to hold over 6,500 Stamps, and giving the dates and colours of every stamp.

Cloth, 5/-; post free, 5 6s.

A new list of 800 cheap sets with over 680 small pictures sent post free Twopence [108-119]

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**I WISH TO BUY—**

**PROOFS AND ESSAYS OF STAMPS AND ENTIRES, ALSO FORGERIES AND REPRINTS.**

Collections of LOCAL STAMPS—TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

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STAMPS IN ENTIRE SHEETS, SPECIALLY THOSE SHOWING A VARIETY OF TYPES.

RARE RUSSIAN RURAL STAMPS.

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105-134

## **W. B. KIRKPATRICK**

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OFFERS:

Canada, 1897 (maple leaf), ½c. to 10c. (8), picked copies ..	1	6
" 1898, Xmas, 2c. (Map of World) ..	0	2

### *Unused and Mint Europeans:*

Denmark, 1853, 16sk. lilac, imp. ..	20	0
" 1858, 8sk. green ..	22	6
" " 2sk. blue perf. ..	2	0
" " 3sk. red-mauve, perf. ..	3	6
" " 4sk. vermilion ..	3	0
" " 4sk. rose-vermilion ..	6	6
" " 8sk. bistre ..	35	0
" " 16sk. sage-green ..	22	6
" 1870, 4sk. carmine, perf. 12½ ..	21	0
France, 1876, 50. green, Type I. ..	10	0
" " 40c. vermilion ..	10	0
Russia, 1859, 10k. dark brown and blue, perf. 12½ ..	4	0
" " 20k. blue and orange ..	7	6
" " 30k. rose and green ..	9	0
" 1864, 1k. black and yellow ..	1	0
" " 3k. black and green ..	6	0
" " 5k. black and lilac ..	8	6
" 1884, 7 roubles black and yellow ..	42	0
Norway, 1863/6 (Arms), 25k. yellow ..	15	0
" " " 3sk. lilac ..	22	6
" " " 4sk. blue ..	8	0
" " " 8sk. rose ..	24	0
" " " 24sk. brown ..	1	6
Sweden, 1858, 17 ore grey, v. fine ..	78	0

111-116]

**"THE POPULAR," 1899. British Colonial Price List. CHEAPEST LIST IN THE TRADE, FREE.**

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*F. F. Empson*

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HAS just made up a FINE SELECTION OF BOOKS of the following Countries at 50 per cent. discount; in many instances stamps being marked under catalogue prices:

EUROPE

ASIA

AFRICA

AUSTRALIA

WEST INDIES

(Including LEEWARD ISLES)

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

SOUTH AMERICA

The aggregate value being about £2000. Any country will be sent to responsible collectors in the order of application.



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**BERLIN, e 2.**

**I WISH TO BUY—**

**PROOFS AND ESSAYS OF STAMPS AND ENTIRES, ALSO FORGERIES AND REPRINTS.**

Collections of LOCAL STAMPS—TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

Stamps with Surcharge : "Specimen" "Muestra" "Saggio"

VARIETIES. CURIOSITIES. OFFICIAL WORKS ON POSTAL HISTORY.

STAMPS IN ENTIRE SHEETS, SPECIALLY THOSE SHOWING A VARIETY OF TYPES.

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SPECIALITY: OLD GERMAN ENTIRES

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105-134

## W. B. KIRKPATRICK

Closeburn, Bournemouth.

**OFFERS:**

Canada, 1897 (maple leaf), 4c. to 10c. (8), picked copies ..	1	6
.. 1898. Xmas, 2c. (Map of World) ..	0	2

*Unused and Mint Europeans:*

Denmark, 1853, 16sk. lilac, imp. ..	20	0
.. 1858, 8sk. green ..	22	6
.. .. 2sk. blue perf. ..	2	0
.. .. 3sk. red-mauve, perf. ..	3	6
.. .. 4sk. vermilion ..	3	0
.. .. 4sk. rose-vermilion ..	6	6
.. .. 8sk. bistre ..	35	0
.. .. 16sk. sage-green ..	22	6
.. 1870, 4sk. carmine, perf. 12½ ..	21	0
France, 1876, 5c. green, Type I. ..	10	0
.. .. 40c. vermilion ..	10	0
Russia, 1859, 10k. dark brown and blue, perf. 12½ ..	4	0
.. .. 20k. blue and orange ..	7	6
.. .. 30k. rose and green ..	9	0
.. 1864, 1k. black and yellow ..	1	0
.. .. 3k. black and green ..	6	0
.. .. 5k. black and lilac ..	8	6
.. 1884, 7 roubles black and yellow ..	42	0
Norway, 1863/6 (Arms), 25k. yellow ..	15	0
.. .. 3sk. lilac ..	22	6
.. .. 4sk. blue ..	8	0
.. .. 8sk. rose ..	24	0
.. .. 24sk. brown ..	1	6
Sweden, 1858, 17 ore grey, v. fine ..	75	0

111-116]

**"THE POPULAR," 1899. British Colonial Price List.**  
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HAS just made up a FINE SELECTION OF BOOKS of the following Countries at 50 per cent. discount; in many instances stamps being marked under catalogue prices:

- EUROPE
- ASIA
- AFRICA
- AUSTRALIA
- WEST INDIES
- (Including LEEWARD ISLES)
- BRITISH NORTH AMERICA
- UNITED STATES
- SOUTH AMERICA

The aggregate value being about £2000. Any country will be sent to responsible collectors in the order of application.

**PHIL ATTERLEY & CO.**  
**8th Monthly Competition**

**PRIZE** £5  
**POST FREE**  
THIS month, our **1/- COMPETITION PACKET** contains 35 different Stamps from 35 different Countries, and from some of the Initials of these Countries can be formed the Name of a certain Well-known British Novelist (surname only).

We will give the £5 Prize to the Competitor who finds out the name of this Novelist and sends it to us written on the form supplied with the packet;—to reach us not later than January 31st.

Should more than one be correct, the Prize will be divided. The result will be announced in the FORTNIGHTLY for February 18th.

The Packet differs from all our previous ones and will be sent for 1/-, post free. It contains: CANADA, 2 cents, Ocean Postage, Xmas, 1898; HAYTI, New Issee, November, 1898; NORWAY, 1856; NEWFOUNDLAND, 1880, Seal; AZORES; URUGUAY; ERITREA; BRAZIL, 10 reis, 1898; MACAO, August, 1898, etc., etc.—35 in all.

This Packet is quite up to our usual standard.

**Result of 7th Competition:**

We received 8 Correct Solutions in this Competition and the £5 is divided between the following, each receiving 12.6:

- The Hon. Mrs. Pleydell Bouverie, Highworth, Wilts.
- Mrs. Parsons, 20, Waverley Rd., Southsea.
- Mrs. Uardy, Fernville, Oatlands Park, Weybridge.
- Mrs. Crawford, Brookfield, Colwyn Bay.
- Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole, 6, Rock Terrace, Stamford.
- Mr. S. P. Richmond, 3, Ravensworth Rd., College Pk., N.W.
- Mr. W. C. Weston, Sec. Excelsior Stamp Exchange, Bengoe, Hertford.

The last-named gentleman received £1 5s., as he sent in two correct coupons.

The correct solution is: **PENZANCE.**

PHIL ATTERLEY & Co., 28, Radpole Road, Fulham, London, S.W. 111-116

**United States Revenues** New Issue (Battleship)

Set of 12, unused, price 1/0.

Ditto set of 4, used (5, 10, 25, 50c.) price 1/-

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(Antigua to India). Price 12/6.

SPECIMEN PAGE ON APPLICATION

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Unique. An entire uncut sheet of 12 Newsbands, ½ green on white.

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**UNDER GIBBONS' LATEST.** s. d.

Barbados, 1/- block, small star, used and fine .. .. .	8	6
B. C. Africa, 1d. on 3/-, used and fine	1	6
do., 1891, 8d., used and fine	2	0
do., 1/-	1	9
do., 1896, CA., 1d.	0	5
do., 2d.	1	0
do., 4d.	1	6
do., 6d.	1	9
do., 1/-	3	3
do., 1d. to 1/-, mint	6	6
do., 1d., Internal, imperf., used	3	6

Cash with order, Postage extra. Returnable if unsatisfactory. Approval Selections on receipt of good references.

**J. G. CUTHBERTSON,**

49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [109-114]

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that

**Their Fifth Manchester Sale**

WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel**

On **WEDNESDAY, February 8th**

At **6.30 p.m.**

When some Very Fine and . . .

**Rare Stamps**

will be offered for Sale.

Lots for our Fifth Sale will be on View on Thursday, February 2nd, at Messrs. D. & M. Davis', 3, Livery Street, Birmingham; and on Friday, February 3rd, at Mr. J. G. Cuthbertson's Offices, 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool.

**PROMPT SETTLEMENTS, BEST PRICES and SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

All enquiries to be addressed:—

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**18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.**

MULREADY, 1d., letter sheet, fine, used, 8 6

UGANDA, type set, obsolete. Still a few sets of 5 left: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 annas, unused 5 6; 1 rupee at 5/-; One pair only left of the 5 rupees at 50/- (all are without L).

BRITISH HONDURAS, 25 cents, 1/3

CANADA, "Penny Postage," special issue, 2d.

INDIA, Provisional, ½ anna, 1d.

LABUAN, Jubilee, complete set of 6, 1/3  
Postage extra.

See New Price List for Special Offers.

**CHAS. J. SMITH,** [97-122

Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey

**BARGAINS.**

Nevis, 1/-, CA, lilac, mint .. .. .	25	0
St. Vincent, ½d. yellow, no watermark used .. .. .	30	0
Nova Scotia, 5 cents, mint .. .. .	10	0
Newfoundland, 5 cents, Beaver, black, used .. .. .	7	6
United States, 1869, 24 cents .. .. .	9	0
Victoria, 1850, 1d. red .. .. .	2	0

Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps  
104 123 . . . . . Approval against Reference.

**W. MARCHBANK,**  
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**ISAAC CANSINO,**  
45a, MARKET STREET,  
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**Offers . . .**

British Bechuanaland, 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/-	25	0
Central Africa, 3/- on 4/-, on piece	21	0
East Africa, 90, 2, 3, 4 and 5 rupees	25	0
fine used imperf. pair, on part of original	110	0
East Africa, 90, 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 rupees	32	6
Cape, Triangle, 1d. 4d. 6d., 1/-	21	0
Woodblock, 1d., medium copy	45	0
1d., fiscally used	21	0
New Brunswick, 3d.	10	0
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THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**

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

No. 113—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
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**THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE third general meeting of the above Society was held on Thursday evening, January 5th, when there was a very good attendance of resident members.

The President for the past year (Mr. J. P. Lloyd) having signed the minutes of the last ordinary meeting, vacated the chair, which was then taken by the late Vice-President (Mr. F. E. Ellison).

It was then proposed by Mr. T. C. Cartwright, and seconded by Mr. F. C. Fisher and carried unanimously, that Mr. Lloyd be re-elected for the office of President. The following proposals were then made and carried, viz.:

- 1.—Proposed by Mr. Dalton, seconded by Mr. Bird, that Mr. F. E. Ellison be re-elected to the office of Vice-President.
- 2.—Proposed by Mr. McPherson, seconded by Dr. Bush, that Rule 3 be so altered as to read: "The Committee shall consist of President, Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, Hon. Librarian, Exchange Packet Secretary, and four other members, all to be elected annually. Three shall form a quorum."
- 3.—Proposed by Mr. McPherson, seconded by Mr. Ellison, that Mr. Dalton be re-elected as Hon. Secretary.
- 4.—Proposed by Dr. Bush, seconded by Mr. Heaven, that Mr. Cartwright be re-elected as Hon. Librarian.
- 5.—Proposed by Mr. Reynolds, seconded by Mr. Birch, that Mr. J. P. Way be elected for the office of "Exchange Packet Secretary."
- 6.—That Messrs. A. Bird, N. G. Heaven, D. H. McPherson and J. H. Reynolds be elected to serve on the Committee.
- 7.—Proposed by Mr. Cartwright, seconded by Mr. Dalton, that "the 'Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,' published by Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., of London, shall be the official organ of the Society for the year 1899," and also that "the Society's Subscriptions to the 'London Philatelist' be continued.

The President then congratulated the members on the satisfactory condition and growth of the Society and stated that as the accounts for the past year had not yet been audited he could not submit them in detail, yet that there was a substantial balance in the hands of the Treasurer this year, as against a deficit last year and that the sales had increased over 50 per cent. during the year.

The following programme was then agreed upon for the bi-monthly meeting, viz.:

- Jan. 19. Mauritius.
- Feb. 2. British Africa.
- .. 16. New Zealand.
- March 2. Lantern Display by Mr. Dalton.
- .. 16. France and a Paper by Mr. Perrott.
- April 6. No Meeting.
- .. 20. British Guiana and B. Honduras.
- May 4. Italy and Italian States.
- .. 18. The Leeward Islands.

Mr. T. C. Cartwright after making some remarks on the subject of "Ocean Penny Postage," in which he was with others interested in promoting nearly fifty years ago, now requested leave to propose the following resolutions and which having been seconded by Mr. Dalton was carried most unanimously, viz.:

"That the hearty thanks of this Society be given to J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P., for his indefatigable labours on behalf of Postal matters generally, and especially it now desires to congratulate him on the success of his endeavours to obtain a penny postage rate

throughout the British Empire, and it also expresses the hope, that the time is not far distant, when he will have the further reward of his exertions in seeing those Colonies which are not included in the Treasury Warrant of December 22nd, 1898, participating in the boon conferred upon those named therein, and which came into force both at home and in those Colonies on December 25th, 1898."

The Hon. Librarian, who was requested to forward a copy of this resolution to the Hon. Member for Canterbury, then passed round for inspection some letters, bearing the New Canadian 2d. stamp, which had been posted in Ottawa on December 25th and were received in Bristol on January 4th, as the harbingers of a new era in Transatlantic correspondence, and with this a most satisfactory and pleasant meeting was brought to a close, the old year of the Society passed away, and the new one, with its hopes for the future, was begun.

Old members are reminded that their annual subscription of 5/- is now due and should be paid to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, MR. DALTON, 30, Carnarvon Road, Redlands, Bristol.

Members are also requested to take a practical interest in the work of the Society by reading papers at the meetings and the countries named on the programme, or on other philatelic matters, and also to enlist the help of their friends, either resident or non-resident.—The Hon. Librarian, Mr. T. C. CARTWRIGHT, 17, York Crescent Road, Clifton, Bristol, will be glad to receive and acknowledge any literature sent to him by the publishers thereof, either at home or abroad.

**LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT the second meeting of the season, held on November 11th, 1898, twenty-one members were present. The resignations were announced of Sir Henry Bunbury, Mr. Greathead, and Mr. W. J. Hardy.

The Vice-President, Mr. M. P. Castle, read a paper on "The 1876 Issue of Spain, Alfonso XII. Full Face." After briefly referring to the reasons, historical and otherwise, which render the stamps of Spain an interesting study for Philatelists, Mr. Castle described the several values comprising the issue under consideration and the varieties of paper employed in the printing. He proceeded to describe how, in arranging his collection, he had been struck by the fact that there were distinct varieties from the normal type observable in some of the specimens of most, if not all, of the values, varieties which apparently could only be due to "retouches" or touching-up" of the plates. On investigating the matter further, and with the assistance of Messrs. Bradbury, Wilkinson, & Co., the engravers and printers of the issue, who were at first very sceptical on the subject of the "discovery," the Vice-President ascertained that it was undoubtedly the fact that some of the impressions on the "rollers" had been touched up or modified in some way before the plates were put to press.

Mr. Castle was able to give a description of the methods employed in the manufacture of the stamps, describing also the varieties which he had found amongst his own stamps, and the paper was fully illustrated by the author's fine collection of the stamps under consideration.

The subject is one of unusual interest, and the paper, which will be published in the *London Philatelist*, will deserve a careful study by all philatelists.

The very hearty thanks of the Society were voted to Mr. Castle for his most interesting paper, on the motion of Mr. Gordon Smith, seconded by the Secretary.

Fifteen members attended the third meeting held on November 25th, 1898. The resignations of Messrs. B. P. Rodd, E. Shorthouse and E. T. Sturgis, were accepted with regret.

The Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, read a short note containing a communication from the President (the Duke of York) in reference to the information obtained by him as to the first 2 Rigsbank Skilling stamp of Denmark.

The Vice-President, Mr. M. P. Castle, then gave a display of his very fine collection of the stamps of Roumania.

**CAPE TOWN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A MOST successful meeting of the newly formed Philatelic Society was held on Monday evening, the 12th inst., at Kamp's Cafe, when about twenty ladies and gentlemen were present, all of whom have joined the Society, and in addition letters were received from several collectors unable to be present, but who have signified their intention of becoming members.

Rules were submitted and approved and the following committee and officers elected: *Committee*: R. T. A. Innes, M. J. M. Bellasyse, G. Jackson, R. M. Lightfoot, Mrs. Cartwright and Miss Warren; *Treasurer*, H. M. Humphris; *Secretary*, B. W. Bell. The annual subscription was fixed at 5s., meetings to be held on the second Monday in each month.

Any collector wishing to obtain information regarding the Society is invited to communicate with the Secretary, P.O., Box 43.

**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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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rookdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No 113.—Vol V

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE PHILATELIC EXHIBITION AT CALCUTTA.

WE are indebted to one of our correspondents in India for a promptly-mailed copy of the *Statesman*, of Calcutta, dated Sunday, December 25th, giving the following report of the Philatelic Exhibition at Calcutta:

"The fourth public exhibition of stamps held in Calcutta is now arranged in the southern portion of the Art Gallery annexe of the Imperial Museum, Chowringhee, and fully equals, if it does not indeed surpass any of its predecessors in interest and variety. It will be open to the public to-morrow at 11 a.m., and will remain on view until Thursday evening next, a charge of one rupee being made for admission. A preliminary inspection of the exhibits shows that those who are interested in the beautiful pursuit of philately may derive much enjoyment from a visit to one of the most attractive philatelic displays ever brought together. Stamp exhibitions are becoming more and more popular each year. That in London in the summer of 1897 has been followed by another at Birmingham only this month, and as Manchester is arranging for a third on a large scale in June or July next, Calcutta may be congratulated upon taking well into line with three leading philatelic centres of the British Empire. The Philatelic Society of India (the successor to the Philatelic Society of Bengal) numbers 118 members. Its journal, edited by Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, has already a world-wide reputation of a high order, and as in future it will be on sale to the public its circulation and influence should greatly increase. The literary output of the Society has so far been

admirable. Two hand-books by the President on the surcharged stamps of Chamba, Faridkot, and Gwalior and Jhind, Nabha and Patiala have already appeared under its auspices, a third on Bhopal is in the press, and there is further in contemplation an important work on the Imperial stamps of India. For the first time in an Indian exhibition, used stamps are now on view, and the telegraphs of India and Ceylon are also duly represented. The exhibitors are all members of the Society—two of them, Major Evans, the distinguished editor of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, and Mr. Dornier Becton, President of the Manchester Society, sending magnificent contributions of Bhopals, Jhinds, and Jupans from England. In spite of these brilliant exceptions, however, it is much to be feared that the unreasonably persisted in regulations of the Indian customs authorities have again somewhat restricted the scope of the exhibition as regards foreign exhibits. Silver and bronze medals bearing the well-known design of the lion and palm tree are at the disposal of expert judges for competition in 15 classes. The awards will probably be published on Tuesday.

The following (according to the official catalogue) are the countries arranged in the classes selected for exhibition:

- Class I.—Afghanistan and Cashmere—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class II.—Any two from the following group of Native States: Hyderabad, Travancore, Jhind (native issues only), Sornth, Bhopal—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class III.—Not more than two from the following group of British Indian stamps surcharged: Jhind, Nabha, Patiala—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class IV.—Great Britain—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class V.—Not more than two from the following Colonies: Heligland, Malta, Hong Kong, Straits Settlements (excluding Native State)—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class VI.—Not more than two from the following: Cape of Good Hope, Natal, British Bechuanaland—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class VII.—Not more than two from the following: Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class VIII.—One from each of the following sub-classes A. and B.: (A) Bahamas, Grenada, Trinidad, Turks Islands; (B) Montserrat, St. Christopher, Tobago, Virgin Islands—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.
- Class IX.—Not more than two from the following: New

South Wales, Tasmania, Fiji, South Australia—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

Class X.—Not more than two from the following: Switzerland, Austria, Hungary—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

Class XI.—One from the following: Japan, Philippine Islands—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

Class XII.—The United States of America—1 Silver, 1 Bronze Medal.

SPECIAL.—1. The most meritorious exhibit of rare stamps not to exceed 30 or be less than 15 in number—1 Silver Medal.

2. The best exhibit of adhesive fiscal stamps (excluding telegraph stamps) of Great Britain or of India and Ceylon—1 Silver Medal.

3. The best exhibit of telegraph stamps of India and Ceylon—1 Silver Medal.

THE EXHIBERS.—The exhibits are as follows: Class I.—Captain F. H. Hancock Afghanistan, D. P. Masson, Cashmere. Class II.—Major E. B. Evans, Bhopal and Jhind. Class III.—T. E. Madden, Jhind and Patiala; C. Stewart-Wilson, Jhind and Patiala. Class IV.—T. E. Madden, Great Britain. Class V.—C. Stewart-Wilson, Hongkong and Straits Settlements. Class VI.—C. F. Larmour, Cape of Good Hope; Goodwin Norman, Cape of Good Hope. Class VII.—C. F. Larmour, Canada and Newfoundland; Goodwin Norman, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia. Class VIII.—C. F. Larmour, Trinidad and Virgin Islands; Goodwin Norman, Turks Islands and Virgin Islands; C. Stewart-Wilson, Grenada and Montserrat. Class IX.—C. F. Larmour, New South Wales and South Australia. Class X.—Goodwin Norman, Switzerland; F. N. Schiller, Switzerland. Class XI.—W. Dornier Beckton, Japan; Goodwin Norman, Philippines. Class XII.—W. Corfield, United States of America; T. E. Madden, United States of America.

Special Classes.—(1) C. F. Larmour and C. Stewart-Wilson. (2) W. Corfield. (3) W. Corfield and C. Stewart-Wilson.

Some recent issues.—W. Corfield.

The Committee of Management are as follows: Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson, President of the Society; Lady Collen, Vice-President; G. A. Anderson, Calcutta; Major L. E. Du Moulin, Amritsar; Lieut.-Colonel G. F. A. Harris, I.M.S., Calcutta; Mr. W. James, Calcutta; Mr. C. F. Larmour, Calcutta; Mr. A. A. Lyall, Calcutta, Professor O. V. Muller, Bombay; Mr. E. Sassoon-Gubbay, Calcutta; Mr. F. N. Schiller, Calcutta; Mr. W. Corfield, Honorary Treasurer of the Society; Mr. P. Aylwin Selke, Honorary Secretary of the Society.

#### PHILATELIC IMPORTS STILL TAXED IN INDIA.

A GOVERNMENT letter received by the President of the Philatelic Society of India, in reply to the request that stamps for collectors imported into the country be exempted from duty, is, as the Editor of the *P.F.J.* remarks, "short, but not sweet." It runs: "In reply, I am to say that the Government of India do not think it advisable to exempt this class of goods from the general customs duty and customs law."

#### NOTES ON THE PHILATELIC MARKET.

VERY satisfactory prices have been the rule at the auctions held in London since the opening of the new year.

Messrs. Ventom, Bull and Cooper's sale of Mr. Gilbert Lockyer's stamps, concluded on Friday, January 6th, produced the following realisations:—New South Wales, Sydney View, 2d. blue, unused, £40; ditto, 3d. green, unused, £40; British Columbia, 2½d. red, an unused pair, £42; Naples, ½d., tornese blue, "arms," £11; Griqualand, a collection, £9 15s.; St. Vincent, 5s. rose, unused, £11 15s.

#### MORE PHILATELIC FINANCE.

THE *Financia' News* gives the following particulars of the latest financial "issue" in connection with Philately:

J. M. MARSDEN AND CO., LIMITED.

Registered on January 6, by Seathill & Gray, 6, Lancaster Place, Strand, W.C., with a capital of £5,000 in £1 shares. Object, to acquire and carry on the business of stamp importers and philatelic publishers carried on as J. M. Marsden & Co., at 2, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C. Registered without articles of association. Registered office: 2, Southampton Street, Strand, W.C.

#### THE HANDWRITING OF WOLLE, *alias* WACNER.

HERE is a sample of the handwriting of the rascal Wolle, sentenced in St. Louis to eighteen months' hard labour for philatelic frauds:

*Oyster Bay Long Island*  
*Resp.*  
*R. P. W. Wagner.*  
*Oyster Bay Long Island N.Y.*

We gave a portrait of Wolle and a long report of his prosecution in No. 110 of the *FORTNIGHTLY*.

#### FOR COLLECTORS OF PICTURE POST CARDS.

WE have received from the publishers in Milan the first number of *La Carlolina Postale Illustrata*, which despite its Italian title is published in the French language. Quite a dainty little journal this is, worthy of a far better cause than the collection of unofficial cards.

#### FOR COLLECTORS OF U.S.A. PLATE NUMBERS.

IT is an old story that American philatelists, many of whom were wont to sniff derisively at the enthusiasm for plate numbers among British collectors, are now ardently hunting for the plate numbers of American stamps. It is a noteworthy sign of the times that the edition of Messrs. Bartels & Co's "Plate Number Catalogue" now before us is the fourth. An exceptionally handy little book is this. American plate numbers, which, by the way date only from the "Columbus" issue, will be found all carefully listed and priced in the Bartels' *brochure*. The prices strike one as being a trifle steep at first, but that is before you awaken to the fact that each figure is for a strip of four specimens with the plate number on the margin of same. Specialists of U.S.A. will wisely expend one shilling on this excellent little catalogue.

#### GUATEMALA STAMP SWINDLE.

THE remainder of the 1897 set has been sold to a firm of dealers who retail the set without the 18, 75 and 150 which were not included in the remainders at about 5 or 6 francs the set, while the stamps are catalogued in the neighbourhood of 51 francs. Some dealers in France offer these demonetised sets at a bargain price of 10 francs, stating at the time, that the catalogued price is 51 francs, but omitting to mention that thousands of these sets were sold. This is a repetition of the Nova Scotia scandal in perhaps a lesser degree and as no doubt these sets will come over to this country in due course we should advise our readers to be on the look-out for same. Bright catalogues these sets at 30/10 always excluding the three values above mentioned as not being contained in the sets.

#### CANADA'S "MAP" STAMP IS A CHAMELEON.

AN occasional correspondent, writing under date, Ottawa, December 29th, 1898, to the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, remarks:

"The fun which I anticipated over the Imperial stamps has begun, but not exactly as I expected. Our first variety is an accomplished fact. The first issue of these geographical stamps, on the 7th instant, had the sea coloured a light lavender. About the 20th, I cannot fix the exact day, a second supply had the sea coloured a light blue, as nearly as I can judge Prussian blue. And now I am told the third lot are to have the seas much darker in colour, but that is only rumour."

#### NO PRIVATE CARDS FOR CAPE OR TRANSVAAL.

OUR publishers have received the following from St. Martins-le-Grand:—

In reply to your letter of the 3rd instant, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to inform you that neither the Post Office of the Cape Colony nor that of the South African Republic allows cards of private manufacture to be sent to places abroad at the rate for post cards.

Cards, such as the one which you enclosed, being of private manufacture, would be treated as insufficiently paid letters if posted in either of the places named, and, if prepaid 1d. only, would be charged 3d., double the deficient postage, on delivery.

#### SURCHARGES THAT RAISE VALUES ARE DANGEROUS.

On the last day of the old year it was announced from Washington that the U.S. Postmaster-General had re-called the 2c. stamp, surcharged for use in Cuba, and substituted for it the 3c. This was doubtlessly necessary (the *Weekly Philatelic Era* explains) as a precaution against fraudulent surcharging of this value, to which, under the original plan, there was a special incentive, i.e., the 2-cent value being raised by the surcharge to 2½c de pesos. Now the all-important question is: How many (or few) of the 2c. stamps surcharged 2½c de peso were issued or got into the hands of the public?

#### THE SOUTH-EASTERN EXCHANGE CLUB.

We have been asked to draw attention to the inauguration of the above, with Mr. T. J. P. Bannister, of 55, St. George's Road, Camberwell, S.E. Membership is not restricted to the South-Eastern district as the name would seem to imply. Philatelists of good standing in any part of the country can get particulars from Mr. Bannister at the address mentioned.

#### NEW PROVISIONAL CREATED BY A LONDON PRINTER.

"ITALY, 1895, 28c. on 15c." We rubbed our eyes and took a second look on seeing that hitherto unknown variety listed in Part VII. of Mr. Westoby's excellent "Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe" (Upcott Gill). But we were quite awake, and there it was—28c. as plain as a pike staff. We were marvelling at Mr. Westoby's unobtrusive way of listing such a discovery without the slightest tendency to cock-a-whoop, when it dawned upon us that this was the latest freak of the intelligent comp or his metallic confederate, the linotype machine. Reading the accompanying letterpress we were forced to the conclusion that this was indeed a printer's error—such a rare occurrence in these excellent books that one might well be sceptical. "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Europe, Part VII." is a very attractive shilling's worth.

### Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

SAYS the *Metropolitan Philatelist* The "British Empire" section of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue has been received and is found to compare favorably with the last edition. Of the prices we have nothing to say as that is purely a personal matter; and the sooner collectors take this view of the same the better it will be for them.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *London Philatelist* remarks that Louis de Rougemont, *alias* Green, lost one grand opportunity. He did not issue a set of stamps for his island as he might have done.

THERE were over 500 visitors to the Birmingham Philatelic Exhibition. Not bad, this, for two and a half days!

"I BELIEVE you do not publish a catalogue?" quoth Mr. Buhl, representing the *Record*. "No," replied Mr. W. H. Peckitt, "but we publish a Price List and *sell by it!*" Oh, wicked Mr. Peckitt! and you so near No. 31, too! It seems a pity that the *Record* could not have snap-shotted the naughty little twinkle in "the panther's" eye as he spake these words.

It has been stated in some of the papers that Prince Charles, of Denmark, is, or has been, an enthusiastic stamp collector.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Feb. 4th, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

Jan. 24th and 25th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

Feb. 2nd & 3rd.—Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 6 p.m. each day, precisely.

### By the Duke of York.

#### RESEARCHES IN THE POSTAL HISTORY OF DENMARK BY THE SOCIETY'S ROYAL PRESIDENT.

"I HAVE the honour," said Mr. Secretary Tilleard on rising in his place at the rooms of the Philatelic Society, on November 25th last, "of being entrusted with a communication from our President, H.R.H. the Duke of York, on the subject of the 2 rigsbank shilling (blue) stamp of Denmark.

Having thus secured the "full ear" of his audience, the Society's Secretary proceeded as follows, *videlicet* the *London Philatelist*—

It will be in the recollection of members that in the course of last season a paper on these stamps was read by Mr. R. Ehrenbach at a meeting of the Society, having for its object the consideration of the question of the types and varieties which were said to exist, and the possibility of "plating" the stamps.

Various points of distinction were described, and in regard to the marks to which attention was called in certain of the stamps, it was stated that they were "caused probably by the engraver's tools," while suggestions were made as to the probable mode of the production and setting up of the plate.

Although a large number of the members who heard the paper read did not agree with the deductions formed by the author, it was felt that an interesting question had been raised which called for further investigation, and the paper was subsequently criticised by Mr. E. D. Bacon in the *London Philatelist* for April of the present year.

The whole question is obviously one which depends upon the precise method employed in the manufacture and production of the stamps, and our President thought that it might prove of interest to members of the Society if some authoritative information could be obtained on the subject.

Accordingly, taking advantage of the opportunity afforded by his visit to Denmark in the early part of September last, his Royal Highness caused inquiries to be made from the postal authorities in Copenhagen.

Owing to the temporary absence of the official competent to give the desired information, our President, before returning to England, prepared and left for the consideration of the official referred to a series of questions, having for their object the elucidation of the matters upon which the question as to "types" most largely depends.

The questions so propounded, with the answers which have recently been received, are:

*Question 1.* Was more than one original die used? In what manner was the die made or engraved? And what material was used for the purpose?

*Answer 1.* In the manufacture of this stamp one original die only was used. It was engraved on steel.

*Question 2.* What method was employed in reproducing impressions for making the plates?

*Question 3.* What process was used in manufacturing the plates from which the stamps were printed?

*Answers 2 and 3.* From this die a matrix was produced in plaster for making the plates. From an examination of the plates, which are preserved in the General Post Office in Copenhagen, there is no doubt that ten of these matrices were joined together in one block (in five rows of two stamps each), and that the plates were cast on the block by stereotype process. Ten of the plates so produced (in type-metal (a composition of lead, tin, and antimony) were used to make the printing plate. These were soldered together and mounted on a mahogany bed, and framed also in mahogany.

*Question 4.* Were the figures and words in the centre of the stamp, for denoting the value, inserted in the original die or dies, or added to the impressions taken for making the plates, or to the plates themselves, and if so, by what process?

*Answer 4.* The figures and words in the centre of the stamp are engraved on the original die.

From these details it would seem clear that there cannot be "types," properly so called, of the stamps in question; and the facts which our President has been the means of ascertaining demonstrate clearly the accuracy of observation displayed by Mr. E. D. Bacon in his remarks on Mr. Ehrenbach's paper to which I have referred.

Mr. Tilleard rounded off his very interesting reading with an intimation of the gratification felt by H.R.H. the President, in "being able to assist in the deliberations of the Society"—an intimation that will be as welcome to philatelists throughout the country as it was to the assembled members of the Philatelic Society.

## General Notices.

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

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, JANUARY 21, 1899.



It is disappointing, not to say disquieting, to know that the "Substituter," that canker-worm of modern Philately, is by no means dead in this year of grace 1899. In a matter of this sort we cannot see that it serves any useful purpose

to preserve silence on a question that vitally affects the welfare of all philatelists. There are still men—aye, and women, too—who are not above the meanest conceivable form of theft—the fraudulent changing of stamps committed to their care.

An epigrammatic writer in one of the American Philatelic journals once declared that a stamp substituter, under different circumstances, would steal a horse. We go further. We think that a person capable of such a despicably sordid offence as stamp "substitution" would not stick at murder to replenish his purse, if given the comparative security from instant detection that stamp-changing affords. But though it may seem to the warped mind of the substituter that, if he be only careful enough to cover his tracks effectually, he is practically safe, yet it is an undoubted fact that many of the most expert of these Exchange Packet and Approval Book robbers have been detected just when they felt themselves to be most secure. *Be sure your sin will find you out!* There is a justice that sooner or later lays every wrongdoer by the heels. A little slip on the part of the thief, a momentary relaxation of caution, may put Nemesis on his track; but more often the substituter is caught by walking into a trap that has been specially prepared for him.

Consideration of this disagreeable subject almost compels a reference to the case of Hilekes v. Hime. "Readers from the first" will remember the details of that action, and the story of the trap that was so successfully laid to inveigle the defendant, from whom the full value of stamps "in dispute" was ultimately recovered.

What was done then can be done again, and so far as our publishers are concerned, should any "substituters" be bagged, there will be no question of compromise or hushing-up. That a thief should escape the consequences of his act just because he is ready to pay and apologise does not strike

us as being in any way a desirable state of things. We protested against this method of dealing with a substituter on the last occasion of the sort; and we hold rigidly to the views we then expressed.

There is no anterior motive in our recapitulation, at this time, of our views on the subject of stamp-substitution. We wish to keep them fresh in the minds of our readers—that is all.

## Forgeries of Cuba, 1898-99.

MESSRS. MORGENTHAU & Co., of New York, now give full particulars in their journal, the *Post Office*, of the Cuban forgeries already alluded to in the FORTNIGHTLY: Among a number of Cuban stamps of the 1898-99 issue (writes Messrs. Morgenthau), we were greatly surprised at the unusual appearance of one specimen each of the 3 and 6 centavos stamps, and upon a careful examination of the stamps in question we came to the conclusion that the stamps were counterfeits, made with the intention to defraud the government. A native printing from the plates was out of the question, as will be seen later on from the variations in the designs, nor is there any good ground to consider the stamps a temporary issue made in Cuba by the authorities, in imitation of the original Spanish issue, as there was evidently no dearth of these values at the time the two stamps in question were used. The cancellation on the 3 centavos stamp is merely a blotch, that on the 6 centavos stamp bears the cancellation—*Habana—1 Nov. 1898*.

The chief points of difference are:

**PRINTING.** The genuine stamps are clearly printed (typographed), the counterfeits are very coarse, poorly printed lithographs.

**PERFORATION.** The genuine stamps are perforated 14, more or less clean cut; the counterfeits are rough, pin perforated, about 15, but really have no definite scale, as all four sides vary.

**PAPER.**—Both the genuine stamps and the counterfeits are printed on wove paper, but the paper of the counterfeits is somewhat thicker and more opaque than that of the genuine.

**DESIGN.** Both counterfeit stamps are undoubtedly printed from plates made from one die or transfer, as the only difference is in the numerals of value, the rest of the design being identical in both stamps. The chief differences between the counterfeits and the genuine, aside from the general appearance, are as follows: Size, genuine, 18×21 mm.; counterfeits, 18×21 mm. In the top and bottom labels the fine lines of shading above the words *CUBA—1898 y 99* and *CEXTAVOS* are entirely missing in the counterfeits. The letters and numerals in the upper label of the counterfeits are all different from those in the genuine, most marked in C.B., the second S, the small y, which is very small in the counterfeits, and both g's. In the lower label all the letters of the counterfeit are again different, especially the C, which is above the line of the other letters, and the A.V. and S.

The numerals of value, 3 and 6 respectively, are also quite different in the counterfeits, and much further removed from the left end of the label. The fine inner line of the circle which frames the head is very distinct and unbroken in the genuine stamps; in the counterfeits it is broken into a number of small dashes.

In addition to the differences mentioned above, numerous points of variance in the head and in the details of the frame could be pointed out, but the points mentioned are sufficient for the reader to recognise the counterfeit.

We need only add, that in regard to the color, there is also a difference—the genuine 3 centavos is a dark brown, the counterfeit a violet brown; the genuine 6 centavos is dark blue, the counterfeit a dark ultramarine.

Although we have seen only the two values described above, we have no doubt that other values, perhaps the whole set, has been counterfeited, and any of our readers finding specimens of other values would greatly oblige us by informing us of the fact.



*Issues of the Stamps of Queensland.*

BETWEEN 1883-1896, BY M.J.D.C.

OMITTED in my last article to speak of the 4d., 6d., and 1s. of Die I; I have however little to say of them. The watermarks and paper in all three are the same.

FOURPENNY.

The colour of the 4d. varies slightly, and is found in a pale yellow shade.

*Varieties.*—Of these I cannot speak with any certainty or give a properly drawn up list. (a) Bottom horizontal stroke of first 'E' of pence fractured; there are several types of this variety. (b) 'O' of two nearly touching oval above. (c) Difference in the size of the 'O.' (d) Error PENGE for pence, occurring once only on a sheet. (e) EN of pence joined by a white flaw. These last two are undoubtedly *minor varieties*.



SIXPENNY.

This value and the twopenny were printed more clearly than the other values, and the colour is of one shade of green only, the lightness in some specimens being due to fading.

FOUR VARIETIES.

- I. Left scroll distant from 'S' of six.
- II. Circle between scroll and 'D' of Queensland. I am not sure that this should not come under minor variety.
- III. Long 'P' in pence.
- IV. Left scroll near to 'S' of six.

Not having seen a corner block of four I have assumed that the long 'P' comes in the same place as in other values.

*Minor Varieties.*—A white line not unlike a hyphen between SIX-PENNY.

ONE SHILLING.

To be found in two or three shades of mauve. The varieties I notice are:—

- I. The distance of the right ornament in oval from 'O' of Queensland, and II. In the lettering.

The same varieties of course appear in stamps with compound perforations.

DIE II. Perf. 12½-13.

Most of the remarks already made on stamps Perf. 12, apply equally to those with the above perforation. The varieties will be found, I believe, to be the same, value for value; anyhow they are the same in the 1d., 2d., and 6d. It is in the minor varieties that we find characteristics not common to both perforations.

REFERENCE LIST.

- ¾d. green.
- 1d. vermilion-red.
- 2d. blue.
- 2½d. carmine.
- 3d. brown.
- 4d. brownish-yellow.
- 6d. green.
- 2/- red-brown.

HALF-PENNY.

*Colour.*—Light to dark-green.

*Wmk. Paper.* Same.

*Varieties* I.—Small white circle over first 'E' of Queensland. All specimens with this circle likewise shew a small flaw at back of head.

- II.—Others have a white circle over first 'N' of Queensland, due to two of the marginal dots becoming joined to the white lines above and below them.

- III.—?
- IV.—?

*Minor Varieties.*—I. 'A' of Queensland showing line to right of top.

- II. Right (fig. 2) with tail (½ variety.)
- III. Small white flaw on left of left (fig. 3)
- IV. Two white lines flowing to left from top of (fig 4.) right side.

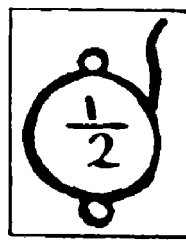


Fig. 2.

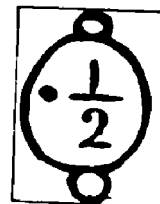


Fig. 3.

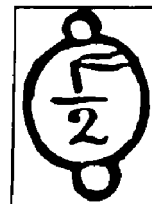


Fig. 4.

ONE PENNY.

*Colour.*—Various shades.

*Paper. Wmk.*—Same.

*Four Varieties.*—Same as for Perf. 12.

- Minor Varieties.*—I. Dot over 'E' of one (No. 4).  
 II. Flaw under 'P' of penny (No. 3).  
 III. Bar of 'A' of Queensland broken.  
 IV. Small white circle in bottom right spandrel (No. 4).  
 V. Right arm of 'Y' of penny fractured (No. 2).  
 VI. Lettering of Queensland thin.  
 VII. Point of bust cutting into oval below it (No. 3).  
 VIII. White perpendicular line cutting through left ornament (No. 2).  
 IX. 'O' of Queensland touching oval above (No. 3).

TWOPENNY.

*Colour.*—Shades of blue.

*Paper. Wmk.*—Same.

*Four Varieties.*—Same as for perf. 12.

- Minor Varieties.*—I. 'S' of Queensland broken (No. 2).  
 II. White flaw below 'O' of two (No. 2).  
 III. Thin white line through 'S' of Queensland (No. 2).  
 IV. White circle on crown (No. 3).

(To be continued).

*Notes on New Issues.*

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**SURCHARGED U.S.A.'s FOR CUBA.**

We clip the following information from the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, where it appears over the signature of the always well-informed Mr. J. M. Bartels:

The Postmaster General has dispatched a commission to Cuba to investigate the postal system there, and to make changes as it deems necessary to conform to the new condition of things. This commission is to make preparations for an officer appointed by the Postmaster General to be designated "the director of posts for Cuba," who will have complete control over postal affairs, subject to the orders of the Postmaster General, but who will be nominally under the U. S. military authorities. As the first step towards the accomplishment of this arrangement the Postmaster General has called upon the Secretary of the Treasury to submit designs to his approval for a new series of stamps to be used in Cuba after the new system is put into operation. As it will take some time to engrave the necessary plates for printing these stamps, the Postmaster General has directed that the U. S. stamps of four denominations be used temporarily, with the word "Cuba" surcharged in conspicuous type.

The Bureau has been ordered to prepare at once these stamps in the following quantities and denominations:

1c.	2,000,000.	5c.	1,000,000.
2c.	5,000,000.	10c.	200,000.

These 8,200,000 stamps aggregate in value \$190,000.

It is added that the policy pursued by the Americans in regard to Cuban postal arrangements will be to make as few innovations as possible.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



"WONDERER" writes us as follows on the subject of the Provisionals of British Central Africa:

I have read with interest the article in this day's issue of the "S.C.F." on "Recent B. C. A. Provisionals." With reference to the last paragraph thereof, I have (and perhaps you have) noticed that Gibbons

do not catalogue the signed stamp apart from the unsigned. Possibly they consider that the two stamps cannot be regarded as distinct issues, or even sufficiently distinct from one another to be collected separately by philatelists.

I presume, however, that the statements contained in the article on the subject in the "S.C.F." are well founded. The point, however, is an interesting one, and if you are not quite certain with regard to it, it might be well to publish this letter in the "S.C.F." and solicit the opinions of philatelists on the subject.

Perhaps the writer of the article in question will take up the gage that "Wonderer" has thrown down.

\* \* \*

An odd argument in favour of fiscal-collecting is put forward by a genial Colonial reader, Mr. C. N. Carruthers, of Sydney:

I think you ought to encourage the collecting of fiscals. Postage stamps are a receipt or voucher for money paid in advance for work promised to be done, whereas "fiscals" are a tax—something for which we generally "as individuals" get nothing in return, except the bit of paper—for that reason I should encourage it, if it was only keeping a "memento." I also think fiscals ought to be large and picturesque. Whether the government would see it in my light I don't know; perhaps the cry would be "too much expense." Then the word "philately" would come in, "love of exemption from tax." Well, we are all "philatelists" all prefer the "other man" to pay—we however keep the bits of paper, others don't, and of course the "others" think we are in the first stage of lunacy.

\* \* \*

DURING the past few months we have received numerous letters on the state of the philatelic market—some hopeful, some hesitating, some distinctly optimistic. Necessarily these letters are such as to run to great length; and we ask their writers to take this intimation that, although we have had no space lately to accommodate such lengthy notes, we have carefully read and considered all of them.

On this subject of the philatelic outlook we have been reading a mighty sensible article in the *Australian Philatelist*—the most sensible contribution to the subject we have yet seen. The true reason (the writer declares) for the present feeling of uncertainty "lies in the unquestionable fact that prices have been forced up during the last few years to an absolutely unwarrantable extent."

Then he goes on to allude to that "new and most objectionable element, the non-philatelic stamp speculator":

The practice of the speculator, who might or might not be a stamp dealer, was to purchase a few catalogues and note the tendency of certain stamps to rise. It was not then difficult to buy up lines with the upward tendency, the effect of such buying being to temporarily deplete the market. When the next "standard" catalogue appeared, the prices attached to the particular lines were higher, and by judiciously unloading the speculators reaped a harvest at the expense of collectors and dealers alike. The field for large operations in obsolete stamps being limited, the speculator next devoted himself to buying up whole issues of provisional stamps, and the profits on this class of business were so enormous, that the supply soon became inadequate to meet the demand, and, in consequence, efforts were made to provide the necessary supply. Governments and officials were approached, in some cases only too successfully, and the crop of provisionals increased to an alarming extent.

And then, as to the general effect of all this on Philately: Fortunately, while one successful speculation brings out many more to speculate in the same line, one heavy loss has the effect of deterring many others from indulging in the same kind of speculation. Hence the losses incurred by these gentry have resulted in with-

drawing a large amount of capital from the stamp market. If there are no "bulls" the market requires no "bearing" efforts to cause it to fall, it will naturally sink to the level of supply and demand. So long as the speculators could afford to hold their stocks, just so long the prices were high and even rose higher; but as soon as they commenced to unload larger quantities than the market could absorb the prices fell. This is the principal reason for the decline.

The *Australian Philatelist*, finally, points triumphantly to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' statement that they have shipped "£400 worth of their new albums to Australia alone," as an evidence that Philately is by no means dead or dying.

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best acceptable reply we shall award a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility to philatelists. Hereunder are the answers to Questions 7 and 8.

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

**7.—What is the meaning of the numbers printed in moire on the back of the Spanish stamps of 1875?**

These numbers denote the position of each individual stamp in the sheet. Their use is analogous to that of the British plate numbers—viz.; a safeguard against forgery—W.H.G. (Replies also received from C.V.O'N., R.G.N., and J.B.)

**8. How can one distinguish between the 1d. South Australia of '75 and the re-engraved 1d. S.A. of '97?**

The chief tests are as follows:—

(1) In the 1875 type the eyeball is represented by two small white spaces; in the re-drawn (1897) type there is usually a single and much larger white space.

(2) The lines of shading on the cheek and bust are in type I, continued to the mouth and chin, and nearly to the edge of the neck. In type II, these lines stop short and give a much whiter appearance to the bust.

(3) The lettering of the words ONE PENNY is thicker in the re-drawn than in the original type.

(4) The shaded lines of the background, especially in front of nose, chin and neck, are, in the original type, irregular, badly drawn, and not parallel; some of them actually touch each other, in the redrawn type these lines are distinct, regular and parallel.—P.E.R.

This time a prize of stamps to the value of 2s. 6d. goes to Rev. P. E. Raynor, School House, Ipswich.

From lack of space, replies to questions 9 and 10 are held over. At the same time we give a further set of

### QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

**11. What was the object of the numerous "Departmental" surcharges on the stamps of South Australia?**

**12. Apart from the consideration of the convenience of postal officials, what was the chief reason for the Postal Union's recommendation as to uniformity of colour in ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps?**

**13. Which is the smallest Postage stamp in the world, and which the largest? in point of size, not value.**

**14. Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the "De la Rue colonial type"?**

Replies to these must be in our hands *not later than Jan. 30th.*

We would remind readers of this column that we are anxious to receive questions as well as answers—in fact, to make this "Asked and Answered" department a regular Agency for the interchange of ideas and information between reader and reader.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## A Postal Partnership Abandoned.

MR. L'ESTRANGE EWEN, in his *Weekly Circular*, draws attention to the following note concerning a special railway letter service stamp which was proposed in 1860.

"In the early part of 1860 Messrs. De La Rue, at the instance of the Stamp Department at Somerset House, on the instructions of the Post Office, prepared designs for a '3d. Postage and Railway Letter Service' stamp, and the same were submitted to the Postmaster General. The matter however never went beyond the designs, for at the close of the year, the idea was abandoned."

It was also suggested (adds Mr. Ewen), that the ordinary 3d. postage stamp should be overprinted for railway service, and proof impressions were actually made, but this system, too, had to be abandoned, principally on account of the immense amount of book-keeping its adoption would have entailed. Eventually, as we know, each company was left to collect its own share of the postage.

## On the Early Issues of Denmark.

There is much good Denmark lore in the last issue of the *London Philatelist*, for in addition to the summary of the Duke of York's discoveries reported elsewhere, we find this informing editorial note regarding Herr C. Lindenbergs' researches.

The examination of some 6,000 stamps of the older issues of this country, on all the entire envelopes, has led Herr C. Lindenbergs into some interesting remarks as regards the dates of issue and relative appearance of the different shades of the three first issues. With regard to the 4 skilling with dotted background, Herr Lindenbergs bears out Herr Rosenkranz's recent statement, in his work on the Schleswig-Holstein stamps, that this stamp was issued in November, 1854, and not in 1853 as generally catalogued. The author further claims to have proved by examination of numerous specimens that "for a certain time stamps of the old plate with dotted spandrels were printed and issued, although the stamps with wavy-lined spandrels had been more than a year in issue." Mr. Lindenbergs also asserts that the chief or leading shades of all values in both series bear out this contention, as they present marked similarities. The official notification of the issue of the rouletted stamps is also quoted dated May 27th, 1863, and Mr. Lindenbergs mentions the "very interesting private perforations," to which he calls the attention of Danish collectors, and states that he can at present answer for the genuine use of the following: 4 sk. (perf.) in Hamburg and Altona, 1855; 2 sk. (perf.) in Copenhagen, end of 1858 and early in 1859. We are quite of Herr Lindenbergs' view that (despite one or two commercial bogies that we know of) these perforated stamps are of genuine origin and undoubted interest. The old school of European collectors did not despise them.

With regard to the 4 R.B.S. of Issue I, Mr. Lindenbergs divides them into three colours. Catalogues differ hereon, but we are inclined to think that four distinct shades are to be cited. It appears from the letters examined that the duk, or chocolate brown, was the first to appear, and that in the yellow brown or bistre shade did not appear until 1854, the red-brown being an intermediate colour. Chocolate-brown is an excellent designation for the first impression, but even if shades hereof are not accepted, the printings are so varied that they should be collected by the specialist and even catalogued as fine or defective impressions. The second prints, to our mind, are those that, while they somewhat resemble the first lot, have a distinct warm reddish, or lake-brown tone, and are scarce unused, whereas the chocolate shades were at one time plentiful, and are only now beginning to become extinct! The chestnut alluded to by Mr. Lindenbergs is a distinctly different colour from the last-named, and can have had but a short existence. Even used, it is far from common, and as we have never seen an unused one we also think that its quotation in Senf at 15s. is distinctly reasonable! The fourth shade is of course the yellow-brown or bistre, that it appears came latest and is also a distinctly good stamp unused. We have, of course, only glanced at the article which is published in the November issue of the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, and is most excellent reading throughout. The old issues of Denmark are extremely interesting, and Herr Lindenbergs is to be congratulated on his conscientious study of them.

## Mr. Theodor Buhl, *via* Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

We find little change in the *Philatelic Record* beyond the change of name beneath the words "Edited by." Mr. Theodor Buhl has acted wisely in deciding to adhere to the excellent editorial scheme initiated in January, 1896—is it really three whole years ago?—by Mr. E. J. Nankivell.

There is a re-ascendence of the "Editorial Interviews," and from the number under notice we gather that Mr. W. H. Peckitt's strong room extends under the pavement of the Strand a little farther than the kerb.

## A GAZETTEER OF PERSIA.

A new feature in the January *Record* is the first instalment of a paper by Mr. C. Forbes, headed "The Stamps of Persia." Juliet, had she lived in these days of bustling journalism, might have exclaimed, "What's in a Headline?" and all who may read the *Record* might answer "What?" For Mr. Forbes in his first instalment, by no means confines himself to the stamps of Persia, but deals with the corrupt state of the Persian Official classes, the population of the country, the number of Post Offices Persia boasts, its lack of railways, the ancient glories of the land of the shahs, the arms of the country and its religion, the character of the late Shah, likewise the ditto of the present ditto; and then at last he gets down to "The first Persian Postage Stamp was created in 1868." Then it dawns upon us that our first uneasy suspicion that a chunk of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" had wandered out of the *Times* Office and found its way into the sun-trim of the *Philatelic Record* higher up the street was the hasty conclusion of a morbid mind.

It is our province to criticise sins of commission rather than of omission; but we would respectfully point out that Mr. Forbes, in this first instalment of his, has given us no facts concerning the carpet industry of Persia, no statistics as the harem of Muzaffer-ed Deen Merza, Shah-in-Shah, Lord of the Sun, Landlord of the Moon, &c., &c.—we have no space in this issue for the other titles he boasts—no information concerning the army, navy, or police force.

Possibly however there is a world of hidden meaning in the following sentence, which is set in the *Record* as quite an independent paragraph:

The country is at present very quiet, and little is known of *him*.

The Editor of the *Record* must have had this paragraph in his mind when he wrote of Mr. Forbes' paper, that "much interesting and hitherto unpublished information" concerning Persia would be given to the world by Mr. Forbes, "who has been quietly studying this country for some years." We await with peculiar interest the further evidences of Mr. Forbes' quiet studies.

## The Typewritten Stamps of Uganda. Varieties.

In looking through the collection of the stamps of Uganda, exhibited by Mrs. Tebay at the Birmingham Exhibition, we notice (writes the Editor of the *Philatelic Record*), certain varieties which are not included in Stanley Gibbons' new Catalogue.

Of the first issue (which is made by an ordinary Remington typewriter, and consists simply of the letters "U.G." in the upper right and left hand corners, with numeral in centre, and a border in straight lines) there are several varieties. In every case the border consists of five lines on each side and seven lines at the top and bottom, and all the used specimens, with the exception of those hereafter mentioned, are cancelled with a plain cross in pen and ink. The varieties we allude to are as follows:—

5c. on *yellowish* paper instead of white.

15c. variety, with a horizontal line between the third and fourth lines of the right hand border (this appears to exist on every copy of the 15c).

Of the 30c. Mrs. Tebay shows a specimen which, instead of being obliterated with an ordinary cross, is cancelled "May 12th, G.R.B." in two lines, with a line between them.

There is also a pair of the 30c. with the letters U.G. printed three times on two stamps, the second U being over the G of the first stamp, and the second G being almost over the U of the second stamp.

Of the second issue of 1896 with "V. 96 R." Mrs. Tebay has a 20c. on part of original, and also a quite unknown variety of the 10c. with the letters U.G. much larger than in the original issue, and printed in black instead of mauve.

The 5c. and 20c. are found cancelled with various initials, instead of the ordinary cross, and there is also a specimen of the 10c. which has been altered, by pen and ink, into 15; the 5 being written over the O. Further, there is a 5c. with the words "Parcel Post" written across in pen and ink. Of the 1897 set, we notice a pair of the 4 annas used on part of original, together with one of the ordinary 2½ annas of British East Africa.

### The Turkish (lack of) Postal System.

It is curious enough (writes a special correspondent of the *Philatelic Monthly and World*) that Turkey should permit such a large number of foreign post offices in her own territory, but this custom has become prevalent on account of the entire irresponsibility of the Turkish mails and the carelessness of Turkish Post-officials. All the large cities of the Orient have foreign post offices and even the native merchant employs them in preference to his country's mail service.

A short description of my experience in Syria may explain matters more fully: "The European mail arrives in Jerusalem two or three times a week; This fact is announced by criers, and great commotion can be noticed among the population. Whoever expects letters hurries upon the open square in front of the Turkish post office. After waiting for a long while patiently, the window opens and the dignified old postmaster reads aloud the addresses of the letters that have arrived.

Whenever anybody cries out 'here' the postmaster throws the letter with unerring aim over the crowd in the direction of where the 'here' was heard. The receiver of the letter, postal card or newspaper, is supposed to catch his mail on the fly. The novice at first crumples his mail in the catching, but soon he learns and gets use to this method of delivery. Letter carriers are unknown in Turkey with but few exceptions. When nobody is there to receive arriving letters they are placed in a glass case in front of the post office where they may be called for at certain hours. And even for this service the people must be thankful for it is better than none at all!

While I was in Syria I often had to use the Turkish mails. Once I asked for letters I expected and was told to pick it out from a clothes basket full of letters standing in one corner, and that, after I had been waiting an hour for the postmaster to put in an appearance.

At Bethlehem I entered the Turkish post office to buy some postals and asked for them, 'But shining light of the West,' the postal effendi, a venerable white-bearded Turk replied: "Why doest thou use postal cards for thy correspondence? Do write letters. You can tell more, and everybody cannot read what you say as upon an open post card." 'I have but little to write' I said 'and cards will do me very well.'

'But, my beautiful turtle dove, you are not one of those poor people, who are compelled to write on postal cards for their cheapness. Will you not rather write nice letters?'

When I insisted energetically upon being given postals the postmaster said meekly: 'much respect stranger, I would like to sell you postals, but I cannot do so!'

'And why not?'

'Because I have none; I'm all out of them. If you have to have them you will have to go Jerusalem they may have some there!'

'Since I did not care to take a day's ride for the sake of a few postals, I bought stamps of course, and wrote letters, re-

ceiving into the bargain the blessings of the effendi, who wished me a happy voyage through Syria.

Syria has but a few post offices and the interior is reduced to a unique service, that of ambulant post-men. A travelling official passes over a given road every fortnight or so making regular stops at certain appointed places. He has all the letters for the district in a large sheet tied by the four corners. Arriving at one of his stations he simply spreads out his cloth, lays his letters face up and begins to read the addresses of the letters for the district. These people, mostly Arabs, can seldom read and pay the postman a small amount for his trouble in reading their letters to them. Often they also have him write the reply for a similar consideration. These postal clerks although engaged by the Turkish government seldom receive their wages and depend almost entirely upon side-earnings of this character.

### British East African M.S. Surcharges.

Mr. J. Godinho contributes an eye-opening article on these stamps to the *Philatelic Journal of India*:

Towards the end of last January (he writes), a Parsee, who had served in one of the offices of the British East Africa Protectorate, returned to Bombay, and exhibited for sale about 80 of the M.S. surcharges of 1891, viz., ½ anna on 2 annas, ¾ anna on 3 annas, and 1 anna on 4 annas. The stamps were all pasted on quarter sheets of foolscap paper, about half-an-inch apart from one another, and, in most instances, were neatly post-marked with the Mombassa postal obliteration of 1891. Two dealers were eager to secure the prize, and, after much haggling, the entire lot was given to a co-religionist of the owner for a figure between 400 and 500 rupees. These stamps being unpriced in catalogues, were offered at prohibitive rates. Collectors in India shrink from such purchases till they know whether the tone of the market is steady. In order to bring them prominently before the philatelic public, a few were sent to the London auctioneers, who, towards the second fortnight of March, describing them as *pen-marked and medium post-marked*, sold them at prices ranging from £2 to £3 each. These prices realised at auction sales, and reproduced in philatelic journals all over the world, are followed as guides, and quoted as authorities by dealers in their transactions with collectors. Thus a way was paved for their disposal, and a good many of the 80 were sold in India at prices ranging from 25 to 40 rupees each. Recently I had occasion to examine five of these stamps, all of the M.S. surcharge type of 1 anna on 4 annas brown, No. 32 of Stanley Gibbons' catalogue. These five are the last remnants of the lot. My inspection of them convinced me that the stamps are genuine, as also the M.S. surcharges. But each one of these stamps has been *fiscally* used. This fact is borne out by the pen cancellation, while the few continuous letters appearing on the face of the stamps are indicative of Indian signatures, and, in some cases, are component parts of such words as are never written across the face of a stamp used on a letter. All these stamps have been removed from bills or some such documents, and have been pasted on quarter sheets of foolscap, and then post-marked with the obliteration stamp of Mombassa in use in 1891!

To a true philatelist this postmark is a fraud. It is not a guarantee of a stamp having done its duty postally, and, this being so, the prices paid are quite ridiculous.

Their present owner on hearing my views on these labels was candid enough to admit their accuracy.

### Other Journals briefly Noticed.

The *Postal Card Reporter*, from Baltimore, Maryland, is solid evidence that card-collectors in America are well looked after, journalistically.

From Malta the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser* comes with exemplary punctuality. We regret to find that the January issue is minus the promised continuation of the articles on Maltese stamps.

Mr. Beardsley's *International Philatelist* (St. Joseph, Mo., U.S.A.) by no means represents the best that this versatile American can turn out when he means business. We suspect that other interests divide his time.

*Stamps*, of Calcutta, cannot be said to err on the side of verbosity, anyhow. Its notes are models of terseness.

*Stamps*—the nearer-home *Stamps* of Rushden, R.S.O.—promises many good philatelic articles for 1899.

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Many Collectors believe that London has the best Market, but the results of the Sales conducted by me during the past and present Season has proved this to be a fallacy. The 15th Sale was held on the 14th inst. The attendance again exceeded 50 (many of the best Collectors in Scotland being present) and prices were well maintained. The next Glasgow Auction Sale will take place in **The Bath Hotel, on Saturday, 11th February, at 5 p.m.** Stamps for inclusion should be sent in immediately. A good opportunity arises for the Disposal of a Large Collection (divided into lots), and I shall be glad to hear from any Collector who meditates realizing. Further information will be furnished and a special early date could be arranged. **Commission Charges are extremely moderate.** Catalogues sent regularly to Collectors desiring them, and commission executed with absolute fairness and free of charge. **Lots are on view at Glasgow and Edinburgh.**

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[111-116]

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" 10d. deep blue .. ..	27	6
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" " " 1c., 2c. and 3c., 3 for .. ..	0	5
" 1898, maple leaf set, 8, ½c to 10c. .. ..	1	6
" " figure issue, 1c., 2c. and 3c. .. ..	0	3

111-116]

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**BIRMINGHAM,**

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Niger Coast.	Newfoundland.
Sierra Leone.	North Borneo.
Zanzibar.	Prince Edward's Isle.
Zululand.	Seychelles.
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THIS month, our **1/- COMPETITION PACKET** contains 35 different Stamps from 35 different Countries, and from some of the Initials of these Countries can be formed the Name of a certain Well-known British Novelist (surname only).

We will give the **£5 Prize** to the Competitor who finds out the name of this Novelist and sends it to us written on the form supplied with the packet; to reach us not later than January 31st.

Should more than one be correct, the Prize will be divided. The result will be announced in the FORTNIGHTLY for February 18th.

The Packet differs from all our previous ones and will be sent for 1/-, post free. It contains: CANADA, 2 cents, Ocean Postage, Xmas, 1898; HAYTI, New Issee, November, 1898; NORWAY, 1856; NEWFOUNDLAND, 1880, Seal; AZORES; URUGUAY; ERITREA; BRAZIL, 10 reis, 1898; MACAO, August, 1898, etc., etc.—35 in all.

This Packet is quite up to our usual standard.

**Result of 7th Competition:**

We received 8 Correct Solutions in this Competition and the £5 is divided between the following, each receiving 12/6:

- The Hon. Mrs. Pleydell Bouverie, Highworth, Wilts.
- Mrs. Parsons, 20, Waverley Rd., Southsea.
- Mrs. Uardy, Fernville, Oatlands Park, Weybridge.
- Mrs. Crawford, Brookfield, Colwyn Bay.
- Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole, 6, Kock Terrace, Stamford.
- Mr. S. P. Richmond, 3, Ravensworth Rd., College Pk., N.W.
- Mr. W. C. Weston, Sec. Excelsior Stamp Exchange, Hengen, Hertford.

The last-named gentleman received £1 5s., as he sent in two correct coupons.

The correct solution is: PENZANCE.

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2c. red " " " "	0	1
3c. blue " " " "	0	2
4c. pink " " " "	0	1
5c. lilac " " " "	0	1
10c. brown " " " "	0	1
25c. purple " " " "	0	4
50c. lilac " " " "	0	6
½c. orange (rare) roul. unused	0	9
1 dollar, green (Justice), roul. used	0	4
2 " lilac " " " "	2	0
5 " orange " " " "	7	6
5 " red and blue, provl. " "	10	0

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15, BROWNHILL GARDENS, CATFORD, S.E.

**SPECIAL OFFERS.**

	s.	d.
B.C.A., 1897, 2d. used and very fine	1	0
" 4d. " " " "	1	3
" 1d. on 3/- " " " "	1	6
Gambia, 1887, 1/- " " " "	2	3
Gold Coast, 1/- violet, mint	1	6
" 1/- red-violet (rare shade) mint	2	6
Labuan, 1892, Engraved Set, mint	8	0
U.S., 1895, 2 dollars blue, used and fine	6	0
" Omaha, 1 dollar " " " "	2	6
" " 2 dollars, very fine " " " "	7	0

Cash with order, Postage extra. Returnable if unsatisfactory.

**J. G. CUTHBERTSON,**  
40, Renshaw Street, Liverpool. [109-114]

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that

**Their NEXT SALE**

WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel,**

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On **WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY,**

**February 8th & 9th,**

At **6.30 o'clock** each Evening.

The First Day's Sale will consist solely of GREAT BRITAIN and COLONIES, being the Collection of the late LIEUTENANT LEECH, a prominent Manchester Collector, and will be entirely without reserve. The Collection contains a very large number of good stamps, for particulars see catalogues.

The Lots for the Second Day's Sale will include a very fine collection of U.S.A. (to be sold in its entirety), good CAPES, HAMBURGS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, &c., and 70 Lots of Unused BRITISH COLONIALS in blocks and pairs, and all mint.

The Stamps will be on view and Catalogues may be obtained on the 1st and 2nd February, at 1, Livery Street, Birmingham, on the 3rd and 4th February, at 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool, and on the 6th and 7th February, at 18, Piccadilly, Manchester.

All communications must be addressed to:-

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**

111-116] Stamp Auctioneers,

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MULREADY, 1d., letter sheet, fine, used, 8 6

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CANADA, " Penny Postage," special issue, 2d.

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Postage extra

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	s.	d.
Nevis, 1/-, CA, lilac, mint	25	0
St. Vincent, 4d. yellow, no watermark used	30	0
Nova Scotia, 5 cents, mint	10	0
Newfoundland, 5 cents, Beaver, black, used	7	6
United States, 1869, 24 cents	9	0
Victoria, 1850, 1d. red	2	0

Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps  
104 123] Approval against Reference.

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MANCHESTER,

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	s.	d.
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British East Africa, 4 annas on fivepence used on piece	2	6
B.S.A., ½ on 6d. used	10	0
Ceylon, 9d. imperf., magnificent used copy	70	0
Heligoland, 1 and 5 marks, mint	21	0
Nevis, 6d. lilac, grey used	40	0
" ½, 1, 2½, 4, 6, mint	15	0
Saint Lucia, ½ on half of sixpence used, pair	7	6
Trinidad, C.C., 12½ 5 - mint pair	50	0
Virgin Islands, 2½ brown used	21	0

[105-122]

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[103-122]

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 114—VOL. V.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1899.
ONE PENNY.

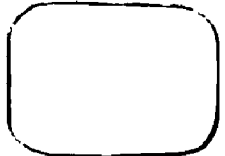
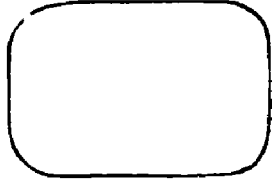
The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society.    Cambridge University Philatelic Society.    Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
 The Liverpool Philatelic Society.    Edinburgh and Leith Society.    Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
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Size A.		PACKED IN BOXES OF 1000	With our name on each mount <b>1/3</b>
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## Doings of Societies.

### THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: Mr. P. I. LLOYD.

Vice-President: MR. F. E. ELLISON.

Committee:

MESSRS. A. BIRD, N. G. HBAVEN, D. H. MCPHERSON, and I. H. REYNOLDS.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: MR. R. DALTON,  
30, Carnarvon Road, Redland.

Hon. Librarian: MR. T. C. CARTWRIGHT,  
17, York Crescent Road, Clifton.

Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary: MR. J. P. WAY, 31, Manor Road, Redland.

A MEETING of the above Society was held in their room, 42, Cotham Hill, on Thursday evening, the 19th inst., when all the above-named officers, as appointed for this year, were present and also a goodly number of other members.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, confirmed, and signed, and some new members elected, the Hon. Librarian reported the receipt of a copy of the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle*, from the publisher, Mr. A. Muscat, Malta, whom he was instructed to thank for the same. Mr. Cartwright also stated that he had received a temporary acknowledgment from Mr. Henniker Heaton, Junr., of the resolution passed at the last meeting on the resolution passed at the Annual Meeting, on behalf of his father, who would be absent from England for a few weeks.

The suggestion was made and adopted that a memo should accompany the next exchange packet, requesting those members who send in sheets to make them up as far as possible in a consecutive order of countries.

There was then a display by several members of the stamps of Mauritius, those of the President being very fine, especially in the older or 'Britannia' series, and though not including any original "Office" copies, contained two admirably copied imitations, drawn and coloured by one the members. British Africa will be the subject for the next meeting on March 2nd.

### LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE December meeting was held at S. Clement's Vicarage, Sheepscar, by the kind invitation of the Rev. T. S. Fleming, and the members were most hospitably entertained by their host, his wife and daughters. The subject selected for the display was the stamps of the South African countries, of which most of the members present showed their collections. The President (Mr. E. Egly), had the 4d. "wood-block" Cape Colony, the 4d. brown 1874 of Natal, perforated 12½ of Mauritius, the 9d. of the Britannia design reissued in 1862 as a penny stamp, and known as such by the postmark B 53, also an unused copy of the 9d. green of 1863; and of the Transvaal the penny imperforate of the first issue, the scarce 3d., with wide roulett, and the 6d. perforated. Mr. John H. Thackrah showed a fine series of the triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, including pairs and blocks, the rare surcharge "postage" in tall letters on the shilling stamp from 1869 to 1874, and various stamps of Lagos and Mauritius. Mr. S. E. Nixon had numerous examples of most of the countries. Mr. T. K. Skipwith showed a number of entires, and his fine series of British Bechuanaland; and Mr. W. Denison Roebuck had a few stamps on entire envelopes. The Rev. T. S. Fleming showed a most extensive variety, including several hundreds

of the three-cornered Cape Stamps, including a pair of the 4d. wood-block, and large unsevered blocks of all values of the engraved series. Of Mauritius he had the penny and twopenny "Post-paid" on blue paper. Of Natal the 1d., 3d., and 6d. embossed; many early issues of the Transvaal, the 3d. and 6d. surcharged "V.R." in italics, and fairly complete sets of the later issues; a fairly complete series of the Orange Free State, including the £5 postally used; and numerous fine examples or complete sets of British Bechuanaland, Griqualand, Stellaland, British South Africa, British Central Africa, the New Republic, and Zululand.

THE members met on Tuesday, January 10th, at Headingley, by the kind invitation of Mr. John H. Thackrah. A display was made of stamps of Italy and the Italian States, and many good stamps were shown. Mr. Thackrah had blocks of four each of the first issue of Modena, and the same in newspaper stamps, a complete set of Naples including a pair of the 50 value, used, fine copies of the 5 cents yellow of the second issue of Parma, and the 1 quat. black on blue, 1 quat, and 2 soldi yellow watermarked loops, all of Tuscany. Mr. S. E. Nixon had an extensive collection, including the complete set of Sicily, unused. Mr. E. Egly, the president, had the 40c. of the first two issues of Sardinia, the 5 cent yellow on white, and an unused copy of the 25 cent brown on white paper of the second issue of Parma, the 1 soldo on blue paper of the first issue, and the black quattr. value of the second issue of Tuscany, and a complete series of the Roman States. Mr. Joseph Scott's fine collection included the 1 soldo on blue, the 1 quattr. on blue, and the 1 quattr. of the second issue of Tuscany, an unused copy of the 20 grana of Naples, the 5 cent yellow on white of Parma, and the 50 baj. of the Roman or Papal States. Mr. W. Denison Roebuck exhibited an official stamp of Uruguay on the entire envelope as used by the last mail; and Mr. T. K. Skipwith, who was unavoidably absent, sent for exhibition several novelties of Queensland and Great Britain.

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

JANUARY 19th, 1899, the following were unanimously elected members.—Mrs. Tillotson, Messrs. A. G. Farrar, A. D. Arter, and H. H. Buijs.

Votes of thanks were given to Messrs. H. Ferrier Kerr, Bright & Son, Getti & Tani for presentations to the Library.

It was also decided to purchase Philbrick and Westoby's Stamps of Great Britain (new edition); *Postage Stamps of India*; and the *Indian Philatelist*.

### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE members assembled for their annual dinner on Wednesday, January 18th, at Bird's Restaurant, the president (Mr. F. J. Peace) in the chair. After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, Mr. J. H. Chapman proposed "Success to the Sheffield Philatelic Society." He stated that although the society had only been formed four years, it was rapidly increasing in numbers, and possessed a fine library of works on philately. The great interest shown by the members in the exchange packets, and in the various subjects treated of at the meetings proved the vitality of the society. Mr. G. H. Hunt proposed "Our City," and demonstrated its intimate connection with philately in the person of the Postmaster-General, and also in the fact that the steel necessary for the production of stamps was supplied principally from Sheffield. Mr. J. Lee Pike then proposed the

health of the president (Mr. F. J. Peace), which was heartily responded to, and accorded full musical honours. During the course of the evening songs and recitations were given by Meesrs. Elliott, Goodinson, and Sutton, and the members afterwards separated, having spent a very pleasant evening.

### PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS

ENTIRE Postcards, Envelopes, &c. Cheap Packet List from BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Square, London, S.W. 110-115

ADVERTISER breaking Valuable Collection, finest specimens, will send approval selections against satisfactory reference, 40 to 60 per cent below Catalogue.—PHILATELIST, 8, Valentia Road, Brixton. [112, 113, 114]

COLLECTORS and Dealers should not fail to inspect my Approval Books which contain a superb lot of British, British Colonial and European Stamps. Exceptionally low prices.—J. NEWLAND, 5, Little Trinity Lane, City. [120]

40 to 50 per cent. below Catalogue. Selections of Good Stamps on approval.—D. ROTBERG, 111, London Wall, E.C. [116]

COLONIALS at 50 per cent. off 1899, catalogue (Gibbons'), 13, Brewer St., Victoria Station. [115]

APPROVAL Sheets of Stamps from 1d. Grand value. Deposit or Reference.—DEFIANCE STAMP CO., 11, Dalkeith Road, Ilford.

I WILL give English Colonies for Monaco 5 frs. first issue, used.—SHARP, Chateau Surmont, Courtrai, Belgium.

APPROVAL SELECTIONS. British Colonials, old European, United States, South American, English, etc., medium and rare, 40-60 per cent. below catalogue, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 30, Richmond Gardens, Coldhawk Road, W. [117]

NATIVE STATES STAMPS exchanged or sold. Cheapest list.—A. MILLER, Entally, Calcutta. [115]

GIVING up Collecting. Good stamps from 3d. to £5 each. Please state wants by letter only.—ERNEST PARRY, 35, Parade, Pontypridd. [114]

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA, used 1895, 5/- olive 10/-; 3/- yellow 1/9; Provisionals 1d. on 3/- 1/6; 1d. imperf. 3/6, perforated 5/-—STROUD, Cotlands Road, Bournemouth.

APPROVAL Sheets, very low prices.—HART, 13, Miranda Road, Upper Holloway. [114]

TO COLLECTORS.—The Otterdale Exchange Club. Members wanted to complete a section, no dealers. Blank approval sheet. Rules and full particulars of the Secretary, G. H. DANNATT, Lyndale, Blackheath S.E.

WANTED blocks of Monaco, 25 cents, first issue unused. SHARP, Chateau Surmont, Courtrai, Belgium.

THESSALY !! Whoever sends me 25, 50, 100, better grade stamps, will receive the same number and value from Thessaly, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Turkey, Bosnia, Servia, Greece, Levante, Lombard, Austria, Roumania, East Roumelia and Hungary, 1871. Rare for rare. Basis: Scott, Senf or Stanley Gibbons. First-class reference.—BAKRAY M. LIVADAR, Istvan utca, 2, Upest, Hungary.

RARE CHANCE. Collector wishes to dispose of duplicates, no rubbish, nearly all different. Stamps usually 4d. each, 1/- 100; 3d. stamps 1/6 100; 1d. stamps 2/- 100; 14d., 2d. and 3d. stamps 4 6 50. Only about £15 worth to clear. COLLEK, 9, Grafton Place, Euston Square, London.

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REQUIRED FOR THE  
. . . FOREIGN STAMP TRADE.

Address, stating age, experience and salary required, to "X," c/o Publishers of this Journal.

UNUSED CANADIAN STAMPS.  
Jubilee Set, 3c. to 35c. . . . . £5  
" " 4c. to 50c. . . . . 8/6  
" " 1/2 CC, 2c., 3c., 5c., 8c., 10c., 15c., 20c. 5/-  
Maple Leaf Set, 3c. to 10c. . . . . 3/-  
Single Jubilees, 1c., 4c., 10c., 20c., 3c., for 6d., 5c., 6d., 8c., 10d., 10c., 10d., 15c., 1/-, 20c., 1/6  
Issue 1868, 15c. red-violet . . . . . 4/-  
All stamps sent post paid and registered.  
PALMER B. WILLITS,  
St. George, Ontario, Canada.

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co. Ltd.,  
64, Canealade, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

- |                                    |  |                                       |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Liverpool Philatello Society.  | Bristol Philatello Society.              | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatello Society. |
| The Edinburgh Philatello Society.  | Rookdale Philatello Society.             | Sheffield Philatello Society.         |
| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatello Society. |                                       |

No. 114—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### A POST FROM BRITISH BURMAH TO CHINA.

SIR FREDERIC FRYER, the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, is recommending the establishment of a postal service between Burma and Talifu, in Yunnan.

Should the suggestion be adopted, the mail matter would be carried by dak-runners.

These dak-runners are still employed in many parts of India. The line of route is divided into stages of about ten miles; two men run together at a steady jog-trot all the way. They carry the mail bags on their head; in their hand is a spear, with jingling bells attached, and on dark nights a lantern is added to the equipment. They cover a stage in about an hour and a half.

Talifu is about 300 miles distant from the Burma frontier. Allowing for the mountainous roads, letters will take about three days. There is already considerable correspondence carried on between Burma and Yunnan. A postal service would enormously increase it, and bring the two countries into a close and real union.

### U.S.A. "PERIODICALS" TO BE SOLD TO COLLECTORS.

It seems that the sale of the U.S.A. Newspaper and Periodical stamps to collectors at a fixed price per set is engaging the serious consideration of the American postal authorities. Mr. J. M. Bartels, of Washington, has been consulted as to ways and means. Questioned whether 7,500

sets could be sold at £5 per set, Mr. Bartels returned an emphatic "No!" In his usual Washington Letter to the *Metropolitan Philatelist* this gentleman solicits the views of philatelists generally, and adds that "collectors, for once, are unofficially given an opportunity to express their opinions on an important matter." Mr. J. W. Scott, discussing the same subject in the *Metropolitan's* editorial columns, advocates a sale of the stamps at £1 per set, and thinks that this would result in a sale of 100,000 sets, meaning an unearned revenue of £100,000 to the U.S. Treasury.

### NO HALFPENNY LETTER POST YET.

THE Postmaster-General, replying to a correspondent, states that it is not in contemplation to reduce the initial rate of postage for inland letters to less than one penny, which rate is prescribed by statute.

### DIFFERENT CATALOGUERS HAVE DIFFERENT IDEAS.

AN interesting side light on comparative catalogue values is afforded by a continental advertisement of a large collection offered for sale *en bloc*. There is an enumeration of the chief varieties, and then follows a statement that the stamps represent the following totals of "catalogue value":

According to Barbarian, Belin & Sent ..	9,630 francs.
According to Stanley Gibbons .. .. .	11,210 ..
According to Scoot .. .. .	14,000 ..

We have preserved the original spelling of the last-named, but it may safely be assumed that for "Scoot," we are to read "Scott." But look at the figures. Funny, aren't they?

### FRENCH PHILATELISTS ASK FOR FRENCH REPRINTS!

WE gather from the *Revue Philatelique* that the Committee of the "Societe Francaise de Timbrologie" (of which the *Revue Philatelique* is official organ) has addressed two important requests to the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs. "Important requests" is perhaps putting it mildly.

The first takes the form of a suggestion that the Jubilee of the French Postal System (January 1st, 1899) should be commemorated by a reprint of the French stamps of 1849-50! It is pointed out—enticing argument!—that such a reprint would bring much unearned increment to the postal administration, inasmuch as the stamps, being obsolete, could not be used for postage. Stamp collectors, estimated to number at least a half a million, could be supplied with the reprints at a minimum price of two francs per set; and see how nice

that would be for the French Treasury! As a means of avoiding confusion with the originals of 1849-1850, the Committee of the Society suggest that the reprints be struck on paper specially watermarked—say, "1849-1850."

The second "important request" is one that will probably find more general favour among philatelists. It is that a Postal Museum be established in Paris. The memorialists, in support of their views, point to the British Museum collection and the official accumulations at Berlin and in other capital cities.

#### PLYMOUTH SOCIETY'S EXCELLENT EXHIBITION.

STAMPS to the value of over £2000 were shown at the Plymouth Philatelic Society's Exhibition on Saturday, Jan. 14th at 9A, Princess Square, Plymouth. Admittedly the exhibition was the best the society has yet held. Its only disappointing feature was the comparatively small number of exhibits sent by local collectors, and though this was compensated for by the very fine collections sent from outside the neighbourhood, the hope was expressed that in future local philatelists would be better represented. Perhaps the best collection was sent by Baron de Worms, whose specimens of unused St. Helena unperforated block, and British Honduras stamps in mint condition were generally admired. Maj. Stockdale (President) contributed a large selection of Persian, Egyptian, Spanish, Luxembourg, Maltese unused stamps, and a good assortment from the issues of Gibraltar, Ceylon and France. Among the exhibits of the Rev. E. Hudson were a number of unused English stamps, and some rare copies of early Newfoundland and Nova Scotian issues. Rev. T. Fyffe showed a magnificent plate of Sydney views and several of the later types of Queensland stamps in block, with specimens of the first issues of India. A very fine collection of used European stamps was sent by the Rev. E. Donaldson. It included rare specimens of the issues of Bremen and the two Sicilys, and a large assortment of Wurtemberg, Palma, Thurn, Texas and Holstein plates. West Indians were well represented in the Antigua, Dominica, St. Vincent, and Tobago, specimens were sent by Mr. R. T. Stevens (Vice-President of the Society). Among a varied and choice display sent by Mr. Main were some good specimens of Uganda, used and unused. Dr. Houghton, Looe, sent a number of Turks Island plates. Some issues of the Transvaal and British South Africa Company were contributed by Mr. W. A. Walker (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), and an interesting collection of forgeries were exhibited by Messrs. A. Smith & Son, London.

#### WILLIAMS & CO., LIMA—A WARNING.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS writes as follows in the *Monthly Journal*, just to hand:

For some months past a firm under the above name has been advertising in the whole of the philatelic press, or at any rate in those papers that would take advertisements, and has been making every effort to get large consignments of stamps on approval, unfortunately, as we have every reason to believe, with a considerable amount of success. The whole swindle, if swindle it is, has been perfectly worked, and we are afraid that a large number of dealers will be heavy losers. However, on the other hand, we are very glad to say we have been the means of preventing many of our personal friends in London from sending selections of stamps to these people, after they had written to our friends for such selections, and given our name as reference.

Messrs. Williams & Co., first started in a small way with us about one and a half years ago, and commenced sending us new issues and friendly notes about stamps, etc.; after this ordering one or two albums, the first year's transactions being to the extent of some £7 or thereabouts. A little later on they asked us if we could recommend them a banker in London, as they wanted to open a London account. Such a thing as this would give a certain amount of confidence. We refused to do this, as we could not recommend anyone to our bankers without knowing a good deal about them. Messrs. Williams & Co., pointed out that they were down on the *Bazar* reference book; by what means they got there we do not know.

The next proceeding was to ask us to receive some £60 from a German source, and with it to pay some of their debts for advertisements, which we did as instructed, using the whole of the money for this purpose. After this we presume that they thought we should

have confidence in them, and they used our name as a reference in a circular which they published, and even stated that they were our Peruvian agents, which, except so far as they purchased new issues for us, was absolutely untrue. For many reasons we have during the past few months been very doubtful about this firm, as it seemed to us that their sole aim was to get consignments on approval from every part of the world, and we never heard of any returns or remittances.

The first inquiry we made was through the London Association for the Protection of Trade, of which Association we are members. In reply we received a note to say that the firm could not be found at all in Lima, and nothing was known about them. We have forwarded another inquiry in the name of the man Farrant, but have not received a result of this yet. In the meantime, however, a warning has been published in America against this firm, and finally the Berlin Dealers' Association has issued the following warning:—

"EXTRA-NUMBER.

"WARNING! ATTENTION!

"WILLIAMS & CO., LIMA, PERU.

"Our colleague, Herr A. E. Glasewald, of Gössnitz, has received the following details from a foreign business friend:—

"The firm of Williams & Co., Lima, Peru, is represented *only* by Mr. Casnough. The other gentleman, e.g., Farrant, was unknown in Lima. In spite of his splendid advertisements, Mr. Casnough has only a small furnished business room in an hotel, and that is sparsely furnished. . . .

"Our informant showed us various selections of great value, which he had received from Williams & Co., for a mere nothing. Williams & Co. used every means to get one purchaser to buy the rest very cheaply for cash.

"Thus it seems that Williams & Co., are in great want of money, and that the 'slump' is at their doors.

"One of the leading London firms, we learn, has been heavily let in. It appears that Williams & Co., won the confidence of this firm by especially cheap offers, etc., and thereby have in part acquired very valuable stamps from other great firms, and they are now *getting rid* of the lots sent.

"A great American firm had sent a selection in value several hundreds of dollars, which Williams & Co. *sold* to our informant for one-tenth of its value.

"We beg you to make of the above details for the general good.

"The above report has reached Germany from America. How far it is true we cannot to-day say; but we deemed it our duty to inform our fellow-members of this as quickly as possible, as we have done in previous cases of a like character."

This is so important that we translate and publish it in full. Also, as we are going to press, we hear as follows from a well-known Continental dealer:—

"What business relations have you with Williams & Co., of Lima? For your guidance this party resides in Lima, in an hotel of low rank, and is a retired pugilist. He lives entirely by trickery, and says he represents your firm and the firm of Williams, of London. I think a stop must be put to such pranks, and, if you have any interests, you should act promptly in order to protect them."

It really looks as though "Williams & Co." (whose advertisement in the "S.C.F." we stopped some months ago on becoming suspicious as to the firm's bona fides) are frauds of the first water. We shall be glad to do our best for anyone who has had dealings with this firm. Address: Hilckes' Enquiry Bureau, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

We regret to say that the advertisements of these Lima people are still appearing in *Stamps* and other of the smaller British stamp papers.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING Feb. 18th, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

- Feb. 6th and 7th.—Mr. W. Hadlow, at the Arbitration Room, 63/4, Chancery Lane, at 5.30 p.m. each day.
- Feb. 7th and 8th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day, precisely.
- Feb. 14th and 15th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m. each day precisely.
- Feb. 16th and 17th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

##### Provincial Auctions.

- Feb. 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester at 6.30 p.m. each day precisely.
- Feb. 11th.—Mr. Robt. S. Gray, at the Bath Hotel, Glasgow, at 5 p.m., precisely.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited (who are constant readers of the FORTNIGHTLY), will doubtless be properly grateful to us for collecting and collating all the tit-bits of "catalogue talk" we hear of or overhear. For this number we have the outspoken views of a valued subscriber in Helena, Mon-

tana, who writes:

I have received Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, Part I., and after carefully reviewing it and comparing it with their 1897 issue, I consider it simply an incomplete reference book of stamps of the British Empire; as a guide to their true valuation, it is "Nit." They should have entitled it, "Stanley Gibbons' Limited Ideas about Stamp Values."

Denmark, as a philatelic study, has been tolerably to the fore of late. Possibly some enthusiastic Denmarkist will be able to throw some light on the following:

I possess (writes a well-known West Country philatelist) a specimen of the Denmark, 1874 issue, 3 öre (blue and grey), with *only the centre*—no blue, no sign of any other printing on the outside of the grey centre. Is it an error? The paper is somewhat thicker and softer than the ordinary one.

The inverted centre we know, and the fifty-per-center still rears his head; but this is something new, for which a new name must be found. Dare we suggest Deserted Centre?

"Duplex," whose interesting little work on British obliterations we recently noticed in these columns, now writes us as follows on the subject of postmark collecting:—

As undoubtedly a large number of the readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* are collectors of British postmarks the following lines may be of interest to them. Philatelists, and especially specialists in English Stamps, find a knowledge of the postmarks of the United Kingdom of the greatest importance, though perhaps they little guess the immense number of varieties in existence.

A good postmark collection made side by side with a stamp collection greatly enhances the interest of the latter, but, apart from stamps, the collection of British Postmarks is a most fascinating hobby. It is a hobby practically in its infancy, and one cannot help wondering why it has not more devotees considering the time postmarks have been in use and their interesting nature. However, it is rapidly coming into public favour, and although there are several earnest students among the ever increasing ranks of collectors a large number of postmark varieties yet remain unchronicled. Postmarks, as most readers are aware, date as far back as 1660, but in this short article I only propose to remark on a few kinds issued since the date of the introduction of postage stamps—May 6th, 1840. In my opinion postmarks issued prior to that date and those issued after should form entirely distinct collections. In 1840 the first obliteration used was that known as the Maltese Cross. It was originally impressed in red but was subsequently changed to black, and was occasionally used in blue. Copies exist of violet, yellow, and greenish hues, but these colours are no doubt due to some chemical action. There are several varieties, viz.: those having dots or numbers in the centre, straight sides, &c. A list of all the varieties of cancellations used from 1840 till now would take up too much space here. They comprise marks of all shapes—circular, oval, square, oblong, octagonal, and hexagonal—but I should like now to mention more particularly one or two of the existing common types. Many collectors try to get complete sets of all the post towns using the various types. This involves an enormous amount of work, and unless one is specialising in one type of work, is totally unnecessary. Indeed such a collection becomes a mere list of post town names. One might just as well collect all the combinations of letters appearing in the corners of the earlier British stamps. If instead of so doing those collectors would devote their energies to varieties they would, I am sure, derive more genuine enjoyment from their hobby. For instance in the current duplex cancellation, con-

sisting of a circular date mark adjoining an oval obliterator, there are several distinct varieties each as collectable as plate numbers are in philately.

It is in the obliterator most varieties occur—three or four lines top and bottom, lines broken for the insertion of numbers or letters, &c.—though in the date mark there are differences, viz.: those shewing name of county, having number under date, &c. The square date and obliterator combination work so much in vogue now—a days does not at first sight appear particularly interesting, and yet it probably has more varieties than any other type of work and is especially interesting. These varieties consist in the number of curved lines at the corners, whether lines are broken or not, and numbers or letters appearing under date, &c. I hope collectors, especially beginners, will see the wisdom of collecting varieties rather than amassing a number of names of post towns and villages. To get the latter complete would entail a vast amount of worry quite out of proportion to the result obtained, whereas by only collecting the former one might hope to get together a complete collection that would well compete with any stamps in point of interest and value. With the Editor's consent I should like to insert by instalments in these pages a list of all the types that have come under my notice, and in the meanwhile I shall be pleased to receive correspondence from any collectors, having reference to postmarks, at 50, Broad Street, Stamford.

From a reader in Barbados:

No doubt you are aware that the Jubilee Barbados are now coming over on *blue* paper. Do you think this variety will be permanent? I have a 2d. post-marked 10th, Dec. '98. Your opinion is respectfully solicited through your columns.

We have heard nothing, so far, concerning this. Perhaps some reader of the FORTNIGHTLY can enlighten us, and, through us, our friend in Barbados.

Can anyone inform me (writes A.C.H., Leeds) through the medium of the "S.C.P." whether there is a new issue of N.S. Wales stamps on blue paper. I have just received the current pl. on bright blue paper, also please say whether you have heard of the 6d. orange Gold Coast, in a brown shade, similar to the 2— but rather lighter. I have a copy dated 1894.

## Stray Jottings.

At a winter Garden Party organized at Sutton, by Mr. Charles B. James and others, prizes of a stamp album and a "Reprint Catalogue offered by the publishers of the "S.C.P." Messrs. Harry Hilekes & Co., Limited, were won respectively by Mr. W. Clemens, of Clapton, and Mr. R. Hitchman, of Sutton.

THEY do some things better on the Continent. A new postal departure has just been instituted in the Grand Duchy of Baden, which has much to recommend it. If it happens that in the course of a journey the traveller wants to despatch a telegram all he has to do is to write his message on a post card with the intimation that he wishes it wired, affix the requisite amount of stamps and drop it into the letter box attached to the train. When the train stops the box is cleared, and the wires sent off without further trouble.

Of the new Cuban permanent stamps which are now being prepared by the American Bureau of Printing and Engraving, one stamp will be a representation of a cane mill with a cane field in the background, while for another the subject will be Commerce, showing a full rigged clipper ship on the water. This will resemble the twelve cent U.S.A. stamp of 1869.

New South Wales has always claimed to have issued the first postage stamp in 1838—two years before the first British issue. This pioneer stamp, the design of which was circular, with the Royal arms in the centre, surrounded by the inscription "General Post Office, Sydney, New South Wales," was embossed on letter covers, which were sold at fifteenpence per dozen, and letters enclosed therein were allowed to pass free in the city of Sydney.

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. 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, FEBRUARY 4, 1899.



It will be noticed that the Queensland article by "M.J.D.C." concludes in this number. For the next issue of the FORTNIGHTLY we have a most interesting book to review—a very able work on that most interesting country for stamp collectors, Hong Kong. This we shall notice very exhaustively, giving a full catalogue of Hong Kong issues, together with Official Decrees. Lovers of the stamps of Hong Kong have a treat in store. In addition to this and other good things up the editorial sleeve, is an article on the Provisionals of Crete, supplied to us by an officer with the British forces stationed in Candia at the time the provisionals were in use.

We regret that the insertion of many specially interesting articles in this number has necessitated the temporary absence of certain "stock" features. "Asked and Answered," and "Notes on New Issues" will re-appear in our next number and will not again be allowed to lapse.

At present no announcement can be made regarding the result of our great prize competition. The work of checking the immense accumulation of names is now well on the way to completion. At the earliest possible moment the result will be made known.

\* \* \*

MESSRS. PHIL ATTERLY & Co., whose monthly philatelic prize competitions have become familiar to all stamp-lovers through the advertising columns of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, have addressed to us a letter to which, in the special circumstances of the

case, we feel constrained to give the greatest prominence possible. Messrs. Atterly write:

DEAR SIRS,

We notice in the current number of *Stamps* a paragraph reflecting at once on our monthly prize competitions and on your publishers for allowing our advertisements to appear in the "S.C.F."

The paragraph states that the editor of *Stamps* has received complaints to the effect that people who have won prizes in our competitions, have been unable to obtain the prize which they have won, and that our "scheme savours much of an attempt to obtain the shillings of beginners under false pretences."

Now, this we are sure, you will give us an opportunity of replying to in the columns of your paper.

This is the 8th month of our competitions, which have now become so popular, and we can prove that we have given away over £35 in money or stamps since the commencement; and if your publishers had not been perfectly certain that our bonafides were all right, it is needless to say that our advertisements would have never appeared in your paper, and we happen to know that careful enquiries were made before Messrs. Hulckes would take our advertisement.

We admit that at the time of writing two claims for shares in our £5 prize remain unpaid. In both of these cases the winners have asked for stamps on approval to select from, which is the reason they are not settled yet.

In one or two cases lately we have omitted to settle balances immediately, owing to the fact that we have been much overworked in the January competitions. This may have given rise to the complaints which have been made.

We invite any person who has won a prize in our competitions, and received neither money nor stamps in settlement, to write to you, but we venture to think that this invitation will be unanimously refused.

We may say in conclusion that the majority of the winners in these competitions are readers of the FORTNIGHTLY, and that most of the replies to our advertisements come through your valuable paper. So that no misunderstanding can occur in future we shall pay all prizes due in cash on or before the 6th of each month.

Apologizing for the space we have taken up.

While not denying for one moment the right of *Stamps*, or any other journal, to freely criticise that which merits criticism—a privilege we have never scrupled to exercise—we must protest against the unjustifiable attitude taken against our paper. As regards protecting readers against unreliable and unscrupulous advertisers the FORTNIGHTLY can claim a standing quite unique among periodical publications. Whenever we have had the slightest ground for suspicion as to the *bona fides* of any advertiser, or would-be advertiser, we have made the most searching enquiries and in many cases have refused admission to our columns. We have no desire to "talk back," but we may permit ourselves to say that there is at least one advertiser now using the columns of *Stamps* whose announcements we would not accept at any price. Readers of the FORTNIGHTLY must not imagine for one moment that the advertising columns of their favourite journal, crowded as those columns are, represent the full amount of patronage tendered us. There are some would-be advertisers who would willingly pay us double our full tariff if we would grant them the 'open door' through which to creep into the pockets of our readers. There are also advertisers of an undesirable class—we have "declined with thanks" two orders for "Art Photograph" advertisements during the current week. Indeed, we exercise a careful censorship of our advertisement columns with the view of making our paper an honest and a clean medium. We do not claim infallibility in this direction, but we do claim to do far more than the general run of philatelic publishers to guard our friends and supporters against fraud and imposition; and consequently we protest most strongly against the insinuations made by our Rushden contemporary.

Complaints may have been sent to *Rushden*; but it is a singular thing—is it not?—that none of these complainants wrote to the Editors of the paper in which the advertisements appeared—viz., the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. *Stamps* never had Messrs. Phil Atterly & Co.'s advertisement, possibly applied for it in vain. There is, in fact, more than a suspicion of "sour grapes" in the attitude that the *Rushden* journal has taken up in regard to this matter.



*Issues of the Stamps of Queensland.*

BETWEEN 1883-1896, BY M.J.D.C.

(Continued from page 71).

TWOPENCE-HALFPENNY.

Colour.—Carmine.

Paper. Wmk.—Same.

Four Varieties.—I. White dot before 'A' of Queensland.

II. Small white line on the upright (right side) of 'D' of Queensland.

III. (a). A second dot between the fifth and sixth dots from top, in top left hand margin.



Fig. 6.

(b). Three dots in margin below 'P' of penny joined.

IV. [ ? ]

I do not know that I have placed these varieties in their proper order.

Minor Varieties.— I. The right hand perpendicular of 2nd 'N' of Queensland prolonged.

II. White flaw on circle above bottom left hand (No. 2.)

III. The right perpendicular of first 'N' of Queensland unjoined to its diagonal.

IV. Some of the large 'z' shaded, others not.

V. White perpendicular line extending from the 'S' of Queensland to the middle of the head.

VI. The line enclosing 'Queensland' broken under 'ND.'

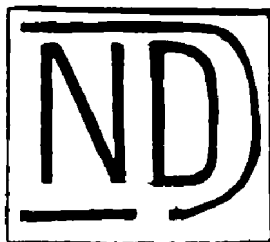


Fig. 7.

THREE-PENCE.

Colour.—Brown.

Paper. Wmk.—Same.

Four Varieties. Same as those of the 1d., 2d. and 2s. values.

Minor Varieties I.—The right vertical stroke of the first 'N' of Queensland broken.

II.—A white dot under second 'E' of three. The broken 'N' appears on the stamp immediately above.

III.—Flaw in bottom right corner; there are two varieties of this, one appearing on No. 2, and the other on No. 4.

IV.—'S' of Queensland ill-formed and large.

V.—Point of bust showing up white.

VI.—'C' of pence joined to oval below by a thin white line.

FOURPENCE.

The same remarks apply to stamps with this Perf. as to those Perf. 12. I have not come across the minor variety with flaw between 'EN' of pence. The error 'PENGE' is also found with this Perf.

SIXPENCE.

Colour.—

Paper. Wmk.—Same.

Varieties and Minor Varieties same as in Perf. 12.

TWOPENCE. (Retouched Plate.)

Colour.—Blue, shades.

Perf.—12½-13.

Paper. Wmk.—Same.

At the end of 1893 or the beginning of 1894 the plate of the 2d. value was retouched, and the varieties, 'LA' joined and 'long P' in pence, rectified. Varieties I. and IV. remained untouched, so that they can only be pronounced as belonging to either Die I. or Die II. when seen in pair. This retouched die of the 2d. was, of course, used in printing the many provisional issues. The 'LA' and 'long P' being removed, we have therefore to find other distinguishing marks to fill their places. For No. 2 the horizontal line of shading in bottom right spandrel is incomplete to right; by examining a stamp with LA joined this characteristic will at once be understood; for other differences see under twopence, Die II. To distinguish No. 3, a small projection is to be noted in the top right corner.

(The End.)

*Morocco Agencies.*

THE ERROR ADMITTED BY THE AUTHORITIES AT GIBRALTAR.

OUR readers will remember the correspondence we have had with Mr. Maxted, of Gibraltar, who showed our paragraph describing the blue surcharge (instead of black) on the 5 centimos of Gibraltar ("Morocco Agencies") to the postal authorities at "The Rock." The latter *unhesitatingly* declared that the error was an impossibility, and that the paragraph must have been founded on a forged specimen of the stamp in question. On publishing our correspondent's letter with the above opinion, we meekly expressed our disagreement with the dictum of the postal powers—that be at Gibraltar, and in our reply pointed out to Mr. Maxted that in spite of the great care which the authorities doubtless exercised in surcharging their stamps, errors were not quite unknown, as we had heard of broken "N's" and short "I's" before. We also suggested, as a likely solution of the conundrum, that the stamps were surcharged at night-time, and the rollers of the printing press were inked with a deep blue colour, which, under an artificial light would look like black. Thus the error would pass muster in the printing office, and having passed there would no doubt escape the eagle eye of the official inspector, whose duty is to see that the number of stamps is right, and that the surcharge is in order, rather than to see that the proper shade of ink has been used. Mr. Maxted, after showing our further letter to the authorities, writes us as follows:



I have shewn the block of stamps to the Postmistress here, and she admits that she or the Chief Clerk may have passed them as black, as the blue is so very dark that it looks like black unless examined in a good light.

I think, however, that the violet colour of the stamp accentuates the blue in the surcharge.

I have also shewn the block to the manager of the Printing Establishment and he has no doubt that the error has happened in the way you suggest, but as the stamps were printed sometime in July last, he is unable to trace anything at this late date.

This once more proves that philatelists, in these matters, are sometimes able to teach the postal people their own business.

PHILATELISTS will be interested to learn (says the *Madras Standard*) that the Federated Malay States will use their own Stamps on letters, etc., for all parts of the world, when transmitted through the Post Office of the Straits Settlements from January 1st. It is likely that Johore will conclude a similar arrangement with the British Post Office.

## On a Philatelic Trail.\*

A JOVIAL WESTERN "DRUMMER" SPINS YARNS ABOUT  
STAMP HUNTING IN THE STATES.

A MINGLING of Yankee fun and rollicking cowboy adventure, all told in the terse, expressive, often in—elegant but always forceful style, of the American writer—that is one's impression of this entertaining book that Mr. Lewis Robie has produced.

The author of "Across Wyoming on Horseback" is not professionally a literary man; he is, or was, a commercial traveller or "drummer," with Philately as a not unprofitable "side line." In "Stamp Hunting" he very entertainingly retails his adventures "on the road," mainly by means of interesting chats on Stamp Collecting with an old crony in the druggist line, Doctor Bailey, whom he affectionately addresses as "Doc." The way in which "Doc" Bailey, from an attitude of superior scorn towards Philately is brought round long before the middle of this book is reached to a condition of acute timbromenia is amusing and at the same time an interesting object lesson in Philately's charms.

"This book," Lewis Robie very frankly states in his preface, "is written for the money hoped to be made out of its sale." And that, judging by the vigorous advertising and generous notice it is getting in the States, should prove to be no inconsiderable amount.

"WE ALL HAVE OUR HOBBIES."

To begin a hurried scamper through a most entertaining book, see how the "drummer" holds forth to his druggist friend on the subject of Philately's charms:

"We all have our hobbies, and what seems foolish and ridiculous to one, may be the very life and existence of another; and collecting something is all the rage in the present day. There are collectors of monograms, jewels, autographs, old china, candle-sticks, medals, coins, armour, etc. Nothing could be queerer than the articles which some of these individuals make it the object of their lives to accumulate. A fellow up here in the northern part of Illinois is making a collection of rooster's spurs. The druggist telling me about him said I was no better paying good money for old labels, costing about thirty cents a thousand. He thought I was a big chump. If he only knew I got six dollars for the stamps I paid him forty cents for, he wouldn't think I was so chump-like."

A stamp hunter has varying fortunes, as Mr. Robie's many interesting yarns testify. And just here it is necessary to note that our author, once a collector of postals, now confines himself to U.S.A. match and medicine stamps. Entering "Doc" Bailey's "store" one day with a somewhat long face the following colloquy takes place:

"No, Doc. Business is all right. I am having a good trade, but I am in hard luck. I lost two hundred dollars last week."

"Well, that's too bad. How did it happen? Playing up against a little poker game?"

"Not on your life. When I left you three months ago, I worked down the Big Four, and while in Olney discovered sixty boxes of Humphrey's pills, each having a two cent rouletted proprietary cataloguing five dollars apiece. The druggist seemed satisfied with an exchange of a dozen porous plasters for the stamps, but I was in a hurry to get my train for St. Louis and only took time to sponge off a half a dozen of them, leaving the balance. Well, I swung around there last week on purpose to get the stamps and found my friend, the druggist, much elated over the fact that while he was out one day lately a fellow came in and bought from the clerk the whole lot of them, paying the full retail price of 50 cents apiece, pills and all."

"By Gorry, that was too bad. Who was it, Gurley?"

"No, it wasn't Gurley. . . . I think it was a chap that travels for a New York cloak house. He is a medicine stamp fiend of the most rabid kind. He skates into drug stores and calls off a list of old medicines and pills, and if the druggist has them, the

stamp, if found in good condition, is worth a great deal more than the article. He then makes an offer for the lot, takes the stamps off and makes the druggist a present of his medicine back again. He got one on me in Decatur last summer in West's drug store, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel. I thought I had swiped everything off of any account, but this fellow found three dozen old porous plasters with the Demas Barnes stamp cataloguing a dollar and a quarter, and bought the old plasters at ten cents each. I therefore think this was the same chap. Anyhow, I am not losing so much. This druggist in Olney took pity on me and dug up a half dozen boxes of M. A. Simmon's pills of luka, Miss., each having a strip of four stamps cataloguing two dollars a stamp, and we swapped even stamps for corn plasters."

In further chats there is a great deal of interesting talk on the subject of U.S.A. Revenues—chats that will make this book worth more than its price to those who have the slightest hankering after this branch of philately.

Some of the stories told of the adventures and mis-adventures of a stamp dealer are well worth retailing. Mr. Robie has "struck" some queer cards and has been struck by some of the same sort in his own office. As thus:

"One day I was in my office at 208, Randolph Street, Chicago, when a 'Gazaba' looking kind of a chap came in, with an air like one whom the world owes a favor for living, and just demanded five dollars for the commonest kind of one and two cent postage stamps and a few odds and ends in envelope stuff, worth at a casual glance about five cents. I offered him fifty cents, so as not to hurt his feelings, and he went away thinking I was a stingy cuss, because his sister got five dollars for one stamp. Well, after he had gone I looked over the stuff, and was about to throw it in the waste basket, when I discovered three wide die, 1853, worth about six dollars each. I will now gladly give my friend the difference desired, four dollars and a half, if he ever shows up again.

"One day a fellow came in with a far-away, vacant look in his eye, and a breath that would bore a hole through Washington Monument. He proved to be a cheap, ten cent customer of mine from a town out in Iowa, and said he was shy five dollars in the necessary railway fare back to spend Thanksgiving with his family. I dug up a five spot and he went away with joy depicted in his countenance and happiness in his gait, saying he would return me the money immediately on his arrival home. I neglected to ask the gentlemen what road he would go over, and possibly he went via the Klondyke, or round by the Cape of Good Hope. Perhaps he meant next Thanksgiving. Anyhow, Doc., my mail up to this time has failed to reveal anything that looks like five dollars from the gentleman. Still, like the little dog with his tail cut short, when the small boy came along with a tin can and string attached, I have something to be thankful for. He might have touched me for ten dollars."

The history of "lucky finds" in Philately would fill a big book. Mr. Robie tells again the well-known episode in which Mr. E. B. Sterling and a New Haven envelope stamp figured, and follows it up with this interesting story:

"Another lucky strike of a rare stamp was made many years ago by Mr. Francis Foster of Boston, who now has a collection of stamps worth thousands of dollars and second to a very few, if any, in New England. While walking along Washington Street one day, he was accosted by a young boy with a Brattleboro local stamp on the original cover, who wanted seventy-five cents for it. In those days the local postmaster stamps were not particularly desired by the few collectors, and he refused to buy it. The boy followed after him and reduced the price to sixty cents, and seemed very much hurt when he again refused it. Turning the next corner Mr. Foster thought that probably the boy was really in distress for the money and that if he favored him this time he might, sooner or later, bring round something good in postage stamps. He turned and whistled for the boy to come back, made him happy with the sixty cents, and to day Doc., five hundred dollars wouldn't buy the stamp from Mr. Foster. It is one of the great rarities of this country."

Some people with whom Mr. Robie has rubbed shoulders have been possessed of queer notions as regards medicine stamps:

"An old German woman living not far from my house came in the other night and said that she had heard that stamps coming on old medicines were valuable. The day before she had received a bottle of some cough syrup through the mail. It took six cents in postage to carry it, and these were her medicine stamps she expected me to buy from her."

Mr. Robie is "real smart," as all good drummers should

\* "Stamp Hunting," by Lewis Robie; published by Donnohue, Henneberry & Co., 407, Dearborn Street, Chicago, U.S.A.; price 50 cents. Copies may be ordered through our publishers, Messrs. Harry Filckes & Co., Ltd., 61, Cheapside London, E.C.

he; but occasionally he has met with somebody quite as smart as himself:

"I was in Cairo, Illinois (he tells us), a few days afterwards and saw in the showcase of the leading drug store a few rather common but desirable stamps, and sprung the 'little boy' whine on the proprietor, and he replied, 'Oh, I am onto you, and your 'little boy' act. You can't roast me as you did the other druggists. I read your ads. in the 'Era,' and I am somewhat of a stamp crank myself.' So you see, Doc., I don't have pie all the time in my travels."

Once Mr. Robie had concluded a satisfactory deal with a store-keeper near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and was just getting away by train when he got a fright that sent a shiver down him. Let him tell the yarn in his own words:

"Well, Doctor, I went through his old stock carefully, and after an hour or two's work, found nearly eighty dollars' worth of stamps, catalogue value. Among other good things were three four cent J. B. Rose on silk. Seven Rumford Chemical Works, unperforated. Five Lyons Manufacturing Company, on pink, and seven ten cent black and green proprietaries. The druggist seemed highly pleased at the trade, and I went away just as happy. I reached the depot and was waiting for the train soon due, hoping in my mind that I could have the same luck in the next town. The train was just coming in, when I looked up the street and was surprised to see my drug friend running toward the depot, frantically waving his hands in the air and yelling for me to wait for him. I surmised at once that he had struck a Scott's catalogue, or someone had informed him of the real value of the stamps and I was to be touched for about ten dollars more, but the unexpected most always happens. He reached me puffing and blowing, just as the train was pulling out, and said: 'I wanted you to get your money's worth. I found three more of those ten cent stamps after you went out.'"

Again:

"At Memphis I was gloriously left in a find that might have netted me sixty dollars. Dr. Shallenberger's fever pills call for a six cent stamp, and I make it a point to ask for this article in almost every drug store I call on, with the hope of finding it stamped. They usually bear a six cent black and green proprietary, but I found ten boxes in this drug store in Memphis, each with a four cent playing card stamp attached. I offered the clerk five dollars for the lot, which he was about to accept when the proprietor got up from his desk, picked up one of the boxes, and jumped in the air as if he had a fit. 'I guess you will give five dollars for stamps like these, worth over one hundred dollars! By the gods, I didn't know these stamps were there, and here I have been collecting stamps and buying them just like these for over fifteen years. I didn't know we had any of these goods with stamps on.'"

"Anyway, Doc., I made a trade with the old fellow by which I didn't lose anything, and he gave me one of the four cent stamps for informing him of his hidden wealth."

Our author tells us of many other "finds," good, bad, and indifferent; and as a fitting conclusion to a good book. Mr. Robie had met an odd character in an old way-back town—a storekeeper who was called "Judge" by everybody because he had once been a Justice of the Peace. Well, the "Judge" spoke of some stamps he had and the drummer almost lost command of his senses on learning that he had 300 of the rare 6 cent "Proprietaries," unused!

"I came by them in this way," says the Judge:

"There's quite a history connected with these stamps. Along in the sixties I was in partnership with a Dr. Hall, and we put a medicine up of our own, called Dr. Hall's fever and ague cure, and priced it \$1.50. There was a good deal of ague and fever in this country in those days, but we soon found out that a dollar and a half was too much to ask for the medicine and we changed the price to a dollar a bottle. I don't know how it was but these three hundred stamps were never used. I suppose Hall got them, and then finding it best to change the price, bought four cent stamps, and in some way these were never exchanged, and have laid there forgotten and unknown all these years. Are they any good now, I wonder?"

"Oh, yes; they are of some value, Judge, but there are so many of them, and all of one kind. I would like to have one of them for my collection, but I hardly know what to offer you for the lot."

"Oh, I give you one; but can't you use them all? What will you give for 'em? They are no use to me now, and you can trade them off round the country."

"Well, what will you take for the bunch?"

"You may have them for what they cost us, six cents apiece eighteen dollars for the lot."

"But that is more money than I can spare; but I'll risk it some way. I'll tell you what I'll do, Judge, I'll pay you fifteen dollars in cash and send you two dozen of Sorg's corn plasters. You can get six dollars for them, and that will really give you more money than your own offer."

"All right, take 'em along."

"Doc., I don't know how I got to my hotel, whether I ran or walked, or swam up the river. I was dazed—I was crazy."

"I should think you would be crazy; but what did you do? Where are the stamps? I won't believe it unless you make me a present of a copy."

"Wait till I get through. I thought it over that night how I could place these to the best advantage, and finally decided I would dispose of the lot in a bunch, and not parcel them out. Acting on that decision I left my samples behind, took the boat to Cairo, Illinois, and boarded the Big Four express for the East, and the third day afterwards reached Boston. I immediately went out to Lynn and hunted up Mr. Howard K. Sanderson, knowing he had the ready resources to buy anything, no matter how much, if he could see a profit in investing. I soon found him, and asked him if he wanted to buy a block of four six cent orange proprietaries."

"Yes; how much do you want for them?"

"I'll sell you three hundred of them, unused, in blocks, for ten thousand dollars spot cash for the lot."

"Yes, I guess you will," he replied. "You nor no one else ever saw three hundred of these stamps in blocks."

"It don't make any difference. I have them just the same. You may not believe it, but here they are."

"Well, Doc., he was as surprised as I was, but did not weep. He might have wept if I had offered them for eighteen dollars, but he took my offer after I had explained how I got them."

"First," he says, "you must make out an affidavit that no one else has seen them, and agree nor to tell anyone or advertise the fact. Your word is good, but your agreement in writing is better."

"All right, I said, 'that's satisfactory.' So we went into Boston, drew up the agreement that I would forever keep the find a secret, etc.; went into the Bowdoin National Bank and in a few minutes he had the stamps, and I had in my fist ten thousand dollars—five one thousand dollar bills, eight five hundred dollar bills, and the rest in one hundreds and fifties. I was then so overcome I felt a change come over the situation. The air seem to thicken. I looked around in alarm and the bank and my money had vanished. I then turned over against the wall and shed tears in earnest, but not from joy and thanksgiving."

"Doc., instead of picking up six cent orange proprietaries in reality, I was trying to pick the knots out of the mattress of your cheap hotel here. I was dreaming, that was all."

## Philately in Brooklyn.

A STAMP-COLLECTING SECTION OF THE INSTITUTE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

DURING the Summer of 1898 the Trustees of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences (an institution established "For the people, by the people") had under consideration an application of the Long Island Philatelic Society to join the Institute. The importance of the study and preservation of postage stamps was laid before the trustees in a clear and concise manner by the members of the Long Island Society, and after a careful examination and thorough discussion of the merits of the subject, the trustees were convinced that Philately is a study of the highest educational value, alike to young and old, and one worthy to be classed with the arts and sciences, and they unanimously decided to form a department to be known as the "Section on Philately."

To commemorate this recognition of Philately as a scientific study by the Brooklyn Institute, the Section on Philately has decided to give a Public Exhibition of Postage and Revenue Stamps, and stamped envelopes, at the Art Rooms of the Institute, 174, Montague Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., from March 18th, to March 31st, 1899.

The Exhibition will be open on week days from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The formal opening of the Exhibition will take place on Saturday Evening, March 18th, 1899, at which only members of the Section and invited guests will be present; all other days and evenings will be open to the public.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Two New Philatelic Journals.

THE *Tri-Monthly Collector* is a strange affair—published three times a month, if you please. We fear that the staff of the *Tri-Monthly Collector* will never know quite were they are. Three journals disappear synchronously with the publication of this new comer—the *Columbian Philatelist*, the *American Collector*, and the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*. They were good papers all, well edited and well produced; and if the *Tri-Monthly Collector*, of New Oxford, Pennsylvania, is to represent the concentrated essence of these three it will have to be good indeed. To say truth, we find no great promise in the first number, which is too scrappy; but then it is an axiom of journalism that "first numbers don't count." With Mr. J. F. Dodge at the helm the *Tri-Monthly Collector* will probably deserve, and possibly command, success.

From Ghent comes *La Propagande Philatèlique*, a new venture by Mons. Alb. Facon. This is a sixteen-page affair devoted entirely to advertisements.

## An Old Paper in New Hands.

New brooms are at work on the *Eastern Philatelist*, the second oldest philatelic magazine in America. Messrs. B. L. Drew & Co., Boston, the new publishers, and Mr. Edmund L. Smiley, the new editor, should make things "hum" between them. The *Eastern Philatelist* has always been in the van, and will keep its place.

## Truth about the High Value "State" Departmentals.

Constant readers will remember a reference in the FORTNIGHTLY to an attempt on the part of Messrs. Sellschop & Co., publishers of *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*, to get at the truth as to the numbers really in existence of the high value "State" Departmentals. The results are now published as follows:

Our publishers (says *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*) were all the time of the opinion that the statement of John Kerr Tiffany and other writers accepted as authority that the issue of the \$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00 U.S. Department of States consisted only of 367 copies of each stamp was of rather doubtful value. If really this small number of stamps should have been printed it would be exceedingly peculiar to notice the immense expansion of these stamps, the same being frequently met with at auction sales, advertisements of dealers, and known to exist in great many private collections. As early as May, 1897, an article to this effect was published in these columns for the purpose to locate as many of these stamps as possible. The article appeared at a rather unfortunate time just at the beginning of the indifferent stamp season. Nevertheless inside of two months we were able to locate over 90, or fully one quarter of the \$20.00 stamps and proportionately large numbers of the other values. We now beg to thank all our friends who have helped us to find out this much, but great deal more thanks is due to Mr. John N. Luff of New York for his indefatigable researches in this branch of philately. By the same Mr. Luff is now enabled to give the exact number of the higher value State Department, and in fact of most all other departments ever accounted for by the post office department. These accounts for the year ending Dec. 31, 1873, comprise 700 each of the \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00 and \$20.00 State. This first instalment is already more than Tiffany's total; 1874 adds 1,880, \$2.00 stamps, while in 1875 the numbers are given 1,980, \$2.00; 1870, \$5.00; 1,930, \$10.00; 1,940, \$20.00. In 1876 no more of the high values State Department are accounted for, and it is probable that 1875 was the last year of their issue. Taking this for granted we have in all 4,480 \$2.00; 2,570, \$5.00; 2,630, \$10.00; 2,640, \$20.00, a result which is certainly more probable than the ridiculously low figure given in former accounts and which at the same time may throw some new light on the proportionate valuation of these certainly much coveted stamps.

## "Pearson's Weekly" on the Gumpap.

In a column of *Pearson's Weekly* specially devoted to "Growls," we find the following:

J. M. T. finds reason to growl in the matter of British postage stamps. He points out that while the greatest nation in the world possesses the ugliest postage stamps, a miserable little republic like Liberia enjoys some of the most handsome.

We are a terribly practical nation, and this is again emphasised by the absence of a special issue of stamps to celebrate the introduction of Imperial penny postage. In Portugal or in some South American republic, if they have a specially remarkable bull fight or horse race, if anything happens to excite the public comment, a new stamp is immediately issued to commemorate the event. At the same time, I do not advocate this sort of thing. So long as the slip of gummed paper, for which you pay is sufficient to guarantee the article it adorns a sure and rapid delivery, its mission is fulfilled.

## Union Jack, or Queen's Head?

Imperial penny postage (says a writer in the *People*) needs to be supplemented by a new postage stamp, of distinctly Imperial design, for use throughout the Empire. It is suggested in some quarters that the Union Jack would make a good pattern. So it would; if neatly coloured, a prettier design could hardly be conceived. But how about the displacement of the Queen's head? That would go dead against the grain of British sentiment. One way out of the difficulty would be to place the Jack beneath the Royal effigy, but the æsthetic effect would hardly be pleasing.

## Other Journals briefly Noticed.

*L'Annonce Timbrologique* (Brussels), although one of the pleasantest papers to read is one of the most difficult to quote from, its contents consisting for the most part being gossipy pars on topics of more or less ephemeral interest. We gather from the last issue to hand that the journal has been adopted as the official organ of the Philatelic Press Club of Antwerp. Congratulations to its Editor, Mons. Armand Dethier.

"The only Greek stamp journal"—that is one of *Le Timbrophile Athenien's* claims to our attention. The others are not very conspicuous.

With its issue for December, 1898, *La Revue Postale*, of Geneva, brings its first year to a close. Dr. Legendre is writing herein on stamp colours, and Mons. Flandrin on the rarest stamps.

*Le Moniteur du Collectionneur* (Luxembourg), is valuable for its frequent and useful notes on Forgeries.

Mons. Arthur Manry contrives to fill his *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* every month with varied philatelic matter, mostly good.

*Revue Philatèlique*, Paris, brings us month by month the latest news concerning the preparations for the big Philatelic Exhibition in 1900. A most artistic cover design for the prospectus of that Exhibition, the work of Mons. Abel Trichet, a medallist of the Salon, is reproduced as a supplement to a recent issue of our excellent contemporary.

A valuable contribution to the subject of the types of French 10c. stamp appears in *L'Echo de la Timbrologie*, over the signature of Mons. F. Marconnet.

In the *Mitteldeutsche Philatelisten Zeitung* we find a further valuable paper on Bavarian varieties, to which we may make more extensive allusion in some future number.

"Prosit Neujahr!" says the *Berliner Briefmarken Zeitung* in big type in its issue dated December 31st; and we wish the *B.B.Z.* the same and many of them.

The *Junior Stamp Collector* publishes a very good opening number for the year 1899.

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List of Stamps suitable  
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 \*BRITISH BECHUANALAND on English, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/-  
 \* " " on Cape, 1d. reading downwards.  
 \* " " " 2d. reading downwards.  
 \* " " " 2d. reading upwards.  
 \* " " " 3d. lilac.  
 \* " " " 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- green.  
 \*BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA, 1d. on 3/-  
 \* " " " 1d., embossed perf.  
 \* " " " 1d., embossed perf.  
 \*BRITISH EAST AFRICA on India.  
 \*BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 1891 issue, ½d. to 20/-  
 \* " " " 1896 issue, ½d. to 20/-  
 \*CANADA, 1868 issue.  
 \* " 1897 (maple leaf).  
 \*CYPRUS, 1882, ½ to 12 piastres.  
 \*GAMBIA, 1887, all values in various shades.  
 \*GIBRALTAR, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas.  
 \*GOLD COAST, 1884, ½d. to 2/-  
 \*GRENADA, 1883, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d. and 6d.  
 \*JAMAICA, 1883, ½d. to 2/-  
 \*MALTA, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*NATAL, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*NEWFOUNDLAND, 1862, 4d., 6d. and 1/-, in sheets of 20.  
 \* " 1887 to 1890, ½c. to 24c.  
 \*NIGER COAST, 1893, ½d. to 1/-  
 \* " " 1894, ½d. to 1/-  
 \* " " 1898, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*ST. HELENA, 1884, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*ST. VINCENT, 1885, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*SIERRA LEONE, 1884, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*SEYCHELLES, 1890, 2c. to 48c.  
 \*TOBAGO, 1885, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*TRINIDAD, 1883, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*TURKS ISLAND, 1882, 1d., 6d., 1/-  
 \*ZANZIBAR on India, all values.  
 \*ZULULAND, 1888, ½d. to 5/-  
 \* " 1894, ½d. to 4/-

The stamps marked \* are obsolete, the remainder owing to the introduction of the bi-colour series will shortly become so, and all are certain to increase in value in the near future.

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The arrangement of the countries is in strictly alphabetical order, but the most important feature is that . . .

### *The Correct Value of Every Stamp is Given,*

either used or unused, or both. There are no blanks in this catalogue, which is intended as a Collector's Guide to the value of stamps, and not as a mere dealer's price list.

The type used is large, clear and easily readable.

### SPECIAL TERMS TO THE TRADE.

**WHITFIELD KING & CO., IPSWICH**

## Concerning Stamp Auctions.

PERHAPS you meditate disposing of your Collection or Duplicates by Auction. You naturally wish to sell in the best market. Many will tell you London is the place; before deciding however, see what claim Glasgow has. The following few arguments are advanced for your careful consideration.

1. **Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.**

2. **London has many Stamp Auctioneers, Glasgow has only one.**

3. The Sales introduced and conducted by me during last season were most successful, and it is a **positive fact** that better prices were obtained at them for Rare and Medium Stamps than at any other Auction Mart in the Kingdom. Should you doubt this statement write for priced catalogues and other convincing evidence, which will be instantly furnished.

4. Having been in the Stamp business for a considerable number of years, I am well-known and in touch with most of the principal Scottish collectors. My register contains the names of **hundreds of Collectors** resident in Glasgow, **Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c.**, to whom sell catalogues are regularly despatched; consequently the sales are **particularly well attended**. Besides, a large number of catalogues are despatched to England and the Continent, and the number of commissions received is very considerable. The attendance at every Sale held during the present Season has **exceeded 50**.

5. **Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite often enough.**

6. **The Lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.**

7. **Commission charges are extremely moderate.**

Next Sale takes place on Saturday, 18th inst., following one middle of March. Lots for inclusion should be sent in immediately.

ROBERT S. GRAY, Auctioneer,

106-125] 213, West Campbell Street, GLASGOW.

# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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

1899.—FEBRUARY 16th and 17th; MARCH 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th; APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

*By Order of the Receiver.*—February 16th and 17th.—MESSRS. VENTOM BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell on these dates the first portion of a Very Fine Collection, including most of the well-known rarities: GREAT BRITAIN, 1d. black V.R., a fine unused horizontal pair, wmk. Maltese Cross, 10s. grey-green, and £1 brown-lilac in mint state, 2s. brown, a mint pair, wmk. 3 orbs £1, and wmk. 3 Crowns £1, both mint; SPAIN, 2 reales of 1851 and 1853 unused, 1852 and 1853 used, Madrid, 1 and 3 cuartos unused; SWITZERLAND, the Basle-unused, double Geneva, Neufchatel unused, Zurich, 4 rappen, the two types; FRANCE, 1 franc vermilion unused and used; MOLDAVIA, 54 paras used on piece; TUSCANY, 2 soldi, 60 crazie, 3 lire and 8oc. (unused); CEYLON, 1s. imperf. unused, 1s. 9d., green unused and used, 1s. 9d. green, perf'd., 8d. yellow and 8d. brown wmk. star, perf'd. and both unused; INDIA, long service, 8as. in mint state; CAPE OF GOOD HOPE Errors, 1d. blue and 4d. red and other fine wood blocks; MAURITIUS, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d. very fine and Large Fillet, 1s. Envelope stamp cut out with large margins; 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. Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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APPROVAL SHEETS. Priced from ½d. to 6d. each 25% discount	... ..	} Off our New Catalogue Prices.
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MAKE THE SALE OF

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

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on March 7th and 8th, and will consist of

**A FINE SELECTION OF STAMPS.**

**FOLLOWING SALES.**

1899.—March 21st and 22nd.

April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th.

May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st.

June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**6** OWING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

**LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.**

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

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**ESTABLISHED 1794.**

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Value.	Complete.	Our Price	s.	d.
3d. red	.. .. .	15	6	0
1d. red	.. .. .	151	10	6
1 1/2d. red	.. .. .	2	0	3
2d. blue	.. .. .	7	0	9
2 1/2d. lilac-rose	.. .. .	18	7	0
2 1/2d. blue	.. .. .	7	1	0
3d. rose	.. .. .	20	7	6
4d. orange	.. .. .	10	2	6
6d. violet	.. .. .	8	3	3
6d. grey	.. .. .	8	5	0
1/- green	.. .. .	13	9	0

The 11 Sets for 50/-  
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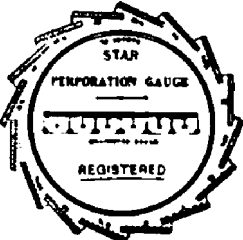
**WILLIAM STAMP COMPANY,**  
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250 Genuine Stamps, all different, 1/4 post free. Approval selections much below Catalogue Prices. Stamps bought in small or large quantities. Foreign wholesale consignments respectfully requested. Wholesale Price List on application. [118]

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THE only single set of Gauges that can be inserted under the side, as well as at the bottom of stamp, when hinged.  
 Price 6d. each.  
 3 for 1/3.

**JAMES BENNETT,**  
 Dealer in Foreign and Colonial Stamps,  
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**STAMP COLLECTORS' ALMANAC, 1899.**  
 Issued December 15th. 2 1/2d. Post Free.  
 Useful information for Beginners & Advanced Collectors. Bright and Chatty Paragraphs. Lists of New Issues, &c.  
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30 diff. guine used Salvador	.. .. .	2/-
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7 " United States, Omaha, 1c—50c.	.. .. .	2/-
11 " " " Columbus, 1c.—50c.	.. .. .	4/-

U.S. 50c., 1893, 1895, 1898 and unpaid at Wholesale.  
**W. SELLSCHOPP & Co.,** 118, STOCKTON ST.,  
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**Senf's Postage Stamp Album**  
 Is the best in the World.  
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 Which have appeared in the "S.C.F." can be hired from the Publishers at the rate of 1/- per block, or bought outright at the rate of 1/6 or 3/- per block. Address—  
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"**Filatello Facts and Fallacies,**"  
 The often quoted Monthly from the Pacific Coast  
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 The best Weekly Stamp Paper.  
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 All other Countries, 75c. per annum, post free.  
 All the news and valuable advertisements of all live dealers.  
 The J. W. SCOTT Co., Ltd., [127]  
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**PRICE LIST of Stamps, separately, and in Sets,**  
**Free on Application.**  
**Cheapest Out. Many Bargains.**

**J. H. TELFER,**  
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 [105 130]

**LINCOLN STAMP CATALOGUE. . . .**  
 NEW EDITION. Priced and Illustrated.  
 Most complete and useful Catalogue ever published, over 3,800 Illustrations.  
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 Retail or Wholesale List free on application.  
 Approval Selections sent to responsible applicants.  
 Large Stock of Rare Stamps.  
 Inspection cordially invited.  
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 1882-86 (Gibbons' type 9 and 10),  
 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- and 20/-, the set of 5 for 4/9 Post Office Order.  
 Dealers and Collectors write for my New Price Lists of Cheap Sets, &c.  
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**OLD POSTAGE STAMPS WANTED.**  
**BLUETT'S STAMP SHOP,** BILLITER SQUARE, LONDON, E.C., is the best place to sell collections or loose lots. A high price paid for collections containing old triangular Capes, pence issue Ceylon, old West Indian, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000, cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

**Inch Space. . .**  
 12 insertions .. .. . £1.  
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The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City.

**J. LOUIS,**  
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 (CORNER OF UNION COURT). [118]

200 Genuine Stamps, all different, post free, 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

100 vars. British Colonials, adhesives only, 2/-; 10 pkts., 17/6; 500 vars. Foreign and Colonial, 3/6; 1000 ditto, 12/-; 6 Hayti, 5d. per set; 12 sets, 3/6.

**H. ROSS-SHIELLS & CO.,**  
 75, Little Britain, London, E.C.  
 121-116] Two minutes from G.P.O.

**HUBERT BUCKLEY,**  
 CHRISTIANIA,  
 PAYS GOOD PRICES for Unused Sweden, 1858, and other issues.  
 Kindly send selections. [117]

**The CITY STAMP EXCHANGE,**  
 18 and 20, Cheapside, London, E.C.  
 Collections and Loose Stamps purchased for Cash. Selections sent on Approval on receipt of deposit or satisfactory references.  
 Agents Wanted in the Provinces and Abroad.  
 Wholesale Consignments from Abroad particularly requested. [121]

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**  
 We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:  
 One to three stamps .. .. . 6d.  
 Each additional specimen .. .. . 2d.  
 Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.  
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 [In return for Colonial Stamps, catalogued at 1/- or over; we offer in exchange, Native Indian States' Stamps, to full catalogue value, by latest Gibbons. Satisfaction Guaranteed. No rubbish wanted at any price. For Sale, the rare 9 pira carmine, Gwalior, 1 1/2 mms., surcharge, price 20/- cash (only 830 ever issued).  
 B. GORDON JONES,  
 Calcutta Philatelic Co., 62-1, Bentinck Street, Calcutta.  
 Reference: Messrs. Hilckes & Co. 112]

**Lincoln Album.**



LINCOLN POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM and Descriptive Catalogue, with useful Geographical and Historical Notes (eleventh edition). Containing Atlas of 16 coloured maps, with spaces to hold over 6,500 Stamps, and giving the dates and colours of every stamp.  
 Cloth, 5/-; post free, 5 1/2s.  
 A new list of 800 cheap sets with over 680 small pictures sent post free Two pence.  
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**I WISH TO BUY—**

**PROOFS AND ESSAYS OF STAMPS AND ENTIRES, ALSO FORGERIES AND REPRINTS.**

Collections of LOCAL STAMPS—TELEGRAPH STAMPS.

Stamps with Surcharge : "Specimen" "Muestra" "Saggio"

VARIETIES. CURIOSITIES. OFFICIAL WORKS ON POSTAL HISTORY.

STAMPS IN ENTIRE SHEETS, SPECIALLY THOSE SHOWING A VARIETY OF TYPES.

RARE RUSSIAN RURAL STAMPS.

ALWAYS BUYER OF ENTIRE COLLECTIONS EVEN FOR STAMPS  
SINCE 1890 (UNUSED)

**NEW ISSUES.**



**NEW ISSUES.**

Price Lists of Stamps, Sets, Packets, Albums, post free on application.

SPECIALITY: OLD GERMAN ENTIRES

**PHILIPP KOSACK, BERLIN.**

105-134

## W. B. KIRKPATRICK

Closeburn, Bournemouth,

SEND FOR . . .

THE "1899 POPULAR"

# Price List.

IT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY. POST FREE.

A FEW CHEAP LINES:

	s.	d.
Canada, 6d. purple black, imp. wove. five .. ..	18	0
" 10d. deep blue .. ..	27	6
" 1897, Jubilee, ½c. black .. ..	2	6
" " " 1c., 2c. and 3c., 3 for .. ..	0	5
" 1898, maple leaf set, 8, ½c to 10c. .. ..	1	6
" " figure issue, 1c., 2c. and 3c. .. ..	0	3

117-116]

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**FEBRUARY £5 PRIZE COMPETITION.**

This is our Ninth Monthly Competition, and the prize has been won and paid every month except the first (June, 1898).

It costs you a shilling to try, for this you get a chance of the prize and our February packet of 35 different stamps, containing: British South Africa, 2d. large square; India, 1898, Provisional, ½ on ½-anna; Kashmir, used; Br. Guiana; Iceland; Levant (British) 80 par, on 5d.; Ceylon; Hong Kong; New Zealand, 3d. yellow; Canada, Jubilee; Ecuador; Finland; Orange Free State; Travancore, ¾ch. violet, etc., etc. This is a splendid packet and, the Competition apart, will give great satisfaction.

*How to Compete:* On receipt of the packet you will find that it contains 35 stamps, from 35 different countries. Take the 35 initials of these countries and, without using any of them twice, try and construct the name of a certain well-known Novel written by an English novelist—we do not say whether living or dead. Write the name you think to be the right one on the envelope in which you receive the packet, and post to us to reach us not later than February 28th.

*Note.*—The name of the novelist can be made up from among the initials left over after the name of his novel has been formed. But we only want the name of the novel.

We will give the £5 prize to the sender of the correct name of the novel, or, if more than one are correct, the £5 will be equally divided. The Prize will be paid in cash on or before March 6th.

**Result of 8th Competition:**

This time the prize was divided between the following three ladies: Miss Bates, 1den Parsonage, Playden, Sussex; Miss Hoblyn, 481, New Chester Rd., Rock Ferry, Cheshire; Mrs. Ellis, 41, Willbury Rd., West Brighton, to each of whom we have sent £1 13s. 4d. (½ share in £5). The correct name was "Beaconsfield." The name of the novel "Lothair" could be made up from the remaining letters.

PHIL ATTERLEY & Co., 28, Radipole Road, Fulham, London, S.W. [111-116]

**Messrs. OSTARA & DARLOW**

Beg to announce that

**Their NEXT SALE**

WILL BE HELD AT THE

**Grand Hotel,**

MANCHESTER,

On WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY,

February 8th & 9th,

At 6.30 o'clock each Evening.

The First Day's Sale will consist solely of GREAT BRITAIN AND COLONIES, being the Collection of the late LIEUTENANT LEECH, a prominent Manchester Collector, and will be entirely without reserve. The Collection contains a very large number of good stamps, for particulars see catalogues.

The Lots for the Second Day's Sale will include a very fine collection of U.S.A. (to be sold in its entirety), good CAPES, HAMBURGS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, &c., and 70 Lots of Unused BRITISH COLONIALS in blocks and pairs, and all mint.

The Stamps will be on view and Catalogues may be obtained on the 1st and 2nd February, at 3, Livery Street, Birmingham, on the 3rd and 4th February, at 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool, and on the 6th and 7th February, at 18, Piccadilly, Manchester.

All communications must be addressed:—

**OSTARA & DARLOW,**  
111-116] Stamp Auctioneers,  
**18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.**

**ISAAC CANSINO,**

45a, MARKET STREET,

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**Offers . . .**

	s.	d.
Bahamas, £1	10	0
British East Africa, 4 annas on fivepence used on piece	27	6
B.S.A., ½ on 6d used	10	0
Ceylon, 9d. imperf. magnificent used copy	70	0
Heligoland, 1 and 5 marks, mint	21	0
Nevis, 1d. lilac, grey used	40	0
.. ½, 1, 2½, 4, 6, mint	15	0
Saint Lucia, ½ on half of sixpence used, pair	7	6
Trinidad, C.C., 12½ 5 - mint pair	50	0
Virgin Islands, 2½ brown used	21	0

[105-122]

JUST OUT.

**BRIGHT'S**

(COMPLETE) CATALOGUE

Post Free, 2/6

**GIBBONS'**

CATALOGUE

(BRITISH EMPIRE ONLY)

Post Free, 2/3

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64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.

**UNITED STATES WAR TAX STAMPS.**

	s.	d.
1c. blue (battleship) rouletted, used	0	1
2c. red " " " "	0	1
3c. blue " " " "	0	2
4c. pink " " " "	0	1
5c. lilac " " " "	0	1
10c. brown " " " "	0	1
25c. purple " " " "	0	4
50c. lilac " " " "	0	6
½c. orange (rare) roul. unused	0	9
1 dollar, green (Justice), roul. used	0	4
2 " lilac " " " "	2	0
5 " orange " " " "	7	6
5 " red and blue, provl. " "	10	0

**WALTER MORLEY,**  
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**SPECIAL OFFERS.**

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B.C.A., 1897, 2d. used and very fine	1	0
" 4d. " " " "	1	3
" 1d. on 3/- " " " "	1	6
Gambia, 1887, 1/- " " " "	2	3
Gold Coast, 1/- violet, mint	1	6
" 1/- red-violet (rare shade) mint	2	6
Labuan, 1892, Engraved Set, mint	8	0
U.S., 1895, 2 dollars blue, used and fine	6	0
" Omaha, 1 dollar " " " "	2	6
" " 2 dollars, very fine	7	0

Cash with order, Postage extra. Returnable if unsatisfactory.

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**SOME GENUINE OFFERS.**

	s.	d.
Nova Scotia, 1d. fine used	30	0
Heligoland, 1-2 set, rouletted, unused	30	0
Jamaica, 2/- CC., unused, mint	1	0
Gambia, 5/- " " " "	12	0
Gambia, CC., ½d., 1d., and 2d. . . . . 3 for	5	0
" " 3d. unused mint	3	9
" " 1d. used, very fine	5	0
" " 1d. " " " "	10	0
B.E.A., set of 6, surcharged on Zanzibar	40	0

And many others, particulars free. Special attention given to Want Lists and no efforts spared to do business if possible.

**CHAS. J. SMITH,** [97-122]  
Upper Park Road, Kingston Hill, Surrey

**BARGAINS.**

	s.	d.
Nevis, 1/-, CA, lilac, mint	25	0
St. Vincent, 1d., yellow, no watermark used	30	0
Nova Scotia, 5 cents, mint	10	0
Newfoundland, 5 cents, Beaver, black, used	7	6
United States, 1869, 24 cents	9	0
Victoria, 1850, 1d. red	2	0

Finest variety of Rare and Medium Stamps. [104 123] . . . . Approval against Reference.

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**RAILWAY LETTER STAMPS.**

COMMON OR RARE.

Small or Large Quantities.

HIGH PRICES PAID.

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[103-122].

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 115—Vol. V.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1899.
ONE PENNY.

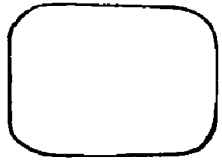
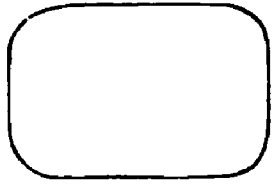
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- Bristol Philatelic Society.
Cambridge University Philatello Society.
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ARE AGAIN IN STOCK.

OUR special strong grease-proof Paper coated with TWO layers of *pure gum arabic* which contains *no chemicals of any kind*, thus ensuring immunity from damage to the delicate colors of some stamps. THEY ARE NOT THE CHEAPEST, BUT THEY ARE THE BEST

		<i>Prices :</i>	<i>Post Free.</i>
Size A.		PACKED IN BOXES ON 1000 Ditto . . . . .	<i>With our name on each mount</i> <b>1/3</b>
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In Books of 16 leaves, each leaf divided into 16 Mounts, by perforated lines—256 in all. *With our name* . . . . . post free, each, 3d. or 4 for **1/=**  
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CASH WITH ORDER.      SAMPLES FREE ON APPLICATION.

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E.C.

*Doings of Societies.*

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*President:* Mr. P. I. LLOYD.

*Vice-President:* Mr. F. E. ELLISON.

*Committee:*

MESSRS. A. BIRD, N. G. HBAVEN, D. H. MCPHERSON, and I. H. REYNOLDS.

*Hon. Sec. and Treas.:* Mr. R. DALTON, 30, Carnarvon Road, Redland.

*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. T. C. CARTWRIGHT, 17, York Crescent Road, Clifton.

*Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary:* Mr. J. P. WAY, 31, Manor Road, Redland.

A MEETING of this Society was held on Thursday evening, the 2nd inst., the Vice-President being in the chair. The subject for display was "British Africa." Mr. Reynolds was the chief exhibitor of a very nice collection, in which some sections were complete in each issue.

Mr. T. C. Cartwright drew attention to the variation in the present 1d. Letter Card, the quality and colour of paper, and also of printing being different to that of last year's issue, and the broken line and dot in frame have been restored. At the next meeting on Feb. 16th, the subject will be "New Zealand," and as some of the members are specialists in the Australian Colonies, a fine display may be anticipated.

**COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.**

THIRTY-FOURTH Meeting of the Governors held at the Club House, Jan. 9th, 1899. Present: President Thorne, Dr. Stebbins, Mr. Scott and the Secretary.

The following committee were appointed in accordance with Sec. 14 of the By-Laws.

**EXECUTIVE:** H. L. Calman, *Chairman.*  
J. O. Hobby.  
J. W. George.

**HOUSE:** J. H. Stebbins, Jr., *Chairman.*  
Rob. A. McKim.  
J. N. Luff.  
A. Perrin.  
W. S. Scott.

**AMUSEMENTS:** John N. Luff, *Chairman.*  
P. F. Bruner.  
G. E. Jones.  
W. Knudson.  
John W. Scott.

**AUDITING:** P. F. Bruner, *Chairman.*  
Henry Clotz.  
A. Davison.

**LITERARY:** H. E. Deats, *Chairman.*  
J. J. Casey.  
J. S. Rich.

**MEMBERSHIP:** A. Perrin, *Chairman.*  
J. C. Morgenthau.  
J. S. Rich.  
H. Clotz.  
H. N. Terrett.

The Treasurer's report showing balance in bank of \$535.55 exclusive of U. S. bonds, was then approved.

J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary,*  
351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

**HILCKES' ENQUIRY BUREAU.**

Annual Subscription	...	2/6
Home Enquiries	...	1/6
Continental Enquiries	...	2/-
Rest of the World	...	Special rates.

Write for full particulars—

"Manager," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**Occasional Offer No. 1**

	Antigua.	New.	Used.
1879	4d. blue, CC.		2.—
1882	2½d. red-brown, CA.		2.—
	4d. blue, CA.		2.—
1884	4d. red-brown	1.—	
	1 sh. lilac	17 50	
	Barbados.		
1882	4d. grey	15.—	
	3d. lilac	1.—	
	6d. sepia	3.50	
	1 sh. red-brown	2.50	
	5 sh. olive	22.—	22.—
1892	8d. yellow and blue	1.—	
	Bermuda.		
	1 sh. green, pf. 12½ × 14	2.—	
	Brit. Bechuanaland.		
1887-89	2 sh. green	10.—	
	2 ,, 6p. green	10.—	
	5 ,, green	15.—	
1892-94	6d. lilac and red	1.75	
	1 sh. green	4.—	
	Br. Honduras.		
1865	1 penny blue	4.—	
1872	1 sh. green, CC. 14	10.—	
1882-87	1 p. blue, CA. 14	8.—	
	6d. yellow	70.—	
	1s. grey	60.—	
1889	2 cts. black	1.50	
	Cyprus.		
1880	4d. olive	2.70	
	6d. grey-black	20.—	
	1 sh. green	35.—	
	Gibraltar.		
1886	½ penny green	—50	2.—
	1 ,, rose	—75	1.—
	2d. violet-brown	6.50	10.—
	2½d. ultramarine	6.50	
	4d. red-brown	10.—	
	6d. violet	17.—	
	1 sh. light-brown	60.—	
1886-87	2 pence brown	1.50	
	2½ ,, blue	1.—	
	4 ,, red-brown	5.—	
	6 ,, violet	8.50	
	1 sh. light brown	25.—	25.—
1889	25c. on 2½ penny	1.20	
	40c. ,, 4 ,,	3.20	
	50c. ,, 6 ,,	3.75	
	75c. ,, 1 shilling	5.—	
1889-90	75c. reseda	3.—	
	2 peseta light brown	5.—	
	5 ,, slate-blue	7.—	
1895	1 ,, light brown		
	and blue	1.20	
1898	2 ,, black and		
	carmine	2.—	
	Lagos.		
1885-86	1sh. orange	4.—	
	1osh. heavily cancl.	200.—	
	Newfoundland.		
1860	3d. green	4.—	
1857	8d. brick	17.50	
1862	4d. brown-rose	2.—	
	8d. brown-rose	6.50	
1866	2c. green	2.—	2.—

I beg to state that the above Stamps are all unexceptional, the unused Stamps have nearly always o.g.

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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 ¼d. for every word,— Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

ENTIRE Postcards, Envelopes, &c. Cheap Packet List from BEN WEBSTER, 15, Paultons Square, London, S.W. 110-115

COLLECTORS and Dealers should not fail to inspect my Approval Books which contain a superb lot of British, British Colonial and European Stamps. Exceptionally low prices.—J. NEWLAND, 5, Little Trinity Lane, City. 1120

40 to 50 per cent. below Catalogue. Selections of Good Stamps on approval.—D. ROTBERG, 111, London Wall, E.C. 1116

COLONIALS at 50 per cent. off 1899. catalogue (Gibbons's), 13, Brewer St., Victoria Station. 1115

A1 SELECTIONS. British Colonials, old European, UNITED STATES, South American, English, etc., medium and rare, 40-60 per cent. below catalogue, discount extra.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 30, Richmond Gardens, Coldhawk Road, W. 1117

NATIVE STATES STAMPS exchanged or sold. Cheapest list.—A. MILLER, Entally, Calcutta. 1115

TO COLLECTORS.—The Otterdale Exchange Club. Members wanted to complete a section, no dealers. Blank approval sheet Rules and full particulars of the Secretary, G. H. DANNATT, Lyndale, Blackheath, S.E.

APPROVAL Sheets of Stamps from 1d. Grand Value. Deposit or Reference.—WRESCOTT, 11, Dalkeith, Ilford.

BREAKING Large General Collection, suitable for advanced, medium and beginners. Half catalogue sheets on approval.—PEERE, Greave's Villa, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

GENUINE Drawing, 55 Prizes, Cat.: £20. Chance for every 27 worth Stamps sent for.—23, Leicester Street, Southport. 1115-117

ENTIRE PANE (240) 1d. red, plate 137, slightly soiled, price £6 10s.—catalogued at £30, also a number of mint copies of 1d. red, various plate numbers, from 50 to 75 per cent. off catalogue.—PRIVATE COLLECTOR, 73, Whiteladies' Road, Bristol.

WANTED Immediately.—Mixed Lots, present issue English, to go through for postmarks, especially 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10d. stamps.—Reply with full particulars to E. HERRINGTOWN, Woodfield, Rochdale.

MIDLAND COUNTIES STAMP EXCHANGE SOCIETY. Collectors invited to join above. References.—Secretary, W. E. BARKER, 83, Wood Road, Hillsboro, Sheffield.

60 STAMPS from 50 different Countries for 1/- Satisfaction guaranteed.—DEFIANCE STAMP CO., 11, Dalkeith, Ilford.



# 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

- |                                    |  |                                       |
|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Liverpool Philatelic Society.  | Bristol Philatelic Society.              | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society. |
| The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.  | Roohdale Philatelic Society.             | Sheffield Philatelic Society.         |
| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

No. 115 — Vol. V.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

U.S.A. "PERIODICALS" AT £1 A SET.

THE Washington correspondents of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* and the *Metropolitan Philatelist* agree in stating that the price at which the remainders of the U.S.A. newspaper and periodical stamps will be sold to the public will be \$5 per set. Mr. J. M. Bartels says that this course has been "practically" decided upon, but the *Era* correspondent says positively that the question is settled, and adds that his information comes direct from General Merritt himself.

A PHILIPPINE STAMP WHICH IS PROBABLY BOCUS.

HERE is a new Philippine Islands stamp, as illustrated by Mons. Arthur Maury, in his journal, *Le Collectionneur des Timbres-Poste*. But, as Mons. Maury asks, who has issued it? Certainly not the Americans; probably not the "Filipinos." All the evidence points to this label being a bogey and we advise collectors to leave it severely alone. The letter "K" appearing on each side of the triangle baffles us altogether; possibly this is the artistic effort of a designer, who, like nature, abhors a vacuum.



The "stamp" illustrated here is badly lithographed; its colour is red. We gather that two telegraph stamps of similar design have made their appearance. The one is 2 cents violet; the other, 50 cents blue.

TOTAL QUANTITIES OF THE OMAHA ISSUE.

WRITING from Washington under date January 17th, Mr. J. M. Bartels gives the *Metropolitan Philatelist* the following information:—

The entire supply of Omaha stamps has been turned over to the post office department by the Bureau, the last remainder being sent last Saturday. It is quite a surprise to see what a quantity of some of the denominations were printed, especially of the 50c., \$1 and \$2. It is understood that the post office has distributed this supply among the larger offices in the country, with the order to use them up before ordering any other stamps of same denominations. The following figures will show the total number of each value delivered since the beginning:

1c.	70,938,700
2c.	159,453,300
4c.	4,918,200
5c.	7,690,780
8c.	2,923,900
10c.	4,624,360
50c.	530,180
\$1	56,790
\$2	56,080

251,192,290

As the old gentleman once asked about the pins, where on earth do they all go to?

PHILATELISTS OFF TO EXPLOIT CUBA.

UNDER date Jan. 10th, the *Metropolitan Philatelist's* Washington correspondent records the departure for Cuba of three philatelists—Messrs. E. B. Power, E. E. Parker, and A. C. Townsend. Why they are going to Cuba does not appear, but probably it is for a combination of philatelic business and philatelic research. "It seems," Mr. Bartels adds, "as if they were overdoing a good thing."

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A STAMP DEALER.

AT the Thames Police Court, London, on Monday February 6th, before Mr. Frederick Mead, (magistrate), Mr. Joseph Norris, engineer, Bow, and Mr. Gaedecheus, (of the firm of Messrs. Gaedecheus & Co., foreign stamp dealers, Clapham, London) were summoned at the instance of the incorporated Law Society, (for whom Mr. Humphreys, solicitor, Holborn Viaduct appeared) for offences under the Solicitors Act. Norris was charged with unlawfully pretending to be a solicitor, whilst Gaedecheus was charged with aiding and abetting him. Norris pleaded guilty, and in extenuation of the offences stated that he wrote the letter at the instigation of Messrs. Gaedecheus. From the evidence it appeared that

in November, 1898, the Standard Foreign Stamp Association, Tenby, South Wales, (between whom and Messrs. Gaedecheus there existed a dispute) received a letter from Norris demanding a remittance and a fee of 6s. 8d. This letter, together with a subsequent one from Messrs. Gaedecheus, was forwarded to the Incorporated Law Society, who took proceedings. Upon the case against Norris being heard, he was called as a witness against Gaedecheus, and stated that he wrote the letter from a copy given to him by Messrs. Gaedecheus, for whom some time ago, according to his solicitor's statement, he backed a bill for £20, and had to pay it when it fell due. There was a balance of £18 due to him, and he wrote to the firm mentioned hoping that if the amount alleged to be due to them was forthcoming it would go towards the further liquidation of the debt. Mr. Mead fined Norris 7s. and 2s. costs, and Gaedecheus £3 and £3 costs, or in default of distress 14 days imprisonment.

#### SOME OF OUR MINOR CATALOGUES.

It has frequently occurred to us that the price lists issued from time to time by stamp dealers at home and abroad are worthy of greater notice than they at present receive. When a new catalogue appears columns are written; a new price list is received in stony silence. Strange, is it not? And it becomes stranger when one remembers that of the two things the average price list is probably more sincere, and, within its restricted limits, of greater use to the philatelist than the average catalogue. The reason of course is to be found in the fact that the publisher of a mere price list, not being able to represent his production as in any way reflecting market values, necessarily abstains from any attempt to "pull the wires" to his own advantage.

Not for a long time have we seen a price list so ably compiled as that just to hand from Mr. W. B. Kirkpatrick, of Closeburn, Bournemouth. As is well known Mr. Kirkpatrick belongs to the "Colonial" market; and this price list of his is colonial from first page to last. We recommend all buyers and students of colonials to get it.

From an old friend of the FORTNIGHTLY, Mr. W. N. Cullin, Penang, Straits Settlements, we have received a special list of the stamps of that particular corner of the globe. From Borneo to Sungei Ujong there are few things that Mr. Cullin lacks.

We invite price lists, both wholesale and retail, from all over the world; and shall henceforth make a point of "chronicling" the most interesting of such "issues."

#### PUBLISHERS OF CATALOGUES, READ THIS.

The *Australian Philatelist*, in reviewing the latest catalogues, suggests that "an extra column giving prices for 'fine' as compared with 'fair catalogue' copies would be a decided improvement. There is certainly a demand for this innovation, and its adoption would explain much in connection with reduction of prices which will not be apparent otherwise."

#### COLONIES ADOPTING POSTAL UNION COLOURS.

The following decree, hailing from New South Wales, will need no explanation:—

General Post Office,  
Sydney, 1st December, 1898,

It is hereby notified that 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 Vict. No. 4, been pleased to approve of the alteration of the existing Half-penny and Two Pence Half-penny Postage Stamps from grey and royal purple to green and dark blue respectively, in accordance with a resolution of the Postal Congress held at Washington expressing the desirability of adopting uniformity in colour throughout all Postal Union Administrations with regard to such stamps as are mostly in use in the International Service—to date from the 1st January, 1899.

VARNEY PARKES.

#### WILLIAMS & CO., LIMA—AN AMERICAN VIEW.

In the last number of the FORTNIGHTLY we gave further publicity to the note of warning loudly sounded by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, agent Williams & Co., of Lima, Peru. These people have for some time been regarded with suspicion on the continent, and it now appears from an

article in *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies* that some uneasiness with regard to their bona fides is being experienced in the United States. Messrs. Sellschopp's journal is very guarded in its remarks; it simply reviews Messrs. Williams & Co's trade circular, as requested by that firm; but the review is most damagingly suggestive. First as to the buying side of the question:—

"We are not prepared to send want lists. Our wants are too numerous" say Williams & Co. From this letter and other communications, and from the enormous amount of advertising that this firm does, it appears that London, New York, San Francisco, etc., are absolutely not in it with the philatelic market in the Southern republic. They seem to be in want of everything that is good, and unlimited quantities of it. One thing that is especially surprising to us is that a local party received a request for large shipments of the better class United States revenue stamps. In our own experience we have observed that while these stamps are exceedingly popular in this country, outside of the United States, there is no sale of any importance for them. However, Williams & Co. probably know better. If judged by their advertisements, their business must certainly be much more extensive than Stanley Gibbons', Senf's, and Scott's combined. There is hardly a paper that can be picked up without their advertisements, and this open letter, both in German and English, accompanied whole issues of several papers in each language.

So much about the purchasing part of this firm. It is unnecessary to say that no money will be sent in advance. The firm has to receive the goods invariably before any purchases are made. As to the selling part of the concern, a price list of Peruvian stamps is added to the letter. These prices are decidedly at variance with any ruling prices of stamps of that country, in so far as cheapness is concerned, and we only wonder that as this letter has now been circulated for several months, the market is not flooded with Peruvian stamps at the exceedingly low prices that Williams & Co. are apparently able to deliver them. It is hard to understand why it is deemed necessary to give a price list quoting such low prices such wide circulation. According to our judgment, a *bona fide* offer of these stamps at such reasonable figures to a few large wholesale houses would have been sufficient to clear out any quantity that this enterprising firm may possess.

In conclusion, *Filatelic Facts and Fallacies* invites its readers to draw their own conclusions.

#### SOME CHANGED ADDRESSES.

Mr. M. GIWELB has recently removed to 4, Northumberland Avenue, W.C. He will continue to make rare stamps his speciality.

Mr. J. W. Palmer requests the Press to favour him by mentioning his change of address in our columns. It is the last thing that J. W. P. himself would ever do for anybody in his own little circular. However, we bear no grudges; and so be it known to all men that the only J. W. Palmer is now located at 7, Catherine Street, where you will also find the Beaconsfield ash-trays, the Palmer jubilee medals, and—need we say it?—the Palmer clause.

#### MR. SEYBOLD, OF SYRACUSE; HIS COLLECTION.

From a correspondent in America we have received a copy of the *Syracuse Times* of Sunday, Jan. 15th, which devotes a column of its space to a description of the fine collection of Mr. J. F. Seybold, of Syracuse, New York State. Mr. Seybold makes a speciality of stamps on original covers, and the *Times* article is accompanied by full-size illustrations of four selected specimens, namely, a Franklin Carrier on cover, a cover with two pairs of the 5c. New York, a 5c. Providence on cover, and a cover posted from Oldenburg, Germany, to Cuba in 1864, and bearing a pair of ½g., one 1g. and three 2g. stamps then current in Oldenburg.

#### A FIND OF STAMPS AT THE C.P.O.

The London morning papers on Monday and Tuesday, the 6th and 7th inst., contained stories to the effect that while the offices set apart for the P.O. Secretary at St. Martin's-le-Grand were being overhauled and in a state of repair for the new secretary, the men came upon a great number of stamps, many of them of comparatively ancient date—1841 for example. Amongst them were a number of the black penny variety so dear to the heart of the juvenile philatelist, and now becoming somewhat difficult of acquisition. There were, it is said, other varieties of equal interest; also some

Mulready envelopes. One authority placed the value of the stamps at several thousand pounds. A representative of the *Daily Telegraph* made a special inquiry on the subject at the office of the chief of the stamps department. The only information, however, which the officials would furnish was, "We have no communication to make on the matter." At the same time no denial was given to the specific statement that an important discovery of stamps of considerable value had recently been made.

#### THE NEED FOR HIGH VALUE STAMPS.

In view of an article recently appearing in the *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* on the subject of the very limited use of high face-value stamps, I was much interested to learn from a lady (a collector) residing in California, that her husband recently received a large bundle of valuable papers from England, on which the postage amounted to more than would have paid the round trip for two men to bring the package.

Thus the *Rocky Mountain Stamp*.

But one swallow does not make a summer; and one instance to the contrary is not quite sufficient to disprove our arguments as to the necessity for high-value postage stamps.

Cyprus Villa,

Sutton Grove, Sutton.

January 21st, 1899.

Messrs. H. Hilckes & Co., Cheapside, E.C.

Dear Sirs,

The Prizes you offered at the Winter Garden Party held here were won as follows:—

The 5/- Album won by

MR. W. CLEMENS,

52, Powell Road, Clapton, N.E.

The Reprint Catalogue won by

MR. R. HITCHMAN,

Waratah, Ringstead Road, Sutton.

We had a good number of entries.

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. B. JAMES.

#### Stray Jottings.

SINCE the institution of the penny postage rate Canadian correspondence with England has more than doubled.

THE latest new Stamp Exchange Club is the Caledonia, of which Mr. John Johnston, Moss Side, New Deer, Aberdeenshire, is Secretary. Though primarily club for Scottish philatelists, Mr. Johnston is prepared to admit a few "Sassersachs" of good repute.

IN America letters are received frequently from Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands with Spanish stamps attached, but all such have been marked "collect postage due." Uncle Sam is "getting his own back."

THERE is in St. Louis, Missouri (notes the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*) a street-vendor who regularly hawks postage stamps.

"S. E. I." writes as follows, in the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, on the subject of recent Cuban stamps: "A letter from the Director of Posts of Havana states that the 2½c. de peso is an error. In looking over several sheets of the 1c., I have discovered one stamp to each sheet that has no period after the word peso."

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best acceptable reply we shall award a prize of half a crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility to philatelists. Hereunder are the answers to Questions 9 and 10.

9.—What country—using the word "country" as meaning any stamp-issuing state, dependent or independent can fairly be described as the most prolific in postal emissions?

If we take Bright's 1898 catalogue as a guide it would appear that South Australia surpasses any other stamp issuing state in the number of its emissions, which amount to over 900, including departmental and service surcharges, but if the calculation is limited to adhesives issued to and used by the general public the United States will take the lead with just over 300, excluding the Carrier Stamps.—C.F.O'N.

10. How many countries (autocracies, monarchies, or republics) are still without adhesive postage stamps, and what are the prospects of these places coming "into line" in the near future?

In Europe there only remain two small territories which are still without postage stamps in the Republic of Andorra, in the Pyrenees, and the Principality of Liechtenstein between the Tyrol and Switzerland, neither of which is likely to establish an independent postal system unless the revenue falls off, and the issue of postage stamps appears likely to replenish it.

In Africa the vast Empire of Morocco has no government series of stamps so far, and as England and France maintain post offices at the ports it is probable that all requirements are fulfilled by these and the various service of carriers which exist.

The State of Oman, in Arabia (which is very much to the fore in the newspapers just now), still remains outside the philatelic fold, but the vastness of its trade and its close relations with India lead to the belief that the authorities may follow the example of their kinsfolk in Zanzibar and join the postal union.

The British Colony of New Guinea although already a member of the postal union has no stamps as yet, but no doubt an issue will take place when the population reaches numbers sufficient to warrant it.

Various States in Central Asia, such as Bokhara and Khiva, Tibet and Baluchistan, issue no postage stamps, but as they all form practically parts of the Russian, Chinese or British Empires it is hardly likely that they will indulge in the luxury of stamps.

There are various islands in different parts of the world, notably Ascension, which have no stamps, but in no case does their size warrant the belief that an issue will take place.—C.F.O'N.

The prize of stamps to the value of 2s. 6d., selected from our publishers' books and lists, goes to Mr. C. V. O'Neill, Bessborough Gardens, London, S.W.

We would remind readers of this column that we are anxious to receive questions as well as answers—in fact, to make this "Asked and Answered" department a regular Agency for the interchange of ideas and information between reader and reader.

In the next issue of *FORTNIGHTLY* we shall make a clearance up-to-date and give a further list of questions.

**General Notices.**

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

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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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

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**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, FEBRUARY 18, 1899.



If any of our readers (and this notice especially applies to large buyers of stamps) have at any time within the last six months purchased large parcels of English stamps—notably those bearing the Stock Exchange Telegraphic cancellation (London)—we should like to be favoured with particulars. It is no idle curiosity that prompts us to ask this. We may add that it is desirable to ascertain whether any telegraph forms, or parts of telegraph forms, bearing such stamps exist. All postages incurred will be gladly refunded.

\* \* \*

**Hypocrisy in Philately.** All men are hypocrites—on occasion. Mr. S. A. D. Cox, a contributor, and we believe a popular contributor, to the American philatelic Press shares this hypocritical failing with the rest of his craft. All journalists are hypocrites—not "on occasion", but pretty well all the time. It is inseparable, mores the pity, from their work; for a journalist who always felt as he wrote would need to be able to change his nature every half hour or so just as the chameleon changes its hue. The Mr. S. A. D. Cox aforesaid, himself, we venture to think, a sound journalistic hypocrite, writes scathingly in the *Tri-Monthly Collector* on the subject of the Philatelic Hypocrite. In his opinion the Ar, prize-medal stamp hypocrite is he who writes deprecatingly on the subject of £ s. d. in connection with Philately. Well, we are as fond of money as any men—anyone is free to test our capabilities in that direction—but we don't accept the title of hypocrite on account of writing down the "money spirit" in Philately. Mr. Cox, ere he writes again on this subject, might do well to weigh the matter carefully. He might reflect that a stamp, philatelicly, is not an ordinary "commodity." It is not a commodity in the sense in which political economists use the word. Mr. Cox pictures a grocer as a man who is in the grocery business solely for money-making; but Mr. Cox forgets that bisenits and sugar are consumed almost as soon as purchased. Now philatelists do not consume stamps; they do not even "use" them, as one uses furniture or books. Now, if Mr. Cox will

weigh this point well it may lead him to a more correct view of the subject. He argues well; but he argues from the wrong starting-point. He does so intentionally perhaps, therein playing the hypocrite to the public; on the other hand he may have taken the wrong line unintentionally, in which case he is a hypocrite only to himself. All men are hypocrites—on occasion.

**Notes on New Issues.**

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**THE NEWEST CUBAN PROVISIONALS.**

MR. J. M. BARTLETT writes in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*:— Among a lot of stamps bought from one of the Department employees last night was an unchronicled provisional stamp which is undoubtedly authentic, as it arrived in the course of regular business. It is the 1 centavo on the 1898-9 series surcharged in red:

HABILITADO

5

cents.

The stamp has been rather indistinctly cancelled twice. The word Correos is barely legible, but "1899" is very plain in both postmarks. It is not possible to decipher anything that would indicate the town where the stamp was used. This specimen is doubly interesting from the fact that the U. S. stamps surcharged Cuba were to go into use throughout the island on the first of the year.

**A STAMP FOR WEI-HEI-WEI.**

According to Mr. Herbert Russell and the *Philatelist's Supplement to the Bazaar*, Wei-Hei-Wei has now been supplied with the one thing it lacked—a postage stamp.



The authorities at Wei-Hei-Wei have recently found it necessary to institute an overland postal service between our newest colony and Chefoo, as the mails had often to lie from seven to ten days at the latter place until a ship from Wei-Hei-Wei could call for them. This, of course was found inconvenient, and the commissioner has sanctioned a bi-weekly courier post to be sent from the postmaster's office at Chefoo.

This arrangement having been made somewhat hurriedly in December last, it was found impossible to get the wood-blocks (which have been ordered from Shanghai) up in time, and accordingly a provisional issue was made, stamped with the "Dollar Stamp" of the firm, one of the members of which is acting as postmaster there.

This provisional stamp is imperforate and of a deep red colour. It is rather larger than the current Chinese stamps, and has impressed upon it a double circle, rather like a postmark, containing the printed letters "C. & Co." above and "W. H. W." below. At the top corner appears the value, "2c." or "5c.," and at the bottom the letters "C.P." or the words "Courier Post," all in writing. At the back of each four stamps appears the signature of M. Fergusson, the postmaster.

The stamp is printed on native wove paper.

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S WATERMARK CHANGED.**

Our friends in Western Australia, with commendable promptitude, advise us of a change, dating from January 9th. Mr. Levine, of Fremantle, under date January 14th, sends us the new 2d. stamps, and states that at the time of writing these were not yet on sale; while Mr. Sharpe, of Coolgardie, dating his letter January 11th, also sends us this stamp with the additional information that the watermark has been changed, it being now a small Crown between the letters W. A. At the same time he sends us the current 1d. carmine with the new watermark. We have therefore to chronicle:

- 1d. carmine.
- 2d. chrome yellow.



# The Stamps and Post Cards of Hong Kong.

MR. JUAN MENCARINI'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

MR. JUAN MENCARINI, with whose works on Philippine Stamps and Amoy Locals readers of the FORTNIGHTLY are already familiar, has now produced an excellent little book on the Stamps and Postal Stationery of Hong Kong. Our publishers are laying the flattering unction to their souls (Query: have publishers souls?) that this latest work by Mr. Mencarini is the outcome of a suggestion made by themselves in a letter to that gentleman. Anyhow, here the book is; and as a practical testimony to its merits we are going to make liberal extracts from its pages.

Mr. Mencarini, in his "Introductory Remarks," gives a variety of interesting facts about Hong Kong, more or less relevant to a study of the postage stamps of that colony. He gives a reproduction of the "B62" postmark, with which British stamps used in Hong Kong were obliterated prior to the issue of distinctive labels for the colony. The following general notes on Hong Kong issues will, we are sure, be of interest to all who are devoting special attention to this interesting country:

The Hong Kong Administrative Government was not long in discovering the advantages of adopting stamps as a means of pre-paying postage. In October, 1862, the first stamps, unwatermarked, were issued, followed next year, in August, by a set watermarked with a crown and C.C. (which stand for Crown Colony). In May, 1882, the watermark was changed to a crown and C.A. (Crown Agent).

It was not till June, 1876, that Hong Kong found itself obliged to issue surcharged stamps. The 16 cents black on 18 cents lilac was the forerunner of the many surcharges since issued, which have been the means of drawing the attention of philatelists to the colony. A very strange thing is to be noted in the surcharging of the Hong Kong stamps. Most of the overprinting has been executed in London before the stamps were forwarded to the colony, and in certain cases the stamps were never issued without the surcharges.

I have made it a point to catalogue only the varieties I have seen in these surcharges.

I do not vouch for the genuineness of all these catalogued, as I have it from Messrs. Noronha & Co., the Government printers, that their procedure is only to set the English types for twelve surcharges, and only with these overprint the whole sheet. I have kindly been given proofs of some of these surcharges, but I cannot detect any difference or error in the types.

Still the appearance of the types of the erroneous surcharges are identical with the proofs.

The varieties are especially to be noted in the Hong Kong Jubilee 2 cent stamps, and in the 10 and 20 cents on 30 cents.

I have also been shown other faked overprints such as a 2 cents on 5 cents, and others, but I warn the philatelists against these, as they are but the product of some over-civilized Celestial printer.

Fiscal stamps have also been used for postage, but only those bearing a Post Office cancelling seal mark are regarded as postage stamps.

There are several notable collectors in Hong Kong, and it is surprising that there should not be a philatelic club and paper in the colony. There existed in 1895 the "Hong Kong Philatelic Journal," but it only survived 12 months.

To show the importance of Hong Kong as a postal distributing centre, I will copy a few figures from the Postmaster General's Report for 1897.

In 1893	the postal revenue was	\$167,600.
1894	.. ..	192,170.
1895	.. ..	211,150.
1896	.. ..	245,280.
1897	.. ..	268,616.

There passed through the Hong Kong Post Office during 1897 the respectable figure of 4,412,370 addressed articles consisting of letters, postcards, newspapers, books, patterns and registered articles, these numbering 295,890. Besides 15,466 parcels were received and forwarded.

The Hong Kong Post Office established agencies in the open ports of China, Macao and Japan, the British Consuls being in charge.

Since Japan and Macao have joined the Postal Union, the agencies in those countries have been withdrawn, but in China the following ports still have agencies for receiving and delivering mails, and selling postage stamps: Hoihow, Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow and Shanghai.

The Imperial Chinese Post stamps not yet franking letters to foreign countries, it is with Hong Kong labels that most of the correspondence of China is stamped. In Shanghai, French, German, Russian, Japanese and American Post Offices are also established and sell their national stamps.

The Hong Kong Post Office sale of stamps during 1897 was \$246,888.02, out of which were sold in the above named Chinese ports, \$65,428.52 worth of stamps. The total revenue for 1897 was \$268,616.49 and the expenditure \$207,080.29, leaving a surplus of \$61,536.20.

Mr. Mencarini provides the following table of the Chinese characters met with on the Hong Kong stamps, together with their Mandarin and Cantonese pronunciations, and transliteral meanings—an invaluable list for philatelists:—

Character	Short Numeral	Mandarin pronunciation	Cantonese pronunciation	Transliteration meaning	Stands for
香港	}	Hsiang	Hong	Fragrant	Hongkong
		Chiang	Kong	Hill	
仙	}	Hsien	Sin	Fairy	Cent
先		Hsien	Sin	Beginning	Cent
時	}	Shih	Shi	Season	
先		}	Hsien	Shi	Beginning
士	Shih		Sz	Scholar	
壹	}	一	Yat	One	
二		Erh	Ng	Two	
三		San	Sam	Three	
四		Ssu	Sz	Four	
五		Wu	Ng	Five	
六		Lu	Luk	Six	
七		Chi	Tsit	Seven	
八		Pa	Pat	Eight	
九		Chiu	Kau	Nine	
十		Shih	Shap	Ten	

In his Catalogue proper, which we shall give in our next number, Mr. Mencarini lists 84 varieties of adhesive stamps and nearly 50 sub-varieties. There is also a very clear and full list of post cards.

(To be continued).

\* Descriptive Catalogue of the Postage Stamps and Cards issued by the Hong Kong Post Office. Price 40 cents. May be obtained to order through Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Limited, 61, Cheapside, London, E. C.

## Calcutta's Xmas Exhibition.

A FULL REPORT OF THIS EXCELLENT AND SUCCESSFUL SHOW.  
(From the *Philatelic Journal of India*.)

THE second Exhibition of the Philatelic Society of India was held, through the kindness of Mr. Havell, in the Government Art Gallery, 28, Chowringhee, Calcutta. It opened on 26th December, 1898, and remained open for four days. To Mr. Larmour, as formerly, the Society practically owes this exhibition, and we are glad to say that, though small, it was worth the trouble taken over it. There is no ambition on the part of our Society to emulate the great philatelic exhibitions of Europe, our intention being rather to educate the budding philatelist, stimulate his advanced brother to greater exertions, and to gather outsiders into the philatelic fold by letting them see each year a few good collections within certain definite limits.

The main features of this exhibition were the splendid displays of the stamps of the Indian and neighbouring States of Cashmere, Afghanistan, Bhopal and Jhind contributed by Major Evans, Captain Hancock and Mr. Masson; the magnificent collection of Japanese stamps sent in by Mr. Dorning Beckton; and the interesting exhibit of the Telegraph stamps of India and Ceylon from Mr. Stewart-Wilson's collection.

We shall now proceed to give some details of the stamps shown in the various classes.

### CLASS I.—*Afghanistan and Cashmere.*

Mr. Masson exhibited his Afghans under protest, being under the impression that it was necessary to show the stamps of both countries. This impression was a mistaken one, but could hardly be regretted as it led to the exhibition of a considerable number of choice stamps on original covers, including several fine "Tablets." Capt. Hancock's collection of Afghanistan earned him a silver medal last year in London, and, if we mistake not, it has been added to since then. There can be no doubt that it now presents a quite wonderfully fine show of these rare and interesting stamps. The condition of the specimens shown is very good, and all collectors of this country know how difficult it is to get more than dirty fragments of its older issues. The other most noticeable features of this exhibit were the re-construction of complete or nearly complete plates of nearly all the Shere Ali emissions, and the study of the varieties of paper used. The 1200 black Shahi was shown in complete sheets on eight different kinds of paper. An almost completely re-constructed plate of the "Tablet" issue, and specimens of the same on three different papers are calculated to make the mouth water. Two unused and seven used specimens of the very rare purple issue of 1289 are things not to be reckoned among the commonplaces of philately, and the pair of the purple rupee of this issue must be nearly unique.

Turning now to Cashmere, we found in Captain Hancock's exhibit five unused copies of the Circular Die I., the  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna in black and dark sage-green, and the 1 anna in black, purple and red. The very rare Cashmere province black rectangular  $\frac{1}{2}$  anna in 20 types was shown in an almost entirely reconstructed sheet, and the 5 types of the similar 1 anna were all shown including a fine pair of types 4 and 5. Much the same has been done for the same stamps in blue. Here, again, one could not help being struck with the fine condition of the stamps shown.

Mr. Masson's show of the stamps of this country was a very great treat. His older stamps are nearly all on originals and show clear evidence of their owner's careful and laborious study. Nor has Mr. Masson neglected to secure specimens in fine condition, while the interest of the numerous shades of Cashmere stamps has been fully appreciated. So far Mr. Masson does not appear to have attempted the difficult but fascinating task of reconstructing the plates, though he has evidently plenty of material to work with. Three pairs of the black rectangular (5 type) 1 anna of the Cashmere province are not met with in every

collection, and fine unused blocks of some of the rarest stamps are sights not usually seen. "Fancy Reprints," "Missing Dies" stamps exhibited "on their merits" were all there, and the later issues were treated with the same impartial philatelic liberality as the older ones. Within the limits of a short article it is impossible to do justice to a display which fully deserves the award of the blue ribbon of the show, *viz.*, Mr. Dorning Beckton's medal for the most meritorious exhibit.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to both Captain Hancock and Mr. Masson.

### CLASS II.—*Jhind and Bhopal.*

Last year we had to express surprise and regret at the absence of competition in the class for the Native printed stamps. This year, had it not been for Major Evans, we should have had once more to lament a blank in this class. As it is, however, we have had the opportunity of seeing what can be done with the stamps of these hitherto despised States. Major Evans has had the advantage of collecting them almost from the time they began to be issued and showed most varieties in complete sheets, while he was able to show the old Jhind issues with all the various settings of the marginal inscriptions. It is not given to all of us to possess complete unused sheets of Bhopal, but it is even now not very difficult, while it is certainly a most interesting task to reconstruct the plates from used copies. The Society is under great obligation to Major Evans for allowing his magnificent collection of these stamps to be shown.

AWARD.—Silver Medal to Major Evans.

### CLASS III.—*Jhind and Pattiālla.*

In this class for surcharged British Indian issues, the exhibitors were Messrs. Madden and Stewart-Wilson, the latter's exhibit being supplemented by a show of the rarest "errors" of Jhind in *special* Class I. These exhibits showed what interest is to be had out of this class of stamps, and Mr. Stewart-Wilson's rows of "Humbugs," "Worse-Humbugs," and "Humbugs and their Errors," were specially interesting as warnings to the beginner.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to Mr. Stewart-Wilson and Bronze Medal to Mr. Madden.

### CLASS IV.—*Great Britain.*

We did not expect to see a brilliant show in this class after the treat which Mr. Larmour provided for us on the last occasion. But we did expect something better than Mr. Madden's collection, which seemed out of place among the other exhibits. Although a fairly complete display of the more ordinary stamps and plate numbers, it was disfigured by the want of attention to condition of specimens. Still it has its value in showing that an interesting study of the stamps of Great Britain can be made at very slight expenditure.

AWARD.—Mr. Madden's exhibit recommended.

### CLASS V.—*Hong Kong and Straits Settlements.*

Here, again, we had only one exhibitor, and we are bound to say that his show, though above the average, was far from complete. Mr. Stewart-Wilson's Hong Kong's were fine, but we observed several gaps in the rare types of surcharge and errors in the Straits stamps. In fact, the collection is one worth working up, but in its present condition it certainly deserved no more consideration than the judges gave it.

AWARD.—Bronze Medal to Mr. Stewart-Wilson.

### CLASS VI.—*Cape of Good Hope.*

Mr. Norman confined himself to the triangular issues. The feature of his exhibition was a page containing three shades of the 1d. Woodblock, and four of the 4d. ditto, with fine copies of the two errors. Three original covers which had passed through the post, but with unobliterated stamps, were curious, and a quantity of used blocks of various values in superb condition were well worth seeing. Mr. Larmour's display contained many fine stamps; the most interesting being, perhaps, an unsevered pair of the 4d. Woodblock.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to Mr. Norman and Bronze Medal to Mr. Larmour.

CLASS VII.—*Canada, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.*

Mr. Norman showed pretty well all that there is to show in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, including even the greatest rarities, and all in first-rate condition. Mr. Larmour was a good second with Canada and Newfoundland, his collection of the earlier issues of the former country being specially good.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to Mr. Norman and Bronze Medal to Mr. Larmour.

CLASS VIII.—*Grenada, Montserrat, Trinidad, Turks Islands and Virgin Islands.*

In this class a number of notable stamps are shown, e.g., *Grenada*: broad-pointed star, no watermark, 6d., unused; and unused copies of the 1d. and 2d. unpaid stamps surcharged in the 6d. postage stamp. *Montserrat*: block of 4 of the blue-green 6d.; and three varieties in cutting of the bisected 1d. used as a ½d. stamp. *Trinidad*: a fine gradation of the blue lithos, showing various stages of the plate; five unused pairs of the 6d. pin perf. and clean-cut perfs.; and a strip of 3 of the 1d., no watermark, with clean-cut perfs. below, and no perfs. at the top or on the horizontal lines. *Turks Islands*: 1/- lilac, and almost all of the rarest surcharges all in superb condition. *Virgin Islands*: 6d. pale rose, perf. 15; the rare 1/- varieties; and the ½d. on 1/- with double surcharge.

The exhibitors were Mr. Larmour (Trinidad and Virgin Islands), Mr. Norman (Turks Islands and Virgin Islands), and Mr. Stewart-Wilson (Grenada and Montserrat).

AWARDS.—Silver Medals to Messrs. Larmour and Stewart-Wilson.

CLASS IX.—*New South Wales and South Australia.*

Mr. F. A. Larmour was the sole exhibitor. Although we missed the South Australian departmental stamps, we enjoyed the fine array of Sydney Views, and the beautiful show of the various perfs., watermarks, and shades of these two colonies. These stamps are still more or less under a cloud, and are even now to be picked up cheaply. For real philatelic enjoyment, as well as for safe investment, we can confidently recommend them to the attention of our members.

AWARD.—Silver Medal to Mr. F. A. Larmour.

CLASS X.—*Switzerland.*

This class contained a large number of very fine stamps exhibited by Mr. Schiller and Mr. Norman. The display included all the rare Geneva stamps, the Basle 2½ rappen, the 4 cents Poste Locale, 4 out of the 5 types of the Zurich 4 rappen, all the types of the 6 rappen with their different arrangements of lines in the background. All the rarest stamps of the Federal issues were also there, including the 10 rappen (framed cross) and the 2½ rappen "Poste Locale" with the cross unframed.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to Mr. Schiller and Bronze Medal to Mr. Norman.

CLASS XI.—*Japan and Philippine Islands.*

In this class visitors to the exhibition had the privilege of seeing Mr. Dornier Beckton's magnificent collection of Japanese stamps. The research shown by Mr. Beckton in the matter of paper, perforation and shades may be illustrated by the fact that he had no fewer than 8 pages of the 1 sen blue of the 1872 issue. Many of the stamps were shown in full sheets, and no detail has escaped Mr. Beckton's eye. We can well imagine that the judges found it difficult to decide whether this exhibit or Mr. Masson's showed the most philatelic research. Mr. Norman's Philippines were very strong in the early issues. A 5 cuartos orange-red with fine background unused was perhaps one of the finest stamps in this exhibit.

AWARDS.—Silver Medal to Mr. Beckton and Bronze Medal to Mr. Norman.

CLASS XII.—*United States of America.*

The exhibits in this class were not equal in quality to most of the others. Mr. Madden's collection included a set (excluding the 9 cents) of the first issue of the periodical stamps.

AWARD.—Bronze Medal to Mr. Madden.

SPECIAL CLASS I.—*30 Rare Stamps.*

Mr. Larmour's exhibit consisted of:—

GREAT BRITAIN	..	6d. buff, Pl. 13, <i>used</i> .
		9d. hair lines, <i>used</i> .
		10d. Pl. 2, <i>used</i> .
CEYLON	..	4d. imperf., <i>used</i> .
		8d. " " <i>used</i> .
BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA		£1, first issue, <i>used</i> .
		£2, " " <i>used</i> .
MAURITIUS	..	2d. " post paid," <i>used</i> .
		2d. " large fillet" (first state of plate) on original, with 5 copies of Britannia 6d., <i>used</i> .
		2d. " small fillet" (first state of plate) on original, with 6d. Britannia, <i>used</i> .
		4d. green, surcharged, two copies on original, <i>used</i> .
VICTORIA	..	2d. lilac, first issue, <i>unused</i> .
		2/- green rouletted (1858-61), <i>used</i> .
		2d. lilac star, perf. 12 (pair) (1857-63), <i>used</i> .
		6d. orange (1862), <i>used</i> .
		1/- registration, rouletted, <i>used</i> .
GOLD COAST	..	20/- first issue, <i>unused</i> .
LAGOS	..	2/6 olive brown, <i>unused</i> .
NEW BRUNSWICK	..	1/- violet, <i>unused</i> .
NOVA SCOTIA	..	1/- " " <i>used</i> .
TURKS ISLANDS	..	1/- lilac, <i>used</i> .
		4d. on 1/- (the medium type), <i>unused</i> .
ST. LUCIA.		6d. green star, <i>unused</i> .
		4d. black and yellow, C.A., perf. 12, <i>unused</i> .
NEVIS	..	4d. engraved on blued paper, <i>unused</i> .
		6d. engraved on blued paper, <i>used</i> .
		1/- " " perf. 15, <i>unused</i> .
		6d. litho., <i>unused</i> .
		6d. C.A., green, <i>unused</i> .
BARBADOS	..	1d. on half of 5/-, <i>used</i> .
BRITISH HONDURAS	..	6d. rose, C.C. 14, <i>unused</i> .

Mr. Stewart-Wilson confined himself to some of the rarest of the errors in the stamps of British India surcharged for Native States, 22 out of the 30 stamps shown existing in six or less copies in all.

AWARD.—Silver Medal to Mr. Larmour.

SPECIAL CLASS II.—*Telegraph Stamps of India and Ceylon.*

In this class Messrs. Corfield and Stewart-Wilson exhibited. The latter had an extremely fine show of both countries, showing in India many varieties of type, shade and paper as well as several curiosities. The 1881-83 provisionals were also shown differentiated into their hitherto unchronicled three varieties of surcharge, the stamps being skilfully reconstructed from right and left halves. In Ceylon, numerous stamps were shown which prove that the reference list in the London Society's book is sadly in need of revision.

AWARD.—Silver Medal to Mr. Stewart-Wilson.

SPECIAL CLASS III.—*Adhesive Fiscal Stamps of India.*

Mr. Corfield's exhibits sufficiently showed what a field there is for philatelic exploration in this direction. We cannot but regret the decision of the judges to withhold an award in this class.

AWARD.—*Nil*.

PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING March 4th, 1899.  
London Auctions.

Feb. 21st and 22nd.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale advertised to take place on this date has been unavoidably postponed until March 7th and 8th.

Feb. 28th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.45 p.m., precisely.

March 2nd and 3rd.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m., precisely.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## "Compound Stamps" of France.

MR. GEORGE CARLON, an American philatelist who stands in the unique position of being trusted by one half of the philatelic world and cordially disliked by the other half, has stated in an article contributed to the *American Stamp Reporter* that the journal or newspaper stamps of France "have no place in a postage stamp collection." To which Mr. W. C. Stone (whose able "Review" is a popular feature of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*) writes that a "reference to any good work on French stamps will convince the reader that they are perfectly admissible to both postal and fiscal collections. Two of the stamps, the blue and the rose, and what might be called compound stamps, as they represent both a fiscal tax and a postal rate.

## The Hundred Best Stamps.

A list of the hundred rarest stamps given in *La Revue Postale* has been done into English by the *International Philatelist*, of St. Joseph, Mo. The stamps are here given in the order of their rarity; but we fancy that each and every reader of the FORTNIGHTLY would be inclined to make a few alterations and transpositions here and there.

1. Mauritius, 1874, 2d., used or unused.
2. Mauritius, 1d., used or unused.
3. British Guiana, 1856, 1 cent black on red, used.
4. Hawaii, 1851, 2 cents blue, used.
5. British Guiana, 1850, 2 cents black on rose, unused.
6. Tuscany, 1860, 3 lire yellow, unused.
7. Moldavia, 1858, 81 paras black on blue, used.
8. Ceylon, 1857, 4d. rose, unused.
9. Moldavia, 1858, 81 paras black on blue, unused.
10. Ceylon, 1857, 8d. brown, unused.
11. Hawaii, 1851, 5 cents blue, used.
12. Newfoundland, 1857, 1s. orange, unused.
13. Tuscany, 1860, 3 lire yellow, used.
14. Hawaii, 1851, 13 cents blue, used.
15. Austria, 1851, Newspaper, Mercury, red, used.
16. Canada, 1851, 12 pence black, unused.
17. Spain, 1854, 1 real pale blue, unused.
18. British Guiana, 1856, 4 cents black on blue, used.
19. Hawaii, 1852, 13 cents blue, used.
20. Canada, 1851, 12 pence black, used.
21. Reunion Isls., 1852, 15 centimes black on bluish paper, unused.
22. Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 1 penny blue, error, used.
23. Reunion Isls., 1852, 30 centimes black on bluish paper, unused.
24. Cape of Good Hope, 1861, 4 pence red, error, used.
25. British Guiana, 1850, 4 cents black on yellow, used.
26. Newfoundland, 1860, 1 shilling vermilion, unused.
27. Reunion Isls., 1852, 15 centimes black on bluish paper, used.
28. British Guiana, 1850, 8 cents black on green, used.
29. Reunion Isls., 1852, 30 centimes black on bluish paper, used.
30. Portugal, 1853, 100 reis lilac, used.
31. Geneva (Switzerland), 1843, 5 and 5 centimes black on yellow-green, unused.
32. Newfoundland, 1857, 1 shilling orange, used.
33. Switzerland, 1850, 2½ rappen black on red, unused.
34. New Brunswick, 1851, 1 sh. violet, unused.
35. Spain, 1851, 2 reales red, unused.
36. Austria, 1851, Newspaper, Mercury, red, unused.
37. Brunswick, 1852, 1 silbergroschen rose, unused.
38. Queensland, 1860, 2d. blue, unused.
39. Ceylon, 1857, 9d. brown-violet, unused.
40. U.S., 1873, \$5 state, unused.
41. Ceylon, 1857, 9d. brown-violet, used.
42. Great Britain, 1878, £1 violet, unused.
43. Mauritius, 1859, 2d. blue, unused.
44. Natal, 1857, 9d. blue, used.
45. Nova Scotia, 1851, 1/- violet, unused.
46. Moldavia, 1858, 27 paras, black on rose, unused.
47. Zurich (Switzerland) 1843, 4 rappen black, vertical network, unused.
48. Newfoundland, 1860, 1/- vermilion, used.
49. Uruguay, 1857, 180 centesimos, red (error), unused.
50. Alsace-Lorraine, 1870, 5 centimes, green, inverted network, unused.
51. Antioquia, 1868, 10 centavos, lilac, unused.

52. Zurich (Switzerland), 1843, 4 rappen black, horizontal network, unused.
53. Austria, 1851, Newspaper, Mercury rose unused.
54. Ceylon, 1857, 8d. brown, used.
55. Two Sicilies, 1860, ¼ tornese blue, with coat of arms, unused.
56. Spain, 1851, 2 reales red, used.
57. U.S., \$5 state, used.
58. British Guiana, 1850, 4c. black on yellow, unused.
59. Peru, 1858, ½ pesos, rose, unused.
60. Moldavia, 1858, 27 paras black on rose, used.
61. Moldavia, 1858, 108 paras black on rose, used or unused.
62. Geneva (Switzerland) 1843, 5 and 5 centimes black on yellow-green, used.
63. France, 1871, 15 centimes bistre on rose (error), unused.
64. Ceylon, 1857, 4d. rose, used.
65. Antioquia, 1868, 10 centavos lilac, used.
66. British Columbia, 1861, 2½ pence rose, imperforated, used or unused.
67. Turks Islands, 1873, 1 sh. violet, unused.
68. Nova Scotia, 1851, 1 sh. violet, unused.
69. Buenos Ayres, 1858, 5 pesos yellow, unused.
70. Spain, 1852, 2 reales red, unused.
71. Spain, Madrid Stamp, 3 cuartos bronze, used.
72. Natal, 1860, 3 pence blue, perforated, used.
73. Switzerland, 1851, 10 rappen orange, black and red, unused.
74. South Australia, 1887, £20 lilac-rose, unused.
75. Bavaria, 1870, 23 florins 50 grey (telegraph stamp), unused.
76. Buenos Ayres, 1858, 4 pesos red, unused.
77. Vancouver Isl., 1865, 6 cents rose, unused.
78. British Guiana, 1850, 8 cents black on green, unused.
79. Natal, 1860, 3 pence blue, imperf., unused.
80. British Guiana, 1856, 4 cents black on carmine, used.
81. New Brunswick, 1851, 1 shilling violet, used.
82. Zurich (Switzerland), 1843, 4 rappen black, vertical network, used.
83. Afghanistan, 1870, 1 rupee violet, used.
84. West Australia, 1855, 6 pence bronze, unused.
85. Ceylon, 1861, 8 pence yellow-brown, unused.
86. Colombia, 1862, 2 centavos red, unused.
87. Antioquia, 1868, 2½ centavos blue, unused.
88. U.S., state \$10, used or unused.
89. British Guiana, 1850, 12 cents black on blue, used.
90. New South Wales, 1851, 8 pence orange, unused.
91. Prussia, 1856, 2 silbergroschen blue, unused.
92. Moldavia, 1858, 53 paras blue on green, unused.
93. St. Vincent, 1870, 5 sh. carmine, used or unused.
94. Sierra Leone, 1861, 6 pence violet, imperf., used or unused.
95. Zurich (Switzerland), 1843, 4 rappen black, horizontal network, used.
96. Buenos Ayres, 1858, 6 pesos yellow, used.
97. Afghanistan, 1870, 1 rupee, violet, unused.
98. Labuan, 1880, 6c. on 16 cents blue, unused.
99. Mauritius, 1859, 2 pence, blue, used.
100. Berge-dorf, 1861, ½ schilling violet, unused.

Not long since the FORTNIGHTLY contained the opinion that the rarest stamp in the world, judged simply by the number of specimens in existence, was the one cent. British Guiana of 1856. This appears as the third stamp in the above list.

We notice, by the way, that the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has also made a translation of Mons. Flandrin's article.

## Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

That lively journal from Omaha way, the *Philatelic West*, now combines photography with philately, having added the words "and Camera News" to its title.

By the same mail from India come the *Philatelic Journal of India*, and Mr. Gordon Jones's lively little *Stamps*, each containing a long report of the successful philatelic exhibition held in Calcutta during Christmas week.

The *Bazaar's* latest "Philatelists' Supplement" marks a distinct improvement, especially in the miscellaneous parts and articles.

# F. F. EMPSON'S

## List of Stamps suitable for Investment.

- BAHAMAS, 1d., 2½d., 4d., 6d., 1/-  
 BERMUDA, ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 1/-, 1/-  
 \*BRITISH BECHUANALAND on English, ½d., 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 1/-  
 \* " " on Cape, 1d. reading downwards.  
 \* " " " 2d. reading downwards.  
 \* " " " 2d. reading upwards.  
 \* " " " 3d. lilac.  
 \* " " " 1/-, 2/-, 2/6, 5/-, 10/- green.  
 BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA, 1d. on 3/-  
 \* " " " 1d., embossed perf.  
 \* " " " 1d., embossed perf.  
 \*BRITISH EAST AFRICA on India.  
 BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, 1861 issue, ½d. to 20/-  
 \* " " " 1896 issue, ½d. to 20/-  
 \*CANADA, 1868 issue.  
 \* " " 1897 (maple leaf).  
 \*CYPRUS, 1882, ½ to 12 piastres.  
 \*GAMBIA, 1887, all values in various shades.  
 \*GIBRALTAR, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas.  
 \*GOLD COAST, 1884, ½d. to 2/-  
 \*GRENADA, 1883, ½d., 1d., 2½d., 4d. and 6d.  
 JAMAICA, 1883, ½d. to 2/-  
 MALTA, ½d. to 5/-  
 NATAL, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*NEWFOUNDLAND, 1862, 4d., 6d. and 1/-, in sheets of 20.  
 \* " " 1887 to 1890, ¼c. to 24c.  
 \*NIGER COAST, 1893, ½d. to 1/-  
 \* " " 1894, ½d. to 1/-  
 \* " " 1898, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*ST. HELENA, 1884, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*ST. VINCENT, 1885, ½d. to 5/-  
 \*SIERRA LEONE, 1884, ½d. to 1/-  
 SEYCHELLES, 1890, 2c. to 48c.  
 TOBAGO, 1885, ½d. to 1/-  
 \*TRINIDAD, 1883, ½d. to 5/-  
 TURKS ISLAND, 1882, 1d., 6d., 1/-  
 ZANZIBAR on India, all values.  
 \*ZULULAND, 1888, ½d. to 5/-  
 \* " " 1894, ½d. to 4/-

*The stamps marked \* are obsolete, the remainder owing to the introduction of the bi-colour series will shortly become so, and all are certain to increase in value in the near future.*

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The arrangement of the countries is in strictly alphabetical order, but the most important feature is that . . .

*The Correct Value of Every Stamp is Given,*

either used or unused, or both. There are no blanks in this catalogue, which is intended as a Collector's Guide to the value of stamps, and not as a mere dealer's price list.

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1. **Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.**

2. **London has many Stamp Auctioneers, Glasgow has only one.**

3. The Sales introduced and conducted by me during last season were most successful, and it is a **positive fact** that better prices were obtained at them for Rare and Medium Stamps than at any other Auction Mart in the Kingdom. Should you doubt this statement write for priced catalogues and other convincing evidence, which will be instantly furnished.

4. Having been in the Stamp business for a considerable number of years, I am well-known and in touch with most of the principal Scottish collectors. My register contains the names of **hundreds of Collectors** resident in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, &c., to whom sell catalogues are regularly despatched; consequently the sales are **particularly well attended**. Besides, a large number of catalogues are despatched to England and the Continent, and the number of commissions received is very considerable. The attendance at every Sale held during the present Season has **exceeded 50**.

5. **Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite often enough.**

6. **The Lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.**

7. **Commission charges are extremely moderate.**

Next Sale takes place on Saturday, 18th Inst., following one middle of March. Lots for inclusion should be sent in immediately.

ROBERT S. GRAY, Auctioneer,

106-125] 213, West Campbell Street, GLASGOW.

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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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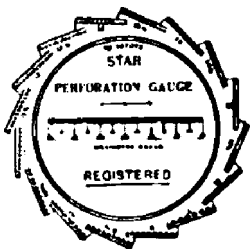
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[11-116]

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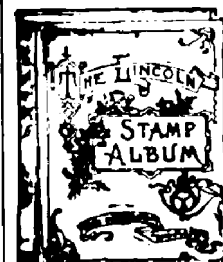
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[108-119]

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*How to Compete:* On receipt of the packet you will find that it contains 35 stamps, from 35 different countries. Take the 35 initials of these countries and, without using any of them twice, try and construct the name of a certain well-known Novel written by an English novelist—we do not say whether living or dead. Write the name you think to be the right one on the envelope in which you receive the packet, and post to us to reach us not later than February 28th.

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We will give the £5 prize to the sender of the correct name of the novel, or, if more than one are correct, the £5 will be equally divided. *The Prize will be paid in cash on or before March 6th.*

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The Stamps will be on view and Catalogues may be obtained on the 1st and 2nd February, at 3, Livery Street, Birmingham, on the 3rd and 4th February, at 49, Renshaw Street, Liverpool, and on the 6th and 7th February, at 18, Piccadilly, Manchester.

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ditto 200 ditto ditto 1890	0	6
ditto 300 ditto 200 reis, Journal	0	8
B. South Africa, 1898, new types, 1d., 6d. and 1/-	3	1
Canada, Xmas, 1898, 2 cents map	0	2
Crete, 1899, 10 and 20 parates	2	0
Ceylon, 1898, 2 rupees, 50 cents	5	6
Cook Islands, 1898, 2d. brown	0	4
Japan, 1899, new type, 2, 4, 10 sen	3	0
Newfoundland, 1899, 2 cents carmine	0	2
Salvador, Parcel Post complete	5	8
Samoa, 1898, 2½d. on 1/- rose	0	6
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And many others, particulars free.

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British S. Africa, £10 postally used	95	0
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Cape, 4d. Woodblock	28	0
Ceylon, 9d. Star, imperf.	55	0
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[105-122

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**THE**

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 116—Vol. V.
SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 1899.
ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :


Bristol Philatelic Society.
Cambridge University Philatelic Society.
Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

The Liverpool Philatelic Society.
Edinburgh and Leith Society.
Rochdale Philatelic Society.

Ashton-under-Lyne Philatelic Society.
Sheffield Philatelic Society.

# India-Rubber Stamps.

FEW will deny that the indication of varieties of Watermarks, Perforations, etc., by pen or pencil lends an untidy and unsatisfactory appearance to the pages of the Album. To remedy this blot upon "Philately's fair page," so to speak, the "Indicator" Rubber Stamps have been prepared. They are mounted on small wooden handles and the following illustrations are the *actual size*, all of which are in stock:

  
**9d.**  
 each ;  
**7/6**  
 per dozen.

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ROUL	NO WMK	UNUSED	USED	IMPERF.	SILK THREAD.					
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**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.**

*Doings of Societies.***THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.***President:* Mr. P. I. LLOYD.*Vice-President:* Mr. F. E. ELLISON.*Committee:*

MESSRS. A. BIRD, N. G. HBAVEN, D. H. MCPHERSON, and I. H. REYNOLDS.

*Hon. Sec. and Treas.:* Mr. R. DALTON,  
30, Carnarvon Road, Redland.*Hon. Librarian:* Mr. T. C. CARTWRIGHT,  
17, York Crescent Road, Clifton.*Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary:* Mr. J. P. WAY, 31, Manor Road, Redland.

A MEETING of this Society was held on Thursday evening the 16th inst.

The President being in the chair, who, after disposing of the business of the evening, exhibited twenty-seven sheets of "New Zealand," type I., on which were many rare specimens, and a large proportion in mint condition.

Several of the other members also displayed their collections of the same country. Mr. Birch showed a very fine specimen in mint condition of the lilac-rose on bleuté, 1½d., Great Britain, 1870. Mr. T. C. Cartwright also handed round for inspection a complete and perfect copy of the "Beaufort House Essay," being a very early specimen of the engravers' art as applied to Postal use, by a Mr. Charles Whiting, more than fifty years ago.

It was proposed by Mr. Cartwright, seconded by Mr. Ellison, and carried *nem. con.* that a copy of "The Adhesive Stamps of the British Isles," by Messrs. Hastings E. Wright and A. B. Creeke, Jun., be ordered for the library, and also the monthly called *Stamps*, edited by Mr. Heygate, of Rushden.In consequence of the serious illness of Mr. Way (the newly-appointed Exchange Packet Sec.), members are requested to communicate for the present with the *Hon. Sec.*—Mr. Dalton—until further notice.**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.***Honorary President*—Mr. W. B. AVERY.*President*—Mr. W. T. WILSON.*Vice-Presidents*—MESSRS. R. HOLLICK AND W. PIMM.*Committee*—Messrs. H. R. BEWLEY, P. T. DEAKIN, W. F. WADAMS, T. W. PECK, C. A. STEPHENSON, and W. S. VAUGHTON.*Hon. Secretary and Treasurer*—

MR. G. JOHNSON, B.A.

*Official Address*—

208, Birchfield Road, Birmingham.

FEB. 2nd.—Miss S. M. D'Albiac and Mr. A. Still were unanimously elected members.

Mr. W. Pimm showed his collection of N.S.W., which is strong in the early issues and includes some exceptionally fine re-constructed sheets, every stamp being in fine condition.

Feb. 16th.—Messrs. T. E. Laurenson and L. König were unanimously elected members.

Mr. T. W. Peck gave a short paper on U.S.A. watermarks, illustrated by a large number of strips and plate numbers.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE usual meeting of this Society was held last evening in Bird's Restaurant, when Mr. J. Bramah read an interesting paper on the stamps of British South Africa, illustrating the same with complete panes of the various issues. During the course of the evening, specimens were shown by the President (Mr. Peace), of Cuban stamps, these were the current U.S. stamps, surcharged with the Cuban currency for circulation in that island, and from a historical point of view were very interesting. The meeting then adjourned until the 1st March, when an exhibition of the stamps of Spain and its Colonies will be held.

**STAMP EXCHANGE PROTECTION SOCIETY.**

THE Report and Balance Sheet for 1898 has just been issued, from which we gather that this useful Society still continues to prosper, as is evidenced by the substantial balance carried forward to 1899 of £14 17s. 5d. The sums received in subscriptions and legal fees for the year amounted to £14 12s., which, added to £8 6s. brought forward from 1897, totalled to £22 18s. Of this total, £8 os. 7d. was expended, leaving the balance to 1899 as stated above.

The membership list now totals 82.—F. A. WICKHART, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.***THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.**

NOTICES of coming events and applications for membership will be found posted on the bulletin boards.

For special information inquire of the House Committee.

Minutes of the Board of Governors held at the Club February 13th, 1899.

**35TH MEETING.***Present*—Messrs. J. W. Scott, Albert Perrin, John N. Luff and J. H. Stebbins, Jun.

Meeting called to order at 8.45, Mr. John N. Luff, acting as Chairman.

In the absence of the Secretary, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

The Treasurer's report was then read and approved, showing \$515.53 cash balance on hand.

The report of the Chairman of the House Committee was then read and accepted.

The report of the special Committee on the purchase of books was read and accepted.

Mr. Luff then announced the following donations to the Club. One vol. *American Journal of Philately* for 1898, presented by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company. One vol. of the postal issues of Hawaii, presented by Mr. A. W. Dunning, which were accepted with thanks.

The following candidates were then balloted for, and duly elected stock holders of the Club.

Mr. Louis Ruhl, 174, St. Nicholas Avenue, proposed by J. W. Scott, and seconded by Henry Clotz. Mr. Paul Stiepmann, Park Avenue Hotel, proposed by N. Dieschbourg, and seconded by P. F. Bruner.

It was then moved that the Secretary be requested to call a special meeting for Saturday evening, February 18th, at 8 o'clock to discuss the advisability of securing new quarters for the Club.

There being no further business the meeting then adjourned.—JAMES H. STEBBINS, JR., *Secretary pro tem.***50,000 Sets  
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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 ½d. for every word,—Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**40** to 50 per cent. below Catalogue. Selections of Good Stamps on approval.—D. ROTBERG, 111, London Wall, E.C. [116]**A** SELECTIONS. British Colonials, old European, United States, South American, English, etc., medium and rare. 40-60 per cent. below catalogue, discount extra. H. EDGAR WESTON, 30, Richmond Gardens, Coldhawk Road, W. [117]**G**ENUINE Drawing, 55 Prizes, Cat.: £20. Chance for every 27 worth Stamps sent for.—23, Leicester Street, Southport. [115-117]**W**ANTED Immediately.—Mixed Lots, present issue English, to go through for postmarks, especially 4s, 5, 6, 9, 10d. stamps.—Reply with full particulars to E. HAINROTTON, Woodfield, Rochdale.**E**XCHANGE.—Rare German States for any other good stamps.—OTTO KOSOK, 13, Posenerstrasse, Berlin, O.**G**IVEN AWAY.—Rare surcharged Mauritius, to all applicants for Approval Sheets.—W. JAPP, 102, Salmon Lane, London, E.**BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA.** Few mint specimens, Penny Provisional, perf., rare bargain, 4/6. Two fine specimens of imperf. "franked" Penny Provisional. Offers. Set id. to 1/1897, used 15/- mint. THOMPSON, 7, Tideswell Road, Eastbourne.**OTTERDALE** Stamp Exchange Club.—Section B—Members wanted, no dealers. Rules and specimen sheet on application to the Secretary.—G. HERBERT DANNATT (Member of Stamp Exchange Protection Society) "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.**JUST OUT.****BRIGHT'S**

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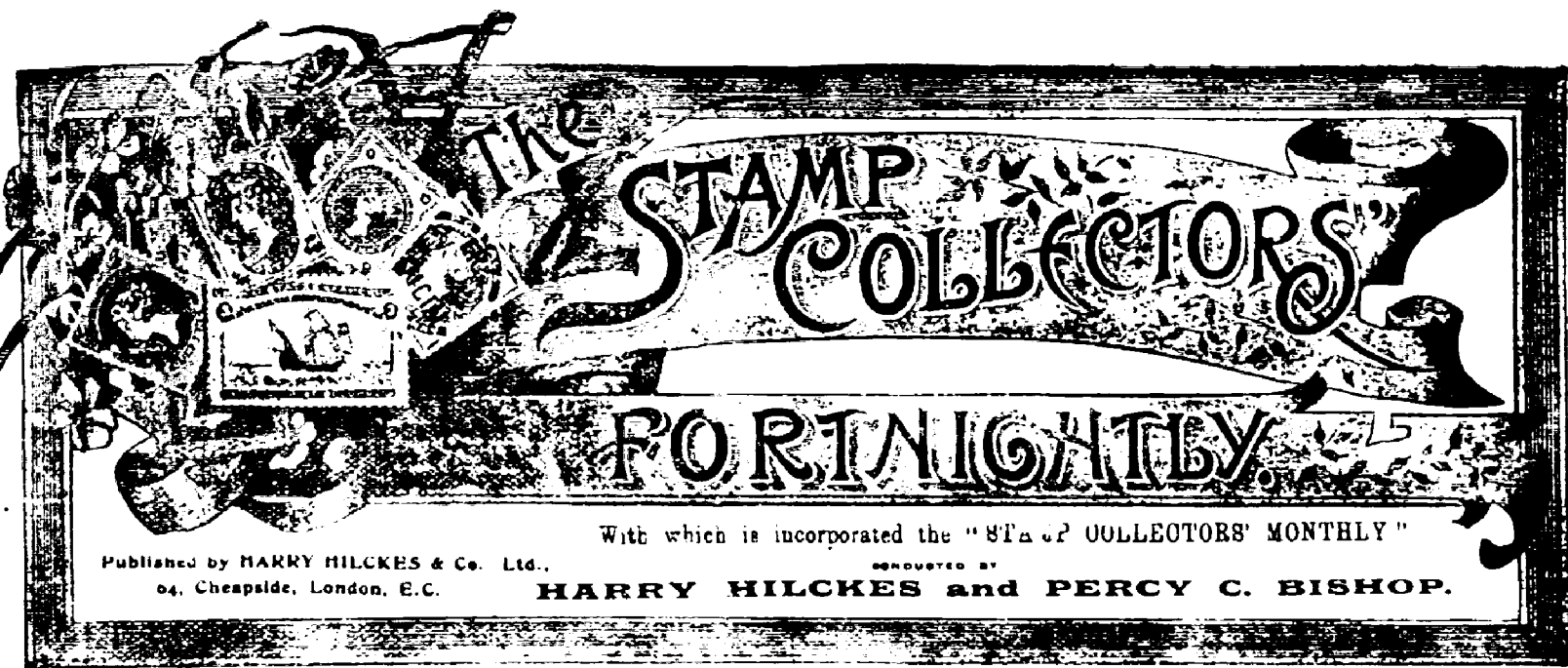
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64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.



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Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co. Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

MANAGED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Liverpool Philatelic Society.  | Bristol Philatelic Society.              | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society. |
| The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.  | Rochdale Philatelic Society.             | Sheffield Philatelic Society.         |
| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

No 116 - Vol V

SATURDAY MARCH 4, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

**NEW YORK'S SUCCESSFUL STAMP CLUB.**

WE have before us the report presented to the third annual meeting of the Collectors' Club, New York. From the first this excellent Club seems to have attracted and held the support of all the leading philatelists, amateur and professional, of the American metropolis. In the words of the President (Mr. William Thorne) the Club has "moved smoothly along in the pleasant path designed by its founders"; but to Mr. John N. Luff, the Chairman of the House Committee, fell the task of pointing out the apathy recently evinced by many of the Club members. "It is plainly apparent," said Mr. Luff, "that the attendance has fallen off very materially during the past year and there is a manifest apathy and lack of interest which do not promise well for the future. Financially, and in all other respects, the Club is in a sound condition. To the Editors of the *FORNSIGHTLY* it is a most gratifying fact that the only two British philatelic journals to which the Collectors' Club subscribes are the *London Philatelist* and the "S.C.F."

**SOME HUMOURS OF IMPERIAL PENNY POSTAGE.**

THAT most people sending letters to Malta since the institution of Imperial Penny Postage have franked their envelopes with only a penny stamp is notorious; but it may not be so well-known that the following decree has been issued in the island:  
His Excellency the Governor directs it to be notified that after this date no surcharge of postage will be claimed by the Malta Post

Office on letters from the United Kingdom weighing under 4oz. on which postage equivalent to one penny has been paid.

The position is ludicrous in the extreme. The postage for a half ounce letter to Malta is 2d., but wise people reading the above decree will use only a penny stamp.

Mr. W. N. Cullin, of Penang, writes us as follows:

The 4c. on 8c. (on this letter) is the Straits, 1d. postage rate; and as the dollar is worth 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d. the Straits rate for 1/2 ounce letters is under the penny. The book rate, being 1 cent per 2078., also beats the 1/2d. of the West Indian Islands.

There are doubtless many other anomalies created by the postal Zollverein; but we can forgive all that for the boon that the penny over-sea rate confers upon the British Empire.

**UNCLE SAM'S EXPERIMENT IN STAMP DEALING.**

WE were able to announce in the last number of the *FORNSIGHTLY* that the American Government had decided to sell 50,000 sets of the Newspaper and Periodical Stamps at five dollars a set.

There has been no restriction put upon the number of sets to be sold to anyone, and the Government desires to be distinctly understood that not one set in addition to the 50,000 will be sold, and if after the 31st of next December all these sets are not sold they will be destroyed.

No stamps of the older issue will be placed on sale, but they will all be destroyed at once. This is done because there are only a few complete sets on hand. It is also stated that the stamps are to be placed on sale at all first-class post offices throughout the Union; but this is regarded as being probably an error.

Plate number and block collectors (writes Mr. J. M. Bartels in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*) will be glad to know that the stamps will be sold in strips or blocks, although complete sets must be taken in each instance. The department, however, does not guarantee that the stamps sold will be well centred or perforated on all four sides. The sets sold will not be surcharged in any way but in their original condition.

**NOTES ON THE STAMP MARKET.**

Mr. Haylow had a good audience for the sale of the Harold Frederic Collection at the Arbitration Room, 65, Chancery Lane. Following are some of the prices realised: United States, 90c. blue, with red postmark, £2 17s. 6d.; Shanghai, first issue, 12c., strip of six, unused, 10s.; Switzerland, double Geneva, 3c. x 5c., £6 6s.; Gold Coast, 20s. red and green, unused, £1 18s.; Modena, Provisional Govern-

ment, 40c., red, £1 1s.; British Columbia, perf. 12½, 10c. blue on pink, unused, £1 16s.; Zanzibar, surcharged 2½ in red on 4a., a block of six showing types, £1 6s.; British East Africa, on Zanzibar, a complete set of six, unused, £1 4s.; United States, 1869, a set of three, 24c., 30c. and 90c., £1 18s.; United States, 90c. blue, black postmark, £2 10s.; Virgin Islands, 1s., with single line frame, unused, £1 14s.

#### STAMPS REMOVED FROM MAIL MATTER.

AN OFFICIAL INQUIRY.

This is a subject of great interest to philatelists for nearly every stamp collector at some time or another has had to lament the arrival of a letter or book-packet from abroad *minus* the stamps that would have looked so well in his album. Harken, therefore, to the *Madras Times*:

Frequent complaints have been made to the Postal Department in India that letters reaching India from Australia have arrived with the stamps torn off, and marked "postage due" in consequence. In these days when the craze of stamp collecting has developed into the possibilities of profitable business, suspicions have not unnaturally fallen upon the postal employees that they have been appropriating the stamps, and there has accordingly been an enquiry. The Presidency Postmaster of Bengal has now notified that, as the result of the inquiries, it has been found that it is the gum on the back of the Australian stamps that is the source of the evil. Loose stamps that have become detached from covers are frequently found in the mail bags from Tuticorin, which contains letters from Australia, and it is thereby evident that the stamps have not been deliberately pulled off with a desire to possess them. As a matter of fact, however, we may take it that Australian stamps of current issue are scarcely valuable enough for a postal employee to be running the risk and taking the trouble of peeling them off the envelopes.

The recapture of the Soudan should set the matter right. It is amongst the odds and ends of our recollection, that two or three years after the capture of the Soudan by the Mahdi there was a similar cry in India, that letters that came from England were constantly being delivered with evidences that the stamps had come off *en route*, and the postal employees were naturally suspected. Enquiries were set on foot, and the result was an interesting notification by the Postmaster-General of England. He stated that owing to the loss of the Soudan, one of the principal sources of the gum supply had been cut off, and that the Postal Department had been under the necessity of concocting a sticky equivalent for gum out of certain ingredients. The concoction had served well in England, but in the tropics the stickiness went out of it, it cracked up, and the stamps came off! The matter was accordingly remedied.

Perhaps Australia has been similarly reduced to the necessity of going in for home-made gum, and that its patent mixture is spoiled by the sea air or by tropical heat. If so, it is, perhaps, opportune, on this account if for nothing else, that the Soudan has been reconquered! "Gum-arabic" is, of course, the best of all gums, and it is the great product of the Egyptian Soudan; and with the reconquest of the country, it is likely that a trade which has meanwhile been interrupted will get active once more.

Meanwhile, the world has learned, by hard necessity, to do without a good deal of its natural gum. The Postal Department, for instance, has become so experienced in the matter of a substitute for gum, that in some climates the substitute is better than the actual thing. The principal substitute is a stuff called "dextrine," which is manufactured out of various forms of starch, and which is found to be superior to real gum, because it is easily dissolved and can be spread more equally than gum over a smooth surface.

#### PHILATELY IN THE PUNJAB.

We are to have a boom in philately in the Punjab, says the *Civil and Military Gazette*. Mr. Stewart Wilson, C.S., our new Postmaster-General, is President of the Philatelic Society of India, and Editor of the Society's excellent monthly journal, and Mr. D. P. Masson's zeal is not likely to flag, seeing he has just been awarded two medals at the Calcutta Philatelic Exhibition, one being Mr. Dornig Beckton's medal "for the exhibit shewing the most philatelic knowledge, regard being had to individual research." Then we have Captain F. H. Hancock, of Jullundur—who has at the same exhibition secured the first prize for his exhibit of Kabul and Kashmir stamps. Major DuMoulin, the Rev. Mr. Hildesley, Mr. W. Chard, and Mr. Alweyne Turner, Captain Stuart Godfrey and Mr. McNeale, besides a strong contingent at Simla, including Lady Collen, Major Day, R.E., famous for his Cabuls, Captain C. F. Napier and Mr. R. Younghusband. These are but a few scores of Punjabs who take stamp-collecting seriously.

#### MR. NANKIVELL'S NEW VENTURE.

We are informed by a small bird that Mr. Nankivell is projecting a new philatelic journal on unique, not to say peculiar, lines. This is to appear quarterly, and to deal exclusively with the stamps of the Transvaal. Advertisements not affecting Transvaal stamps will be rigorously excluded. What a Boer!

#### BROOKLYN'S PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

We now reproduce from the American stamp journals a full prospectus of the awards offered in connection with the Philatelic Exhibition, to be opened at the Institute of Arts and Sciences, Brooklyn, N.Y., on March 18th next:

The following is the table of classes and divisions for competition and awards:

#### CLASS I.

For collections of adhesive stamps of any one of the following countries or combination of countries named below

##### Division 1.: NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA.

#### GROUP A.

United States Postage (including Departments, Dues and Newspapers).

#### GROUP B.

United States Revenues—

1. Document and Private Proprietary.
2. Telegraphs.

#### GROUP C.

United States Colonies.

1. Hawaii.
2. Cuba.
3. Porto Rico.
4. Philippine Isles.

#### GROUP D.

1. Colombian Republic and States.
2. Brazil.
3. Mexico.
4. Central American States (Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Honduras).
5. Chili.
6. Peru.
7. Ecuador.
8. Argentine.
9. Bolivia.
10. Uruguay and Paraguay.
11. Venezuela.
12. British Colonies in North America (Canada, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and British Columbia).
13. British Colonies in Western Hemisphere, remaining.
14. Danish and Dutch West Indies (Surinam, Curacao).
15. Hayti and Dominican Republic.

Awards in this Division: One silver medal for each group.

##### Division 2: EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA.

#### GROUP A.

1. Great Britain.
2. Austria (Austrian Italy and Hungary).
3. Russia (Finland and Poland).
4. Germany (any two of the following): Alsace and Lorraine, Baden, Bavaria, Bergedorf, Bremen, Brunswick, Empire and Confederation; Hamburg, Hanover, Lubec, Mecklenburg-Sch. and Str., Oldenburg, Prussia, Saxony, Sch. Holstein, Thurn and Taxis, Wurtemberg.
5. Italy (any two of the following): Italy, Modena, Naples, Papal States, Parma, Romagna, Sicily, Tuscany.
6. Spain and Portugal
7. Switzerland.
8. Turkey.
9. France.
10. Holland and Belgium.
11. Greece.
12. Norway and Sweden.
13. Denmark and Iceland.
14. British Colonies in Europe (Cyprus, Gibraltar, Ionian Islands, Malta).

15. Balkan States (Servia, Roumania, Montenegro, Bulgaria, Bosnia).

GROUP B.

1. Japan.
2. Persia.
3. Egypt.
4. Colonies of France and Portugal in Asia, Africa.
5. Orange Free State.
6. Sarawak and Siam.
7. India and Ceylon.
8. British Colonies in Asia and Africa, other than (7).
9. Australia and New Zealand.

Awards in this Division: One silver medal for each group.

CLASS II.

EXHIBIT BY DEALERS.

One Silver medal for most meritorious exhibit by a dealer.  
Arrangement to count 10 per cent.  
Quantity to count 40 per cent.  
Quality to count 50 per cent.

CLASS III.

Division 1: BEST EXHIBIT BY A LADY.

Division 2: BEST EXHIBIT BY A BOY OR GIRL UNDER 18.

Awards in this class, Division 1, one silver medal.

Awards in this class, Division 2, one silver medal.

SPECIAL AWARDS.

The following Special Awards have been donated:

*Section on Philately.* One Bronze Medal for the most meritorious Exhibit shown by a member of the Section on Philately.

*Nassau Stamp Co.* One Gold Medal for the Exhibit showing most scientific arrangement.

*Scott Stamp and Coin Co.* One 1860 Edition National Album, linen paper, full morocco, for the best Exhibit shown in Class I, Division 1, Group A.

One 1899 Edition International Album, two volumes, half morocco, for the best Exhibit shown in Class I, Division 1, Group D.

One subscription to "The Catalogue for Advanced Collectors" for the most meritorious Exhibit shown.

*A. Krassa.* One "Ne Plus Ultra Postage Stamp Album," sunk mounts, for the best Exhibit shown by a member of the Section on Philately, in Class I, Division 1, Group B.

One sterling silver "Ne Plus Ultra Stamp Cleanser and Hinge Remover" for best Exhibit shown in Class I, Division 2, Group B.

*J. C. Morgenthau & Co.* One "sheet 25 centavas Arequipa, Peru," for the best Exhibit shown of South American countries.

*Bogert & Durbin.* One "5 Pesos Honduras inverted centre," for best Exhibit shown by a member of the Section on Philately, of the Central American States.

One "sheet Providence Reprints" for best Exhibit shown of U. S. Reprints.

*Geo. R. Tuttle.* One and two cent Justice Department unused for second best Exhibit shown in Class I, Division 1, Group A.

*The J. W. Scott Co.* One "J. W. Scott's Best Blank Album" for best Exhibit shown in Class I, Division 2, Group A.

*George J. Carter.* A set of United States Revenues, valued at \$20, for the most tastefully arranged general exhibit of stamps by a boy or girl under fifteen years of age.

For further particulars apply to the Secretary, Exhibition Committee,

JOHN D. CARBERRY, ESQ.,  
1206, Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn.

The following gentlemen comprise the Executive Committee of the Exhibition: Alex. Holland, Chairman, John D. Carberry, Sec'y, Charles R. Braine, Jr., P. Elbert Nostrand, David S. Wells, Dr. T. P. Hyatt, Geo. W. King.

The Judges will be Messrs. P. F. Bruner, J. W. George, J. M. Andreim, John N. Luff, Charles R. Braine, Jr., and Alex. Holland.

TRADE NOTES, REMOVALS, ETC.

MR. ISAAC CANSINO notifies us of his change of address from 452, Market Street, Manchester, to No. 7, Blackfriars Street, Manchester near the Royal Exchange.

MESSRS. BRIGHT & SON, Bournemouth, notify us that they will open a London branch of their business at No. 104, Strand, on April 10th next. The philatelic affairs of the firm will be managed, as heretofore, by Mr. Oliver.

MR. D. FIELD, late of Fenchurch Street and Booksellers Row, is again in possession of a handsome philatelic emporium, this time in the Royal Arcade, Bond Street. Mr. Field's stamps, like his worthy self, are genuine and original.

We rejoice to hear that Mr. Theodor Buhl, who has been somewhat seriously ill, is now so far recovered as to be able to resume active business.

REGENSBURG STAMP EXHIBITION.

READERS will remember the scheme to hold an exhibition last autumn under the auspices of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis, which, owing to the tragic death of the Empress of Austria, had to be abandoned. We are now informed that the exhibition will take place from May 6th to May 11th, 1899. There will be a special division for the stamps of Thurn and Taxis. The prizes will be as follows: One chief prize, 10 gold medals, 15 silver medals, and a number of diplomas. All further particulars will be given by the Secretary, Mr. G. Hartmann, Profening-Regensburg.

THE BEGINNING OF THE FINNISH.

It is announced that all Finnish postage stamps will be withdrawn by the Russian Government at the end of this year. On and after January 1st of the ensuing year the ordinary Russian stamps will come into use. The Russian Government has refunded the cost incurred in printing the surplus condemned stock.

Stray Jottings.

THERE is a curious error in the sheets of the new 30 centavos stamp of Argentina, one specimen on each sheet bearing the figures of value transposed thus: "03."

THE story goes that the well-known Chicago stamp dealer, Mr. M. P. Wellsieffer, recently advertised his willingness to sell stamps at 50 per cent of their value, meaning of course Catalogue value. Imagine his astonishment on receiving a visit from a gentleman who expected to get unused two-cent U.S.A. stamps of the current issue at one cent apiece. That gentleman, like many another, wanted to economise on his postage bill; but Mr. Wellsieffer could not oblige him.

THE *Philatiste Francaise* gives the numbers of stamps contained in the albums of some of the leading German collectors, as follows: Mr. A. Treichel, of Hochpaleschken, 30,000; Mr. J. Lindman, of Furth, 32,000; Mr. A. Metzner, of Nordhausen, 28,000; Dr. A. Knizek, of Keichenberg, 21,000; Mr. J. Ott, of Friedmann, 19,000; Mr. R. Kortenbach, of Baum, 14,000 (all unused); Mr. E. W. Cohn, of Berlin, 12,000 (all unused).

PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING March 18th, 1899

London Auctions.

March 7th and 8th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 17, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

March 14th and 15th. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderson's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.15 p.m. each day.

March 16th and 17th. Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m., each day.

Stamping Collection.

The following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.

FRANCE, from October, 1862.  
AUSTRIA, down to 1867.

**General Notices.**

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

**Our Advertisement Rates.**

PAGES OF TWO COLUMNS.			
<i>For One Insertion--</i>		<i>For Six Insertions--</i>	
Whole Page ..	£ 5 0 0	Whole Page ..	per ins. 4 0 0
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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ½d. for every word.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES.**

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One Year (26 numbers) post free	3	3
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Three Months (6 numbers)	0	9

**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, MARCH 4, 1899.



THE Editor of *Stamps*, commenting upon our remarks regarding Messrs. Phil Atterley & Co.'s Philatelic Prize Competitions, has seen fit to "talk back" on the subject of advertising ethics. The Editor of *Stamps* is evidently an individual who cannot perceive the wisdom of letting well alone. He does not succeed in refuting a single statement made in this journal; on the contrary, like the proverbial Hibernian, "every time he opens his mouth he puts his foot in it." It is admitted by *Stamps* that Messrs. Phil Atterley & Co.'s advertisement was applied for in the ordinary course of business. We thought as much. And because Messrs. Phil Atterley & Co., in the ordinary course of business declined the invitation to advertise in *Stamps*, the management of that paper, adopting a very extraordinary course of business, proceeded to libel and asperse the firm advertising under the name of "Phil Atterley & Co." Newspapers adopting tactics of this description leave their victims no legal remedy. Morally, the thing is nothing better than blackmail. An advertisement is applied for—it is refused—an abusive article appears. We must admit that we had thought better of *Stamps* than this.

The statement has been made that "Phil Atterley & Co." is probably an assumed name. It is, and the secret of the real identity of the conductors of these very ingenious competitions has been well kept. We may claim that to no one save the Editor of the FORTNIGHTLY has that secret been revealed. Were we to mention the real name—a thing we have no intention of doing—it would be recognised as one of the most honoured names in British Philately; and the mere enunciation of that name would be a sufficient reply to the attack recently made by *Stamps*.

Much is made in *Stamps* of our assertion that our publishers some months ago became suspicious of *bona fides* of Messrs. Williams & Co., of Lima, Peru; and the question is asked: if we knew this why did we not speak out? But it is one thing to suspect a man and quite another to breathe one's suspicions to another. The "S.C.F." has more than once looked the libel law in the teeth; but just because we saw fit to exclude a firm from our advertising columns should we be expected to proclaim our suspicions from the house tops?

*Stamps* again declares that the "S.C.F." is even now publishing the announcements of an advertiser whose antecedents will not bear investigation. We challenge *Stamps* to name him—not necessarily in print; a private letter to our publishers will answer the purpose—but know the name, if there is a name, we must and will.

**The Variety of the Current Penny English.**

The following very interesting communication should prove of value to all collectors of British Stamps. In an early number of the FORTNIGHTLY we hope to illustrate the variety herein described.

To the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

DEAR SIRS,

I write to inform you of my investigations about the variety of the current English Penny stamp, as I promised when in London last month.

The variety is that the line of colour, which in the present stamps extend from the chin to the end of the neck, is there further extended to the bottom of the bust. On looking at a friend's collection of Control Letters, I find he has one specimen of T with the line, and another without it—all previous letters being with the line, and all the subsequent ones without it. This would fix the change of type between the dates of April, 1895, and April, 1896. Just after Xmas I looked through a lot of receipts, and though the stamps are not postage, they do very well when dates are wanted. The earliest specimens *without* line are 1895, Oct. 29th and Nov. 5th on receipts; Nov. 24th on a letter post-marked Stoke-on-Trent. In 1896 the two types seemed pretty evenly divided until May, when that *with* line almost entirely drops out. I found such on receipts dated 1896, Nov. 25th, and 1897, Feb. 2nd and April 26th, and curiously enough had one on a letter from Dover on Dec. 4th, 1898.

If Ewen's statement in his catalogue is correct, that since 1890 no record has been kept of the plates used for printing these stamps, it seems as if official information were impossible. It is exceedingly odd that I have specimens of the 1d. 14 dots, both with and without the line. The date of change in this case would of course be easily discovered by an examination of the imprimatur sheets at Somerset House. This would also decide whether in the 14 dots stamp the type without line was a variety in each sheet or a distinct stamp.

You are quite welcome to use this; but perhaps I ought to add that the variety was first chronicled in *Ewen's Weekly Circular* in November last.

Yours, etc.,

H. R. SWEETING.

**Notes on New Issues.**

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**FRANCE.**

MR. GRIGNARD sends us the current 5 centimes in a decided yellow-green, said to be the colour to conform with the regulations of the Postal Union. The type of course is No. 11.

5 centimes yellow-green (1d.)



**QUEENSLAND.**

MR. ROBINSON has again been first with a copy of the new issue 2½d. Queensland in the Postal Union colour i.e. blue, or rather violet on blue paper, similar to the English 2½d. stamp. We append illustration.

2½d. violet on blue paper (5d.)





**BRITISH INDIA.**



present 1 anna—i.e. brown.

3 pies carmine (1d).

**THE WEI-HEI-WEI STAMP.**

The stamp illustrated in our last number costs two cents and will pay for a one-ounce letter to be carried by a Chinese courier from Wei-Hei-Wei to Chefoo. Better stamps are now being made at Hong Kong. The couriers leave Wei-Hei-Wei twice a week. The distance to Chefoo is about forty miles, through very rough country.



**VIRGIN ISLANDS' NEW STAMPS.**

The decision of the Virgin Islands to revert to their old autonomy in matters postal was foreshadowed in the FORTNIGHTLY some time ago. The set, with a design somewhat reminiscent of the old "Virgin" type so dear (in more than one sense) to the hearts of philatelists, has now made its appearance; it comprises eight values—

- 4d. light green.
- 1d. carmine.
- 24d. light blue.
- 4d. brown.
- 6d. mauve.
- 7d. dark green.
- 1sh. yellow.
- 5sh. dark blue.

(Set of 8 13/6).

**CEYLON.**



MR. LOUIS VAN HIER, the Hon. Sec., of the Ceylon Philatelic Society, sends us a specimen of the annexed provisional, stating that this new surcharge was specially made for the postage to Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, Aden, Natal, etc., and will only be in circulation a month or two until the proper supply has arrived from London. No doubt these stamps will become somewhat rare.

However, we have since received a number of letters franked with this stamp only, which would indicate that 6c. equals 1d. six cents, black on 15c. olive (3d.)

**NEW SOUTH WALES.**

Messrs. SMYTH & NICOLLE with their usual promptitude send us specimens of the recent issues of New South Wales. It will be remembered that owing to the amended regulations for the Postal Union which come into force on 1st January, 1900, all 1/2d., 1d., and 2 1/2d. values should be uniform in colour, i.e. green, red and blue respectively. At the last moment, no doubt owing to the fact that the 6d. which was changed from carmine to green in May last, would now be of the same shade as the new 1/2d., this also has now been changed to orange. As the emerald green 6d. was only issued in May last, and as most of the New South Wales Post Offices had a sufficient supply of the old carmine shade, very few copies have been used, and, unless a large stock was printed, this 6d. emerald green should become rare. We have now to chronicle the following :



1/2d. deep sea-green (1d.)

2 1/2d. indigo-blue (1d.)

6d. orange (10d.)

**CHILI.**

MR. BITENCOURT, of Valparaiso, notifies us of an impending issue of the 30 centavos stamp: this would be about 4d. face value according to to-day's exchange.

**GUATEMALA.**

MR. W. H. PECKITT sends us the twenty-three provisionals recently issued. There are a number of varieties in the surcharges such as thin and thick letters which however we think are of very little importance. We therefore chronicle:



Fiscal (for Document) 1 Centavo blue surcharged Correos Nacionales



Surcharged on 1886 issue.

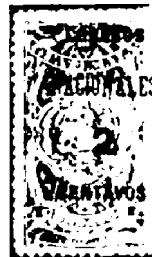
- 1 centavo on 5 centavos mauve (surch. in red).
- 1 .. 25 .. orange ( .. black).
- 1 .. 50 .. green ( .. red and black).

Thicker type 1 centavo on 5c. mauve, inverted.

The surcharge on the 50c. green is undoubtedly in red and black on the specimen we have before us, but we believe the surcharge is meant to be red, the black trace emanating from dirty plates.



**Bill Stamps surcharged.**



- 1 centavo red on 10 centavos green.
- 2 .. black on 1 centavo deep pink.
- 2 .. carmine on 5 centavos mauve.
- 2 .. black on 25 centavos red.
- 2 .. red on 50 centavos blue.
- 6 .. black on 1 peso mauve.
- 9 .. black on 5 peso blue mauve.
- 6 .. black on 10 peso green.



Surcharge on 1896 issue.

- 6 centavos carmine on 5 centavos mauve.
- 6 .. black on 10 .. red.
- 6 .. black on 20 .. green.
- 6 .. black on 100c. brown.
- 6 .. red on 150c. slate-blue.
- 6 .. black on 200c. yellow.



10 centavo red on 20c. green.

We have also seen the 10 centavos blue on the 200c. yellow, belonging to the 1894 issue with double surcharge.



The figures in brackets represent the prices at which Messrs. Hilckes & Co., Ltd., can supply the stamps mentioned. Postage extra.

# The Stamps and Post Cards of Hong Kong.

MR. JUAN MENCARINI'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

(Continued from page 87).

WE now proceed to reprint by special permission, the excellent list of Hong Kong stamps and cards given in Mr. Mencarini's book.

Our author gives no prices, but prints a cash column so that all who "pays their money" for the book can "take their ch'ice" as to values.

## DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE STAMPS AND POST-CARDS OF HONG KONG.

1862, October. Typographed Effigy to left of Queen Victoria in rectangle, Hong Kong above, value below, Chinese characters at sides, Colour on white wove paper. No watermark.

Perforation 14. Size 19 by 22½ mm.

1	2 cents	..	..	..	pale brown.
1a	2	"	..	..	deep brown.
1b	2	"	..	..	yellow-brown.
2	8	"	..	..	dull yellow.
3	12	"	..	..	pale blue.
4	18	"	..	..	lilac.
5	24	"	..	..	green.
6	48	"	..	..	rose.
7	96	"	..	..	slate.

1863, August. Same as above, watermarked Crown and CC.

8	4 cents	..	..	..	grey.
8a	4	"	..	..	slate.
9	6	"	..	..	lilac.
9a	6	"	..	..	mauve,
10	30	"	..	..	vermillion.
10a	30	"	..	..	orange.

1865. The same.

11	2 cents	..	..	..	brown.
11a	2	"	..	..	pale brown.
12	8	"	..	..	yellow.
12a	8	"	..	..	orange.
13	12	"	..	..	blue.
13a	12	"	..	..	pale blue.
14	24	"	..	..	green.
14a	24	"	..	..	pale green.
15	48	"	..	..	rose.
15a	48	"	..	..	pale rose.
16	96	"	..	..	yellow-brown,
17	96	"	..	..	grey.

The same, perforated 12.

8b	4 cents	..	..	..	grey.
17a	96	"	..	..	grey.

The same, imperforate.

11b	2 cents	..	..	..	brown.
10b	30	"	..	..	vermillion.

1851. The same, perforated 14.

18	30 cents	..	..	..	lilac.
18a	30	"	..	..	mauve.

1875. The same.

19	18 cents	..	..	..	lilac.
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The same, imperforate.

19a	18 cents	..	..	..	lilac.
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1876, August, the same, perforated 14.

20	16 cents	..	..	..	yellow.
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1880, May, the same.

21	2 cents	..	..	..	rose.
21a	2	"	..	..	pale rose.

1880, July, the same.

22	5 cents	..	..	..	ultramarine.
23	10	"	..	..	lilac.
24	48	"	..	..	brown.

1882 May, the same watermarked Crown CA.

Clear impression.

25	5 cents	..	..	..	ultramarine.
26	10	"	..	..	violet.

The same, but rough impression.

25a	5 cents	..	..	..	ultramarine.
26a	10	"	..	..	violet.

1882 July, the same clear impression.

27	2 cents	..	..	..	rose.
27a	2	"	..	..	dark rose.

The same, but rough impression.

27b	2 cents	..	..	..	rose.
27c	2	"	..	..	dark rose.

1883 April, the same.

28	10 cents	..	..	..	light green.
28a	10	"	..	..	deep green.
28b	10	"	..	..	blue green.

1891 January, the same on brick-red wove paper.

Clear impression.

29	10 cents	..	..	..	brown violet.
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The same, but inverted watermark.

29a	10 cents	..	..	..	brown violet.
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The same, but rough impressions.

29b	30 cents	..	..	..	brown violet.
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The same on white wove paper.

30	30 cents	..	..	..	green.
30a	30	"	..	..	sage green.
30b	30	"	..	..	pale green.

1896, January, the same.

31	4 cents	..	..	..	grey.
31a	4	"	..	..	slate.

1898, August.

32	1 dollar	..	..	..	black.
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### PROVISIONAL ISSUES.

1876, June.

33	16 cents	black on 18 cents lilac, No. 19.
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1876, December.

34	28 cents	black on 30 cents lilac, No. 10.
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1879, March.

35	5 cents	black on 18 cents lilac, No. 19.
36	10	" (thin letters) black on 12 cents blue, No. 13.
36a	10	" (thick " ) " 12 " " 13.

1879, May.

37	10 cents	black on 16 cents yellow, No. 20.
38	10	" " 24 " green, No. 14.

1880, September.

39	5 cents	black on 8 cents yellow, No. 12.
39a	5	" " 8 " orange, No. 12a.

The same, but surcharge inverted.

29b	5 cents	black on 8 cents orange, No. 12a.
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1885, June, Surcharged in English only.

40	20 cents	black on 30 cents vermillion, No. 10.
41	50	" " 48 " brown, No. 24.
42	1 dollar	" 96 " grey, No. 17.

1891, January, Surcharged in English only.

43	20 cents	black on 30 cents green, No. 30.
44	50	" " 48 " violet.
45	1 dollar	" 96 " brown on brick red.

The same, but surcharged in English and Chinese.

46	20 cents	black on 30 cents green, No. 30.
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(Of this, there are three distinct sizes in the surcharged Chinese characters, denoting change of value. There are also several varieties in the English surcharging types).

47 50 cents black on 48 cents violet.  
 48 1 dollar .. 96 .. brown on brick red.  
 (Of this there are two distinct sizes in the surcharged Chinese characters denoting change of value).

49 7 cents black on 10 cents green, No. 28.

1891, January 22nd, overprinted in black on 2 cents rose of 1882 issue, No. 27. "1841 Hongkong Jubilee 1891," in 4 lines. Only were in use for 3 days,

50 2 cents .. .. dark rose.  
 50a 2 .. .. rose.  
 50b 2 .. .. double surcharge.

(Of this there are 3 varieties).

50c 2 cents .. .. rose, U of Jubilee shorter.  
 50d 2 .. .. " J " "  
 50e 2 .. .. tall K in Kong.  
 50f 2 .. .. stroke between 1841.  
 50g 2 .. .. broken : in first figure of 1891.  
 50h 2 .. .. " 8 in 1841.  
 50i 2 .. .. small i in Jubilee.

1891, April, surcharge on 1871 issue.

51 14 cents black on 30 cents lilac, No. 18.

1097, December, the same, but with English and Chinese characters.

52 10 cents black on 30 cents green, No. 30.

There are several sized and broken types of this surcharge, also varieties in shades.

The same, but with larger Chinese characters.

52a 10 cents black on 30 cents green, No. 30.

The same, but without Chinese surcharge.

52b 10 cents black on 30 cents green, No. 30.

The same, watermarked Crown and CA., with English and Chinese surcharge.

53 1 dollar black on 96 cents grey.

53a 1 .. .. 96 .. dark slate.

FISCALS USED FOR POSTAGE.

Large typographed rectangular stamp, with head of Queen Victoria to left, Stamp Duty at top. Value and Hong Kong below. Chinese characters at sides, colour on white wove paper. Frames varying. Size 25 by 30 mm. Perforated 15. Watermarked Crown and CC.

1867.

54 3 cents .. .. orange  
 54a 3 .. .. yellow.  
 54b 3 .. .. violet.  
 55 25 .. .. green.  
 36 1 dollar and 50 cents .. claret.

The same, but on blue paper.

57 3 cents .. .. yellow.  
 58 3 .. .. violet.

1891, January, small rectangle, size 19 by 22½ m.m. perforated 14, watermarked Crown and CA.

59 2 cents .. .. slate.  
 60 2 .. .. lilac.

1873. Large rectangle same as 1867 stamps.

61 30 cents .. .. lilac.

1874, December. The same.

62 2 dollars .. .. sage-green.  
 63 3 .. .. lilac.  
 64 10 .. .. rose.

1882, January, size 25 by 33 m.m.

65 50 cents .. .. purple.  
 66 1 dollar .. .. blue.  
 67 1 .. .. lilac.

1882, March. The same.

68 1 cent .. .. mauve.  
 69 3 cents .. .. "  
 70 5 .. .. "  
 71 10 .. .. "  
 72 50 .. .. "  
 73 50 .. .. brown.  
 74 50 .. .. green.

1890, December. The same, but perforation 14.

75 2 dollars .. .. pale green.

1892, January. The same.

76 10 dollars .. .. green.

PROVISIONAL ISSUES.

77 12 cents black on 10 dollar rose No. 64.

1891, January. The same on red wove paper.

78 5 dollars black on 10 dollars brown on brick-red.

1897, October. With Chinese characters.

79 1 dollar on 2 dollars sage green, No. 62.

1897, December. With Chinese characters.

80 1 dollar on 2 dollars pale green, No. 75.

The same, but without Chinese characters.

80a 1 dollar on 2 dollars pale green, No. 75.

OFFICIAL STAMPS.

Postal stamps surcharged for Fiscal purposes but used postally.

1892. Current stamps surcharged in black.

81 2 cents rose, black surcharged S.O. (Stamp Office).

82 2 .. .. S.D. (Stamp Duty).

83 10 .. violet-brown .. S.O. (Stamp Office).

1893, June. Officially sealed large oblong label, no value, perf. 12. Inscriptions within a frame of type set ornaments, printed in a brown upon a blue ground-work of a fancy pattern.

84 Brown and blue

(To be continued).

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



THE subject of British Postmarks has elicited another letter from "Duplex," the author of the interesting remarks recently published in this column:

I have received many interesting communications from postmark collectors as a result of my letter appearing in your last issue.

One of the most interesting of these was from Mr. Geo. Mackey, having reference to coloured obliterations.

It will be remembered I stated that the violet, yellow, and greenish hues occurring in the Maltese Cross mark were no doubt due to some chemical action. I was led to infer this because all the copies of these colours I had seen were very poor, faintly marked ones and looked as if they were the result of chemical change. Mr. Mackey, however, kindly sent for my inspection brilliant, and most decided examples of this mark in the colours carmine, purple, yellow, and green. He stated that he has seen a cover bearing "Llanerchymedd Penny Post," date mark, and Maltese Cross on stamp were all printed in bright purple, and also a copy of the bright green Maltese Cross on black stamp having the dated postmark impressed in the same shade of green. He puts forward as a feasible theory for the origin of these colours, that the postmaster (or mistress) dipped the Maltese Cross hand-stamp in the ink intended for the date mark, rather than take the trouble to use the *separate* ink intended for each stamp.

It will thus be seen from the foregoing that undisputed copies of the Maltese Cross do exist in the colours red, black, blue, purple, carmine, yellow, and green and possibly in other colours I have not yet heard of.

Mr. F. F. Empson writes:—

A number of Uganda stamps are about with forged postmarks. There was no official stamp until last November which was Kampala; the bogus postmarks are "Kihurn" and Aukoli." There are also green stamps of the 1st issue, and Mr. Millar (who made them all) says he only typed in black and violet.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## Another Richmond in the Persian Field.

THESE writers on Persia are getting numerous. Mr. W. Kühn, in the *Junior Stamp Collector* is almost as discursive, in the beginning, as Mr. C. Forbes in the *Philatelic Record*. However, when Mr. Kühn settles down to business he goes ahead at a great rate, and packs into three short columns of type almost as many facts as would suffice other writers to fill a book. We are again told that the stamps of Persia are "peculiarly interesting." It has been said so often that one begins to grow suspicious of its truth. Certainly Persia as a country for the philatelic students, is full of traps and pitfalls; and on that account the excellent articles that are now being written should be warmly welcomed by beginners and by "medium" collectors.

## Varieties of Halfpenny Maltese Stamps.

Mr. Edmund Rizzo, in the February number of the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser*, continues his articles on Maltese Stamps. We reprinted his first article *in extenso* in the FORTNIGHTLY, No. —. In this second paper Mr. Rizzo goes fully into the subject of the varieties of the halfpenny stamps:

Although the design of the stamp in question has always remained the same, yet by referring to the catalogue we find that there are seven varieties of the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow stamp of Malta, viz:

CC., 1863	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. buff	perf 14
1864	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. "	" 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow buff	" 12 $\frac{1}{2}$
1871-75	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow buff	" 14
	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. golden yellow	" 14
	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow buff	" 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 11
CA., 1882	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. " "	" 11

Arguing from the limited number of stamps that was then used for local purposes we can easily conclude that all the six varieties were not printed in different epochs, so close to each other as for example the first and the second variety. It is ascertained that all commissions sent to the Crown Agents were of £40 each, and we can never presume that £40 worth of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps were sold by the Post Office in Malta in such a short space of time for the local requirements. It is undeniable that the varieties exist, but such varieties have not all been printed in different epochs.

From what we see, the varieties of this stamp consist in either the perforation or the scale of colour. The latter arises certainly from some chemical combination in colouring the dies, in fact you meet with stamps of different yellow, although printed and used at one and the same time. The former is undoubtedly due to the difference of perforating machines used for stamps.

The watermark of almost all the stamps of the British Colonies were, between the year 1881 and 1882, changed from Crown and CC. to Crown and CA. The stamps of Malta underwent this change towards the close of 1882. In 1885 the Post Office administration passed from the hands of the Imperial Government to those of the Local Government. The stamps of Great Britain, which were then used for letters, &c. sent abroad, were supplanted by the present set of Malta stamps, and the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow stamp besides changing its colour into green has also changed its use and began to travel on letters sent abroad.

The Postmaster General who was in charge of the Post Office in Malta at the time of the transfer, knowing that by this transfer the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow Malta stamps was about to cease to exist, and foreseeing that it would be a good speculation to keep for himself the whole stock remaining, has bought the whole lot and carried it with him to England. This is the cause why the Crown and CA.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. yellow is not so easily met with in Malta as the Crown and CC.

The *Melita Philatelic Chronicle* presents solid evidence of the steady growth of philately in the island of Malta. A Maltese Philatelic Society, we learn, is now being formed; and the *M.P.C.* will act as its official organ.

## Stamp Collecting Then and Now.

A recent article in *The Queen* on stamps compares the philately of a past generation with the stamp collecting of to-day.

When I was a boy (says the writer), everyone collected foreign stamps, and it was a very healthy form of exercise, because boys

had such a mania for it that they spent the money on stamps which would naturally have gone upon impure sweets and defective fruit. It also taught them geography, though no one ever knew were Thurn and Taxis were, which provided the bulk of that geographical expression Germany with postal facilities. Germany is no longer a geographical expression, and Thurn and Taxis no longer have a post office, and boys nowadays do not keep the track of South American geography and revolutions as they used to. The gentle art of stamp collecting, whether slowly and laboriously from correspondence (most of the collectors had not any foreign correspondents), or from other people's collections (when they were not looking), or by purchase from Stafford Smith & Co. (a household words in those days), has passed for the most part into the hands of expert collectors of the same order as chin-tin-niacs. Some of them, like the Duke of York, do not collect foreign stamps at all, but only British and Colonial stamps, a truly Imperial ambition. The business done between Stafford Smith and schoolboys in the old days was amazing. New collectors brought sixpenny and shilling packets of stamps, for which they had to pay far higher prices than they have to pay now, when you can start your son with a collection of a thousand stamps for next to nothing.

But on the other hand single stamps which you bought then for a few pence have now fancy and (when you come to sell them) fictitious values. The *modus operandi* was as follows: A schoolboy with a respectable school address was entrusted with a sheet of stamps varying in value between a penny and a shilling each. He was allowed a commission on all the stamps he could sell to his schoolfellows, which practically amounted to a discount on all he sold to himself, as every boy in the school sent for a sheet.

A very brisk business was done at Temple Grove, the well-known preparatory school for Eton, where I spent my years between ten and thirteen, in spite of the fact that we were none of us allowed to have any money in our pockets. Of course we had, we shirked, *i.e.* kept back part of our pocket money, at the risk of being swished, *i.e.* birched without any intervening clothes. The reason why we were not allowed to have any pocket-money was doubtless, to prevent the rich boys and sucking peers from swaggering over the boys of ordinary means.

But nowadays stamp collecting is, I take it, conducted almost entirely by purchase. I presume that the late Harold Frederick made his fine collection in this way, and that he spent on it very much more than the eighty-five pounds received for it by his executors; but that is always the way if you sell when you want to sell and not when the purchaser wants to buy.

## Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

The *Stamp Collectors' Advertiser* is issued as a supplement to the *Junior Stamp Collector*. Do stamp collectors need an "Advertiser"?

*Stamp Talk*, of Kansas City, is a perky little paper, and one whose simple but striking cover compels attention. Personalities, some of them sharply pointed, are a feature. It is suggested, for instance, "that Kissinger has quit lying and joined the Salvation Army." Mr. Kissinger's answer to this double-barrelled allegation ought to be worth reading.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* is edited in Chicago, published in St. Louis, and read all over the world. (We are offering the copyright of that snappy sentence cheap, if Mr. "Ike" Mekeel is a buyer). One of the most recent numbers of "Mekeel" to hand in Cheapside is a specially big number, with a special cover illustrating, in map form, the "empire" of Uncle Samuel up to date. In a recent note (in reply to the FORTNIGHTLY's strictures as to the jumbling of advertisements and reading matter) a *Mekeel's Weekly* writer declares that that journal caters for American stamp dealers. In that case we have nothing more to say. It was stupid of us, of course; but we had an idea that it catered for American stamp collectors. Be that as it may it is an exchange we should be very sorry to lose.

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*The Correct Value of Every Stamp is Given,*

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If you have a Collection or Rare Duplicates which  
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 the largest collectors in Scotland being present. Please  
 note that :

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers, Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite  
 often enough.
- (4) The Lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of  
 collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every Sale held during the present  
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1899.—MARCH 16th and 17th; APRIL 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st; MAY 4th and 5th, 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

**March 16th and 17th.**—MESSRS. VENTOM, BULL & COOPER have received instructions to Sell a Very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including the following:—GREAT BRITAIN, 5/- plates 2 and 4, in mint state, and fine unused blocks of lower values; 2/- brown, unused; 1/- black, V.R., unused. SPAIN, 1852, 2 reales. RARE OLDENBURG. CEYLON, 1 g. MAURITIUS, early 1d. and 2d. post paid. NEWFOUNDLAND, 1/- orange and 1/- vermilion. NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/- violet, and the Connell, unused. NOVA SCOTIA, 1/- violet. ST. VINCENT, provl., 1d. on 6d. and 4d. on 1/- vermilion. Fine triangular CAPES, including Woodblocks, VICTORIA, 6d. orange, beaded oval, fine. UNITED STATES, a good selection. And many others. Also a few Collections.

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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1899.—March 21st and 22nd.

April 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th.  
June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

May 9th, 10th, 30th and 31st.

**O**WING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.  
 Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.  
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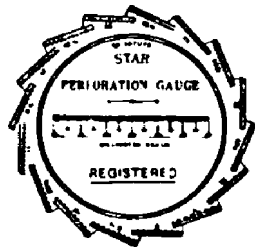
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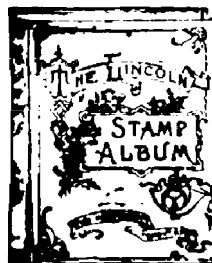
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Read it, it is entitled:

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ONCE upon a time, in a rural village of England, dwelt a man who felt he was not born to blush unseen. He thirsted for journalistic fame and published a journal which was called "VAMPS." This journal was devoted to the interests of philatelists and shed a dim religious light on various matters which had already been satisfactorily thrashed out in other journals. And it took for its watchwords: "How doth the little busy bee."

In course of time there were six readers of the columns of "VAMPS," and five advertisers therein; and the editor, being an enterprising man, naturally wished to equalize the number of his advertisers with the number of his readers; POUR ENCOURAGER LES AUTRES. And it came to pass that he asked a well-known firm named "STAMP BROTHERS" to walk into his parlour. But the latter were too fly, indeed they were too proud, to accept this medium. Said they to themselves—"No! we will let these VAMPERS live in darkness."

Then was the editor of "VAMPS" very wrath. "Pride goeth before a fall" he muttered, between his clenched teeth, and amalgamating "How doth the little busy bee" with the proud motto: "PRO SALUS POPULI" he maligned Messrs. "STAMP BROTHERS" to his six readers in the very next number of his journal, and hinted that an action at law, as between "STAMP BROTHERS" and himself, would be a natural sequence of events.

But "STAMP BROTHERS" were wise in their generation, and again communing within themselves said "The law is a *hass*; we will spend our money on other forms of advertisement."

And the advertisements of "STAMP BROS." appeared in the well-known stamp journals as heretofore, and their business flourished exceedingly."

And it was rumoured that the editor of "Vamps" was still seeking his sixth advertiser.

We will give the £5 prize to the sender of the correct name of the author of the phrase. This name can be made up from among the initial letters of the countries represented in this month's 1/- prize packet.

Each packet contains 35 stamps from 35 different countries; and in finding the name of the author, the initial of any country must not be used twice, but where two or more countries have the same initial this letter may, of course, be used two or more times. In a compound name like "Hong Kong," only the first initial may be used. The packet of 35 different stamps contains: France, 5c. unused, new colour, Feb., 1899. NEW-FOUNDLAND, 2c., fish. WESTERN AUSTRALIA, Long Fiscal, Used Postally. TRANSVAAL, Commemoration Stan.p. Obock, obsolete. UNITED STATES, 5c. blue of 1879. Dominican Republic. Cape, Venezuela, Ecuador, India, Mexico Angola, Victoria, 1d. green, etc.

This packet will be sent for 1/- post free.

Write the name of the author which you think to be the correct one on the envelope in which you receive the packet, together with your own name and address, and post to reach us not later than March 1st. If more than one correct solution be received, the prize will be divided, and it will be paid in cash on or before the 1st of April. The name and address of the winner will be published in the "Fortnightly" for April the 15th. The result of our February Competition will be published in the next number of the "Fortnightly."

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Beg to announce that

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At 6.30 p.m. sharp.

Stamps will be on View and Catalogues may be obtained—

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 117—VOL. V.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
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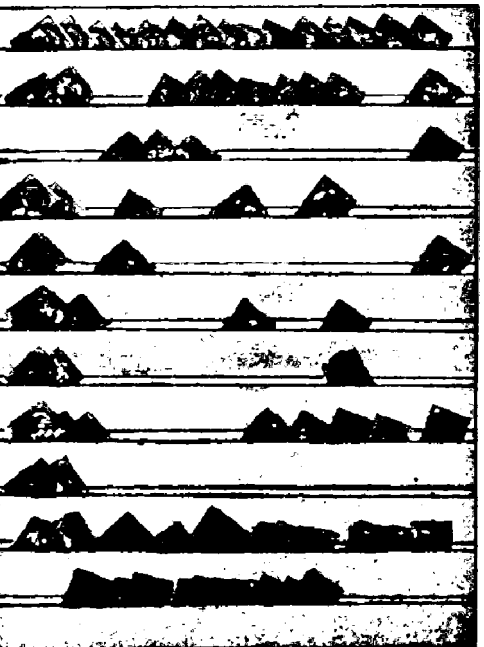
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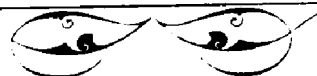
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## Doings of Societies.

### THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

President: Mr. P. I. LLOYD.

Vice-President: Mr. F. E. ELLISON.

Committee:

MESSRS. A. BIRD, N. G. HAVEN, D. H. MCPHERSON, and I. H. REYNOLDS.

Hon. Sec. and Treas.: Mr. R. DALTON,  
30, Carnarvon Road, Redland.

Hon. Librarian: Mr. T. C. CARTWRIGHT,  
17, York Crescent Road, Clifton.

Hon. Exchange Packet Secretary: Mr. J. P. WAY, 31, Manor Road, Redland.

The 36th Meeting of this Society was held on Thursday Evening the 2nd inst.

In the absence of both the President and Vice-President, Mr. Bird was requested to take the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, it was proposed and carried, that the "Junior Stamp Collector" be purchased for the use of the library.

An album containing part of the general collection of one of the members was then shown, and Mr. T. C. Cartwright passed round five sheets of the U.S.A. Carrier and Local Stamps—which are interesting as records of what private enterprise did half a century ago, before the State had sole control of the Postal Service.

### THE COLLECTORS CLUB, NEW YORK.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

WILLIAM THORPE, *President*.

P. F. BRUNER, *Vice-President*.

JOHN W. SCOTT, *Treasurer*, 40, John Street.  
J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary*, 29 West 75th Street.

HENRY L. CALMAN. JOHN N. LUFF.  
HIRAM E. DEATS. J. H. STEBBINS, JR.  
ALBERT PERRIN.

Thirty-sixth meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, pursuant to special call on Saturday, Feb. 18th, 1899.

Present, Messrs. Thorne, Bruner, Calman, Luff, Perrin, Scott, Stebbins, and the Secretary.

The Committee on purchase of books was authorized to complete the proposed purchase of books from Mr. Deats.

The question of new headquarters was thoroughly discussed, and a committee appointed to search for a suitable house and report thereon without delay. The Chairman named Messrs. Bruner, Luff, Perrin and Stebbins as such committee with power to add to their number.

Thirty-seventh meeting of the Board of Governors, held at the Club House, February 23rd, 1899.

Vice-President Bruner, called the meeting to order, at 8.30 p.m. The following Governors being present: Bruner, Calman, Luff, Perrin, Scott, Stebbins, and the Secretary.

The minutes of the preceding meeting having been read and approved, the Secretary stated that at the request of Mr. C. P. Krauth, through Mr. Luff, he had issued a two week's visitor's ticket to Dr. Hazzard, of Pittsburg, Pa.

The Committee on Headquarters made a full report and the Governors thereupon resolved that the Committee be authorized to close for a lease of 3 years, of house 41 E. 19th street, at \$1,800 per year, provided that proper repairs be made as suggested by the Committee, also provided that a bonus of \$1,000 for the first two years and \$500 for the third year be paid by the owners should the lease be cancelled at owner's request.

Amended as follows: In case that the above negotiations fall through then the President is hereby authorized to renew the present lease of 351 Fourth avenue, and the Committee shall proceed to make the alterations necessary to extend the billiard room. Motion as amended was duly carried.

The Secretary was instructed to call a special meeting as soon as he heard from the Chairman of Committee on Headquarters that the negotiations about house 41 E. 19th street, have been closed.

Adjourned at 9.20 p.m.,  
J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

The usual Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 1st, at Bird's Restaurant, and was devoted to an exhibition of the stamps of Spain. Mr. Pearce (the President), showed a fine collection, whilst Mr. Hunt's collection was practically complete, and was specially noticeable for the rare stamps of the earlier issues. Mr. Chapman, who also read a paper on the varieties and errors of Spanish stamps, showed a very complete collection, including a number of patriotic war stamps, which were voluntarily bought during the late war by the patriotic spaniards to increase the war fund. After spending a very pleasant evening the meeting adjourned, Mr. Sneath promising at the following meeting to read a paper on "Forgeries."

### LONDON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The fourth meeting of the season 1898-99 was held at Effingham House, on Friday, the 9th December, 1898, at 7.45 p.m., twenty-one members being present, in addition to two visitors. Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President, took the chair.

Mr. Ehrenbach proposed for inspection of members a *lute-biche* pair of the 1d., rose, embossed stamp of Natal, which apparently has not before been chronicled in this condition and also a fine pair of the 9d. stamp of the same issue.

Mr. Ehrenbach afterwards read a short paper on the 1866-72 issues of Uruguay—the large figure issues—in which he gave full particulars of the varieties and errors to be found, explaining in detail the various printings of all the values, and illustrating his remarks by a fine series of the stamps taken from his own collection.

Mr. Frenzel gave a display of rarities and curiosities in his collection of the stamps of Mexico. Both he and Mr. Ehrenbach were voted the hearty thanks of the meeting.

The fifth meeting of the season was held on Friday, the 30th December, at 7.45 p.m., fourteen members attending.

The Secretary, Mr. J. A. Tilleard, having reported the death of Mr. Pearson Hill, it was resolved, on the motion of the Vice-President, (Mr. Castle) seconded by Mr. Bacon, "That the members of the Philatelic Society, London, have heard with very great regret of the death of their esteemed fellow-member Mr. Pearson Hill, and desire to express their sincere sympathy with his family in their affliction."

Letters were read from Mr. J. C. Potter, the Rev. Neville Borton, Mr. J. N. Mostyn, and Mr. T. Dorman, announcing their desire to resign their membership, and the resignations were directed to be accepted with regret.

The receipt from Mr. Gordon Smith of some interesting "franks" for the Society's collection was directed to be acknowledged with thanks.

Mr. J. W. Mercer, was elected a member of the Society.

The special business of the evening consisted of a display of the stamps of Hong Kong by Mr. Hausburg, and in his absence abroad the stamps were shown and explained by Mr. Gordon Smith.

### 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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BREAKING COLLECTION. Suit advanced, B medium and beginners. Half catalogue sheets on approval.—PEEKE, Greave's Villa, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

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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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**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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| The Liverpool Philatelic Society.  | Bristol Philatelic Society.              | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society. |
| The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.  | Rochdale Philatelic Society.             | Sheffield Philatelic Society.         |
| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

No. 117.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### "WILLIAMS & CO." IN PARIS.

STARTLING news aient the now notorious firm of Williams & Co., of Lima, Peru, comes to us in the issue of *Revue Philatelique*, dated February 25th. The French Philatelic Society's organ has done good work in this connection, by the way, its columns being among the first to warn philatelists against the adventurers of Lima.

It now appears that "Williams," or "Casnough," has recently visited Paris, where he described himself as Mr. W. Loupall, of High Street, New Jersey. He stayed, while in Paris, at the Hotel Fox, 25, Rue d'Amsterdam. He might be there still but for an unexpected and unwelcome meeting with a philatelist who had been instrumental in warning stamp collectors against him. "Monsieur Williams," the French journal informs us, "at once quitted Paris for some destination unknown."

It is a pity. He was such a polite man, according to all accounts, that Paris seemed to be just the right place for him. As the *Revue Philatelique* remarks: "By a delicate attention, he Williams came here to visit all those persons who had sent parcels of stamps to Lima;" but as our contemporary shly suggests, he had no intention of insulting these good folks by returning them their stamps.

Mr. "Williams," it seems, is of English build and appearance, and of blonde complexion.

### WHO IS WILLIAMS?

All sorts of conjectures have been rife as to the identity of Williams or Casnough. The suggestion that he and our old "friend" Tonasso Coelho might be one and the same

person is knocked on the head by the description quoted above. "Can he be Ovingly?" the American papers are asking, and one writer in the *Weekly Philatelic Era* makes the suggestion quite seriously that Williams is no other than the well-known American philatelic "crook" gone to fresh woods and pastures new. There is also a whispered suggestion that there may be a close connection between "Williams and Co." and a certain Mr. Harold Conne.

The revelations now being made in various quarters go to prove that the operations of these *chevaliers d'industrie* of Lima, Peru, have been on a colossal scale. A writer in one transatlantic journal—the *Era Monthly Collector*—estimates that the "sendings" of stamps from Canada and the States will aggregate not less than \$100,000; but it is difficult to understand what ground this gentleman can have had for arriving at even the roughest estimate.

### HAWAII HAS NO STAMPS.

Although Hawaii is now "American soil," it does not become part and parcel of the United States for postage-stamp purposes until July 4th next; and meantime a somewhat curious state of things exists—or existed at the time the following paragraph was written for the *Weekly Philatelic Era*

The supply of two-cent Hawaiian stamps and one-cent postal card, has just been exhausted. More had been ordered, whether or not in new colours our correspondent was not informed—but the order either went astray or else the American Bank Note Co. concluded that it was revoked by the annexation of the Islands. It is not yet known what action may be taken by the authorities to supply the demand for the missing stamps.

### THIS IS GOOD NEWS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND.

We rejoice to learn from a correspondent in the colony that all the plates, dies, &c., of the Newfoundland stamps of 1896 to 1898 have now been destroyed by fire. The plates of later date, in possession of the British American Bank Note Company, of Montreal, have also "perished in the flames," so there is no "possible probable shadow of doubt" that we are free from all danger of reprints of any of the Newfoundland issues down to the Cabot series.

### OVER 400 STAMP DEALERS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

A rough calculation of the number of names included in the latest (which is the eleventh edition of Mr. Nunn's Directory of the Stamp Dealers of Great Britain, shows that there are over four hundred individuals or firms in the United Kingdom practising philately as a trade. Some of them are big and some are little, and Mr. C. H. Nunn, with a rare chivalry, places most of the little men in big black type.

**AN EXCHANGE CLUB PACKET BURGLER.**

REWARD OF £10 OFFERED.

SOMETHING of a sensation has been caused by the news of an exchange packet robbery, the authorship of which is at present shrouded in mystery. Here is the story as told by *Stamps*, of Rushden :

One of the January packets of the South-West Lancashire Exchange Club has been tampered with, the whole of the sheets, value £256 (gross) having been abstracted, and foolscap paper substituted to the same weight as that of the original contents.

The packet, it appears, was received with the sheets in order, by a member living at Handsworth, Birmingham, who states that he despatched it in due course to a member at Hetton-le-Hole, Co. Durham. This gentleman received the packet as he was leaving for business and took the parcel with him. On opening it in the train, he was astonished to find that the contents consisted only of plain foolscap paper, together with the postal list and the cards for advising the Secretary of the despatch of packet. The packet, it appears, was registered at the High Street, Birmingham Post Office, on the 4th February and was received by the addressee on the Monday (6th February). During Sunday it was presumably in charge of the postal authorities at an intermediate office.

Whoever the thief may be, his precautions against discovery were not so careful as he anticipated, for a clue was left that will, it is hoped, lead to the capture and prosecution of the thieves. The matter is being investigated by the Post Office authorities as well as by the police, the latter having been instructed by the Hon. Sec. of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society. If any dealer or collector has been offered stamps on S.W. Lanc.'s (January) Club Sheets, he is earnestly requested to communicate at once with Mr. Ditchfield, 194, Doning Street, Wigan.

£5 reward will be paid by the Committee of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, for information leading to the conviction of the thieves. This will be further supplemented by a further reward of £5 by the Proprietor of *Stamps*.

**THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.**

SINCE the Prospectus of the above was issued, the following further offers of Special Medals have been accepted by the Committee :

*Bradford Philatelic Society.*—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the best exhibits by a resident in Yorkshire.

*Liverpool Philatelic Society.*—One Silver and one Bronze Medal for the best exhibits from Liverpool and district (*i.e.* within a radius of 15 miles).

*Plymouth Philatelic Society.*—One Silver Medal for the best exhibit shown in Class II. of uncatalogued varieties, consisting of stamps issued up to the end of 1896, and not catalogued by Stanley Gibbons or Scott.

*Messrs. Bright & Son.*—One Silver Medal for the best exhibit of Holland in Class II.

*Messrs. Witch Brothers.*—One Bronze Medal for the best and most accurate colour chart, consisting of genuine Government Postal Issues with colours named, Seebecks, Reprints, Locals and Forgeries being excluded.

By a clerical error in the Prospectus, which the Committee greatly regret, and which was only discovered after most of the copies were in circulation, the name of Mr. A. H. Stamford, and the medal which he has offered for competition, have been associated with the Philatelic Society of Sheffield, instead of with that of Bradford.

**CAPE TOWN'S NEW PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A MOST successful meeting of the newly-formed Cape Town Philatelic Society (the formation of which has already been briefly announced in the *FORTNIGHTLY*) was held on Monday evening, December 12th, 1898, at Kamp's Café, when about twenty ladies and gentlemen were present, all of whom have joined the Society, and in addition letters were received from several collectors unable to be present. Rules were submitted and approved, and the following committee and officers elected : Committee, R. T. A. Innes, M. J. M. Bellasyse, G. Jackson, R. M. Lightfoot, Mrs. Cartwright and Miss Warren ; Treasurer, H. M. Humphris ; Secretary, B. W. Bell. The annual subscription was fixed at 5/- ; meetings to be held on the second Monday in each month. Any collector wishing to obtain further information should address the Secretary, P.O. Box 43, Cape Town.

**DEATH OF JOHN SIEWERT OF MOSCOW.**

IT is with very great regret that the *Monthly Journal* announces the death of Mr. John Siewert of Moscow. In 1884 the late Mr. Siewert founded the Moscow Philatelic Society, which, without his great zeal, would never have been started, as by his energy and good management he was able to seek out and bring together a number of collectors in Moscow who were not formerly known to one another. Mr. Siewert was extremely energetic, and did a great deal to encourage and keep up the interest in our hobby amongst the members of the club by often reading articles, and by taking great pains to secure new issues from correspondents abroad and supplying them to the members at cost price, a small matter, but which was much appreciated. The late Mr. Siewert had a very good general knowledge of stamps, but his speciality has always been the collecting of British Colonials. Of these he had an exceptional collection of Malta, Cyprus, and Ceylon, which had been his pet countries for many years. Mr. Siewert's collection, however, was dispersed a considerable time before his death.

**USED STAMPS FOR POSTAL PURPOSES.**

FROM the *Morning Post* of Delhi, where the news is headed "Stamp Swindle at Fyzabad," we extract the following :

A gentleman, said to be a tourist, called at the Post Office and purchased a few two-anna stamps, but on examining them he found that they had been previously affixed to letters. He reported the matter to the Deputy Commissioner of Fyzabad, who promptly ordered an investigation, which resulted in proving that two native subordinates were concerned in removing stamps from posted letters and making them over to the stamp vendor for sale. A bundle of letters was found in a cactus bush near the Post Office. The case was tried at the Sessions, and the accused having been found guilty, the Judge sentenced the two postal officials to five years' rigorous imprisonment each, and the stamp vendor to three years.

**THE U.S.A. "PERIODICAL" STAMPS.**

OFFICIAL DECREE.

THE following official notice, dated the U.S.A. Post Office Department, Washington, D.C., February 4th, 1899, is now published :

Announcement is hereby made that in compliance with numerous requests made to the Postmaster-General by Collectors and others, enough of the newspaper and periodical stamps lately in use by postmasters to make up 50,000 complete sets have been reserved by the Department for sale, and that on and after the 15th instant they may be had of postmasters at first-class post offices, or upon application to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, at the rate of five dollars a set—the set consisting of one each of the following twelve denominations : One, two, five, ten, twenty-five, and fifty cents, and two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred dollars. When applications are made by mail, the money to pay for the stamps must accompany the order, with ten cents additional to pay for postage and registry fee on the returned packet. Not less than a full set will in any case be sold ; but as many more whole sets as may be wanted can be bought. When two sets or more are desired, any or all of the several denominations may be had in an unsevered condition, that is to say, in strips not exceeding ten stamps each, or in blocks of four or more. The Department, however, cannot require postmasters to segregate, for the accommodation of purchasers, marginal strips of stamps bearing plate numbers ; nor can any guarantee be given that the stamps shall be perfectly "centered." It must also be understood that the stamps are not good for postage, and that after their purchase they cannot be redeemed or exchanged for others by the Government.

The sale of these stamps will continue up to the 31st of December next, unless the stock is sooner disposed of ; but no more than 50,000 sets will be sold, and no more will hereafter be printed. In fact, the working plates from which the stamps were printed will shortly be destroyed.

The newspaper and periodical stamps of a former issue—of which fragmentary lots have been returned to the Department by postmasters—will not be sold, but, together with the stock of the last issue returned in excess of the 50,000 reserved sets, will all be destroyed.

JOHN A. MERRITT, *Third Asst. P. M. General.*

**THE "ONE PENNY, PLATE 70" IN COURT.**

WE find we have given no report in the *FORTNIGHTLY* of a County Court case tried at Sheerness, before Judge Sir W. L. Selfe. From a summary given in the "Philatelists' Supplement" to the *Bazaar* it appears that last October a local tobacconist, named Elliag, sold 2000 old English 1d. stamps

to Mr. Owen Fearnley for 12s. 6d. Mr. Fearnley, a stamp collector, afterwards found a specimen of plate 70 among them. He showed it to Elliag, informing him that it was of great value. Elliag impounded the stamp, and declared that it was not among those which he sold. The Judge naturally ordered the stamp to be returned to Mr. Fearnley, with costs.

It seems curious (comments the *Bazaar*) that, if the stamp was not among those sold by him, Elliag should claim it; but perhaps his defence was that it had accidentally got put with the others!

But does it not seem still more curious that Elliag the tobacconist and Fearnley the stamp collector, to say nothing of the Judge and Counsel, should thus wrangle over a variety of stamp which admittedly does not exist? The case for and against the rd. plate 70 was argued at great length in the FORTNIGHTLY years ago.

#### UCANDA.

SUPPLEMENTING the remarks on the Uganda stamps in our last number Mr. Eimpton now writes as follows:

"Will you kindly make a little concession in that note, re Uganda stamps. I find from the evidence of several well-known people that the ink used in typing the first issue turned to a greyish-green. I have also now seen a block of the 1897 issue postmarked "Autoli" which came from an undoubted source and I am further informed this morning, from Mr. Hawkins, that he has just received direct from Kampana, an envelope with a round postmark. I must therefore conclude that at both these places these stamps have recently come into use."

### Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

MR. GEORGE ROBEY, the comedian, is an ardent philatelist, says the *Collector-Dealer*.

MORE philatelic finance. "R. D. & J. B. Fraser, Limited" is among recent registrations at Somerset House. It is an Ipswich firm described as (among other things) "collectors of and dealers in English and foreign stamps." We also notice in the list of new companies for February, "Richard Hollick, Limited—£2000 in £1 shares"; but whether this refers to Mr. Hollick the chemist, or Mr. Hollick the philatelist, or Mr. Hollick in his dual capacity we are unable to say.

THE Victorian issue of "Hospital" gumpaps in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee resulted, according to the official reports, "very satisfactorily." The sum realised was £2,950, and if that can be called very satisfactory the projectors are persons easily pleased. What sort of a hospital could you build for £2,950, anyway?

A MAJOR POTTER has aroused the indignation of American Philatelists (if we are to believe the *San Francisco Chronicle* and other newspapers) by an attempt to "corner" the Hawaiian "Foreign Office" Stamps.

COLLECTORS are warned against purchasing the "Chungi" stamps of Afghanistan. To the uninitiated remarks the *Philatelic Journal of India* they look not unlike the one abasi postage stamps of 1310; but the latter are 1½ inch in width, whereas the former are just under 1½ inch, the depth being alike in either case.

AUSTRALIA is not altogether in favour of Penny Postage. The *Daily Chronicle* makes this quotation from the *Melbourne Age*:—"The man who would grumble at paying 2d. to have his letter carried 14,000 miles and delivered for him at an address at the other end of the world must be a born sweater."

WILL it be believed that "Enquirer," writing to a Bristol daily newspaper in this year of grace 1899, asks how one million used postage stamps can be the means of building a ward in a hospital?

### New Philatelic Publications.

*The Universal Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the World.* Published by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., Ipswich. (Post free, 1s. 3d.)

THIS catalogue of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s is a new departure, so far as this country is concerned. It is intended to be the guide, philosopher and friend of the young collector. A similar catalogue was issued by Messrs. Albrecht of New York some years ago, and we believe had a fairly good sale. The typographical work in Messrs. Whitfield King's book is most excellent. They have adopted the sensible style of illustrating with the small blocks so long used by Messrs. Scnf., which, if they are not absolute fac-similes of the stamps, are yet quite sufficient for purposes of identification.

All varieties of perforations have been ignored, and the publishers show a leaning towards Messrs. Scnf.'s system of Albums which also leaves these varieties severely alone. In fact the Scnf. Albums go further and take no notice of water-marks, their argument being that the budding philatelist should not be bothered with such minor varieties. They may be right to a certain extent, but if this argument holds good we wonder why Messrs. Whitfield King insert such varieties as "lithographed" and "engraved" in countries like Persia and Hungary. Even advanced collectors are sometimes in doubt on this score. On the question of pricing, the really valuable part of the Catalogue will be the pricing of new issues, this being Messrs. Whitfield King's special department as they are most advantageously situated, through their immense connections abroad to decide on the intrinsic value of such new issues, and for this reason the Catalogue cannot fail to attract great attention from what is now styled "the new collector." It is an acknowledged fact amongst most dealers that it is almost impossible to properly price new issues, and a careful student of dealers' prices in the City of London is often amused at the extreme variety of prices asked for one and the same stamp in the various shops. We have seen certain stamps priced at 2d. in one shop and 1s. 6d. in the next and even then the stamps may be cheap at the latter price.

The prices attached to the older issues in Messrs. Whitfield King's book—say up to 1875—are not so satisfactory, and it is quite apparent that the editor has to a great extent copied existing catalogues. It might be mentioned that postcards and envelopes have been altogether left out. The arrangement is strictly alphabetical, which is certainly far more sensible than Messrs. Gibbons' system of inserting, say, Wurtemberg under "G" because it happens to be a German state.

Taken as a whole, this is a neat little catalogue, well bound, clearly printed, and most compact. It will, without a doubt, be of great use to the young collector.

Mr. Paul Kohl has sent us a copy of his price list of rarities which we must admit is an extremely comprehensive one. It contains prices for many rare stamps, European as well as Colonials, and those of our readers who wish to compare dealers' offers would do well to secure a copy which, we believe, will be sent free on application. We notice that Mr. Kohl prices the unused stamps with and without gum and in some cases the quotations show a remarkable difference.

A most useful and compact directory is "The Nebraska Philatelic Blue Book," giving the names of all philatelists in the state of Nebraska. Mr. W. B. Hopson, of 1214, Farnham Street, Omaha, publishes the same at ten cents.

"The missed opportunities offered by the waste paper baskets of those who had correspondents in Mauritius some fifty years ago, must make the mouths of the office boys of the present day water," remarks a worshipper of mammon in a recent issue of the *Financial Times*.

### General Notices.

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

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.

### Our Advertisement Rates.

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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

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Six Months (13 numbers)	1	7½
Three Months (6 numbers)	0	9

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 18, 1899.



It is due to our readers—all of whom, whether competitors or not, will be curious as to the result of our Prize Competition—to give some explanation why we have not yet been able to announce the final disposition of the many attractive prizes we have offered. When we started the competition we had no idea that the work of checking the many thousands of names sent in would prove to be so immense. We have impressed upon competitors from the outset that only genuine names of philatelists could be considered; but we are sorry to say that in some instances names have been sent in of persons in no way interested in stamp collecting. In order, therefore, to adjudicate the competition with scrupulous fairness to all concerned, we have adopted the following procedure. To each person named on the competitors' lists we have sent a copy of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, informing the recipient that he has been mentioned to us as a stamp collector, and asking him whether he is really interested in Philately, and, if such be the case, whether he would like to receive the "S.C.F." free for three months. A private post-card addressed to the office of the FORTNIGHTLY was enclosed in each case, with a request that the same be filled up and returned to us at once. In many cases, especially from the far-off colonies, the reply has been to the effect that the person addressed is not a stamp collector, has no intention of becoming a stamp collector, and will not trouble us to send him the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. All the post-cards are not yet in, some hundreds being missing; and we cannot possibly decide the competition with justice to all concerned until the lists have been verified in their entirety. We expect, however, that in four weeks, or at latest six weeks, from now to award the prizes.

And, touching the subject of prizes, it will be found that those finally awarded will be of a larger number and value

than we originally offered. The competition has been so well taken up, and the results are so gratifying to the proprietors of the FORTNIGHTLY, that it has been decided to award a prize to every competitor. From all quarters of the globe—even from places like Fiji and Samoa—have come what one competitor calls "S.C.F. Philatelists." Although nothing can yet be said as to the final result of the competition, present probabilities point to the first prize being divided by two competitors—one of them a lady.

\* \* \*

OVER and over again has public attention been drawn, in these columns and elsewhere, to the great Auctioneers' injury and inconvenience caused by the Delays. Dilatoriness of Auctioneers in issuing the catalogues of their sales. It is not right, it is not fair, that the catalogue of an important sale of valuable property should be available only a few days in some cases only a few hours—before the time actually fixed for the auction. We feel that it is necessary in the public interest to protest most strongly against this sort of thing. We may point to two instances recently brought to our attention; but in doing so we must not be understood to imply that the names we mention are those of the principal offenders in this respect. This is a question of principle, and in no sense a personal matter. The first of the instances to which we have alluded, is the sale held at the Central Philatelic Club on January 31st. The catalogue of this event was received on Jan. 30th! Again, Messrs. Plumridge & Co., recently issued on a Saturday, 9 p.m. the catalogue of a sale timed to be held on the following Tuesday. Now, in the interests of sellers and buyers alike—in fact in the interests of the auctioneers themselves—it is most necessary that this sort of thing should cease. In the one case twenty-four hours, and in the other case two days, is hopelessly inadequate notice.

We contend that an auction catalogue should be in the hands of the philatelic public fully a fortnight prior to the date of sale. We can hear an auctioneer replying to this demand: "Oh, yes; that's all very fine. But if we do that, bidders will forget all about the matter by the time the sale comes on." There is something to be said for this contention; but what would it cost to send each recipient of the catalogue a reminder in the shape of a post-card, say, two days prior to the auction? The sending out of these cards might be regarded as an additional tax on the auctioneer; but we think it would prove to be quite the contrary in practice. Many a would-be bidder would be grateful for the reminder, and brokers and others who had been given ample time in which to examine and report upon the lots to be sold would certainly turn up in greater numbers. The results of every auction, in fact, would make a far better showing if the course we suggest were universally adopted. We should then hear far less about unsatisfactory auction prices. The sellers would benefit, the buyers would gain largely in convenience, the auctioneers would have larger bills to render to their clients. We trust the matter is one that will be seriously considered and at once.

—♦—

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING April 1st, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

March 21st and 22nd. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 17, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

March 28th and 29th. Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., at 5.15 p.m. each day.

##### Provincial Auction.

March 22nd. Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester at 6.30 p.m. precisely.

##### Tapling Collection.

The following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.

FRANCE, from October, 1862. AUSTRIA, down to 1867.

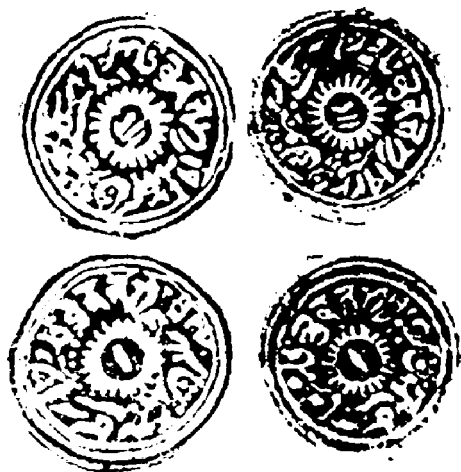


“Die I.”—Kashmir.

IS IT A FORGERY?

By D. P. MASSON in the *Philatelic Journal of India*.

I HAVE carefully examined both a “used” and “unused” copy of the half-anna stamp of “Die I.” and I no longer hesitate to express my conviction that it is not a genuine stamp of Kashmir. I have not seen a copy of the one-anna stamp, but the illustration in Stanley Gibbons’ new catalogue shows it to be a new relative of the half-anna one.



I place side by side the illustrations of Die I, from the catalogue, and impressions from the genuine die of 1866, known as “Die II,” those on the right being the latter. On examination the first thing that strikes one is that the characters in either case occupy exactly similar positions on each die. This fact is in itself suspicious, because, if two successive sets of dies were cut, what necessity was there for a flourish following in the second set of the exact position, and (as far as possible), the exact shape of each character on the previous die? This to my mind is the first proof that “Die I.” is simply a forgery, cut to represent Die II.

The next striking difference between the dies is the extreme roughness of the cutting of Die I, as compared with Die II. On well printed copies of the latter, all the finer lines and curves of the Persian characters are printed with air clearness, while in the former there are neither fine lines nor curves. I am not able to read the vernacular myself, but I am assured by competent authority that the Persian on “Die I.” is a rude imitation, and could never have been cut by a literate Indian, that is in fact a series of “shots” at reproducing the characters on Die II. To show how wide of the mark these “shots” are, I need only refer to the characters representing the word “Kashmir,” which lie between the date (1923) and the central sun, on the die, occupying the space between 3 and 6 o’clock on the dial. It is utterly impossible that any person who knew what he was doing could have converted these characters into the Noah’s Ark toy animals shown in Die I, the vowel dots being converted into legs. The Nagri letters, occupying the position between 1 and 3 o’clock, being boldly cut on the original, are naturally reproduced more faithfully.

The roughness of the engraving is admitted by the supporters of the stamps, and is ever used as a proof of their genuineness and rarity; the theory is that being so roughly cut the dies were immediately superseded by superior ones. I venture to assert that it is simply impossible such dies could for one hour have been used, for Government or other purposes, in a country where, at the time, seal-cutting had attained the excellence of a fine art. I am informed by Major Evans that the Die I stamps were obtained in Europe from Kashmir; I venture to doubt this fact even on so high an authority. The dies appear to have been cut in Europe, from poor or heavily obliterated copies of “Die II,” or from photo-

graphs. The photograph theory might account for the slight difference in size between the genuine and forged dies.

The editor will do me the justice to say I have privately expressed these views, on my firm conviction, ever since I first studied the circular stamps in Kashmir last July. I was deterred from publicly expressing them only because I had seen used copies advertised in old catalogues. Through the courtesy of Major Evans, I have now seen such a copy, and I have no hesitation in stating that the obliteration, like the stamp, is a forgery. It is meant to represent the brick obliteration of the Srinagar Post Office, but whereas all genuine obliterations are impressions or “dabs” from the well known small circular seal, in this case the colour is smudged lightly over the greater part of the face of the stamp.

I am confident that “Die I.” must disappear from the catalogues.

To the above eye-opening statement the Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India* appends this footnote:—“We had a perfectly open mind on this subject till we visited Jammu lately, and saw the merriment caused to some of the State officials by the supposition that such a die could ever have been passed by even an intoxicated official, or could have been cut by the most ignorant and stupid seal-cutter. We consider it quite beyond the region of dispute that the so-called Die I. is a forgery, pure and simple, made in Europe”.

Notes on New Issues.

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

SIRMOOR ISSUES HIGHER VALUES.

SIRMOOR is increasing its philatelic output. Hitherto the state has kept fairly well within the bounds of philatelic rectitude; but now, as we learn from the *Philatelic Journal of India*, a series of higher-value stamps has appeared, ranging from 3 annas to 1 rupee. The new stamps (of which we append an illustration, derived from our excellent Indian contemporary) bear the effigy of the present Rajah of Sirmoor.



VIRGIN ISLANDS.

We were unable to publish in our last number an illustration of the new Virgin Island stamps, but do so now. As will be seen, although the character of the design has been retained, the stamp has been altogether newly drawn and we are informed that this is chiefly owing to the fact that the officials were afraid to clash with the contract made with Mr. Thompson, the purchaser of the Leeward Island remainders, by printing from the old dies.



Hitherto, it has been the custom for letters to and from India to be sorted during the run between Bombay and Aden, but the period of five days which this arrangement permitted is now found to be insufficient (the *Stamp Collectors’ Journal* states) and the sorting will have to be carried on as far as Suez.

# The Stamps and Post Cards of Hong Kong.

MR. JUAN MENCARINI'S DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE.

(Continued from page 96).

## POST CARDS.

1879. Adhesive stamp surcharged in Black numerals. White Card. Formula in Black with double lined frame.
- |      |   |                                  |    |         |
|------|---|----------------------------------|----|---------|
| P.C. | 1 | 3 cents black on 16 cents yellow | .. | No. 20. |
| "    | 2 | 5 " " 12 " blue                  | .. | No. 13. |
- The same, but formula in red; spiral frame.
- |   |   |                                  |    |         |
|---|---|----------------------------------|----|---------|
| " | 3 | 3 cents black on 16 cents yellow | .. | No. 20. |
| " | 4 | 5 " " 12 " blue                  | .. | No. 13. |
- The same, but on toned card.
- |   |   |                                  |    |         |
|---|---|----------------------------------|----|---------|
| " | 5 | 3 cents black on 16 cents yellow | .. | No. 20. |
|---|---|----------------------------------|----|---------|
- The same, but formula in blue on white card.
- |   |   |                                |    |         |
|---|---|--------------------------------|----|---------|
| " | 6 | 5 cents black on 12 cents blue | .. | No. 20. |
|---|---|--------------------------------|----|---------|
- The same, but formula in black on blue card  
Surcharge in black letters.
- |   |   |                                      |    |         |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|----|---------|
| " | 7 | 3 cents black on 5 cents ultramarine | .. | No. 22. |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|----|---------|
1880. Buff card, Greek frame.
- |   |    |         |    |    |        |
|---|----|---------|----|----|--------|
| " | 8  | 1 cent  | .. | .. | green. |
| " | 9  | 3 cents | .. | .. | brown. |
| " | 10 | 4 " "   | .. | .. | slate. |
1886. Large block letters surcharge in two lines. "One cent."
- |      |    |                               |    |              |
|------|----|-------------------------------|----|--------------|
| P.C. | 11 | 1 cent black on 3 cents brown | .. | No. P.C. 9.  |
| "    | 12 | 1 " " 4 " slate               | .. | No. P.C. 10. |
1887. White Card.
- |   |    |         |    |    |        |
|---|----|---------|----|----|--------|
| " | 13 | 1 cent  | .. | .. | green. |
| " | 14 | 3 cents | .. | .. | brown. |
- 1892, April. Reply cards. Pale buff card.
- |   |    |             |    |    |        |
|---|----|-------------|----|----|--------|
| " | 15 | 1 † 1 cent  | .. | .. | green. |
| " | 16 | 3 † 3 cents | .. | .. | brown. |
- 1894, December, surcharged in red from left lower angle of stamp.
- |      |    |                                      |    |              |
|------|----|--------------------------------------|----|--------------|
| P.C. | 17 | 4 cents red on 3 cents brown         | .. | No. P.C. 14. |
| "    | 18 | 4 † 4 cents red on 3 † 3 cents brown | .. | No. P.C. 16. |
- The same, but with period after surcharge "4 cents."
- |      |     |                                      |    |              |
|------|-----|--------------------------------------|----|--------------|
| P.C. | 17a | 4 cents red on 3 cents brown         | .. | No. P.C. 14. |
| "    | 18a | 4 † 4 cents red on 3 † 3 cents brown | .. | No. P.C. 16. |
- 1895, May 1st. Pale buff card.
- |   |    |         |    |    |       |
|---|----|---------|----|----|-------|
| " | 19 | 4 cents | .. | .. | grey. |
|---|----|---------|----|----|-------|
- The same "via Brindisi and London" cancelled.
- |   |    |         |    |    |       |
|---|----|---------|----|----|-------|
| " | 20 | 4 cents | .. | .. | grey. |
|---|----|---------|----|----|-------|

Finally Mr. Mencarini gives us this very interesting official document.

## OFFICIAL DECREE.

### LIST OF STAMPS ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE.

- |       |                       |
|-------|-----------------------|
| 1862. | 2 cents, light brown. |
|       | 8 " orange.           |
|       | 12 " blue.            |
|       | 18 " lilac.           |
|       | 24 " green.           |
|       | 48 " rose.            |
|       | 96 " brown.           |

The above were originally printed on paper without watermark, but none such are now obtainable. The 12 cent stamp is now used for Revenue purposes.

## OFFICIAL DECREE.

- |       |                   |
|-------|-------------------|
| 1863. | * 4 cents, slate. |
|       | 6 " lilac.        |
|       | 30 " orange.      |
- See note to 1862.
- |       |                          |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 1871. | 30 cents, lilac.         |
| 1874. | * 2 dollars, sage-green. |
|       | * 3 " lilac.             |
|       | 10 " rose.               |

These are disused Revenue Stamps, utilised for Postal purposes. The 10 dollar stamp is now re-issued in green for Revenue purposes.

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 1876. | 16 cents, surcharged on 18 cents.            |
|       | 16 " yellow.                                 |
|       | 28 " surcharged on lilac 30 cents.           |
| 1879. | 5 " surcharged on 18 cents.                  |
|       | 10 " do. " 12 "                              |
|       | 10 " do. " 16 "                              |
| 1880. | * 2 " rose (Postal Union Tint).              |
|       | 48 " light brown.                            |
|       | 5 " surcharged on 8 cents.                   |
|       | * 5 " blue (Postal Union Tint).              |
|       | 10 " surcharged on 24 cents.                 |
|       | 10 " lilac.                                  |
| 1883. | 10 " green.                                  |
| 1885. | 20 " surcharged on orange 30 cents.          |
|       | 50 " surcharged on brown 48 cents.           |
|       | 1 dollar, surcharged on dark-slate 96 cents. |
| 1890. | 2 cents, duty, lilac (small).                |
- This stamp was temporarily utilized, during the last week in December only, in place of the 2 cent postal stamp which was exhausted.
- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 1891. | * 10 cents, brown on brick-red.   |
|       | * 20 " surcharged on 30 cents, green.   |
|       | * 30 " green.   |
|       | * 50 " surcharged on 48 cents, lilac.   |
|       | * 1 dollar, surcharged on 96 cents, brown on brick-red.   |
|       | * 5 " surcharged on 10 dollars (duty), brown on brick-red.  |
|       | 7 cents, surcharged on 10 cents, green.   |
| 14    | " surcharged on 30 cents, lilac.  |
| 2     | " rose, overprinted in brick in four lines, 1841—Hong Kong Jubilee—1891, used on three days only, 22nd to 24th January. |

## CARDS.

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 1879. | 3 cents, yellow card. Adhesive stamp.   |
|       | 5 " blue card. Adhesive stamp.          |
|       | 3 " rose on white card. Adhesive stamp. |
|       | 6 " blue on white card. Adhesive stamp. |
| 1880. | * 1 " engraved card. (Union colour).    |
|       | 3 " engraved card. (Blue card).         |
| 1886. | 3 " engraved card. Surcharged 1 cent.   |
|       | 4 " engraved card.                      |
|       | 4 " engraved card. Surcharged 1 cent.   |
| 1886. | * 3 " engraved card. (White card).      |

## REPLY CARDS.

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 1892. | * 3 cents, engraved card. (White card). |
|-------|---|

No intentional change has ever been made in the colours of the above, but sometimes more or less ink on the plate may have varied the tint a little, and thus given rise to incorrect statements as to varieties of colour. The 18 cent value completely changed colour by fading. The statements of text-books as to a second colour of the 96 cent stamp, &c., may have arisen in this way. 1,200 sheets of the 1883 green 10 cent were printed in a darker shade by mistake, and were issued to get rid of them. These are not regarded as a separate issue.

Only the values marked \* above are in use, and these are the only values of which specimens can be obtained. The stamps are now printed on paper watermarked CA, instead of CC, as formerly.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,

HONGKONG, March 1st, 1892.

## A POSTSCRIPT—BY HARRY HILCKES.

Thus far Mr. Mencarini's most interesting book. A perusal of the last part of it—the official matter—gives rises to various queries in a philatelist's mind.

First of all, it is apparent that the officials take no notice

whatever of perforations, and therefore the 4c. slate, perf. 12½, is not mentioned in any way. It strikes me as somewhat peculiar that this 4c. stamp should appear as not being issued until 1863, whereas the full issue (excepting the 4c.) appeared in 1862. I have always been under the impression that this 4c. slate, perf. 12½, was the first stamp issued in Hong Kong. And if this belief is erroneous, what reason was there for issuing this stamp in a different perforation from all the others?

A further matter for remark is the observation as regards the 96 cents yellow-brown. The officials, in the above Decree, declare that no special issue was intended by this shade, and as a matter of fact they consider it only as a kind of second *nuance*, and not as a separate issue. It would be extremely interesting to know how many sheets of the yellow-brown were issued, and at what date.

The statement as to the 10c. green, being printed in the darker shade is also very interesting, as it proves that only a very small number—namely, 1200 sheets, presumably of 120 stamps each—were printed in this blue-green shade. And the remark to the effect that this shade is regarded as constituting a separate issue strikes me as significant.

Again, the official document in question marks all those stamps with asterisks which are now in use, and it is notable that, although the 2 and 3 dollars of the 1874 issue are still in use, the 10 dollars apparently is not. It is also specially remarked that the 2 cents rose is in the Postal Union tint of the penny value and the 5 cents in the tint of the 2½d. value. But how does the present exchange value—2s. 3d. to the Hong Kong dollar—permit of these two stamps doing postal service as for 1d. and 2½d. respectively?

The information given as to the "Stamp Duty" stamp of 1890 being used only in the last week of December is also new to me. I was under the impression that the stamp did duty for a much longer period.

All these questions will, I think, appeal to students of these most interesting stamps as being of great interest and importance. At the present time we are in hopes of publishing an exhaustive article on Hong Kong, which will fitly follow our extensive references to Mr. Menarini's catalogue. Meanwhile I should be extremely pleased if readers in the far East would assist in the work by endeavouring to get satisfactory answers to the few queries that have been touched upon in these few lines.

One more word ere I conclude. I omitted to mention in its proper place that one stamp has been ignored altogether. I refer to the 96c. brown, perf. 12½. This stamp is catalogued, but I have never seen it and many authorities doubt its existence. I invite co-operation on the part of "S.C.F." readers in discovering whether the stamp was ever really issued; and I should also be glad of any evidence tending to confirm my own belief that the *first* Hong Kong stamp was the 4c. slate, perf. 12½. The way I reason on this latter point is this: The stamps of all the colonies, such as Lagos, Gold Coast, &c., were in the first instance perforated 12½ before the perforating 14 machine was used, and what reason is there to suppose that Hong Kong was an exception to the rule?

### Stray Jottings.

The line, "We hold a vaster Empire," &c., on the Canadian "map" stamp, is taken from the Jubilee ode by Sir Lewis Morris, which runs:

"We hold a vaster Empire than has been,  
Nigh half the race of man is subject to our Queen;  
Nigh half the wide wide world is ours in fee,  
And where Her rule comes, all are free."

The portion of the Tapling Collection now on view at the British Museum is of great interest, comprising as it does the French stamps since the issue of October, 1862, and the Austrian stamps down to 1867.

THERE has been a big find of scarce "Confederates" at Augusta, Georgia. Included in the haul are stamps of Athens, Memphis, New Orleans, Macon and Charleston.

THERE are fiscalists as well as "postalists" in India. Mr. Wetherell, of Bangalore, talks of forming a "Fiscal Exchange Club."

THE *P. J. L.*, in recording the removal of the Cape Colony tax on imported stamps, remarks that India now stands alone in this respect.

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best *acceptable* reply we shall award a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility to philatelists.

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

11. What was the object of the numerous "Departmental" surcharges on the stamps of South Australia?

The letters were surcharged on the South Australian stamps as a check on the amount of stamps used by officials. —*M. L. F.*

The object of Departmental surcharges was to save book-keeping or account keeping. By the issue and use of surcharged stamps the cost of postage of each Department could be readily arrived at. —*W. H. E.*

Replies also received from "H. B. T." (Ealing), "W. W." (Norwich) and "Ergo" (Roehampton).

13. Which is the smallest Postage stamp in the world, and which the largest?—in point of size, not value.

The smallest postage stamp in the world is the 1863 issue of Bolivar, which measures ¼ × ¼ ins., the largest is the 1865 Newspaper Stamp of the United States, which measures 2 × 3¼ ins. —*H. E. G.*

A number of replies, more or less erroneous, were sent in to the above question. There is no doubt whatever that the very smallest postage stamp, in point of superficial area, is the 1863 Bolivar, although this is run very close by the ¼ schilling of Mecklenburg Schwerin, which, in turn, is closely followed by the tiny ½d. stamps of Victoria and South Australia.

### THE PRIZE.

This time the prize of 2s. 6d. worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists is awarded to H. E. G. (full name wanted), Highland Lodge, Wellington Road, Birmingham.

### QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

We still await satisfactory answers to the following:—

12. Apart from the consideration of the convenience of postal officials, what was the chief reason for the Postal Union's recommendation as to uniformity of colour in ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps?

14. Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the "De la Rue colonial type"?

All letters containing questions or replies should be addressed to the Editors, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In future this feature of the FORTNIGHTLY will make its appearance in alternate numbers. It will not then unduly encroach on other matter, and more time will be given to those readers (and we hope their numbers will increase and multiply), who elect to ask and answer questions through this medium.

## Our Review of Reviews.

### "Jubilee Lines" on British Stamps.

MANY collectors have wondered what is the use of these lines on the margins of the sheets of stamps. They are used for rather the rules forming the said lines are used to equalise the pressure on the plates in printing, so that the outside rows of *cliches* should have no heavier pressure than those in the centre of the panes.

The foregoing is one of the many useful items contained in the *Bazaar's* latest "Philatelists' Supplement"—the best issue this season, perhaps. Mr. Westoby has now got down to San Marino, in "The Adhesive Stamps of Europe," so that the end of a most useful and painstaking work is in sight.

### Why are Philatelists bad business men?

*Stamps*, for February, is a better number than its predecessor. Mr. Wickhart lists another batch of stamps which he regards as "underpriced" in Gibbons. It is to be hoped that he will afterwards give us his views as to those that are overpriced. The numerous letters appearing in *Stamps* would seem to indicate that the articles are arousing much public interest.

But we have indited a headline and must justify it. Why are philatelists bad business men? That question might well have formed the headline of the leading article in this issue of *Stamps*. The article deals with the subject of "Philatelic Credit"—a topic that is by no means new to FORTNIGHTLY readers. Again and again we have preached the gospel of greater business precautions in philatelic dealings, and now *Stamps* takes up the parable and exposes the stupidity of the average philatelist's business methods.

References, as we have said before now, are a farce.

Who asks *Stamps* ever takes the trouble to properly enquire into and investigate the authenticity of references? We have little hesitation in declaring that not more than ten or twenty per cent. of the names passed between collectors are really tested at all. "Blank's Bank," "Blunk & Co.," or the "Rev. Mr. So and So" is deemed quite sufficient, it being thought that no one would dare to use those august names without permission. But the case above cited proves for the hundredth time that such a trade is only a detail in a rascal's rascality. It becomes therefore very plain that until collectors and dealers cultivate the habit of taking the trouble to enquire closely into the references supplied to them, there can be no possible remedy for the present state of affairs. We might perhaps be accused of too sensitive moral perception if we dogmatically asserted that it was the duty of every one of us to make such enquiries, but we are on perfectly safe ground in declaring that, were we to do so, the philatelic atmosphere would be quickly and effectively purified.

### To those about to follow the fashion.

Don't!

The advice is not ours, but is tendered by Mr. S. A. D. Cox, of the *Tri-Monthly Collector*. In an article headed "Fashion—its Effect on Prices," Mr. Cox argues strongly against the game of follow-my-leader in Philately. He writes:

"Fashion" in philately, or rather in what one shall collect, is a very bad thing. Don't follow it.

If you do, you will find that, like Benjamin Franklin, who gave all his money for a penny whistle, you have "paid too dear for your whistle."

You will find that you have given all your money for a few stamps, when you should have had a lot of stamps for the price.

When you follow Fashion's dictates and buy stamps she is smiling upon, at the vastly augmented valuations always obtaining under such circumstances, you are practically paying silverware prices for common tinware.

Don't do it.

### A "Find of Rare Stamps in Montreal."

THE facts as to the very latest big "find" of stamps (including a copy of the rare 2 cents British Guiana), are related by the *Montreal Philatelist*.

It appears that on Monday afternoon, December 10th, a man walked into the office of Mr. Rudolph C. Bach and said:

"Do you buy old stamps?" On being told "Yes," he produced a few old letters, saying that he had some more at home. Mr. Bach asked him how much he would take for the lot. The man said he did not know anything about stamps, but thought that stamps so old ought to be worth something. Anyway, would Mr. Bach give — for them? Mr. Bach said he would, and purchased the stamps. The man left his address and promised to call with the rest. And so one of the rarest stamps in existence, the 2c. British Guiana, of the first issue, becomes the property of Rudolph C. Bach, of Montreal.

But why that blank where the price paid by Mr. Bach ought to be. There is such a thing as spoiling a story by leaving out the details. Mr. Bach, however, at the time the facts were given to the public, was negotiating "further business" with "the same party."

### Canada's First Surcharge.

Under date, Ottawa, February 17th, the *Weekly Philatelic Era's* Canadian Correspondent writes as follows:

Our weekly sensation was daily on tap last week, in the shape of surcharges, Canada's first offence, but an aggravated case. The Post Office Department announced that any holders of 3c. envelopes or letter cards might send them in to the postage stamp branch, and have them surcharged, and re-issued as 2c. emissions, the difference in value being made good by an additional supply of surcharged stationery or in some other equivalent stamps.

It was not anticipated that a very large supply of 3c. stationery was on hand, and consequently the arrangements for surcharging are of the most primitive description. Stamps of soft rubber bearing the figures 2c. are provided, and the surcharge is put on by hand, the stamps being inked on black pads. The consequence is the work is ill done, and we have as many varieties of surcharge as there are impressions, with quantities of ink varying from a black blue to a light grey. I have seen one envelope with the surcharge on sideways reading from bottom to top.

Independently of the variations in printing, there are two types of surcharge. In the first, which I shall christen the "capital surcharge," the figure 2 is 10½mm. high by 8 wide, the heavy parts of the figure being 2mm. thick, the thin parts ¾mm. The C is a capital letter 4½ × 3½mm. There was only one stamp of this type, and when it had been in use for two or three days the difference in type was noticed and the stamp was destroyed. Any stationery surcharged with it will be exceedingly rare.

The other type, which I suggest should be called the "lower case surcharge" has a similar figure 2, but the C is a heavy face lower case letter 4 × 3½mm. It is possible that there may be varieties of this type, as there are several stamps in use, but the printing is so badly done, and the stamps so subject to distortion by pressure, that one cannot depend on either inspection or measurement, a change in pressure in printing altering the appearance of the surcharge very materially.

### Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

The *Michigan Philatelic Weekly* is the latest American production. Advertisements fill the bulk of its space.

The *Collector-Dialer* has reappeared, after a nap that we had begun to think was permanent; and is now to be published every month on "proper journalistic lines."

Our Bury St. Edmund's contemporary, the *Stamp Collectors' Journal* has "amalgamated" the *Philatelic Monthly Advertiser* out of existence. It would now puzzle Mr. C. H. Nunn, we fancy, to recite off hand the names of all the philatelic journals which have at various times been incorporated with the *S.C.J.*

THE NEXT

*Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held early in April, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. A few more fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if received on or before Monday, 3rd April.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that:

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

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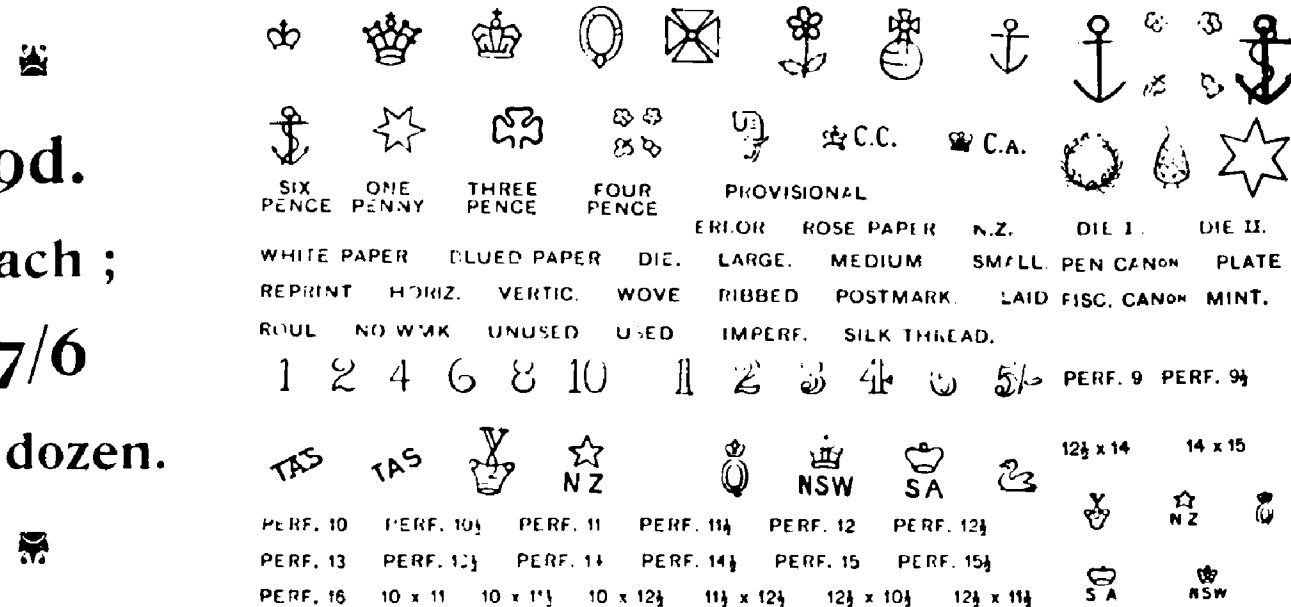
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These Sales are attended by all the principal known Collectors and Dealers, and afford the best means of disposing of Collections and Rarities, the prices obtained being most satisfactory to owners. It is advisable that owners desirous of obtaining 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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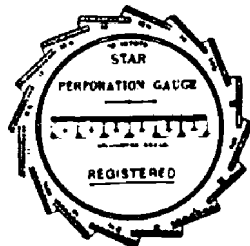
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PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 118—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
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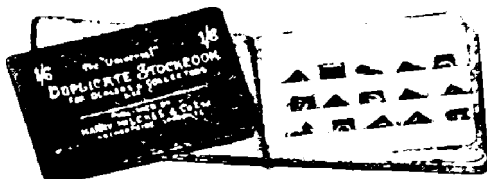
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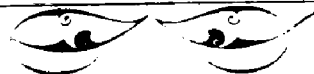
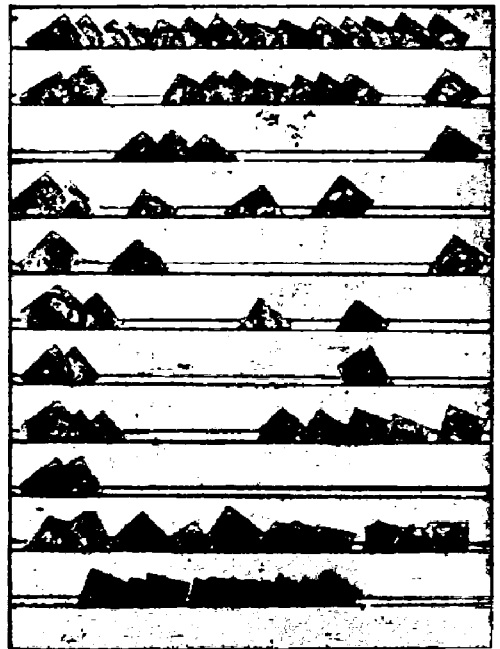
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*Doings of Societies.*

**THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A MEETING of this society was held as usual on Thursday evening the 16th inst., the president being in the chair. After the business for the evening had been disposed of and several new members proposed, a very interesting and amusing paper was read by Mr. J. Perrett on "Early Reminiscences of Stamp Collecting," in which he related his own personal experience dating from the year 1858, or more than 40 years ago, when stamps, now the envy of wealthy and advanced collectors, were bartered for apples and marbles by boys at school, who with a collection of 60 to 100 stamps were proud of their possession and, as he said, one of his acquaintances boasted that in that number 27 different countries were represented. Mr. Perrett then referred to the prices paid for stamps, at about that date, there being one or two shopkeepers in Clifton and Bristol who sold stamps, though now they would be considered as being given away rather than sold—for example: 1s. orange Newfoundlands, at 6d. each, was a high price for what is now catalogued at £16. The prices in the earliest catalogues were then referred to, and copies of some of them, as that of Messrs. Young & Stockall, of Liverpool, and others were afterwards passed round for inspection, and stamps now catalogued at from £20 to £30 apiece, could then be had for a few pence. One of his early associates and with whom he had considerable dealings was Mr. E. L. Pemberton. The President (Mr. P. J. Lloyd) was the purchaser of one of his early collections, and paid the then large sum of £60 for it; an outlay never regretted since by the then youthful collector, and from the nucleus of which has grown Mr. Lloyd's present splendid collection. Amongst the early purchases made by Mr. Perrett, who in 1873 had become a *bona fide* dealer, was a parcel from Mr. Stanley Gibbons the invoice of which was exhibited, and which contained many items that the present "Co." are not likely to part with at the prices then charged, as U.S.A., 1869, 90c. rose and black (head of Lincoln), at 10/- per dozen—their catalogues consisting then of only a few pages in an illustrated paper cover, issued monthly, price

3d., whereas now there are four bound volumes which cost about 6-. Mr. Perrett having concluded, by expressing the hope that his attempt to interest the members would be followed by others, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him for his interesting paper.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE usual meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday, March 15th, in their rooms at Bird's Restaurant. The president (Mr. J. F. Peace) occupied the chair. There was a good muster of members to hear the hon. exchange secretary (Mr. R. Sneath) read a paper on "Forgeries of Postage Stamps." In the course of his paper Mr. Sneath explained the difference between some of the genuine and forged stamps, showing for comparison specimens of each kind. He said the forger always made some deviation from the original, whilst in many cases the kind of paper used in the manufacture of the stamps, and the cancelling post mark, were certain and sure guides for the detection of the forgery. Nearly all old collections contain a great many forgeries, but now that the forging of stamps is liable to such heavy penalties, and that the study of philately or stamp collecting has made such great progress of late years, it is difficult to impose upon well-informed collectors.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Sneath for his paper. It was decided to devote the next meeting to an exchange of stamps.

**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.]

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"OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB" for *bona fide* Collectors only. Rules, specimen sheet and all particulars of the secretary.—G. HERB. DANNATT (Member of Stamp Exchange Protection Society) "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E. NOTE.—Color and Foreign members wanted.

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# STAMP COLLECTORS

## FOURTEENTHLY.

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

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Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 118 -- Vol. V

SATURDAY APRIL 1, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### CONCERNING THE TAPLING COLLECTION.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* understands that the task of arranging the Taping collection of postage stamps in the British Museum in something approaching systematic and chronological order is very nearly complete, though it will scarcely be finished in the present financial year. The sum annually allowed by the Treasury for the work has disappeared from the recently issued Estimates, and this may be regarded as an indication that this vast assemblage of postage stamps will soon be available for purposes of reference and comparison. There is, however, (the correspondent understands) a difficulty in making the collection readily accessible to the public. It is obvious that it would never do to allow anyone from the numerous army of philatelists to handle the specimens, even if properly recommended, as in the case of books, prints, and drawings. There is also the difficulty of damage from exposure to light to contend with. Several experiments, for the preservation of the stamps have been tried, and methods of mounting them in a way that will allow of their being readily available for reference are now under the consideration of the authorities. It is quite unlikely that the collection, as a whole, will ever be permanently placed for public exhibition, but it is not improbable that when all the stamps have been properly classified and mounted arrangements may be made for exhibiting the greater part of them for a time.

A CHAT WITH MR. E. D. BACON.

"I've only been about six and a-half years sorting and arranging the Taping collection for the Museum," said Mr.

E. D. Bacon to a *Morning Leader* interviewer, who had found a way through a maze of libraries into that enthusiastic philatelist's sanctum, "and it will be finished in a few months now."

"Yes, it's a magnificent collection, the finest in the world with the exception of that of Herr P. Von Ferrary, of Paris, who is believed to have expended about £250,000 in getting his together."

"The Taping collection is valued at something between £75,000 and £100,000, although at Mr. Taping's death in 1891 it was only worth about £40,000; not that many have been added, but the stamps have increased in value."

"It was a fine collection in 1882, when it received its first great accession in the purchase of Mr. Image's collection for £3,000. Mr. Taping subsequently added the European stamps of Mr. Westoby, and down to the time of his death had the pick of all the fine collections which came into the market in 1882-87. Amongst these was a magnificent collection of Mauritius stamps, including a perfect specimen of the One Penny Post Office on the original envelope, as you see."

"This one stamp is worth about £1,000!"

"And how much is that 2d. blue Mauritius worth?" gasped the interviewer.

"That also is worth £1,000; it is unused, you see. Here is the Hawaiian 2 cent valued at £700; and these British Guiana 2 cents are worth hundreds each, this 4 cents would cost about £200 to buy, while some errors in the Cape of Good Hope 1d. and 4d. stamps have raised their value to about £70!"

"The collection of Postal Stationery is almost complete. It comprises the Sardinia letter sheets of 1818 and 1820, the Sydney letter sheet of 1838, the Houses of Parliament envelopes, and the Mulready envelopes and wrappers; while among more recent examples of importance are the balloon letter sheets of the Siege of Paris, and the post-cards issued by the Germans during the Franco-Prussian war."

### THE STAMPS FOR CHARITY FAD EXPOSED.

"There are probably not many of our adult readers who have not been invited at some time or other to collect and forward all used stamps possible in order to aid some charity." So writes the *Church Family Newspaper* in an article full of sound common sense.

In themselves, cancelled penny stamps, it is generally acknowledged, have no value beyond the paper and gum of

which they are composed, and all the trouble and expense which charitable people incur in collecting them is money and time absolutely thrown away. At the same time, it would, perhaps, scarcely be fair to say that any charity which asks for such stamps is a fraud. It can sell them at a price, but the price is governed not by the value of the used penny stamps, but by the chances of there being among them one or more rare stamps, and this price is so small that a much larger amount is expended in collecting them than is received for them when collected. If would-be contributors to a charity have to spend about five shillings in order to send as many stamps to a charity as will bring it a penny, it is manifestly a very foolish way of proceeding. The charity would be infinitely better off with the five shillings. Yet it is something of this kind that really takes place.

A young lady is asked to undertake the work, or she reads an appeal in the papers, and in order to do some little good in a simple way, she determines to cut off all the cancelled stamps from her letters, and at once sits down and pens a letter to some two dozen friends at a cost of 2/- for stamps, to say nothing of notepaper and envelopes, with requests that they will each assist her. By-and-by they reply, sending on an average, we will say, fifty stamps each, at another cost of 2/- postage. By this method she has got together some 1,250 stamps at a cost of 4/- and some hours of labour. Suppose we put the labour at six hours, and charge the moderate fee of 2d. an hour, and the cost of the 1,250 stamps would now amount to 5/-. To send them to the charity would bring it up probably to 5/1. Now what does the charity get for all this expense and trouble? It goes and sells the whole 1,250 for somewhere about a halfpenny to a wholesale dealer, who sells them retail at a penny per 1,000. Is this good enough? Would any sensible person expend 5/- to benefit any hospital or charity to the extent of a halfpenny?

In a certain shop in Holborn, where stamps of all kinds are shown in the window, there was a few days ago a notice, "5,000,000 Stamps for Sale," which it was stated had been collected for a charity. These were to be sold, guaranteed unassorted, for a penny per thousand, and they were offered to one of our representatives cheaper if bought by the sack. Here was the result of much hard work, of much kindly labour, absolutely given away at from a fiftieth to a hundredth part of what it had cost to collect. The bait offered to the purchaser was that there were some excellent finds among these unassorted stamps. When these were picked out the rest might be thrown away. It is well known, too, that some of the professed charities for which stamps have been asked are really ingenious stamp collectors; who have taken up this method of getting stamps without paying for them. One Stettin collector is said to have received in this way over a hundred million stamps, the plea put forward being a home for an old lady or old gentleman, either in London, New York, or Cincinnati, as appealed most to the feelings of the parties to whom he addressed his requests.

We strongly advise our readers to have no dealings with any such scheme in future, and to do what they can to put an end to such an extravagant and wasteful method of aiding any cause, good or bad. The idea that a bed in some hospital or a home for an orphan can be secured for a million used stamps is a pure delusion. The million is only worth some £2 to £3 (that is about a halfpenny per thousand), and this is not a sufficient sum for the purpose. The money expended on collecting the million might probably have been sufficient. One authority puts it at something over £800, and in any case it must have run to some hundreds of pounds.

#### EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

A REUTERS' telegram from Budapest, under date March 18, reports that a discovery has been made there of an extensive theft of postage stamps, which has been going on for some time past. Sheets of stamps from the State printing office, which had been ordered to be destroyed, have fallen into unauthorised hands, several persons being implicated. The ringleader is M. Szecsoedy, a former member of the Diet, who at one time possessed some property which he was

obliged to sell in order to pay his election expenses. M. Szecsoedy, imagining that he had been unfairly treated, attempted some years ago to kill the purchaser of his estate by means of a bomb. He was consequently declared insane by the doctors, and sent to a lunatic asylum. Eventually he was discharged as cured, and obtained an appointment in the Ministry of Finance as Controller of Accounts. In August, 1897, M. Szecsoedy began to get possession of sheets of stamps which had been sent to the Drasche brick-works to be destroyed. He offered the stoker, Andreas Gasperek, a large bribe not to throw the rolls of stamps into the furnace until after the fire had been extinguished. Nothing definite is known concerning the amount of the stamps put into circulation, but in any case their value is believed to reach many thousand florins. The discovery of the affair was brought about by a young woman who, supposing herself to be deceived by M. Piibisco, sought to revenge herself by addressing an anonymous letter to the burgomaster giving information.

#### WHY NOT GRADUATE RECEIPT STAMP VALUES?

A CORRESPONDENCE which has appeared in a London daily suggests a source of revenue which might be considered with advantage, however. It has the merit of being simple, at any rate. The suggestion is that in place of the present stamp on receipts of sums from £2 and upwards, there should be a graduated receipt-stamp duty. It is pointed out that such a tax would not burden anyone unduly, and it has the great advantage of requiring no collection. One writer says:—"I take it, that the man who is receiving £10, or £100, or £1000, can better afford to pay a higher receipt duty than the one who receives £2. Therefore, an ad-valorem duty adjusted on a well-considered graduated scale would not press heavily on anyone." It is reasonably safe to assume that this gentleman is not in the habit of frequently receiving large payments. All the same, Sir Michael Hicks Beach might think it over.

#### THE "TIFFANY" PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

PHILATELISTS at Concord, New Hampshire, have paid a tribute to the memory of John K. Tiffany, by calling their new society the Tiffany Philatelic Society. Officers have been chosen, and meetings are to be held twice every month after the society is comfortably located. Charles H. Stone is to be President; the Vice-President is A. A. Holt; Secretary, P. J. Kelley; Treasurer, C. J. Moulton; Exchange Manager, George N. Fellows; Board of Trustees, Elmer P. Brown, C. N. Pike, George N. Fellows, President ex-officio.

#### LOST, STOLEN, OR "BORROWED."

THE Police have circulated the following notice, under date, March 24th:—

STOLEN SINCE 21ST: About 200 foreign and colonial postage stamps, some on card, some in light oak frame, and some in dark wood ditto, including one New South Wales 3d. green (with Wales spelt Waces); one 2 dollar United States "Columbus" Issue; also some Brunswick, Bremen, and Lubeck stamps, two Maltese half-penny (1 buff and gold, 1 yellow), several unused Nova Scotia and a 2d. blue Victoria.

#### THE MEKEEL COMPANY WILL RESUME BUSINESS.

THE news of the collapse of the C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Company, in 1897, caused such a sensation in philatelic circles, that great interest will attach to the statement just issued in *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, over the signature of Mr. Charles Haviland Mekeel. The reasons which brought about the liquidation of the corporation no longer exist, Mr. Mekeel states; and then he proceeds to give, in brief, the history of the Mekeel concern:

Readers will recall the announcement made in the *Weekly*, of April 8th, 1897 (he writes), in which I indicated the probable liquidation of the corporation.

This was followed in the number of June 3rd, 1897, with the report that a Receiver had been appointed upon my petition to the Circuit Court.

In 1897 the company had a capital of \$300,000, divided as follows: \$150,000 in bonds, and \$150,000 in stock, besides an indebtedness of nearly \$10,000. The general depressed condition of business then prevailing, was in itself a trying situation, but the very foundation

of the concern was shaken by differences between the two principal proprietary interests. This division was entirely responsible for the interruption of business as a unity of interests would have avoided all that issued.

Times are now good; interest in stamps has revived, and, as I have purchased all the stock of the conflicting interests, there is no reason why the corporation should not resume business. I have purchased of the various holders the entire issue of \$150,000 worth of bonds, and have satisfied all the other liabilities of the company. The stock of stamps was never sacrificed, such sales as were made being at reasonable prices, considering the state of the market.

A large and varied stock will be turned over to the corporation upon the final discharge of the Receiver by the court, which will take place shortly. The advantage of my stock and added capital will overcome other disadvantages, and I bespeak for the company a long and prosperous career.

**THE PUERTO RICO REMAINDERS.**

AN OFFICIAL LIST.

THE following is a statement issued at the request of Mr. N. Morera, to be forwarded to the President of the Philatelic Society, New York, regarding the postage stamps existing at the time when Spanish sovereignty was about to cease in the island of Puerto Rico, said stamps being sold together with other stamped paper on October 14th, 1898, at public auction, at which the highest bidder for the postage stamps was Mr. José Maria Fontanals for the sum of 7,528 pesos.

Issue of stamps.	1894-95 stamps.	1896-97 stamps.	1898-99 stamps.	Total stamps.	Face Value Pesos Cts.
3m.	919,486	478,747		1,398,233	699,116
1m.	335,464	65,867		401,331	401,331
2m.	620,667	1,218,137	490,030	2,328,834	4,657,668
3m.			142,007	142,007	426,021
4m.	140,093	40,892	65,100	246,085	984,340
5m.			173,305	173,305	866,525
1c.	183,955	52,554	285,605	522,114	5,221,240
2c.	43,488	160,028	401,734	605,250	12,105
3c.	62,613	6,200	2,190,956	2,259,769	67,793,07
4c.	149,217	19,482	88,800	257,499	10,299,96
5c.	35,586	7,644	349,508	392,738	9,636,90
6c.	754,775	333,618	559,174	1,647,567	98,854,02
8c.	87,601	7,016	84,501	179,118	14,329,41
10c.			28,398	28,398	2,839,80
15c.			71,410	71,410	10,711,50
20c.	219,739	4,697	50,738	275,174	55,034,80
40c.	33,892	3,559	51,806	89,257	35,702,80
60c.			21,577	21,577	12,946,20
80c.		1,548	21,373	22,921	18,336,80
1p.			7,228	7,228	7,228
2p.			3,086	3,086	6,171
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,586,576</b>	<b>2,399,989</b>	<b>5,086,336</b>	<b>11,072,901</b>	<b>385,216,531</b>

Besides the above quantities there existed also the stamps surcharged "WAR TAX" and the postage stamps subsequently sent in from the interior post offices, the total being 12,698,323 stamps of a nominal value of \$434,299.24.

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO,

February 6, 1899.

The Secretary of the Treasury,

(Signed) CAYETANO COLLY TOSIL.

We are indebted to the *American Journal of Philately* for the above document.

**TWO WELL-KNOWN ITALIAN PHILATELISTS.**

AMONG recent visitors to London were M. Vittoria Capanna, of Leghorn, *persona grata* throughout Philatelic Europe, and M. Attilio Barocchi, of Venice, one of the most prominent Italian collectors, and whose name figured so prominently among the successful exhibitors at the Milan Exhibition.

Both gentlemen (we read in the latest issue of the *London Philatelist*), were invited to attend the meeting of the London Philatelic Society on the 3rd of this month. M. Barocchi was at the last moment prevented from so doing, but availed himself of an invitation to visit the Vice-President at Brighton, where he was enabled to inspect the important section of Mr. Castle's collection that represents the Italian States. M. Barocchi, fortunately, was travelling with a large portion of his collection by him, and an opportunity was thus afforded for inspection.

As might be expected, the strongest portion of the collection is that consisting of the Italian Duchies, which are represented in two special separate collections respectively, unused and used. The 3 lire Tuscany, used with another value on piece of letter—a splendid specimen—is one of M. Barocchi's treasures, although he has it also unused, a less fine specimen. All the other values of Tuscany are to the fore unused, embracing probably between 100 and 150 *unused* specimens, all fine—a task whose repetition would be found very difficult to-day. The Naples arms and cross, both fine, and the Parma second issue (except the 25c. brown), the sky-blue 40c. Modena, are all present in the collection unused, while the used collection includes a large array of strips of stamps and special obliterations. In Lombardy the 45c. in two or three papers, and in Austria the red and rose Mercuries, are note-worthy stamps, while in all other European countries M. Barocchi has a thoroughly representative lot; e.g., in Moldavia he has all values, and the 54 and 108 also unused. The collection, taken as an entirety, is one that must have absorbed thousands of pounds, and also represents a thorough and practical knowledge of European Philately.

*Forgers and their Work.*

By HARRY HILCKES.

WE have quite recently seen a large number of Italian stamps with fraudulent postmarks. The following were among the stamps passing through our hands:—

- PARMA. 5 cents yellow on white stamp forged; postmark forged.
- .. 5 cents black on yellow; both stamp and postmark forged.
- .. 6 centesimi black on rose, stamp genuine; postmark forged.
- .. 9 centesimi black on violet, stamp genuine; postmark forged.
- MODENA. Newspaper stamp; stamp genuine, postmark forged.
- .. 1 lira, stamp genuine; postmark forged.

(These two latter stamps are postmarked with a violet aniline ink, which fact, in itself, proclaim them forged as no violet ink of this sort was known at the time these stamps were used in 1853.)

- ROMAGNA. 20 black on lilac; both stamp and postmark forged.
- ITALY. Unpaid, 10 cents yellow; the stamp a reprint, the postmark forged.
- ROMAN STATES. 1 scudo, vivid carmine; both stamp and postmark forged.

The dangerous part about this matter is that most of the stamps are on entire letters which have passed through the post and bear genuine postmarks. The 1 scudo, Roman States, bears a despatching postmark of Sardinia. The Romagna stamp is also on envelope with postmarks from a different part of Italy. The Parma stamps are on envelopes despatched from Rome.

We have also seen a large number of Turkish stamps professing to bear the well-known local surcharge "Cher," everyone of them is a forgery, but as these are very clumsily done they are not dangerous.

Very dangerous, however, is the Turkish 5 piastre stamp on part of original envelope of 1867, bearing a forged postmark. It would be impolitic to publish photographs of these stamps at the present juncture, but if any of our readers are offered specimens from unknown dealers, we shall be pleased to examine them free of charge.

## General Notices.

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

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.

## Our Advertisement Rates.

### PAGES OF TWO COLUMNS.

<i>For One Insertion—</i>		£ s. d.	<i>For Six Insertions—</i>		£ 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

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Whole Column ..	..	1 15 0	Whole Column ..	per ins.	1 8 0
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Quarter Column ..	..	0 10 0	Quarter Column ..	do.	0 8 6
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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ½d. for every word.

### 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."

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, APRIL 1, 1899.



MR. E. J. NANKIVELL, in his latest London letter to the *American Journal of Philately*, speaks of the *London Philatelist* as the Official Philatelic Organ of British Central Africa. We will give, as a prize, a bound volume of the FORTNIGHTLY to the reader who sends us (before April 16th next), the best and fullest explanation of the true inwardness of Mr. Nankivell's remark. We reserve the right to print all matter sent in, but will not divulge any names or addresses without express permission.

\* \* \*

*Germania Berichte*, in its latest issue (which, by the way, contains very little beyond its title page) deals at some length with the swindling nature of the advertisements inserted in so many of the continental organs of Philately. It is alleged that too many publishers of philatelic journals cheerfully accept all remittances sent them without troubling to look into the antecedents of their advertisers. The fact is emphasised that *Germania Berichte* is the only philatelic journal in the whole world which gives its readers an absolute guarantee of the *bona fides* of its advertisers. The cynically

minded will smile when we add that this very number of *Germania Berichte* contains the advertisement of a dealer who has been blacklisted for attempted fraud! One would naturally suppose that *Germania Berichte* has behind it a substantial "war chest" if it is to absolutely guarantee the contracts of its advertisers. But it is candidly announced that the fund on which the journal is to draw for this purpose amounts to £25! Need more be said to expose this method of catching advertisers? We think not.

\* \* \*

It will astonish many philatelists to note how quickly little Crete has been making philatelic history as well as mere ordinary history. In our next number we shall have an article on the subject, with many curious and interesting illustrations.

ARE Stamp Exchange Clubs worth the candle? The question is put, not by us, but by a disgusted correspondent who alleges that the results obtained in the way of selling stamps through exchange clubs simply does not pay him for the actual labour entailed in preparing sheets. WE shall welcome any expressions of opinion on this subject—a subject which must be of vital interest to thousands of British philatelists.

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & Co., as a reply to our recent article on "Auctioneers' Delays," send us a printer's certificate to the effect that the catalogues we referred to were posted three days prior to the day we mentioned. It remains a fact, however, that our publishers as well as a private philatelist did not receive the list till the Saturday night. We were careful to state in our article that this is a question of principle and not of persons; and even though Messrs. Plumridge & Co., sent out the particular catalogue in question a full week before the date of sale, we still think that it was sent out a week too late to meet the convenience of all parties concerned.

THE London Society's great work on English stamps, it is now definitely announced, will be ready in the early part of May. The many readers and customers who have asked our publishers to notify them early of the appearance of this book will please accept this intimation. The price of the work will be 25s. nett (postage free) and prepaid orders can be booked by our publishers, Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Limited, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

## Notes on New Issues.

We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

### NEW VALUES FOR CEYLON.

We are indebted to Mr. Wilmot Corfield for the following cutting from the *Englishman*, of Calcutta, dated March 22nd:

In connection with the introduction of the Penny Postage Service in Ceylon in December last, a new issue of stamps has been ordered from England, and the first consignment of these new stamps is expected in April next. The lot will include 6 cent stamps for letter postage; and 75 cent, R1-50, and R2-25 stamps for parcel post, also under the new service. At present stamps of different values are being surcharged and used till the new stock arrives, 15 cent stamps being surcharged to 6 cents.

### THE NEXT GUMPAP FROM MAURITIUS.

THE commemorative stamp, shortly to be issued by Mauritius, is to pay a tribute to the memory of M. Mahe de la Bourdonnais. But who is, or was, M. Mahe de la Bourdonnais? We quote Mons. Arthur Maury on the subject:—

"He was governor of the Isle of France, later called Mauritius, at the period when Duplex, that veritable political genius, attempted



to conquer India for his country, the Isle of France being particularly valuable as a naval, military, and commercial base on the route to India.

Mahe de la Bourdonnais, who distinguished himself as executive as well as sailor, defeated the English several times, but found himself, concerning the surrender of some point, at odds with Dupleix, who accused him of treason. De la Bourdonnais was arrested and confined in the Bastille, where he remained for four years, in spite of the efforts of his numerous partisans. When Louis XV. abandoned Dupleix and foolishly ceded India to England, de la Bourdonnais was declared innocent, and restored to liberty and the possession of his fortune, which was considerable; he died soon after. Dupleix, about the same time, returned to France, ruined and in despair."

**PHILATELIC TOMB FOR CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.**

THE Government of the Dominican Republic have decided that the bones of Christopher Columbus, which we thought were recently conveyed to Seville, really repose in the Cathedral at San Domingo. The *London Philatelist* slyly suggests they are a duplicate set! These were apparently discovered in this sacred edifice in 1877, and are now to be re-interred in a costly tomb, towards the expenses of which stamp collectors will be invited to contribute.

Stamps of the values of 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c., 1 and 2 pesos, are to be in use between February 27th, 1899, and the same date in 1900, to the exclusion of all other stamps. The surplus from the sale of these stamps during the twelve months will be devoted to the cost of the tomb!

*The U.S.A. "Periodicals."*

SOME OF THE "REMAINDERS" ARE REPRINTS.

It has been announced in the FORTNIGHTLY that the remainders of the now "obsoleted" United States Newspaper and Periodical Stamps would be sold to collectors at £1 the set. It is quite news to us to learn that Uncle Sam, in order to fill this little contract of his, has had to resort to reprinting. Read what the Washington correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era* has to say under date, March 15th: "There seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether the newspaper stamps have been reprinted. After reading the various articles I thought I would see if I could find out the exact facts, and you will see that I was able to get the same as I can produce the exact number of all that were reprinted. In other words, I will give you the number of originals that were on hand. All that were returned from post offices were destroyed as in most cases they were stuck together and were in such shape that it would have been an endless job to assort them, with the force the Department has, in connection with the other work they have to do. The originals on hand are as follows:

\$5.00	155
\$10.00	11,640
\$20.00	8,780
\$50.00	16,245
\$100.00	7,684

You can do your own figuring, and you will see just how many of the dollar values were reprinted. All the other values are originals, as there was a great number on hand. You can see by the above list that anybody who has the \$5.00 original has a mighty good stamp from my point of view.

I was speaking with one of the officials at the Post Office department to-day, and he said that as far as they were able to learn, some 35,000 sets of these stamps had been disposed of.

It looks to me as if a party who is fortunate enough to get the originals has got a good thing, and it will be money well invested to buy them. I hardly think anyone has a kick coming, even if he has bought the reprints, as they will be worth much more than the price paid for them. It would be impossible to invest \$5.00 in any stamps that would set off a collection as the newspaper stamps will, and I think at the same time it is money well invested.

*British "Imperial" Stamps.*

WHICH THE BRITISH POSTMASTER GENERAL DECLINES WITH THANKS.

WE think the following letters (for the loan of which we are indebted to Mr. Edwards), will explain themselves:—

To the Editors of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

DEAR SIRS, I enclose for your inspection designs of two stamps I forwarded to the Postmaster-General, together with copies of my letter and the reply. Possibly they may be of interest to you and the FORTNIGHTLY readers, if so, you are at liberty to use your own discretion in publishing them. I take it as being rather important, that is the Postmaster's reply *re* the intention of the P.O. authorities not to issue a special stamp for the "Imperial Penny Post," as it finally settles all surmise and discussion on the subject. Please return enclosures when done with, and oblige.

Yours very sincerely,

Cardiff, 23rd March, 1899.

T. EDWARDS.

[COPY.]

To the Postmaster General.

CARDIFF,

18th March, 1899.

DEAR SIR,—Having read that it is probable you may adopt a single design for an Imperial Postage Stamp for use in the whole of Her Majesty's dominions, I beg to submit a couple of rough sketches to your notice which may possibly be considered suitable.

No. 1 represents Her Majesty supported on the right by her colonists, and on the left by her Hindoo subjects, the coinage is given in the three denominations in use in Her Majesty's possessions, viz.: one penny, or its equivalents, two cents and one anna.

No. 2 represents Britannia (central); on the right top square an elephant, representing Asia; on the right lower half, Australia, represented by a Kangaroo; on the left top half, America, represented by the Canadian Beaver, and left lower half, Africa, represented by the Ostrich of South Africa and the Pyramids of Egypt. In the four corners, the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland, the shamrock of Ireland, and the leek of Wales. I should be pleased to submit other designs if you would care to see them, or work out carefully to scale either of the enclosed. If however, they are of no use to you, kindly return.

And oblige,

Your obedient servant,

T. EDWARDS.

[COPY.]

G.P.O., London,

22nd March, 1899.

SIR, I am directed by the Postmaster General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., and to thank you for sending to him designs of an Imperial Postage Stamp.

The extension of penny postage to certain British Possessions and Protectorates will not, however, necessitate the use of special stamps; and no change in the present stamps is in contemplation.

The designs are returned herewith in compliance with your request.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Mr. T. Edwards,  
Cardiff.

A. B. WALKLEY,  
for the Secretary.

**PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING April 15th, 1899.**

**London Auctions.**

April 6th and 7th Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C., at 5.30 p.m., each day.

April 11th and 12th Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.

April 11th and 12th Messrs. Cheveley & Co., at the Arbitration Room, 63 1/2, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 6 o'clock p.m. each day.

April 13th Mr. W. Hadlow, at 63 1/2, Chancery Lane, Arbitration Room, W.C., at 6 o'clock p.m.

**Tapling Collection.**

The following stamps are now shown at the King's Library, British Museum.

FRANCE, from October, 1862. AUSTRIA, down to 1867.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



TWO interesting points as to the regulations of the Postal Union are raised in the letter of an Indian correspondent, who writes:

"I have seen it stated that under the regulations of the Postal Union, official stamps of any of the countries forming the Union must always consist of the current postage stamps surcharged, and

may not be of a different design of their own; also that as and from the beginning of this year 'Commemoration' stamps will (under the same regulations) only serve for postal purposes in the country of their issue."

On neither point are we qualified to make a definite pronouncement at short notice; but we believe the second proposition is in accordance with fact. Will some reader, well versed in postal lore, come to our rescue?

A DESIRE to entertain our readers will be ample excuse for the insertion of the following amusingly melancholy screed from Mr. W. E. Imeson, of Wimbledon, on the subject of Williams & Co., of Lima, Peru. Mr. Imeson writes:

I am one of the confiding, if bargain-hunting, crowd caught by the clap-trap of this long-distant firm (Williams & Co.) It was their "open letter" which did the trick, and yours truly at one and the same time. It, the "letter," was so remarkably "open" that the marvel is that no one saw through it.

Wise after the event (and the despatch of my "exchange sheets") I now, in the slang phraseology of the day, "tumble to the game." "We are not," said this enterprising firm in this artfully worded circular, "philanthropists," and, having received no acknowledgment of a registered letter sent them some months ago, I am not disposed to dispute that candid admission. As to what he or they ("the firm") really *is* or *are*, the readers of the "S.C.F." can now make a pretty shrewd guess. I know *now*, but I mustn't say *in print*!

As requested by the originators of the "open letter," I passed it on to my philatelic friends, with the lamentable result that the latter now pass me by in the street, even declining my well meant invitation to "come and see a dog" (one was mean enough to ask me if it, the dog, had a *Peruvian bark*!)

The "offers" of Williams & Co. were too good to be ignored—also too good to be true. Peruvians at waste paper prices were well calculated to tempt the unwary stamp fiend, especially if he were smitten with the South American fever, which is, just now, claiming more victims than the influenza.

But, alas! I now loath the very name of my one time pet stamp country. O land of the llama, revolutions—and surcharges!

I would much like to hear, Sir, of others who have been victimised by the same party. If not a charitable wish, it is certainly stronger than my wish to be "the only J."

Well, if our correspondent would "feel better" on finding that others have fallen into the same pitfall, we doubt not that plenty of such "consolation" will be forthcoming. Mr. Imeson, however, will not misconstrue our meaning when we say that we cordially hope that he is the *only* FORTNIGHTLY reader who has fallen a victim to "Williams'" wiles.

This business of Williams & Co., of Lima, once more illustrates the necessity of caution in philatelic dealings. It should also teach the philatelic man in the street (though we think we are now using an argument rather detrimental to ourselves) that the person who advertises largely in well-known philatelic journals is not necessarily an honest and fair-dealing man of business.

There is no more infallibility about a publisher than any other business man; and we must frankly admit that, in common with others, we were at first taken in by Messrs. "Williams & Co.," of Lima. We inserted this firm's advertisements, just as all other papers did; but it consoles us somewhat to know that we smelt a rat months and months ago, and while other journals continued to sell their space to Williams & Co., we declined their later advertisements without thanks.

APPROPOS of the Great Barrier Islands stamp, recently chronicled in certain philatelic journals, "W. K." pertinently asks:

Who gave the inhabitants of these islands the right to issue a postage stamp, which at its very best can only be a local stamp? Surely if there had been any necessity for it the New Zealand Government could have easily supplied a stock of 1. values (the only value "issued.") A barefaced stamp speculation, I call it.

And a barefaced speculation it would seem to be. We may return to this subject anon.

Inspired by the new "Head of Queen" on the latest Indian Stamp, a talented Anglo-Indian philatelist has like Silas Wegg, of immortal memory, dropped into poetry, and now kindly sends the result to the S.C.F.

## THE "WIDOW" AGAIN. WITH THE USUAL APOLOGIES.

Make way for the "Widow of Windsor,"  
With the hairy gold crown on 'er 'ed—  
She's careering at large through the land of the Tay  
A little old lady in red—  
A delectable lady in red!

So room for the "Widow of Windsor,"  
Our dainty Imperial Queen,—  
So neat and so nice at the cost of a pice,  
The "pink of perfection" serene  
(She's pink but she used to be green)!!

Hurrah for the "Widow of Windsor,"  
'O'er 'arf of our albums she's strewn—  
For her court, and her camp, and her flag, and her stamps,  
Have advancing ideas of their own—  
Unique, but distinctly their own!

So we welcome this "Widow of Windsor,"  
The least and the latest to come—  
And its true I dare say there are more on the way—  
Then tune up the timpler and drum—  
We like 'em—so let 'em all come!

CALCUTTA,

3rd February, 1899.

DAK.

## Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

OFFICIAL Certificates of the destruction of all the plates of the Newfoundland postage stamps engraved by the American Bank Note Company, of New York, are now published.

THE last English mail shows a falling off in the letters that have been sent out to New South Wales bearing only a penny stamp.

MR. WILLIAM C. WESTON sends us a prospectus of the Excelsior Stamp Exchange, apparently a very well managed club. There are vacancies for "a few good contributors of sheets."

YET another new British philatelic journal, the *Western Philatelist*, will shortly make its appearance.

MESSRS. WHITEFIELD KING & Co., in connection with their new catalogue, have figured out that the total of the world's varieties of postage stamps (ignoring what are known as "minor varieties") is 13,811.

THE price list issued by Mr. Chas. Purdom, of 49, Neptune Street, South Lambeth, is in one sense, unique. It is printed at home by means of a mechanical copying device. It is a useful list, nevertheless.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Transvaal Collectors' Quarterly.

MR. E. J. NANKIVELL will produce but four issues per annum of the *Transvaal Collectors' Quarterly*. That indeed, would seem to be obvious, but in an age which has produced a *Fortnightly Review* appearing monthly one cannot be too precise.

Though Mr. Nankivell's paper must seem a little ridiculous in its inception to anyone gifted with the slenderest sense of proportion, yet we doubt not that many people will welcome it; and should Mr. Nankivell be able to fill his little quarterly with such excellent matter as appears in No. 1, he will fully justify his venture. "Transvaal for Specialists" and "First Steps in Specialism" are excellent articles in No. 1.

We envy Mr. Nankivell the nice long holiday he can take before he need settle down to No. 2.

## A Simple Chat about Falklands.

In *Stamp Talk*, brightest and most instructive of the newer American journals, Mr. John Wilson Howard discourses of Falkland Islands stamps. The Falkland Islands, as many may have forgotten, were discovered by a Dutch navigator named Schald de Wert. They were held by France and Spain in succession, and in 1771 they were ceded to Britain. The Falkland Islands stamps are notable for these three things—there have been no remainders; the speculative element is absent, and so far, there is only one surcharge to be laid to the charge of the archipelago.

Up to 1895, there was used but one design, consisting of the Queen's head to right in oval, FALKLAND ISLANDS, above and the value below in figures and letters.

The first stamps appeared in 1878, in that year were issued the one penny claret, four penny deep-gray, six penny green and the one shilling bistre brown. These stamps were perforated and had no watermark.

In 1884 the one penny and four penny appeared watermarked Crown and CA. These stamps also exist watermarked sideways.

In 1891 appeared a set in new colours, but of the same design. They were watermarked Crown and CA, and were of the following denominations: one-half penny green, one penny orange brown, and two and one-half penny blue. From 1892-'96 appeared a new set. The one penny had been changed to red brown and the two pence stamp was added, colour magenta; the six pence orange, the nine pence vermilion, and one shilling bistre brown were added later. They were also watermarked Crown and CA. In 1891 the supply of one-half pence stamps ran short, so surcharging was resorted to. The one penny stamp was the victim, but when surcharging is necessary we can stand it.

In 1898 there appeared two new values, two and one-half and five shillings, both very attractive stamps. The color of the two and one-half shilling stamp is blue, and that of the five shilling is red-brown. They were watermarked Crown and CC.

The stamps from these islands in a used condition are very scarce, when we consider the number of them used, as the population is so small. How many five shilling stamps do these people use in a year?

Ask your dealer for some of these stamps on approval at fifty per cent. discount and see how many he will send you. I have great faith in the future of these stamps.

## Postal Troubles in Blockade-Running Days.

The *Tri-Monthly Collector* publishes the following very interesting documents as transcribed literally from a New Orleans newspaper of the year 1861:

The undersigned, now suffering, in common with others, the inconveniences of blockade and non-intercourse with foreign countries, has, by the advice and approval of J. L. Riddell, Postmaster of New Orleans, taken all needful measures to establish, at his own expense, a monthly mail between New Orleans and the Mexican port of Tampico, to connect with the regular British Mail Steamers touching at that port. Auguste de Mesgrigny and P. M. Mazard, highly recommended by New Orleans merchants, have been appointed and duly qualified as mail carriers by our Postmaster for this service.

The first mail, consisting of 1233 letters, left this city on the 10th instant, in charge of Mr. Mesgrigny. The second mail will close

on the 9th of November, proximo, at 3 o'clock p.m., and will leave New Orleans next morning. The third mail will leave New Orleans on the 10th of December, and subsequently, as soon as proper arrangements can be made, the times of departure will be on the 10th and 25th of each month, making a semi-monthly mail.

## TARIFF OF CHARGES ON OUT-GOING LETTERS, INCLUDING CONFEDERATE POSTAGE.

Single letters, half an ounce or less (double and multiple rates in proportion):

To Mexico .. .. .	\$0 50
To Island of Cuba .. .. .	75
To other West Indies .. .. .	85
To Europe .. .. .	1 00

Letters from abroad can be received through the same route. The foreign postage on such letters must be prepaid to Tampico and they must be endorsed "By the West India Mail, via Tampico, care of Postmaster at Matamoros."

ANTONIO COSTA.

New Orleans, Oct. 15, 1861.

No. 16, Custom House St.

## An interesting issue of Dutch Stamps.

In the *London Philatelist* for March, we find this most interesting note on the stamps of Holland:

Of all the issues of Dutch stamps, the third that of 1867 has perhaps yielded the greatest field of interest in the result of recent discoveries. The two types and the curious admixture of perforations will be found a perennial source of research to collectors, and although the 15c. perf. 10 x 10½, was first recorded from the writer's collection, and strenuous efforts have been made to secure all possible varieties, it appears from M. Moens' list that there are several yet to be acquired. In view of the interest herein we append a list of the several types and printings, adopting the dates given by M. Moens.

DATE OF ISSUE.	TYPE.	PERF.	VALUES.
October 1, 1867 ..	I. ..	12 x 12½ ..	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50c.
July 27, 1868 ..	II. ..	.. ..	5, 10, 20c.
About end 1869 ..	I. ..	10 x 10½ ..	10, 15c.
July to end 1869 ..	II. ..	.. ..	5, 10, 20c.
March, 1869 (5 & 10c.)	I. ..	13, 13½, 14, ..	5, 15c.
to		compound	
March, 1871 ..	II. ..	.. ..	5, 10, 15, 20c.
June to Dec., 1871 ..	II. ..	14 (blued paper)	5, 10, 15, 20c.
March, 1872 ..	II. ..	12 x 12½ ..	15, 25, 50c.
" ..	II. ..	14 ..	25c.

The 15c. of March, 1872, has not been hitherto seen in this country, and several of the other varieties are extremely rare, even in used condition.

## Mr. Hall on the Stamps of Colombia.

There is an all-round improvement shown in the March number of the *London Philatelist*, some of the recent issues of which have fallen below the usual standard of the Society's organ. The sooner Mr. Castle can drop his present style of leading articles the better, we think. When these are not too cryptic for ordinary comprehension they are apt to partake somewhat of the style of a lecture delivered at one of the Happy Sunday Afternoons at a Young Man's Institute. It was not always thus; in fact, we have more than once suspected Mr. Castle of employing a "ghost."

But enough of this. In the March issue of the *London Philatelist* Mr. T. W. Hall continues his excellent "Notes on the Stamps of Colombia." The facts as to a purchase of demonetised Colombian Stamps by the well-known Dr. Michelsen are thus related:

According to a notice in the *Official Journal* of Bogota, dated April, 1889, all the stamps, post cards, and cubiertas of Colombia not bearing the inscription "Republica de Colombia" were declared obsolete, and were to be returned to the Treasury and sold to Mr. M. G. Michelsen, who agreed to purchase them at certain rates per 1000.

This purchase included and established the authenticity of the then doubtful 25c. black on rose, and the 25c. black on yellow.

These unpaid letter stamps, printed on blue and on green paper, were printed by Ayala, as well as by Paredes, and had a very short existence.

They were not used on inland letters insufficiently franked, but only on letters coming from foreign countries not having any postal treaty with Colombia and being insufficiently franked.

Amongst his purchases Dr. Michelsen also found the 5c. of 1881, head of Liberty (printed in error on green and on rose), which were used for the inland postal service. The following errors can be found:—

- 1 cent on lilac and on rose instead of green.
- 2 cents „ green and lilac „ „ rose.
- 5 „ „ green and rose „ „ lilac.

It is possible, however, that some may be only essays

#### MR. CASTLE ON CLEANED SWISS STAMPS.

Mr. M. P. Castle devotes a three-page article to the subject of cleaned stamps sold or shown as unused. He refers in this connection to the Geneva Philatelic Exhibition, held in August, 1896, and at which he officiated as a judge. It was a noticeable feature of that Exhibition, and much commented upon at the time, that the show of unused cantonals was lamentably poor. Hitherto Mr. Castle has hesitated to say what follows, because his words might savour of partisanship but now that the subject has been mooted elsewhere, notably in the *Schweizer Briefmarken Zeitung*, by M. Langham, he feels that there can be no harm in saying that, I believe, in common with the other judges and many well-known Philatelists, I expressed my surprise at the exhibit of M. Willy Hauser, of Lucerne. The exhibit of so well-known a collector and prominent a citizen of fair Lucerne was naturally expected to be of the highest class, and we were disgusted to find that it consisted, practically, entirely of cleaned specimens (and very badly too), and varieties of unframed crosses consisting of clumsy attempted removals of the frame. Needless to say M. Hauser did *not* get a prize, or even a V.H.C.! M. Hauser was until lately one of the two official experts in Swiss stamps appointed by the Union of Swiss Philatelic Societies, but he has now resigned.

As a moral to his tale Mr. Castle suggests the formation of

#### A GREAT INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY

for the protection of collectors of unused stamps. Such a society (he points out), with an honorary agent in each country, might well be created with but a normal subscription, but with a rigorous examination of the credentials of each applicant. Much co-operative help between collectors—and dealers—might be given and received with regard to cleaned stamps, reprints, gum, condition, etc. Mr. Castle for one is quite ready to co-operate with such gentlemen for mutual protection, and he invites communications from any collector or dealer who may share his views.

#### Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.

The *Evergreen State Philatelist* contains its usual quota of interesting notes, including an expression of opinion to the effect that the "Imperial Penny Postage" stamp of Canada is of a "gumpapistical" character.

Smyth & Co.'s *Philatelic Circular* (Boscombe) interests the Editors of the *FORTNIGHTLY*, because in No. 47 of this little sheet our moral and intellectual characters are torn into shreds; but we do not suppose it will interest anyone else.

The *Stamp Tribune* is a new venture hailing from Harriman, Tennessee. It is less "scrappy" than the average American paper. We wish it well.

The *Herald Exchange*, of New York, a poor sort of paper in its earlier days—is now "bucking up" wonderfully, if we may permit ourselves the use of a vulgarism. It is primarily an advertisers' paper, it contains a mass of very readable matter.

Mons. Arthur Maury devotes the first six pages of *Le Collectionneur Timbres Poste* to an article on what he calls the "art" of postage stamp decoration—i.e., the making of fancy designs out of mutilated postage stamps. It is a pretty and tasteful way of destroying Heligoland reprints and Chinese locals.

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" " " " 3, 5, 10pf., used	1	0
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NEWFOUNDLAND, 4d. orange vermilion, unused	6	0	0
PRUSSIA, 2 sib gros. on solid ground, unused	14	0	0
GOLD COAST, CC. 14, 4d. magenta, margin block of 6, mint	12	10	0
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will be given to the one who fills in the correct missing words. These must be written on the form supplied with each packet, and must be sent to me not later than April 29th. Anyone may send in as many solutions as he likes, but each must be on a separate form.

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British Guiana, 1860, th. ck paper, perf. 12, 2c. on entire, very fine	..	2	6
ditto same issue, 24 cents, very fine	..	7	6
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ditto CC, 12, 1d., pale blue, fine	..	5	0
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**FORTNIGHTLY**

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

No. 119—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society. Cambridge University Philatelic Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatelic Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Rookdale Philatelic Society.  
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Doings of Societies.**LEEDS PHILATLIC SOCIETY.**

A MEETING of this society was held at Headingley, by the kind invitation of Mr. T. K. Skipwith. The appointed display was of the stamps of Central African countries, and the special feature was the splendid series of the stamps of the Uganda Protectorate, shown by the host.

Mr. E. Egly, the president, showed some novelties. These included one of Samoa, the one penny green, overprinted with the words "Surcharged 2½d." in red, in two lines, both on the entire envelope and as a block of four unused. He also showed the current 5 centimes of Switzerland in green, a new colour to conform to the Postal Union scheme. The members were most hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Skipwith.

**THE COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.**

THE 38th Meeting of the Governors was held at the Club House, on March 13th, 1899.

Called to order by President Thorne at 8.15 p.m., the following Governors being present: Messrs. Bruner, Scott, Stebbins, Perrin and Luff.

In the absence of the secretary, Mr. Luff was appointed secretary *pro tem*.

The treasurer's report was received, showing a balance of \$498.11 cash in hand.

The secretary *pro tem* read several letters and report of Chairman of House Committee was received. The ensuing discussion and the business done related to the billiard room and its appliances.

Adjourned 9.5 p.m.—JOHN N. LUFF, Sec. *pro tem*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

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No. 119—Vol V

SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### SOME COMMON SENSE ABOUT PHILATELY.

IN the columns of *Success* a very interesting correspondence on the subject of Stamps has lately been running. "Amper's" plea for stamp collecting is a strong one:

I have been a collector for several years, and find it a most absorbing hobby, and I know a number of collectors who have the same experience. In fact, I am afraid when several collectors meet together they think and speak of nothing but stamps. If the fate of nations is discussed, it is with regard to their next issue of stamps. Are Porto Rico, Cuba, and the Philippines still to have Spanish stamps, shall they be surcharged U.S., or will the American Government bring out an entirely new issue?

All this may, to the uninitiated, sound very absurd, but it is nevertheless instructive. In whatever way knowledge may be gained it is worth having. A stamp-collector always knows to what country any little island may belong, while a non-collector is often unaware of its very existence.

When people hear of the enormous prices paid for stamps, they may imagine collecting to be quite beyond their means, but one of the beauties of the hobby is that it can be indulged in both by schoolboy and millionaire, and be equally interesting to both. A collection of several thousand stamps may be made for a very small outlay, especially by the means of exchange clubs, while a really good collection costs thousands of pounds.

These are welcome grains of common sense amid all the chaff that is written about Philately in the general Press. Mr. C. J. Burt Hawkins, in a letter to the same journal, disposes of the fallacy that stamp collectors hanker after what are called "beautiful" stamps:

Speaking as a stamp-collector (he writes) those who collect stamps do not trouble themselves about the picture on the stamps in their

albums. It is their rarity which brings stamps into popularity. There may be some people who make a speciality of collecting only pictorial stamps, but, if so, they are in the minority. Whether having such stamps would popularise philately is a question one cannot answer, but this I can affirm, that the more stamps issued, the more is the desire of philatelists to obtain the very old, poorly printed specimens, and to ignore the gaudily coloured pictures on the new issues, as witness Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, etc., the unused stamps of which countries are by many collectors tabooed, and which can be obtained at a fraction of their face value.

### WHY STAMPS GROW RARE.

The author of a not unclever article in the *Morning Post* of April 4th, on the subject of "Stamps as Investment" enquires into the question "why stamps grow rare." As thus:

The stamps of a place like Gambia ought to become rare as soon as they are obsolete. In 1871 (according to that mine of information, the album the proprietor was on) fourteen thousand odd. Naturally, therefore, there cannot have been much business at the Post Office; and the place is not much visited by the sort of people who, if they go to get stamps at Malta or Port Said, are immediately recognised as strangers and tempted by the clerk to buy a complete set of all the stamps, envelopes, cards and wrappers that he happens to have in stock. While the stamps are in issue the dealer gets them through his agent and retails them at a very reasonable profit. If they are to be withdrawn he gets early information and stocks them, and as soon as they can no longer be got at the Post Office he raises his prices largely. Once on a time, for example, a small boy living in the country looked in June of a certain year at a catalogue issued nine months before, and wrote to the dealer ordering certain West Indian stamps of which the total catalogue value was well under half a sovereign. Of the eight or ten stamps he had demanded he got just one. As to the others, they had risen to anything from five to twenty times the original price. The explanation was that they had all become obsolete in the interval, the little Islands which the boy fancied having been merged together as the Leeward Islands and given the same stamps.

### WHERE PENNY POSTAGE DOES NOT PAY.

A NOTICE published in the *Government Gazette* of Sydney, New South Wales, on February 21st, announces that the penny postage system for places within a radius of thirteen miles must not be extended. It is set forth that this decision has been taken in "view of the serious loss the department has sustained through the system under which letters are transmitted at the town rate of postage, namely, 1d. per ½oz. or fraction thereof, to and from places within a radius of thirteen miles of certain prescribed centres, and in view of the great anomalies in connection therewith, especially the fact that double postage has often to be charged on letters.

only prepaid at the 1d. rate, in consequence of senders being under the mistaken impression that the addresses are within the area to which the reduced rate applies, though sometimes they may only just be outside of it." From this it will be gathered that the department "loses seriously" on the penny postage, and also gains often by being given the chance to charge double postage; at any rate it is notified "that henceforth, or until the time is opportune for extending the 1d. rate generally throughout the colony, no applications for the extension of the 1d. rate of postage, under the system referred to herein, shall be entertained." It is interesting to note that the coming of an opportune time for a penny postal rate throughout the colony is mentioned as a possible development of the future.

#### MALTA HAS ITS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE Malta Philatelic Society is now an accomplished fact. Lieut. Col. Manchè, M.D., is its President, Mr. Edmund Rizzo, its Secretary, and the *Melita Philatelic Chronicle* its official organ. The Hon. Secretary may be addressed at 134, D Strada Britannica, Valetta, Malta.

#### THE RUSSIFICATION OF FINLAND.

We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for the following translation from *Hufvudstadsbladet*, of Helsingfors, of an article dealing with the subject of the substitution of ordinary Russian stamps for those specially marked for use in Finland.

As stated below, the Russian Minister of the interior has decreed in a despatch received here, that the Russian postage stamps provided with circles which at present are used in Finland, shall, as soon as the stock of the same has come to an end, be abolished and replaced by the corresponding Russian stamps (those used in the Empire). As the reason for this alteration it is stated in the despatch, that now, since "the Finnish and Russian monetary conditions have become stable," it is unnecessary to have special Russian postage stamps for use in Finland.

The present order for the use of postage stamps was introduced through a Postal Manifesto of the year 1890. It was then decreed, that the Finnish stamps were to be used as before for correspondence in the country and abroad. For correspondence to Russia, special Russian stamps provided with circles were introduced which in this case were obligatory. These stamps would also have currency within the boundaries of Finland.

By the last decree of the Russian Minister of the interior, such alteration will take place in these conditions, that the edition of the Russian stamps provided with circles will be replaced by the ordinary Russian stamps, which will also have legal currency in Finland, together with the Finnish stamps.

As a reason for a special edition of Russian stamps for Finland being introduced in 1890, it was adduced from Russian quarters that the fluctuations of the rate of exchange of the Rouble, made a control of the Russian stamps, which were sold to Finland, necessary. As a gold standard has been practically introduced into Russia, such control is no longer considered necessary. Hence the last alteration.

For Finland, this alteration will be of no great practical consequence. The present Finnish stamps, in penni, will be retained for correspondence in the country and abroad. Russian stamps are used as a rule only for correspondence to Russia.

There is reason to believe that the "postal question" which at one time was much agitated and has contributed to keep people in uneasiness, has been solved by the above reform.

Reading the foregoing, one would imagine the change to be a very happy and welcome reform; but we must remember that no newspaper published in the Czar's dominions would dare to criticise. It is known that the next "reform" will be the abolition of the Finnish stamps for external postage; and that will be a long step towards the end of the Finns as a separate people.

#### A BIG RUSH FOR BULAWAYO STAMPS.

MR. D. MONTAGUE JACOBS, of Salisbury, Rhodesia, writes us as follows, under date, March 6th:

"I beg to notify you for publication in the paper connected with you, that the Chief Distributor of Stamps, for Rhodesia, having received at the time of issue, from Bulawayo, one sheet of each of the values of the provisionals surcharged on Capes, and same having been issued from time to time to various applicants, and as a large number of further applications have recently been made for them, the Administrator gave instructions that the whole balance in the hands of the Chief Distributor, should be handed to the Postmaster-

General for issue to the general public. In consequence, the latter notified that the stamps would be on sale at noon on Monday last, the 27th ulto., at which time they would be sold at their face value, but not exceeding three full sets to any one applicant. Shortly before the hour mentioned a large crowd were waiting at the Post Office counter for the issue to be made, and in almost every instance the full three sets were applied for. In less than twenty minutes the whole lot had been issued, upwards of 60 people being compelled to depart without obtaining them. The series consists of 120 sets of the ½d., 1d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/- . This is, I believe the last of the provisionals obtainable at face value in Rhodesia."

#### SOME POINTS ABOUT FALKLAND ISLANDS.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. H. H. Hill, of East Kirkby, Notts, for the following interesting communication:

"I am glad to find your Journal reproduce Mr. John Howard Wilson's simple chat about Falklands. Why these stamps are at present at low market value is hard to understand. During a sojourn of several years in Port Stanley, the capital of the Falkland group, I made a special study of the stamps of that country. Mr. Wilson's explanation of the origin of the ½d. or 1d. red (provisional) I believe is scarcely correct. He says: 'In 1891, the supply of one-half-pence stamps ran short, so surcharging was resorted to, &c.' Now any good catalogue will show that till the provisional was issued, the Colony did not issue an ½d. stamp. Till then, the internal postage was 1d., and the external, which formerly was 6d. and was denoted by rectangular blacks, and circular red hand stamp, was reduced to ½d. A further reduction being made to ¼d. occasioned the issue of the provisional.

Why do Stanley Gibbons never catalogue this provisional (used) and why do they absurdly catalogue unsevered pairs, 17/6? I have sold many for 4/- the pair.

It should be remembered that the population of this group numbers about 1,800, and that values higher than ½d. or 1d. are seldom used internally. I believe the prices must soon jump.

#### THE CIRCULAR CASHMERE, DIE I.

THE article recently published in the FORTNIGHTLY on the subject of Die I. of the circular Cashmere stamps (founded on Mr. D. P. Masson's paper in the *Philatelic Journal of India*), has aroused the greatest interest, and in some quarters, not a little perturbation. Major Evans, in a short editorial article in the *Monthly Journal*, asks for the co-operation of philatelists in thoroughly sifting the matter. "If any of our readers," says he, "can give us any history showing the origin of copies of the rare Types I. of the ½ anna and 1 anna circular Cashmere stamps, which they may possess or have possessed, we shall be extremely grateful. A question has been raised, by philatelists in India, as to the authenticity of these types, which have been accepted as genuine in Europe for some thirty years past. We fear that it will be very difficult at this late date to trace any of these stamps back to their birthplace, and any little details may be of service."

#### THE LATEST PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

CREDIT is largely due to Mr. C. B. James, of Cyprus Villa, Sutton, for the inception and formation of the Surrey Philatelic Society. A meeting is to be held at Sutton, Mr. James informs us, on the 20th; when the first Committee of the Society will be elected. Mr. James is Hon. Secretary *pro tem*.

#### THE RECENSBURG PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

THERE has been frequent allusion to the above in the FORTNIGHTLY, and readers will remember that the Exhibition (which is to be held under the auspices of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis) was postponed from its originally-appointed date on account of the tragic death of the Empress of Austria. The Committee of the Exhibition now send us notice that the same will be opened from the 5th to the 8th of May, and that social entertainments in connection with the Exhibition have been arranged. The entrance money will be 6d. on the Saturday; 3d. other days; and these rates include a free catalogue. Exhibitors have free egress at all times. The judges are Mr. Hugo Krotzsch (of the *D.B.Z.*); Mr. L. Brummer (editor of the Official Organ of the Bavarian Society), and the well-known German dealer, Mr. Ernst Stock.

The United States "Periodicals."



WE notice in many of the Philatelic Journals the advertisements of Messrs. Seuf Bros. of Leipzig, offering sets of the United States Periodical Stamps at 30s. In our last number we drew attention to the fact that a very large proportion of these stamps were reprinted to make up the number promised for issue to stamp collectors. Fifty thousand sets have been put on the market, and deducting the remainders of the high values (as given by Washington correspondent), the following figures represent the quantities reprinted.

49,845 of the \$ 5 stamp	33,755 of the \$ 50 stamp
38,360 of the \$10 ..	42,316 of the \$100 ..
41,220 of the \$20 ..	

It is therefore quite plain that the major portion of these sets are reprints and hardly worth the paper they are printed on. Great credit is due to the Washington correspondent of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, in disclosing this disgraceful action on the part of the United States Postal Department, but we should have thought that Messrs. Seuf, who state that they have placed a very large order with their correspondent in Washington, should have discovered the very material discrepancies between the colours of the reprinted series and the originals. We very strongly warn our readers against investing their money in these stamps.

The *Post Office*, of New York, dealing with this question, writes: "It is with the utmost diffidence and regret that we approach another phase of this matter: the first sets had scarcely been in the hands of collectors, when marked differences in shade, paper and gum were noted; these differences all pointed to a second printing, and the question naturally arises when did this second printing of the 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollar stamps (these are the ones that showed the differences mentioned), take place? It prior to July, 1898, when the stamps were still in use, there is nothing to be said; but, if subsequent to that date, they are reprints pure and simple, and then—we'll let us wait for information from Washington before we say too much. In the meanwhile, however, we advise collectors to secure the sets in the early or original printing, as far as possible."

SOME AMERICAN OPINIONS.

Our readers will remember that our original information on this subject of the reprinted "Periodicals" was derived from the *Weekly Philatelic Era*. Contemporaneously with the publication of the facts by the *Era*, the Washington Correspondent of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* (the well-known and usually clear-headed Mr. J. M. Bartels) argued, in his usual letter to Mr. Scott's paper, that the reprinting did not matter at all, some people were always making mountains out of molehills, and so on, and so on. Not unnaturally, the *Era*, as a journal published in the interests of collectors exclusively, has taken the matter up with great warmth. Mr. Bartels' remarks on the subject the *Era* characterises as "one of the boldest insults yet made to the stamp-collecting public"; and furthermore, in reply to some observations on the same subject emanating from the pen of Mr. J. W. Scott himself, Mr. Jewett's paper remarks:

While we have all due respect for the so-called "Father of Philately," who is many years our elder, yet we cannot refrain from pronouncing his remarks as *pure rot* in our humble and honest opinion as an amateur collector. We would suggest that our venerable brother of the quill carefully read the article "About Reprints" which appeared in last week's *Era*. "Meaning the article recently given in the *FORTNIGHTLY*, which the *Era* quoted in extenso." We do not for a minute entertain the idea that he *believes*, or thinks he can make collectors believe, that there is no difference between "reprinting" a current stamp and one that has been declared obsolete and has gone out of use. The difference is obvious, and unnecessary to further explain to one not "blind."

Doubtlessly the discussion of this subject will spread to the other American stamp journals and there will be a heated journalistic debate as to the ethics (philatelically regarded) of the action the American Government has seen fit to take. In our judgment there can be but one logical answer; but when you have as participants in a debate a majority bent on obscuring the issue there is small hope of getting any "forrarder." Most of the leading journals in America have big dealing interests behind them, and in many quarters a personal stake in this Periodical deal will tend to temporarily warp a mind otherwise logical and clear.

Stamps as Revenue Collectors!

"PETER SIMPSON" writes us as follows:—

I have read your leaderette on "Graduated Receipt Stamp Values," which appeared in your last issue, in which you referred to some remarks of mine on the subject that were recently published in a London Daily. If you will grant me space to enlarge somewhat on the theme, I shall esteem it a favour.

Seeing that a graduated receipt stamp duty has been suggested, and found some favour as a possible and ready means for adding to Imperial revenue, why not extend the principle and make the stamp itself a "Stamp Collector"? I do not of course mean a "Stamp Collector" in its ordinary and philatelic sense, but as a financial or revenue producing and collecting agency. The graduated receipt stamp principle suggested might, possibly, be so arranged and extended so as to supplant the present cumbersome and unsatisfactory method of collecting income tax. That is to say, that if everyone who receives money over £2 had to affix an *ad valorem* receipt stamp on a well considered system and scale, there would be no need for income tax in its present form. When it is considered what an enormous turnover this would mean, the suggestion, perhaps, is not so chimerical as at first sight it appears.

When also, it is remembered what a relief from the inquisitorial burden now borne by a free people in the present mode of assessment of income tax, this system would remove; of the saving effected in the ponderous machinery for collecting the tax; of the removal of the difficulties in the way of many conscientious income tax payers in the matter of making proper returns, and the stumbling block it would prove to the less honest sort, who desire to understate or evade their liability to the State, the prospect fairly staggers one. Necessarily, there would need to be exemptions, such as money received on which the death or legacy duties had been paid; monies paid to municipal bodies for the various rates, cash lodged with bankers and so on. Also there would be modifications, as, for instance, a minimised scale for purely "trade receipts" as distinct from monies accruing where no business risks were run, &c. Again, a higher and graduated stamp could be impressed on dividend and interest warrants, to be deducted from the payee in the same way as income tax is now, and a return thereof made to the Inland Revenue officers by the company or trading corporation issuing them.

The arrangement would need much thought, no doubt, but I am sure that the clever officials of the Inland Revenue could devise a satisfactory plan if they gave their attention to it. Now here is a glorious future for the stamp in the early days of the coming century! a more extended sphere of usefulness—and these are manifold than it has hitherto occupied, and, lastly, another use for the simple scrap of paper bearing Her Gracious Majesty's portrait, that if it can be applied in some such way as I have indicated, would never be forgotten by her faithful and loving people.

Fiscalists, rather than collectors of postage stamps, will be interested in the foregoing suggestion. But "Income Tax" stamps, should they ever become things of actuality will possess a certain melancholy interest for all.



PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING April 29th, 1899.

London Auctions.

- April 17th and 18th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., at the Club, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.
- April 20th and 21st. Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Fown Hall, Charing Cross, at 5.30 p.m. each day.
- April 25th and 26th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day precisely.

Provincial Auction.

- April 26th. Messrs. Ostar & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 6.30 p.m. precisely.

**General Notice.**

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

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, APRIL 15, 1899.



We anticipate an indignant outcry, not only in America, but also in Britain and on the Continent, as a consequence of the scandal that has been brought to light in connection with the sale of the so-called "remainders" of the American Newspaper and Periodical Stamps. These remainders, as we announced in our last number, and as we more exactly demonstrate in an article in this issue, consist very largely of reprints—sheer, out-and-out reprints. In other words, the Government of the United States, finding that it could not make up the 50,000 complete sets of these stamps which had been announced for sale to collectors, resorted to reprinting in order to furnish the requisite quantity. Therein a grave mistake was made; a mistake that stamp collector will neither forget nor forgive.

When the original announcement was made that sets of these stamps would be obtainable at five dollars (£1) per set, there was a distinct implication, if not a direct promise, that purchasers of the sets would obtain at a merely nominal price the remaining specimens of the original stamps—stamps which had hitherto been obtainable only by surreptitious means. Now all that is changed. It is known that a large percentage of the stamps (and this applies more especially to the coveted high values) are mere reprints, little better, in our opinion, than the avowed facsimiles of these stamps supplied some years ago by a German philatelic firm. A purchaser of a set of these stamps has to take a sportsman's chance whether he gets the real remainders or the reprints; and there are reasons which point to the odds being heavily against his getting the genuine article.

Buyers in this country and on the continent must go to a middleman for their supplies; in fact, many will doubtless be thinking of ordering sets from a leading continental firm now largely advertising these labels at 30/- the series. And what dealer is likely to part with the genuine remainders (easily distinguishable, we believe, from the reprints) when he has a stock of the reprinted stamps which, in his opinion, will "do quite as well?" We advise our readers to give these stamps a wide berth, and to those who have already ordered sets we say: Get your money returned without delay! The firm we have alluded to are advertising the stamps as "guaranteed original." Guaranteed by whom? It may be urged on their behalf that the stamps are (presumably) guaranteed original by the American Government; but that plea will be of no avail against the claim of a customer who has been supplied with reprints in lieu of genuine originals.

The whole affair sheds an unpleasant light on the question of Government stamp dealing. The American Government of course should never have descended to this paltry "deal", for what is £50,000 in the coffers of a powerful Administration? A mere nothing. But having offered to supply these stamps to collectors "Uncle Sam" should have done the straight thing. He should have said: "Here's what I've got, and I want a quarter of a million dollars for the parcel!" The money would have been forthcoming promptly enough, and we should have been spared a spectacle worthy rather of Montenegro than of the United States of America. To bring the matter home to the minds of our readers with full weight let us ask them this: what would be thought here did St. Martin's-le-Grand attempt to raise £50,000 by stamp dealing, and stamp dealing of such a nature as to make our postal administrators technically guilty of obtaining money by false pretences.

**Notes on New Issues.**

**CREAT BARRIER ISLAND.**

Messrs. Whitefield King & Co., with their usual courtesy have sent us the following information in reply to "W. K.'s" note in our last number:

The enquiries we have made about these stamps have led to some unexpected results. We had no idea of the exact nature of the stamps when we first received a few from a New Zealand correspondent, as he gave us no information about them, but they prove to be something startlingly novel. There is no cable to the island, and the mail service is irregular and infrequent, and as long ago as November, 1897, a PIGEONGRAM service was established, the pigeons of course being taken out by vessels as opportunity offered, and liberated when messages were required to be sent. For twelve months this service was carried on without the aid of stamps; but last November, in consequence of the increase in the number of messages, it was deemed advisable to issue stamps, and 1,800 were printed. The messages are written on slips of thin tissue paper, the address being at the top, and the stamp is placed on the message, as, of course, no envelope can be used in such a service. The stamp is obliterated by a circular stamp, and the slip is then rolled up and tied under the pigeon's wing. We do not know how many such messages each bird can carry. When the birds are liberated at Great Barrier, they fly home to Auckland, New Zealand, when the messages are removed and placed in envelopes, addressed and posted; the fee of 1/- covering delivery to any part of the colony.



There is only the one value, 1/-, which is indeed the only one required, the fee being 1/- for each "pigeongram." The design being badly done, a new stamp has been engraved, of which we expect a supply in a few weeks, when we shall send you a specimen for illustration. Although a private venture, we are satisfied that it is *bona fide*, and it is of so unique and interesting a character that we believe the stamps will be much sought after. If we can get hold of an original used "flimsy" with stamp attached, we shall let you see it, but the stamps are generally somewhat the worse for the journey, being in a more or less creased condition.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**

MR. CULLEN, of Penang, sends us copies of the new stamps, of which illustrations are appended. One is the 4 cents surcharged on the 5 cents carmine. Of course there is no 5 cents carmine without the surcharge, and evidently this stamp has been printed for the sole purpose of receiving the surcharge until such a time as fresh plates can be got ready. The other novelty is the new 3 cents brown, in the current type.



"Four Cents"  
on 5c. carmine (2d.)  
3c. brown (2d.)





# The Provisionals of Crete.

By HARRY HUCKES.

MANY paragraphs have appeared in the New Issue Columns of the various philatelic papers all over the world relative to these peculiar issues of the Island of Crete; but as yet no real attempt has been made to publish the postal history of Crete up to date.

One of our readers, Captain E. B. Eagar, who was stationed in Candia at the time of the Provisional Government has very kindly supplied us with certain information regarding the stamps, and, by way of illustrating same, has sent us five entire envelopes bearing the various issues. I have also seen a good deal of information in the "D.B.Z." and *Der Philatelist*, the organ of the Dresden Society, and from all these sources I have been able to compile the following notes.

I do not claim that this article will be in any way complete, but I trust with the assistance of those readers who can correct me, we shall get at the true facts of these certainly not uninteresting stamps.

As was announced in the Press at the time, Prince George of Greece was appointed Commissioner for the Government of the Island of Crete. All the Turkish officials retired (though very unwillingly) on the arrival of the Prince, and in the interval before the latter was able to appoint fresh officials of his own, the Government was conducted by the various Foreign Officers then stationed in Crete. The Province of Candia was administered by the English, and of this section, the Military Chief was General Sir Herbert Chesside, while acting under him as Assistant Commissioner was Major Fairholme, who conducted the civil Government of this Province. Towards the end of November, 1898, it was decided to arrange a Postal Administration for the Interior of the Province of Candia. Stamps were ordered from Athens to the value of 10p. and 20p. but of course could not be at once delivered. The Chief of the Austrian Post Office therefore, was approached and invited to provide a Provisional stamp, and as a consequence Mr. Berinda, the above mentioned Austrian official, manufactured a die (Fig. 1.)

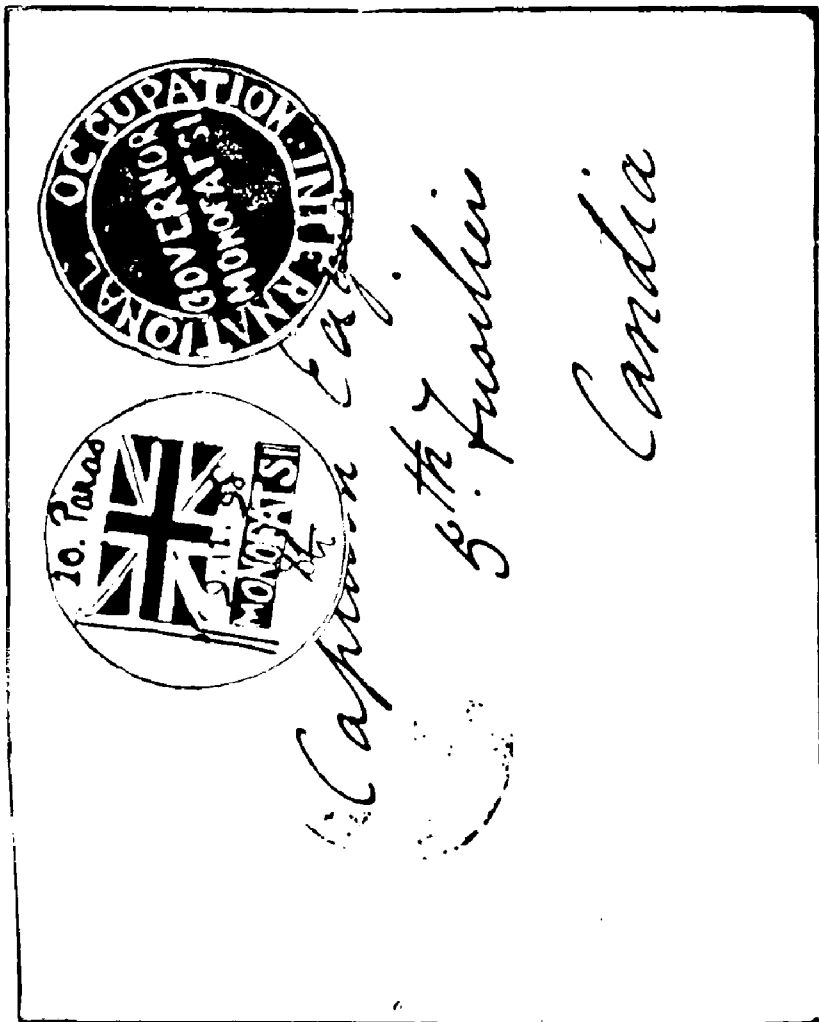


Fig. 2.

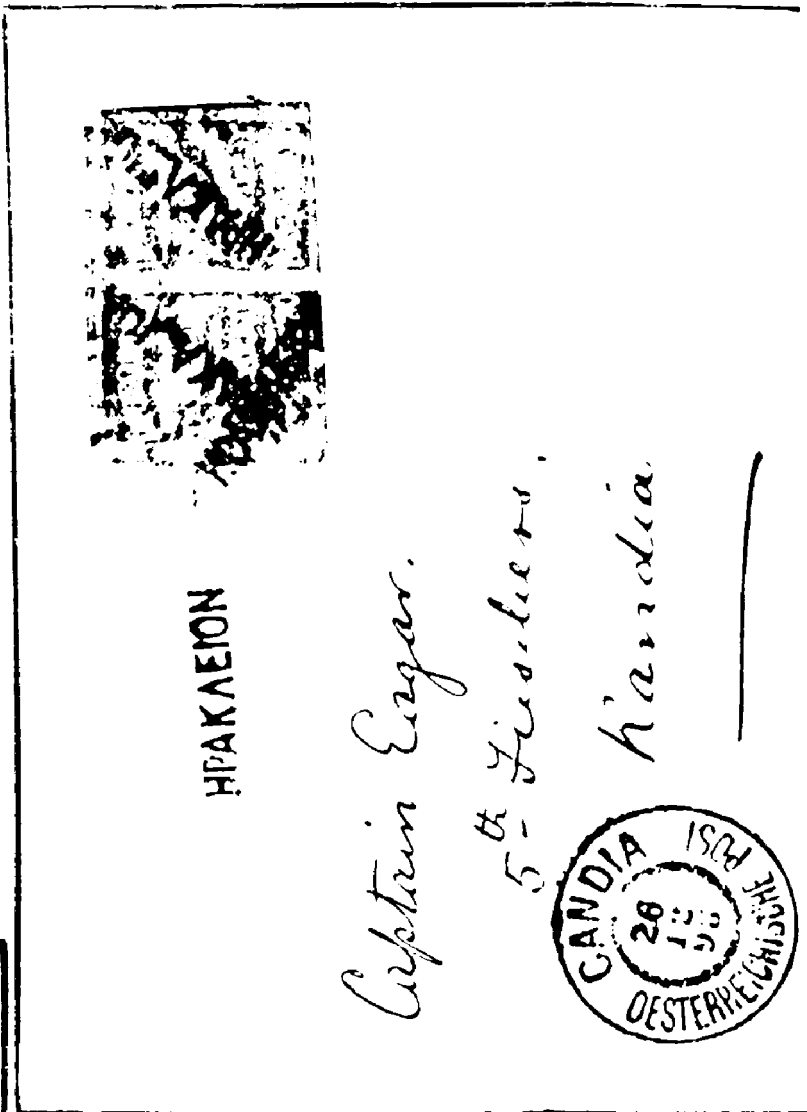


Fig. 1.

I was luckily enough, through the kindness of Capt. E. B. Eagar, to obtain a pair of these on entire envelope. The *D.B.Z.* called these woodblocks, but very rightly doubted that the stamps were printed from the woodblock. I have come to the conclusion after examining this pair very carefully, that an india rubber stamp was made from the woodblock, the sheets of paper being very carefully marked out in pencil squares, these india rubber impressions were carefully placed on same and the sheets so manufactured gummed and sold by the Austrian Post Office. The inscription on this stamp translated means "Provisional Mail Herakleion". The envelope we illustrate bears a postmark with the word "Herakleion" in Greek letters, which by the way means "Candia" and also the circular Austrian Post Office stamp. As the ink of these two postmarks is exactly the same, there can be no doubt in my mind that the obliteration as well as the circular date mark, were both affixed in the Austrian Post Office at Candia. These very interesting stamps were issued on the 25th November, up to and including the 3rd December. 3,000 impressions were made and it is stated by the brother of Major Fairholme that the original die of this stamp was destroyed on the 20th January, 1899, in the presence of the Officials.

Our envelope has the date of 26th. December, it appears therefore, although these stamps were only issued up to the 3rd December, they were in use till the perforated issue arrived from Athens. But apparently the above stamps were only used at the Candia Post Offices. It appears that other Commissioners in the various outlying districts had stamps

of their own which were although not adhesives, on a par with the Candia Provisionals.

I have seen an envelope of which I give an illustration (Fig. 2) bearing circular impressions, such as shown. The name "Monofatsi" indicates a district about the size of Yorkshire, they bear the date of the 9th December, and the postmaster's initials "J.G." The circular stamp on the right has also these initials, but it cannot be seen on the illustration. Moreover, the envelope bears a faint indication of the circular postmark of the Austrian Post Office "Archanes," which is a town about twelve miles distant from Candia, in the Province of "Monofatsi." This again proves to my satisfaction that the circular stamps were used by the Military Government of the district, and that the letter was forwarded to Candia by the Austrian Post Office, but Captain Eagar believed at the same time, that only the Commissioner was allowed to use these circular stamps.

The envelope (Fig. 2) bears on the back the receiving postmark of the Candia Post Office, precisely similar to the one on envelope No. 1, but dated December 12th, 1898. Taking therefore the date 9th December at "Archanes" as a despatching date, which was, by the way, on a Friday, the letter was not delivered in Candia till Monday morning.

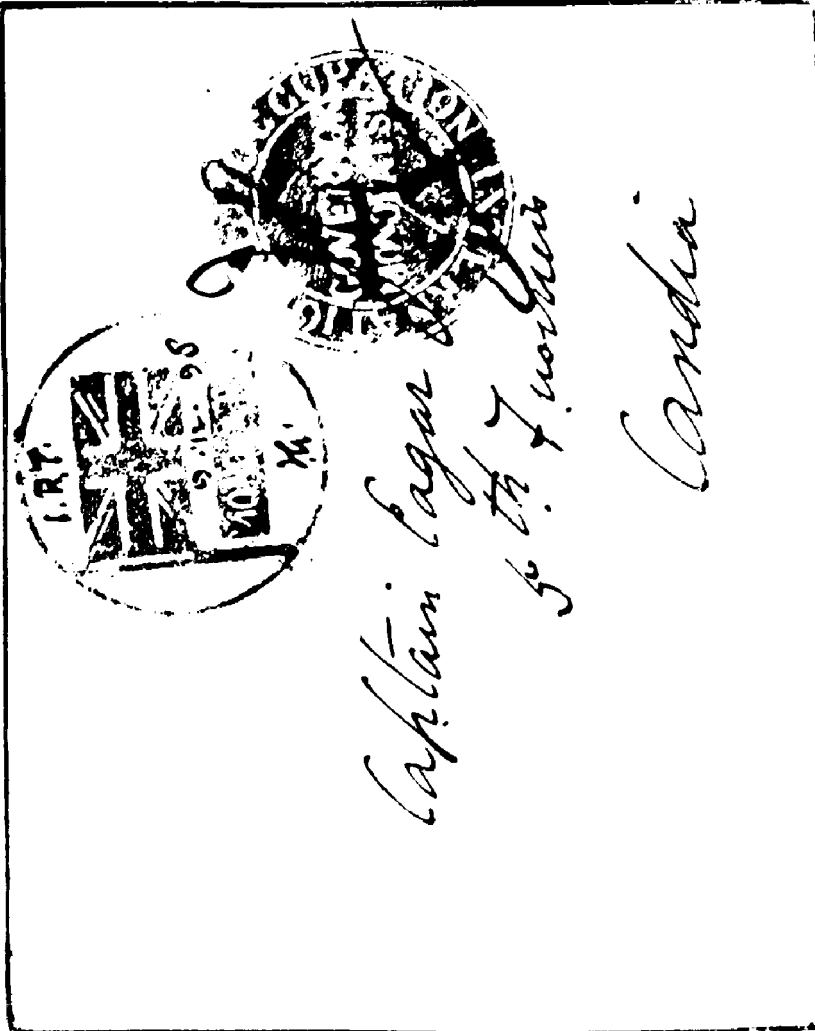


FIG. 3.

A further envelope (fig. 3) sent from the same place with two similar circular postmarks, but bearing the value at the top "I.R.T.," was forwarded on the same date, i.e., the 9th December, but this envelope does not bear any postmark of the Austrian Post Office whatever. I may mention that the impression of the 20 paras circular stamp was in violet ink, whereas the latter envelope has the impression in a deep Prussian blue.

Finally, I illustrate an envelope (fig. 4) from the Province of "Pediada," which is another district administered by an English official. Here, again, the impression was in Prussian blue ink.

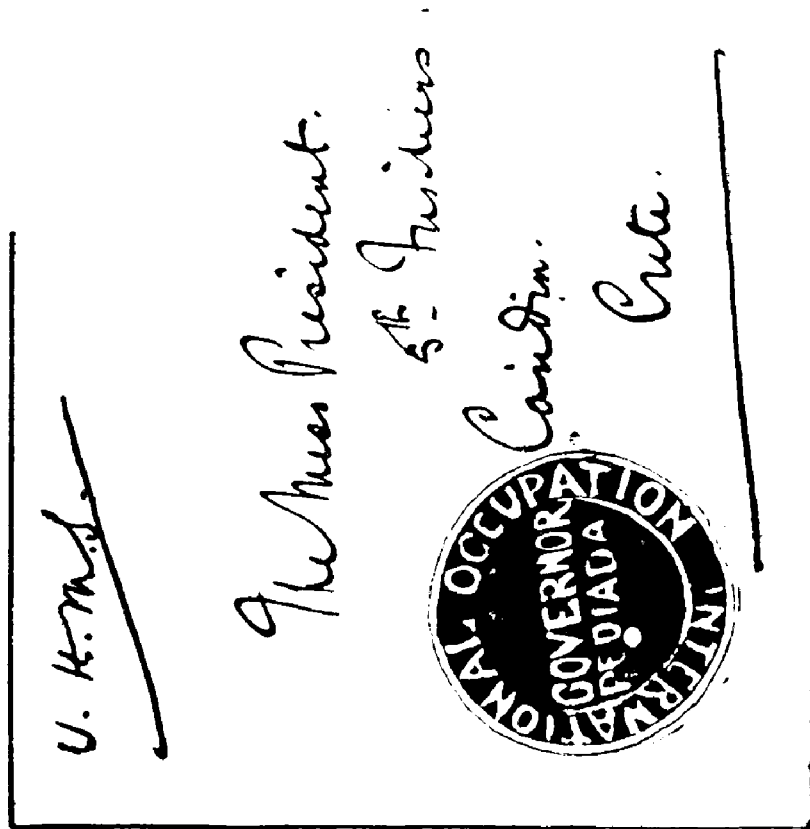


FIG. 4.

To sum up therefore, the rectangular stamp was used in Candia only, the circular stamp for postage from interior to Candia. No doubt there are other stamps to be hunted up in connection with this service, and if our readers will kindly forward them to me, I shall be pleased to publish them in a future number. When finally the Athens printed stamps arrived (fig. 5), they superseded all Provisional issues. The 10 paras stamp was only intended for use in Candia, the 20 paras for the rest of the Island. The "D.B.Z." takes it that to make the stamps a single woodcut was used which was duplicated in the usual way. Of course an error has already been discovered or rather two errors, one is the thin line right across the centre of the stamp (fig. 6), the other exist in every stamp issued: by some peculiar misunderstanding, the value reads parades instead of paras. It is said a new issue of this stamp has been ordered from England in which this error has been altered. The "D.B.Z." adds that 5,000 of this first perforated issue has been printed, but whether 5,000 of each issue, or together, they do not state. Only a few specimens are said to have been really used. They are printed in sheets of 100, and are lithographed. In concluding their remarks, the "D.B.Z." alluding to some notes in a German daily paper, states that great displeasure was created owing to instructions by the English officers, to build barracks for 17,000 troops, and to introduce postage and fiscal stamps bearing the English Union Jack. Apparently the Provisional Issue of the Districts showing the circular stamp with the Union Jack has been confounded with the special issue now being prepared at a London printing office.



FIG. 5.



FIG. 6.

Mr. Fairholme writing to the "Philatelist" states, that these Athens printed stamps of 10 and 20 paras were also used by the French administration in the Province of Sitia.

## Our Review of Reviews.

### Stamp-Exchanging Forty-Eight Years Ago.

"PHILOLOGOS," the compiler of the *Monthly Journal's* budget of miscellaneous philatelic jottings has unearthed an advertisement which appeared in the *Family Herald* for March 22nd, 1851, which is interesting as showing that the exchanging of stamps came into vogue at a very early date:

"Postage Stamps:—To Collectors of the used Postage Stamps. The advertizer will give (in exchange) four of the Penny Red Stamps for one Oval of the Stamped Envelopes. Any person that would collect a few would be kindly thanked by T. H. S. Smith's Library, 20, Brewer Street, Golden Square.

"N.B.—The Ceiling of the Library is decorated with 80,000 Postage Stamps in various Devices, and admitted to be the most novel ceiling in England."

### The Spanish Stamps of 1876.

We have omitted to review a very able article on Spanish stamps, recently published over the signature of Mr. M. P. Castle in the *London Philatelist*. Mr. Castle has examined many copies of the 1876 issue of Spain (Alfonso XII.), and has made a number of most interesting discoveries concerning this hitherto neglected issue. He finds (1) that two separate plates were used for most of the values; and (2) that the 5c. of both plates, the 10 and 25c. of Plate II, were slightly, and the 1 peseta of Plate II, materially retouched.

We quote Mr. Castle's remarks on the two plates:—

"The design of these stamps is too well known to require description; but in order to illustrate my points, I must briefly draw attention to one or two prominent features thereof. The portrait of the King is contained in an oval medallion, surrounded by an ornate fancy frame, square in shape, but with projecting ornaments on all four sides. The word 'COMUNICACIONES' occurs above the oval on a white band, with a shortened triangular projection at either end. Beneath is 'CS. PESETA,' or 'PESETAS,' on a similar band, which is, however, somewhat shortened by two framed blocks of solid colour containing the numeral of value. These two white labels and the medallion are fitted in by a solid background of colour, and it is in this feature that the principal differences will be found constituted. If this background is carefully examined in any value, except the 10 pesetas, the following constant markings will be found, although more plainly visible in some colours and printings than in others.

#### PLATE I.

(a) The shortened triangle to left of upper inscription has a thick stroke beneath.

(b) The background in the left upper corner shows a number of diagonal lines.

(c) The background in the lower right angle shows coarse cude lines, notably one in the right-hand border, which it irregularly divides.

(d) The numerals are small and irregular notably in the top-stroke of the figures, while the 'E' and 'T' of 'PESETA' or 'PESETAS' are distinctly apart. The appearance generally will be found inferior, in comparison with the recent plate, and there are other minor points; but I think it will be simpler if I keep within these lines. I should add that all values, except the 10 pesetas, were printed from this plate.

#### PLATE II.

The 10 pesetas was printed only from this plate, but the 20 and 40 cents, and the 1 pesetas are found only in Plate I. Taking the different sections of the design in the same order as that followed in Plate I, the following variations will be noted:—

(a) The shortened triangle to left of 'COMUNICACIONES' has no thick line beneath it.

(b) In the background in left upper angle the diagonal strokes are absent.

(c) The background in the lower right angle is not marked by the thick lines and blotchy appearance, but is composed of fine evenly-drawn parallel lines, practically contiguous.

(d) The numerals are somewhat bolder and are better drawn, the top stroke of the figures '5' being noticeably larger, and the 'E' and 'T' of 'PESETA' almost touch each other.

(e) To the right of the bottom scroll, and immediately above the

'A' of 'PESETA,' will be found three or four diagonal strokes, apparently added after the fine lines composing the background. An exception to this occurs in the 10c. which has in lieu of these, three or four horizontal strokes on each side of the scroll."

### A Peep at Philately in 2000 A.D.

Herr Oscar Leede, of the Dresden Philatelic Society, gives the readers of *Der Philatelist*, of Dresden, an account of what he saw of philately during a short visit to the year 2000 A.D. after a late night with some friends who were *not* tectotallers. The *Philatelic Journal of India* has made an excellent selection of extracts from this amusing effort. Herr Leede, you must understand, is in the company of Herr von Kalau, who pilots him round the palatial building of the "International Philatelic Society."

"We then visited the library in a long beautifully decorated room with magnificent carved oak book-cases filled with thousands of books. Five librarians were busy at work. Herr von Kalau showed me round, pointing out a rare book here and there. On a small table I observed a little white pamphlet, about six pages thick, under a glass case. 'What is this?' I could not help asking. 'This is the so-called White Book,' was the reply. 'White Book?' I asked. 'I suppose you mean Black Book?' My kindly cicerone smiled. 'Good Heavens! That has been stopped ever so long ago. The last of the Black Books is still kept as a curiosity. It came out in 243 vols., large 8vo. So we started a White Book to contain only the names of such philatelists as we believed to be trustworthy.' 'There don't seem to be many of them,' I remarked. 'Oh, I don't know, we have no fewer than 21 names in it. For a time, I must say, we feared that we should be able to make no more entries, but you see that it is all right after all. Here you see the latest catalogue of Messrs. Mostrich. Here he showed me a book-case with 36 volumes each about the size of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. I pointed to another work in 12 vols. 'Is that also a catalogue?' I asked. Yes, that is Kraus' European Shade Catalogue. I must say it is not easy to get together a complete collection. One of our members has been at it for 82 years, but so far has hardly 20 per cent. of the varieties catalogued!"

"Now," said the old gentleman, "we'll go to the refreshment room. But first of all allow me to use the telephone. Take the other receiver. You might like to hear the conversation." Herr von Kalau rang the bell. "Office 102, No. 96,847, please." "I am Colney Hatch, who are you?" "I am the International Philatelic Society. How is our member No. 18,265?" Still in the padded cell, was the answer. And how is No. 22,384?" "Fixed ideas. Hopeless," was the answer. "He thinks he is a *Hingean Prince*." I had had enough."

"I saw eight big furniture-waggons standing before the door of the opposite house. 'Poor man,' I said, 'I don't envy him his move.' Herr von Kalau followed my eyes and shook his head smiling. *He's not moving, my dear sir*, he said. What you see being loaded up there is his collection of Central American States in some thousand volumes. He has just sold them to a dealer at 92 per cent. below Mostrich. The poor man could not find house-room for it now that Honduras, Nicaragua, &c., keep bringing out a new set from 1c. to 50 pesos twice a week."

"To-day we have on show the Afghan collection of a member who is now, I regret to say, in Colney Hatch, said my guide, pointing to an enormous number of sheets each headed 'Afghan stamps arranged according to obliterations.' 'You may know,' said my friend, 'that Afghan stamps were obliterated by the tearing off of a piece of the stamp of varying size. So the collection begins with the worst spoiled specimens, where so much has been torn off that only the smallest atom of the original stamp is left. From this we go on gradually till we reach the copies where one cannot see

the tear with the naked eye. Now allow me to show you our greatest rarity,' he continued and took out of a golden casket a big envelope with all sorts of stamps and postmarks on it. 'This cover,' he said, 'was posted in Kashmir franked with a stamp of Liberia. It was sent by mistake to Queensland, where it got the watch-wheel postmark of Baden.' The letter was then sent to the addressee, a gentleman living in Paris, by the Russian Levant-post, with the remark *Da Venezia Col Vapore*, but oddly enough there was on the back a Montenegro postage due stamp obliterated with the Saxon bar postmark. An Englishman offered us half a million sterling for the curiosity, but we would not sell for all the wealth of the Indies.'

In the telegraph-room where a number of clerks were receiving continuously full particulars of new issues, Herr Leede saw the following telegram come in:—"Botokuden land. On the occasion of the death of King Wisly Washy's mother-in-law, a jubilee issue of 35 values has appeared." He was further shown the two chief philatelic advertising papers which appeared weekly, each number weighing over a hundredweight. In the billiard room he was introduced to the great "gum specialist," and would no doubt have seen and heard much more, had he not quarrelled with his guide and wakened up ——— in 1899.

**Wanted, the Names!**

"There are over fifty regular magazines published in the United States and Canada devoted in whole or in part to philately, and out of the entire lot there are not more than eight or ten deserving the name of really good journals, and of these not more than six can be called first-class."

So writes "C. H. W." in the *Perforator*, of Federalsburg, Maryland. We had not thought that there were quite so many as six first-class American philatelic journals. Perhaps "C. H. W." can supply their names?

**Other Journals Briefly Mentioned.**

The *Philatelic Rambler*, from Nebraska, is published "for the exclusive interests of the publisher." Furthermore it will be "published as often as occasion demands." To speak quite frankly we see no occasion for the publication of this leaflet at all.

*Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News*, for March 23rd, is an enormous number, to which has been given the colossal circulation of over 100,000 copies. Mr. J. A. Mekeel calls it a missionary number, intended to increase the number of Philately's devotees, and, at the same time, of the *Weekly's* subscribers.

The February *Australian Philatelist* has a long and most interesting article on colonial postmarks, to which we must refer in some future number.

Is it our fancy, or does the *Philatelic Journal of India* incline more to *enboupaint* month by month? The March issue seems to be bigger and better filled even than the February number, and we had thought that to be a "record." All congratulations to the present able editor, Mr. C. Stewart Wilson.

*Le Timbre Poste* published in its April number an extremely vulgar and humourless parody of the Canadian jubilee stamp, showing, instead of the Queen's head, the Queen's garter, with leg attached, in 1838 and in 1898. One does not look for such poor fooling in a serious philatelic journal like *Le Timbre Poste*.

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**Asked and Answered.**

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best acceptable reply, or replies, we shall award a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility.

**QUESTIONS ANSWERED.**

**12.—Apart from the consideration of the convenience of postal officials, what was the chief reason for the Postal Union's recommendation as to uniformity of colour in ½d., 1d., and 2½d. stamps?**

"The true reason (writes W.K., Edinburgh) is undoubtedly the further advancement of that Universal Brotherhood inaugurated by the Postal Union itself. Step by step the goal: "One postage—one set of stamps for the whole world" is brought nearer. At first came uniform postal rates, followed by Ocean penny postage; now we get the stamps of the different nations alike in colour when of the same denomination."

The writer of the foregoing is cheerfully optimistic. We think that the Postal Senators sitting in Conference at Washington took very little stock in Universal Brotherhood. Their main idea, probably, in suggesting uniformity of stamp colours was to promote the convenience of the world's public in postal matters. The convenience of postal officials, in handling international mail matter, must also, as suggested in the text of our question, have influenced them greatly in favor of the uniform-colour scheme.

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.**

**14.—Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the "De la Rue colonial type?"**

**15.—What is the meaning of *bleute*, and what the derivation of the word? Also, what is *bisul* paper? (Question asked by C. O., St. Leonard's.)**

**16. Some of the French postmarks in the form of a star have the number of a post office; others lack this number. What is the difference between them? (Question asked by L. M., Highbury.)**

**17.—For what purpose were the French "anchor" and "H.P." postmarks used? (L. M., Highbury.)**

**18.—On the abolition of the Finish stamps at the end of this year, is any increase of (philatelic) value probable in any of these stamps? In other words which are the best Finish stamps, from a monetary stand point, and which (if any), are undervalued in the catalogues?**

**19.—Can any collector provide a really good and cheap method of cleaning those stamps that will not bear washing, such as the early Russians and stamps printed in vegetable inks? (Asked by W. G. O., Wolverhampton).**

**20.—In Stamp Collecting what should constitute a "variety," and what a "minor variety?" Furthermore where should the line be drawn in order that philatelists may stop short of "straw splitting" in the search for minute variations of type and printing?**

All letters containing questions or replies should be addressed to the Editors, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

In future this feature of the FORTNIGHTLY will make its appearance in alternate numbers. It will not then unduly encroach on other matter, and more time will be given to those readers (and we hope their numbers will increase and multiply), who elect to ask and answer questions through this medium.

THE NEXT

*Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held early in May, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if received on or before Thursday, 27th April.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that :

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

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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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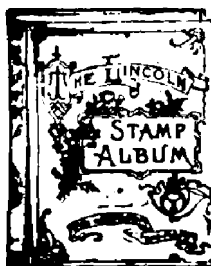
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**The £5 Prize**

will be given to the one who fills in the correct missing words. Last day for receiving solutions, April 29th.

The £5 will be paid in cash on or before May 6th.

The name of winner will be announced in the FORTNIGHTLY for May 13th.

**RESULT OF 10TH COMPETITION.**

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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 120—Vol. V.                      SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 1899.                      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatelic Society.      Cambridge University Philatelic Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatelic Society.      Edinburgh and Leith Society.      Rochdale Philatelic Society.  
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*Doings of Societies.*

**BARBADOS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE Committee having obtained the loan of the "New Hall" at Queen's College for the afternoon of Wednesday, April 5th, from 4.30 to 6 p.m., the members of the above Society decided to meet there on that date for the purpose of hearing Mr. Gregory's Paper on "The Stamps of Barbados."

The Barbados Philatelic Society appears to be enjoying great vitality. Mr. J. E. Mayers is hon. secretary.

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

MARCH 2nd. The following were unanimously elected members:—Messrs. S. G. Vlastos, C. P. W. Andreae, and G. Aveyrinos.

Mr. Pimm gave a very interesting paper on the stamps of New Zealand, illustrated by his own fine collection of that country, and also by those of Messrs. W. T. Wilson and T. W. Peck, the former showing all varieties in ranges of shades, used and unused, and the latter fine blocks of imperfs in mint condition, and other rarities in exceptionally fine condition.

The paper was interspersed and followed by remarks and discussion as to the various shades in use at certain dates, and a good number of copies with dated postmarks and stamps on original, including some of the rare watermarks, roulettes, etc., materially helped the discussion.

April 20.—The following were unanimously elected members:—Messrs. W. Nathan, J. Venn, W. Morgan, C. E. Price and A. N. Hayne.

Mr. R. Hoilick then showed his collections of New South Wales and Tasmania, carefully explaining to any who required it, the numerous varieties and retouches of the plates in the early issues of the former colony. Many very fine copies and shades of these early issues were shewn.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE Eighth Session of the Plymouth Philatelic Society, which will shortly close as far as active winter work is concerned, has been a most successful one. Nineteen new members have joined since October, 1898, and fourteen ordinary meetings have been held at which papers have been read in conjunction with alternate evenings for discussion and exchange. The following have contributed to the readings: Major G. W. Stockdale (President) twice on the issues of France, Rev. E. A. Donaldson and Mr. H. W. Mayne on the 'Collecting of Entires,' Rev. E. T. Eaffe, R.N., on 'Auction Prices and Catalogue Values,' and Mr. W. A. Walker on 'Breakers Ahead.' On the 14th of January, 1899, an Exhibition of Stamps was held, which proved a most gratifying success, and the Exchange Branch of the Society shews a very marked development—its monthly Packets averaging over £100 in value. A silver medal has also been contributed to the forthcoming Manchester Philatelic Exhibition. The present Session will end shortly with a Lecture on Philately, to be contributed by the Rev. E. Bell of Saltash.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—

W. A. WALKER, ESQ.

Hon. Secretary, Exchange Branch—

DR. C. E. RUSSEL RENDLE.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE meeting held on Wednesday, April 5th (Mr. J. F. Peace presiding), was devoted to the Sale and Exchange of Stamps. There was a good muster of members and a number of stamps changed hands, including several of the rare type written stamps of Uganda, Canada 6d. purple, imperforate, U.S. 5 dollars, etc. Very good prices were realised and showed that the hobby of stamp collecting is still in a flourishing condition.

At the Meeting held on Wednesday, April 19th, at Bird's Restaurant, Mr. J. S. Beckett (Vice-President) occupied the chair.

Mr. Sutton read a very interesting paper, entitled "Some of the pleasures of Stamp Collecting." In the course of his essay, he showed that a study of the colours and varied designs, many of them very beautiful, caused the collector to appreciate art. He contended that in many cases the stamps of a Country were, by means of their various designs, a simple index to its historical and geographical features, and a miniature guide to its natural history, as instanced by the beaver of Canada, the cod of Newfoundland, the llama of Peru, the kangaroo of New South Wales, the pyramid and sphinx of Egypt, the volcanoes of Costa Rica, etc. The study of such stamps could not fail to improve the knowledge of the collector in the various branches of science whilst the careful and close observation, and the neatness required in collecting and mounting the stamps, were bound to be of advantage in other walks of life.

Mr. Hunt proposed, Mr. Chapman seconded, and Mr. Sneath supported, a vote of thanks to Mr. Sutton, each testifying that in many ways they had gleaned much information and pleasure from the study of stamps.

The Meeting was afterwards adjourned until the 3rd May, when the Members arranged to hold an exhibit of the stamps of France and her Colonies.

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**THE EXCHANGE MEDIATOR.** Member of the Stamp Exchange Protection Society, Secretary of the Strip and Block Exchange Society.—F. C. FISHER, 64, Hampton Park, Redland, Bristol. To secure collectors exchanging through the medium of advertisements from forwarding stamps without receiving value. Make your exchange through above medium. Charges 2½ per cent catalogue value and postage. [120]

**COLLECTORS** residing in Nevis, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Falkland Isles, Gibraltar. Wanted to exchange current stamps of their countries with stamps of India and Native States. Unused only required.—J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [120-125]

**WANTED.**—Porto Rico, 8mls. and 8oc. Philippines, 1892, 6c.; 1893, 124.8c.; 1894, 6c.; 1896, 6c.; used or unused quantities.—L. L. 76, Rusholme Grove, Manchester.

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**EXCHANGE** desired on sheets, basis Gibbons, duplicates Turkey, Persia, Cyprus, Levant, etc. No common wanted.—V. ESSAYAN, Galata, Constantinople (Member of Stamp Protection Society). [120-121]

**OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.**—Members wanted, no dealers. Monthly accounts. Rules post free on application. Secretary, G. HERBERT DANWATT (Member Stamp Exchange Protection Society), "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

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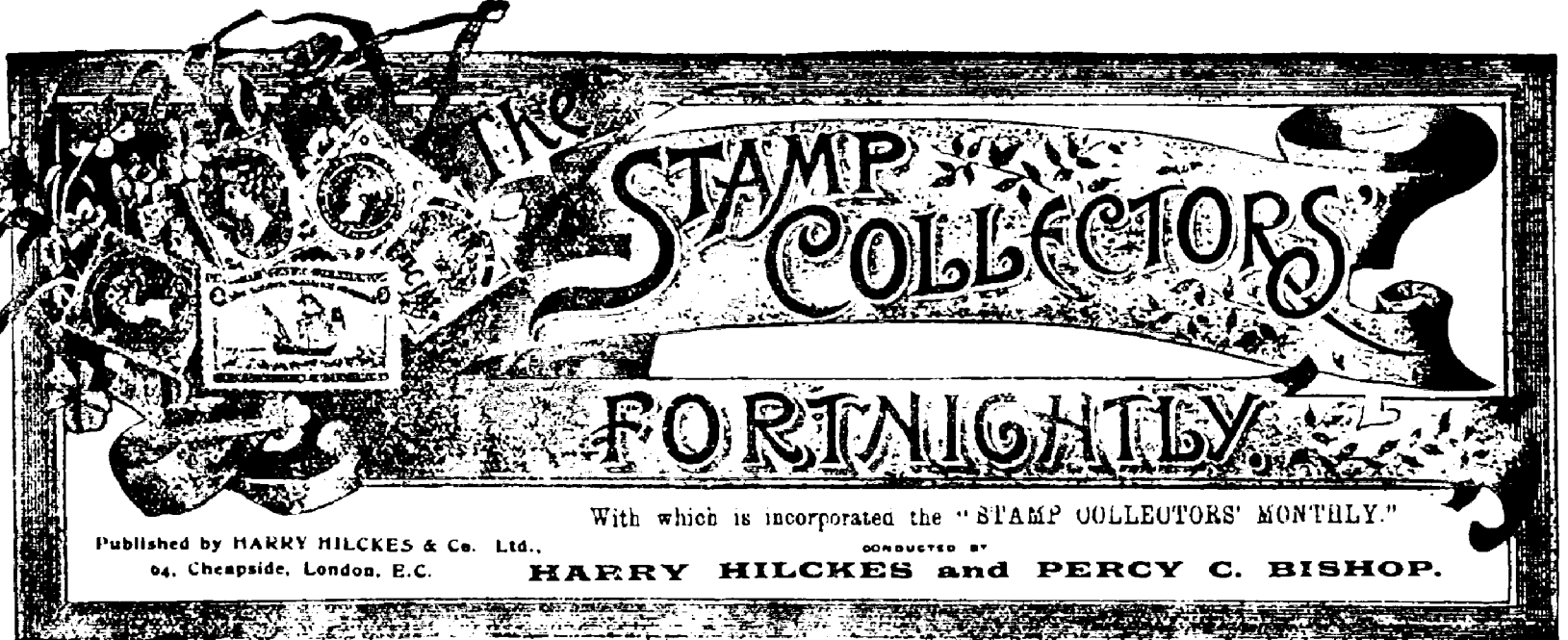
**WANTED,** Good Collection. High price paid to any amount. References given.—COLLECTOR, 125, Fulham Road, London. [118-121]

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No. 120—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1896

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

**PHILATELY IN THE WEST INDIES.**

WE are indebted to a West Indian correspondent for the following interesting notes:

"Philatelists at home and elsewhere will be pleased to hear that Philately is going very strong in the West Indies. Indeed, a traveller on his way to these charming but in many ways unfortunate islands, by one of the vessels of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, will, in all probability, have this brought home to him long before he reaches his first West Indian port at Barbados. In the course of conversation with one's fellow passengers it is wonderful to find how many of them are stamp collectors, and if a book of duplicates be produced on deck its owner will, as a rule, be speedily surrounded by other members of the fraternity, anxious for a deal. Several collectors are always to be found among the white and even coloured population of the islands, and, the especially in larger islands, a fair percentage of dealers.

"A large majority of the clerks employed in the Post Offices go in for a little stamp dealing by way of a side line, and on enquiring and sometimes without, will generally produce specimens of obsolete issues which they are prepared to sacrifice at catalogue rates and even over. A word of warning here on the subject of their Post Offices may, perhaps, not be amiss to any reader who may be paying his first visit to the West Indies and wander ashore from his steamer with the intention of investing the local postage stamps.

In the first place he will probably have some difficulty in finding the Post Office at all, except perhaps by accident, as

it is often just where one would least expect to find it, and frequently lacks the conspicuous outward indications of its ordinary British counterpart. The chief trouble, however, is that ideas on the subject of the period necessary for the business hours of a West Indian Post Office are very different to those held at home, as closing time is five o'clock and often four.

"With regard to the facilities for the acquisition of choice specimens these may be said to be extremely small. Indeed philatelic gems are far easier to obtain in London than in any of the centres where their lustre once shone, and really rare varieties especially in fine condition are well nigh unobtainable. Moreover persons who do happen to possess scarce specimens of obsolete issues in most cases hold a most exaggerated idea of their value, which is in itself always an insuperable barrier to business.

"Climatic conditions tell to a certain extent against the zealous philatelist, in that considerable care is necessary for the preservation in mint condition of unused specimens, the gum of which has a tendency to exert its functions somewhat prematurely, and in consequence it is not uncommon to find unused stamps placed together in an envelope for instance stuck together into the compactness of a plaster. Then again, stamps are sought after by smaller, but far more insidious creatures than man, inasmuch as cockroaches and moths frequently display a most marked partiality for postage stamps particularly their faces.

"West Indian Stamps are most in demand among collectors some of whom are the owners of very fine collections. The genius speculator exists here quite as much as elsewhere, and even people who have never possessed an album in their lives, and do not profess to be collectors, greedily buy up stamps which they think will become rare, and hope at some future time to unload at enormous profit quite regardless of the number originally printed. This is no doubt very excellent as far as the revenue of the Island is concerned, and from a philatelic point of view it reflects great credit on the various governments concerned, that under the circumstances more provisional and commemorative issues are not made."

**THE STAMPS OF COAMO, PORTO RICO.**

MR. R. W. J. COCHRANE has collated for us the following facts and figures regarding the provisional stamps of Coamo, in Porto Rico. Various references to these stamps have appeared in earlier numbers of the Fortnightly, and we doubt not that readers will be glad to have the following collected notes, furnishing all the well-known data as to these curious labels:

The issue of the Coamo-Puerto Rico Provisional Stamp was one of the interesting historical incidents connected with the late Spanish-American War. These stamps were issued on or about August 13th, 1898, and continued in use until about September 4th, 1898.

It was an emergency issue, required for postage purposes and prepared with no thought of speculation; the philatelic value and interest now attached to the stamps is a complete revelation to the officials who produced them.

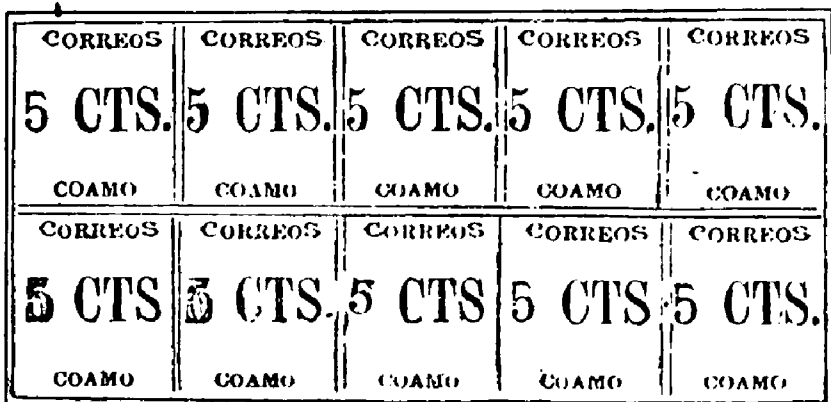
Coamo, at the time the stamps were issued, was occupied by the American Army under General James H. Wilson. The General authorized and instructed the Mayor to open up new postal communications, as the Spanish postal service had been abandoned upon the approach of the army.

Sr. Florencio Santiago, a merchant and member of the house of Santiago Hermanos, was the Mayor of Coamo.

In establishing this provisional postal system, the Mayor was acting upon the instructions of the highest authority, that of the commanding military officer, and this postal service was simply a forerunner of the U.S. Military P.O. that now exists in Puerto Rico.

The Mayor was authorized to charge 5 centavos for each letter as a means of defraying the expenses and for the payment of the carriers.

No stamps being available for the purposes of the post, the local printing office of the town of Coamo was instructed to prepare stamps suitable for the emergency.



The above illustration is a photographic reproduction of the sheet of stamps produced.

As a check upon the printer, and to further prove the validity of the issue, the Mayor caused a rubber stamp impression of his name, "F. Santiago," to be placed across every two stamps in the manner illustrated above. The stamps were type set, printed with ordinary black ink upon white wove paper, imperforate, gummed in a primitive manner, with a preparation unevenly applied and of a brownish color. The gum on some of the stamps where it was applied too thickly discoloured the paper in some places, making brownish spots.

The rubber stamp impression is in ordinary violet rubber stamp ink. Each stamp in the sheet is slightly different, as is usually the case when stamps are type set.

There were four kinds of type used to produce the numerals "5," they have been classified as Types I., II., III., and IV., there being four varieties of the first, three of the second, two of the third, and one of the fourth in each sheet of ten stamps.

These stamps were in use on all mail matter handled by the Coamo postal service for about two weeks, when the regular U.S. stamps succeeded them.

The first information to the philatelic world as to the existence of these stamps came to the great Paris dealer, Arthur Maury, from a correspondent in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. This correspondent stated the fact of provisional stamps being in use at Coamo and this information was published in the September number of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste*.

After the use of the stamps had been discontinued, Mr. A. O. Tittmann, an American gentleman and a stamp collector, who has lived long abroad, heard of their existence while in

Ponce. He was shown a copy that had been postally used and was in the hands of an American soldier who valued it highly as a curiosity.

Mr. Tittmann went to Coamo on a tour of discovery and secured for a merely nominal amount the few remaining stamps from the Mayor by whom they were issued. The circumstances attendant upon the purchase, and the price paid, preclude the possibility of the Mayor having attached any particular value to the stamps.

When these stamps first appeared in New York they were naturally viewed askance by the stamp fraternity and even doubted by some.

But now their philatelic value has been clearly established and there is no question as to their legitimate character.

Mr. J. M. Andreini, a very well and favourably known philatelist, who is also a partner in a prominent Wall Street banking house, that has connections in the Spanish West Indies, took the matter up and went into it thoroughly. Although Mr. Andreini was a doubter when he commenced, his researches changed his views and at the conclusion of a full report read before The Philatelic Society of New York, at their Meeting January 19th, 1899, he says:

"My conclusion is that the Coamo provisional stamp was issued for legitimate purposes and served such purposes as an emergency stamp. I believe, therefore, that it is entitled to some consideration at the hands of collectors, not only as an emergency issue, but as an interesting historical relic."

Mr. Andreini's collection of documents on this subject includes autograph letters confirming the facts given above from General James H. Wilson, Mayor F. Santiago and other responsible parties in Puerto Rico.

The Coamo provisional is destined to rank as a rarity, if the limited number available for collectors is considered.

Mr. A. O. Tittmann, who secured the remainders, placed all he had for sale (258 copies) in the hands of C. H. Mekeel, of St. Louis.

Ten complete sheets were set aside for sale intact, and seventeen sets of the four types will not be broken, this disposes of 168 of the stamps, leaving only 90 single copies for general sale. These consist of the following:

46 copies of Type I.  
31 copies of Type II.  
13 copies of Type III.

The complete sheets and the sets of four types are all under offer and a number of the single stamps have been sold.

With this distribution it will be readily understood that \$10.00 net is a reasonable price for single copies of Type I.

While it is certain that reprints or counterfeits could not be made to deceive an expert, yet to protect those who have not studied the stamps carefully, they will be initialed and guaranteed and a record will be kept of the purchasers.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING May 13th, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

May 2nd and 3rd.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 5.45 p.m., each day.

May 4th and 5th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 5.30 p.m. each day.

May 9th and 10th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

##### Tapling Collection.

The following stamps are now shown at the King's Library British Museum.

FRANCE, from October, 1862. AUSTRIA, down to 1867.

*Modern Society* asserts that the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, being quite broken up by the death of his son, is going to break up his "wonderful" collection of postage stamps. The *Pelican* says the same thing in other words, and the latter journal also asserts that one of the finest philatelic collections in existence is the property of one of the Rothschilds, and that, though the Duke of York once had a fine collection of stamps, he sold it on his marriage! Dear! dear! these newspapers.

## New Philatelic Publications.

SECOND CATALOGUE AND REFERENCE LIST OF UNITED STATES ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS, LETTER SHEETS AND POSTAL CARDS, 1853-1899. Published by the J. M. Bartels Company, 725, Eleventh Street, N. W., Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

This catalogue is a model of thoroughness. We have never, personally, been able to work up much enthusiasm in United States envelopes, but for those who are interested in the subject we can imagine no more useful guide, both for buying and for classification, than this book of Mr. Bartels. The types of all the various issues, with all their vagaries of gum and flap and watermark, are clearly illustrated; and as to the reliability of the work we may take the name of the publisher as affording an ample guarantee of accuracy.

\* \* \*

PRICED CATALOGUE OF STAMPS OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES (1899); Price, post free, 2s. 3d.. London, Stanley Gibbons, Limited, 391, Strand, W.C.

Here we have part II. of the four-volume Gibbons' catalogue, and the consensus of philatelic opinion will proclaim it a good book. "Everything" says a writer of apophorisms, "is relative"—including the statement we have just made. For the goodness of Gibbons' Part II. is a relative goodness. Judged in comparison with the previous Gibbons' Part II. the book is a very good one, but leaving comparisons out of the question, we will go so far as to say that the volume now before us is quite as good as we expected it to be; and in saying that we have no thought of damning the catalogue with faint praise. If we are critical of catalogues and cataloguers we are fully alive, and have always been fully alive, to the difficulties that surround the just appraisal of philatelic values. It is by now an accepted axiom that no philatelic catalogue, issued under present conditions, reflects or can be expected to reflect the actual state of the stamp market. But now to the actual business of the moment—a general description and a not-too-exhaustive critique of "Gibbons Part II."

It strikes one almost with "a sickening thud," using the language of the sensational fictionist, that this book is marvellously thin. The last "Gibbons Part II." had almost twice the bulk. The locals are removed to a separate volume, 'tis true, but one would scarcely think that these "issues for a restricted area" would pan out to such a space as must have been their portion in the last edition of the catalogue. The workmanship of the volume is good, the paper being better than heretofore, and the printing, as a consequence, a good deal clearer. A great number of additional illustrations have been introduced, making the volume increasingly valuable for reference.

Grumble Number One: It has always seemed to us that the greatest blot on the later Gibbons' Catalogues is the order in which the countries follow one another. Instead of a severely alphabetical order, which one would take to be the more sensible plan, the countries are "grouped"—Württemberg, for instance, being placed among the "G's" as an integral portion of the German Empire. In all other catalogues we look for Württemberg under "W"—eccentric as that proceeding may seem to be—and for the life of us we cannot understand why Messrs. Gibbons should depart from such an eminently satisfactory rule. A good instance of the absurdity of the Gibbons plan is afforded by the volume under notice. Cuba, of course, is placed, as formerly under "Spain," although it is no more a Spanish Colony than the Isle of Dogs. This anomaly might pass were it not for the commendable up-to-dateness which has induced Messrs. Gibbons to include the provisional stamps for Cuba issued by the United States. Thus we find surcharged U.S.A. stamps classified under Spain!—and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons are "hoist with their own petard."

As to prices we do not care to give an absolute opinion. The market has been so unsettled during the last twelve months that we feel quite sure that good reasons could be

adduced for and against every price in the Catalogue; but—(fresh paragraph, please).

Grumble Number Two: Many stamps that might easily be priced are left without any quotation whatsoever. Why, for instance, are no figures given for some of the current stamps of the German Colonies?

Reverting to a matter we have already touched upon—the illustrations in this book. As we have mentioned so very, very often we do not think that illustrations in a stamp catalogue should be absolute facsimiles. The main object, surely, is that the illustrations provide a fairly reliable guide as to the types referred to in the body of the Catalogue? To fulfil this purpose the cuts, though small, should be plainly distinguishable. The half-tone process, although excellent for purposes of comparison, does not lend itself well for illustrating on a small scale; and, although this is perhaps outside the critic's province, we may venture to suggest to the publishers that the "line" and "half-tone" processes do not mix well in a work of this sort.

An anomaly in the Catalogue is No. 109 France, on page 81; we find catalogued there the 10c. bistre surcharged 10, with a foot-note to the effect that this stamp was never issued!

Looking through this critique, we find that there are but two serious grumbles in it. Time was when we could have done better. Either our critical elbow is diminishing in power, or Messrs. Gibbons have vastly improved in their catalogue-making. Well, we are content to think it is the latter.

THE ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS OF EUROPE BY W. A. S. WESTOBY: Parts VIII. and IX: price one shilling each. London, J. Upcott Gill, Bazaar Office, Strand, W.C.

It is a fascinating group of countries through which Mr. Westoby conducts us in these eighth and ninth parts of his serial work, "The Adhesive Stamps of Europe." Modena, Parma, Romagna—these are parts of the earth that have played a big rôle in the historical drama of the century now drawing to a close. To say that Mr. Westoby well maintains in these later chapters all the interest infused into the earlier articles of the series is to give the highest praise possible. Mr. Upcott Gill is producing these shilling booklets in a style of printing and production generally that can only be described as sumptuous. It is evidently intended that all the parts when issued, shall be bound into three volumes; and three very handsome and deeply interesting volumes they will make.

THE BRITISH PHILATELIC DIRECTORY, 1899: Price one shilling: Birmingham, the Philatelic Publishing Company, Lenthall Road, Handsworth.

This work achieved popularity at the outset, and deserved to do so. It has its defects nevertheless. For instance, it is not made quite clear whether the book is restricted, as a directory, to the names of stamp collectors, but an impression that that is so is somehow created in the mind of the purchaser (one cannot very well say "reader.") Yet we find in the "British Philatelic Directory" the names and addresses of quite a number of the smaller stamp dealers, while there is no mention of many of the larger firms, such as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, and our publishers. It occurred to us that possibly only those dealers who advertised in the book had their existence recognised in the Directory proper, but a glance through the book shows that no such rule is adhered to. Why then are the names of a certain few dealers inserted? Is a dealer still a collector until he turns himself into a limited liability company? When is a dealer not a dealer? Also, while we are about it, What is a Philatelist?

Since writing the above we have been informed by the publishers of the *British Philatelic Directory* that the book should contain no dealers' names whatever, and that every care was taken by the compilers, Messrs. W. G. Walton and Fred A. Wickham, to eliminate them. So a dealer is still a dealer, and a collector is merely a collector (sometimes).

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. 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, APRIL 29, 1899.



IN this number of the FORTNIGHTLY we have attempted a full resumé of the facts in connection with the now fully proven reprinting of the U.S.A. "Newspaper and Periodical" stamps. The feeling in America on this subject is one of intense irritation—not among philatelists alone, but among all classes of the community—and the feeling will spread and increase rather than die down. Little Republics like Salvador and San Marino we may look upon more leniently, but there can be no excuse whatever for the Government of the United States. To sell the sets at all was scarcely the sort of deal for a great Government to go into, but to resort to reprinting while representing to purchasers that the stamps genuine were remainders was downright fraud. Perhaps the best indication of the current feeling in philatelic circles is the fact that the sets, which at first sold freely at a fat premium on the issue price, are now on offer in many quarters at the level five dollars, and in some cases have actually changed hands at a discount. At the moment of going to Press too late, in fact, for any verification of the information we learn that one of the smaller dealers in London has placed a set of the stamps in his shop-window, with a ticket bearing the words, "Don't buy this rubbish!" It is advice that every reader of the FORTNIGHTLY will do well to act upon.

It is demonstrated, by the way, that only 155 sets out of the total of 50,000 sets can possibly be entirely free from reprints. Into whose hands did these 155 sets go, we wonder?

On the subject of philatelic exchange clubs, recently alluded to in these columns, we have received a number of letters both *pro* and *con*. That is to say, while some agree with the complaints already received as to exchange clubs being now-a-days "not worth the candle," others stoutly uphold the advantages and benefits to be derived from the better-class organizations. Ere we publicly dissect the letters already to hand we should be glad to hear the views of other readers. The topic is one that directly touches the great body of philatelists in this country and abroad, and a plain discussion of the matter cannot but be of benefit to philatelists as a whole.

A MR. F. L. HEYGATE, in the *Monthly Philatelic Journal* he issues, has been publishing a series of scurrilous attacks on our publishers, Messrs. Harry Hilekes & Co., Limited. The FORTNIGHTLY has no present intention of affording Mr. Heygate, the advertisement he is working for. Our publishers' reply, if any reply be deemed necessary, will reach Mr. Heygate *via* a firm of solicitors.

## Notes on New Issues.

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

### GREAT BARRIER ISLAND.

MESSRS. WHITEFIELD KING have kindly sent us an entire letter bearing this most interesting stamp. It is a sheet of paper of very thin texture 2½ × 7 inches. One side bears the message in pencil (if it happens to be a business order) beginning with the address of the recipient and signed by the sender, and on the other side is one of these curious stamps, postmarked with two small circular obliterations bearing the inscription: "Barrier Island Colonial Service, 1898." The stamps are without doubt among the most interesting of recent emissions.

### A LITTLE TOO MUCH "PROVISORIO."

For the following instructive cutting from the *Beira Post*, our thanks are due to a philatelist "on the spot!"—

Philatelists will do well to beware of an issue of Mozambique Company's stamps, carmine, 75 reis, surcharged *Provisorio* across centre, and 25 on top; the original 75 below being ruled out, all surcharging being in black ink. Of these 10,000 were printed, but less than 3,000 were issued to the public from the Post Office; the balance of 7,000 were bought up by speculators within an hour or two of the Treasury Office opening, by those who had been *privately* informed of the issue coming out. It was not advertised previous to issue; and there is so much doubt connected with the issue that locally it is regarded as not an issue fit for collectors to touch; the boycott should be general.

At the same time the sender of the above favours us with a copy of the stamp in question, together with various remarks thereon. From his outspoken letter we quote as follows:—

There was no need for this issue. There were plenty of stamps in hand. It was got up by a group of officials, for their own gain. Less than 3,000 were issued to the public, out of the 10,000. The officials bought up the rest themselves as a speculation, and these being Portuguese, this issue will probably be placed in Portugal (on the market). Locally the public consider this equivalent to a fake. It would be well to warn collectors against touching this issue, as if the expected profit is realised, the re will be repetitions of this sort of thing. In great haste to catch the mail steamer.

Our correspondent, whose name for obvious reasons we are requested not to disclose, is a gentleman of influence and position in Beira; and there is no reason to doubt a syllable of what he has written.

### THESE PHILIPPINES ARE GENUINE.

IN No. 115 of the FORTNIGHTLY we gave an illustration of, and made some remarks on, certain new Philippine stamps chronicled by *Le Collectionneur des Timbres-Poste*. We then expressed an opinion that these stamps were likely to prove a "bogey" issue altogether. However, Mr. F. W. Townsend, of Holloway, has now sent us a complete set (sent to him by his



brother, a naval officer on one of Her Majesty's ships now stationed in the Eastern waters) and we are now satisfied that the three stamps we illustrate herewith, have really been issued and used. But issued by whom? We have asked Mr. Townsend to enquire of his brother exactly under what conditions the stamps were issued.



## Uncle Sam, Stamp Dealer.

HE HAS PLAYED A "BUNCO GAME" ON PHILATELISTS.

OF THE 50,000 "PERIODICAL" SETS PLACED ON THE MARKET ONLY 155 SETS CAN CONSIST ENTIRELY OF GENUINE ORIGINALS.—A SHORT HISTORY OF THE ISSUE, WITH SOME PRESS OPINIONS AND OUR OWN OPINION.

FROM the point of view of the ordinary philatelist who collects stamps for the pure love of the thing, this scandal of the so-called "Remainders" of the United States "Periodical" stamps—for a scandal it certainly is—wears a look even more unsatisfactory than the famous Nova Scotia deal of a year or so ago.

Let us briefly recapitulate the facts:

During last year the United States Government decided to "demonetise"—that word is inappropriate, but 'twill serve—the stamps known as the "Newspaper and Periodical" stamps, it being found that these labels had ceased to be of any great practical value as official "checks" or "counters." As every collector must be aware, these stamps are not postage stamps in the fullest philatelic sense of the word, they never having been issued by the general public, but only used officially by American postal functionaries. Nevertheless specimens found their way in some manner into the philatelic market, and by reason of their variety, commanded high prices among collectors. Perhaps the dominant wish of every young American philatelist would be to possess a complete set of the coveted Newspaper and Periodical stamps. Imagine, therefore, the interest created throughout America when, in December last, it began to be stated that, as soon as the preliminaries could be arranged, the stamps remaining in stock would be sold to collectors at quite a nominal price per set. Soon after this, the Washington correspondents of the American stamp journals were able to announce that 50,000 complete sets would be offered to philatelists at \$5 (5) per set. In due course the following Official Decree appeared, and, in view of subsequent events this document should now repay a careful perusal:

WASHINGTON, 4th February, 1899.

Announcement is hereby made that in compliance with numerous requests made to the Postmaster-General by collectors and others, enough of the newspaper and periodical stamps lately in use by postmasters to make up 50,000 complete sets have been reserved by the Department for sale, and that on and after the 15th instant they may be had of postmasters at first-class post offices, or upon application to the Third Assistant Postmaster-General, at the rate of five dollars a set—the set consisting of one each of the following twelve denominations: One, two, five, ten, twenty-five, and fifty cents, and two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred dollars. When applications are made by mail, the money to pay for the stamps must accompany the order, with ten cents additional to pay for postage and registry fee on the returned packet. Not less than a full set will in any case be sold; but as many more whole sets as may be wanted can be bought. When two sets or more are desired, any or all of the several denominations may be had in an unsevered condition, that is to say, in strips not exceeding ten stamps each, or in blocks of four or more. The Department, however, cannot require postmasters to segregate, for the accommodation of purchasers, marginal strips of stamps bearing plate numbers; nor can any guarantee be given that the stamps shall be perfectly "centered." It must also be understood that the stamps are not good for postage, and that after their purchase they cannot be redeemed or exchanged for others by the Government.

The sale of these stamps will continue up to the 31st of December next, unless the stock is sooner disposed of; but no more than 50,000 sets will be sold, and no more will hereafter be printed. In fact, the working plates from which the stamps were printed will shortly be destroyed.

The newspaper and periodical stamps of a former issue of which fragmentary lots have been returned to the Department by postmasters will not be sold, but, together with the stock of the last issue returned in excess of the 50,000 reserved sets, will all be destroyed.

JOHN A. MERRITT, Third Asst. P. M. General.

Note well the promised date of issue—February 15th. In reality the sets were not placed on sale at the New York and other Post Offices until February 25th, ten days later than the time originally announced. Why? Because the American

Government, which had promised to destroy all stamps over and above the 50,000 sets, discovered that so far from there being a surplus there was a very serious shortage of these stamps. To cut a long story short, the Government in order to make up the promised 50,000 sets had to resort to reprinting.

As early as the middle of February, when preparing the March issue of the *American Journal of Philately*, the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, of New York, had their suspicions that something of the sort was taking place.

"It is rather a suspicious circumstance [they wrote, in a leading article] that the sale of the stamps should have been postponed for ten days . . . and we should not be surprised if the Government resorted to reprinting in order to complete the number of sets which it is intended to sell. . . . If reprinting has been resorted to, no words can be strong enough to condemn the action on the part of the post office authorities, and any outcry by collectors against the action should be directed not against the deluded Government officials but against those dealers who have induced the Postmaster General to adopt the present course."

This last reference points to a phase of the question into which we shall not at present enquire, believing that the points of most interest to philatelists in this country are: (a) the sale to philatelists in America by the U.S.A. Government, and (b) the re-sale to British and Continental stamp collectors by the firm of Gebouder Sent, of Leipzig.

In a special leaflet inserted in the same (March) issue of the *American Journal of Philately*, at, apparently, the moment of sending out to subscribers, the Messrs. Scott announced the confirmation of their suspicions:—

The sets of Newspaper and Periodical stamps were finally placed on sale on Saturday, February 25th, and we are informed that there was an enormous rush for them. One of our friends has shown us a set which was sold at the New York Post Office, and the suspicions which we expressed in the article contained in another portion of this number, are confirmed. The set shown to us had originals of the 1, 2, 5, 10, 25, 50c., \$2 and \$50 and reprints of the \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$100 stamps. The reprints are easily distinguished from the originals by the difference in color and the extreme whiteness of the gum and paper.

The colours of the original stamps of the values referred to are as follows:

\$5 blue	\$20 gray-violet
\$10 green	\$100 reddish-purple

The colours of the reprints are as follows:

\$5 Prussian blue	\$20 cold gray-lilac
\$10 gray-green	\$100 bluish-purple

Those who may by chance be successful in obtaining originals in their sets will indeed be fortunate.

During March, as our readers are well aware, the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, most spirited and independent of American stamp journals, published the whole truth concerning the issue of the so-called "remainders," and, by inference, arrived at the number of reprinted stamps of the various high values included in the sets offered for sale. All this information was reproduced in the issues of the *FORTNIGHTLY* dated April 1 and April 5, and it will be too fresh in the minds of our readers to justify recapitulation here. The *American Journal of Philately* in its issue dated April, published this eye-opening statement:

When we published our statement in March, we did not put it forth as a theory on our part, but we knew what we were talking about, and knew that reprinting had been resorted to, our information having been explicit and direct. Before the end of February we were in possession of the exact list of the quantities remaining on hand when the issue of these sets was decided upon, but at that time we were not at liberty to make use of the figures. They have since been published, and hence we need no longer hesitate to reveal the information which we then received. There was a sufficient stock of all values from 1c. to \$2, but there was not a sufficient quantity of a single one of the higher values, the Bureau of Engraving and

Printing have only the following stock to hold at the disposition of the Post Office Department :

\$ 5	155
10	11,640
20	8,780
50	16,245
100	7,685

In order to make up the fifty thousand sets required all of these values were reprinted and the majority of the sets sold to collectors will, of course, contain reprints of all the five values mentioned, while all the sets sold with the exception of 155 will contain reprints of the \$5 stamp instead of originals. It is a fact that the Government has made \$250,000 out of the transaction and that many collections have been made happy by the possession of a set of such beautiful stamps at so low a price. If, however, these results are to excuse the action of our Government, there is no reason why it should not go generally into the pictorial business and sell pretty pictures of all kinds, in sets, at a fixed sum.

Having thus traced the course of events from the first intimation of a sale of "remainders," let us now see what action was taken by the stamp trade in the face of this most extraordinary state of affairs. The Scott Stamp and Coin Company in America, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, in England, and Senf Brothers in Germany, are generally looked upon as the three leading stamp concerns in the world. What action was taken by these three in view of the grave breach of faith committed by the American Government?

Messrs. Scott, from first to last, held aloof from the business altogether. Furthermore, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, (whose managing director is by no means the man to turn profitable business away), have had nothing whatever to do with the sets, they having been advised, in all probability, of the unsatisfactory nature of the 'deal' by their friends and correspondents, the Scott Stamp and Coin Company. Alone out of the great triumvirate we find the firm of Gebruder Senf, of Leipzig, actively dealing in these hybrid sets of Periodical Stamps, which they are retailing at a profit of 10s. per set. Now it would be idle to suppose that a wide-awake firm like that of Messrs. Senf, could remain many days in ignorance of the true state of affairs. The issues of the *American Journal of Philately*, and of the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, containing the exposure of the fraud arrived in Europe in the early days of March; yet in April we still find Messrs. Senf offering these stamps at 30s. the set, and in all their advertisements appears the alluring legend :

GUARANTEED GENUINE ORIGINALS.

Apart from the comments of the American stamp papers, our friends in Leipzig must surely have noticed the startling differences of shade revealed by the stamps themselves. One would think that Messrs. Senf's first impulse would then have been to countermand their orders for these stamps, and to decline to supply sets except on the express understanding that each set probably contained a certain proportion of reprints. If any such impulse seized Messrs. Senf it was resisted and overcome; for we have it on excellent authority that this firm ordered a second large supply of these stamps by cable.

And now? Messrs. Senf's position in the matter is a peculiarly unenviable one, and is likely in the near future to become a position of great embarrassment. Those in this country and on the continent who have ordered sets from Messrs. Senf on the strength of the "guarantee" will naturally feel that they have a right to cancel the transaction. And if Messrs. Senf, in their turn, have a remedy it is against the American Government or its agents—guilty, beyond all question, of one of the grossest breaches of faith in the annals of Philately.

Our personal feeling is one of sincere sorrow that a firm of such high standing as Gebruder Senf, of Leipzig, should have lent itself to the distribution of what is virtually a fraudulent issue of stamps. The matter is made not a whit the brighter by an exceedingly lame article in the Senf organ, the *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal*, in which it is sought to show, first, that there have been no reprints, and second that if there are reprints, then everything is for the best in this best of all possible worlds.

We trust that an honorable way out will be found for Messrs. Senf, and that speedily.

For the American Government there appears to be no "way out" possible. Uncle Sam ought never to have gone into the stamp business, and if we may take the present storm of indignation in America as of any significance, then Uncle Sam will retire from the stamp business right now. Uncle may not be so much to blame as "those dealers" who, according to the *A. J. P.*, "have induced him to adopt the present course;" but one somehow finds it difficult to look upon a Government as "more sinned against than sinning."

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



THE great importance to stamp collectors of postal packages being delivered with their stamps intact, is well illustrated by the facts related by a Glasgow reader. This gentleman recently received a parcel of papers from British Central Africa, the postage of which came to 1s. 9d. The sender evidently had lots of time

to spare, as the parcel looked like a bill posting station, he having taken out the 1s. 9d. in penny stamps, these being the large 3s. sea-green surcharged "One Penny" in red. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. catalogue this stamp, surcharged in black, at 2s. so that the red surcharge (which is not catalogued yet), work out to the same value, we have £2 2s. for the 21 stamps—rather a good investment for 1s. 9d. The stamps were affixed in strips and blocks of 8, 7, 4 and 2.

We have to thank Mr. W. T. Mark, of Cardiff, for a philatelic cutting from *Modern Society*, referred to in another column. Also letters received from Mr. W. Allinson, "Verax," and Colonel O'Brien are acknowledged with thanks.

"I NOTICE," writes a Birmingham subscriber, "that Philately is written about in this week's *Hobbies* (April 15th), as a paying hobby, and the writer of the article quotes many instances of lucrative philatelic turnovers'. Now, quite aside from the question of whether it is wise to so constantly puff up Philately as a hobby out of which money may be made, do you seriously think the main fact is true of the average collector collecting in the average way? Is Philately, for the ordinary every day collector of limited means, a paying hobby?"

Now here we have a question that turns on the meaning of the adjective "paying." It is natural to assume, and we do assume, that our correspondent uses that word in its merely sordid monetary sense—the sense, indeed, in which it is used in the article referred to. Given that assumption, the question is a difficult one to answer. Philately undoubtedly pays somebody; the question is, *whom*? Numerous dealers live on it—it pays them; many speculators dabble in philately—they do not dabble for nothing. But whether philately will pay the ordinary collector must depend entirely upon that ordinary collector's native shrewdness. To make money is the prerogative of those who are gifted with business acumen, and when one is able to supplement commercial aptitude with philatelic knowledge, then our hobby should be a "paying" one in every sense of the word. But to represent to stamp collectors that philately is a hobby that pays everybody is absurd on the face of it—in fact, only a notch short of the absurdity of the declaration once made by a whist player, that he and three others had played "a splendid rubber—and all had got up winning, every mother's son of 'em!" In order that everyone should win at the philatelic game, it would be necessary for prices to be constantly on the rise all round—a condition which has only obtained occasionally, and then only in a period of artificial "inflation."

# The Telegraph Stamps of India.

[WRITTEN FOR THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.]

By WILLIAM CORFIELD.

It is to me, and probably to many collectors, a source of sincere regret that, while our albums and catalogues regale us with a profuse repast in the shape of listed "stamps"—for the most part locals—of insignificant Native States of India, issues of the Imperial Government of the greatest and grandest dependency of the British Crown are left loftily ignored merely because they prepay the Government service of messages between individuals by *electricity* instead of by other means.

The State of Koochperwanipur, shall I say, with a population of Orientals, able to read and write about equal to that of a small Welsh or Cornish Village, boasts of a Rajah, several baboos with a knowledge of the manipulation of printing presses of sorts, and credit to a limited extent at one or other of the big stationery supplies in one or other of the big presidency towns, and the State of Koochperwanipur, rising to its opportunities which are great, lets us know before long that our credulity as philatelists is greater.

Apart from the surcharged Imperial Postage Stamps in use under certain conventions in Chamba, Faridkhot, Gwahor, Jhind, Nabha, and Patiala, all well worth serious study, most of the native issues of recent years are, owing to the absence of safeguards as to their *bona fides*, of an infinitely lower philatelic status than the Russian local. They do little real postal service, but they help to empty our purses, while the honest, handsome, Imperial Telegraph Issues, perform national services of the vastest proportions among some three hundred million people, and the ordinary stamp collector does not even bestow upon them the honour of a passing glance.

Telegraph stamps are not "fiscals," (in saying this I do not wish to disparage the collection and study of fiscals of which I am fond) and to my mind they are so little separated by their nature from postage stamps, that one is absolutely unable to find any valid reason to explain their ostracism from our collections. To give as the explanation the fact that they are not "fashionable" is to give no explanation at all.

There are signs, however, of growing wisdom in our ranks, and the Telegraph stamp—the "Cinderella" of her family—is approaching the hour of general admiration and pursuit.

Years ago (in 1892) the Philatelic Society of London, devoted much successful effort to the description and classification of the Telegraph issues of India and Ceylon, which they give to the world in a handbook, excellent in its way, but sadly in need of revision and amplification, while several leading catalogues and albums accept as collectable the Telegraph stamps of the United Kingdom, and I have never heard a single word of complaint against their making so important a departure.

It is to be hoped that in like manner the whole of the Telegraph issues of India and Ceylon will, before long, be scientifically listed in the columns of all catalogues and albums worthy of our attention as comprehensive and intelligent publications, and I am sure that were this done, it would afford much pleasurable study to the earnest collector and well deserved business to the dealer.

Unlike their British relations, the Telegraphs of India and Ceylon are for the most part easy to obtain, they are still current as a separate class and no combined stamp for both postal and telegraph purposes having been introduced as yet for use in the services of both the postal and telegraph systems they have not reached finality.

None the less, those of India are absolutely above reproach, and likely to remain so, and those of Ceylon are only a shade less respectable, though perhaps even more interesting, because from 1882 onwards, the unassailable spotlessness of their character was shadowed by an outbreak of surcharging,

much to be regretted, though apparently not without some justification. I have never as yet, however, met with any "rubbishingly used" copies.

The chief reason probably of the non-popularity of the Indian and Cingalese Telegraphs may be traced to the fact that since 1869, they have been bi-sectioned by telegraph officers at the time of use for departmental purposes. The used stamp in its entirety, does not therefore reach the public, as its lower half is retained by the issuing officer and the upper returned to the sender as a record of receipt of the cost of the message.

This mutilation undoubtedly militates against the popularity of the stamps and places them at a disadvantage compared with the purely separate telegraph issues of the United Kingdom. It should be noted, however, that the half stamp alone bears a design practically self contained, that unused stamps of many of the issues are still to be obtained entire, and that the mutilation—an official one—is really akin in its character to the official defacement of a postage stamp by a post-mark. In fact the halves of the stamps available for our collections in their used condition, if carefully selected, may present when properly arranged, as neat and interesting an array of stamps as any resting in our albums. Their lower perforations have disappeared it is true—but they have disappeared in the natural course of duty.

In the current Indian issues the upper half contains a figure of value, and the lower the head of the Empress. The change from the former double-headed design was made as a safeguard against fraud, as it was discovered that formerly a head being upon each half, and the stamp being fixable either way up enabled would-be dishonesty in collusion with dāk-baboodons to make use of the receipt part of a stamp a second time to the convenience of dishonesty and the comfort of baboodom.

In the following tabulated statement I have endeavoured to set forth concisely the essence of the information I have been able to obtain about the Indian Issues. The statement is, I fear, but a sorry "thing of shreds and patches," it contains nothing new, but merely records the result of my own deductions from the published labours and observations of others. I originally compiled it for my private guidance in the arrangement of my own collection, and thinking that (pending the promised publication of an important work on these stamps by the Philatelic Society of India), it might be of use to some collectors, and have ventured to offer it to the editor of the "S.C.F." It gives I trust the salient points of the accumulated knowledge of these little studied issues in a compact, and I believe, accurate form. I have gathered the information it contains from several sources, chiefly the *India and Ceylon* and the London Society, and articles by Mr. J. A. Tilleard, in the *London Philatelist* for 1896, by Mr. Reynolds in the *Philatelic Journal of India*, September, 1897, and by Mr. Stewart-Wilson in the same journal, October, 1897, and May, 1898. I have carefully examined some thousands of specimens of almost all the issues of the double-headed stamps which I recently purchased in the native quarter of Calcutta, but have been unable to upset or add to the conclusions arrived at by the authorities already mentioned. I presume, therefore, I must not consider myself a "serious philatelist."

As regards the Ceylon issues, my experience is otherwise. Some of those in my own possession and others I have seen decline to dove-tail in with those described in the London Society's book. Some stamps always are most unaccommodating, but I must leave these particular examples of philatelic obstinacy to the tender mercies of abler pens than mine.

(To be continued in our next).

## Our Review of Reviews.

### Dealers' Have Grievances, Too!

At least, so says "A Dealer" in a long letter to Mr. Charles S. Quinton's quaint philatelic journal, the *Collector Dealer*. And this particular dealer's letter looks at so many matters from such an unconventional point of view that we think it well worthy of reproduction here:—

It is popularly supposed (writes he) that in the collection of stamps only collectors have grievances. Would you give me space to point out one or two small matters wherein the dealer is rather harshly treated?

Perhaps I ought to explain that I am one of that unfortunate group known as "small dealers," always at home to such remarks as "you've a very poor stock" from the man who frequents all the shops in the Strand; and, "Have you nothing fresh to show me?" from the collector who does not buy minor varieties, who rarely spends more than ten shillings on any one stamp, and has 8,000 in his collection.

Well, Sir, you may infer from this that I have to study my customers. To do this effectually I must keep pace with the times—buy new issues, and purchase at auction any desirable lots. And here the grievance comes in. I want, let me say, a dozen new Malta 4½d. stamps—a dozen probably is as many as I can hope to sell before they get common as used stamps. I have to pay 5/6 a dozen for them—about 23 per cent. over face. I must get another penny profit on each stamp to cover my expenses, probable damage to one or more stamps through exposure in a shop window, trouble of retailing, etc. No matter how "new" a collector may be, he looks old when charged 6½d. for a 4½d. stamp. Most investors jump at five per cent. per annum; in this case the wholesale dealer nets an immediate 23 per cent., and has, moreover, the pick of all the plums in the basket—the surcharges, the errors, etc., besides the run of the whole body of collectors, whom of course he can supply cheaper than the retailer—33½ against my 45 per cent. Add to this that the wholesale dealer is frequently "out of stock" of new issues till the boy in the street has been supplied from the wholesale dealer's own retail department, and you must admit that my grievance is not an imaginary one.

As for the remedy, every dealer can buy direct, or through an agent abroad; but if compelled to buy small lots at home, 10 per cent. above face for £1 to £5 purchases, and 7½ per cent. on quantities above £5, seems ample. Every collector should be able to purchase a 10/- current stamp for 11/6 at the utmost, yet I, a dealer, am buying new 10/- Malts at 12/-: 20 per cent. above value. Deduct 5 per cent. expenses, and here is a ready-money, clean, independent-gentleman's business returning 15 to 18 per cent. at short periods. Money-lending isn't so profitable.

My other grievance relates to auctioneers and their methods of lotting and accepting biddings from country clients. I am in the habit of sending bids to many auctions, and I rely upon the description of condition, or total catalogue value, to help my judgment. But what do I find? A "fine lot" of certain Colonials, 100 or so, cat. £21, are a collector's duplicates, which have been the rounds with several club packets; the fine copies have gone, the torn, the soiled, the heavily-marked, the damaged copies are left, and all are reckoned at full catalogue. What "full catalogue" means you can best imagine by taking the 1897 and the 1899 Gibbons, adopt all the high prices of the former, and all the advanced prices of the latter, disregarding all prices that have declined, and you secure a "full," or maximum total. The bidder who secure such lots and pays for them before he sees them may term such methods dishonest, but it is probably regarded as smart business in the office.

### More Catalogue Criticisms.

*Stamps*, the lively little organ of the Calcutta Philatelic Company, speaks its mind on the subject of catalogue prices. "We sent an order (says the Editor of this paper) to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons for various stamps at full catalogue price, to the value of over £55. In reply we received a few odd stamps worth £2 only. The others were "out of stock," and this within a few weeks of the publication of their catalogue! Among other stamps which were not supplied, we may mention the Indian, 1855, 8 as. on *bluets*; 1855, no wmk. 8 as.; small service, 8 pies, all used; the Gwalior 9 pies, both types, various "Auttialla" errors, etc., Comment is superfluous, except for the few "fossils" who still pin their faith to catalogue prices."

### Postal Changes in Cuba and Porto Rico.

The most recent issue to hand of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* gives quite a budget of news concerning the postal affairs of Cuba and Porto Rico.

In the first place:

The Director-General of Posts for Cuba has made application for a supply of 2c. and 5c. envelopes, which is being favorably reported on. They will be manufactured by the Plimpton-Morgan Co. and designs have been called for. The design will probably be head of Liberty, similar to the one on the \$20 gold piece.

Then the long established military postal systems in Uncle Sam's new possessions are to go by the board:

An important event in the work, looking to an independent governmental system in Cuba, is an order just issued by the acting post-master-general, Perry S. Heath, abolishing the military service heretofore existing at the principal offices on the island, and allowing the substitution of an independent service. It formally announces the severance of the jurisdiction of the New York office over those military postal stations, and makes the postal scheme there, entirely distinct from the postal service in the U.S., save for the guarantee to pay any Cuban postal deficiency that might arise. This deficiency is to be met from the war appropriations. The Cuban cities where post offices under the new regime are to be operated number 37.

It is also announced that the title of the head of the postal service in Cuba has been changed from director of posts to director-general of posts.

A similar order will shortly be issued for the oblition of the military post service in Porto Rico.

Cuba, furthermore, is to have Special Delivery stamps:

An order has been received for 10,000 of these stamps surcharged "Cuba, 10 Centavos de Pesos," and as soon as the stamps arrive, the system will be inaugurated in Havana. If successful there, it will be extended to the principal cities throughout the island.

It is the purpose of the Post Office Department to get up a distinctive stamp of the "special delivery" style. What is wanted in the shape of a design is one emblematic of Cuba and suggestive of quick delivery.

### STRAY NOTES ON THE STAMP MARKET.

The following were among the principal prices realised at a sale of postage stamps in Smith's Rooms, 79 George Street, Edinburgh, on April 8th:—British Guiana 1853, pair of 4c blue, imperf., on original, fine, 21s; Great Britain 1847, 10d brown and 1s green octagonal, imperf., 8s; Great Britain 1872, 6d light brown, spray, no numbers in angles, unused, 8s; Lubeck, 1sch orange, first issue, 7s; Newfoundland, 6d imperf. vermilion, 7s; St Helena, 2d yellow, 1871, long line, perf. 12½ unused 7s; St Vincent 1866, 1s slate, no wmk., 12 by 14, very rare, 8s. 6d; St Lucia 1885-86, CA 14, 1s red brown, 23s; Nevis 1867, perf., 1s, 1s yellow green, 10s; Nevis 1867, engraved, 1d red, 7s. 6d.; Virgin Islands 1867-68, plain margins, 1s rose carmine, used on entire original, 23s; British Guiana 1860, thick paper, 12c grey, perf., 12, surcharged with large 5 in red 11s; Trinidad 1859-61, pin perf., 6d green, used, 10s; Zanzibar 1860, surcharged on Indian, 5 rupees violet and blue, unused 9s; Sierra Leone, £1 lilac on red, unused, surcharged "Specimen," 7s.

At Messrs. Sotheby's rooms on Wednesday last, April 26th, a collection of stamps in a Senf album realised the sum of £73. The book was the property of the late Col. Chard, V.C., the valiant hero of Rorke's Drift, whose death was announced in all the newspapers a short time ago. The album contained some 7000 stamps, being fairly strong in early colonials.

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# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.  
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No. 121—VOL. V.
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1899.
ONE PENNY.

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Cambridge University Philatello Society.
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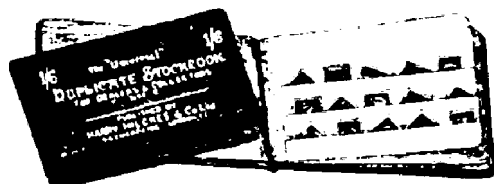
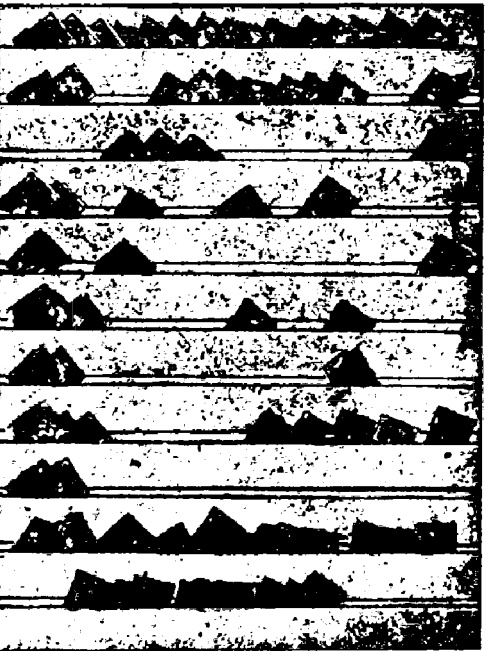
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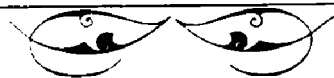
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The display of the evening was France and her colonies, of which collections were shown by the host and Messrs. Joseph Scott, E. Egly, J. H. Thackrah, and T. K. Skipwith.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE usual fortnightly meeting was held on April 21st at the Grand Hotel; Mr. W. D. Beckton, the president, in the chair. In view of the Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Manchester at the end of June, under the auspices of the Society, it was decided not to hold the usual summer meetings and picnic. Mr. O. Gillett read a most interesting paper on Philately as an Education.

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**Note Change in the Rate.**

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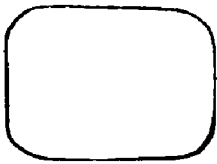


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No. 121—Vol V

SATURDAY, MAY 13, 1890

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## AN ENGLISH STAMP THIEF IN AMERICA.

GREAT credit is due to the Stamp Dealers' Protective Association (of America) for their effectual treatment of one of those violent outbreaks of dishonesty which ever and anon deplete the stock-books and the cash boxes of the dealing fraternity. It appears that, a short time ago, one Wm. Crockatt, a young Englishman of good name, was arrested in Los Angeles, California, for using the United States mails for fraudulent purposes. It was stated that Crockatt was in the habit of sending letters to prominent stamp dealers, ordering sample collections to be sent to his address on approval. When arrested near Etiwanda, Crockatt had in his cabin many collections of stamps, worth perhaps two hundred dollars. His case has now been tried before the United States Commissioner, with the result that the young man was sentenced to two years in the county gaol. He has thus (remarks *Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*) not only disgraced a good English name, but deprived himself of his liberty for two years to come.

## NOTES ON THE STAMP MARKET.

At Messrs. Venton, Bull & Cooper's most recent stamp sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, a "Cape of Good Hope, woodblock, rd. blue, very fine, good margins all round, lightly postmarked and fine colour," was, after keen competition, knocked down for £70.

We have received from the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, of New York City, the supplement to the 58th edition of the well known "Scott" Catalogue. This supplement, costing only 10 cents, brings the Scott catalogue up to October 1st, 1898.

That enterprising "wholesaler," Mr. C. T. Reed, of Routh Road, Wandsworth, has just issued a new list, showing many special reductions. We have not examined the list closely enough to ascertain whether the prices are (as Mr. Reed claims) "ridiculously low;" but we are quite sure that in this long list of twenty closely printed pages there must be "something to suit everybody."

## THE U.S.A. "PERIODICAL" STAMPS.

UNIVERSAL excitement has been aroused over this question of pseudo "remainders" of the United States Periodical Stamps. Very few are the papers that have not followed the lead of the *Philatelic Era* and *STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY* in denouncing the government which has foisted this trash on the market, and also the dealers supporting that government in the dissemination of the stamps.

We note that Messrs. Seuf's advertisement is now modified. The "Guaranteed Originals" has disappeared, and the sets are now offered "as sold by the government."

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED, having sold a few sets of these stamps before their real character was known, make the following announcement in the latest issue of their *Monthly Journal* :—

We think it right to at once publish the facts, and to give to any of our clients who have bought sets of these stamps from us for the sum of 30s. the opportunity of returning such sets and having the money refunded, which we will do immediately on receipt of the stamps, with the memorandum of the date on which they were sold by us, so that we may refer to the matter in question. Luckily the number of sets sold has been small, and their sale will be discontinued by us in the future.

Philatelists will look to Messrs. Seuf Brothers, of Leipzig, and all others who have sold these stamps *as originals*, to make the same offer to their clients.

## JUDGMENT AS TO FORCED "MERCURIES."

CONSTANT readers of the "S.C.F." will remember that for some years a heated discussion raged around the question of the genuineness of certain Austrian Newspaper stamps, popularly known as the "Mercuries." The matter has been before the courts of Vienna for some time. It is needless to remind our readers that the stamps mostly came from the eminent Vienna dealer, Siegmund Friedl, and a great many copies have also reached this country. Even the best experts have been deceived. If we remember aright, the credit of having first discovered the fraudulent nature of the stamps belongs to the Vienna Society or rather to their

President, Mr. Kraff. Heavy amounts were claimed from Mr. Friedl by purchasers of the stamps, and a test case was set, which Mr. Friedl has now lost in the Appeal Court. It would occupy too much of our space to translate in full the judgment of the Court, although the same is very interesting reading. Suffice it to say that the Judges held that from the moment it was proved the stamps were forged the contract was not completed and the money had to be returned, although a considerable time might have elapsed since the sale was effected. The fact that the seller was himself deceived did not alter the opinion of the Court. The money had therefore to be refunded on the return of the stamps. The price originally paid by the way (and which is the amount now to be repaid) is largely in excess of the present value of the stamps.

#### LATE DUKE OF LEINSTER'S COLLECTION.

The stamps bequeathed to the public by the late Duke of Leinster, and entrusted to Mr. William R. Joynt, for classification and arrangement, are now on view in the Central Hall, of the Dublin Science and Art Museum. Visitors to Ireland should not fail to see the collection, which consists for the most part of stamps issued prior to 1880.

#### ADDING INSULT TO DELAY.

The usual post card has recently arrived in Moscow, taking sixteen years to do a journey of about 100 miles. Nothing is known as to where it has been spending its spare time; but an amusing thing is that excess postage was charged because the stamp on the card was obsolete.

#### THE BROOKLYN PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

REPORTS are now to hand in *Mekeel's Weekly*, the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, the *Philatelic Monthly* and other American contemporaries, of the very successful philatelic exhibition held under the auspices of the Institute of Arts and Sciences, in Brooklyn, New York. We gave the prospectus of this exhibition *in extenso*, and it is a pleasure to chronicle the fact that results have more than satisfied expectations. Mr. H. Tolke in the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, gives us a general view of the best things in the exhibition.

The total number of stamps exhibited is 13,379 with a valuation of nearly \$150,000 (£30,000). To give a list of the many stamps exhibited, would be to give about one-third of Scott's Catalogue.

Mr. J. W. George exhibited a superb collection of Medicine, Match, Perfumery and Playing Card stamps and mostly unused, for which he was awarded a Gold Medal.

United States stamps were complete to the stamp, by Messrs. Carberry, Braine, Moffat and Nostrand, and our new colonial possessions by Messrs. Wells, Carberry, Nostrand, Braine, Luff and Robinson. They included Hawaiian, Porto Rico, Cuba and Philippine Islands complete.

British North America certainly did her share in the exhibit of Mr. Edgar Nelson, who was awarded a bronze medal. Pairs, blocks, strips and cut provisionals of early issues were in plenty, and such perfect copies too. The different countries of Europe were exhibited complete by Messrs. Jos. Holland, Carberry, Robinson, A. Holland, Wells, Nostrand, Dr. Hyatt, and Miss E. Nostrand, also Master Thunig.

Asia, Africa and Oceanica were well represented by Messrs. Moffatt, Robinson, Talbot, Drew, and Nostrand. British West Indies were finely exhibited by Mr. G. W. Ring, for which he was awarded a bronze medal.

South and Central America were exhibited by Mrs. F. A. Hoyt, Miss E. Nostrand, Dr. Hyatt, and R. R. Bogert.

Confederate States by Mr. J. S. Rich also U. S. Telegraphs complete. Messrs. Krassa, Morgenthau, and Harvey gave fine exhibits of card board and India paper Proofs of U. S. stamps.

Mr. A. Holland had a frame of reconstructed plates of Great Britain one penny black, one penny red and two pence blue, and Mr. Jos. Holland reconstructed plates of early Switzerland.

Mr. Clarence H. Eagle exhibited a fine array of U. S. Revenues in pairs, blocks and strips. Mr. Geo. J. Carter had a beautiful frame of the most beautiful stamps of the World, while your humble servant had a large frame containing the United States shield made from American stamps, which broke the monotony of the exhibits, so to speak.

#### THE AWARDS.

The Exhibition Committee, writing from 174, Montague Street, Brooklyn, under date March 25th, give the following list of awards:

#### CLASS I. DIVISION I.

##### GROUP A.

Bronze Medal.

Charles R. Braine, Jr., for Stamps of the United States.

A. Krassa's "Ne Plus Ultra Album;" sunk mounts.

John D. Carberry, for Stamps of the United States.

Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s 1899 National Album; full morocco.

P. Elbert Nostrand, for Stamps of the United States.

Frank D. Moffat, One and Two Cent.

##### GROUP B.

Bronze Medal.

Clarence H. Eagle, for United States Revenue Stamps.

Honourable Mention.

Alexander Holland, for Private Proprietary Stamps.

Joseph S. Rich, for Telegraph Stamps.

##### GROUP C.

Bronze Medal.

David S. Wells, for Stamps of the United States Colonies.

Honourable Mention.

John N. Luff, for Stamps of Hawaiian.

##### GROUP D.

Bronze Medal.

George W. Ring, for Stamps of the British Colonies in Western Hemisphere.

Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s International Album; two volumes, half morocco.

Charles R. Braine, Jr., for Stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

#### CLASS I. DIVISION II.

##### GROUP A.

Bronze Medal.

Dr. Thaddeus P. Hyatt, for Stamps of Scandinavia.

One J. W. Scott's Best Blank Album.

P. Elbert Nastrand, for Stamps of Turkey.

Honourable Mention.

David S. Wells, for Stamps of European Countries.

P. F. Bruner, for plated Stamps of Switzerland.

##### GROUP B.

Bronze Medal.

Joseph Holland, for Stamps of Sarawak and Siam.

One A. Krassa's sterling silver "Ne Plus Ultra Stamp Cleanser and Hinge Remover."

Oliver C. Drew, for Stamps of British Colonies in Asia and Africa.

#### CLASS II. DEALERS.

Bronze Medal.

Edgar Nelson, for Stamps of British North America.

Honourable Mention.

A. Krassa, for display of United States Proofs.

Stamp Scott and Coin Co., Ltd.

#### CLASS III. DIVISION I.

Bronze Medals.

Mrs. Frederick A. Hoyt. Miss Elizabeth Norstrand.

For most meritorious exhibit shown, H. A. Talbot, one subscription to Scott Stamp and Coin Co.'s Catalogue for Advanced Collectors.

For most tastefully arranged exhibit by a boy under fifteen, L. A. Thuning, set of United States Revenues, donated by Geo. J. Carter. For most meritorious exhibit shown by a member of the Section on Philately, Alex. Holland, One Bronze Medal.

For exhibit showing most scientific arrangement, J. W. George, for Private Proprietary Stamps, One Gold Medal, donated by Nassau Stamp Co.

In all cases where more than one exhibit received an award in any group, the exhibits were judged of equal merit.

JOHN D. CARBERRY, Secretary.

Evidently a most successful and satisfactory exhibition, and one that cannot have failed to have been of great value to Philately and philatelists in "Greater New York."

**A GOOD RULE FOR SURCHARGERS.**

ALTHOUGH the Ceylon postal authorities publicly announced their decision *not* to create a surcharged provisional stamp of 6 cents (which value became necessary since the introduction of the penny postage with the mother-country), they nevertheless surcharged the 15 cents, olive—as already announced in our columns. A lengthy explanation has since been vouchsafed, why such a high denomination was selected for this provisional: "This was done (says the *Colombo Gazette*) to avoid great losses to the mail service; had the 2, 3 or 4 cents stamp been surcharged it would have been an easy matter for counterfeiters to fraudulently print such surcharges."

They must have had some experience in this direction, is the shrewd comment of the *Philatelic Monthly and World* in giving publicity to the above.

**A NEW ILL: "STAMP LICKER'S MOUTH."**

A SERIO-COMIC kind of scare has raged in the daily newspapers as a consequence of the sudden death of a child at Preston being said to be attributable to the gummed margin from a sheet of postage stamps. The Postmaster-General has written to the Coroner who held the inquest on the child, stating that pieces of the paper in question had been examined chemically in the Government Laboratory, without the detection of any irritating substance. There was no evidence that the gummed stamp-paper in present use was capable of setting up blood poisoning, and it was unlikely that the death of the child was in any way connected with its application.

The papers have said much in various, more or less futile, directions, and now the *Medical Press* takes up the tale:—

Of a truth, (says our *Medical Contemporary*) the ways of disease are manifold, and it may well be said that the study of them furnishes to mankind one of the most ravelled as well as the most fascinating and comprehensive of all intellectual pursuits. What layman, for instance, would suspect that the unassuming postage stamp could become an active vehicle for the spread of deadly ailments? Yet so it is, and the name of "stamp-licker's tongue" has recently been brought to our notice by two distinguished medical men whose names are household words not only in the profession but also throughout the whole civilised world. It is known to the few that the common postage stamp owes its adhesiveness to the serum of the horse. It follows that the film drawn from such a source may, or even must, at times be charged with microbes of a more or less hurtful nature. Nor could a more direct means of introducing such undesirable visitors into the human body be conceived than that involved in the extremely unasthetic operation of drawing the tongue across the back of a postage stamp. If a man licked a large number of stamps daily over a sufficiently long period of time the chances are he would set up cancer of that much-abused member. As it is, many mysterious invasions of the mucous membrane of the mouth may not unreasonably be ascribed to the far too familiar habit noted by our medical friends. By the way, would not "stamp-licker's mouth" be a better title? The danger has long ago been recognised by the postal authorities of this country, who have placed dampers on the counters of the Post Office, and some years ago an ingenious little apparatus, invented by a lady, was much in vogue. Although not an ideal alternative, we would advise readers who have no choice to use a moistened finger in their future postal operations.

"Stamp-licker's mouth" is ugly—distinctly ugly.

**BEWARE OF STAMP ROGUES IN MADRID.**

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS, in the news notes he contributes to the *Monthly Journal*, has been doing useful service by exposing the questionable proceedings of certain members of a club known as the "Circulo Filatelico Matritense."

We have now received (writes Mr. Phillips) from the Secretary, Senor Jorge Soto, a letter stating that our article has caused much trouble and indignation amongst the worthy and respectable members of that club, and he forwards us a long document which he requests us to publish, but which does not seem to be of the slightest interest, or to contain anything tending to clear the members of the directorate from the charges which have been made against them.

On the other hand, however, we have been making further inquiries into the doings of this club, and it seems that its officials are lending themselves to every kind of roguery for their own benefit (?), unknown to the private members, many of whom are in the first positions of society in Madrid. Senor Galvez, the proprietor of that

excellent journal the *Madrid Filatelico*, has translated our remarks from the January number and published them in his paper, where no doubt they were read and digested by those who are most interested in the case. We will mention one or two transactions which have taken place in this club as examples of the practices in which its officers are indulging.

1. A gentleman with whom we are acquainted joined the club, and believing that he was dealing with honourable men commenced exchanging with these honest (!) directors a valuable lot of duplicates he had secured in his travels in various parts of the world. Unfortunately his knowledge of stamps was rather limited, and the result was that he has had palmed off upon him forged, faked, and washed stamps to the value of between £200 and £300, all Spanish and colonials.

2. One of the leading members of the directorate (whose name we know and will publish if necessary) went to another member of the club and showed him a block of four Spain, 1865, one real, green. The latter at once pointed out that the perforation was forged. The official candidly admitted this, and said that he had bought it for 10 pesetas, adding that he could get 20 pesetas for each of the four stamps in exchange abroad.

3. We should like to warn collectors in South America and South Africa who may have bought or exchanged stamps from so-called friends in Madrid belonging to this club to carefully examine their purchases, because we know that a large number of faked and forged stamps have been exported from Spain to that part of the world. We specially refer to stamps of Spain, Philippine Islands, and Porto Rico.

4. We should like to ask if the honourable member of the club who sold to another member a Philippine Isles stamps of 2 reales, surcharged 2 reales in red, after knowing that the surcharge was a fake, still belongs to the club? An answer to this question would be of some little interest to us. We defer further remarks till later on, to see what reply the club will make.

We sincerely hope that the respectable and honourable members of this club will institute an enquiry into the conduct and actions of the official members, and we are quite sure they will discover sufficient to compel them to dissociate themselves from such a gang.

**THE MANCHESTER PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.**

THE following well-known philatelists have consented to act as Judges at the forthcoming big stamp show in "Cottonopolis":

E. D. BACON.	M. P. CASTLE.
JULES BERNICHON.	DR. E. DIENA.
R. BREITFUSS.	E. B. EVANS.

DR. VEDEL.

Tickets for the Exhibition are now ready. They take the form of a souvenir card, and are as follows:—

*Subscriber's ticket* (not transferable), one guinea, entitling holder, in addition to admission to the Exhibition, to attend all ceremonies (including the dinner, subject to paying therefor). The list of subscribers will be printed in the catalogue.

*Season tickets* (not transferable), one guinea, which carry with them five single admission tickets, entitle the holder and lady to admission, and to attend ceremonies (except the dinner). The holder of these tickets will not be deemed to be subscribers, and their names will not appear in the official catalogue.

*Single Admission tickets*, one shilling each, including catalogue and admission, but not available for the opening or other ceremonies.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., will open the Exhibition on June 29th.

In all, there are 160 prize medals to be competed for—25 gold, 8 silver, and 54 bronze, several of which are allotted to exhibits by ladies and young collectors.

**PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING May 27th, 1899.****London Auctions.**

May 16th and 17th.—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 5.45 p.m., each day.

May 25th and 26th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 5.30 p.m., each day.

THE death is recorded with great regret of a well-known American philatelist, Mr. August Dejonge, President of the Staten Island Philatelic Society.

**General Notices.**

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

**Our Advertisement Rates.**

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Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of ¼d. for every word.

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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."

**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, MAY 13, 1899.



At the time of going to press we have received the first instalment of an article by Mr. A. F. Bassett Hull, the great Australian specialist, on the subject of "Australian Reprints." This will appear in the next number of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we draw the attention of all philatelists to Mr. Hull's patient and praiseworthy work. The author has been in a position peculiarly favourable to the accumulation of information bearing on the subject, and therefore his researches should be of great value to the collectors of Australian stamps.

When good, kind Uncle Sam first intimated to the American Collector that he could have as many sets as he liked of the "retired" Newspaper and Periodical Labels at \$5 per set, the A.C. jumped for joy and said: "See what a kind and thoughtful Government we have!" Of course the American Collector at that time imagined that the stamps Uncle Sam proposed to sell would constitute simply a remainder of genuine originals. And why should he not? There had been no whisper of reprints; Uncle Sam had used simply that blessed word "remainders." A delay of ten days in placing the stamps on sale excited no sort of suspicion—delay is quite a Government prerogative—but when the nice \$5 sets were actually handled by their purchasers, Oh what a change was there! Nice, kind Uncle Sam, whose only wish was to net a quarter-of-a-million of dollars by the sale of so many useless stamps, had indeed, in the picturesque language of the Bowery, played a "bunco" game on the long-suffering philatelist. Instead of sets of genuine originals he had prepared for them a mixture of real "remainders" and poorly-printed reprints.

And now? If we are not utterly in ignorance of the American character, Uncle Sam will enjoy a thorough good "roasting" at the hands of thousands of irate nephews and nieces, who just because they are "among the amiable crowd of dampfools known as philatelists" (we are now quoting a facetious Yankee newspaper) do not propose to be imposed upon by any Government that is anxious to raise money without being over particular as to the means employed. The American Executive in this matter has acted in a manner befitting the Syndics of San Marino, and we trust, when next a stamp dealing scheme is mooted at Washington by some party or parties interested, that wiser and more dignified counsels will prevail.

Meanwhile it is satisfactory to know, as noted in our news columns elsewhere, that leading dealers who have been selling these stamps as originals on the strength of the American Government's representations, are now pursuing the only honorable course possible—viz.: a return of the money paid for the stamps. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have shown commendable promptitude in adopting this course, and it will be well if other firms at once follow suit. By making a virtue of necessity—for it is necessity—they will obviate a very disagreeable compulsion in the near future.

**Notes on New Issues.**

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**FRANCE A CHANCE OF COLOUR.**

We notice in some of the Continental papers that the current 10 centimes French has been prepared in a carmine colour and will be issued almost directly. It will be remembered that the shade of the 5 centimes was recently altered to a lighter green, which change, together with the above mentioned alteration, has its origin in the resolution of the Postal Congress recommending that the ½d., 1d. and 2½d. values of all countries be produced in a uniform colour.

**WHAT WILL GREAT BRITAIN DO?**

In many quarters statements have appeared to the effect that the Postal authorities of Great Britain have decided to make no alteration of colour next year in accordance with the recommendation of the Postal Congress. We have very good reasons to doubt this, for it is hardly likely that such an isolated step would be adopted by the home country, especially now that all the British Colonies are slowly falling into line by changing their current colours to comply with the above resolution. We do not think, however, that there will be any special rush on the part of the ever watchful speculator to buy up stocks of the current ½d., 1d. and 2½d. values English with a view of an abnormal rise in value. There should be enough specimens in existence to fill all requirements.

**NEW ZEALAND.**

We have received from a reader who must be nameless (since he omits his name), an extract from a daily paper in Wellington, New Zealand, stating with reference to the Colonial print of last year's issue that the machinery is now erected, and that the printing was expected to commence about March 25. A special paper will be used with the old watermark "Star and N.Z." All plates have been received in the Colony with the exception of those for the ½d., 1d. and 2d. stamps which are to be replaced by new ones in order to get them all of uniform size. The plate for the 4d. has of course to be altered, and it is also contemplated that the colours should be altered according to the Postal Union requirements. All of which means that the long suffering philatelic public will have to submit to a complete new set of stamps.





# The Telegraph Stamps of India.

[WRITTEN FOR THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.]

BY WILLIAM CORFIELD.

## Table of Indian Telegraph Stamps.

(Continued from page 129.)

Prior to the issue of Special Telegraph Stamps, payment was made across the counter by cash. It is also on record that from 1885 to 1869, ordinary stamped revenue papers were used as stamped telegraph forms in the case of messages despatched through a postal agency—the message being written on the paper below the stamp.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
Four annas	reddish mauve	1	17th Sept., 1857
One rupee.	ditto	1	ditto
Four rupees	ditto	1	ditto

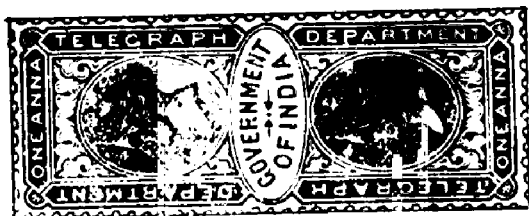


*General Remarks.*—Engraved on steel and surface printed by De la Rue & Co. One inch wide and rather more than 2¼ inches long. Medallion in centre with Queen's head to left. "Government of India Telegraph Department" round head. "Electric Telegraph" on band at top. Value on each side of head and on band at bottom. Enamelled paper. No wmk. The receipts given bore no part of the stamp. Remainders were surcharged in 1870 "Court Fees" for fiscal use. None were ever numerous, and the rupee values are now practically unprocurable.

### SECOND ISSUE. Double-headed Type. Upright.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
One anna	yellow green	1	21st Aug., 1878*
ditto	ditto	2	2nd April, 1879
ditto	dark yellow green	3	30th March, 1897
Two annas	maroon (bluish paper)	1	23rd Jul., 1869
ditto	dark maroon	2	3rd May, 1883
Four annas	pale blue (bluish paper)	1	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	ditto	2	23rd July, 1869
ditto	ditto	3	(not registered)
ditto	deep bright blue	4	30th March, 1882
Eight annas	brown (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866
ditto	ditto	2	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	dark reddish brown (bluish paper)	3	2nd June, 1869
ditto	ditto	4	16th June, 1869
ditto	ditto	5	(not registered)
ditto	dark reddish brown	6	30th March, '82

*Remarks.*—Issued as a result of the "word tariff, adopted in 1876.



Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
One rupee	slate (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866
ditto	pale slate (ditto), 1st retouched die	2	16th June, 1869
ditto	dark slate (ditto)	3	9th Aug., 1876
ditto	ditto (ditto)	4	23rd Oct., 1878
ditto	ditto (ditto)	5	(not registered)
ditto	slate, 2nd retouched die	6	30th March, 1882

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
Two rupees, eight annas	orange yellow (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866
ditto	bright red orange (retouched die)	2	23rd Oct., 1878
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Five rupees	dull orange brown (bluish paper)	1	18th Dec., 1866
ditto	deep bright brown	2	30th March, 1882
ditto	ditto	3	30th March, 1882
Ten rupees	dull bluish green (bluish paper)	1	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	bright bluish-green (retouched die)	2	15th April, 1878 e
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Fourteen rupees four annas	bright lilac	1	22nd Dec., 1869 f
Twenty five rupees	dull lilac (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866 g
ditto	mauve (retouched die)	2	4th July, 1877 h
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Twenty-eight rupees	bright yellow-green	1	22nd Oct., 1869 i

a Date doubtful.

b Triangular ornamentation of apandrees and interstice double lined, fretwork finer and double lined in colour on white—not white on colour.

c As 1st retouch, fretwork but not the rest of ornamentation in white on colour with the addition of a small white dot below each angle formed by the lines of the fretwork. The whole stamp has a coarse appearance.

d Lines strengthened. Profile more distinctly outlined by a line of colour. Modifications in lines of hair and fish-tail of mouth.

e See note against 2 8/- retouched die.

f Used for European telegrams of ten words. Not withdrawn—but not reprinted.

g Marked varieties of shades.

h White floreate ornaments added after "Department" and "Rupees."

i Used for European telegrams of twenty words. Not withdrawn but not reprinted. Two very distinct shades.

Fifty rupees	rose	1	18th Dec., 1896
ditto	carmine rose (retouched dies)	2	9th Sept., 1874
ditto	ditto ditto	3	38th March, 1882

*General Remarks.* Spaces holding ornamentation in spandrels and interstices reduced in size.

### GENERAL REMARKS ON DOUBLE-HEADED ISSUE.

All by De la Rue & Co. Rather less than 2 inches by 2 inch. Perf. 14. W.M.K. Large Crown over INDIA. Paper of 1869 not so blue as of 1866. Double-headed Queen (or Empress) to left. Various designs. Used also in Ceylon in the early days of Ceylon telegrams. Since 1869 the use of ordinary postage stamps has been allowed for telegrams sent from stations possessing no telegraph office, and, since 1885, at telegraph offices open in post offices. When postage stamps are used, the receipts retained by the public do not bear stamps, or portions of stamps.

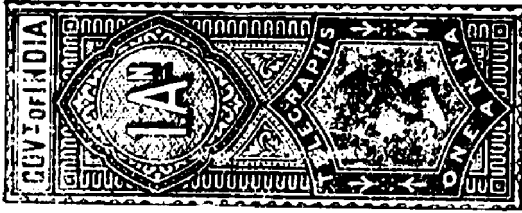
### PROVISIONAL ISSUE.

Provisional issue bearing the surcharge "Telegraph" on oblong fiscal stamps, known as "special adhesives."

Value.	Colour.	Date of Registration.
One anna	dark yellow-green	about March, 1882
Two annas	ditto	about Sept., 1881
Four annas	green	about May, 1882

*General Remarks.*—Overprinted at Bombay and Calcutta. Three varieties of surcharge. Remainder recalled in March, 1883, and destroyed.

THIRD ISSUE. SINGLE HEADED TYPE. UPRIGHT.



Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
Two rupees, eight annas five rupees	bright red-orange deep bright orange-brown	1	10th April, 1890
Ten rupees	yellow-green	1	10th April, 1890
Twenty-five rupees	bright mauve	1	24th July, 1890
Fifty rupees	carmine	1	7th May, 1890 6th May, 1890

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
One anna	dark yellow-green	1	6th March, 1890
Two annas	dark maroon	1	16th June, 1890
Four annas	pale blue	1	10th April, 1890
Eight annas	brown	1	6th March, 1890
One rupee	slate	1	6th March, 1890

*General Remarks.*—All by De la Rue & Co. Rather less than 2 inches by 1 inch. Perf. 14. WMK. Large Crown over INDIA. Value in numeral on upper half, Empress' head to left in lower. Various designs. Still current. Upper half returned to sender, lower retained by department as a precaution against fraud.

Specimen forms for Indian Telegrams (Inland and Foreign) so far as the stamp carrying portions are concerned are given hereunder :—

F.A.

Class, <i>(in full.)</i>	<b>INDIAN TELEGRAPHS.</b> Receipt for an Inland Telegram.	To <i>(Office)</i>									
Number.	<table border="1" style="width:100%"> <tr> <td style="width:15%"><i>Date Stamp of Post Office.</i></td> <td style="width:15%">Cost <i>Rs.</i></td> <td style="width:15%">As.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Extra charges, Reply, Deliv., very, &amp;c.</td> <td><i>Rs.</i> As</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align:center"><i>Initials of Postmaster, &amp;c.</i></td> </tr> </table> <p style="font-size:small">Above particulars, giving full cost, to be filled up when the Telegram is paid for, PARTLY or WHOLLY, in Postage Stamps or Reply Passes.</p>	<i>Date Stamp of Post Office.</i>	Cost <i>Rs.</i>	As.		Extra charges, Reply, Deliv., very, &c.	<i>Rs.</i> As	<i>Initials of Postmaster, &amp;c.</i>			<p>SPACE FOR UPPER HALVES OF TELEGRAPH STAMP.</p> <p style="font-size:small"><i>N.B.</i>—When Telegraph Stamps form only PART PAYMENT, the entire stamps must be fixed lengthways BELOW the dotted line.</p> <p style="font-size:small">Telegraph Stamps are accepted at all Offices. Postage Stamps are only accepted at Post Offices and when telegrams are post-d to a Telegraph Office for transmission.</p>
<i>Date Stamp of Post Office.</i>	Cost <i>Rs.</i>	As.									
	Extra charges, Reply, Deliv., very, &c.	<i>Rs.</i> As									
<i>Initials of Postmaster, &amp;c.</i>											

For INLAND TELEGRAMS only.

Stamps cut, torn, or in any way defaced, cannot be accepted.

SPACE FOR LOWER HALVES OF TELEGRAPH STAMPS OR FOR ENTIRE POSTAGE STAMPS.

*N.B.* Stamps may be affixed along this line up to the left of the form and continued on the corresponding space on the back, if necessary.

F.B.

CLASS *(in full.)*

**Indian Telegraphs.**

No.

**RECEIPT FOR FOREIGN TELEGRAM.**

TO *(Telegraph Office of destination.)*

ROUTE AND SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS *(if any.)*

STAMPS must be affixed whole, the upper portion above, the lower portion below the dotted line.  
The upper halves, after defacement, are returned with the Receipt to the sender.

**SPACE FOR STAMPS.**

STAMPS cut, torn, or in any way defaced, cannot be accepted.

**For FOREIGN TELEGRAMS ONLY.**

**AN INLAND TELEGRAM IF WRITTEN ON THIS FORM WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best acceptable reply, or replies, we shall award a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists. We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility.

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

15.—What is the meaning of *bleute*, and what the derivation of the word? Also, what is *blued* paper?

The word *bleute* is of French derivation and means blued. Blued paper is that which has the surface only of the paper stained a blue colour before the impression of the stamp is made. Blue paper differs from blued paper in that the former is blue right through.—*R.G.U.*

The word is used to describe paper which has a bluish appearance, not necessarily blue paper. Blued paper may be used already tinted for printing stamps, or may have the blue appearance accidentally. For instance, chemical action may set up between the paper and the chemicals used in manufacturing the ink or the gum, or more probably the plates used in printing the stamps may have been previously used in printing blue and insufficiently cleaned afterwards, thereby imparting a blue tinge to the next printing.—*J.J.*

16.—Some of the French postmarks in the form of a star have the number of a post office; others lack this number. What is the difference between them?

The numerals in the postmark were the index numbers of the office cancelling the stamp. Those cancelled in Paris had no numeral but sometimes had a letter of the alphabet instead. The star-shaped postmark was that of the departure office of the Central Administration.—*R.G.U.*

17.—For what purpose were the French "anchor" and "H.P." postmarks used?

The "Anchor" postmark was used in June, 1857, by order of the French Postmaster-General to obliterate the stamps on letters coming from beyond the seas by the vessels of the Imperial Messageries. The "H.P." postmark was probably the one used in a travelling postvan.—*R.G.U.*

18.—On the abolition of the Finnish stamps at the end of this year, is any increase of (philatelic) value probable in any of these stamps? In other words which are the best Finnish stamps, from a monetary stand point, and which (if any), are undervalued in the catalogues?

Undoubtedly the most valuable stamps of Finland will be the Russian stamps which have been used in that country. This stands to reason owing to the fact that the ordinary Finnish Stamps have been in circulation longer than the others, and will still be used when the special Russian stamps will be obsolete, also, although both sets of stamps were used concurrently, by far the larger number used were those of Finland. I believe that, although they are not undervalued at present, the Russian stamps will increase rapidly in value, and will be priced considerably higher in future catalogues.—*J.J.*

20. In Stamp Collecting what should constitute a "variety," and what a "minor variety?" Furthermore where should the line be drawn in order that philatelists may stop short of "straw splitting" in the search for minute variations of type and printing?

In my opinion varieties should be constituted as follows: values, colours, perforation—*i.e.* perforate, imperforate and rouletted,—watermarks, errors and surcharges. Minor varieties should consist of differences of paper, printing, perforation and shades of colour. The line should be drawn

at considering thickness of letters (unless of course a distinct difference of type) and faint impression of design as varieties. These differences might be caused by the quantity of ink on the plates at the time of printing, and the same stamp may have any number of appearances: the first sheet printed perhaps being thick with the new ink and the last sheet getting the faintest impression. Practically the first and the last stamps are the same.—*J.J.*

### TWO PRIZES

of 2s. 6d. worth of stamps selected from the books or lists of our publisher are awarded to:—R. George Upton, 30, High-bury New Park, London, N., and Jas. Johnstone, 13, Church Street, Partick, Glasgow.

### QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

14. Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the "De la Rue colonial type?"

19.—Can any collector provide a really good and cheap method of cleaning those stamps that will not bear washing, such as the early Russians and stamps printed in vegetable inks? (*Asked by W. G. O., Wolsingham.*)

All letters containing questions or replies should be addressed to the Editors, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In future this feature of the FORTNIGHTLY will make its appearance in alternate numbers. It will not then unduly encroach on other matter, and more time will be given to those readers (and we hope their numbers will increase and multiply, who elect to ask and answer questions through this medium.

## Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

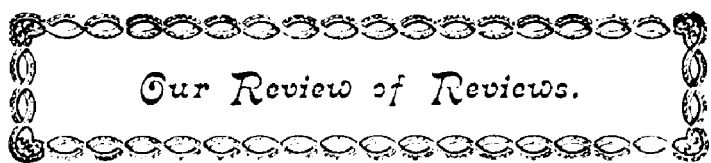
It is not to be wondered at that the first issue of Netherland stamps generally come rather heavily postmarked, as in official notice No. 70, dated June 15, 1852, it is specially recommended to obliterate the blue stamps heavily, as on account of the dark colour the obliteration does not show well. The same notice announces that the next printing of this value will be much lighter. The lighter shade therefore does not owe its origin to a printer's whim, but was actually ordered by the government.—*Philatelic Facts & Fallacies.*

MR. J. O. SELL, a cyclist and a philatelist, writes as follows to the *Sketch*: "You say that soon we will have a stamp showing a cyclist." Apparently you are unaware that five years ago such a stamp was issued. I enclose for your inspection a stamp used by the Victor Bicycle Messenger Service in 1894, between Fresno and San Francisco, during a strike in the mining district. You will notice it is rouletted in diamond shape, is of the value of twenty-five cents, and is green in colour. There is a variety with the name spelt *Francisco*. At the same time two envelopes were issued with the same stamp printed in brown on white and amber paper."

"HALF a stamp is not better than no stamp at all, unless it happens to be a split provisional," remarks *Veritas* in the *Weekly Philatelic Era*.

TWICE two makes five, when the relative value of two pairs and five single specimens is considered.—*Weekly Philatelic Era.*

It is stated that Dutch postmasters and their colleagues in the Dutch Colonies are not allowed to execute any orders for stamps received from abroad. This prohibition has been more strictly imposed recently in consequence of a postmaster in Surinam having recently filled large orders for Surinam stamps, retained the remittances and decamped.



## Our Review of Reviews.

### Philately a Hundred Years' hence.

WE have always looked upon the *Australian Philatelist*, edited by Mr. A. F. Basset Hull and published by Mr. Oscar Schulze, of Jameson Street, Sydney, as a most excellent and a most progressive journal. But there should be reasonable limits to progress or progressivism, or progressivism, or whatever it is now the fashion to make of that much abused word.

When we first peeled off its wrapper, and opened it out flat, with that little thrill of pleasurable excitement that one always feels on the arrival of a favorite periodical—in that moment we had no inkling of the surprise that was to follow. Then we looked at the date on our copy of the *Australian Philatelist*—

March 25th, 1999!

Another look, and then another. Our eyes had not deceived us—this was indeed the issue of the *Australian Philatelist* for March 25th, 1999; and, not without a slight sensation of awe, we settled ourselves down to read of Philately a hundred years hence. The "A.P." reached us on Saturday morning last, May 6th, so that in all probability we shall be the first English journal to reproduce the events and assertions embodied in this very premature publication.

To begin at the beginning, we find that the editorial remarks of the *Australian Philatelist* for March, 1999, will be largely devoted to the misdeeds of Messrs. Williams & Co., of Lima, Peru (Strange that they should still be harping on that string a hundred years hence!) In 1999, as in 1899, there are plenty of New Issues. In 1999, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, will purchase a big collection for £4,000 (which just shows you how history will persist in repeating itself.) There are to be some new Tasmanian stamps, it seems—the same old game; and an article headed "Some New Zealand Collectors" shows clearly enough that Philately will still be very much alive in 1999.

The number on the whole is a good one, and when it is ready for the general public (for we cannot but think that we have been favoured with an advance copy through the courtesy of one of the Mahatmas employed by editor Hull and publisher Schulze)—when published, we say, the general public will enjoy a treat. In fact we cordially advise our readers to forward their subscriptions for the next hundred years to Mr. Oscar Schulze at once.

### Where Postage is Free.

SAYS a writer in our breezy Western contemporary, *Philatelic Facts & Fallacies*:

"The inhabitants of the little republic of San Marino will cease to enjoy a privilege which has been theirs for many years, consisting of the free postage of all mail matter within its borders. Up to this day such matter was carried free between the three post offices of the little country, but now special stamps for the internal service have been provided for, of the value of 2 and 5 centesimos, showing the statue of liberty erect.

There is another commonwealth in Europe where the citizens enjoy free postage, viz: Andorra, situated in the Pyrenees, between France and Spain. For the outside world the people in Andorra use either French or Spanish stamps, according to which direction the letter takes.

Another diminutive but independent principality is Lichtenstein, situated in a corner between Austria and Switzerland; but in this case the post office department is run by the Austrian empire. Austrian stamps cancelled with the name of the capital city Vaduz, however, are sometimes collected in Europe as approaching a special set."

### The Surcharged Surinam Stamps.

Our readers will remember that a set of provisionals was issued last year in Surinam, consisting of a surcharge of 10 cents on the old King's head series. Although three of the

values so treated were printed in fairly large quantities, one value—the 10 cents on 15c. grey—was represented by a comparatively small number. Jonkherr von Kinschot, writing in the *Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde* puts the figure at (outside) 5000 copies, as against a previous estimate of 8000. From this quantity the number sent to the Postal Union head-quarters at Berne, about 1000, have to be deducted. Therefore if these figures be correct, and we have very little reason to doubt them—knowing the great care of the author in all literary work he undertakes—it stands to reason that the price at which this stamp is obtainable on the continent is a very low one. A firm in Berlin made a lucky purchase at the time of issue, and we believe the stamps can still be obtained at 3s. each.

### Monte Carlo's Postal Affairs.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips, as a result of a ramble on the Continent for business and pleasure combined, writes entertainingly of his experiences in the *Monthly Journal*. Concerning the tiny principality of Monaco, he has something distinctly new to impart:

At Monaco we considerably surprised the employés by our demand for several thousand of the lower value stamps, and had to wait about an hour while the different values were hunted up and checked over about five times.

In the yearly statement of accounts issued to the shareholders of the Casino Company at Monte Carlo, there appears an item, "Loss on Monte Carlo Post Office £2000," the reason for which is not generally understood, but which is as follows:

The late Prince Charles of Monaco consented to the establishment of a post office for the convenience of visitors, only upon the condition that, if there were any loss, the Casino Company should make it good. French stamps were used, and the office was nearly paying its way, when Prince Albert "succeeded." Then he insisted upon having stamps of his own, and also that he should have the receipts, the Casino continuing to pay the expenses! This admirable arrangement—for the Prince—costs the Casino the sum of about £2000 per annum.

Mr. Phillips also toured through the principal cities of Germany; and, in summing up the result of his trip, he tells us that the stamp trade is brisk and the demand for stamps generally very great.

### A Pat-on-the-Back for the Post Office.

The Editor of the *Review of Reviews* Annual for 1899: "The United States; of Europe" (recently published), makes the following interesting remarks on the subject of the Post Office:

"The great ideal of international freedom and union is to be found in the Post Office. Wherever you see a red pillar-box, there you see a dumb prophet of the Millennium. The moment the stamped missive enters its ever-open portal it becomes a citizen of the Universe, free from all custom-houses and protected by virtue of the Queen's head which it carries in all lands, irrespective of differences of Nationality, Law and Religion. The International Postal Union is the *avant-courier*, or John the Baptist of the Kingdom of Heaven, in which all frontiers disappear and all mankind would be made free of the planet in which they dwell."

### Why has China no Blue Stamps?

The *I.B.Z.*, in answering a correspondent, writes:

Blue is not really the mourning colour of China. Nearly all clothes are in this shade. Blue, however, expresses mourning on letters, bill heads, &c. All Chinese letters bear the firm's stamp on the outside. As a rule the colour of the stamp is red, but if the sender be in mourning he uses a blue ink. The real Chinese mourning colour is white, but white ink is obviously impracticable. A letter with a blue mark on would not be delivered by an everyday Chinese, as it might be productive of misfortune. For this reason there are no blue Chinese stamps.

Query: What are the Chinese postal administrators going to do about the Postal Union recommendation as to the blue 2½d. stamps?

THE NEXT  
*Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held end of May, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if sent in immediately.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that :

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

SPECIAL TERMS WILL BE QUOTED AND FURTHER PARTICULARS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

106-125

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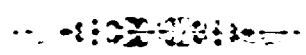


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- 3rd issue, V.R. : 10c., 15c., 20c.

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

1899.—MAY 25th and 26th; JUNE 8th and 9th.

**May 25th and 26th.**—By order of the Executors and others. A fine selection of BRITISH, FOREIGN, AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS, including a VERY FINE COLLECTION OF UNUSED GERMAN STATES (in lots), containing the following rarities:—BADEN, 1st issue. BRUNSWICK, 1st issue, 2 sgr. HANOVER, 1st issue, 1 ggr. MECKLENBURG SCHWERIN, 4/4 sch. red, rouletted. OLDENBURG, complete. PRUSSIA, 2 sgr. Prussian blue, a mint strip of 3. SAXONY, 3 pf. red. THURN AND TAXIS, 1st issues. WURTEMBERG, nearly complete, including 2 mint specimens of 18 kr. with thread, 2 marks yellow, 2 marks orange, 70 kr. violet, etc. GREAT BRITAIN, £5 postally used (2), 10/- and £1, wmk. Anchor; 1d. Archer, roulette. CAPE WOODBLOCKS. NEW BRUNSWICK, 1/- violet, fine. B. E. A. on Coy's stamps. ZANZIBARS, a fine lot. RARE UGANDAS. LAGOS, 1st issue, unused. BRITISH COLUMBIA, 10c. blue, imperf., unused. UNITED STATES, periodical set up to \$50, unused. FIJI ISLANDS, 2d. in red on 6c. with Roman V.R. A mint block of 4 SYDNEY VIEWS. Fine blocks of 1/- imperf. N. S. W. and others, also a few Collections.

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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**A Fine Collection of Stamps.**

**FOLLOWING SALES.**

1899.—June 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th.

**O**WING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

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Cheap, suitable for dealers, Greece Olym. Game stamps, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 lept., well mixed, 20/- per 1000. Greece current issue, well assorted, 7/6 per 1000. Carriage extra. Payment in cheque, 1st class refer. given.  
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[103-122]

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Fuller particulars will be sent with the packet. Last day for receiving Solutions: May 31st. Solutions must be written on the Form supplied with packet, together with sender's name and address. The £5 Prize will be paid to the sender of the correct solution, on or before June 6th.

Result of 11th Competition.

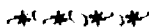
Only four correct solutions were received. The sentence should read: "The earliest English engraved stamps are HIGH works of art, and as such have SELDOM been excelled philatelically." Adopting ordinary catalogue nomenclature for the stamps in the packet, no other solution was possible. The £5 prize was divided among the following four successful competitors—

- LADY MACKENZIE, Conon House, Conon Bridge, N.B.
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THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 122—VOL. V.                      SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1899.                      ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

- Bristol Philatelic Society.      Cambridge University Philatelic Society.      Stamp Exchange Protection Society.**  
**The Liverpool Philatelic Society.      Edinburgh and Leith Society.      Rochdale Philatelic Society.**  
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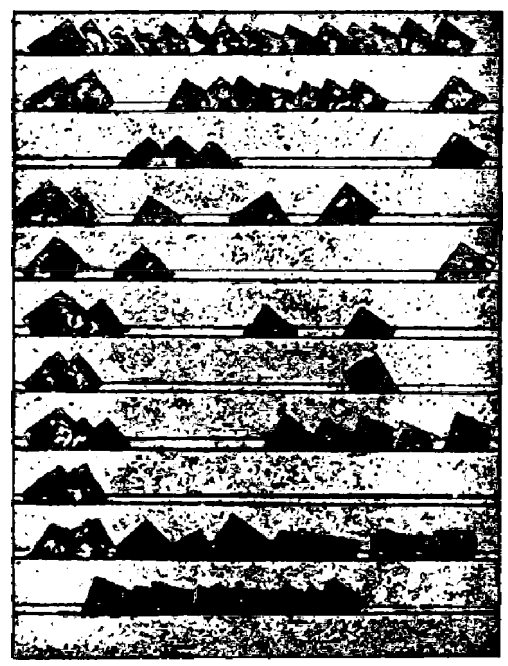
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## Doings of Societies.

### THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING was held on April 20th, and another on May 4th, the vice-president in the chair. It was determined that no exchange packet should be sent out after the one for this month until the end of September.

Mr. Cartwright read a letter he had received from J. Henniker Heaton, Esq., M.P., acknowledging the receipt of the congratulatory resolution sent him by this society for the success of his labours on behalf of Ocean rd. Postage, and in which he said, "I beg to tender you my most grateful thanks for your congratulations on the termination of the struggle which has ended in victory for cheap Imperial communication. While the world lasts never again shall we be troubled by that awkward, incomprehensible, and irritating 'two-pence half-penny for postage.'"

"Italy and its States" was the subject for the evening, but Mr. Cartwright's was the only collection displayed.

The last meeting of the present season was held on the 18th inst., the president occupying the chair. Some new members having been elected, and also some others proposed, the following letter from the hon. secretary of the Philatelic Society, London, was read by the hon. librarian: "Dear Sir,—I am directed by my society to send you a set of the 'London Philatelist' from Vol. 3 to date, for the library of the Bristol Philatelic Society.—Yours faithfully, J. A. Tilleard, hon. sec.;" and it was then unanimously resolved that "hearty thanks be sent to the Philatelic Society, London, for their generous donation to the society's library."

The programme for next season, commencing on October 5th, was then arranged, and the following countries were selected for discussion and display, viz., South Australia, British Guiana, Austria and States, Great Britain, Brazil, Hong Kong, and Straits Settlements. The annual general meeting was fixed for January 4th, 1900.

Intending members should send in their request to the hon. secretary before the first meeting of next season on Oct. 5th. Copies of the society's rules will be sent on application.

### SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE usual meeting was held on Wednesday, May 17th, in Bird's Restaurant. The Rev. A. A. W. Roosinolen read an interesting paper on "The Stamps of South Australia," illustrating the same by means of his extensive collection of those stamps.

### THE PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ON Wednesday, May 10th, under the auspices of the Plymouth Society, a most enjoyable Lecture was delivered at the Athenæum, by the Rev. E. Bell, M.A. (of St. Stephen's Saltash), on the educational value of Philately. Pursuing the hobby was a scientific pursuit the Lecturer dwelt on the threefold division of philatelic humanity into the ignoramus, the timbromaniac, and the philatelist proper or collector who found in stamps an intelligent interest and a valuable training. With this introduction the political histories of France

and Spain, and the unification of Italy were ably traced through the postal issues of these countries, lantern and screen combining most effectively to illustrate the points of the Lecture. From Southern Europe Mr. Bell passed to South Africa, and reviewed the vicissitudes of our politics in the Transvaal, shewing how marked an object lesson was to be found in the issues of that Republic. Equally impressive but more pleasing was the lesson to be learned from the stamps of Fiji, where British rule had kept and not relinquished its hold. The diagrams that followed on the screen were now of more varied type and illustrative of different phrases of philatelic interest, aesthetic bearing or educational value. Thus on one striking group the heads of five sovereign monarchs were depicted, four of whom had met with the bitterest reverses of fortune: the effigies of our own Queen in varying stages of her rule were also presented: and colonial enterprise and sentiment fitly illustrated in the symbolisms of New South Wales, Cape Colony and Canada. Finally after a series of plates that typified the debt of philately to the natural world in its designs of bird, animal, reptile and fish, the lecturer made an eloquent appeal on behalf of the hobby of stamp collecting with its aesthetic and educational training in contrast to the destructive and wanton enthusiasms of the ornithologist and the entomologist.

W. A. WALKER, *Hon. Sec.*

### A SOCIETY FOR TRINIDAD.

A PHILATELIC SOCIETY has just been formed at Port of Spain, Trinidad, with Captain J. H. Collens as President, and Mr. E. Bishop Twose (of the Colonial Bank) as Secretary.

As there are several enthusiastic philatelists in this Colony, and almost every school boy is, has been, or aspires to be a collector, the Society should prosper. At any rate it has a fair start.

### COLLECTORS' CLUB, NEW YORK.

FORTIETH meeting of the Board of Governors held at the Club House, May 8th, 1899.

Called to order at 8.15 p.m. by President Thorne, the following Governors being present: Messrs. Bruner, Calman, Luff, Scott, Stebbins and the Secretary.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. D. H. Bacon which was laid on the table and the resignation of Mr. A. Perozo which was accepted with regret.

The Secretary also read some correspondence from Mr. Henry C. Lawrence, who had been obliged through ill health to travel abroad. His resignation was accepted with regret and his gift to the Club of his share of stock was accepted with thanks and with the Governors' best wishes for the restoration of his health.

The Treasurer (Mr. J. W. Scott), read his report, which was accepted, showing a cash balance of \$401.82 in bank.

The following names were stricken from the rolls for non payment of dues:

Max Meyenberg, a stockholder.  
Munson Morris, a subscriber.  
J. J. Sullivan, "  
D. H. Bacon, "  
C. A. Needham, "

The reinstatement of Mr. McCoy S. King as a subscribing member was accepted.—J. M. ANDREINI, *Secretary*, 351, Fourth Avenue, New York.

### 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.]

CHILIAN STAMPS.—Wholesale and retail. State wants. GEORGE BACK, Casilla, 119, Iquique, Chili.

OPEN TO OFFER.—40 sheets of stamps 20cts. Gibraltar; 5 sheets of *Pta.* 1, and 2 sheets of *Pts.* 2 last issue.—MANUEL F. MONTEGRIFFO, Market Street, Gibraltar. [127]

HOMF COUNTIES EXCHANGE requires a few energetic members. Particulars of ARTHUR PRIEST, 6, Beaufort Road, Tottenham.

U.S.A. Used, 1868, grill, 90 cents (Stanley Gibbons Catalogue 40/-) Singles 15/-; Pairs 32/-; Four block £3 7s. 6d.—BENSON, 83, Windsor Road, Southport.

OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Members wanted (especially advanced collectors) no dealers. Rules etc. of the Secretary.—G. HERBERT DANNATT, Member Stamp Exchange Protection Society, "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

WANTED, Good Collection. High price paid to any amount. References given.—COLLECTOR, 125, Fulham Road, London. 122-127

E. G. BOOTH, Grahamstown, South Africa, has resumed stamp collecting and wants British West Indian in exchange for good South Africans Basis, Gibbons advanced collector, rubbish refused. Reference, this paper. 122-124

MILLION STAMPS. Two Pounds; So Kensing Envelope, 10d.; Furniss Caricature, 10d., the pair 1/6; English Envelopes and overprinted stamps.—SANTOS COMPANY, 35, Alwyne Villas, London.

CHEAPEST SETS. Lists gratis and post free. W. N. CULLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. 120-128

COLLECTORS residing in Nevis, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Falkland Isles, Gibraltar. Wanted to exchange current stamps of their countries with stamps of India and Native States. Unused only required.—J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [120-125]

GENERAL Collectors having 1000-3000 different stamps, should write for selections at half Gibbons' or less; extra discount 7½ per cent. 10/-; 12½ per cent. 20/-; also *rare* stamps 40-60 per cent. below catalogue.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 8, Valentia Road, Brixton, London. [124]

BREAKING COLLECTION.—Suit advanced, medium and beginner. Half catalogue. Sheets on approval.—PERKE, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

FOREIGN STAMPS.—One hundred different for Sale, 7d.—E. PULL, 60, Oxford Road, London, N.

Out of an edition of 2500 copies, we have a few left of our

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

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|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| The Liverpool Philatelic Society.  | Bristol Philatelic Society.              | Ashton-under-Lyme Philatelic Society. |
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| Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society. |                                       |

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## A NEW ZEALANDER'S LUCKY FIND.

FROM the *Otago Witness*, of April 6th, we learn that a big "find" of scarce New Zealand stamps was recently made in Wellington. Amongst the lot were no less than 2100 2d. blue, 1865; 300 2d., large star, 1873; and any quantity of Pelure's N.Z. watermarks, &c. The whole lot, the good with the bad, have been purchased by a local firm, and the lucky finder will soon be in the possession of almost enough funds for a trip to England.

## "WILLIAMS & CO." MR. CASNOUGH'S DEPARTURE.

The following letter to the American Philatelic Press explains itself:—

CASILLA, 209, LIMA, PERU,  
 February 11th, 1899.

DEAR SIR:—On 1st January Mr. Casnough (Williams & Co.) wrote me a letter from Chosica (30 miles inland) stating he had gone to Chosica for a trip and enclosing the key of his P. O. box, asking me to do him the favour to collect and hold his mails until his return. It is now over a month since he wrote and no trace of him can be found and as I have in my possession some hundreds of letters, registered and ordinary, I consider it my duty to take steps to return them to their owners.

If you will kindly publish this in your magazine I will return all letters received here on or after Jan. end, on receipt of return postage.

I am not in a position to return such a number of letters at my own expense.

I would esteem it a great favour if other philatelic journals will copy this letter, so that all may get their letters back. For the benefit of and in the interests of Philatelists in all parts of the world, I would be glad if you will give this notice a prominent position.

I remain, yours truly,  
 REGINALD C. FARRANT.

Since the above was in type, *McKeel's Weekly Stamp News* has brought us the following reply to a correspondent by a British resident official at Lima:

LIMA, March 22nd, 1899.

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to your letter of the 20th of February last, I beg to inform you that a very great number of similar complaints are being made concerning the firm of Williams & Co., and that the attention of the police of this capital has been drawn to the matter.

The firm is unknown here and apparently only possesses a box at the Post Office.

The individual professing to represent the firm has absconded since complaints began to arrive, and nothing further has been heard of him. Meanwhile, a large number of letters has been recovered from Mr. Reginald Farrant, also employed in the business, and has been returned to the Postmaster-General of Canada; whilst a further number of letters is retained by the Post Office of this city, which, after a short detention, will be returned to the senders.

I have no trace of your letter which came into my possession as above mentioned.

I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) W. BEAUCLEERK,  
 H. B. M.'s Minister, Resident.

To a philatelist who wrote the American Minister at Lima on the subject of "Williams & Co.," Mr. Irving Dudley replied as follows:

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
 LIMA (PERU), March 17th, 1899.

Your note of the 15th ultimo received yesterday. Williams & Co. appears to be simply the name under which one, C. Casnough, pursued a fraudulent business in handling stamps. He advertised extensively, not only in the United States, but in Great Britain and her English-speaking possessions, in France and in Germany. The representatives of those countries at Lima have each received numerous complaints similar to yours, and the matter has been brought to the attention of the Foreign Office and to the Police Department.

Casnough continued in Lima until about last Christmas, when he left, going toward the interior, and nothing has been heard of him since he effected his escape.

The name of H. C. Farrant, I understand, appeared in some advertisements as that of Secretary of Williams & Co. He is a young man of about twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, in the employ of two cable companies in Lima. After a careful investigation I came to the conclusion that he was used by Casnough as a tool, to the extent that he signed letters, but that he did not participate in the profits of the enterprise, nor associate himself in

it in such a manner as to create a criminal responsibility. After Casnough's flight the mail was turned over to him (Farrant) and accumulated to the extent of several hundred letters, none of which he opened. He returned all which came from the United States to the senders, where the outside of the envelope gave the sender's name; turning the rest into the post office. The post office authorities, having learned of the fraudulent practices of Williams & Co., now retain all mails directed to them. At the expiration of three months such letters will be returned as dead letters.

Sincerely yours, IRVING B. DUDLEY.

Meanwhile, the idea gains ground that Casnough is none other than our old and very dear friend, Tomasso Coelho.

#### OLD STAMPS USED AS NEW.

At the Calcutta Police Court on Thursday, April 13th, before Mr. T. A. Pearson, Chief Presidency Magistrate, Inspector Mulcahy charged a Mahomedan named Abdul Aziz, with (1) selling three Government stamps, two valued at Rs. 2 each, and one valued at Rs. 1, surcharged "Small Cause Court, Calcutta," having reason to believe the same to be counterfeit; (2) removing from the above three stamps the mark or impression of the Calcutta Collectorate put on them to denote that the same had been used before, and selling the same; (3) being in possession of, besides these three stamps, the following stamps, 9 for Rs. 2 each, 23 for Rs. 1 each, one for Rs. 4, 4 for Rs. 3 each, 16 for annas 8 each, 16 for annas 4 each, and 2 for annas 2 each; and (4) attempting to use or dispose of the same as genuine, knowing them to be counterfeit, at the same time and place aforesaid. Mr. Hume, Government Solicitor, appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Cranenburgh for the defence.

Mr. Hume, in opening the case for the prosecution, said that the defendant was formerly employed in the Small Cause Court. While in that capacity, he must have come to know of the difference between genuine and counterfeit stamps, as also the impressions on the genuine stamps. On the 5th instant he went to the Small Cause Court and showed one Nilmony Ghose, the clerk of a pleader attached to that court, 24 stamps, viz: 16 for Rs. 5 each, 3 for Rs. 2 each, 1 for Rs. 1 for Rs. 4, 1 for annas 8 and 1 for annas 2, and 1 for annas 6. Six-anna stamps Mr. Hume observed, were never used as Court-fee stamps. The Babu looked at the stamps and saw they had been tampered with, but he did not say anything to the accused. He however resolved to give information to the authorities, but in the meanwhile he asked the accused what discount he would give him on the stamps. The accused, thereupon, said he would go and ask the party, who had given the stamps to him what discount he would allow, and then return. In the meanwhile Nilmony Babu informed the authorities of the Stamp Department, and Mr. Eagleton was deputed to go to the Small Cause Court and watch for the accused, who, however did not return that day. On the 8th instant the accused went again to Nilmony, and said he would bring the stamps with him on Monday. On Monday he brought the stamps which he had shown to Nilmony on the 5th instant; but the six anna stamps were not there on that day. He then arranged with Nilmony to give him a commission of four annas on the rupee, or Rs. 5-2 on Rs 20—the total value of the stamps. Nilmony, however, told accused to bring the six anna stamp with him as well. The accused agreed to this, and again left, promising to return in the evening, which he did. Acting under instructions, Nilmony then purchased for Rs. 5 only three stamps from him, two for Rs. 2 each, and one for a rupee. The accused was then leaving, when he was arrested and searched, and the other stamps he had shown to Nilmony were found on his person. He was then taken to the thanna, where a further search was made, and 43 other stamps were found on him. The accused then stated that he had received these stamps for sale from another man, named Asahmullah, but search for that individual proved futile. Accused finally stated that Asahmullah had gone to Chittagong.

All that was necessary for him (Mr. Hume) was to prove that the accused knew, when he offered the stamps for sale, that they had been used before.

Evidence was called, but the case was eventually adjourned.

#### AS IT IS—AND AS IT SHOULD BE.

The *Daily Mail* remarks very seriously, and as if the discovery were quite a new one, that the British penny postage stamp is not up to date. "Has it never occurred to the postal authorities" asks the halfpenny daily, "that their stamps are sixty years behind the times?" Yes it has often "occurred" to the postal authorities. More than that, the fact has been pointed out frequently by members of the House of Commons; and on every such occasion the reply of the particular occupant of the Front Bench representing "the Department" has been that "there is no present intention of modifying the design of the postage stamps of this country"—or words to that effect. To the *Daily Mail*, however, we must give all credit for showing how easily the current postage stamps—of the penny value, at all events—could be brought up to date. No entirely new design would



be necessary. The severe, utilitarian "idea" now in vogue could be retained, only the profile in the central oval being "modernised."

It is, of course, too ridiculous that our penny postage stamps should continue to portray the sovereign as a young and beautiful girl. It is worse than foolish; it is unfair to our Gracious Queen, who is credited by idle tittle-tattlers with a desire to "keep herself young" on the gummed labels that her lieges daily lick.

The Duke of Norfolk has shown himself to be a Post master-General of the right sort—earnest, hard working, and most favourable to all reasonable schemes of reform. It is possible that he will entertain the *Mail's* suggestion of celebrating the Queen's eightieth birthday by some sensible modification of the design of the postage stamp.

#### THE PICTURE POST CARD CRAZE.

As Exhibition held in Berlin a little while ago—writes a Berlin correspondent—shows what an important feature of modern life the picture post card has become in Germany. There is hardly a spot of any interest whatever in the country which has not its own special card. So many are sent through the post that the profit thereby accruing to the revenue forms an item in the public estimates.

Every great event is seized upon as an opportunity for selling and dispatching these memorials. On the occasion of the interment of Prince Bismark last month the post office authorities at Friedrichsruh made special provision for dealing with the thousands of cards posted to all parts of the world. One firm alone posted 6,000 during the day to its own address in Berlin.

During the Kaiser's visit to the East a Berlin firm sent representatives who addressed cards from every place visited by the imperial party to subscribers in Germany. Even the Empress herself has not escaped the prevailing fever, and regularly sent cards to her children from the various stopping places.

Quite recently a Berlin house advertised that it was sending a representative round the world who, for a trifling sum, would send cards from the towns he touched at to customers. Another Berlin firm takes a person's photo and while he waits prints the same on cards. Of late a further development has taken place. Germany's most prominent artists have been invited to produce designs for the backs of cards, and for which large sums are paid. Cards with designs by Prof. Menzel, the well-known painter of historical scenes from the life of Frederick the Great, and by Prof. Paul Meyerheim, Germany's greatest animal painter, have

come on the market, and though each card cost nearly one shilling, they have a great sale.

Prof. Meyerheim's represents a bear holding in one paw the tricolor and in the other a bouquet of flowers which he is presenting to the Russian double-headed eagle. The latter holds in each beak a sealed letter, and the Russian Government is evidently concerned as to what the contents of these letters may be. A telegram from St. Petersburg to-day announces that the censor forbids the circulation of the card throughout the Russian dominions.

#### NOTES ON THE STAMP MARKET.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, at their most recent auction, obtained some very satisfactory prices, for instance: Great Britain, Octagonal, 6d. violet, a block of five, unused with full gum, £21; Great Britain, 1s. green, unused, £12; Turks Islands, 1881, 2½d. on 1s., black, £7; British Guiana, 1852, 1c., magenta, a lightly cancelled on original cover, £9; and Chili, 1st issue, 10c., blue, with error of watermark "20" (inverted), £6 10s.

Some of Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's recent realisations read as follows: Great Britain, 4d. blue paper, unused, £5 15s.; Great Britain, 8d. brown, an unused pair, £6 2s. 6d.; Ceylon, 2 rupees 50 cents, unused, £8 10s.; Hong Kong, 9c. yellow-brown, unused, £10 10s.; Cape of Good Hope, error, 1d. blue, £70; Gold Coast, 20s. carmine and green, unused, £4 10s.; Transvaal, 3d. mauve, red surcharge, £4; Newfoundland, 1s. carmine, cut close, £5 17s. 6d.; Newfoundland, 1s. orange, cut close, £4 8s.; Nova Scotia, 1s. violet, cut close, £6 10s.; Nevis, 1s. blue-green, unused, £3 7s. 6d.; Nevis, 6d. green, unused, perfs. chipped, £2 8s.; St. Christopher, 4d. blue, unused, £2 2s.; St. Vincent, 1s. brown, unused, £4; St. Vincent, 4d. on 1s. vermilion, unused, £18; St. Vincent, 4d. red-brown, unused, £5 7s. 6d.; Western Australia, first issue, 2d. rouletted, £4 15s.

We have received a copy of Messrs. Smyth and Nicolle's "Priced Catalogue of Australian Stamps." The booklet reflects great credit upon this enterprising Sydney firm. In a future edition our friends will possibly remedy the present great lack of illustrations—without which a priced catalogue is in our judgment, like a fish out of water.

#### THE SLEEPING S.S.S.S. WILL IT AWAKEN?

"Iscoog," the London correspondent of the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, writes as follows:

From the signs and portents of the moment one is perhaps justified in cherishing the hope that the S.S.S.S. is not dead but sleeping, and that an attempt may be made to arouse the drowsy sluggard to another spell of useful existence. Certainly the S.S.S.S. is as much a necessity now as ever it was. Anyone who doubts should read Mr. Rudolf Meyer's sensible and forceful article in the last number of the *London Philatelist*. This, following on the very outspoken, but perhaps too pessimistic, paper of Mr. A. W. Walker (published, I think, in the *L.P.* of November last) should do something towards inciting philatelists to a new crusade against the speculative stamp.

There is, by the way, an odd coincidence to be noted in the last issues of the *London Philatelist* and the *Monthly Journal*. Although appearing almost simultaneously, the first editorial in each journal is devoted to the same object—"The Young Collector." Great minds jump together. We hear a great deal about fostering the philatelic propensities of the young idea, and there is always a vast amount of talk going on as to teaching the aforesaid young idea how to collect; but very little is actually done. Perhaps the best thing that could possibly be done for the young collector would be to resuscitate the S.S.S.S., and by means of that organisation, make an earnest endeavour to save the boy collector from his own innate love of relief scraps and gaily-coloured chromos.

The article by Mr. Rudolf Meyer, referred to in the above extract, is, indeed, laden with common sense arguments and apposite allusions. Mr. Meyer writes:

I have not the slightest wish to dictate to him [the new collector] but advice is not dictation, and there is no man so wise but that he can take advice from those older and more experienced than himself, while no man surely is so foolish as to take offence when a formidable danger is pointed out to him, and a loss of his money possibly prevented.

I will give instances of the worthlessness of some of the labels in question to illustrate my meaning.

What is the value of 10s. Great Britain? 10s. 1 dollar U.S.A.? 4s. 2g. 50c. Holland? 4s. 1 rouble Russia? 2s.

What is the value, on the contrary, of 10 pesos Nicaragua, 10 St. Salvador, 10 pesos Costa Rica, 25 francs Obocck? Well, all about one penny each—if that—in my humble opinion.

I think you will all agree with me, that the smartest exponent of a high-handed system of dictation can hardly say my advice is based on self-interest, for if the new collector is satisfied with speculative issues no possible danger can accrue to us from his advent; it will not even have the effect (which otherwise the increased number of buyers might have) of causing more trouble and expenditure of money in the accumulation of our treasures, but we are as a rule sorry to see those who are just entering into the enjoyment of that pastime, which has afforded us so much pleasure, led aside and sent wandering into by-paths, which we veterans know will only lead ultimately to vexation, disgust, and probable retirement from the pursuit.

Mr. Meyer goes on to speak at some length as to the dealers' standpoint in this matter; "but," says he, "I am not here to study the dealer, neither, of course, am I here to censure him. He has as much right as any other tradesman to buy and sell, if he can, whatever pays him best. *We are here to defend our hobby*, and to resist the introduction of anything that will cause depreciation or deterioration, which is what speculative issues will most certainly do."

Then he concludes by saying:

We all have the same hobby. We are collectors of postage stamps, by which we mean genuine postal requirements of a country.

We do not want stamps manufactured especially for us and we have no desire to swell the profits of speculators nor to replenish the exchequers of poverty-stricken states. Those are not the things which have created Philately and nurtured the hobby.

The remarks do not include all new issues: far from it. We are none of us so wedded to our "hoarded antiquities" as to exclude all others. *Let them all come* if they be honestly what they represent themselves; they are heartily welcome, and they will keep the old as well as the new collector busy and less liable to fall victims to the seller of speculative issues.

The dealer is our very good and necessary friend, but we need not study him: he must study us: he is there to study us and to supply our wants.

So let us unite hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder to keep our hobby pure, for it really does not matter who does the work, whether it be the S.S.S.S., T.T.T.T., or any other initials, so long as it is done. It is imperative that this objective should be sought by all those who fear nothing except the reproach of not having done their duty honestly and well.

#### POLICE NOTICE.

STOLEN by means of breaking and entering, about 15,000 British Colonials in transparent envelopes, each containing 100, as under:—

2,500 Hayti, "palm tree," 1 and 2 cents. 36 each, 1, 2, 3 and 4 cent Hayti, 1898 unused. 12 each, 5, 7 and 8 cent, 1898, unused. 400 Canada Jubilee, 3 cent, in bundles of 100. A quantity of Spain 5 cents, black Ricargo; and a number of other stamps and packets of mixed Colonials.

Description of two men who on 21st, offered for sale a portion of stamps described—1st, age about 27 or 30, height about 6ft., hair fair (curly), clean shaved, dress Inverness waterproof cape, light suit under, black hard felt hat. 2nd, age 32, height 5ft. 9in., hair and slight moustache fair, dress light jacket suit, black hard felt hat.

#### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING June 10th, 1899.

##### London Auctions.

June 5th and 6th. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 5 p.m. sharp.

June 6th and 7th. Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

June 6th and 7th—Messrs. Buhl & Co., Ltd., at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, at 5.45 p.m., each day.

June 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper, at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, at 5.30 p.m. each day.

##### Provincial Auctions.

June 7th. Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 6.30 p.m. precisely.

First week in June Mr. Robert S. Gray will hold another sale in Glasgow.

## General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. 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, MAY 27, 1899.



COLLECTIVELY in these columns, and individually elsewhere, the Editors of the FORTNIGHTLY have consistently and persistently advocated the publication of a Philatelic Catalogue compiled entirely by philatelists having no direct interest in "commercial philately." It has been invariably objected that such a catalogue is an impossibility. But why?

"Reasons against" have been conspicuous either by their absence or by their illogicality. Mr. Edward J. Nankivell has come round to our way of thinking, but with this very large limitation: he advocates merely an unpriced catalogue. This is less than half-a-loaf, but we are ready to accept it as being "better than no bread." Mr. Nankivell has read a paper on the subject before the London Philatelic Society, and has since written as follows in the column of London news he contributes to the *American Journal of Philately*.

As intimated in my last letter, I read a paper at a meeting of the London Philatelic Society, raising the question of a catalogue for collectors by collectors, unpriced, one which should set out all normal issues in bold type and varieties in small type. Such a catalogue, from my point of view, would be equally useful to the beginner and the specialist. The beginner would collect the normal varieties set out in large type, and the specialist would take everything. I further contended that such a catalogue, if done by such an authority as the Premier Society, would largely decide the vexed question of recognised varieties.

But it is not to be. All round the table there was a chorus of opinion against the idea. It was declared to be impossible, in the present state of our philatelic knowledge concerning many countries, to compile such a catalogue with any credit to the Society. Country after country was mentioned as being unripe for such a catalogue. In other words, the contention really amounted to an admission that the Premier Society regards anything in the shape of a complete catalogue as something which may be attempted by some future generation of Philatelists, but certainly not by the present generation.

A most curious standpoint surely! That is to say, if you cannot settle every possible question you, therefore, must not publish even your knowledge up to date. People who take such a stand will never be able, this side of Hades, to publish anything that affects any interesting country that reaches far back into the philatelic past. Some questions must be left more or less unsettled in all countries.

Mr. Nankivell, being the *enfant terrible* of the London Philatelic Society, goes on to tell that august body that it is tottering to its fall; he warns the Society that if it wishes to continue in its leading position among British Societies, it must *do something*; and in conclusion he points scowlingly to the numerous recent resignations of London Society Members, and asks, in effect, "What else can you expect, when you do nothing but talk?" It would serve no useful purpose to report Mr. Nankivell's verbiage on these points, his utterances

being so obviously the ill-considered words of a man galled by the cold reception accorded to a pet project of his own. If Mr. Nankivell be not misinformed, the paper he read before the Society on the subject, will shortly be published, and we shall then have an opportunity of analysing his scheme for a collectors' catalogue. This much we may say already, that the proposition is not one to be swept aside without discussion.

PORTENTOUS is the news to hand from Germany. A number of leading German dealers—indeed, one may say, without unfairness, *all* the leading "Ring" dealers in the Fatherland—have agreed to band themselves together into a sort of union for mutual service and protection. "The German Stamp Dealers' Union," comprising at present, the following members:—

Albert Beddig, of Hanover, H. Michel, of Apolda,  
Paul Köhl, of Chemnitz, Gebrüder Senf, of Leipzig.  
P. Kosack, of Berlin, Ernest Stock, of Berlin, and  
C. Willadt, of Phorzheim, J. Krapf, of Bethel.

will be a "Ring," not in the sense of raising prices to any fixed level, but merely for the purpose of protecting the interests of the bona-fide dealer in stamps.

The "fifty-per-center" (who generally has very little to sell at fifty per cent under catalogue) is the bugbear—or one of the bugbears—of the larger dealer. The fifty-per-center's alluring advertisements are designed to foster, and undoubtedly do foster, the idea that stamps may be obtained at a cheaper rate all round from a small dealer than from a large dealer. How great a fallacy that is needs not to be demonstrated to any philatelist who has patronised both the small fry and the large. The small dealer, often an irresponsible fellow of the here-to-day-and-gone-to-morrow order, can frequently sell common stamps at a lower rate—in this country, at all events—than the man who rents a large shop and keeps a staff of assistants. So much it would be idle to deny. Try him, however, with the better class of stamps and you will quickly discover a very different state of affairs; and in Germany this rule holds good to a greater extent perhaps than in England. Here, our leading dealers stand at high rents and other very heavy permanent charges; in Germany, as a general thing, not so.

The "fifty-per-center," then, being deemed to be a person who does more harm than good to the cause of philately, by promising more than he can perform, and by tactics that tend to depreciate the values of stamps generally, is to be the first object of the German Union's attention. The Union will endeavour to expose the fifty per center, and to thwart his influence for evil, by bringing home to the mind of the collector, by every channel and in every way available, the true facts of the case. It will be shown that stamp for stamp, the big dealer can do business on terms equally as favourable as his smaller brother in trade; that it is better to go to the man whose *guarantee* is worth something, and that in short, the best thing a philatelist can possibly do is to patronise the members of the German Stamp Dealers' Union.

The main object of the Union, it will be seen is a selfish one; but then self is the mainspring of all such organisations. The signatory members, however, in the circular they have just issued to the public, take higher ground by claiming that, while serving their own ends, they will also be advancing the interest of philately; and they certainly show a good basis for this claim.

We have given an idea, though a very rough one, of the principal *raison d'être* of this new Union. One important result of its formation will be its effect on the next Senf catalogue, an agreement having been arrived at whereby the next edition of that work will represent the concentrated essence of all the philatelic knowledge of Messrs. Senf's *confrères* of the German Stamp Dealer's Union.

The members of the Union of course have power to add to their number; but the entrance and annual fees are fixed at such a prohibitive level that in all human probability these front-rank merchants will never have to sit at the same debating board with the obnoxious "fifty-per-center."



# Australian Reprints.

BY A. F. BASSET HULL.

I.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

## LAUREATED SERIES, 1852-3.

AS most collectors are doubtless aware, three plates of the Laureated Series were engraved on copper, viz.: the Two pence with stars in corners, the Six pence, and the Eight pence. These were all engraved in Sydney; the 2d. and 8d. had fifty stamps to the plate, while the 6d. had only twenty-five. This latter was retouched once. By some means these three plates were obtained by a collector, once well known in Sydney, and by him or at his instigation a number of reprints were made. While he endeavoured to imitate the original shade and paper as closely as possible he could not get exactly the same class of paper, and consequently this forms the chief test for identification of the reprints. It is of a somewhat more azure tint than the original paper, and of a smoother and more silky texture. The originals were printed on the ordinary blue foolscap of the period; a dull bluish, hard, hand made paper. The colors of the reprints are also paler, and the impressions of a much fresher appearance than the originals, unused copies of which are extremely scarce. The 2d. is very light blue, and impressions show that the plate was not only very much worn, but there are also traces of retouching, which are particularly noticeable in the outlines of the laurel wreath, and the back outline of the hair in the bottom row on the plate. The 6d. is of course the retouched variety, and was reprinted in a warm brown, with a shade of sienna in it, very seldom found in the originals, which are rather inclined to blackish and dull brown. The 8d. was reprinted in several shades ranging from canary to deep yellow, and in the latter shades it is very difficult to distinguish it from the originals. However, by letting the light fall at an angle on a suspected stamp the shifty appearance of the surfaced paper will generally determine its character.



## DIADEM SERIES, 1856.

Somewhere about 1871 a few reprints were made officially from the steel plates of the 1d. and 2d. There is no difficulty in distinguishing these from originals, as the 1d. is printed in pale red on paper watermarked Crown N.S.W. (type I.), and the 2d. in deep indigo blue on paper watermarked with *single line* figure 2. Neither of these watermarks were employed for the originals.



Both the reprints are imperforated, and are generally cancelled with the word "specimen" in small Roman capitals in black. Uncancelled copies are occasionally met with, but they are rather scarce.

## THE REGISTRATION STAMP, IMPERFORATED.

When the question of the early N.S.W. plates was being discussed in the English philatelic journals (1887-8), the Sydney philatelists were making enquiries here, and the plate of the "Registered" stamp was unearched, and a few sheets were reprinted on unwatermarked wove paper, in close imitation of the originals. Both the orange and blue, and red and blue colors were



reprinted. Very few specimens of these reprints got into the hands of collectors, but they are dangerous though almost scarcer than unused originals. The principal test is the thickness of card and of firmer texture and more highly surfaced than that of the originals. The colors are:—

Deep, almost brownish orange, and Prussian blue, carmine-red and Prussian blue.

There are also reprints on thin white wove paper of a very tough nature, machine made, surcharged "SPECIMEN" in black, imperforate. These appear to have been made about 1870.

About 1891 a further printing took place on thin hand-made wove paper, perf. 10, and surcharged "REPRINT" in black.

- 1870 (?) Pale vermilion and blue, imperf.  
Orange and blue
- 1891 (?) Carmine-red and deep blue, perf. 10.

## PERKINS, BACON & Co., Ltd., the Circular 5-, and DE LA RUE SERIES.



In or about 1890 the supply of "Specimen" stamps having run short, some impressions were struck from the plates which had been superseded by the Centennial series. These included the square 8d. yellow of 1855, the circular 5- purple of 1860 (Perkins Bacons's steel plates), and the 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., and 1- of De la Rue's electro plates. They were (with the exception of a few sets) surcharged with

the word "Reprint" in Roman Capitals in black, and may now be found on the "Specimen" sheets sold to collectors by the Postal Department. With regard to all of these reprints, there is absolutely no difference between them and the originals of the same types, values and perforations. The 5- is on the paper watermarked 5-, and the 8d. and De la Rue types are on the same Crown N.S.W. paper (type II) as was used for the originals. Of course the overprint is sufficient to distinguish the copies so surcharged, but the few uncancelled sets are identical with the originals. These were only intended for distribution amongst Postal Administrations, and as the number did not exceed 100, there is little chance of many coming into the possession of collectors. The perforations are:—

- 1d. red, 11 x 11½
- 2d. blue, 11 x 11½
- 4d. brown, 11 x 11½
- 6d. lilac, 10
- 8d. yellow, 11
- 1- black, 11 x 11½
- 5/- purple, 10

## FIVE SHILLING and 20 - SURCHARGED "POSTAGE."

The "Specimen" set above referred to contains the 5/- green and lilac, and the 20- carmine and lilac, (Stamp Duty surch. "Postage") with the word "REPRINT" in black. The 5/- has the word "Postage" in black, while on the 20/- it is in blue. Both are perf. 12x10. I strongly incline to the opinion that these stamps are not reprints at all, but merely remainders, as I saw a large quantity in stock at the Government Printing office in 1889, some time after the issue of the Centennial £1 stamp, and just prior to the issue of the 5/- of that series.

## O.S. REPRINTS.

When the O.S. stamp system was abolished (31st Dec., 1864), there were many inquiries for complete sets of the Official stamps, which, of course, could not be supplied, as the remainders in stock included only the then current types of ½d., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d., 4d., 6d., 7½d., 8d., 1-, 12½d., 5/-, and 1d. postcards. In order to gratify collectors and others who asked for complete sets, it was decided to reprint such of the values and types as were not in stock, and to furnish complete sets. As the face value of a set was nearly £6, and as this price would be beyond the reach of most collectors, it was decided to obliterate the stamps with an undated cancelling mark, consisting of the letters N.S.W. in three concentric ovals, and to sell the sets at £2 each. The obliteration was rendered necessary in order to comply with the Audit Regulations, which forbade the sale of uncancelled stamps at less than face value. One thousand sets were printed, and all were obliterated without a single exception.

(To be continued).

## Notes on New Issues.

\* \* \* We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

### THE AMERICAN COLONIES.

THE following interesting notes, contributed by Mr. J. M. Bartels to the *Metropolitan Philatelist* may be reprinted *verb. et lit.* :

*Cuba.*—At last progress is being made on the new designs for Cuba, and it was the privilege of the writer to see the approved designs of four of the denominations. From all appearance they will be a very creditable set, and we hope be quite a feather in the cap for the Bureau's artist. A more accurate description of them than has been published before, may be of interest.

1c. *green.* Statue of Columbus with one hand resting on a globe. At top CUBA in curve; CENTAVO at bottom with figure "1" at each side.

3c. Colour undecided. Allegorical statue of Cuba, La Cubana. CUBA at top; CENTAVOS at bottom, with figure "3" at each side as well as in upper corners.

5c. *dark blue.* Merchant vessel in full steam flying two flags, probably an American and a Cuban. CUBA at top in curve. Left side beautiful border with tall palms, at base of which is undergrowth with cordate shaped leaves; 5 CENTAVOS at bottom in straight line.

10c. Colour undecided. Man ploughing field with yoke of oxen. In background some tall straggling palms and farm houses. CUBA at top; 10 CENTAVOS at bottom in straight line.

The size is the same as the regular U.S.A. stamps.

Accompanying the designs was the following letter :

Sir,—I have the honour to submit herewith design for four denominations of the Cuban stamps, modified in accordance with your letter of the 10th ultimo, viz. : 1, 3, 5 and 10c. The designs for the 2c. stamp and the 10c. special delivery stamp are in hand, and as soon as they are finished they will be submitted for your approval. If you will examine the four designs submitted herewith and return them to me at your earliest opportunity, it will expedite the work of engraving the stamps.

Respectfully yours, CLAUDE M. JOHNSON."

*Hawaii.*—It is rumored that a special set of stamps is to be prepared for Hawaii, but nothing definite in this direction has been decided. U.S. surcharged stamps will probably never be used in this instance.

*Porto Rico.*—No action has been taken as yet in regard to the 8c. and postage due stamps for Porto Rico.

The following is taken from the *New York Sun* newspaper of May 4th :

*Guam.*—"When Capt. Richard P. Leary starts for Guam to assume his duties as Governor of the island, he will take with him a large supply of postage stamps to be used only on letters mailed in the island. These are like the ordinary stamps of the United States, except that each will be surcharged with the word "Guam." Capt. Leary had a conference with the Third Assistant Postmaster-General yesterday, and it was arranged that the stamps should be printed at once, as the Yosemite, which will convey Capt. Leary to his post, will start from New York on May 6th."

### NEW VENEZUELAN STAMPS.

Four cases of an entirely new set of stamps (writes Mr. J. M. Bartels, of Washington), have been shipped to Venezuela, and the first specimens are beginning to come back to this country. The set consists of five denominations as well as a registration stamp. All show the head of Bolivar and are similar in design to the previous issues. The denominations are 5, 10, 25 centimos, 1 and 2 bolivars. The registration stamps are somewhat larger than the rest of the set: 25 centimos, light brown with "Certificado" twice in addition to regular inscriptions, "Correos de Venezuela," value and

Centimos. The work is up to the usual standard of the American Bank Note Co. One of our collectors, Mr. R. S. Hatcher, has just returned from that country which he visited on official business in connection with the Post Office Department. He brought back with him a fine array of stamps including complete sets of all issues both used and unused of that country.

## Reprints, or not Reprints?

BY HARRY HILCKES.

MESSRS. SENF BROS., in the last number of the *I.B.J.* revert to this matter of the U.S.A. Newspaper and Periodical stamps, through their editor, Mr. Haas; but in our opinion do not touch the vital points. In order to get over the acknowledged fact that insufficient numbers of periodicals were in stock when the sale of the fifty thousand sets were ordered in December last, they say that no doubt thousands of sheets were returned by the various U.S. post offices and have to be added to the numbers published as being the actual remainders.

But why? Is it not far more likely, that when the Post Office resorted to counting the remainders they took ALL stamps into account which were in stock *after* the returns from the various postmasters were made. It must not be forgotten that the decision to sell fifty thousand sets was arrived at in December, 1898, and it is reasonable to suppose that when the stamps were then counted they included everything. The *Era* in addition states that a number of sheets were returned stuck together. The *I.B.J.* considers this absurd, but again, why? We distinctly remember that the first deliveries of the "Bureau of Engraving and Printing" were far from being satisfactory as to gum, and numerous complaints were received at that time that the stamps stuck together. This of course especially referred to the ordinary postal issues, but we believe that the watermarked series of the periodicals were printed at about that time, and if we further consider that they may have been lying at smaller post offices for a long time, it does not appear at all impossible that a large number of the stamps returned were spoilt as mentioned by the *Era*.

Now to the question of shade. Messrs. Senf take the five dollar Prussian blue and state that they have a copy of the stamp in this tint surcharged "Documentary" and post-marked 17th July, 1898. They further say that the members of the Washington congress had a set presented to them in June, 1897, surcharged "Postal Union Congress" also printed in Prussian blue. From this they deduce that the Prussian blue colour was used from at least June, 1897, to July, 1898. This of course is possible, but on the other hand were the periodicals used since June, 1897? If they were not, then the argument goes for nothing, and if they were then still in use the argument is of no value on the question of "Reprints or not Reprints" as it does not do away with the fact that only 155 copies of this stamp were left over. Whether the Prussian blue was ever used or not is immaterial as they might reprint as easily in one colour as in the other, and it is more likely that they should reprint in the last colour used *i.e.* the Prussian blue than take the first colour the Ultramarine blue; but we quite agree with Messrs. Senf, it is important to know (1) the date when the periodicals with watermark were issued, (2) when they were withdrawn, and (3) whether the figures given by the Government as actual remainders include stamps from all sources, and of course finally it should be possible once for all to ascertain beyond dispute whether a reprinting took place between December, 1898, and 25th February, 1899.

LOCAL stamp clubs and societies, which gave a very plentiful list of new formations a few years back, seem now for some reason or other to have come almost to a standstill. They serve to assist good-fellowship and at the same time promote philately in unexpected quarters. We should much like to see every town with anything like a decent population running its own properly-constituted society. So says the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, and so say all of us.

# Table of Indian Telegraph Stamps.

[WRITTEN FOR THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY BY WILMOT CORFIELD.]

(First printed on page 135, and now again given by special request, owing to typographical errors.)

PRIOR to the issue of Special Telegraph Stamps, payment was made across the counter by cash. It is also on record that from 1855 to 1859, ordinary stamped revenue papers were used as stamped telegraph forms in the case of messages despatched through a postal agency—the message being written on the paper below the stamp.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
Four annas	reddish mauve	1	17th Sept., 1857
One rupee.	ditto	1	ditto
Four rupees	ditto	1	ditto

*General Remarks.*—Engraved on steel and surface printed by De la Rue & Co. One inch wide and rather more than 2½ inches long. Medallion in centre with Queen's head to left. "Government of India Telegraph Department" round head. "Electric Telegraph" on band at top. Value on each side of head and on band at bottom. Enamelled paper. No wmk. The receipts given bore no part of the stamp. Remainders were surcharged in 1870 "Court Fees" for fiscal use. None were ever numerous, and the rupee values are now practically unprocurable.

## SECOND ISSUE. Double-headed Type. Upright.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
One anna	yellow green	1	21st Aug., 1878 <sup>a</sup>
ditto	ditto	2	2nd April, 1879
ditto	dark yellow green	3	30th March, 1882
Two annas	maroon (bluish paper)	1	23rd July, 1869
ditto	dark maroon	2	3rd May, 1883
Four annas	pale blue (bluish paper)	1	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	ditto	2	23rd July, 1869
ditto	ditto	3	(not registered)
ditto	deep bright blue	4	30th March, 1882
Eight annas	brown (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866
ditto	ditto	2	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	dark reddish brown (bluish paper)	3	2nd June, 1869
ditto	ditto	4	16th June, 1869
ditto	ditto	5	(not registered)
ditto	dark reddish brown	6	30th March, '82
One rupee	slate (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866 <sup>a</sup>
ditto	pale slate (ditto), 1st retouched die	2	16th June, 1869 <sup>b</sup>
ditto	dark slate (ditto)	3	9th Aug., 1876
ditto	ditto (ditto)	4	23rd Oct., 1878
ditto	ditto (ditto)	5	(not registered)
ditto	slate, 2nd retouched die	6	30th March, 1882 <sup>c</sup>
Two rupees, eight annas	orange yellow (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866
ditto	bright red orange (retouched die)	2	23rd Oct., 1878 <sup>d</sup>
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Five rupees	dull orange brown (bluish paper)	1	18th Dec., 1866
ditto	deep bright brown	2	30th March, 1882
ditto	ditto	3	30th March, 1882
Ten rupees	dull bluish green (blue paper)	1	10th Dec., 1866
ditto	bright bluish-green (retouched die)	2	15th April, 1878 <sup>e</sup>
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Fourteen rupees four annas	bright lilac	1	22nd Dec., 1869 <sup>f</sup>
Twenty-five rupees	dull lilac (bluish paper)	1	14th Dec., 1866 <sup>g</sup>
ditto	mauve (retouched)	2	4th July, 1877 <sup>h</sup>
ditto	ditto (ditto)	3	21st Dec., 1882
Twenty-eight rupees, eight annas.	bright yellow-green	1	22nd Oct., 1869 <sup>i</sup>

\*Remarks.—Issued as a result of the "word" tariff, adopted in 1876.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
Fifty rupees	rose	1	18th Dec., 1886
ditto	carminé rose (retouched die)	2	9th Sept., 1874 <sup>j</sup>
ditto	ditto ditto	3	30th March, 1882

<sup>a</sup> Date doubtful.

<sup>b</sup> Triangular ornamentation of spandrels and interstices double lined, fretwork finer and double lined in colour on white—not white on colour.

<sup>c</sup> As 1st retouch, fretwork but not the rest of ornamentation in white on colour with the addition of a small white dot below each angle formed by the lines of the fretwork. The whole stamp has a coarse appearance.

<sup>d</sup> Lines strengthened. Profile more distinctly outlined by a line of colour. Modifications in lines of hair and fish-tail of mouth.

<sup>e</sup> See note against 2 <sup>8</sup>/<sub>16</sub> retouched die.

<sup>f</sup> Used for European telegrams of ten words. Not withdrawn—but not reprinted.

<sup>g</sup> Marked varieties of shades.

<sup>h</sup> White floreate ornaments added after "Department" and "Rupees."

<sup>i</sup> Used for European telegrams of twenty words. Not withdrawn—but not reprinted. Two very distinct shades.

<sup>j</sup> Spaces holding ornamentation in spandrels and interstices reduced in size.

## GENERAL REMARKS ON DOUBLE-HEADED ISSUE.

All by De la Rue & Co. Rather less than 2 inches by 1 inch. Perf. 14. W.M.K. Large Crown over INDIA. Paper of 1869 not so blue as of 1866. Double-headed Queen (or Empress) to left. Various designs. Used also in Ceylon in the early days of Ceylon telegrams. Since 1869 the use of ordinary postage stamps has been allowed for telegrams sent from stations possessing no telegraph office, and, since 1885, at telegraph offices open in post offices. When postage stamps are used, the receipts retained by the public do not bear stamps, or portions of stamps.

## PROVISIONAL ISSUE.

Provisional issue bearing the surcharge "Telegraph" on oblong fiscal stamps, known as "special adhesives."

Value.	Colour.	Date of Registration.
One anna	blue or mauve	about March, 1882
Two annas	ditto	about Sept., 1881
Four annas	green	about May, 1882

*General Remarks.* Overprinted at Bombay and Calcutta. Three varieties of surcharge. Remainders recalled in March, 1883, and destroyed.

## THIRD ISSUE. Single-headed Type. Upright.

Value.	Colour.	Plate No.	Date of Registration.
One anna	dark yellow-green	1	6th March, 1890
Two annas	dark maroon	1	16th June, 1890
Four annas	pale blue	1	10th April, 1890
Eight annas	brown	1	6th March, 1890
One rupee	slate	1	6th March, 1890
Two rupees, eight annas	bright red-orange	1	10th April, 1890
Five rupees	deep bright orange brown	1	10th April, 1890
Ten rupees	yellow-green	1	24th July, 1890
Twenty-five rupees	bright mauve	1	7th May, 1890
Fifty rupees	carminé	1	7th May, 1890

*General Remarks.*—All by De la Rue & Co. Rather less than 2 inches by 1 inch. Perf. 14. W.M.K. Large Crown over INDIA. Value in numeral on upper half, Empress' head to left in lower. Various designs. Still current. Upper half returned to sender, lower retained by department as a precaution against fraud.

# TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



"MISTAKES will occur"—especially in a printing office. The talented printer's mephistopheles who handled the type of our article on Indian Telegraphs contrived to get the table of issues nicely muddled; and so, in fairness both to our readers and to the author of the article, Mr. Wilmot Corfield, we

reprint that portion of the paper in this issue of the *Fortnightly*.

\* \* \*

Space has so far been inadequate for the production of the letters we have received on the question of "Exchange Clubs: Are they worth the Candle?"

One well-known collector gives as the result of a six months' membership in one of the leading clubs. He supplies this eloquent table of realizations:

	Value of Sheet.			Amount Sold.			
	£	s.	d.	s.	d.		
July Packet	...	4	11	3	...	2	1
Aug. "	...	17	2	0	...	4	3
Sept. "	...	10	11	0	...	9	6
Oct. "	...	19	14	2	...	3	9
Nov. "	...	9	3	6	...	10	11
Dec. "	...	21	17	0	...	17	5½

A miserable return, truly; but of course it may well be objected that either the stamps were overpriced or that they were for the most part stamps that "nobody buys." In this connection, great interest and weight attaches to the letter of a well-known club secretary who ridicules the prices attached to stamps by some of the members of exchange societies. "What are you to do," he asks, "with a man who puts on his sheet, say, a used copy of the common 10 pfennig Bavaria and writes above it "superb, 4d."?

This of course is an exaggerated instance, but it well illustrates the absurd practice of overpricing by those people who set out with the idea of obtaining other folks' good stamps in exchange for their own very common ones. "A. J. C." says that much of the discontent one hears expressed is due to the fact that in many exchange clubs there are considerably more sellers than buyers, and that in fact, the term *exchange* packet is frequently a misnomer. It should be called an approval packet, for in a great number of cases it is practically on all fours with the "approval selections" sent out by dealers—nothing more, nothing less."

There are other letters, but their publication would serve no useful end. We trust, however, that the matter will not end here, but that other members who may have hints and suggestions to offer will write us on the subject, giving, where possible, concrete instances for or against.

Meanwhile, it is a pleasure to speak in commendation of the ingenious device of Mr. F. C. Fisher, of Bristol, not to prevent "substitution"—that has still to be invented—but to insure honesty in simple exchange transactions between collector and collector. Mr. Fisher's plan is to act as an "Exchange Mediator" to whom both parties to a transaction may despatch their sendings—stamps or cash as the case may be—and may both be sure that Mr. Fisher will not part with one or the other until the equivalent is to hand, when the exchange will be promptly completed. The "Mediator's" fee will be 2½ per cent. on catalogue value or 5 per cent. on cash. It is an excellent notion and we wish Mr. Fisher all success.

THE *Echo*, in the course of the usual journalistic par about Philately, states that the New South Wales "Disease" Gumpaps can now be bought at 6/- the pair. Don't all speak at once, ye speculators!

## Our Review of Reviews.

An Old Maker of Stamps.

*MEKEEL'S WEEKLY* quotes the following from the *Chicago Record*:-

New Haven, Conn., is the home of Augustus F. Lines, who claims to be the oldest postage stamp engraver living in America. Recently in looking over some of his old papers he discovered the original design for the famous New Haven postage stamp made by him in 1845. The die of the stamp was made by Mr. Lines that year, and he claims to have thus made the first die for a postage stamp to be used in the United States. A 3 cent "United States City Dispatch Post" stamp was in use in New York in 1842-3, however. In those days stamps were issued by individual cities, but were indorsed and even sometimes ordered by the national government. Not till 1847 did the government begin the more general issue of United States stamps. The New Haven stamp referred to was cut into a small block of brass and this was used to stamp all prepaid letters. A blank line was left on the stamp and on this line the postmaster signed his name. Mr. Lines was paid \$6 for the stamp die, which was ordered by Postmaster Edward A. Mitchell.

Peculiarity of the British £5 stamp.

Mr. H. C. Davis writes to *Ewen's Weekly Circular* pointing out that the statement that the sheets of the £5 British stamps are lettered AA to ND is incorrect. The lettering really runs from AA to DN.

With this one exception (the £5 stamp) the letter in the lower left hand corner of all British postage stamps invariably denotes its position in the vertical row of a sheet, and the opposite letter, its position in the horizontal row. This system was also adopted for all the Telegraph stamps except the £1 and £5 stamps. In these two cases the method is exactly the reverse, the stamp lettered BA, for instance, being the second in the top row of the sheet instead of the first in the second row. When the design of the former was adopted for the £1 postage stamp in 1884, the system of lettering was changed, but in the case of the £5 stamp, the old telegraph plate was adapted by cutting out the word "telegraph" and replacing it with "postage," and the expense would have been too great to alter also the lettering. Hence its want of uniformity with all other British postage stamps.

The "P.J.G.B.'s" Pot-Pourri.

Quite the most interesting permanent feature of the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, in our opinion, is the collection of news notes headed "Philately Month by Month." We could easily assimilate more of these provided we were given a little less about the "Correspondence Cards and other Entires of the Belgian Postal Service." From the issue dated May 10th—which, on the whole, is one of the best numbers of the *P.J.G.B.*, we have recently seen—we extract the following items:

In the present issue of Roumania exist two errors of 25 bani on every complete sheet of the 5 bani blue one on the left pane, the eighth stamp of the third row and one on the right pane, the first stamp of the eighth row.

Several values of the 1896, Commemorative Issue of Greece are at last sold out. The 1, 5 and 20 lepta values have been reprinted in the second type of head issue and have appeared perforated and imperforate.

The one florin Holland 1898 issue will shortly be on sale again. Thus the coronation stamp has been withdrawn only to facilitate the sale of the stamp of the same value of 1896.

In connection with the Van Dyck Tercentenary, which is to be celebrated at Antwerp in August next, 1,000,000 special postage stamps will be issued which will bear a portrait of the great painter from a drawing by Gerald Postelje.

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## THE NEXT

Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale

Will be held early in June, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if sent in immediately.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition.

Please note that :

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

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106-125]

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# Periodical Sales by Auction of RARE POSTAGE STAMPS

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

**JUNE 8th & 9th, a fine selection of**

**BRITISH, FOREIGN and COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS,** including the following:—

France, 1 franc, vermilion. Rare Oldenburgs. Ceylon, 8d. brown, imperforate, and 1/9 green. British Central Africa, entire unused sheets of 1st issue, 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 8d. and 1/- and later issues. British East Africa, on Company's Stamps, fine used blocks of various values. Zanzibar, ditto. St. Vincent, wmk. Star 5/-, unused; wmk. Star, 1d. drab, unused; C. and CA., 4d. blue unused. Newfoundland, 1/- carmine. Canada, 6d. perforated. United States, Periodicals, etc. Fine Sydney Views. Rare Queenlands, etc.; also a few old Collections.

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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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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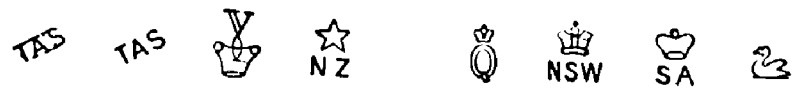
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[103-122]

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 [105 130]

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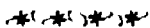
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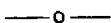
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[117-122]

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Approval willingly. References required. [104-123]

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103-123.]

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

No. 123—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

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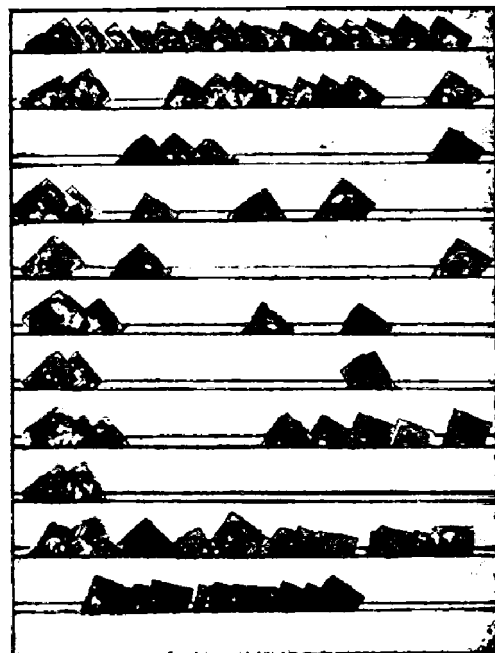
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1899.—Sept. 26th and 27th. Oct. 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th. Nov. 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd. Dec. 12th and 13th.  
1900.—Jan. 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th, 30th and 31st. Feb. 13th and 14th. March 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st. April 3rd and 4th, 24th and 25th. May 8th and 9th, 22nd and 23rd. June 12th and 13th.

OWING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

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The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

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ESTABLISHED 1794.

### Doings of Societies.

#### THE BRISTOL AND CLIFTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

##### A CORRECTION.

THERE was a slight slip in the report given in our issue of May 27th, in the passage referring to this Society's Exchange Packet. The next packet will be despatched during the first week in September, and Mr. J. P. Way, the Exchange Superintendent, informs us that he will be prepared to receive members' sheets not later than September 1st.

#### SURREY PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A MEETING will be held on Monday, June 26th (8 p.m.) at Riley's 30, High Street, Sutton. The President (E. J. Nankivell, Esq.,) will read a paper, "The Philatelic Organisation of Counties." All philatelists are invited.—Hon. Sec.—CHAS. B. JAMES, Cyprus Villa, Sutton.

#### 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.]

CHILIAN STAMPS.—Wholesale and retail. State wants. GEORGE BACK, Casilla, 149, Iquique, Chili.

OPEN TO OFFER.—40 sheets of stamps 30cts. Gibraltar; 5 sheets of *1/2a*. 1, and 2 sheets of *1/2s*. 2 last issue.—MANUEL F. MONTENEGRO, Market Street, Gibraltar. [127]

HOME COUNTIES EXCHANGE requires a few energetic members. Particulars of ARTHUR PRIEST, 6, Beaufort Road, Tottenham.

U.S.A. Used, 1868, grill, 90 cents (Stanley Gibbons Catalogue 40/-) Singles 15/-; Pairs 32/-; Four block £3 7s. 6d.—BENSON, 83, Windsor Road, Southport.

OTTERDALE STAMP EXCHANGE CLUB.—Members wanted (especially advanced collectors) no dealers. Rules etc. of the Secretary.—G. HERBERT DANNATT, Member Stamp Exchange Protection Society, "Lyndale," Blackheath, S.E.

WANTED, Good Collection. High price paid to any amount. References given.—COLLECTOR, 125, Fulham Road, London. [122-127]

E. G. BOOTH, Grahamstown, South Africa, has resumed stamp collecting and wants British West Indian in exchange for good South Africans Basis, Gibbons advanced collector, rubbish refused. Reference, this paper. [122-124]

MILLION STAMPS. Two Pounds; So Kensing Envelope, 10d.; Furniss Caricature, 10d., the pair 1/6; English Envelopes and overprinted stamps.—SANTON COMPANY, 35, Alwyne Villas, London.

CHEAPEST SETS. Lists gratis and post free. W. N. CULLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. [120-128]

COLLECTORS residing in Nevis, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Falkland Isles, Gibraltar. Wanted to exchange current stamps of their countries with stamps of India and Native States. Unused only required.—J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [120-125]

GENERAL Collectors having 1000-3000 different stamps, should write for selections at half Gibbons' or less; extra discount 7½ per cent. 10/-; 12½ per cent. 20/-; also rare stamps 40-60 per cent. below catalogue.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 8, Valentia Road, Brixton, London. [124]

BREAKING COLLECTION.—Suit advanced, medium and beginner. Half catalogue. Sheets on approval.—PEEKE, The Avenue, Wimborne, Dorset.

FOREIGN STAMPS.—One hundred different for Sale, 7d.—E. PULL, 60, Oxford Road, London, N.

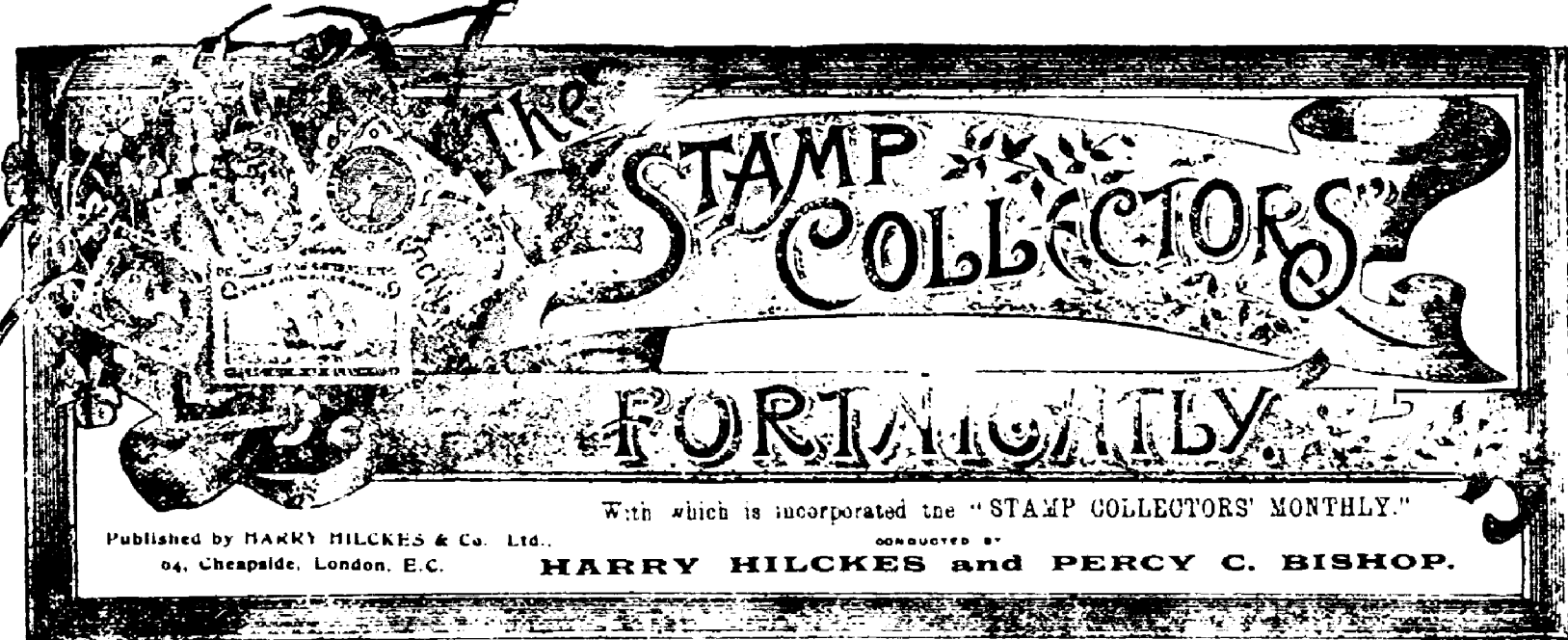
WHOEVER sends me 25-100 different stamps of any country will receive Austrian of equal value in exchange.—ANT. PRSKO, Chlumetz a/Cide Bohemia, Austria.

BARGAIN sets and packets of Queensland and Australian stamps; price lists free.—W. H. ROBINSON, Swan Hill, Brisbane, Queensland. [123-128]

BRITISH BECHUANALAND. Open to exchange large range obsolete varieties.—Address, W. HARBOR, Mochudi, South Africa. [123-128]

FINLAND AND RUSSIA. Sets cheap or exchange basis, Bright's 1899 Catalogue. State wants and offers to BUMÉ, Novotscherkaskaja, No. 1, Ochtá, St. Petersburg.

SPECIALISTS fine and almost complete collection of English in Ewen's Album for sale at under half of Morley's prices. Approval, subject to satisfactory references.—WHITWORTH, Greenbank, Waterloo, Liverpool.



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

Published by HARRY HILCKES & Co. Ltd.,  
104, Cheapside, London, E.C.

CONDUCTED BY  
**HARRY HILCKES and PERCY C. BISHOP.**

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE FOLLOWING SOCIETIES

The Liverpool Philatelic Society.

Bristol Philatelic Society.

Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.

The Edinburgh Philatelic Society.

Roochdale Philatelic Society.

Sheffield Philatelic Society.

Stamp Exchange Protection Society.

Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 123 — Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## THEFT OF STAMPS IN THE CITY.

IN the last issue of the *Fortnightly* was inserted a police notice regarding the theft of some thousands of Colonial and other stamps. The victim of theft, although this was not stated in the notice, was Mr. H. R. Shields of Little Britain. While that paragraph was actually in course of press, the police had been active, and the daily newspapers of May 26th, contained the ensuing report:

Harry Frank, 20, who described himself as a wood carver, living at 1, Cannon Street Road, E., was charged, at Guildhall, yesterday (May 25th,) with being concerned with another man (not in custody), in breaking and entering, on the 18th inst., No. 75, Little Britain, and stealing therefrom a cash-box containing a £5 note, an open cheque for £2, two bills for £30 and £26 respectively, about 20,000 foreign and colonial used and unused postage stamps, and other property, to the value of about £110, belonging to Henry Ross Shields.

Constable Staff, of the H division, deposed that he saw the prisoner on Wednesday morning in a second-hand shop—44, St. George's Street, E.—where he offered some stamps for sale. Having prisoner's description in his pocket, witness questioned him, when he said that he had a great many correspondents in New York and Johannesburg, and that for years he had been saving the stamps off their letters. Detective-Sergeant Danning said he found about 4,000 stamps on the accused. He believed he had been previously convicted, and therefore asked for a remand.

Prisoner: Commit me to the coming Sessions.  
The Alderman remanded him.

On Thursday, June 1st, Frank was again placed in the dock at the Guildhall, before Sir Horatio Davies. A number of previous convictions were proved against the accused, and it was stated that he was now out on a convict's licence. Detective-Sergeant Danning said there was no evidence to connect the prisoner with the actual theft. The bank notes had been paid, but could not be traced to him. The accused however, pleaded guilty to being in unlawful possession of stamps, well knowing them to have been stolen, and Sir Horatio Davies sentenced him to six months' hard labour.

## DEATH OF A FAMOUS DRESDEN COLLECTOR.

A good philatelist, one of the old school, is lost to us by the death of Herr Winzer, of Dresden. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, purchased his superb collection in 1894 for the sum of £3,000, and issued a catalogue of the principal rarities contained therein. Herr Winzer (the *London Philatelist* reminds us) had been a member of the Dresden Philatelic Society since October, 1883, and had for several years filled the important offices of Superintendent of the Society's Library and Controller of the Exchange Department. Since the sale of his collection Herr Winzer, doubtless from his age and declining health, had practically retired from Philately, but his name will long be remembered as that of the holder of one of the best general collections ever made in the Fatherland.

## A STAMP DEALER FOUR TIMES BURCLED.

OUR sympathies go out to Mr. George Blockey, stamp dealer, of 54, Pine Street, Adelaide, South Australia. Since February, Mr. Blockey has had his shop broken into four times. On each occasion the back window panes were broken and the catch lifted. Three boys were the culprits in the first instance, and they were apprehended when they tried to dispose of some stamps, £20 worth of which they had stolen. The stamps were recovered, and Mr. Blockey did not take proceedings for the sake of the parents. Other burglaries followed on March 24th, April 4th and April 18th, and in all between £50 and £60 worth of stamps were taken. With the aid of Detective Frazer, Mr. Blockey was able to trace the last two boys, aged 14 and 15 years respectively, who were tried in the Justices' Room by Mr. J. Gordon, S.M., on Monday, and sent to the Reformatory until they are 18 years old. Nearly all the property has been recovered.

## THE "FIND" OF STAMPS AT THE G.P.O.

WHAT has become of that great, nay, sensational, "find" of stamps in the Secretary's Department of the G.P.O., London? A great fuss was made at the time, but nobody

at any moment has seemed inclined to descend to vulgar details on the subject. Mr. Castle, however, tells us in the London Society's organ that, although, as at first stated, a considerable number of the older and more valuable English stamps *were* found, all were overprinted "SPECIMEN." At a recent sale by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson (Mr. Castle adds) about a dozen octagonals, unused, were sold, which, by the pin-holes and dirt thereon, revealed the fact that they had been fastened on to letters or memoranda, and these may have emanated from such a source as that indicated in the daily press. A few of these stamps had, where they were unsevered, fortunately escaped the mutilating pin, and realised in consequence good prices.

#### REMAINDERS OF SERBIA, 1890 ISSUE.

More trafficking in remainders. A Budapest worthy, whose business enterprise is greater than his knowledge of the English language, sends us a circular offering the remainders of the 1890 issue of Serbia, which he has purchased from "the royal government" of that country. The buyer is seeking to sell the stamps in £10 lots, and we cordially advise our readers who may receive copies of the circular to keep their £10 notes for something better.

#### HOW WILL FEDERATION AFFECT PHILATELY?

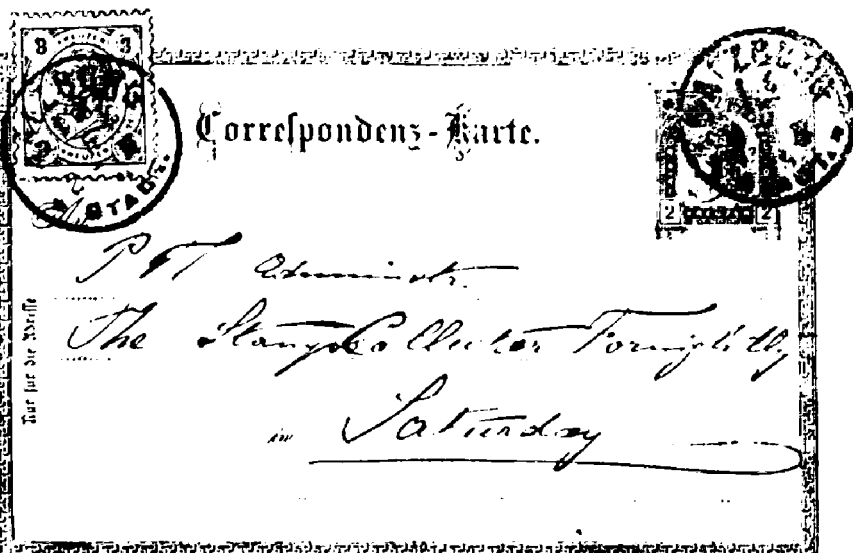
Discussing the question of Australian Federation, Mr. A. F. Basset Hull writes: Of course the influence of Federation on philately will be far-reaching indeed; the separate issues of the six Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Western Australia, will give way to a uniform series for the whole Commonwealth, and a convenient stopping place will be provided for specialists who wish to limit their sphere of collecting.

#### PHILATELY IN "THE GOLD REEF CITY."

We have received a neat booklet giving the rules, list of officers, &c., of the Johannesburg Philatelic Society, the very live organisation of philatelists founded on May 1st of this year. The committee appears to be exceptionally strong, and to represent Boers and Britishers alike. We doubt not that these will pursue their philatelic studies in perfect amity, and without the slightest fear of unfriendly treatment at the hands of Oom Paul's stalwarts. There are no Uitlanders in Philately.

#### A SACACIOUS POST-CARD.

We have been addressed at various times in various curious ways, but we think it may be said without exaggeration that the post-card photographed below has established quite a record of its own:—



"The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, Saturday"—what a direction! Great credit is due, firstly to the Austrian postal official who, knowing the word Saturday to be English, sent the card along to England; and, secondly, to the home authorities who brought it to 64, Cheapside, without the slightest delay. The cause of the trouble is, of course, the fact that the word "Saturday" appears on the FORTNIGHTLY'S wrapper in the place where one might perhaps expect the name of the town of issue to be prefixed to the publishing date.

## A Proposal for a Catalogue for Collectors

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON,  
ON MARCH 17TH, 1899.

BY EDWARD J. NANKIVELL.

IN setting forth a proposal for the compilation of a Catalogue for Collectors, I do not wish to undervalue the splendid price lists published by dealers, which have hitherto served the double purpose of trade price lists and guides to collecting.

What I wish to emphasise is the fact that stamp collecting has now taken such a firm hold upon all classes of the community as to be regarded as one of the most delightful of the many hobbies which serve to divert the attention of the busy man and provide a pastime for the man of no occupation. Its adherents now include some of the keenest business men of the day, some of the most exalted in the State, and some of the most studious. The result is that we are every year more and more efficiently gathering up and piecing together the postal history of every stamp-issuing country. Hence it follows that Philatelists have become the real historians of the introduction and the development of the Postal Service of the world.

Under these circumstances I submit that it is somewhat of an anomaly that we should continue to depend solely upon dealers' price lists for the publication, in catalogue form, of the results of our studies and researches.

The excellent price lists which the leading dealers now publish have unquestionably been brought to a most commendable state of perfection—as price lists. But as Catalogues for Collectors, as guides to collecting, they are lacking in not a few very important essentials.

The dealer provides a price list for the sale of his goods, and he naturally compiles it with that view.

In some countries we have a wealth of detail in the matter of perforation, printing, and surcharge; in other countries but little attention is paid to these matters. There is, in fact, and in the nature of the case, an utter lack of proportion in the price lists of the day, regarded from the purely Philatelic standpoint. This is so apparent to the most ordinary collector that I need not labour the point by drawing invidious comparisons.

What the collector wants is a Catalogue that shall deal exhaustively with every country, whether it be a popular selling country or a much-neglected State.

A dealer may justifiably economise space when dealing with countries for the stamps of which there is no commensurate demand. But the Philatelist can have no such excuse, and it somewhat reflects upon us as Philatelists that we have not before this set to work to remedy an admitted defect.

The need of a Catalogue for Collectors by collectors is every day becoming more and more pressing. In the price lists there is an undue straining after varieties in the case of popular countries, a multiplication of infinitesimal oddities, that is doing much mischief to the true interests of collecting.

Given a popular country and an enthusiastic specialist with a microscopic vision, and you may ruin the most promising and enjoyable country by over-elaboration. More than one splendid country has been smothered with infinitesimal varieties. If we follow the road some specialists would lead us, we shall some day come to collect by microscope. We shall have Die I., Die II., Die III., and dies innumerable, till we die altogether, prematurely hastened into our graves by racking endeavours to differentiate between varieties which even the most powerful microscopes fail to make satisfactorily clear.

Can we remedy this state of things? I contend that we can, and that we should do so without further delay by the publication of a Catalogue prepared and issued by collectors for collectors, and published with the authority and *imprimatur* of the Philatelic Society of London.

My proposal would embody the production of a Catalogue that should be unpriced, that should deal exhaustively and in proper proportion with every country, and that should serve

alike the purposes of the beginner, the advanced collector, and the specialist. This may seem a large order, but, properly managed, it may easily come within the scope of a society which commands so much Philatelic talent as our own society embraces within its roll of membership.

As to the *modus operandi*. I would form a large committee of, say, a dozen or twenty of our leading members, including, of course, the members of the Publishing Committee. The committee should be large, so as to be able to delegate portions of the work to sub-committees of its own body. This committee should have its elected chairman, an editor, and an energetic secretary.

The duty of the committee would be to prepare a draft of a Catalogue which, as I have said, should deal exhaustively, and in proper proportion, with every country down to the end of 1900. This draft should be set up in type and supplied in proof form to the regular attendants at our meetings, and to any other members or collectors whose desirable co-operation could be secured. The recipients of those proofs should examine, criticise, and make suggestions. To further revise the lists and ensure their accuracy I would reinstitute our reference list meetings. At those meetings the lists should be examined in detail, and members having had the opportunity of previously examining and criticising the proof should be able to help materially in the work of perfecting the details of the Catalogue. The co-operation of specialists should be invited in order that the Catalogue should be as comprehensive as the closest study could make it. The work of final revision and the examination of suggestions and corrections would of course rest with the committee, who would finally decide what to omit and what to include after taking note of the evidence gathered together as the result of the circulation of the proofs.

In order to make it available for the beginner, the advanced collector, and the specialist alike, the normal issues should be set up in large type, say long primer, and the varieties in small type, say nonpareil. The beginner would collect by the large type the normal issues, and the advanced collector and specialist would take in the small type as well.

The illustrations should all be of the very best quality, and specially done for the Catalogue, each stamp being in its natural size, and every type, whether of design or surcharge, should be clearly illustrated.

The cost of production will no doubt bulk up heavily. The printing of proofs and the subsequent correction of those proofs, and the preparation of the thousands of illustrations which would be necessary, would total up to a very considerable item. I do not wish to minimise either the labour or the expense which it will entail.

But despite all these drawbacks, properly managed it would be a source, not of loss, but of very considerable profit to our Society. Taking it from the strictly pecuniary point of view, it would not be too much to say that it would be certain to secure a very large circulation. Personally, I should be disappointed at anything under a circulation of 5000 copies, for it would be in demand wherever there is an English-speaking collector. It would therefore have an unquestionable value as an advertising medium, and I estimate that the advertisements would cover the cost of production, and that the sales would be net profit.

Finally, the question arises, "Is the game worth the candle?" It seems to me that it is.

To a Society like ours the effort should be worth the making. It would be no small gain to Philately if we produced a work that should truly and comprehensively register the high-water mark which we have reached in the study of the postal issues of the world; that should set out, in form as serviceable to the beginner as to the specialist, the normal issues and the true varieties of every country; that should include all true type varieties and weed out the infinitesimal and the accidental; and that should discriminate between genuine postal issues and worthless speculative issues.

Such a Catalogue, I venture to say, would satisfy the cravings of the beginner and the specialist alike, would settle disputed points of varieties, once and for all, for dealer as well as for collector; for the *imprimatur* of the Society to such a

work would in the end establish an undeniable authority for the dictum of the Catalogue.

I feel certain that it would redound to the credit of this Society, that it would establish more firmly than ever its claim to the sympathy and respect of the Philatelic world. And there is no question that it would give stamp collecting an impetus that would be felt in the years to come. It would put an end to perplexities that puzzle us; it would settle questions that vex us, for it would be the final court of Philatelic appeal. We should free Philately from the thralldom of the price list, from the domination of the trader, and give it a better and truer and freer status as a pleasure-yielding pursuit.—*London Philatelist*.

### Stray Jottings from all Quarters.

AMONG the latest philatelic accessories is a stamp-washing machine, emanating from Germany.

THE dealer who in these days of skilfully mended stamps palms off a defective specimen on an innocent buyer does himself a permanent injury to make a temporary gain.—*Mekel's Weekly*.

NEARLY every week new issues are making old ones, remarks a philosopher in *Mekel's Weekly Stamp News*.

THE way that English postage stamps get into circulation is simple. When a local postmaster wants to replenish his store he sends a requisition to Somerset House, and in return receives a parcel of stamps. Somerset House informs the General Post Office of the transaction, and the postmaster also acknowledges the receipt of the stamps in a daily return which he has to make to St. Martin's le-Grand. The postmaster has to take his own precautions against theft, for the stamps are charged to him and he has to account for them in his daily balance-sheet.

THE W. H. Hollis Company, well known dealers of San Francisco, are insolvent. Stories greatly to the discredit of the firm have been published in the American newspapers.

"OUR own experience," writes the Editor of the *Philatelic Journal of India*, "amidst the out-cry about the 'slump' in stamps has always been that it was precisely the stamps we wanted that had somehow escaped the slump."

JAMAICA has decided to join in the Imperial Penny Postage arrangement, and will become a member of the union on the Queen's birthday. The new stamps will bear a view of Jamaican scenery. It is estimated that there will be a loss for the first year of about £1,500.

THE smallest letter that ever went through the New York Post Office has recently been mentioned in the American press. It is just the size of a two-cent stamp, about five-eighths by three quarters of an inch in size. There was no room on the front side of the envelope for the address, which was written on the back. The little letter is just half an inch wide by eleven-sixteenths of an inch long. It has four pages and is neatly written, perfectly legible without a microscope, and contains 134 words.

THE following delightfully innocent par (says *Stamps*, of Calcutta) is included among the "rules" of a certain philatelic society we met of: "All amateur collectors of stamps are eligible for ordinary membership. No dealer in stamps shall be so eligible, and any member becoming a dealer shall *ipso facto* cease to be a member." This being so, this particular society should *ipso facto* cease to exist, as most of its shining lights are hole-and-corner dealers pure and simple, or as some one or other terms them "private philatelic sharks."

### General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays at 64, Cheapside, London, E.C. 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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Whole Page	5	0	0	Whole Page	1	0	0
Half Page	2	15	0	Half Page	2	5	0
Quarter Page	1	10	0	Quarter Page	do	1	5
One-Eighth Page	0	15	0	One-Eighth Page	do	0	15

## The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JUNE 10, 1899.



We regret that we must briefly revert to the attacks made upon the business of our publishers, Mr. F. L. Hoygate, Messrs. Harry Hukes & Co., Limited, by Mr. F. L. Hoygate. The articles on this subject in Mr. Hoygate's paper are apparently to be regarded as a serial matter. It is barely because some of our busier readers may attach a little credence to some of the lies and—what are considerably more malicious—the half lies published that we again refer to this matter. And all we have now to say is this: that our Mr. Harry Hukes has been occupied for some time past in negotiating a business operation of great magnitude; involving £200,000 worth of properties, that he will be busied upon this for some six weeks to come, and that after that period, supposing Mr. Hoygate's little journal to be still in existence, Messrs. Hukes & Co., will give Mr. Hoygate rather more "answer" than he may desire.

Furthermore we have to repeat that we shall not in any way reply to these attacks in the columns of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

We have dealt at some length with Mr. Nankivell's proposal of a Collectors' Catalogue compiled for collectors by collectors—and the article on the subject quoted elsewhere in this number from the *London Philatelist* will be read with interest and attention by every philatelist who has experienced the want of a really reliable catalogue. We go further than Mr. Nankivell. We think that even a *private* catalogue compiled by amateurs is a desideratum and by no means an impossibility.

### NOTES ON THE STAMP MARKET.

MR. CHARLES PERDON, of Lambeth, sends us a home-printed "Monthly Circular," listing albums, handbooks, sets of stamps and "special bargains."

With the catalogue of his last sale—the 152nd—held on Wednesday last, at the Arbitration Room, Mr. W. Hadlow sent out a circular stating that that would be his last for the season 1898-99. He will be glad to renew business with the philatelic world after the summer interval, and we are quite sure that the philatelic world will be equally glad to renew business with Mr. Hadlow.

## Asked and Answered.

BY READERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

It is open to any reader to ask or answer questions, and for the best acceptable reply, or replies, we shall award a prize of half-a-crown's worth of stamps selected from our publishers' books or lists.

We cordially invite our readers to join us in making this "Asked and Answered" column, one of real interest and utility.

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED.

19.—Can any collector provide a really good and cheap method of cleaning those stamps that will not bear washing, such as the early Russians and stamps printed in vegetable inks?

To clean these, place the stamp *face* downwards on a sheet of clean paper, and with a camel hair brush, well damped with tepid water, rub the gummed portion gently to and fro. The gum will dissolve and can then be easily removed with a damp sponge. Take care to keep the stamp always well fixed to the sheet of paper so that the face of the stamp may not become wet. Embossed stamps can be cleaned by scraping the gummed portion gently with a penknife, or by rubbing it with the finest emery or sand paper. On no account should any of these stamps be immersed. —J.P.

### QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED.

14.—Was there any special reason for the creation of two types of what is known as the "De la Rue colonial type"?

21. How may one distinguish between the Cape Triangulars of 1855-58 and the issue of 1863-64?

22. To what extent does scarceness effect the values of stamps? Supposing there are, say, ten thousand of one kind issued or in existence, what should be the market price of a single specimen?

A Prize of 2s. 6d. in stamps, to be selected from our publishers' books or lists, is awarded to Mr. J. P. Cameron, Hollybush, Georgetown, Jersey.

All letters containing questions or replies should be addressed to the Editors, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

In future this feature of the FORTNIGHTLY will make its appearance in alternate numbers. It will not then unduly encroach on other matter, and more time will be given to those readers (and we hope their numbers will increase and multiply), who elect to ask and answer questions through this medium.

"Pricks of the postage stamp" again! Mary Keetch, wife of a night watchman, of Harrostead, injured her right arm, and applied a piece of stamp paper to the wound. She, however, got worse, and died at the Dispensary, after her arm had been amputated. At the inquest the medical officer suggested that the stamp paper had caused blood poisoning.

**PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING June 24th, 1899.**  
London Auctions.

June 22nd and 23rd—Messrs. Plimridge & Co., 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, W.C., at 5 p.m. sharp.

June 27th and 28th—Messrs. Patrick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day.

Provincial Auctions.

July 3rd—Messrs. Osara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 6.30 p.m. precisely.



# Australian Reprints.

By A. E. BASSET HULL.

I.—NEW SOUTH WALES.—Continued.

Nine hundred sets bore the cancellation above described, and 100 were obliterated with G.P.O. in three concentric ovals, for gratis distribution to other postal administrations. The issue took place in August, 1895. Owing to the representations made both in Sydney and England by advanced philatelists, it was decided in March, 1896, to cease the sale of these sets, and the stock on hand was destroyed. The remainder of the sets prepared for gratis distribution were overprinted "Specimen" in addition to the obliteration.

The following is a list of the reprinted varieties found in the obliterated set:

ADHESIVE STAMPS.					
Value.	Colour.	Type.	Watermark.	O.S. in.	Perf.
1d.	Red	Queen's Head	Large Crown N.S.W.	Black	12
2d.	Blue	"	"	"	11 x 11 1/2
3d.	Green	"	"	Red	10
4d.	Brown	"	"	Black	11 x 11 1/2
5d.	Green	"	"	Red	10
5d.	"	"	"	Black	10
6d.	Lilac	"	"	"	10
8d.	Yellow	"	"	Red	11
8d.	"	"	"	Black	10
9d.	Brown	"	Small Crown N.S.W.	"	12
10d.	Lilac	"	"	10	10
1s.	Black	"	Large Crown N.S.W.	Red	11 x 11 1/2
5/-	Purple	"	5/- N.S.W.	Black	12
5/-	Lilac & green	"Postage" surcharged	5/- N.S.W.	"	11
*10/-	"	carmine	"	"	10
20/-	"	"	"	"	11
5/-	Violet	Map	5/- N.S.W.	Red	12
20/-	Blue	Centennial	5/- N.S.W.	Black	11 1/2
20/-	Blue	"	20/- N.S.W. in circle	"	10
4d.	Grey	Surcharged	Large Crown N.S.W.	"	11 x 11 1/2

POST CARDS.		
Value.	Colour.	Description.
1d.	Pink	Small size, without watermark
1d.	"	Large size, with watermark
1d.	Purple	With arched inscription

STAMPED ENVELOPES.		
Value.	Color.	Description.
1d.	Red	O.S. overprinted in black
2d.	Blue	"
1d.	Red	O.S. inserted in four angles
1d.	Purple	O.S. overprinted in black
2d.	Blue	"
1d.	Purple	O.S. inserted in upper angles
6d.	Lilac	"
6d.	Rose red	"
2d.	Blue	"
4d.	Brown	"
3d.	Green	"

The other O.S. stamps which became obsolete just before the issue of the obliterated set were also included, but as they were then in stock, and specimens were subsequently sold in quantity, unissued, at face value, those in the set were really originals. They consisted of the 3d. (Queen's Head, black O.S.), the Centennial 1d., 2d., 4d., 6d., 8d., 1s., and 5/- with black O.S.; the Postal Union series of 3d. (permanent type), 2 1/2d., 7 1/2d., and 12 1/2d., and the 1d. post card.

In order to arrive at a decision as to the status of any doubtful O.S. stamp, the following points should be taken into consideration:

1.—All O.S. reprints, without a single exception, were obliterated with "N.S.W." or "G.P.O." in three concentric

ovals in black, placed in the centre of each block of four stamps. Every reprint, therefore, will bear some portion of one of these obliterations in one of the corners.

2.—Uncancelled O.S. stamps are necessarily originals.

3.—Many of the varieties of the reprints are infinitely rarer than the originals of the same types; for instance, the 1d. red, 2d. blue, 3d. brown, 6d. lilac, 8d. yellow (black surcharge) and 1s. black.

4.—On the other hand, originals of the "Postage" surcharged series, the 5/- Centennial (Map) with red surcharge, and the 20/- blue with either watermark, are rarer than the reprints, and any copies should be regarded with suspicion and carefully examined.

5.—Fraudulent postmarks may be placed over the official obliteration, but it is difficult to entirely conceal its presence without a very heavy cancellation which would spoil the appearance of the stamp.

6.—The presence of the original gum, together with a cancellation is suspicious.

7.—Even if a postcard or envelope were "completed" by the addition of an address, &c., the obliteration, which consists of one of the above-described marks in its entirety, would proclaim its character, as if properly posted it would bear a date stamp in addition.

## NEW ZEALAND.



So far as I am aware, none of the stamps of this Colony have been reprinted. Copies of the 1d. brown, 2d. vermilion, 6d. blue, and 1s. green of 1871—2, with watermark star, and the 3d. yellow without watermark, are still met with in an unused condition or marked "Specimen." But these are stated to be remainders unissued on the appearance of the 1874 series, and subsequently distributed as specimens.

## QUEENSLAND.

About the middle of 1895, reprints were made from Perkins and Bacon's steel plates of the 1d., 2d., 3d., 6d., 1s., and registered stamps. These are printed on the paper watermarked with a small truncated star, and the word "QUEENSLAND" in single-lined Roman capital, repeated four times across the sheet of 240 stamps. The impressions all show signs of wearing in the plates, the colouring is rich, and the perforation is 12 1/2. The following are the shades:—



- 1d. orange vermilion.
- 2d. dull blue.
- 3d. light brown.
- 6d. grass green.
- 1s. purple (with slight reddish tinge).
- Registered, orange yellow.

With regard to the registered stamp, the watermark is quite a sufficient test, as originals were never printed on the truncated star paper. In the case of the other values the perforation should be an indication, if carefully gauged, as the originals were perf. 15 or 12.

Attention may be called to the fact that about the same time as the above described reprints appeared, some sheets of the same values, excepting the Registered, were discovered. These were said to have been rejected on account of their colour not being in accord with the accepted shades. They should have been destroyed upon rejection, but in some manner they were overlooked. It is believed that they were printed in 1877 or 1878; they are on Crown Q paper, and perforated 12. The values and colours are:

\* This reprint is on white paper, originals are on black.



1d. rose-vermillion.  
2d. dull blue.  
3d. ultramarine.  
5d. light brown.  
6d. emerald green.  
1/2 grey-lilac.

I have never seen originals in the shades of those marked, but the others are not distinguishable from some of the originals. These stamps appear to have been transferred to "Specimen" stock for presentation to other postal administrations, and I have seen the set both in cancelled, and obliterated with a small single-line ring in black, placed in the centre of each block of four stamps. While these stamps cannot be called reprints, they are hardly entitled to the term originals, at least so far as the shades marked are concerned. The others, perhaps, might be passed as reprints.

There are also some perforated and obliterated proofs of the same series sometimes met with. I have seen the red-vermillion, 3d. deep brown, 5d. yellow (dithyographic), 6d. yellow green, and 1/2 purple, together with several of the Stamp Duty series, on thick, soft, white in-watermarked paper, perf. 12, and obliterated either with the number 214 in the centre of a series of parallel bars, or with a ring obliteration, similar to that found on the "rejected colours."

These two latter series are merely mentioned here because collectors who meet with the actual reprints will in all probability find the others not far off, and may feel inclined to class them all as reprints.

(To be continued)

## The Stamps of the German Colonies.

THE *Philatelic Monthly and World* remarks on the paucity of information published concerning the stamps of the various German Colonies; and itself proceeds to furnish the following very interesting and valuable notes:—

The new "China" series of surcharged German stamp dates from January, 1898, for the values of 5, 10, 20, 25 and 50 pf. The 3 pf. postage stamp was not issued at first, and only since January, of this year, a small quantity of stamps of 4 pf. was sent to Shanghai and Tientsin. This value can only be employed in sending circulars or newspapers between the two cities just mentioned.

German East Africa was the first German colony to receive postage stamps of its own, mainly because of the different currency used in that country. The first issue—1893—without the name of the colony consisted of the following values: 2 pesas on 4 pf. brown; 3 p. on 5 pf. green; 5 p. on 10 pf. red; 10 p. on 20 pf. blue; and 25 p. on 50 pf. red-brown. The second issue, 1896, consist of the same values surcharged "Deutsch Ostafrika," and a new value diagonally across the stamp.

There is but one Post Office on the Marshall Islands Archipelago, Jaluit. This explains why 3 and 25 pf. stamps are entirely superfluous. As a matter of fact only the 10 and 20 pf. stamps have ever been seen used, and it is not known definitely whether the 5 and 50 pf. have ever reached the Islands. Since the Spanish American conflict the former trade route from Europe (Caroline) has ceased to exist and Jaluit has now only irregular and occasional steamer connection with Sydney. There is only one steamer every two months between Jaluit and German New Guinea.

Of German South-west Africa there are two distinct issues. The name of the colony in the first reads "Deutsch Süd-west-Afrika," in the second "Deutsch Südwestafrika." Of the former, 1897, only the 3, 5, 10 and 20 pf. were ever issued in that colony. There was no use for a stamp of 25 pf. and 50 pf. postage stamp was only ordered after the second issue was circulated. The second issue was prepared in the fall of 1898. The first values to appear with the second line of the inscription in one word were the 10 and 50 pf. in October, 1898 and the 28 of on December 7th. No 25 pf. postage stamp has ever been introduced into the colony, and the 3 and 5 pf. postage stamps have not as yet been issued to the colonies for there is a sufficient stock of the first issue on hand. Full sets of the second issue were obtained from the Berlin Colonial office and cannot come from the colony; yet some German catalogues quote this set new or used.

## Our Review of Reviews.

Where will the 50,000 "Periodical" Sets go to?

THE *Evangelical State Philatelist*, an old friend from the top left hand corner of the United States, raises an interesting point in regard to the matter of the U. S. A. "Periodical" sets, viz. —Where will all the sets go to?

During the lifetime of the *Evangelical* (says our contemporary) many "boom editions" of five and six thousand copies have been mailed and during the flourishing days of national societies not over 3000 different addresses could be secured from the newspaper lists. A specialty list always been made of our sample copy list, securing all the names possibly obtainable, it is extremely hard to keep a list up to 10,000. We doubt if there are 15,000 active collectors speaking the English language known to the termites, and how many outside of this number will purchase a set of Periodicals at five dollars, although some will purchase several? But to the end, where is the demand for 50,000 sets coming from? *It has been asserted that more than that number have been put on sale.*

The italics are our own. This statement that more than 50,000 sets were offered, is cropping up in various quarters with strange persistency. We should like to get at the true facts.

The Circular Cashmires are they Forgeries?

As a sequel to Mr. D. P. Masson's startling article on the Die I. Cashmere, it will be interesting to give the remarks now made by Major Evans in the *Monthly Journal*.

Our appeal for information as to the history of any specimens of Dies I. of the Half Anna and One Anna stamps, of the first issue of January, 1875, we are sorry to say, met with absolutely no response; we are therefore without any evidence either to prove or to disprove the very serious allegations against the character of these varieties that have been brought by some of our friends in India, who have made the stamps of this State a special study. We think it only right, however, to lay the matter before our readers without further delay, so that they may understand, as far as we can explain it to them, the present state of the case, and may be wiser that the position of these types is doubtful, to say the least of it.

It is a matter of common knowledge that, for many years past, two distinct types of the 1/2 Anna and 1 Anna stamps of the series in question have been recognised by collectors: both types of each value were believed to be equally genuine, and one type of each (the one whose authenticity is now called in question) is of very considerable rarity. At what precise date impressions of these particular types first came into the hands of collectors we have not been able to ascertain, and this is one of the difficult points in the case, but it is certain that the fact that there were two types of the 1/2 Anna (then supposed to be the 1/2 Anna stamp) was noticed by Mr. Pennington as early as 1872, on examining the collection of Mr. Legrand, and the latter showed, in a paper read before the Société Française de Numismatique, in December, 1875, that there were also two types of the 1 Anna. No one seems to have had any doubt as to genuineness of these types; it was by any means improbable that two types or more might exist, seeing the number of types of the rectangular stamps that were known. Both types were printed upon the native paper, and we have no real doubt that both types came from India; and finally, the few people who were able to read the characters upon the stamps seem to have found those upon one type as easy to read as those upon the other. In point of fact Dr. Legrand, in his paper of November, and December, 1875, treated these Dies I. of the two values, and the single die of the third value as one (the original series, and actually thought it necessary to refer to postmarked specimens of Dies II. to prove that the latter had really been in use, and apparently at as early a date as the Dies I. Thus the case has remained all these years; there was, as we have stated, no improbability in the theory of two types of two of the values, and indeed since we have known that these were the two lower values the theory has been all the more probable. It is evident that Dr. Legrand considered that Dies I. were in use at least as early as Dies II., and when it was found that all the recent importations of these two values were impressions of Dies II., while impressions of Dies I. remained extremely scarce, it became natural to suppose that these were the first issue, and that second dies had been made to supply the increased demand. We had no specimens on original envelopes, with dated postmarks, to guide us in those days, it appeared to be certain that Dies I. were of early

date, and, as we said, Dr. Legrand desired to show that Dies II. were also early and were not new dies, made after Dies I. had been lost or destroyed and solely for philatelic purposes. For we believe there can be no doubt that the circular stamps were practically obsolete and superseded by the rectangular as early as 1876, and it is more than probable that, although they must have again been in fairly common use later, their reissue was due to the constant demand for them by collectors and dealers. Thus we see that, far from there being any suspicion as to the Dies I. the question was whether the Dies II. impressions of which were coming over in some profusion, were not of doubtful originality.

Within the last few years the stamps of Cashmere have been pretty closely studied on the spot, and it is only within the last few years that they have thus been studied, under circumstances which afforded collectors opportunities of learning something more than could be gathered from the importations, mostly of unused copies, which had alone been at the disposal of European philatelists. Foremost amongst those students in India has been Mr. D. P. Masson, C.I.C., to whose indefatigable researches collectors of the stamps of the Native States of India owe a vast amount of information, the importance of which is not yet fully understood over here. It was soon shown that Dies II. were in use at a very early date in the period of Cashmere issues, and it appeared that if there were two genuine types the order usually assigned to them should be reversed. But this was not altogether a new thing, European authorities had no wish to dispute this; we personally looked upon them as contemporaries, and were rather inclined to suppose that the engraved blocks which had produced Dies I. had disappeared during the few years, 1876 to 1877 or later, when the circular stamps were out of use, and that this would account for the rarity of those types. Next, Mr. Masson's suspicions were aroused by the fact that he could find no impressions at all of these dies, amongst the large numbers of used circular stamps that he had unearthed, many of them on letters of early date and covering the whole period when these stamps should have been in use. Finally, an examination of the full sized illustrations given in our publishers' new Catalogue, and of one or two specimens of the stamps themselves sent out from England, convinced him that these types could not be genuine, as the characters upon them were not correct, some of them being altogether meaningless; and this opinion has been fully confirmed by high native authorities in Cashmere, who were amused at the idea that such stamps would have been allowed to pass by any of their post office clerks.

But now people are beginning to ask the question, if these impressions are really forgeries, how is it that they have been accepted as genuine for nearly thirty years, and that no one has even suspected their character until now? Well, we must ask our more learned friends, who, if their discovery is proved to be correct, have every reason to be proud of it, to remember the disadvantages under which we have laboured all this time. We believe that we are right in saying that, with the exception of Dr. Legrand, not a single philatelist who had closely studied these stamps was able himself to read the subscriptions upon them; and even Dr. Legrand seems to have studied Oriental languages and alphabets principally in the light of the stamps themselves, and therefore was not in a position to criticise the drawing of the characters, or to decide whether the peculiarities which are said to exist in the Dies I. were due to carelessness on the part of the draughtsman and engraver, or were such as to indicate absolute ignorance of the language employed. As we have already stated, we have little doubt that these things came from India. Mr. Pemberton, a man by no means prone to accept varieties whose source was in any way suspicious, obtained a few of them; a dealer in Paris wished to get them also, and no doubt they came to other dealers. This was probably during the interval when the circular stamps were unobtainable in Cashmere itself, and we can only suppose that these forgeries if forgeries they be were engraved by someone who either could not read the inscriptions or only had a bad impression to copy from. Until we know exactly where they were made we cannot positively affirm that they were not made in Europe, but we are strongly of opinion that their birthplace was nearer the home of the genuine stamps, the fact that all of them are on the native paper, and most of them upon paper which very closely resembles that upon which the earliest impressions of the undoubtedly genuine stamps are found, seems to be proof of their Oriental origin. On the whole, the evidence against the Dies I. is very strong, and far outweighs anything that we are able to find in their favour, but it would be more satisfactory to know the true history of these doubtful types, and one of the most curious facts in the whole case is that there is a strong family likeness between these Dies I. and the genuine die of the 1 annas (so much so that the three have always been classed together), whilst, nevertheless, the supposed forger did not reproduce the value from which he appears to have copied his designs.

### The "Stamp Hunter's" Yarn on "Periodicals."

*Stamp Talk* chats to us very entertainingly from Kansas City. Its publisher, we note, has taken over Mr. Beardsley's publication the *International Philatelist* and the same is now amalgamated with *Stamp Talk*. One of the smartest movers Mr. W. B. Brown has made, is to induce Mr. Lewis Robie to continue his "Stamp Hunting" yarns in the columns of "Stamp Talk." All who read an exhaustive review of Mr. Robie's published book will appreciate the interest of such a series, especially among American readers. Most opportunely the "Stamp Hunter" steps to the front with a yarn about the "Newspaper and Periodical" stamps. He is chattering in his usual genial, verbose manner with the old storekeeper whom he invariably addresses as "Doc." It is the latter who puts the question to Mr. Robie:

"What have you found in your travels since last here? Don't give us any more fair tales."

"All right, I won't, but I haven't much to report anyway this time, except a little story on the Government that came nearly getting me into serious trouble. You know the use of Newspaper stamps as vouchers for newspaper postage, has been abolished. Well, the Government called in all the remainders and were to destroy them, but several of the leading stamp dealers petitioned the department to sell them to stamp cranks at a nominal sum. The Attorney General passed down an opinion that they could be sold at any price they cared to make on them and the Post Office Department finally decided to offer for sale 30,000 sets at \$5.00 a set, and at the end of the year if there were any remaining, destroy them with all the plates and dies. These stamps run from 1c. to \$100.00, 2c., 5c., 10c., 25c., 50c., \$2.00, \$5.00, \$10.00, \$20.00, \$50.00, \$100.00 twelve stamps of a total face value of \$187.93.

"I have a stamp collecting friend over in the western part of the State who wanted these stamps and requested his Postmaster to send and get him a set. He plunked up his \$5.00 and the Washington authorities wrote on for 10c. more for registration fee and postage, which was forwarded. In due course of time my friend called for his stamps and was given, by the Postmaster, a big parcel which the Department had sent for his \$5.00.

"I came along the next day, and my friend gave me the whole bunch, with the request to sell them and divide with him. If I had thought twice I wouldn't have taken them, but I jumped to the conclusion at once, that the Department knew what they were doing, and I took them and left town with ninety eight sets of these stamps a face value of \$18.31 1/4. In other words my friend kept two sets and gave me the balance. The authorities sent him one hundred sets instead of one for his money.

"I immediately sent them out or most of them around the country to my stamp customers, but I hadn't more than done so when the mistake was discovered and they were after me, and the Assistant Postmaster himself caught me in Quincy. Just as soon as I found that he was to be held for them I assured him, of course, that he would get them all back, or their equivalent. But either he wasn't satisfied or for some other reason I was nabbed in Kansas City, by an Inspector, and asked to turn over the stamps, which I refused to do, but agreed to make it good to my friend from whom I had received the stamps. That evening there came trooping up to my hotel, the Chief Inspector, his Assistant and the United States Marshal, with a writ of replevin and a summons, that Wm. McKinley, President of the United States, commanded my appearance in the United States Federal Court, for wrongfully and illegally taking away from the ——— P. O., ninety nine sets of Newspaper stamps to the value of \$195.00, etc. They didn't get any of them, however, but as I tell you, Doc, I had felt before, it wasn't exactly right to keep the stamps, and have made it good to the satisfaction of all concerned.

"I admit right here I was hasty in taking them in the first place and should not have done so. But I felt this way, perhaps the Government are going to sell these stamps at any old price, they represent nothing of value to the Government they are not redeemable, they are, in fact, only worthless bits of paper, and it is still a question before the law if I could be held liable for the fictitious value placed on them by the United States authorities, with the circumstances under which they came into my possession."

"Do you want to know what I think about that?" "Yes."

"You're a fool for not keeping the stamps. If this confounded Government is going into manufacturing labels, re-issuing stamps and selling them as they see fit, and use the Post Offices throughout the country as stamp shops to sell them in, it is stooping to a low business, to say the least. And worse than any of these Seebuck countries who issue stamps for sale to collectors only. What is to prevent them from making any kind of a stamp, of any value, say \$500, and sell them in the same way they are doing these Newspaper stamps?"



# CHEAP OFFER

... OF ...

**PHILLIP KOSACK, 8, Burgstrasse (Opposite the Palace),  
BERLIN, G.**

All unused in mint condition, original gum, unless otherwise stated.

Iceland, 1898, Provisionals, 5 Aur., green, with large surcharge, "prir"	s. d.
Do. " " 5 Aur. " small " "	5 0
Do. " " " " " " " " " "	4 0
(BOTH SUPERB USED COPIES, ONLY IN USE A SHORT TIME) AND WILL SOON COUNT AMONG THE UNOBTAINABLE.	
China, 1894-8, 1/2 to 6cts., 19 different	for 4 0
French Colonies, 97 different, many obsolete, superb copies	6 6
Peru, 41 different all unused of 1875-1895, many varieties, including 50cts. vermilion, 1ct. of 1886; also same surcharged, horseshoe and arms	for 10 0
Surinam, 1898-99, Provisionals, 10 on 12 1/2cts., 10 on 20cts., 10 on 25cts., 10 on 30cts., used or unused	the four for 2 0
Do., Provisional, 10 on 15cts., unused, mint	3 0
Do., All five Provisionals, used on one entire envelope	6 0

I AM A BUYER OF LARGE AND SMALL COLLECTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE CASH.

**PHILLIP KOSACK, 8, Burgstr., Berlin, C**

RARITIES AND OLD GERMAN ENVELOPES A SPECIALITY. [105-134]

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## THE NEXT

### *Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held early in June, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if sent in immediately.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that:

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

SPECIAL TERMS WILL BE QUOTED AND FURTHER PARTICULARS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

[106-125]

**ROBERT S. GRAY, Philatelic Auctioneer.**

213, WEST CAMPBELL STREET, GLASGOW.

# CHEAP OFFER

... OF ...

**PHILLIP KOSACK,** 8, Burgstrasse (Opposite the Palace),  
**BERLIN, G.**

All unused in mint condition, original gum, unless otherwise stated.

Iceland, 1898, Provisionals, 5 Aur., green, with large surcharge, "prip"	s.	d.
Do. " " 5 Aur. " small " " "	5	0
Do. " " " " " " " " " " " "	4	0
(BOTH SUPERB USED COPIES, ONLY IN USE A SHORT TIME) AND WILL SOON COUNT AMONG THE UNOBTAINABLE.		
China, 1894-8, 1/2 to 6cts., 19 different	for	4 0
French Colonies, 97 different, many obsolete, superb copies		6 6
Peru, 41 different all unused of 1875-1895, many varieties, including 50cts. vermilion, 1ct. of 1886; also same surcharged, horseshoe and arms	for	10 0
Surinam, 1898-99, Provisionals, 10 on 12 1/2 cts., 10 on 20 cts., 10 on 25 cts., 10 on 30 cts., used or unused	the four for	2 0
Do., Provisional, 10 on 15 cts., unused, mint		3 0
Do., All five Provisionals, used on one entire envelope		6 0

I AM A BUYER OF LARGE AND SMALL COLLECTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE CASH.

*PHILLIP KOSACK, 8, Burgstr., Berlin, C*

RARITIES AND OLD GERMAN ENVELOPES A SPECIALITY. [105-134]

"THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

ALL BACK NUMBERS in Stock at the following Rates:

1, 2, 4, 6-9, 12-16, 18-83, 85-104. at 1 1/4d. per number post free.	
3 and 5 .. 6d. " "	
10, 11, 17, 84 1/- " "	
Or a complete Volume with Index, bound in Special Cover,	4/9
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Or the four bound Volumes .. .. .	15/6

Post Free in the United Kingdom.

Abroad, Carriage Extra (about 1/- per vol.)

**Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,**  
64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

THE NEXT

*Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held early in June, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if sent in immediately.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that:

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

SPECIAL TERMS WILL BE QUOTED AND FURTHER PARTICULARS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

[106-125]

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** Philatelic Auctioneer.

213, WEST CAMPBELL STREET, GLASGOW.

**Result of 12th MONTHLY COMPETITION.**

The sentence given last month with the missing words filled in, reads—

"Some of the issues of United States stamps were obviously made for collectors, and if they had been effectively boycotted on their appearance, we might have been spared the Omaha speculative issues."

The above solution is the only possible one, having regard to the rules which were set forth in my circular.

Three correct solutions came to hand, and these were sent by

- Mrs. WILDASH, 67, Enys Road, Eastbourne.
- Miss A. ELCOCK, 67, St. Peter's Road, Croydon.
- Mr. W. H. EARL, 45, Florence St., Newcastle, Staffs.

To each of whom I have forwarded postal orders for £1 13s. 6d. (one-third of £5).

**NOTICE.**

There will be no more Competitions until about September.

I am now offering the following

**SPECIAL BARGAINS**

All in fine condition.		s.	d.
Dominica, perf. 12½, 1/- red-lilac .. .. .		15	0
Gold Coast, CC., ¾d. bistre .. .. .		2	3
" " 1d. blue .. .. .		0	8
" " 2d. green .. .. .		0	10
" " 4d. mauve .. .. .		9	10
" " 6d. orange .. .. .		1	9
or set of five as above .. .. .		6	0
Great Britain, I.R. Official, 2½d. lilac .. .. .		2	6
" " 1885, 1/- green .. .. .		17	6
" " 1888, 1/- green .. .. .		1	6
" Govt. Parcels, 1½d. lilac, 1883 .. .. .		2	6
" " 1/- green .. .. .		1	6
Cuba, 1866, 40cts, rose, imperf., fine pairs, used, on large piece of original .. .. .		25	0
India, 8 pies lilac on bluish, on entire original wrapper (with an 8 anna), very scarce .. .. .		30	0

Write for longer list.

I shall be pleased to send selection of common or medium stamps on approval.

Correspondence from collectors and dealers abroad or in the colonies with a view to buying, exchanging or selling will receive prompt attention. [117-122]

P. LOINES PEMBERTON,

34, Balfour Rd., South Norwood, London, S.E.

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:

- One to three stamps .. .. . 6d.
- Each additional specimen .. .. . 2d.
- Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.

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**BRIGHT'S**

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FROM  
HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC AUCTIONS.**

July 3rd next, at the Grand Hotel,  
at 6.30 prompt.

**Last Sale of the Season!**

**The Finest Sale**

EVER HELD IN MANCHESTER.

Lots to be in by June 12th.

Only REALLY GOOD LOTS wanted.

Catalogues ready: JUNE 26th.

Further particulars of the Auctioneers:

*Ostara and Darlow,*

18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.

[117-122]

We have a FEW COPIES of our

**Reprint Catalogue**

AND HOW TO DETECT THEM,

LEFT. Over 2250 sold. Price, 1/6.

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64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

**SOME SCARCE STAMPS.**

FRANCE, 1 franc, Emp. .. .. .	13/6
UNITED STATES, 1869, 30 cents .. .. .	7/-
NEVIS, 2½d., CA., perf. 14 .. .. .	17/-
NEW BRUNSWICK, 3d. .. .. .	10/-
NIGER COAST, 1/-, 1893 .. .. .	5/-
ST. CHRISTOPHER, 1/- .. .. .	17/-
VICTORIA, 1/- Registered .. .. .	13/6

Approval willingly. References required.  
[104-123]

**W. MARCHBANK,**  
104, Holly Avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne

**HILCKES' ENQUIRY BUREAU.**

Annual Subscription .. .. .	2/6
Home Enquiries .. .. .	1/6
Continental Enquiries .. .. .	2/-
Rest of the World .. .. .	Special rates.

Write for full particulars—

"Manager," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**ENGLISH ALBUM**

The Prices are:—

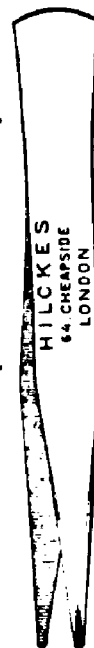
Half Morocco, 10/6	Cloth Bound, 4/6
Cheap Edition .. .. .	2/6

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**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,**  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**THE UNIVERSAL STAMP TWEEZERS**

This is NOT the conventional article, which, with its rough and has ruined more Stamps than can be readily ascertained



(THREE-QUARTER SIZE).

Fitted with Cloth Case for Pocket Use.

**Is. post free.**

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OF

**HARRY HILCKES & CO., LIMITED,**

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THE  
**STAMP COLLECTORS'**  
**FORTNIGHTLY**

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

No. 124—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1899.

ONE PENNY.

The Official Organ of the following Societies :

Bristol Philatello Society. Cambridge University Philatello Society. Stamp Exchange Protection Society.  
The Liverpool Philatello Society. Edinburgh and Leith Society. Rochdale Philatello Society.  
Ashton-under-Lyne Philatello Society. Sheffield Philatello Society.

“HILCKES”

NEW PERMANENT ...

**Postage Stamp Album.**



We have Just Published an Album with Moveable Leaves under the above title with a very ingenious patent mechanism, which allows a very easy moving of the sheets. The leaves are of strong card board, with double linen hinge, and covered with the well-known small squares in faint ink, in order to facilitate the arranging of the stamps.

PRICE, post free - - - **25/-**

**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.**

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale (The Last of the Season) will take place on JUNE 27th and 28th, and will consist of A FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF . . .

**Rare British, Foreign & Colonial Postage Stamps**

The Sales for next Season have been fixed as follows:—  
 1899. Sept. 26th and 27th. Oct. 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th. Nov. 7th and 8th, 21st and 22nd. Dec. 12th and 13th.  
 1900. —Jan. 2nd and 3rd, 16th and 17th, 30th and 31st. Feb. 13th and 14th. March 6th and 7th, 20th and 21st. April 3rd and 4th, 24th and 25th. May 8th and 9th, 22nd and 23rd. June 12th and 13th.

OWING to the very large number of Commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of Collections and Single Rarities, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the Condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

**LIBERAL ADVANCES PENDING REALIZATION IF REQUIRED.**

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS:

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, 47, Leicester Square, London.**

**ESTABLISHED 1794.**

*Doings of Societies.*

**MALTA PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

MR. EDMUND RIZZO has kindly sent us a copy of the rules of the new Malta Philatelic Society, of which he is the Hon. Secretary and Surgeon Lieut.-Colonel Manchè, the President. Fortnightly meetings are provided for as well as a library for exchange packet.

**PRIVATE SALE & EXCHANGE ADVERTISEMENTS**

**Note Change in the Rate.**

[Notices for this column (first word displayed) are inserted at the rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for every word,— Address, Exchange Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.]

**CHILIAN STAMPS.**—Wholesale and retail. State wants. GEORGE BACK, Casilla, 149, Iquique, Chili.

**OPEN TO OFFER.**—40 sheets of stamps socts. Gibraltar; 5 sheets of Pts. 1, and 2 sheets of Pts. 2 last issue.—MANUEL F. MONTEGRIPPO, Market Street, Gibraltar. [147]

**WANTED,** Good Collection. High price paid to any amount. References given.—COLLECTOR. 425, Fulham Road, London. [122-127]

**E. G. BOOTH,** Grahamstown, South Africa, has resumed stamp collecting and wants British West Indian in exchange for good South Africans basis, Gibbons advanced collector, rubbish refused. Reference, this paper. [122-124]

**COLLECTORS** residing in Nevis, Virgin Islands, Trinidad, Tobago, Falkland Isles, Gibraltar. Wanted to exchange current stamps of their countries with stamps of India and Native States. Unused only required. J. S. SUMMERS, 33, Sassoon Dock Road, Colaba, Bombay, India. [120-125]

**GENERAL** Collectors having 1000-3000 different stamps, should write for selections at half Gibbons' or less; extra discount  $\frac{7}{8}$  per cent. 10%; 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. 20%; also rare stamps 40-60 per cent. below catalogue.—H. EDGAR WESTON, 8, Valentia Road, Brixton, London. [124]

**CHEAPEST SETS.** Lists gratis and post free.—W. N. CULLIN, Penang, Straits Settlements. [120-128]

**BARGAIN** sets and packets of Queensland and Australian stamps; price lists free.—W. H. ROBINSON, Swan Hill, Brisbane, Queensland. [123-128]

**BRITISH BECHUANALAND.** Open to exchange large range obsolete varieties.—Address, W. HARBOR, Mochudi, South Africa. [123-128]

BUY YOUR  
**Philatelic**  
**Publications**

OF

**HARRY HILCKES & CO.,**  
**LIMITED,**

64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, EC.

# THE FORKSIGHTLY STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY

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 Philatelic Society. | Bristol Philatelic Society. | Ashton-Under-Lyne Philatelic Society.  
The Edinburgh Philatelic Society. | Rochdale Philatelic Society. | Sheffield Philatelic Society.  
Stamp Exchange Protection Society. | Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 124 — Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1899

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### MEASURING POSTAGE STAMP COLOURS.

THE *Evening News*, London, is our authority for the statement—never hitherto made, we think—that the colours of our current postage stamps are kept up to a constant standard by means of the "Tintometer." That ingenious invention (constant readers of the *FORKSIGHTLY* will remember) was the subject of a most interesting lecture before the members of the City of London Philatelic Club some two years ago. And let it be set down to the credit of a trade too often reviled by platform bigots, that the Tintometer is the invention of a well-known brewer, Mr. Lovibond.

### "COMMERCIAL" POST CARDS COMING.

In the House of Commons on Monday, June 12th, Mr. Hanbury, answering a question addressed to him by Sir Reginald Hanson, stated that the matter of the provision of large-sized thin inland postcards for commercial purposes was now under the consideration of the Postmaster-General, who hoped to be able to introduce such cards.

### IS IT A NEW FRENCH ERROR ?

MR. DICKSON writes to the *Philatelic Journal of India* that he has come across what appears to be a copy of the 30 centimes French Empire laureated series printed in the colour of the 10 centimes. It was amongst a selection sent by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons among a lot of 10 centimes stamps of exactly the same colour. Mr. Dickson did not notice it till he began hunting for minor varieties. As he had not seen such an error mentioned before, he concluded

that it must be simply a faded or discoloured specimen of a pale brown 30 centimes, but after comparison with a big range of shades of this stamp, he was forced to the conclusion that this was not so. The stamp is unused and in good (not "Mint") condition, but is exactly of the dull yellow ochre shade so common in the 10 centimes value. He is convinced that it is not a "fake." It had evidently escaped the notice of the compiler of the stock-book, who took it for the 10 centimes stamp. He has written to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons in the hope of getting at its history.

### A FEAST OF POSTAL FIGURES.

From the headquarters of the Universal Postal Union come the 1898-97 statistics of the postal services of the various countries comprised in the Union. The following interesting comparisons have been made:—

The largest numbers of post offices in the various countries:—

1. United States .. .. .	72,278
2. Germany .. .. .	41,028
3. Great Britain .. .. .	21,202
4. India .. .. .	11,989
5. Canada .. .. .	9,371
6. France .. .. .	9,066

The largest numbers of letter-boxes in use:—

1. United States .. .. .	130,435
2. Germany .. .. .	108,897
3. France .. .. .	67,684
4. Great Britain .. .. .	51,595
5. Japan .. .. .	40,884
6. Italy .. .. .	30,096
7. India .. .. .	20,990

The greatest lengths (in kilometres) of the various "postal lines":—

1. United States .. .. .	752,360
2. Russia .. .. .	251,968
3. India .. .. .	198,529
4. Germany .. .. .	153,285

### THE THURN AND TAXIS EXHIBITION.

WE are indebted to a correspondent for the following list of "awards" at the Philatelic Exhibition held at Regensburg (or Ratisbon), under the patronage of the Prince of Thurn and Taxis. This is the Exhibition of which a preliminary notice appeared in the *FORKSIGHTLY* some months ago, and which was postponed from the original date agreed upon in consequence of the tragic death of the Empress of Austria.

## CLASS I.

## COLLECTIONS OF THURN AND TAXIS.

Gold Medal and Special Prize—A. E. Glasewald, Gosswitz.

Silver Medal—Dr. jur. Berchelmann, Darmstadt, Ph. K. Schauff, Mayence.

Diplomas—J. A. Anheiser, Cologne, G. v. Hessling, Ratisbon.

Judges: Leon Brummer, Munich; Hugo Krötsch, Leipzig; Ernest Stock, Berlin.

## CLASS II.

## GENERAL COLLECTIONS.

Gold Medal—G. Hartmann, Profening, President of the Phil. Society at Ratisbon, for his great services in connection with the Exhibition; A. Chelius, Munich, for Baden and Alsace; J. J. Lindau, Heidelberg, for old German stamps; Dr. J. Lange, Magdeburg, for German envelopes; A. Markl, Kornnenburg, for Greece; Th. Lemaire, Paris, for France.

Silver Medal—G. v. Hessling, Ratisbon, for general collection; E. Paulus, Markneukirchen, for general collection; E. Spitz, Wisbaden, for German stamps; M. Boshor, Brunswick, for Brunswick; Th. Ganther, Chemnitz, for Greece; Comte d'Assche, Neuilly, for Belgium; Lieutenant Oirt, Charlottenburg, for photographs.

Diploma—J. Greger, Ratisbon; A. Heil, Ratisbon; J. Buchtart, Ratisbon; Ph. Geiger, Ratisbon; A. Gortz, Ratisbon; J. Munker, Ratisbon; Mrs. A. Larisch, Munich, for post cards; Major Hirsching, Ratisbon, for Bavarian entires; A. Fleischmann, Esslingen, for Wurtemberg; C. Dieckmann, Munster, for German Colonials, etc.; C. Weidenhagen, Hamburg, for Greece; J. Lossau, Hamburg, for Hamburg; Hugo Griebert, London, for essays; J. Freudenstein, Frankfurt, for Baden, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg; Ch. E. Hoffmann, H. Imier, for Swiss Revenues.

Judges: Leon Brummer, Munich; Hugo Virotzsch, Leipzig; Ernest Stock, Berlin.

## CLASS III.

## ALBUMS, LITERATURE, ETC.

Gold Medal—Hugo Krötsch, Leipzig, for publications, etc.; Paul Kohl, Chemnitz, for publications, etc.; Leon Brummer, Munich, for "Das Postwertzeichen."

Silver Medal—F. C. Luecke, Leipzig, for albums; A. E. Glasewald, Gosswitz, for studies on Baden and Thurn and Taxis; Austria-Philatelist, Prague, for book on obliterations of Austria, etc.; Th. Lemaire, Paris, for publications; F. B. Mehler, Ratisbon, for his historical treatise on the Princes of Thurn and Taxis; Dr. J. Rubsam, Ratisbon.

Judges: Ernest Stock, Berlin; E. Heydorn, Ratisbon; G. Gall, Ratisbon.

The Exhibition, we are told, was "on the whole, a very creditable one."

## THE MOROCCO COURIER SERVICE.

A good friend of Gibraltar, Mr. A. Nettis, junior, has had the kindness to send the FORTNIGHTLY a copy of the "Gibraltar Post Office Handbook," together with some newly issued stamps and stationery from "the Rock." We find nothing in "Gib's" postal blue-book likely to prove of any great interest to philatelists, but we are glad to have it, nevertheless. The particulars given of the Morocco Courier Service will, we are quite sure, be of service to us one of these days when the question of Morocco is on the tapis. There is of course no mention in this handbook of the recent separate issue of stamps for the Morocco Agencies. That will doubtless appear in the 1900 or 1901 edition.

## "COLUMBIANS" TO BE DESTROYED.

WRITING from Washington, under date June 7th, Mr. J. M. Bartels announces that the United States postal authorities have decided to destroy all the remaining high value stamps of the "Columbus" issue.

It is well known," he writes, "that the 6c., \$3, \$4 and \$5 have been on sale here since 1893. On Monday last an order was sent to the Post Office to return to the department all old stock of Columbians, which will be immediately destroyed. The stock consists of the following quantities:

48,400	6c.	3,357	\$4
2,927	\$3	4,506	\$5

These figures show that since October 1st, 1896, the Washington office disposed of 65 \$3, 80 \$4 and 75 \$5 Columbians. At the same rate there would still have been a supply on hand in the year 2000.

## "OMAHAS" TO BE "WORKED OFF."

There is also (adds the same authority) a fair stock of Omahas still on sale in this city. These will probably be distributed among other offices at an early date. The most numerous are the 2c., 1,000,000; 4c., 100,000; 10c., 100,000; and 50c., 50,000; total face value, \$59,000. Envelopes of the last issue to the extent of \$2,403.60 are likewise still on hand. These will be worked off as soon as possible.

## MANCHESTER PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

THE whole of the arrangements necessary for this exhibition are now fully completed, and on the 29th inst.—Thursday next—the exhibition will be opened to the public in the City Art Gallery. The India Office, it now appears, will be a contributor to the Exhibition, with a valuable historic collection of the postage stamps of Hindoostan and neighbouring States. The exhibition will be formally opened at 3.30 on Thursday next, by Mr. Henniker Heaton, M.P., of "Imperial Penny Postage" celebrity. On most of the days during which the Exhibition remains open it has been arranged that the doors shall not be closed until nine o'clock in the evening, in order that members of all classes may have the opportunity of visiting and studying the many unique exhibits. The show will continue open until July 3rd.

## A PHILATELIC GREEK.

A STAMP-DEALER, calling himself Jean Commenos, advertised largely in philatelic papers last year, stating that his house was founded in 1880. Complaints about this Athens firm (remarks the *Philatelic Monthly and World*) poured in upon the editors of the papers that had printed the wily Greek's ads. and investigations followed. It then became known that Jean Commenos was a minor, born in 1880 and the proud Greek stated in court, that he had a perfect right to say that his house was founded then, for he thought of becoming the founder of a great family! He escaped with a fine, being a minor and has since changed his name to Yanni Kumeno, and his residence to Alexandria, Egypt. It will be as well to be on one's guard against any particularly cheap offers from that quarter.

His Honour Judge Philbrick, Q.C., has been re-elected to "Grand Office" in that cabalistically-named masonic brotherhood, "the Order of the Secret Monitor."

FRANCE is going to have new stamps. France has so often been on the point of having new stamps that the announcement may excite the derision of the sceptic. However, the London evening journals (which cannot lie) inform us that it is intended to invite the leading French artists to submit designs for new postal labels. Moreover, the said designs are to be a feature of the great Exhibition of 1900.

A READER of the *Queen* asks the Editor to refer him to a Stamp Exchange Club with no dealers among its members. It is, perhaps, not wonderful that the Editor of the *Queen* is at a loss for a reply.

A LADY philatelist boasts of a bedroom set which is entirely covered by stamps. They are secured to the various articles with the aid of glue, and then covered with thick varnish. They can be washed, in their present condition, without injury. The beginning of this strange collection, numbering nearly two million, dates back many years.—*British Realm*.

## Uncle Sam's Reprints.

### MR. LUFF TELLS THE WHOLE TRUTH ABOUT THE "PERIODICALS."

MR. JOHN N. LUFF has now got down to the Newspaper and Periodical stamps in his most interesting series of articles on "The Postage Stamps of the United States," contributed to the *American Journal of Philately*. Thus he writes regarding the so-called "Remainders":

This issue is largely due to the efforts of one or two short-sighted dealers who, valuing a present small profit more than the future good of philately, persuaded our post office officials to make the issue as a source of revenue. That the result has been a disappointment to collectors and an injury to philately there can be no doubt, and stamp peddling is not an expedient which is commendable in any government, least of all in a great and wealthy one. To add to the unpleasant features of the case, the reprints were not placed on the market as such but under the pretense that they were remainders.

When it was proposed to sell to the public, at a nominal price 50,000 sets of remainders of this issue, it was found that there was not on hand a sufficient quantity of five of the values, so reprints were made to supply the deficiency. The five values were the 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100 dollars. The reprinting was done in February, 1899, from plates 137, 138, 139, 135 and 140. The quantities were:

	Remainders.	Reprints
5 dollars	155	49,845
10 dollars	11,640	38,360
20 dollars	8,780	11,220
50 dollars	16,245	33,755
100 dollars	7,685	12,315

It is said that eventually 5,000 originals of each of the four higher values were used and 45,000 reprints.

The reprints are on the regular paper, watermarked U. S. P. S. They have a smooth white gum while the gum of the originals is yellowish. The colors lack depth and richness and look cold and thin. They are:

- 5 dollars slate-blue
- 10 dollars grey-green
- 20 dollars lilac grey
- 50 dollars brownish rose
- 100 dollars bluish purple

### MR. J. M. BARTELS' REVELATIONS.

Since the reprinting game was "blown" by the *A. J. of P.* and the *Weekly Philatelic Era*, there has been a vast deal of contumelious ink-slugging on the question of the "Periodical" stamps among the philatelic journalists of America. The *Era's* Washington representative has "said things" about Mr. J. M. Bartels, who represents the *Metropolitan Philatelist*; and Mr. Bartels has talked back, and so the game has gone on, *ad nauseam*. In the latest issue to hand of Mr. J. W. Scott's paper, Mr. Bartels writes as follows:

It is once more necessary for me to make a few more remarks regarding the periodical stamps in order to explain my position more fully and to reply to some of the insinuations which have been cast in regard to "interested parties in Washington" as well as philatelic scribes. The only interest we have in this matter is the good which we believe an action of this kind on the part of the Government will do to philately.

When asked for an expression of opinion as to quantity and price of sets to be placed on sale, no intimation was given of the fact that there were not enough on hand to make up any number of sets that might be decided upon, neither did the possibility of a shortage enter the mind of any one. A large quantity of stamps had been returned from postmasters throughout the country and it was believed that this stock would be used in addition to the supply still on hand at the Bureau. However, upon closer examination of the stamps returned and after a decision had been reached, it was found that the condition of this stock was extremely poor, many of the sheets stuck together and the stamps torn. The assorting of a lot of this kind would have been an endless job, and rather than do so, the Department gave an order to the Bureau to count out 50,000 sets of the stock on hand and to print sufficient more of any denomination that might be found short in completing the required number. Not until after the stamps had been placed on sale was it known to any of us,

that the stock returned by postmasters had not been included in the 50,000 sets.

So the cat is finely out of the bag now! The Postmaster's "returns," on which Messrs. Seuf have been ringing the changes in their "explanations" to the readers of the *Illustrated Briefmarken Journal*, were never included in the so-called "remainders" at all!

And now in view of Mr. Luff's statistics and Mr. Bartels' revelations what will be done by Messrs. Seuf Brothers, of Leipzig? Will they pursue the only just and honourable course, or will they resort to further prevarications in their attempt to bolster up this issue of "Government chromos"?

## Scrag Gettings from all Quarters.

"Those U.S. denationalized job-let chromos" is Mr. Edgar Nelson's description of the five-dollar sets of U.S.A. Periodical stamps.

Crosses of the realm with holes drilled through them are now refused at post offices when tendered for stamps. It is said that the Duke of Norfolk considers that it would be unseemly for him, a high functionary of State, to connive at what is a criminal offence, the defacement of the Queen's coinage.

HERE LINDSEBERG has now definitively retired from the post of Director of the Postal Museum of Berlin. His successor, according to the *Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung*, will be Herr Puschel.

NEVER put all your money in one stamp or the stamps of one country; buy a few of the stamps of half a dozen or more countries and then if anything happens that the stamps of one country fail to increase in value you are not entirely undone.—Leon V. Cass, in the *Evergreen State Philatelist*.

We love our *Modern Society*, but cannot always believe it. For instance, a recent number states that M. Paul Deroulède, President of the Ligne des Patriotes, and one of the so-called heroes of the hour, is one of the great Parisian stamp collectors. He professes to have discovered the real reason why the small eagle was transformed into a large eagle on the stamps of the German Empire. "Look at them," he said the other day in his most declamatory style. "Up to 1871 the eagle was still lean. In 1872, after devouring the five milliards of our war indemnity, it became fat and arrogant."

A TORONTO correspondent says that he believes there are over 500 persons directly or indirectly interested in collecting stamps in that city. That collector has a great capacity for believing things.

ACCORDING to the *American Postal Guide*, of January, 1899, Havana, Cuba, is in the State of New York; Manila, Philippines, is in California; and various cities of Puerto Rico are in the District of Columbia.—*Philatelic Monthly*.

### PHILATELIC EVENTS for the FORTNIGHT ENDING July 8th, 1899.

#### London Auctions.

June 27th and 28th. —Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C., at 5.30 p.m. each day

#### Provincial Auctions.

July 3rd. Messrs. Ostara & Darlow, at the Grand Hotel, Manchester, at 6.30 p.m. precisely.

**General Notices.**

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**The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.**

LONDON, JUNE 24, 1899.



The *Evergreen State Philatelist*, always outspoken and independent, has ranged itself on the side of common-sense in the woody warfare that is being waged on the question of the United States Newspaper and Periodical Stamps. It will be interesting to study, through the spectacle of a man "on the spot" the absurd contention that a reprint, when issued by a responsible Government "to benefit collectors," is no reprint at all.

The distinction (writes "Veritas" in the *Evergreen State Philatelist*) between originals and reprints, formerly so sharply drawn, seems to be growing weak, and in some quarters appears to be in danger of entire effacement. While it is all very well to be patriotic, I think we should not allow ourselves to lose sight of the fact that there is still a difference between reprints and originals, no matter by whom the former are printed.

A reprint has always been understood to be a reproduction from an original die, after the stamp for which the die had been prepared has been put out of use. Now comes Mr. Bartels with this novel statement, "The question whether the Government had sufficient specimens of all denominations on hand to make up the required number of sets, or whether a few of the plates had to go to press again in order to make up the deficiency, seems to be agitating the minds of some. This should be a matter of little importance. The fact that one printing was made a few months later than another, should make no difference to any ordinary collector of stamps."

And the "Father of Philately" bolsters him up as follows: "The current 2c. stamp is reprinted daily, and yet the sapient ones would have us believe that a certain stamp

printed from a new plate at a different time, in a new shade, is not a reprint, while another stamp printed from the same plate is a 'reprint'."

With all due respect to these gentlemen, how can we consider it "a matter of little importance" whether these stamps were printed specially for sale to collectors, and how are we to change our definition of a reprint to fit Mr. Scott's "current 2c. which is reprinted daily?" If we should adopt the new view, would we not make absolutely no distinction whatever between an original printed twenty-five years ago and an impression made from the obsolete die to-day? While peculiar conditions govern the issue of these Periodicals to the public, think what a vista of possibilities opens up at the idea of this change in the definition of a reprint.

To which we say cordially "hear, hear." A great principle is at stake, in America at least; and we of the FORTNIGHTLY, who have a peculiar interest in the suppression of reprints and kindred rubbish, wish all possible success to such journals as the *Evergreen State Philatelist* in "spreading the light" of true and clean Philately.

**Notes on New Issues.**

\*: We shall endeavour in the future to make this column a permanent and attractive feature of the FORTNIGHTLY, and we appeal to our friends and supporters in all parts of the world to assist us with early advices of new issues and of changes in current issues.

**ENVELOPES FOR THE AMERICAN COLONIES.**

*Porto Rico.*—Mr. J. M. Bartels writes in the *Metropolitan Philatelist*—A supply of stamped envelopes and wrappers has been surcharged for use in Porto Rico with the words immediately under the stamp, and shipped to the island, namely:

- 5,000 1c. green, wrappers.
- 100,000 2c. red, No. 5 on white.
- 10,000 5c. blue, No. 5 on white.

The authorities are now wrestling with the problem of the most appropriate design for the definite issue of stamped envelopes for Porto Rico. The present indications are that the head of Amerigo Vespucci will be used in this connection though other designs are also under consideration. General Merritt favours selecting Ponce de Leon, one special reason being the naming of the city of Ponce after him, but so far no picture of that discoverer has been found. Perhaps some philatelist can come to the rescue and help the department out by furnishing what is wanted. Thus Vespucci is held to be a good second choice.

*Cuba.*—It has been my privilege (writes Mr. Bartels) to see sample specimens of the new Cuban envelopes showing the portrait of Columbus, and now in the hands of the Third Assistant. They present a very creditable appearance and are fairly executed, though they can hardly be considered as coming up to the standard of our own issue. Yet opinions seem to differ on this point. The head of Columbus is at places a little too pointed and would have looked better if more rounded.

All three denominations are very similar, but the 1c. differs slightly in the bust from the other two. The ovals are a little narrower than our own issue, and the color of the 2c. is more of a dark red, but this may be only in the sample specimens, as other ink may be used when printing the regular supply.

At the top of the oval appears the word Cuba, at the bottom Un Centavo, Dos or Cinque Centavos, preceded and followed by numerals. The background is colored, while the head is embossed. Between the numerals and Cuba are two dots and a trefoil.

# Australian Reprints.

By A. F. BASSET HULL.

II.—SOUTH AUSTRALIA (continued).

WHILE this Colony has indulged in the production of reprints on more elaborate lines than any other, it is a matter for congratulation that, with one exception, such reprints are unmistakably branded with an overprint proclaiming their "posthumous" nature.

Evidently there has been a philatelist behind the scenes—one who knew the meaning of the words "imperf. rate" and "roulette," so mysterious to the average postal official, and this expert's advice and directions have been followed as closely as possible in producing the reprints, so far at least: as the outward and visible part of the stamps is concerned.



In the matter of water-marks—whether he was equally skilled as in perforations or not I cannot say,—but either the exigencies of the printing office required the printing to be all on one kind of paper, or else the printer considered he had pandered sufficiently to the vicious tastes of philatelists in regard to

modes of separation. The fact remains that all the reprints are on Crown S.A. (type I.) paper. This peculiarity is sufficient test for the greater portion of the stamp, even were there not the black surcharge "Reprint" to emphasise their origin.

Two separate printings, or rather reprintings, have been made: the first in 1884, consisting of 500 sets, and the second within the last year or two.

The first set contains:

- 3d. on 1d. (type II.)\* green, perf.
- 3d. brown
- 1d. (type I.)\* green, imperf.
- 1d. " yellow-green, rouletted.
- 1d. (type II.) green, perf.
- 2d. (type I.) blood red, imperf.
- 2d. " orange-red, rouletted.
- 2d. " pale orange-red ..
- 2d. (type II.) red, rouletted.
- 2d. " " perf.
- 3d. blue, red surch., perf.
- 3d. " black, " ..
- 4d. deep mauve, perf.
- 4d. dark slate, " ..
- 4d. grey, " ..
- 6d. deep blue, imperf.
- 6d. lilac, rouletted.
- 6d. blue " ..
- 6d. " perf.
- 8d. brown, ..
- 8d. reddish brown, perf.
- 9d. grey-lilac, rouletted.
- 9d. purple, perf.
- 10d. orange, blue surch., rouletted.
- 10d. yellow, " ..
- 10d. canary, black surch., perf.
- 1/- yellow, rouletted.
- 1/- brown, " ..
- 1/- brown, perf.
- 2/- carmine, perf.



\* Type I. is Perkins & Bacon's. Type II. is De La Rue's.

All of these stamps are on Crown S.A. paper, type I., with S.A. wide apart. They are overprinted with the word "Reprint" in Roman capitals in black. It will be seen that several of the set were in current use at the time, the only difference between the so-called reprints and the originals being in the paper, which in the latter was Crown S.A., type II.

The second series contains the same varieties as the first, but some of them differ more or less in



shade, and there are several additions. The following is a list of differences in color and new varieties not contained in the first series:

- 1d. (type I.), imperf., intense green, blurred in printing.
- 1d. " perf. (add.)
- 2d. " blood-red, and bright brick-red, imperf.
- 2d. " orange-red, rouletted, three shades, none of which exactly resembles either of the 1884 prints.
- 3d. red and black, surch., both paler blue than before.
- 4d. purple-black, rouletted (add.)
- 6d. ultramarine, perf. (add.)
- 8d. warm sepia, and dull brown, perf., both new shades.
- 9d. pale grey, rouletted.
- 10d. orange-red, blue surch., roul.
- 10d. canary " " "
- 10d. " " perf. (add.)
- 10d. chromo-yellow, black surch., roul. (add.)
- 10d. " " perf.
- 1/- dull yellow, imperf. (add.)
- 1/- deep yellow, roul. (new shade).
- 1/- very pale yellow, roul. " ..
- 1/- lilac, imperf. (add.)
- 1/- reddish-brown, two shades, both perf.
- 2/- carmine, rouletted (add.)

This series is also on the Crown S.A. paper, type I., and each stamp bears the overprint "Reprint" in Roman capitals in black.

In 1897 a supply of the then current stamps, not represented in the "reprint" series of 1884 was printed on Crown S.A. paper, type I., and each stamp was overprinted with the word "Specimen" in small black letters in black. All are perf. 11½ except the 2½d., which is perf. 10.

The following is a list of the values and colors:

- 3d. dark brown.
- 1d. green (1875).
- 2d. yellow brown.
- 2½d. (on 1d.) chocolate on green.
- 3d. olive-green (1887).
- 4d. mauve (1890).
- 5d. (on 6d.) carmine on brown.
- 6d. blue (1887).
- 9d. red lilac.
- 2/- carmine.
- 2 6d. 1/- *slat. dotted with silver specks.*
- 5/- deep pink.
- 10/- pale green.
- 15/- orange brown.
- £1 bright blue.
- £2 Indian red.
- £2 10s. dark red.
- £3 olive green.
- £4 lemon yellow.
- £5 very pale grey.
- £10 bronze.
- £15 light silver.
- £20 marone.

The colors in italics show where these "specimen" stamps differ from the originals.

A few sets of the latter were surcharged "specimen," but they are on Crown S.A. paper, type II.

The above-described stamps are of that nondescript class that it is so difficult to find a name for in philatelic terminology. They are not originals because they were not in-

tended for postal use, the employment of old and discarded paper and the overprint testifying to the fact, and they cannot be described as reprints because they were struck from plates actually in use. "Specimen prints" is perhaps the only name to give them, but that is not wholly satisfactory.

Finally, some time ago, we saw a few impressions from the 1/- stamp, printed in lilac on rather thick white wove paper. These were claimed to be "proofs," but the worn state of the plate and the fresh look of the paper branded them as reprints. They were uncanceled, but could not be described as dangerous. The abnormal color and the absence of watermark were sufficient evidence of their irregular origin.

#### TASMANIA.

In the early days of the stamp-collecting madness the demands of foreign postal administrations for samples of other countries' emissions were by no means frequent, and were generally acceded to without hesitation by the Tasmania postal authorities, the stamps being taken direct from stock, and authority obtained to expend a sum equal to the face value from petty cash—thus conforming to the stern requirements of the Audit Department which demanded a strict account of all stamps issued to the Post Office. As the 60's waned and the 70's waxed and the new issue of Tasmanian stamps appeared, the demands for specimens increased, and in order to provide a handy stock from which to supply requirements, and at the same time avoid all the "deminution detail" of passing small accounts, four sheets were struck from the new plates on "plain" i.e., unwatermarked paper, for specimen purposes. At the same time prints were made from the plates of the 1858, 6d. and 1/- stamps, which were then (1871), the current stamps of those denominations.

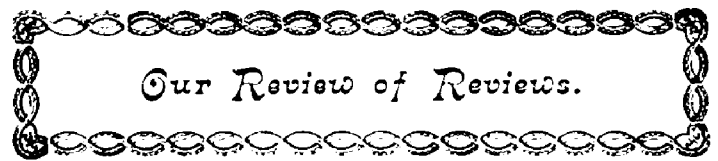
The reason for thus using unwatermarked paper was that when any stamps were required, a requisition was made for so many sheets of watermarked paper for printing (say) 1d. stamps, and the paper was debited to the Post Office by the Audit Department (which issued the sheets) at the value of such number of stamps of the denomination mentioned in the requisition, as could be printed on the stated quantity of paper. As all paper (except that for the 6d. and 1/-) was in sheets containing 120 repetitions of the watermark F.A.S. and paper would be charged at the rate of 10/- for the sheet if 1d. stamps were requisitioned for, 20/- if 2d. stamps, and so on. When printed and received by the Post Office these stamps had to be accounted for in cash, or in case of spoiled or damaged printings by a return of such faulty stamps, which were destroyed and the face value credited to the department. The impressions on unwatermarked paper were not charged in any way, and therefore could be given away without ceremony.

The supply was not a very large one, consisting of 480 of each denomination, and yet it is not quite exhausted even at the present day. In 1879 a similar number of impressions were struck from the obsolete plates, viz.: 1d. and 4d. of 1853; 1d., 2d., and 4d. of 1855; 3d., 2/6, 5/- and 10/- ("St. George and Dragon" fiscals) of 1863-4, and also from the then current plates of the 8d. and the 4d. in yellow, the 1871 color having been blue.

The stamps printed in 1871 were on soft white wove unwatermarked paper, perf. 11½. As they were of current type, and the paper only different from the originals, they were not in the full sense of the term "Reprints," but come under the category of stamps for specimen purposes. Perhaps an exception should be made in the case of the 6d., which was printed in red-lilac, a shade current in 1868-9, and which had given way to a purple tint in 1871.

The printings of 1879 were on thin hand-made white unwatermarked paper, perf. 11½, except the fiscals which were imperf. The plates of 1853 had been defaced by two vertical or horizontal chisels struck on each stamp, but the other plates were not defaced in any way.

(To be continued).



#### What Mr. Paul Lietzow Doesn't Know.

IT is really astonishing how much nonsense can be squeezed into a small space if one really sits down to try, but that such nonsense should come from a man who for many years has been a dealer in postage stamps and certainly is in a position to know, is almost beyond belief. The April number of *The Post* has an article on the over-production of postage stamps by Paul Lietzow, an ex-president of the famous International Dealers' Society of Berlin. We can of course not give his article *in extenso*, but a few choice specimens might afford some amusement to our readers. The *Foreigner* and its editors have always condemned all postal issues of a speculative nature, produced solely for the benefit of the issuing country or any particular stamp dealer. The whole article shows such an immense ignorance of the actual circumstances under which certain stamps were issued, that it is almost impossible to believe that any stamp dealer of any standing could give utterance to such rubbish.

After criticising the more or less speculative issues of Portugal and her Colonies, and slightly touching on the issues of Fernando Poo, Djibouti and Zanzibar, he makes an onslaught on the issues of the British East African and South African Companies. The B.E.A. Co. is lightly passed over with the remark that various of the higher values are superfluous; but coming to B.S.A., and referring to the higher values up to £10 he maintains that the B.S.A. Co. started its stamp business in 1891, that it issued up to 1897 56 different stamps, and that this firm of cheap scrap printers in issuing these stamps speculated "on the spleen of English nabobs," whatever that may mean. Mr. Lietzow, in his stupidity, is not aware that these stamps of these countries are for postage and revenue purposes, and that the higher values were used not so much for postage as for the payment of licenses. I, myself, have had in my possession licenses cancelled with stamps to the amount of £60 to £80. Naturally not many of these high values are actually used for postage, but wherever they are they represent postage and insurance, chiefly on gold and diamond parcels.

Mr. Lietzow then comes to British Central Africa, and also calls the whole series of issues, speculative, simply because they include high value stamps and a few surcharges. But again, this very ignorant dealer has not the slightest idea of the actual facts of the case, the territory called British Central Africa was under the administration of the B. S. A. Co. in 1891, when the first stamps were issued. As they had neither time nor inclination to make a fresh set of plates they used the British South African stamps surcharged B. C. A. The three surcharges 4/-, 3/-, and 1d. were required as there were no such values as 3/-, and 4/-, in existence. We believe the 3/- value was issued specially to cover the "Hut" tax; they were very soon followed by the proper stamps and were an actual necessity. In 1895 the regular issue was ready and it was put in use. They were printed on no wmk. paper like the previous issue. Meanwhile the British Government took over the whole territory from the Company the plates were handed over to the Government and the stamps were now printed by the Government printers, Messrs. De la Rue & Co. on Government paper watermarked crown C.A. which for the information of Mr. Lietzow means Crown Agent; and Crown and C.C. for the higher values, which means Crown Colonies.

All this Mr. Lietzow doesn't know. In 1897 the English Government brought out its own design superseding the Company's design and that is the proper issue now.

Among the unnecessary stamps he includes Sierra Leone, but is Mr. Lietzow absolutely unaware that for years past the British Postal Authorities have made arrangements with the Colonial Office to supply all Crown Colonies through the Government printers, Messrs. De la Rue & Co., with the so-

called bi-coloured stamps which are printed from stock plates, having only the name and value inserted as the case requires? An immense saving has been effected by using these similar designs, and there is nothing of a speculative nature attached to these issues. I have very authoritative information that the British Home Officials absolutely discountenance anything in the nature of speculative issues. But their power is only extended to the actual Crown Colonies and not to the Independent Colonies such as Australia, etc., there the complaint if any to be made, has to be addressed to the local authorities. I have not the slightest intention of overlooking the fact that Trinidad, Mauritius, Grenada issued Commemorative stamps, but even in these instances a certain amount of *raison d'être* cannot be denied, and what is more they pay postage exactly as the ordinary stamps. When two years ago the Postal Authorities of New South Wales stooped so low as to reprint old issues in such a fashion as to be hardly different from the proper issue, a howl of indignation was raised in Philatelic circles and through the very energetic intervention of the London Philatelic Society, by making representation to the highest quarter, such pressure was brought to bear on the N.S.W. Government as to stop the practice and to cancel the sets in stock either by means of a special postmark such as was described in our Australian reprint article of last number, or to surcharge the "reprint."

It is a pity that such stupid statements as these of Mr. Paul Lietzow should pass into foreign papers without challenge, and I have been rather surprised that no English paper has referred to this matter, but it is an unfortunate fact that most editors of our Philatelic press take little or no notice of their foreign rivals, chiefly owing to lack of linguistic capability to understand them. But we should have thought that such papers as the *D.B.Z.*, would have challenged such stupid statements. Nothing harms our hobby more than sweeping mis-statements by irresponsible persons.

H. H.

#### "Do You Give It Up?"

We disclaim all responsibility, be it understood, for the following "philatelic conundrums." To those who find them good, and to those who feel a desire to wreak summary vengeance on the author, we have to state that one and all are extracted, in their entirety, from our Salisbury contemporary, the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*:

1. When does the 'Philatelic shark' resemble a ship? When he 'forges a head.'
2. Why is an enthusiastic collector like a yachtsman? Because he watches the 'sales.'
3. What is the difference between the early stamps of Portugal and the discoveries of minor varieties? One is 'head to the left,' and the other 'left to the head.'
4. Why is the Philatelist said to 'ride his hobby'? Because of the 'mounts' he requires.
5. Why are postage stamps popular with the fair sex? Because they are attached to the males (mails).
6. Which colony's stamps give the best description of life? The Sydney Views, because they are sometimes 'with clouds' and sometimes without.
7. Which colony's stamps are most suitable for a birthday present?—Natal.
8. Why is a young collector like a cyclist? Because the 'perforations' often collapse the tyre(s).
9. Why do British Colonial stamps resemble ships? Because they show the watermark, sometimes have an anchor, and are often attached to a 'cable.'

#### To remove stamps pasted down.

Mr. F. C. Stephens, in a recent issue of *Meckel's Weekly Stamp News*, gives some valuable hints as to how to remove stamps pasted down in old albums without adopting the extreme measure of tearing the book to pieces.

"Having in my possession (writes Mr. Stephens) two old collections, in which the stamps were pasted with gum, tight to the pages of the albums, I found before me the task of removing nearly two thousand stamps and placing them in my new album. It was a new experience and I had never read anything giving instructions as to the best way to proceed. Most of the stamps adhered snugly from edge to edge.

"My first impulse was to tear out the pages and immerse them in water, but this idea was abandoned, because it was a needless mutilation of the book and more especially because I did not wish to have the stamps floating loosely around in the water. I had always heard that the way to remove stamps was to steam them. So this was my first trial. I found that after having steamed them five or ten minutes, they appeared to stick closer than before. Finding steam a failure, I tried water. The method which I used and believe to be the best is as follows: Take a thick, soft cloth, as, for instance, a small Turkish washrag, and saturate it with cold water, laying it on the stamps. And on no account use hot or even warm water, as this is very likely to dissolve the ink and the lines will run together. The soaking of the stamp may be hastened by applying a little pressure, such as laying a flat iron on top.

"If it is desired to remove paper from back of stamp or to remove it from an envelope, it is best to place the stamp face downwards on some smooth surface and then apply the wet cloth, being careful that the face of the stamp is not rubbed while in wet condition. This precaution is necessary because the ink of many stamps is quite soluble in water, especially if it is warm. Red shades seem to be soluble as in the current 2-cent and postage due stamps.

"After the stamp has been removed there will probably remain on its back some gum, which may be removed by scraping with a penknife and then gently washing with wet cloth.

#### The Rank of Transvaal Stamps.

Mr. E. J. Nankivell is not going to get hurried and hot as Editor of the *Transvaal Collectors' Quarterly*. His issue for April appears early in June. Query; when may we expect the July number? However, there are many who will think it a good thing worth waiting for. We have been interested in this editorial paragraph on the subject of the status of Transvaal stamps:

The postage stamps of the Transvaal give reason for much rumination on the part of those who follow the latest fashion of separating British Colonials from Foreign Countries.

It was a British colony from 1877 to 1881. It includes a long list of British issues, amongst them being a series with the Queen's portrait; and the country is still under the suzerainty of the British Crown.

Nevertheless, it has been relegated by the lower court of philatelic geographical appeal—to wit, our Gibbons—to the rating of a foreign country. But the final court of appeal, our philatelic House of Lords—to wit, the Philatelic Society of London, presided over by H.R.H. the Duke of York—has decided to include it in the second part of its work on the Postage Stamps of the British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates in Africa, which may be expected at any moment in any one of the coming centuries.

We do not pretend to settle the question. It is enough for the present that many of its most interesting issues are British, and that from first to last it is full of genuine philatelic interest.

#### Other Journals briefly mentioned.

A new British Stamp Journal is the *Philatelic World*, with which is amalgamated 'Herdman's Miscellany.' Mr. H. B. Bailey, who publishes this new sheet, will need to increase both quality and quantity ere the *Philatelic World* can become a power in the land.

"Mr. Dooleyism," as we may call the new American Irish humour, has *Stamp Talk* for one of its victims. "Mr. Hennessy on the Imperials" in the May number is sheer Dooleyism, adapted to Philately.

*Le Courrier des Timbres Poste* continues to reflect great credit on its Editor, Mons. Bossackiewicz.

*Meckel's Weekly Stamp News* has perpetrated another big number—this time a "Summer Special." The "Inquiry Department" of this journal is a most useful and interesting feature.





# I OFFER

		CYPRUS.		UNUSED.	USED.
1879	6p. grey-black	..	..	20/-	—
	6d. do. pr.	..	..	40/-	—
		GREAT BRITAIN.			
1880	2/- brown..	..	..	—	50/-
1882	£5 orange	..	..	—	35/-
		BELGIUM.			
1869	5frs. red-brown	..	..	24/-	—
		GAMBIA.			
1869	1/- green ..	..	..	45/-	45/-
		CONGO STATE.			
1886	5frs. violet	..	..	25/-	—
		MONACO.			
1885	5frs. violet	..	..	50/-	55/-
		NAPLES.			
1858	½ torneso blue (cross)	..	..	—	80/-
	"   dark blue ..	..	..	—	80/-
	"   (arms) on letter, superb	..	..	—	300/-
	"   not on letter	..	..	—	240/-
	"   slightly damaged	..	..	—	175/-

		NEW CALEDONIA.		UNUSED.	USED.
1860	10 cents ..	..	..	25/-	—
	"   "   "   "   "   "	..	..	50/-	—
		RUSSIAN LEVANT.			
1863	10p. blue and red-brown	..	..	—	150/-
	2p. red and blue	..	..	—	150/-
		SWITZERLAND.			
Collectors and Dealers who wish to complete this country can obtain very fine selections on approval on receipt of references					
		TUSCANY.			
1851	2 soldi brown-red	..	..	—	140/-
	2 "   "   pair	..	..	—	300/-
	60 crazie, brown-red	..	..	—	340/-
	"   "   not so fine	..	..	—	300/-
	9 crazie, superb	..	..	—	120/-
	"   not so fine	..	..	—	80/-

Special List of all Varieties in Stock forwarded post free on application. . . . . Offers in Last Three "Fortnightlies" still in force.

I AM A BUYER OF LARGE AND SMALL COLLECTIONS FOR IMMEDIATE CASH.

*PHILLIP KOSACK, 8, Burgstr., Berlin, C*

RARITIES AND OLD GERMAN ENVELOPES A SPECIALITY. [105-134

"THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

ALL BACK NUMBERS in Stock at the following Rates:  
 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 12-16, 18-83, 85-104, at 1½d. per number post free.  
 3 and 5 .. 6d. " "  
 10, 11, 17, 84 1/- " "

Or a complete Volume with Index, bound in Special Cover, 4/9  
 27-52. Vol. II. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete 4/9  
 Volume bound to match Vol. I. .. ..  
 53-78. Vol. III. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete 4/9  
 Volume bound to match Vol. I. .. ..  
 79-104. Vol. IV. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete 4/9  
 Volume bound to match Vol. I. .. ..  
 Or the four bound Volumes .. .. 15/6

Post Free in the United Kingdom.  
 Abroad, Carriage Extra (about 1/- per vol.)

**Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.,**  
 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

THE NEXT  
*Glasgow Stamp Auction Sale*

Will be held early in June, when a Valuable Collection will be exposed. Further consignments of fine stamps can be accepted for inclusion in this Sale if sent in immediately.

If you wish to sell your collection or duplicates in the best Market, send them to Glasgow where the very highest market prices are obtained for rare and medium stamps in fine condition. Please note that:

- (1) Glasgow is the acknowledged Philatelic Centre of Scotland.
- (2) London has many Stamp Auctioneers—Glasgow has only one.
- (3) Sales are not held once a week, once a month being quite enough.
- (4) The lots are on view at Edinburgh for the benefit of collectors resident in the East of Scotland.
- (5) The attendance at every sale held during the present season has exceeded 50.
- (6) Commission charges are extremely moderate.

A very favourable opportunity has arisen for the disposal of a large collection divided into lots.

SPECIAL TERMS WILL BE QUOTED AND FURTHER PARTICULARS FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

106-125]

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** Philatelic Auctioneer.

213, WEST CAMPBELL STREET, GLASGOW.

# I OFFER

		CYPRUS.			
		UNUSED.	USED.		
1879	6p. grey-black	20/-	—		
	6d. do. pr.	40/-	—		
<b>GREAT BRITAIN.</b>					
1880	2/- brown..	—	50		
1882	£5 orange	—	35/-		
<b>BELGIUM.</b>					
1869	5frs. red-brown	24	—		
<b>GAMBIA.</b>					
1869	1/- green ..	45/-	45/-		
<b>CONGO STATE.</b>					
1886	5frs. violet	25/-	—		
<b>MONACO.</b>					
1885	5frs. violet	50	55/-		
<b>NAPLES.</b>					
1858	½ torneso blue (cross)	—	80		
	“ dark blue ..	—	80		
	“ (arms) on letter. superb	—	300/-		
	“ not on letter ..	—	240		
	“ slightly damaged ..	—	175		

		NEW CALEDONIA.			
		UNUSED.	USED.		
1860	10 cents ..	25/-	—		
	“ ..	50	—		
<b>RUSSIAN LEVANT.</b>					
1863	10p. blue and red brown	—	150		
	2p. red and blue ..	—	150		
<b>SWITZERLAND.</b>					
Collectors and Dealers who wish to complete this country can obtain very fine selections on approval on receipt of references					
<b>TUSCANY.</b>					
1851	2 soldi brown-red ..	—	140/-		
	2 “ “ pair ..	—	300/-		
	60 crazie. brown-red ..	—	340/-		
	“ “ not so fine ..	—	300/-		
	9 crazie, superb ..	—	120		
	“ not so fine ..	—	80		

Special List of all Varieties in Stock forwarded post free on application. . . . . Offers in Last Three "Fortnightlies" still in force.

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*PHILLIP KOSACK, 8, Burgstr., Berlin, C*

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3 and 5 .. 6d. " "  
10, 11, 17, 84 1/- " "

Or a complete Volume with Index, bound in Special Cover. 4/9  
27-52. Vol. II. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete Volume bound to match Vol. I. 4/9  
53-78. Vol. III. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete Volume bound to match Vol. I. 4/9  
79-104. Vol. IV. at 1½d. per number Post Free. Or complete Volume bound to match Vol. I. 4/9  
Or the four bound Volumes .. .. . 15/6

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106-125]

**ROBERT S. GRAY,** Philatelic Auctioneer.

213, WEST CAMPBELL STREET, GLASGOW.

**Result of 12th MONTHLY COMPETITION.**

The sentence given last month, with the missing words filled in, reads—

"Some of the issues of United States stamps were obviously made for collectors, and if they had been effectively boycotted on their appearance, we might have been spared the Omaha speculative issues."

The above solution is the only possible one, having regard to the rules which were set forth in my circular.

Three correct solutions came to hand, and these were sent by

- MRS. WILDASH, 67, Enys Road, Eastbourne.
- MISS A. ELCOMB, 67, St. Peter's Road, Croydon.
- MR. W. H. EARL, 45, Florence St., Newcastle, Staffs.

To each of whom I have forwarded postal orders for £1 13s. 6d. (one-third of £5).

**NOTICE.**

There will be no more Competitions until about September.

I am now offering the following

**SPECIAL BARGAINS**

All in fine condition. s. d.

Dominica, perf. 12½, 1/- red-lilac...	15	0
Gold Coast, CC., ½d. bistre .. .. .	2	3
" " 1d. blue .. .. .	0	8
" " 2d. green .. .. .	0	10
" " 4d. mauve .. .. .	0	10
" " 6d. orange .. .. .	1	9
or set of five as above .. .. .	6	0
Great Britain, I.K. Official, 2½d. lilac ..	2	6
" " 1885, 1/- green .. .. .	17	6
" " 1888, 1/- green .. .. .	1	6
" Govt. Parcels, 1½d. lilac, 1883 ..	2	6
" " 1/- green .. .. .	1	6
Cuba, 1866, 4cots, rose, imperf., fine pairs, used, on large piece of original ..	25	0
India, 8 pies lilac on bluish, on entire original wrapper (with an 8 anna), very scarce ..	30	0

Write for longer list.

I shall be pleased to send selection of common or medium stamps on approval.

Correspondence from collectors and dealers abroad or in the colonies with a view to buying, exchanging or selling will receive prompt attention. [117-122]

P. LOINES PEMBERTON,  
34, Balfour Rd., South Norwood, London, S.E.

**EXAMINATION OF STAMPS.**

We are prepared to examine Stamps as to their genuineness on the following terms:

One to three stamps .. .. .	6d.
Each additional specimen .. .. .	2d.

Stamped addressed envelope (registered) to be enclosed in every case.

HARRY HILCKES & CO., LTD., 64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

**JUST OUT. BRIGHT'S**

(COMPLETE) CATALOGUE  
Post Free, 2/6

**GIBBONS'**

... CATALOGUE  
(BRITISH EMPIRE ONLY)  
Post Free, 2/3

**Whitfield King**

(Adhesives only). CATALOGUE  
Post Free, 1/3

**MORLEY'S**

(English only). CATALOGUE  
Post Free, 2/6

FROM  
HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,  
64, Cheapside, LONDON, E.C.

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC AUCTIONS.**

July 3rd next, at the Grand Hotel,  
at 6.30 prompt.

**Last Sale of the Season!**

**The Finest Sale**

EVER HELD IN MANCHESTER.

Lots to be in by June 12th.

Only REALLY GOOD LOTS wanted.

Catalogues ready: JUNE 26th.

Further particulars of the Auctioneers:

*Ostara and Darlow,*

18, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER.

117-122]

We have a FEW COPIES of our

**Reprint Catalogue**

AND HOW TO DETECT THEM,

LEFT. Over 2250 sold. Price, 1/6.

HARRY HILCKES & Co., LTD.,

64, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

**SOME SCARCE STAMPS.**

FRANCE, 1 franc, Emp. .. .. .	13/6
UNITED STATES, 1869, 30 cents .. .. .	7/-
NEVIS, 2½d., CA., perf. 14 .. .. .	17/-
NEW BRUNSWICK, 3d. .. .. .	10/-
NIGER COAST, 1/-, 1893 .. .. .	5/-
ST. CHRISTOPHER, 1/- .. .. .	17/-
VICTORIA, 1/- Registered .. .. .	13/6

Approval willingly. References required.  
[104-123]

**W. MARCHBANK,**  
104, Holly Avenue, Newcastle-on-Tyne

**HILCKES' ENQUIRY BUREAU.**

Annual Subscription .. .. .	2/6
Home Enquiries .. .. .	1/6
Continental Enquiries .. .. .	2/-
Rest of the World .. .. .	Special rates.

Write for full particulars—

"Manager," 64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**ENGLISH ALBUM**

The Prices are:—

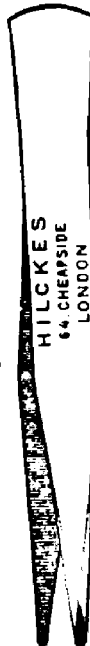
Half Morocco, 106 Cloth Bound, 4/6	
Cheap Edition .. .. .	2/6

CARRIAGE EXTRA.

**HARRY HILCKES & Co., Ltd.,**  
64, Cheapside, London, E.C.

**THE UNIVERSAL STAMP TWEEZERS**

This is NOT the conventional article, which, with its rough and has ruined more Stamps than can be readily ascertained



(THREE-QUARTER SIZE)

Fitted with Cloth Case for Pocket Use.

Is. post free.

ALTHOUGH OF FIRST-CLASS WORKMANSHIP, the Price is a very popular one.

HARRY HILCKES & CO., Ltd., 64, Cheapside, E.C.

**GRANADA STAMPS**

.....(UNUSED) FOR SALE.

3 vermilion, 6d. (rare); 2 purple, 1d.; 2 blue, 4d.; 4 orange, 4d.; 5 claret, 2½d.; 3 orange, ½d., surcharged (whole), very rare; 2 orange, 1d. (postage).

Offers wanted for set or separate.—Write....

...P. HODSON, 28, Haymarket, S.W.

**NOTICE.**

Will Correspondents from whom we have purchased Current British Colonial Stamps, during the year 1898, kindly favour us with a copy of the amounts. Payment for same if requested....

G. FRANCIS & CO., St. Clement's, Jersey.

**Indian Native State Stamps.**

Sells (or Exchanges) above at Cheap Rates. Apply to.....

N. N. MOOKERJI, Esq.,

c/o Government Stationery Office, 3-4, Church Lane, CALCUTTA, INDIA.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 125—Vol. V.      SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1899.      ONE PENNY.

London Exhibition, 1897 - SILVER MEDAL.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

# FREDK. R. GINN,

## STAMP DEALER, EXPERT AND VALUER,

OPPOSITE GAIETY  
THEATRE.

### 143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

#### SPECIALITY SELECTIONS ON APPROVAL.

**DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent.**—Selections of Fine and Desirable Stamps from the celebrated Henderson, Hill, Sporthouse, and many other Collections recently purchased. The first-named alone costing £3,000, and containing 40,000 Stamps.

**DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent.**—Many of the greatest rarities in stock at half the usual prices.

**DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent.**—Approval Books and Sheets of every Country for Beginners to Advanced Collectors. Every Stamp fully guaranteed.

### - - SPECIAL OFFERS. - -

NOTE.—All marked with \* are unused.      Cash with Orders.      Satisfaction Guaranteed.

UNITED STATES.		UNITED STATES, continued		UNITED STATES, continued	
s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1847.	5 cents brown	2	0	1870.	5 cents yellow-ochre
..	10 .. black	12	0	..	30 .. orange
1851.	1 .. blue	1	0	..	00 .. blue
..	1 .. a grand pair	4	0	1868.	24 .. purple, with grille
..	5 .. brown	34	0	..	30 .. orange
..	10 .. green	2	6	..	00 .. blue
..	10 .. a grand pair	6	6	1869.	15 .. brown, rare type
..	12 .. black	3	6	..	15 .. brown, with frame
..	12 .. a grand pair	7	6	..	24 .. green, etc.
1855.	5 .. bright red-brown, a rarity, type A	27	6	..	30 .. blue, etc.
..	5 .. dark brown, type A	10	0	..	00 .. carmine, etc.
..	5 .. brown, type C	6	6	..	00 .. extra fine
..	10 .. green	1	4	1870.	24 .. violet
..	12 .. black	1	6	*1873.	Columbus, set complete, unused
1855.	24 .. grey	16	6	..	do. do. used
..	30 .. orange	18	6	*1868.	Omaha, set complete, unused
..	*90 .. blue, unused	70	0	..	do. do. used
..	99 .. blue, used	100	0	1870.	2 cents red
				1875.	2 cents red
				1887.	00 .. violet
				1890.	00 .. orange
				1895.	1 dollar black
				..	2 .. blue
				..	5 .. green
				1898.	50 cents green
				..	1 dollar black
				..	2 .. brown

#### CANADA.

1897.	50 cents Jubilee, used postally	1	3
..	1 dollar ..	6	0
..	2 dollars ..	7	6

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

£1	green	3	6
£5	orange, used postally	10	0

Fine and perfect Copies Guaranteed.      Every other British and United States Stamp in Stock at equally Low Prices.

### The Celebrated F.R.G. Collections.

Contain wonderful value for money, and only perfect copies of Stamps.      The finest thing in packets yet attempted

No. I.	Collection of 300 varieties.	Catalogue value upwards of 25 ..	Only 1 10. post free.
No. II.	Collection of 500 varieties.	Finest 500 variety packet ever offered ..	Only 6 7. post free.
No. III.	Collection of 1000 varieties.	If priced separately the stamps would come to over £5. ..	Only 18 - post free.
No. IV.	Collection of 1500 varieties.	Selected with great care; it has no equal at the price, forming a really fine collection in itself ..	Only 45/-, registered and post free.

#### SPECIAL OFFERS THIS ISSUE !!

**BRITISH GUIANA, 1882.** Provisional Issue, 1 cent, crimson, used postally. The two types—one with brig, the other with ship in centre of design. In many respects unique Provisionals. The Pair, 5/-, post free, in perfect condition. Catalogue price 8/6.

#### WANTED TO PURCHASE.

Large Collections. High prices given. £50 to £300, cash down, for fine general collections. Single rarities and large parcels of obsolete stamps purchased. Early supplies of new issues, especially Provisionals, always bought. A fair commission paid to foreign agents and others forwarding early consignments cash in full guaranteed by return mail.

**Philatelic Societies' Reports**

**MANCHESTER PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE Ordinary Meeting was held on December 1st, at the Grand Hotel, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, president, was in the chair. In a paper on the Stamps of Uganda, Mr. W. K. Skipwith described fully the various issues, the first two of which were made by the missionaries, with a tyewriter, and illustrated his paper with a fine display of the stamps.

**LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT the Annual Meeting of this society a satisfactory report and balance-sheet were presented, and the officers for the ensuing session were elected. Mr. Herbert M. Hepworth was elected president, with Messrs. F. A. Padgett and John H. Thackrah vice-presidents. Mr. F. J. Kidson was re-elected hon. treasurer, and other officers were appointed. A vote of thanks to the Free Public Library Committee for the use of the meeting-room was passed. There were also a number of interesting exhibits. Mr. E. Egly produced a provisional post-card of Egypt, surcharged 4 millimetres on 5 rose. Mr. T. K. Skipwith brought the set of seven values of the new issue for the Uganda Protectorate. On behalf of Mr. W. Beckwith, of Taunton, were shown a short-paid Canadian letter, surcharged in Liverpool, and other curiosities. Mr. I. W. Duffield showed the 5 cent Swiss stamp in green, the Postal Union colour for that value. Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., showed a number of entires, railway letter stamps, and old envelopes, dating in the early forties. For the current session an attractive syllabus was arranged.

**BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.**

THERE was a good muster for the opening meeting of the session, held at the club room, 42, Cotham Hill. Mr. R. Dalton, the hon. secretary, gave a very interesting paper on the Stamps of South Australia for the information of the uninitiated. This Colony has been very prolific in issuing varieties of stamps for the last forty-four years. Mr. Dalton exhibited his fine collection of this country, which he had admirably arranged and classified. Meetings of this comparatively young but flourishing society are held the second and fourth Thursday in each month from October until May. Mr. P. J. Lloyd is the president, and Mr. Dalton, of Nanloe, Carnarvon Road, is hon. secretary, from whom any collector can obtain information respecting the society.

At a meeting held on October 19th, Mr. D. H. McPherson showed about a dozen sheets of the stamps of British Guiana, beginning with the issue of 1860. The various perforations and shades were well represented in each succeeding issue.

**BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT the Meeting held on November 2nd, the following were unanimously elected members:—Dr. L. F. Houghton, Messrs. H. M. Hepworth, G. L. Edwards, J. W. Etherington, A. McDonald, J. W. Heath, H. Reeks, E. W. Smith-Delacour, W. E. Fowkes, and F. H. Thompson. It was incidentally mentioned that 41 members of the London Philatelic Society were members of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

A vote of thanks was given to Mons. T. Lemaire for two bound copies of his catalogue.

Then followed a very interesting display and discussion of the stamps of South Australia, illustrated by the collections of Messrs. W. T. Wilson, W. Pimm and T. W. Peck.

**PLYMOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

MEMBERS of this society met at 9a, Princess Square, on November 15th, when the vice-president, Rev. E. T. Fyffe, B.A., R.N., read a paper on the "Stamps of Victoria," illustrating it with very fine specimens from his collection. During the discussion Mr. Fyffe gave many useful hints regarding the various watermarks and perforations, &c., which were much appreciated by his audience. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Fyffe for his highly-instructive and interesting paper.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

AT the annual general meeting of the Society the Secretary's report showed that during the last session the number of members had greatly increased, and the accounts also showed an increased balance in favour

of the society. The members then proceeded to elect the officers for the coming session. Mr. G. H. Hunt was elected president, Mr. F. H. Metcalfe vice-president, Mr. Wilmot Taylor secretary, Mr. J. H. Chapman treasurer, Mr. J. R. Sutton librarian, Mr. R. Sneath exchange secretary, Messrs. Nowill, Barnascone and Peace members of the Committee. A very interesting programme was arranged.

**HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

A GENERAL Meeting was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on November 7th. At the conclusion of the ordinary business, the Chairman (Mr. Sutherland) announced the death of Mr. W. A. Westoby, an esteemed hon. member, and an expression of regret was passed and entered on the minutes.

**FREDK. C. PENNEY,**

8 Masons Avenue, Coleman Street, London, E.C.

**SPECIAL BARGAINS FOR THE NEW YEAR.**

Labuan, 1862, engraved unused, 2 to 40 complete. Cat. 22/9 .. .. .	5 0
" " lithographed used .. .. .	1 0
" 1896, surcharged on Borneo, used, 25, 50, 1 dollar .. .. .	1 9
" 1897, used, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8c. (Chinese character) .. .. .	0 9
" " " 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c., complete set .. .. .	1 9
Borneo, 1889, used, 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10c., complete set .. .. .	1 0
" 1886-89, used, 25c., 50c. and 1 dollar .. .. .	1 9
" 1897, used, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8c. (Chinese character) .. .. .	0 9
" " " 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c. complete set .. .. .	1 9
Philippine Islands, 1880-8, unused 1c., 1c., 5c., 6 1/2c., 10c., 12 1/2c., 25c., 50 mil. Cat. 13/9	2 6
" " 1880-92, unused, 5m., 2c., 2 1/2c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 15c. Cat. 6/11 .. .. .	2 0
" " 1892, unused, 1/2, 2 mil., 2c., 5c., 6c., 8c., 10c., 12 1/2c. Cat. 6 8 .. .. .	2 0
The above 3 sets consist of 25 varieties (catalogued £1 7s. 4d.) set of 25 for .. .. .	
Porto Rico, 1890-6, unused, 1/2, 1, 2, 5 mil., 1c., 2c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 20c. Cat. 4/-	1 3
" " 1890-6, unused, 2m., 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., 8c. " 2/11 .. .. .	1 0
" " " " Impuesto de Guerra," guaranteed. } " 7/6 .. .. .	1 6
" " 1898, unused set of 5. Catalogued } " 4/9 .. .. .	1 9
" " " " Habilitado, 1898-99. Guaranteed. } .. .. .	1 9
" " 1898, unused, 1m., 2m., 1c., 3c., 4c., 6c. Catalogued } .. .. .	1 9
The above 4 sets consist of 28 varieties (Catalogued 19/0). Set of 28 for .. .. .	
( in red, 5c. on 1 mil. blue, 5c. on 1 mil. brown, in violet, 2c., 2c., 5c., 2c. on 2 mil. and the 2c. on 5c. in black, which is unchronicled. The set of 8 for .. .. .	
<b>SPECIAL. Impuesto de Guerra,</b> .. .. .	
Seven of these are catalogued at 7/9 and 1 unpriced.	

The above sets of Philippines and Porto Rico will no doubt be doubled in price in next catalogue.

Cuba, splendid set of 40 varieties from 1864 onwards All unused, and contain some very fine stamps, price per set .. .. .	3 6
" " 13 varieties unused from 1874. Price .. .. .	6
" " Habilitado 1898-99 unused very rare in this condition .. .. .	.. .. .
P. Rico, 2m., 4m., 1c., 2c., 3c., 4c., 5c., 6c., and 8c. Set of 9 .. .. .	5 0
French Colonies, unpaid unused, complete set 1c. to 5fr. Set of 14 .. .. .	10 6
Nyassa, on Mozambique, unused 2 1/2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 200, 300 in sets of 12	3 0
" " " " used 2 1/2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 50, 75, 80, 100, 150, 200, 300 .. .. .	2 0
Mexico, 1 and 2 pesos blue unused. Cat 3/- pair, pair for .. .. .	1 0
Tonga, 1st issue used, 1, 2, 6, and 1/- Set of 4 .. .. .	1 3
Sarawak, 1st issue used, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 cents. Set of 5 .. .. .	1 6
Roumania, present set complete 1 bani to 2 lei used. Set of 10 .. .. .	9
Mozambique, unused, 2 1/2, 5, 10, 20, 25, 40, 50, 100, 200, 300. Set of 10 .. .. .	2 0
Costa Rica, unused, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c., 1 and 2 pesos. Set of 8 .. .. .	1 0
Guatemala, " " 1, 2, 6, 10, 12, 20, 25, 50, 100, 200, 500. Set of 11 .. .. .	2 6
Peru, splendid set of 14 varieties unused including 12 surcharges. This set is catalogued at 13/6. Set of 14 .. .. .	1 6

Collection of 12,500 varieties on view as above. Marked at half catalogue. Inspection invited. Collections wanted. Submit offers of any current stamps in quantities. High prices paid.

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8 Masons Avenue, Coleman Street,  
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Opposite entrance Guildhall Library.

# THE STAMP COLLECTORS' PORTFOLIO

(With which is incorporated the "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY")

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No. 125—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### IT HAS REIGNED FOR SIXTY YEARS.

SHALL not the penny postage stamp have its Diamond Jubilee, too? By next year the little square of gummed paper will have reigned sixty years.

### THE COLOUR DIFFICULTY IN PHILATELY.

MR. M. W. JONES has been imparting his views on "Stamps and their Colours," to the Manchester Philatelic Society, in the course of a most interesting paper. "We have no standard of colour (declared Mr. Jones) beyond that of the rainbow, or the similar range of shades presented by a ray of sunlight passing through a prism. If we attempt to classify the shades of our stamps by such prismatic colours, we would soon get lost. Thanks to the manipulations of printing-ink manufacturers the shades found upon stamps present a range the rainbow never knew, and will even give points to the hand of Dame Nature in her most extravagant moods." After discussing in detail the numerous other difficulties, Mr. Jones suggested that these might be overcome in time by the appointment of a committee of experts.

### THE STEADY INCREASE OF STAMP COLLECTING.

THE cult of the stamp increases year by year. Our Statistical Friend has said it, and Statistical Fiends cannot lie. "The Managing Director of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited (so writes the S.F.) informs me that during the present year his firm have disposed of no less than 42,000 stamp albums. Now, what proportion of this number is represented by new collectors, and what proportion by philatelists who

are "removing" from one album to another, or increasing their number of albums? This little problem could best be solved by Mr. Charles J. Phillips himself, for he could discover just how many of these books were of the cheaper kinds, how many were "Imperials," and how many blank albums for advanced collectors. I have, however, put two and two together, and, in the result, I feel fairly sure that if I say that 20,000 of these albums went to new collectors I shall under- rather than over-estimate the real figure. I have no returns from other album publishers before me, but if others can show proportionately good results—as they doubtless can—one is face to face with the conclusion that at the present time our hobby is experiencing a most surprising, not to say phenomenal, increase in the numbers of its devotees."

### GERMANY'S NEW YEAR STAMPS.

IN accordance with an order issued by the German Secretary of State for the Post Office, the design of the German postage stamp will be changed on the 1st of January, 1900. In future all stamps of a less value than one mark will bear instead of the Imperial eagle the ideal head of Germania. We are able to give an illustration—a trifle rough, we fear—of this design. It will be seen that Germania is clad in a coat of mail, with the Imperial crown on her head. In the right hand she carries a sword and an olive branch. Of the stamps bearing this design the 3, 5, 10, and 20 pfennigs will be of the same colours as heretofore, namely, brown, green, red, and blue. The higher values, 25, 30, 40, 50, and 80 pfennigs, will, however, be printed in two colours, the figure of Germania in black, with the frame and background another colour.



The 1, 2, 3, and 5 marks stamps will bear engraved pictures. On the one mark stamp there will be a view of the Imperial Post Office; on the two marks Werner's picture, "Be United"; on the three marks the Emperor William's monument; and on the five marks Pape's picture, in which the Emperor, with the Imperial Standard in his hand, is supposed to speak the words, "One Empire, one People, one God." It is understood that these high-value stamps will be of oblong shape in the manner of the U.S.A. Columbus issue.

### MR. BACON'S TASK CONCLUDED.

MR. E. D. BACON has now applied the finishing touches to the onerous and responsible task of classifying and arranging the adhesive section of the splendid collection bequeathed to

the nation by the late Mr. T. K. Tapling, M.P. Mr. Bacon in communicating the fact to the Press, deals also with the important question of the facilities to be provided for public visitors to the collection.

During the time I was at the British Museum (writes Mr. Bacon in the *London Philatelist*), I was more than once asked by the authorities there to make suggestions that would admit of the collection being made serviceable to students, and allow of the contents being safely inspected by anyone desirous of examining the stamps. I am glad to be able to announce that one of these proposals has met with the approval of the Trustees, and preparations are now being made to carry it into effect.

The system it is proposed to adopt consists of employing a number of cabinets with shallow drawers. Each of these drawers will be covered with plate-glass, and will only pull out sufficiently to allow of the examination of the sheets of stamps it contains. In fact, the cabinets will be built upon precisely the same lines as those which are now in use at the Natural History Museum, South Kensington, for the display of butterflies and moths, except that the drawers will be shallower. These cabinets, when finished, will be placed in the King's Library, and anyone entering that part of the Museum will be allowed to inspect whatever portion of the collection he chooses; and this he will himself be able to do by simply pulling out and shutting the drawers containing the stamps of the countries he desires to see. I doubt whether it would be possible to devise a more perfect plan than this for preserving a collection of stamps, inasmuch as it provides ample protection in every way for the specimens, including that of danger from exposure to the light; and it also affords economy of space. Collectors will, at the same time, be able to inspect any of the stamps with perfect facility, and without the least delay.

It will necessarily be some months before the cabinets are ready to receive the sheets of stamps, but I trust no undue delay will now take place in completing the proposed scheme.

This is a most welcome and satisfactory announcement. Hitherto we have only seen the Tapling stamps in instalments, and the news that one will be enabled to inspect the whole collection at one visit (although that could scarcely be done save by a person of phenomenal endurance!) is the more welcome for being somewhat unexpected.

#### STILL THEY COME, THESE CATALOGUES!

ONE would have expected to see Messrs. Stanley Gibbons resting on their oars awhile after the issue of their four volume catalogue. Mr. Charles J. Phillips, however, is nothing if not indefatigable. He now suavely announces the almost immediate issue of a 1900 Catalogue. This, however, will consist of two parts only—for which relief much thanks! Part I will be British Empire as before; Part II, Foreign Countries, also as before. The Locals and the Entires will only be re-issued. Mr. Phillips informs us, "about once in three or four years as may be required."

We have alluded to the forthcoming Gibbons as the 1900 Catalogue, because we think Mr. Phillips himself means to point to 1900 as the year of publication. He goes on, however, to speak of the projected work as the Catalogue of the New Century! We are among those who have decided to inaugurate the new century on January 1st, 1901, but we have no wish to provoke a controversy on the point. The German Emperor, we understand, has ranged himself on the Stanley Gibbons' side of the argument, for has not His Majesty decided to issue the new "Germania" postage stamps in January, 1900? New century or old, Messrs. Gibbons inform us that an entirely new set of illustrations will be used in the new catalogues; and then follows this important statement:—

In Part I [British Empire] there will be some important alterations necessitated by the so-called "Remainders" of old Colonial stamps that have been doled out with a generous hand for some time past.

How the prices in a stamp catalogue are arrived at in individual cases must always be a matter of vital interest to the stamp collector. Mr. Phillips, in the *Monthly Journal*, tells us just how his firm figure out the prices that are to be published in the Gibbons Catalogues:—

"For some months before we begin the Catalogue," he writes, "we put on a competent staff of philatelists to rearrange our stock and stock books of each country, in the order that is intended to adopt in the forthcoming Catalogue; we then find out what varieties we are short of, and seek to

buy them from the best sources at home and abroad, basing the new prices on the price at which we can buy, and not upon what we may consider the relative rarity. That is to say, we try to conduct our business upon commercial lines of a fair ratio of profit upon the turnover.

"For instance, suppose we have a used stamp priced at 6d. in the current edition, and find a certain source whence we can buy these stamps at 7s. per 100, then in the new Catalogue we reduce this stamp to 2d. each. On the other hand, another stamp at 6d. cannot, perhaps, be brought under 5s. per doz., then we must raise our price to 8d. each singly, and so on."

Prices in the Gibbons' Catalogue, it would thus seem, are a result of the personal application of the inexorable law of supply and demand. It does not necessarily follow that Messrs. Gibbons' own experience as buyers and sellers is sufficient to determine the real values of all stamps. Indeed, Mr. Phillips in so many words abandons all claim to such a hypothesis. "Collectors," says he, "should bear in mind the fact that we do not pretend that our Catalogue is a standard of prices—each merchant can ask what he likes for his goods—all we say is that *this Catalogue gives our price for each stamp at the time we go to press*," and that, after all, is the most we can expect of a dealer's priced catalogue.

#### A PHILATELIST OF THE "FIGHTING FIFTH."

WE greatly regret to record the death of a brave soldier and good philatelist in the person of Captain Eager, who fell, mortally wounded, at the Battle of Belmont, while fighting



THE LATE CAPT. EAGER.

under General Lord Methuen against the Boers. Captain Eager was a man in the prime of life, eager by nature as by name. His regiment, the 1st Northumberland Fusiliers, is a fine body of sturdy fighters, whose banner has been carried to victory in all quarters of the globe. The 1st Northumberlands are the old and famous "Fighting Fifth," whose men are proud of yet another regimental nickname—the "Old and Bold." From even our slight acquaintance with Captain Eager we are confident that he bore himself bravely and well in that desperate fight at Belmont, when our men had to stand against the scathing fire of a hidden foe.

Captain Eager, during the recent Cretan trouble, was stationed with the British forces in that distressful island, and a very exhaustive article on the Cretan provisionals in the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* was based on the information and specimens he supplied.

#### THE CASE OF CHAPLIN v. LAING

IS the Queen's Bench, before Mr. Justice Bruce and a special jury, on November 30th, the case of Chaplin v. Laing was concluded.

This was an interpleader issue raising the question whether the plaintiff, Mr. Thomas William Chaplin, or the defendant, Mr. Henry George Laing, was entitled to a collection of postage stamps, valued at a £1000, which, it was alleged, had been stolen in Johannesburg some time since, and which was now in the hands of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson. When the case was called on.

Mr. Blackwell, who appeared for the defendant, said that since the issue was ordered to be tried certain information had come to the knowledge of the defendant which convinced him that he ought not to further contest the case. Therefore he consented to judgment for the plaintiff.

Mr. H. Reed, Q.C. (with whom was Mr. Hansell) said he appeared for the plaintiff, and asked for an order stating that the stamps were the property of the plaintiff, and directing that they should be handed over to the plaintiff.

Mr. Blackwell said he admitted that the plaintiff was entitled to have judgment in the issue and a declaration that



the stamps were his property. What was done with the stamps after that his client did not care.

Mr. Reed said he must ask for judgment.

Mr. Justice Bruce gave judgment for the plaintiff on the issue, with costs.

#### THE BUSINESS SIDE OF PHILATELY.

Two well known philatelists have joined hands as dealers in stamps for joint account in the persons of Mr. W. Boyd Kirkpatrick, lately of Bournemouth, and Mr. P. Loines Pemberton, of London. The firm of Kirkpatrick & Pemberton has "settled down" in comfortable offices at 202, High Holborn. Readers visiting town should give them a call.

PACKETS of stamps are largely "taboo" among philatelists, mainly on the ground that they are too much of a lottery. In the past unscrupulous persons have not hesitated to sell packets that chiefly contain an assortment of highly interesting rubbish. We have recently had an opportunity of examining the packets sold by Mr. F. R. Ginn, of the Strand, and known as the "F. R. Ginn Collections"; and we must say that in every case the contents have been, not only of a high class, but fully "up to description" in every particular.

MESSRS. G. HAMILTON SMITH & Co., who recently purchased Mr. M. P. Castle's superb collection of European stamps, have re-sold the same *en bloc*. The name of the buyer has not transpired.

How does the war affect the stamp trade? is doubtless the unspoken question in many a mind just now. Well, we hear of one or two cases of philatelists scraping together all they could in order to gamble in "Kaffirs" on the Stock Exchange. (For our part, we should prefer to leave the money in Philately, where it is considerably safer.) Apart from this sortie to Capel Court on the part of a few of the "Officers" of Philately, so to speak, the effect of the trouble in South Africa appears to be absolutely nil. Dealers report good trade, and when a dealer admits he is doing well, it is perhaps safe to assume that he is doing very well.

#### "THE STAMP KING": A PHILATELIC NOVEL.

MESSRS. STANLEY GIBBONS, Limited, have recently indulged in the newest of new departures. They have published a novel. A philatelic novel, if you please. We can picture to ourselves the surprise of the book-critics. A philatelic novel! After this, anything— an athletic novel, an acrobatic novel, a zoological novel, a protoplasmic novel, a— but the average mind totters before the vista of possibilities opened up by the mere idea of the specialised novel. One thing we hasten to say for "The Stamp King" it is distinctly a "novel novel," and that, by the way, would have been a fairly "taking" description to apply to it. Miss Edith Phillips, by her translation of this work from the French of Messrs. Beauregard & Gorse, has shown herself to be gifted with the true "knack" of the translator, for the book is done into English without any of that halting, hesitating artificiality of phrasing that too often mars literary work of this description.

Many reviews of "The Stamp King" have appeared in the newspapers, including a somewhat spiteful notice in the *Pall Mall Gazette*. The critique given in *Vanity Fair* affords such an excellent summary of the book that we have thought well to quote it here:

This very sprightly novel on the stamp-collecting mania is most amusing, and might be "just the thing" for a Christmas present to young folk who are ardent collectors and readers of cheery, harmless fiction. It is excellently "got-up," the illustrations are very good, and the story itself is quite exciting. "The Stamp King" is a wealthy young American. Miss Betty Scott, a "fellow-philatelist," is a mere amateur compared to this wealthy William Kenniss; she is "beautiful, charming, honourable"; but when she was put up for "the Club" she did not "even know that Cape stamps of 1853 were triangular, and that in 1893 labels were issued in Biscay bearing the portrait of Don Carlos." She was told as gently as possible that she could not be considered. She retorted that she would by a certain date have an album as complete as that of Mr. Kenniss, engaging moreover to put the stamps in herself, and "not to procure it ready filled" as he had! All people who love (or loathe) stamp collecting are honestly advised to read the racy story of Miss Betty Scott, of the one missing stamp that spoiled her beautiful album, of her race to Europe, of Mr. William Kenniss's pursuit of her that she

may not boast an equal collection of stamps, of the entertaining experiences of the pursued and pursuer through famous European cities; finally, of the return to New York, and the "dénouement" of a most absurdly happy little conceit.

May we now, in the language of the 'Armonic Club, call on Messrs. Gibbons for a song?

#### NEWS NOTES FROM ALL QUARTERS.

THERE is no denying the fact that Transvaal stamps are enjoying exceptional attention just now.

SUMMARY justice has been meted out to a German "substituter." Adolf Poppe, of Hanover, had been cheating his fellow members of the Kiel Philatelic Society for three years, when he was at length caught *in flagrante delicto*. Three-months' imprisonment and condemnation in full costs of the proceedings— such is Poppe's portion.

AT the Valentine Museum, Richmond, Virginia, U.S.A., a fine Exhibition of Confederate Locals has been held, under the auspices of the Virginia Philatelic Association. It is reported that only thirteen varieties of Confederates were unrepresented. Messrs. H. E. Deats, R. S. Nelson, and C. F. Hussman, prominent collectors of Confederates, lent their choicest specimens for the display.

MONS. ARTHUR MAURY, in the *Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste* explains the existence of the varieties in the numerals of the French 20c. stamp of 1892. When the plate of this stamp was prepared two clichés of the 20c. were, by a slip, inserted therein. The mistake being seen before any of the stamps were printed, the "2's" of the intruders were removed and "4's" carefully engraved in their places, and—*voilà tout!*

ON the first of January, 1900, the 25 penny stamp of Finland will be abolished, and the rest of the Finnish stamps will disappear in June of the same year. Collectors starting blank albums just now need leave no space for new issues of Finland.

POSTAGE stamp designer to the King of Tonga is the latest rôle of Josiah Martin, a professional photographer, of Auckland, New Zealand. His stamp-designing is merely an incidental piece of recreation, but the series of fourteen values, from ½d. to 5/- is very interesting, in view of the inclusion of many representative Tongan products and objects of historical importance.

A READER of the *Glasgow Herald* is helping that newspaper's "War Fund" by means of a "Stamp Bureau," to which other readers are invited to send any spare stamps they may have for the benefit of "the gentlemen in khaki ordered south."

THE *Leicester Daily Post* asserts that philatelists are taking care to secure good specimens of current S. A. R., and Orange Free State stamps, believing that the present issues will not survive the spring.

MANY will regret to be told in the *London Philatelist* that "it has been pointed out by friendly critics that there is not sufficient variety or attractiveness in the programme of the meetings of the London Philatelic Society." Mr. Castle, in suggesting remedies, hints that at the next election of officers of the Society some of the older members of the Council may seek positions "of greater freedom and less responsibility."

WILL readers of this paper, and especially London readers, kindly ask for it (and see that they get it) at the news shop or bookstall where they obtain their ordinary newspapers? The paper can be had at any of Smith's bookstalls; it is only a question of *insisting* on being supplied.

General Notices.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 105, High Holborn, W.C. Rejected articles will be returned if a stamped envelope be sent.

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The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, DECEMBER 23, 1899.

HERE is your FORTNIGHTLY again, sir! although every philatelic journal in the three Kingdoms has called it "defunct," "dead," or something equally funeral. The circumstances of our resuscitation need not be told. Here we are, and here we shall remain, hoping to be able to interest, to instruct, and to protect collectors as of yore.

A NOVEL feature of our paper that will commend itself to all philatelists, is the "Collectors' Guide to Values." This is not put forward as a "Catalogue" in any sense of the word, but merely as a tabulation of our ideas as to the present net market value of British Colonial Stamps. For the purpose of this series of articles we have associated ourselves with a committee of independent philatelists, men who are intimately acquainted with the conditions of the stamp market and well qualified to form and express a reliable opinion as to values. Others who are working with us have not, up to the moment of going to press, authorised us to mention their names, but we hope to do so in our next issue. Many collectors labour under the delusion that "catalogue price" carries with it in all cases a discount of from 25 to 75 per cent. How fallacious is this idea we hope to prove by our lists of values, which must be taken in every case *absolutely nett*. Furthermore, the real point is that the figures we print represent the values of the moment. We do not guarantee that they will hold good for any length of time. No one, be he collector or dealer, can appraise the future. With all respect, many of the prices in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue do not reflect the values ruling at the moment. Mr. Charles J. Phillips admits, not only in words in the *Monthly Journal*, but also in deed by his decision to produce a revised catalogue for the British Empire early in 1900.

To make precisely clear our wish and aim with regard to the Collectors' Guide to Values is no simple matter, but we trust that the "Guide," the first part of which appears in this number, will speak for itself in no uncertain voice.

We need scarcely say that with regard to this very vital question of values we shall be happy to hear the views of any or all of our readers, amateur or professional.

Our "Guide to Values" being intended principally for the average collector rather than the advanced specialist, we shall list only the normal, or ordinary varieties, and not take into account the extreme rarities.

[COPYRIGHT].

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.

Compiled by a COMMITTEE of INDEPENDENT PHILATELISTS.

∴ This "Guide" is purposely not described as a Catalogue. It has become customary to regard any price called a "catalogue price" as subject to a discount of 25% or 33% or 50%. Not so with the prices we shall publish in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." These will be in all cases absolutely net prices. If we describe a stamp as worth five shillings we mean that it is really worth that sum in the philatelic market. The value we give is the collector's value, and represents the price at which a stamp dealer can sell on the basis of a reasonable trader's profit. At first we shall deal only with British Colonial Stamps.

ANTIGUA.		Unused		Used	
		average	copy	average	copy
1862.	Engraved. No watermark; rough perf., various gauges.				
6d	green .. .. .	16/	12/	25/	20/
1863.	Same type. Wmk. small Star; rough perf. 14 to 15½.				
1d.	lilac-rose .. .. .	4/6	3/	1/9	1/3
1d.	vermilion .. .. .	4 6	3/6	1/6	1/3
6d.	yellow-green .. .. .	45/	30/	3/	2/
1d.	green .. .. .	10/	7/	1/6	1/3
1873.	Same type. Wmk. Crown and CC. Perf. 12½.				
1d.	lake .. .. .	5/	4/	2 3	1/6
1d.	scarlet-vermilion .. .. .	12 6	8/	6/	4 6
6d.	green .. .. .	30/	17 6	2 6	2.
	Same type and wmk., but perf. 14.				
1d.	lake .. .. .	1/6	1/	1/9	1/6
1d.	scarlet .. .. .	1 6	1/	1/9	1/6
6d.	green .. .. .	15/	10/	4/	3/
1879.	De La Rue type. Wmk. Crown and CC. Perf. 14.				
2½d.	brown .. .. .	42/	30/	30/	22 1/6
4d.	blue .. .. .	20/	12/6	2/3	1 6
1882.	Same type. Wmk. Crown CA., perf. 14.				
½d.	green .. .. .	1/2	1/2	1/2	1/1
2½d.	brown .. .. .	6/	5/	2/	1/6
4d.	blue .. .. .	12 6	8/	2/	1/6
1884.	Engraved; type of 1862. Wmk. Crown CA.				
1d.	red, perf. 12 .. .. .	3/	2/	1 9	1/3
1d.	.. perf. 14 .. .. .	1/3	1/2	3	1/2
6d.	green .. .. .	3/6	3/	6/	4/6
1886.	De La Rue type. Wmk. Crown and CA., perf. 14.				
2½d.	blue .. .. .	1/6	1/5	1/6	1/4
4d.	brown .. .. .	1/10	1/9	1/1	1/9
1 shilling	lilac .. .. .	16/	13/	17/	13/

(To be continued in our next).

## Wei-Hai-Wei to Chifu.

A FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE NOW OBSOLETE  
COURIER STAMPS.

AN article in the *Monthly Journal* on the Wei-Hai-Wei Courier Stamps is based on notes supplied by an army officer who was on the spot at the time when the stamps were in use. Some extracts from this most interesting article will make instructive reading:—

When first Wei-hai-Wei was taken over by the British, the Hong Kong Post Office refused to make any provision for the delivery of mails direct to the place: all letters addressed to Wei-hai-Wei were consequently left at Chifu "until called for," and at Chifu the mails were often delayed a week or ten days before one of H.M.'s ships could call in for them and bring them on. This delay was naturally considered a hardship by the residents at Wei-hai-Wei, and as Chifu was only fifty-eight miles distant overland, some of the more enterprising among them determined to try to start a Courier Post Service in conjunction with the Chinese Post Office at Chifu.

This plan received the sanction of the Commissioner of Liu-kung-tao, who gave the promoters permission to issue a sufficient number of 2c. and 5c. stamps to cover the probable cost of the couriers. The 2c. stamps were intended for ordinary letters, the 5c. for parcels, bundles of papers, and bulky articles. Mr. Fergusson, of Messrs. Cornabe & Co., consented to act as Hon. Postmaster at Liu-kung-tao.

The next step was to obtain the co-operation of the Postmaster-General at Chifu, and in the beginning of December last year he telegraphed to say that he would provide two couriers a week, to be paid for by the Courier Post, and that the first courier would start next day. This necessitated an immediate issue of stamps, and as it was found impossible to get wood blocks cut at Wei-hai-Wei an "impromptu" issue was made about December 8th, 1898, by stamping Messrs. Cornabe & Co.'s "dollar chop" on some red "dark room" paper belonging to one of the officers, the values being written on the stamps afterwards. At the same time 4000 2c. and 4000 5c. stamps were ordered from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh at Shanghai.



The "dollar chop" issue.

This temporary issue lasted for about one month, until the Shanghai stamps arrived on Jan 9th. Stamps were struck as required, and about 800 to 850 2 cents and 300 5 cents stamps were made in all. All the stamps of this issue were signed across the back by Mr. Fergusson, so as to prevent forgery.



The Shanghai issue.

The Courier Post lasted till the end of March, 1899, when the Chinese Government determined to start a Post Office at Wei-hai-Wei city, and took over the couriers.

The total numbers of stamps issued were

1st Issue (provisional)	2c., from 800 to 850.
	5c., 300.
2nd Issue (Shanghai)	2c., 4000.
	5c., 4000.

The main interest of this Courier Post is that it was unique, in running from British territory into Chinese territory without using stamps of both countries on the letters. For this reason it can hardly be classed as a "Local Post." The post was, moreover, run entirely for convenience, only so many stamps being issued as were considered necessary for the needs and expenses of the Courier Service.

A British Post Office has lately been opened at Liu-kung-tao, so that the struggling Courier Post of a year ago has now been replaced by the Chinese Imperial Post Office at Wei-hai-Wei and its British rival in Liu-kung-tao.

Some forgeries of the 5c., second issue, have been seen in Shanghai, printed in *olive-green*: all the originals are in *olive-dk-green*.

## Coming Events in Philately.

- January 2nd and 3rd, 1899: Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Auction Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- January 19th and 20th: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Auction at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- January 16th and 17th: Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale of the stock of Messrs. Harry Hilekes & Co., Ltd., at 17, Leicester Square, W.C.
- January 18th and 19th: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Auction at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.

## Next Year in Paris.

FULL DETAILS OF THE BIG PHILATELIC EXHIBITION,  
ORGANISED BY THE SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE  
DE TIMBROLOGIE.

FOR the information of those readers who are in any way interested in the International Philatelic Exhibition to be held in Paris next year, we have gathered together all the available information on the subject. For the subject-matter of our article we are indebted not only to the official prospectus, but also to the French Society's organ, *La Revue Philatelic*, and to the *Monthly Journal* and the *London Philatelist*. The prospectus certainly foreshadows an exhibition appealing to all sections of philatelists, and the *London Philatelist* somewhat exuberantly speaks of the coming show as "probably the greatest Philatelic Exhibition of the century."

The exhibition, as is well known, has been promoted and organised by the Société Française de Timbrologie, and on Mons. Albert Coyette, who is acting as secretary, will fall much of the hard work inseparable from the conduct of an important philatelic exhibition.

Associated with M. Coyette on the Executive Committee are M. Erard Leroy d'Étiolles (President), M. Lucien Gilis (Treasurer), M. Jules Bernichon, and M. Dormoy d'Evenans.

Now as regards details:—

From August 25th to September 10th, 1900, will be the "term" of the exhibition, which will be open to the public daily from 10 to 6. Admission: three francs on the opening day, fifty centimes on Thursdays and Sundays, and one franc on other days.

So far as we can gather the site of the Exhibition is not yet selected. It is to be hoped that some more suitable building than the Palais des Arts Libéraux (wherein was held the Exhibition of 1892) will be chosen this time.

The scope of the Exhibition is infinite. It will comprise postage stamps of all kinds, unpaid letter stamps, envelopes, cards, wrappers, stamped money orders; telegraph stamps; fiscal and municipal stamps, etc.; works on Philately; stamp albums; articles or books upon the stamp literature of one or more countries, with collections of the works mentioned in such books; the apparatus used in manufacturing stamps, e.g. engraving, printing, gumming, perforating, obliterating, etc.; tapestry and mosaics made out of stamps; books, engravings, lithographs, and, broadly, everything connected with the past and present production of stamps, and with their use and collection.

The office of the Secretary, Mons. A. Coyette, will be 438 Rue de Rivoli, Paris, to which address all communications regarding the Exhibition should be directed.

The jury will consist of the following fifteen members, and will elect its own president and secretary:—

E. D. Bacon, Esq., London.	M. Marconnet, Nancy.
M. Jules Bernichon, Paris.	M. J. B. Moens, Brussels.
Herr F. Breitfuss, St. Petersburg.	M. Anton van Roek, Rotterdam.
M. P. Castle, Esq., Brighton.	Lieut. P. Ohrt, Berlin.
Dr. Emilio Diana, Rome.	Baron A. de Reuterskiold, Ouchy.
M. Langlois, Paris.	M. Jules Robert, Paris.
M. Léglise, Dunkirk.	Dr. Servantie, Bordeaux.
M. Pierre Mahé, Paris.	

Exhibitors (whose applications must reach the secretary before May 31st, 1899), are bound by the following rules:—

Each exhibit can compete once only.

If a collection or other article already awarded a medal happens to obtain the "Grand Prize," this latter award will not be added to the former, which will become free, and revert to the jury, who will make such use of it as they shall deem fit for the benefit of another exhibitor.

Exhibitors will have the right of declaring their exhibits "Not for competition." Exhibits belonging to members of the jury will be declared "Not for competition."

The specimens exhibited may be shown in albums, or placed either on cardboard or on loose sheets. Although no size of cardboard is obligatory, the Executive Committee hopes that exhibitors who propose to arrange their stamps especially for the exhibition will have the kindness, so far as is possible, to assist their labours, and to assure the uniformity of arrangement by making use of cards, or leaves, 30 centimetres high by 25 centimetres in width (11 $\frac{3}{4}$  in.  $\times$  9 $\frac{3}{4}$  in.); thus each square metre of surface ought to contain twelve of these leaves or cards.

The fees payable are fixed as follows:—An exhibitor will pay for exhibits on leaves—10s. the square metre for upright show cases, and 12s. the square metre for horizontal cases. A collection in an album will pay a fixed fee of 16s.

This tax applies to collections contained in one or two volumes. Collections in more than two volumes will be charged for by the square metre.

Exhibitors should themselves insure their exhibits, both in coming to the exhibition and in returning, in such a way as to throw no responsibility upon the committee.

The carriage of exhibits, both coming and returning, as well as the amount of the transport insurance, must be paid by the exhibitors.

Exhibits must be delivered free of cost ten days before the date indicated for opening the exhibition.

Persons desirous of selling stamps inside the the exhibition (in a room specially fitted out for that purpose) must make application to the committee at least two months before the opening of the exhibition. The fee payable will be stated on application; only those persons who shall have hired stalls in the saleroom will be authorised to sell stamps at the exhibition.

#### PRIZE LIST. CLASS I.

##### *Collections of Postage Stamps and Unpaid Letter Stamps of France.*

*Division I.* Unused stamps (single specimens and blocks).

*Division II.* Unused stamps.

*Division III.* Collections of single specimens, without varieties, unused and used mixed.

*Division IV.* Collections of obliterations and divers varieties.

PRIZES. *Division I.* Gold, silver, and bronze medals.

*Division II.* Gold, silver, and bronze medals.

*Division III.* Gold, silver, and bronze medals.

*Division IV.* Silver and bronze medals.

#### CLASS II.

##### *Collections of Postage Stamps and Unpaid Letter Stamps of the French Colonies.*

*Division I.* General collections of all the Colonies.

*Division II.* One or more of the following Colonies:—Benin, Guadeloupe, Nossi Bé, New Caledonia, Obock, Réunion, St. Pierre and Miquelon, Senegal, Tahiti.

*Division III.* Two or more of the following Colonies:—Congo, Diego-Suarez, Gaboon, Guiana, Madagascar, Soudan, Zanzibar.

*Division IV.* A mixed collection of the other French Colonies or Protectorates.

PRIZES. *Division I.* Gold, silver, and bronze medals.

*Divisions II., III., IV.* Silver and bronze medal in each.

#### CLASS III.

*Division I.* Collections of one of the following countries or groups of countries of Europe:—

*Section A.* Austria, Lombardy, Hungary, and Austrian Levant; Greece; Moldavia; Roumania; Russia, Poland, Finland, Russian Levant; Spain; Switzerland; Turkey, Great Britain, and British Levant.

*Section B.* Germany (Empire and Old German States); Italy (Kingdom and old Italian States); Russian Locals; Bulgaria, Roumelia, Servia, Montenegro, Bosnia.

*Section C.* Denmark and Iceland, Danish West Indies;

Sweden and Norway; Portugal and its Colonies; Holland and Dutch Colonies.

*Section D.* Belgium; Luxemburg; Monaco.

*Section E.* Alsace Lorraine, collections of unused stamps and of postmarks.

PRIZES. In each section from A to D, gold, silver, and bronze medals. In section E silver and bronze medals.

*Division II.* Collections of one or more of the following British Colonies:—

*Section A.* British Guiana before 1852, Cashmere and Indian States, Ceylon, Mauritius, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria.

*Section B.* Canada, Cape, India, Natal, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Straits Settlements and Dependencies, South Australia (Departmental), Tasmania, Trinidad, Western Australia.

*Section C.* Barbados, Fiji, Heligoland, Labuan, Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks Islands, Ceylon from 1863, New South Wales since 1860, Victoria since 1862, Western Australia since 1861, British Guiana since 1852, Mauritius since 1859.

*Section D.* Bahamas, Bechuanaland, Honduras, Cyprus, Grenada, Griqualand, St. Helena, Central Africa, East Africa, South Africa, Niger Coast, British Guiana since 1863, Mauritius since 1863.

*Section E.* Antigua, Bermuda, Cook Islands, Dominica, Falkland Isles, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gold Coast, Hong Kong, Ionian Islands, Jamaica, Lagos, Leeward Islands, Malta, Madagascar, Montserrat, Borneo, Prince Edward Island, St. Christopher, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Tobago, Virgin Isles, Uganda, Zanzibar, Zululand.

PRIZES. Gold, silver, and bronze medals in each of sections A, B, C.

Silver and bronze medals in section D.

Two silver and two bronze medals in section E.

*Division III.* Collections of the following countries:—

*Section A.* Japan, Philippines, Portuguese Indies, Transvaal, Afghanistan.

*Section B.* Azores and Madeira, Egypt and Suez, New Republic, Persia, Shanghai, and China (without the Locals).

*Section C.* Belgian Congo, Liberia, Sarawak, Siam, Corea, Formosa, German Colonies, Orange Free State.

PRIZES. *Section A.* Gold, silver and bronze medals.

*Section B.* Silver and bronze medals.

*Section C.* Two bronze medals.

*Division IV.* Collections of the following countries:—

*Section A.* Brazil, Buenos Ayres, Bolivia, Colombia, Hawaii before 1864, Mexico (including Locals), Peru, San Domingo.

*Section B.* Confederate States, United States of America, United States Locals.

*Section C.* Argentine, Chili, Cuba, Porto Rico, Fernando Poo, Uruguay, Venezuela, Hawaii since 1864, Tonga, Corrientes and Cordoba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Hayti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Guatemala, Paraguay, Samoa.

PRIZES. *Sections A and B.* Gold, silver, and bronze medals in each.

*Section C.* One silver and two bronze medals.

*Division V.* Reserved for collectors not advanced.

*Section A.* Three countries of Europe.

*Section B.* Three countries of Asia and Africa.

*Section C.* Three British colonies of Australia, North America, and Asia.

*Section D.* Three British colonies of Europe, Africa, and West Indies.

*Section E.* Three countries of America, or elsewhere, not included in the list of the subdivisions A, B, C, D.

PRIZES. Silver medal and bronze medal in each section.

## CLASS IV.

*Collections of Rare Stamps.*

*Division I.* Collections of 75 to 100 varieties.

In this division, pairs or blocks will be reckoned as one stamp.

*Division II.* Collection of a maximum of fifty stamps, not exceeding by the catalogue the value of £2 each.

PRIZES.—*Division I.* Gold and silver medals.

*Division II.* Silver and bronze medals.

## CLASS V.

*General Collections of Postage Stamps with or without envelopes, cards, etc.*

Arranged in albums which, in Divisions I., II., and III., must not contain less than ten countries.

*Division I.* Collections without limit as to number.

*Division II.* Collections not exceeding 10,000 stamps.

*Division III.* Collections not exceeding 5000.

*Division IV.* Special collections, including groups of countries which are related geographically, historically, politically, or by language.

PRIZES. *Division I.* One gold and one silver medal.

*Division II.* One silver and one bronze medal.

*Division III.* Two bronze medals.

*Division IV.* One bronze medal.

## CLASS VI.

*Division I.* Collections of entire envelopes of one or several of the following countries:—Austria, Hungary, Lombardy, Great Britain, Germany and German States, Mauritius, Russia, Finland and Poland, United States.

*Division II.* A minimum of three countries not mentioned in Division I.

PRIZES. *Division I.* Gold and silver medals.

*Division II.* Silver medal and bronze medals.

## CLASS VII.

*Collections of Post Cards and Letter Cards.*

*Division I.* One or more of the following countries:—Russia and Finland, Germany and German States, Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad, Japan, Luxemburg, Belgium, Mexico, Roumania, Spain and her Colonies.

*Division II.* Minimum of three countries not mentioned in Division I.

PRIZES. *Division I.* Silver and bronze medals.

*Division II.* Bronze medal.

Prizes consisting of gold, silver, and bronze medals will also be awarded for collectors of fiscal stamps, telegraph stamps, municipal stamps, private offices and old postal marks; public literature; albums; accessories useful to Philately; special arrangement of postage stamps, stamps upon letters, sheets or envelopes, proofs, essays, curiosities, all documents dealing with Philately and the postal service; also to societies, statutes, organisations, and for special services rendered to Philately.

And, most important of all, there will be a prize, to be termed the "Grand Prize of the Exhibition," which the Jury will be asked to award to the most meritorious exhibit in the whole display.

*Philatelists' War Fund.*

ON page VI. of the advertisement section of our journal, we have printed in *extenso* the appeal issued by Messrs. Walter Bull and Herbert Oldfield, the Hon. Secretaries of a Philatelic War Fund Committee just formed under the auspices of the London Philatelic Society. We heartily commend the movement to the attention of collectors both at home and in the colonies. In our next number we shall endeavour further to help forward the good work by means of a Co-operative Subscription List in which both this journal and its readers will participate.

*The Grand Seigneur of Philately.*

OUR hobby suffers a severe loss by the death of William Amos Scarborough Westoby, of whom the *London Philatelist* well says that he "fairly earned the title of the



FIG. 1. MR. W. A. S. WESTOBY.

"Grand Seigneur of Philately." And although we personally have experienced the charm of Mr. Westoby's acquaintance, we feel that we cannot do better than quote here, almost in *extenso*, the *London Philatelist's* eloquent tribute to the departed.

Mr. Westoby, who was born in the memorable year 1815, had therefore at his death practically attained the age of eighty-five. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took his M.A. in 1839, he was called to the Bar, and in 1861 or 1862 was first drawn into the Philatelic maelstrom, from which, like many of us, he was never to emerge alive. For some years after this, our esteemed friend was keenly engaged in the pleasures of collecting, and it was during one of his frequent quests to Paris that he first met with Judge Philbrick, about 1863, and then and there commenced that intimate and lifelong friendship, the severance of which is most deeply felt by the survivor.

Needless to say that Mr. Westoby was one of the earliest attracted to the London Philatelic Society, as he was one of the first to foresee the really scientific side of the question, and that such would be more efficiently brought out by the communion of kindred spirits. The collections of stamps formed by him were among the foremost of his epoch, and were marked by the greatest taste both in the choice of the specimens and their scientific classification. We well remember his beautiful collection of unused European stamps, which was dispersed early in the eighties, very many specimens of which were acquired by the late Mr. Tapling, and from which the writer was also enabled to obtain many choice and scarce varieties.

It is, however, in the domain of Philatelic literature that Mr. Westoby has acquired the greatest and most deserved recognition. From his earliest connection with stamps he was both an accurate and prolific writer, many of his articles appearing under the pseudonym of "A Parisian Collector," while many others are to be found in the pages of the older journals, such as the *Philatelist* and the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*. The *Philatelic Record*, whose fifth volume (1883-4) bears Mr. Westoby's portrait as a frontispiece, was edited by him from December, 1885, to December, 1895—with an interruption of eighteen months—with conspicuous ability.

In addition to this, Mr. Westoby edited Messrs. Alfred Smith & Co.'s *Monthly Circular* from the end of 1878 to the month of his decease, during all of which long period he wrote both leaders and the chronicle of new issues.

The association of the names of Messrs. Philbrick and Westoby in the literature of the stamps of our own country will, however, always remain the permanent feature in the latter's Philatelic career. The issue of this great work by the joint authors, in 1881, created a great precedent in the literature of Philately, and effected a revolution in the collection of British stamps that was undoubtedly the first step towards the true appreciation of our mother-country's stamps. Despite all that has appeared since, this celebrated book has never been excelled in point of classification, interest, or descriptive power, and for many years it reigned undisputed as the book on British stamps. A second edition has long engaged the labours both of Judge Philbrick and the late Mr. Westoby, and we believe that the manuscript is practically complete.

A smaller but very useful work on British stamps was also produced by Mr. Westoby in 1890, in celebration of the Postal Jubilee, and treating of all the issues from 1840 to 1890. During the past few years a history of the European

stamps, intended for the medium collector, published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill, further engaged the energies of this prolific writer. This work, which has frequently been referred to in this journal, is also marked by great lucidity and information, and fortunately is practically complete.

Although this recital by no means includes all Mr. Westoby's work, it will be seen that his connection with Philatelic literature, extending over thirty years, constitutes his name as one of the most eminent in the annals of our literature for all time.

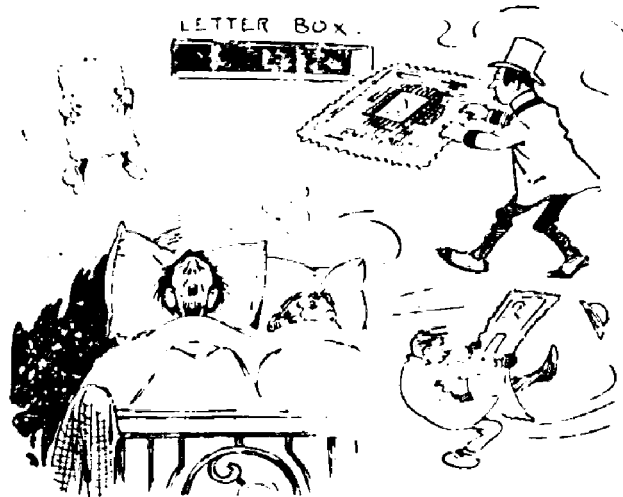
Needless to say, in all other walks of life, Mr. Westoby's career left nothing to be desired. Amiability, charm of manner and presence, wide stores of information, and the most unflinching courtesy, endeared him alike to relations and friends, and although his lot has been extended beyond the ordinary span, his loss will be sorely felt by all who were privileged to know him.

The portrait we give here is a reproduction from the admirable picture presented with the current issue of the *London Philatelist*, for the original of which the London Society's official organ expresses its indebtedness to Miss Victoria Westoby.

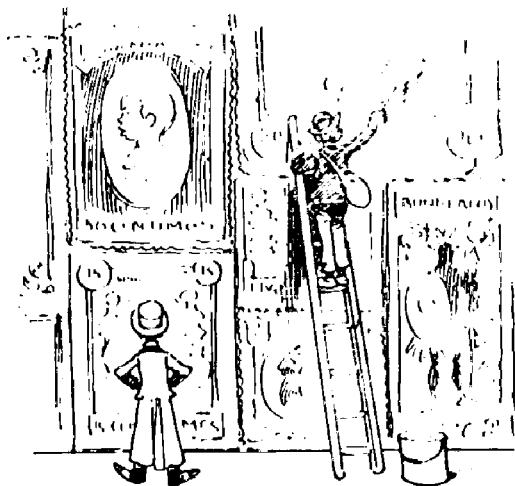
### PHIL TELLICK'S TERRIBLE CHRISTMAS DREAM.



1.—They were bringing out such big stamps for Jubilee issues that it worried poor Phil Tellick. How was he to get so much gummed paper into his shilling album?



2.—He dreamt about it, and in his dream men battled with monster stamps. It became necessary (in Phil's dream) to reverse the old order of things by sticking the letter to the stamp!



3.—Then the scene changed and the dreamer looked still further ahead and dreamt that the time had come for stamp collectors to hire hoardings on which to display their treasures.



4.—And at 3.30 a.m. poor Mrs. Tellick had a rude awakening. Her spouse was, in fancy, mounting his stamps on a philatelic hoarding. Mrs. Tellick's hair suffered severely.

THE intended retirement of Mons. J. B. Moens, after a lifetime of philatelic activity, is the first subject touched upon in the issue of the *Monthly Journal* now current. It is difficult to realise that the same J. B. Moens was dealing in stamps in the same city of Brussels and issuing the same excellent journal, *Le Timbre Poste*, as long ago as 1862. Yet so it is. Mons. Moens has few rivals for the title of "Father of Philately." He is now selling off all his stamps and when the sale is completed, *Le Timbre Poste* must also go, though it is reasonable to hope that this last may pass into capable hands for continued publication. Wherever should we be without *Le Timbre Poste*?

### After Paris Glasgow!

It has been suggested that the occasion of the Great Exhibition planned to be held at Glasgow in 1901 would present a capital chance for a Scottish philatelic show. The idea is one to be cordially applauded and we, like the *Monthly Journal*, trust that something will come of it. No really important exhibition of stamps, we believe, has ever yet been held "ayont the Tweed"—need we say more than that to patriotic Scots?

Mr. Frentzel then gave a display of the stamps of Mexico (1856-83 issues). His collection, which was practically complete, was accompanied with explanatory notes giving an account of the different issues.

**WARRINGTON PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE Annual General Meeting was held on October 12th, at the Old Academy. The President, Mr. John P. Reynolds, was in the chair. The Hon. Secretary's report showed that the membership is steadily increasing, there being now 24 members, and good work had been done during the past year. The balance-sheet showed a satisfactory balance in hand. The sales on the exchange packets averaged 19 per cent.

Mr. John P. Reynolds was re-elected President, and Mr. J. D. Fairclough and Mr. Percy Silcock as Committee, with Mr. Herbert Woods as Hon. Secretary.

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5 Hayti, various, fine	5d.	36
30 " very fine set	5d.	-
4 Japan, War, complete	4d.	2 -
4 Portugal, Vasco da Gama, 2½-25r.	3d.	19
7 Queensland, various	2d.	13
9 U.S.A. Documentary, 1c.-8½ used	6d.	36
25 British Colonials, good copies	4d.	2 -
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Zanzibar, ½ anna, error— " Zanzidar "	3 0 0	1 15 0
British Honduras, 6d. yellow	4 10 0	3 0 0
Canada, 7½d.	3 0 0	1 5 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1s. Triangular	1 0 0	0 9 0
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*The Stamp Exchange.*

THREE WORDS A PENNY.

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Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct. . . . .

. . . . . Send to-day for a Catalogue (Post Free) of our next Sale.



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 Literary, Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
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MAKE THE SALE OF

**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS** A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON** beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on

**JANUARY 2nd and 3rd, 1900,** and will consist of

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On January 16th & 17th. —The Entire Stock of Hurry Hilkes & Co., Ltd., by order of the Official Receiver. Catalogues now ready.

Following Sales in 1900.—January 30th and 31st; February 13th and 14th; March 6th, 7th, 20th and 21st; April 3rd, 4th, 24th and 25th; May 8th, 8th, 22nd and 23rd; June 12th and 13th.

OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S** Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.

The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE.**

TO OLD SUBSCRIBERS TO THE “FORTNIGHTLY.”—Although the New Proprietors of the “S.C.F.” have acquired the Journal as free from all liabilities, they desire to fill all the unexpired subscriptions. As each subscription becomes due the usual notification will be given; and a more detailed statement as to this and other matters will appear in our next number.

## **“ Pay ! Pay ! Pay ! ”**

The “ FORTNIGHTLY ” has much pleasure in giving publicity to the following circular letter, now being despatched to philatelists in all parts of the Empire.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

## **Philatelists' War Relief Fund.**

*December, 1899.*

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

A Committee has been formed under the auspices of the London Philatelic Society, acting in conjunction with other Philatelic Societies and many of the leading collectors and dealers, for the purpose of inaugurating a special subscription from philatelists for the War Relief Fund.

Collectors generally throughout the United Kingdom are invited to contribute gifts of stamps (in collections or otherwise) or other articles connected with Philately, which will be sold by public auction and the proceeds divided between one of the Mansion House Funds and the “ Daily Telegraph ” Fund.

Arrangements have been made with a well-known firm of philatelic auctioneers to conduct an auction sale which will be held early in February, and will be free of all charge whatever, so that the entire gross proceeds can be handed over to the Funds.

All gifts of stamps should be sent, if possible, before the 25th January, 1900, to the undersigned, c/o Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand.

It is proposed to append to the Catalogue a list of names of all the contributors.

The Committee hope that this scheme will receive the support of collectors and dealers all over the Kingdom, and will result in the addition of a substantial sum to the War Funds.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER BULL,  
HERBERT R. OLDFIELD, } *Joint Hon. Secs.*

**G. HAMILTON SMITH & Co.,**  
**Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,**  
**10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.**

**Transvaal. Orange Free State.**  
**Cape Colony. Natal. Brit. Bechuanaland.**

We have just remade up our books of the above Countries, and same will be found to contain an immense number of varieties, both used and unused, in singles, pairs and blocks, all moderately priced.

**APPROVAL BOOKS.**—We hold a very fine stock of used and unused stamps (20,000 varieties), arranged in about 100 large Approval Books. The condition of the stamps is exceptionally fine, and the prices, which are reasonable, vary from 1d. to £50 each. Selections of any country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

**FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.**—We shall be pleased to receive from foreign collectors lists of special wants, and to send for approval such of the stamps as we have in stock.

**ALBUMS.**—We shall be glad to send on application full particulars of the very fine books we offer.

**WANTED.**—To purchase really good collections of scarce stamps.

**ERNST STOCK, BERLIN, W. 2 STULERSTRASSE.**

**Dealer in RARE STAMPS and EXPERT,**

ALWAYS OPEN TO BUY . . .

**RARITIES of all COUNTRIES**

ESPECIALLY WANTED:

**Unused and Used Rare and Medium Stamps of all European Countries.**

**RARE OLD GERMAN ENTIRES.**

**Reprints and Essays (Proofs).**

**LARGE AND SMALL COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS, REPRINTS, PROOFS, ENTIRES.**

**COLLECTIONS OF SPECIALISTS PREFERRED.**

**Good Prices for Good Quality.**

**Approval lots solicited.**

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**COLLECTIONS OF SPECIALISTS PREFERRED.**

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Approval lots solicited.

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Where we keep a fine Stock of Stamps of all Countries, carefully arranged, always on view.

OUR STOCK of the following Countries are now arranged in Volumes, ready to be set out on approval. These contain a large number of unused, nearly all the principal varieties are represented in numerous shades. The prices are very moderate.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Vol. 1.—Great Britain, used adhesives.<br>„ 2.—Great Britain, Officials, Government Parcels, Telegraph Stamps, Cut Envelopes, etc.<br>„ 3.—Great Britain, Stamps used abroad.<br>„ 4.—Holland and Colonies.<br>„ 5.—German States.<br>„ 6.—German Empire, Bavaria, and Wurttemberg.<br>„ 7.—France.<br>„ 7a. French Colonies.<br>„ 8.—Austria, Austrian Italy, Hungary, and Bosnia. | Vol. 9.—Switzerland and Italy.<br>„ 10.—Italian States, San Marino, Monaco, Luxembourg.<br>„ 11.—Roumania, Servia, and Montenegro.<br>„ 12.—Russia, Finland, Bulgaria, South Bulgaria, and Eastern Roumelia.<br>„ 13.—Norway and Sweden.<br>„ 14.—Belgium, Congo, Denmark, Iceland, Danish West Indies.<br>„ 15.—Spain and Portugal.<br>„ 16.—Greece and Turkey.<br>„ 17.—Local Stamps.<br>„ 18.—Malta, Gibraltar, Cyprus, and Heligoland. |
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*These Books contain, on an average, about 1500 Stamps each.*

We shall be pleased to send any Book to Customers known to us. Applicants unknown to us will kindly furnish references.

## Books of Colonials and Non-European Stamps

Are now being made up, and Collectors should apply at once for their favourite Countries, to ensure getting an early view.

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	Unused. M. Pf.	Used. M. Pf.		Unused. M. Pf.	Used. M. Pf.
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„ 5 „ green .. ..		—10	„ „ „ 3 „ green on 5pf.	—50	
„ 10 „ carmine .. ..		—20	„ „ „ 5 „ carmine on 10pf.	—60	—50
„ 20 „ blue .. ..		—30	„ „ „ 10 „ blue on 20pf.	1.—	—50
„ 25 „ orange .. ..		—40	„ „ „ 25 „ red-brown on 50pf.	1.—	—50
„ 50 „ red-brown .. ..		—50	„ „ 1896, 2 pesa brown on 3pf.	—05	
German South West Africa, 1897, 3pf. brown ..	—10	—15	„ „ „ 3 „ green on 5pf.	—10	
„ „ „ 5 „ green .. ..	—15	—20	„ „ „ 5 „ carmine on 10pf.	—15	
„ „ „ 10 „ carmine .. ..	—50		„ „ „ 10 „ blue on 20pf.	—25	
„ „ „ 20 „ blue .. ..	—30		„ „ „ 25 „ red-brown on 50pf.	—65	—50
Togo, 1897, 3 pfennig brown .. ..	—10	—10	Kamerun, 1897, 3 pfennig brown .. ..	—10	—10
„ „ 5 „ green .. ..	—10	—10	„ „ „ 5 „ green .. ..	—15	—15
„ „ 10 „ carmine .. ..	—50	—15	„ „ „ 10 „ carmine .. ..	—20	—25
„ „ 20 „ blue .. ..	—35	—20	„ „ „ 20 „ blue .. ..	—30	
„ „ 25 „ orange .. ..	—45		„ „ „ 25 „ orange .. ..	—45	
„ „ 50 „ red-brown .. ..	—70		„ „ „ 50 „ red-brown .. ..	—70	
German New Guinea, 5 pfennig green .. ..		—15			
„ „ „ 10 „ carmine .. ..		—20			
„ „ „ 20 „ blue .. ..		—30			

I want to buy New Issues, Rare Stamps on Envelopes, Reprints of Stamps and Entire, Errors, Curiosities, Special Collection of Stamps and Entire, Collections of all sizes. I give preference to those which contain perfect and clean stamps, but buy also those which are second rate if the price is according.

Rare Envelopes of German States (Used and Unused). Rare Envelopes of Austria, Russia and Finland.

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The New Seal at M2.50.

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# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 126—Vol. V.      SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1900.      ONE PENNY.

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A special Prospectus containing full details of about 2,000 Sets and Packets of Stamps will be sent post-free on application.

We strongly recommend our sets of Stamps. They are composed of perfect specimens, and are priced at from 20 to 50 per cent. less than the Stamps could be bought for singly.

### WHOLESALE LIST FOR STAMP DEALERS

We have just issued a new and enlarged Trade List with prices of Stamps, Cards, and Envelopes by the dozen, hundred, and thousand, and with the trade terms for all our Albums, Catalogues, and General Publications.

This List will be sent post-free and gratis to any dealer known to us on receipt of business card. The Wholesale List cannot be sent to collectors.

"THE MONTHLY JOURNAL," edited by Major E. B. EVANS. Published on the 1st day of each month, and chiefly noted for—1st, Verbatim Reports of all Law Cases of interest to Philatelists; 2nd, Earliest information of New Issues; 3rd, Largest Stamp Journal published, recent numbers containing from 60 to 48 pages; 4th, Quality of its Articles; with Major Evans as Editor this can be taken for granted; 5th, Entirely Original Articles by the leading Philatelic Writers of the day. Subscription, 2s. per annum, or 5s. for three years.

### SAMPLE COPY sent gratis on Application.

All subscriptions must be prepaid, and commence with the July number. The prices of back numbers will be found in the current number of the Journal.

"THE MONTHLY JOURNAL" now includes the Addenda to our current Price Catalogue. The old method of publishing Addenda quarterly has been discontinued, and in the months of March, June, September and December a Special Number of the Journal is sent to all Subscribers, containing a list of all Stamps, etc., that have appeared since the publication of the Catalogue. In the other months there will be noted Special Bargains, Rarities, and prominent Alterations in Prices.

We therefore strongly recommend all purchasers of the Catalogue to subscribe to "THE MONTHLY JOURNAL," forming, as it does, a complete continuation of the Catalogue up to date.

## APPROVAL SHEETS & COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS.

NEW SHEETS OF STAMPS FOR BEGINNERS AND MEDIUM COLLECTORS.

WE have just been arranging our Approval Sheets of Stamps on an entirely new and much simpler plan than formerly. The Stamps are mounted on sheets, containing an average of 100 Stamps per Sheet. They are all arranged in the order of our New Catalogue, first, Great Britain and the Colonies, then all Foreign Countries. These sheets contain about 5000 different Stamps and a sheet of any particular country will be sent on demand. The sheets arranged to date are over fifty in number, and contain all Great Britain and the Colonies, and all Foreign Countries.

**TO ADVANCED COLLECTORS.**—For Collectors more advanced we have an assortment of many hundreds of small books of Choice Picked Stamps of every country or District in the World. Most of these special books contain twenty pages (5 x 3 1/2 in.), and can be sent by post in an ordinary registered envelope to all parts of the world. These Books, as a rule, include Used and Unused Stamps, but Special Approval Books will be made up to suit individual requirements. Collectors writing for such should state if they wish for Used or Unused Stamps, if singles, pairs, or blocks of 4 are required; also in Used Stamps, if special Postmarks are sought for. In all cases, in these books, we shall lay ourselves out to meet the special requirements of each individual client, whether the amount required be large or small.

Great Rarities are our speciality. We have a large number of Stamps on hand from £10 to £400 each, and shall be pleased to give prices and particulars to advanced Philatelists.

We purchase really Rare Stamps at a much higher Cash Price than that paid by any other Stamp Merchant.

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## Philatelic Societies' Reports

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### LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

THE opening meeting of the 10th session was held in the Patent Room at the Municipal Buildings, on Oct. 3rd.

The President, Mr. Herbert M. Hepworth, in a few prefatory remarks, deplored the lack of interest in Leeds in matters philatelic. During the evening the several collections shown at the Manchester Exhibition last July were on view. These included the President's fine specimens of Barbadoes stamps and 50 rare stamps, for which he gained a silver and a bronze medal; Mr. T. K. Skipworth's unique collection of Ugandas, which won the silver medal offered for the best exhibit from Yorkshire by the Bradford Philatelic Society; and Mr. E. Egly's 50 rare stamps, which were awarded the silver medal presented by the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, and a bronze medal given by the Bradford Philatelic Society. Mr. Hepworth's Barbadoes included a "bisected," postally used, for 1878, a specimen greatly prized by stamp collectors. In Mr. Skipworth's series were some sheets of type-printed Ugandas, 4th issue, November, 1896, rendered particularly interesting to Leeds people by the fact that the type was set up by the Rev. Frank Rowling, of the C.M.S., formerly of this city. Mr. J. H. Thackrah had on view also his splendid collection of British Guianas.

### HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, on December 5th, 1899, at seven p.m. Present:—Messrs. W. Simpson (in the chair), W. A. Bois, W. A. Boyes, L. E. Bradbury, R. Frenzler, F. R. Ginn, J. W. Jones, E. A. Mardon, E. J. Nankivell, J. O. Sell, C. R. Sutherland, A. G. Wane, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and one visitor.

The following were elected as ordinary members:—Erland A. Clarke, M.A., Dr. Field, F. G. Powell, C. Tant, and F. Wilcox. At the conclusion of business, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell displayed his unique collection of stamps of the British Occupation of the Transvaal, and gave a lucid description of the series surcharged "V.R."

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Stamp Merchants,

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(CORNER OF UNION COURT).

200 Genuine Stamps all different, post free, 1/-

Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

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Victoria, 5s. blue on yellow	5 10 0	3 0 0
Queensland, 1866, 1d. unused	5 0 0	1 5 0
Zanzibar, ½ anna, error— "Zanzibar" ..	3 0 0	1 15 0
British Honduras, 6d. yellow	4 10 0	3 0 0
Canada, 7½d. ..	3 0 0	1 5 0
Cape of Good Hope, 1s. Triangular ..	1 0 0	0 9 0
Holland, 1 guilder, brown and olive ..	0 2 6	0 0 6

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	Per Set.	Per 12 Sets.
3 Canada, Maps, the 3 shades ..	3d.	2 -
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5 Hayti, various, fine ..	5d.	3 6
30 " very fine set ..	5 6	—
4 Japan, War, complete ..	4d.	2 -
4 Portugal, Vasco da Gama, 2½-25r.	3d.	1 9
7 Queensland, various ..	2d.	1 3
9 U.S.A. Documental, 1c-8r. used	6d.	3 6
25 British Colonials, good copies ..	1d.	2 -
50 " " " " " " " " " " " "	9d.	5 -

Packets of 80 varieties, fine, 1 3 per doz., 8 - per 100.

Continentials in packets of 1000, No. 1 Quality; good mixture, 3d. per 1000; 2 - per 1000; 17 9 per 100,000.

No. 2 Quality, very fine mixture, each packet contains an entire Columbus envelope and Foreign postcard, 1d. per 1000, 3 - per 1000, 25 - per 100,000. Postage extra, 1000 1d., 10,000 4d., 100,000 carriage forward.

Wholesale selections sent on approval on receipt of references. Lists free.

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75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

## Bound Volumes of the "S.C.F."

Can still be supplied; but as our stock of many numbers is almost exhausted, the price must be raised at an early date. For the present the terms are as follows;

Vol. I. (Nos. 1 to 26), bound in cloth, gilt, price, post free	4 9
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Vol. III. (Nos. 53 to 78), similarly bound, price, post free	4 9
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THE MANAGER,

"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

106, High Holborn, London, W.C.

## The Stamp Exchange.

THREE WORDS A PENNY.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 106, High Holborn, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

Those advertisers who desire to do so may, in lieu of address, use a box-number at the FORTNIGHTLY Office, and have their letters forwarded to them. This, however, applies only to persons resident in the United Kingdom.

A booking fee for postage, &c., is charged to advertisers who adopt this method.

Readers replying to a numbered advertisement should simply address their letters—"Box —, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY Office, 106, High Holborn, London, W.C."

PERSIAN STAMPS, 3 - 100. Good assortment.—BARMAN, P., Charlton Lane, Charlton, Kent.

FRENCH COLONIES, 5c. to 25c., 20 varieties, 1 9; 30 varieties, 2 6; 1c. to 50c., 50 varieties, 5 -; used perfect stamps, Faridkot, 10 varieties, 2 6; 25 varieties, (catalogued 14 -), 6 -.—MRS. LAMBERT, 53, Estelle Road, London, N.W.

FOR SALE, 1400 Foreign Stamps, and 63 Foreign Post Cards, Envelopes and Wrappers, all mounted in Stanley Gibbons' improved album, £5 5s. Approval. Deposit. PERCY BARRACLOUGH, Princess Buildings, Dronfield, near Sheffeld.

2240 GOOD DUPLICATES, large collection, perfect condition, 550 for 2 -; or entire lot 7 -.—COLLECTOR, 2, Myrtle Grove, Brighton Street, Hull.

BRIGHT'S A.B.C. CATALOGUE, 1899, published at 2 6, price, post free, to clear, 1 4, only few copies left. J. WILSON, 71, Hartington Road, Faling, W.

WANTED. Old Editions of Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues, quarto series of 1888 and previous. Full particulars and cash price.—111.

1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1 -. Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA—1d., internal postage, perf.; 1 -; imperf., 2 -; 1d. on 3 -, 1 - each; 1d. blue, 2d. each; 2d. yellow, 3d. each; 6d. green, 5d. each. All postally used. Absolutely perfect condition. Postage extra.—CHARLES A. COLE, Colchester.

CLEAN, New Copy of Morley's Album, Fiscal of British Empire, Vol. I., will sell for 4 -. Carriage paid. 102.

A GREAT quantity of Philatelic Journals to be sold cheap. No advertising sheets, all good papers, such as London Philatelist, Gibbons' Philatelic Record, American Journal of Philately, Senf's Journal, &c. About 30 -. No list. Will send, carriage paid, for 15 -. 103.

COLLECTORS' DUPLICATES for Sale. Gladly sent on approval to responsible persons. State countries wanted. 104.

CAMERA Fine No. 3 Kodak; all accessories. Sacrifice £3, or exchange stamps. Perfect condition. Approval; deposit. S.B., 13, Southbrook Road, Lee, Kent.

ENGLISH Stamps On red. Good variety. Selection can be sent against deposit or good references. 105.

PERSIAN STAMPS at 30 to 60 per cent. off catalogue for cash. Send list of wants. Exchange desired with collectors or dealers, basis Gibbons or Scott. Current Persian stamps, cards, envelopes, supplied in any quantity. Wholesale for dealers; retail for collectors, register all correspondence. Prompt replies always. Persia, 20 varieties, 2 -.—PETER DE MELLO, Bursfield, Persian Gulf, via Brindisi & Bombay.

WANTED.—Copies Philatelic Exchange List, Philatelic Star, Stamp Dealers' Journal; other obsolete English stamp papers. List and price.—106.

SOUTH and Central American Stamps (good) exchanged against cheap and medium European, Australian, &c. Wholesale only.—ALFRED PETTIT, High Street, Devizes, Wilts, England.

SOME thousands of Chilean Stamps, all sorts. Will clear at 7½ per 1000, or very low price for complete parcel.—107.

DISPENSING Collection English Stamps; approval selections; good discount.—BICKERS, Richmond Terrace, Cork.

## Philatelic Societies' Reports

### LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The opening meeting of the 10th session was held in the Patent Room at the Municipal Buildings, on Oct. 3rd.

The President, Mr. Herbert M. Hepworth, in a few prefatory remarks, deplored the lack of interest in Leeds in matters philatelic. During the evening the several collections shown at the Manchester Exhibition last July were on view. These included the President's fine specimens of Barbadoes stamps and 50 rare stamps, for which he gained a silver and a bronze medal; Mr. T. K. Skipworth's unique collection of Ugandas, which won the silver medal offered for the best exhibit from Yorkshire by the Bradford Philatelic Society; and Mr. E. Egly's 50 rare stamps, which were awarded the silver medal presented by the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, and a bronze medal given by the Bradford Philatelic Society. Mr. Hepworth's Barbadoes included a "bisected," postally used, for 1878, a specimen greatly prized by stamp collectors. In Mr. Skipworth's series were some sheets of type-printed Ugandas, 4th issue, November, 1896, rendered particularly interesting to Leeds people by the fact that the type was set up by the Rev. Frank Rowling, of the C.M.S., formerly of this city. Mr. J. H. Thackrah had on view also his splendid collection of British Guianas.

### HERTS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at Anderton's Hotel, on December 5th, 1899, at seven p.m. Present:—Messrs. W. Simpson (in the chair), W. A. Bois, W. A. Boyes, L. E. Bradbury, R. Frenzels, F. R. Ginn, J. W. Jones, E. A. Mardon, E. J. Nankivell, J. O. Sell, C. R. Sutherland, A. G. Wane, H. A. Slade (Hon. Secretary), and one visitor.

The following were elected as ordinary members:—Erland A. Clarke, M.A., Dr. Field, F. G. Powell, C. Tait, and F. Wilcox. At the conclusion of business, Mr. Edward J. Nankivell displayed his unique collection of stamps of the British Occupation of the Transvaal, and gave a lucid description of the series surcharged "V.R."

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**PERCY C. BISHOP.**

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### OUR POSTMASTER-GENERAL FOR THE FRONT.

THE Duke of Norfolk, premier Duke, has volunteered for active service; and this country may soon be in the unique position of having its Postmaster-General "doing his country's work" at Magersfontein instead of at St. Martin's-le-Grand. Let us be calm, however. The Duke's myrmidons in blue and red will not fail us. We shall get our letters just the same, and the rare surcharged provisionals from Fuzooloo or Champerico will be peeled off the envelopes by our philatelic postmen as neatly as in the days of yore!

### STRANGE ADVENTURES OF A £300 STAMP.

It is a pretty story. We do not suppose for a moment that it is a true story (being the work, you see, of an American reporter) but the adventures described are such as might conceivably befall any rare stamp.

In the year of 1851 (so runs the American reporter's story) a 12-penny black Canadian postage stamp was printed by the Government of Ottawa. The public did not regard this sombre issue with favour; so few were issued. One of the stamps was sent to the Hamilton post office, where it was sold to an old gentleman, who said it was a shame to print the Queen's picture on a stamp that might be handled by profane hands. Tenderly the gentleman attached it to a parcel, sending it to a friend in the United States.

Here, in the waste basket, it lay for many a day, till an errand boy found it, and quickly transferred it to his album. Despairing of getting a good collection, and his fever somewhat

abating, he sold them to a dealer. The new owner, on looking at the catalogue, found that what he had paid 5 dols. for what was worth 25 dols. Accidentally this stamp was slipped into a 25-cent packet, and sent to a dealer residing in Hamilton. When the latter opened the packet he was astonished to find such a valuable stamp, and, being honest, wrote his friend to inform him of what had happened, offering him 1,200 dols. for it.

The offer was accepted, and the stamp again changed hands. By this time the stamp had increased in value, and not a few came from a distance to look at the treasure.

One day an English nobleman, who, through a Canadian friend, had heard of the stamp, offered 1,500 dols., which offer was accepted. The English lord, falling in love with an American heiress, and wishing to gain the favour of her brother, presented him with the stamp as a token of his esteem. Here, in its new and luxurious American home, it came to a sad end, for one day the maid, by mistake, swept the stamp, which had accidentally fallen out of the album, into the fire. In an instant the stamp, which thousands had heard of and longed for, went up in smoke to the broad blue sky, leaving not a trace behind.

That's all.

The story perhaps might have been evolved from almost any imaginative mind, but we think that touch about the "new and luxurious American home" of the rare stamp is a shaft of sheer genius.

### THE TRANSVAAL'S STORY TOLD BY ITS STAMPS.

STAMPS teach us geography and other things, but more than all else they teach us history. The *Dundee Courier* applies this truism to the affairs of the moment by giving its readers illustrations of five Transvaal stamps that picture the principal epochs in the history of that land of gold from 1870 to date.

"Can any pages of history," asks the *Courier*, "give a more emphatic comment on the rapid changes through which its Government has passed? Look at the first illustration—a stamp of just thirty years ago, issued by the First Republic in 1870, before the annexation by Great Britain.

"In 1887, when the annexation was accomplished, the stamp was not altered, but simply printed over with the letters "V.R." and "Transvaal." In the next year was shown a complete change—the familiar profile of Victoria now appeared.

"The next stamp denotes a memorable epoch, and is a reminder of Majuba Hill, the one modern battle which sets the Briton's teeth on edge. The Transvaal started the Second

Republic jubilant at their independence. Observe the suggestive Dutch "Een Penny" run across the Queen's neck in aggressive lettering. In 1885 came the significant new issue bearing the full-fledged arms of the South African Republic"

#### A "PROOF" NOT A "STAMP."

THE difficult question of stamp dealers' guarantees is neither simplified nor regularised by a recent important legal decision in Germany. Mr. Phillips thus narrates the story in the *Monthly Journal*:

Mr. Franz Reichenheim purchased through a gentleman from a stamp dealer, Herr Löwe, of Berlin, early in 1895, a Basle 2½ rp. stamp, unused. At the London Exhibition in 1897 this stamp was marked by one of the judges as "forged." Mr. Reichenheim subsequently submitted this stamp to a German expert, who gave his opinion that it was not a forgery, but a "proof." He then returned the stamp to the dealer, and applied to him to furnish him with a genuine specimen therefor, or refund him the amount he had paid for it; but the dealer declined absolutely to entertain his application.

Mr. Reichenheim then placed the matter in the hands of his solicitors, Messrs. Fritz Scheff and Dr. Gerstenberg, of Berlin, who in December, 1898, brought an action before the court, but were nonsuited under Article 349 H G B, that a purchaser must ascertain any defect of goods contracted for within six months of purchase.

Notice of appeal was given on the following counts: That the above Article 349 did not refer to the matter in dispute; that the object of the deal should have been a stamp, and a "proof" cannot be considered as such, and that therefore the dealer had not delivered the article contracted for, but *something else*.

The result being that the Appeal Court in November, 1899 found for Mr. Reichenheim, and entered judgment against the stamp dealer for repayment of the amount with 5 per cent. interest and costs.

#### THE PHILATELIC JOKER IN LADYSMITH.

By way of alleviating the monotony of the proceedings at Ladysmith a journal has been published in the beleaguered camp bearing the title of *The Ladysmith Lyre*. It is stated to have supplied the long felt want of a consistently unreliable newspaper. "What you want in a besieged town," says the prospectus, "is news which you can absolutely rely on as false." Only one quarter column is reserved for True News if any should "unavoidably creep in."

The "Personal Column" of the same paper contains such notices as the following: "Piet.—Return home at once. Everything forgiven.—Paul."

Under "Exchange and Mart" a philatelist advertises for stamps bearing the Ladysmith postmark, and offers to give in exchange his large and valuable collection of shells, which include "perfect examples of Long Tom, Pompon, &c."

#### A REMARKABLE POSTAL INVENTION.

"WHAT a nuisance these postage stamps are," exclaimed a very busy man recently, at his writing desk, while stamping a pile of letters, his office boy being away at the time. "One has to waste so much time in separating each stamp from the strip or sheet, and in moistening them before fixing them to the envelope. For a business man it's a very slow process indeed."

"And so it is for ladies," responded his typewriter, entering the amount of postages entrusted to her by her employer. "We ladies have to take off our gloves before posting a letter, and our fingers become sticky by moistening the stamp on the pad; in fact we almost always use our tongue to moisten the gum, which is certainly neither pleasant nor healthy."

It was after this conversation (says *Life*), that a happy idea occurred to the enterprising man referred to above, who thereupon set to work and invented a stamp and label affixing machine, a specimen of which we have seen. The apparatus automatically moistens the postage stamps or labels, which have been already separated by the machine from a strip or sheet, and then, always automatically, affixes each stamp to the paper, envelope, parcel or other article to which it is to be gummed with the greatest rapidity.

The machine has been made for use particularly with stamps, but it can be equally satisfactorily employed for any labels or tickets, for parcels or other articles. It is of simple construction and inexpensive, and can be made in various

sizes. It holds a considerable quantity of stamps or labels, to be fixed one at a time. Further than this an indicator is attached to the machine to control the number of stamps used, thus preventing theft or error, and records the number remaining in the machine. The little machine, which is very elegant, is quite an ornament on the office table, being operated by hand pressure on the handle, but we are informed that it can also be made completely automatic, which will no doubt prove a great boon for post offices and large houses of business.

#### A WORD TO THOSE WHO WRITE.

THE *Fortnightly* is anxious to widen its circle of contributors and also to renew its acquaintance with all those who in the past have contributed to our columns. Philatelists who can offer good instructive articles (preferably dealing with the stamps of "popular" countries) are requested to write at once to the Editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 106, High Holborn, London, W.C., giving full particulars, terms asked, &c. We shall not stick at expense in procuring the best of everything for *Fortnightly* readers.

#### THE STRANGE CASE OF CHAPLIN V. LAING.

ITS own intrinsic importance must be our excuse for reverting to the case of Chaplin v. Laing briefly reported in No. 125 of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. The following full report, with an introductory explanation of the facts of the matter, has now appeared in the *Monthly Journal*:

As long as ago as March 11, 1895, a client of ours [Messrs. Stanley Gibbons] in Johannesburg, S.A.R., Mr. T. W. Chaplin, wrote us that his collection of stamps had been stolen, and sent a list of the most valuable and interesting stamps it contained. This we published in the *M. J.* for April 30, 1895. A short time afterwards we traced the sale of two stamps in Mauritius 2d. fillet and a Cape woodblock 1d. error in blue) which had been sold to a London dealer, and eventually found out that the balance of the collection had been left with Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, the well-known auctioneers, to be included in one of their sales. By the aid of our lawyers we obtained a friendly injunction against Messrs. Puttick & Simpson to prevent the sale of the collection until actual ownership had been proved. In the meantime Mr. Chaplin instructed a personal friend in London to act for him, and the matter was closed as far as we were concerned. Afterwards we heard that the collection had been delivered to Messrs. Puttick & Simpson by a Mr. Laing, who purchased it quite innocently from a third party whose name has not been disclosed. Much to our surprise the action to settle ownership has been kept open for the past four years, and we were subpoenaed to give evidence on November 30th last, but at the last moment the defendant agreed to a verdict against him and to deliver up the collection to Mr. Chaplin.

Mr. Laing is greatly to be commiserated; he will lose a collection for which he paid £172 10s., and has to pay his own and his opponent's law costs, which will together, we are informed, amount to some £800 at the lowest estimate.

English law is a thing to avoid and dread, the time and money wasted upon it being often more than the value of the object in question.

We append a report of the short proceedings that closed up this nearly five-year-old dispute.

In the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, Royal Courts of Justice, Thursday, 30th November, 1899, before Mr. Justice Bruce, and a special Jury, the case of CHAPLIN v. LAING. (Transcript of the Shorthand Notes of Messrs. Martin Meredith and Henderson, 13, New Inn, Strand, W.C.)

Mr. Herbert Reed, Q.C., and Mr. Hansell, instructed by Mr. H. H. Fanshawe, appeared for the plaintiff.

Mr. Blackwell, instructed by Mr. R. G. Porteous, appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Blackwell: In this case I appear for the defendant. Certain information has come to my client which has satisfied him that he could not properly resist this claim, and I am therefore instructed to consent to judgment for the plaintiff on the issue. I do not want the verdict of the jury.

Mr. Herbert Reed: I appear for the plaintiff on the issue. I do not want any consent, for reasons which will at once occur to your lordship, but if my friend is here and offers no defence, I shall ask your lordship to give judgment for the plaintiff on the issue.

Mr. Blackwell: I submit to judgment.

Mr. Justice Bruce: That is judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

Mr. Herbert Reed: It is an interpleader issue, my lord, to determine the right to a valuable collection of postage stamps, between 6,000 and 7,000 postage stamps, which were stolen from the plaintiff

some years ago in Johannesburg, and which are now in the hands of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson.

Mr. Blackwell: Is it necessary that the matter should be gone into if I consent to judgment?

Mr. Justice Bruce: I think not.

Mr. Herbert Reed: I am not in any way prejudicing my friend. I am only stating that I ask for judgment.

Mr. Justice Bruce: The property is the property of the plaintiff.

Mr. Blackwell: That is the issue.

Mr. Herbert Reed: Your lordship will order the property in question to be delivered up to the plaintiff.

Mr. Blackwell: I consent, of course, to judgment against my client.

Mr. Herbert Reed: And your lordship will order the property in question to be given up to the plaintiff?

Mr. Justice Bruce: Is that necessary? Should not that be the subject of an application in Chambers?

Mr. Herbert Reed: Strictly speaking, it would be by application in Chambers, but I know your lordship generally now exercises the power you have to determine all matters on the trial of the issue, so that further expense may not be incurred by going back to Chambers.

Mr. Justice Bruce: I should think that is the convenient course. You do not want the expense of getting an Order at Chambers, Mr. Blackwell?

Mr. Blackwell: I admit, of course, that as against my client the plaintiff is entitled to have judgment on this issue, that these stamps are his property. What is done with them after that my client does not care.

Mr. Herbert Reed: I will draw your lordship's attention to the Order. My friend Mr. Blackwell evidently has not seen it. My lord, the Order of the Master under which this issue is tried, after directing the issue, goes on to say: "And forthwith, after the trial of such issue, to deliver up the stamps to the successful party therein, upon payment by such party of their costs, charges, and expenses, which costs charges and expenses are to be repaid to the successful party on the said issue, by the unsuccessful party"; so that I ask your lordship now to order the delivery to the successful party upon payment by him of Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's costs, which costs are to be repaid by the defendant to the plaintiff.

Mr. Blackwell: That is, of course, perfectly reasonable. I cannot object to that. It is consequential.

Mr. Justice Bruce: What is the date of the Order?

Mr. Herbert Reed: The Order is the 24th September, 1895. The original Order, my lord, is with the other party, but this is a copy (handing the same).

Mr. Blackwell: It would be the ordinary Order, I should think, in interpleader proceedings.

Mr. Herbert Reed: It is an Order made in interpleader proceedings by the plaintiff against the firm of auctioneers, the defendant, Mr. Laing, coming in and making a claim. The plaintiffs sued the auctioneers in trover, your lordship understands.

Mr. Justice Bruce: Then I make an Order in accordance with the Order of the Master.

Mr. Herbert Reed: If your lordship pleases.

Mr. Justice Bruce: What about costs?

Mr. Blackwell: Of course they must have the costs. I submit to that.

Mr. Herbert Reed: Then I must have it quite clear. There will be judgment for the plaintiff with costs of the issue, to include the costs of the interpleader proceedings. The Order, my lord, makes it in accordance with the Order of the 27th September, including the Order for repayment of the costs the plaintiff has to pay.

Mr. Blackwell: Certainly.

Mr. Justice Bruce: You will endorse your briefs and hand them in.

Mr. Herbert Reed: If your lordship pleases.

### Coming Events in Philately.

- January 6th: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane.
- January 8th: Mr. W. Hadlow's auction at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
- January 9th and 10th: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Auction at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- January 16th and 17th: Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale of the stock of Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd., at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- January 18th and 19th: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Auction at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.
- January 23rd and 24th: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane.
- January 25th: Mr. W. Hadlow's auction at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.

### News Notes from all Quarters.

FROM the 10th to the 12th and again from the 16th to the 18th of this month the Assembly Hall of the United Charities Building, New York City, will be the Mecca of American Philatelists, for there on the dates named, auctioneer Henry C. Merry will disperse the famous F. W. Hunter collection. The catalogue, as prepared by the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, is a volume of over 150 pages, prefaced by six splendid photographic plates of rarities. The collection includes many U.S.A. gems, early Swiss, Naples, Tuscans, rare British Guiana, type-set Hawaiians, "Post Paid" Mauritius, Great Britain "V.R.," etc., etc. A priced record of this sale will represent the latest word on the subject of the values of many great rarities.

According to current catalogues the hundred rarest stamps are now worth a little matter of £6,540!

"Pelure," in the *Otago Witness*, remarks that Marseilles has the reputation of being a hot-bed of stamp forgers, and that this fact may account for the following joke in a French comic paper: "First Marseilles Collector: 'I bought a Gibraltar stamp yesterday, but while the stamp is genuine, I find that the surcharge is counterfeit!' Second Marseilles Collector: 'Oh, that is nothing; I have been served even worse. I bought a surcharged Ceylon stamp the other day, of which the surcharge is genuine, but the stamp itself is a counterfeit!'"

The U.P.U., or Universal Postal Union, has recently completed its twenty-fifth year of life.

Which is the rarer Nova Scotian stamp, the 3d. dark blue or the 3d. light blue? A writer on the subject says: "The 3d. dark blue (or more properly speaking the 3d. blue on dark blue paper) was in use for a much longer period than the light blue (or blue on white paper), the former stamp in a used condition is very much more common than the latter. According to the catalogue the reverse would be the case. I have handled large quantities of three-pennies and the dark blues have outnumbered the light ones almost 10 to 1."

"The manner in which philatelic auction prices have strengthened recently is reflective of improving trade conditions," remarks the Editor of *Mackel's Weekly Stamp News*; and them's our sentiments exactly. On this side the herring pond the same thing is observable.

In the pantomime of the Grand Theatre, Islington, there is what we may call a philatelic ballet, in which the stamps of all nations are represented. It is called, on the programme, "The World's Stamp Review."

It has been stated that Malta's recent special issue meant a profit of £700 to the Maltese Post Office.

A Mr. J. P. Bacon Phillips, whose name should be, if it is not, that of a philatelist, takes exception to the changing of the colour of the British halfpenny stamp. "There has never been a stamp (writes this gentleman in a letter to the Press), so universally popular and so generally used, and in view of these two incontrovertible facts, the suggested alteration savours somewhat of change merely for the sake of novelty. There may be some occult and sufficient reasons to justify the proposal, and it is conceivable that from a strictly commercial point of view the halfpenny stamp, like third-class railway travelling, is becoming too popular. If, however, a change is inevitable, it would be a great convenience to the public if the penny stamp were perforated through the centre in order that one half might be used if required as a halfpenny stamp." This suggestion has been frequently made and as frequently ignored. And as regards Mr. Bacon Phillips' objection to the colour change, it is quite evident that this gentleman has never heard of the Postal Union's now historic recommendation.

# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 6, 1900.

Editor . . . . . PERCY C. BISHOP.  
Business Manager . . . . . SYDNEY BISHOP.

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The opening week of a new year is a fitting time for a backward glance as well as a look ahead.

The Story of the fifth birthday of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY fell somewhere in October, 1899, but—the melancholy fact must be admitted—the "S.C.F." at that time was in a fitter condition for a funeral than for a birthday celebration. Its state was such, indeed, as to lead its friends to fear the worst. The worst was not only feared; it was also said and written. The death of the "S.C.F." was openly talked of in public places and some went so far as to proclaim it from the house-tops. A new journal, having nothing in common with the FORTNIGHTLY, save where the FORTNIGHTLY's methods and "make-up" were slavishly copied, was hailed everywhere as our successor. However, all this is for the end rather than the beginning of our story.

The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY first saw the light of publication in October, 1894. It had been planned in Paris as long ago as 1892, on the occasion of the International Philatelic Exhibition at the Palais des Arts Liberaux. 'Twas then and there that the founders and first editors of the "S.C.F.," Mr. Harry Hilckes and Mr. Percy C. Bishop, first became acquainted. It may be said without braggadocio that the FORTNIGHTLY was a success from the first—a *succès d'estime* if not a triumph in the more sordid sense. Its cartoon depicting the P.P.A. in secret session, although perhaps not in the best of taste—and cartoons, after all, are not usually the vehicles of fulsome flattery—may be said to have taken the philatelic world by storm, and to have decided once and for all the destinies of the new paper. Mr. Hilckes, as both linguist and philatelist, and Mr. Bishop, as a journalist more or less connected with Philately from his schooldays, both worked hard at the paper, and the "S.C.F." flourished as the green bay tree. It made mistakes—as will all journals until the day dawns when newspapers are edited by automata; it trod on many corns—as must every paper that fights for the just and the right; but its subscription list grew by leaps and bounds until the Editors of the paper were able to boast in all confidence that with the one exception of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' *Monthly Journal*, no philatelic magazine in the United Kingdom could show a list of paid-up subscriptions equal to that of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY.

So through '95, '96, '97 and '98 the FORTNIGHTLY pursued its successful course, making innumerable friends, true and staunch, in all quarters of the globe. We have not the actual list before us as we write, but we think there is not a

single state or territory in the world which does not number one or more subscribers to the "S.C.F." within its borders. Certainly there is no civilised or even semi-civilised country to which the "S.C.F." does not go. In China, in Fiji, in Samoa, in the Cook Islands, in the Klondyke, in Uganda—in all these outlandish parts the paper is eagerly and regularly read. Thibet we are not sure about; but it would not surprise us to learn that even in the Sacred City of Lhasa the mystic priests of the Sun and Moon (or whatever they call themselves) arrange their collections according to the teaching of the FORTNIGHTLY.

In 1899 the trouble came. Neither Zadkiel nor Old Moore saw it coming, but it came. Misfortune befel the publishers of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, and for six solid months from June 24th—the date of the last number issued from "Under Bennett's clock"—the copyright of this journal was secured under lock and key in the Department of the Official Receiver in Companies Liquidation. The manner of its rescue from that ignominious position would not form an exciting narrative. Suffice it to say that after much delay and an intolerable deal of red-tape the copyright became (and will remain) the property of Mr. Percy C. Bishop.

The paper was republished on December 23rd (the copyright being legally "alive" until the following day, December 24th) and—here we are!

To drop narrative, and to revert to the first person plural, beloved of all editors, we—the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, will proceed to enunciate our policy, not for 1900 alone, but for all time. We shall endeavour in the future, as in the past, to provide philatelists

with the best of everything that brain and money can furnish. So much goes without saying; and, after all, the mere promise counts for naught. Philatelists, in the last resort, will judge for themselves and the FORTNIGHTLY will not fear the ordeal. In this journal frauds and shams will be as relentlessly exposed as hitherto; but we shall not, as is the wont of some curiously constituted minds, seek for a scandal where no scandal exists; nor shall we stir up dirty water save when we feel that the well-being of our hobby is endangered. With us it will be: "Good Philately First—the rest can go!"

Our resumption of the conduct of the FORTNIGHTLY has been a matter of some haste, and, in consequence, we have not been able to immediately re-gather all the strings of management. For a few numbers to come the "S.C.F." may suffer somewhat in comparison with previous years. Everything is being done that our experience suggests, however, to put the FORTNIGHTLY on the soundest possible basis, and before very long this journal will be, in its literary contents, in its policy, and in its mechanical "get up" a *better philatelic journal than it has ever been before*.

Constant readers of the FORTNIGHTLY, who know us of old, will say that this is a large promise. It is. But it is a promise we fully intend to fulfil.

And to these same constant readers we would make a cordial New Year appeal. It is that they help us from time to time by (1) sending the FORTNIGHTLY such philatelic news or information as comes within their ken; (2) by making suggestions as to improvements and developments, and (3) by writing us just as often as they are able, whether the subject is themselves or ourselves, whether it is help or advice they want or a kindly hint or suggestion they desire to give.

We claim, at the lowest, the merit of novelty for "The Collector's Guide to Values"—the series of tabular articles now running in the FORTNIGHTLY. The values quoted in these articles—we do not call them prices for

"the woman's reason" that they are *not* prices—have been arrived at by consultation with a number of independent and impartial philatelists. "In the multitude of councillors there is wisdom," and we think that the concentrated essence of the views expressed by the gentlemen who are kindly assisting us in this compilation will be found to very closely reflect the actual market values of British Colonial stamps.

It must be repeated that this "Guide to Values" is not,

and does not pretend to be, a Catalogue. The word catalogue has been avoided for many excellent reasons, the chiefest of these being the popular tendency to "discount" catalogue prices. The values given in our "Guide,"—being values, as distinct from mere prices—cannot be discounted. We say without fear of contradiction that no dealer or collector can profitably sell the stamps in question at lower figures than those quoted in our articles.

It may seem absurdly unnecessary to say that the figures given in our "Guide to Values" are not in any sense offers to our readers. It is just as well, however to be quite clear. The FORTNIGHTLY is now owned and edited by a collector, and there is no stamp dealer connected in any way with the proprietary or management.

One important matter in connection with the "resurrection" of the FORTNIGHTLY, as many people are terming it, calls urgently for explanation. Our Publishing Arrangements. The paper has been described as published (for the proprietors) by C. Nissen and Co., 106, High Holborn, London, W.C." That description has been misread by a number of people to mean that Messrs. Nissen and Co. are the proprietors of the paper or, at any rate, have some share therein.

The fact is this. We have made arrangements with Messrs. Nissen and Co. (very old and cordial friends of the FORTNIGHTLY) whereby we have the use of their conveniently central address as the business and editorial offices of the FORTNIGHTLY. In addition to this Messrs. Nissen and Co. act as our wholesale agents for the supply of the paper to the stamp dealers and booksellers of London. That is all; and beyond that Messrs. C. Nissen and Co. have no material interest whatever in the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY. We make this statement as much to save our wholesale agents the trouble of replying to numerous enquirers as to dispel any misapprehensions as to the FORTNIGHTLY'S exact position.

A HAPPY new year—or should we, like the German Emperor say a happy new century?—to all our readers. A Happy 1900. year for Philately—of that we feel quite sure. And if only a tithe of the good wishes expressed since No. 125 appeared are realised, then it will be a bumper year for the "S.C.F." also.

We are going to do our little utmost to help forward the Philatelic War Fund. In our last number we The War Fund. gave a prominent place to the appeal issued under the auspices of the London Philatelic Society, and bearing the signatures of Messrs. Walter Bull & H. R. Oldfield. We hope that every reader of the "S.C.F." who is in a position to do so will respond to that appeal without regard to what the FORTNIGHTLY is about to propose.

Then when you have sent along your contribution to the War Fund Auction, and sung "Rule Britannia," and killed Kruger with your mouth, you might just hearken to our own proposal. Which is this: Up to the time of closing the lists of the Philatelic Society's fund we propose to allocate to the War Fund the sum of 3d. for each annual subscription we receive, on condition that the subscriber also contributes 3d. That is to say, we invite new subscribers to the FORTNIGHTLY as well as old subscribers renewing their subscriptions, to send us, not 3s. 3d., but 3s. 6d., and to write on the order: "3d. enclosed for the War Fund." To this extra 3d. we shall ourselves add 3d., making 6d. to remit to the London Philatelic Society's War Fund Committee.

Sixpence is not much, truly; but a thousand sixpences amount to £25. Help us, all ye old friends of the FORTNIGHTLY, to send along that £25!

Bear in mind, though, that this scheme is a purely optional one. We have no right to demand, and certainly no intention to demand, that every reader contribute his threepence. There are now so many War Funds waging a determined attack on the hearts and pockets of the British people! and it is more than probable that many of the philatelists we are now addressing have already given generously through other channels. Still, we should dearly like to build up that £25!

[COPYRIGHT].

THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.

Compiled by a

COMMITTEE of INDEPENDENT PHILATELISTS.

This "Guide" is purposely not described as a Catalogue. It has become customary to regard any price called a "catalogue price" as subject to a discount of 25% or 33% or 50%. Not so with the prices we shall publish in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." These will be in all cases absolutely net prices. If we describe a stamp as worth five shillings we mean that it is really worth that sum in the philatelic market. The value we give is the collector's value, and represents the price at which a stamp dealer can sell on the basis of a reasonable trader's profit. At first we shall deal only with British Colonial Stamps.

BAHAMAS.		Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1859. "Interinsular Postage"; no watermark, imperf.					
1d. lake or rose-red	..	8/	7/	50	40/
1861. Same type for the penny stamp; the 4d. and 6d. are of similar design, but without the words "Interinsular Postage." No watermark: perfs. various.					
Rough perfs.					
1d. lake	..	40/	30/	12/	9/
4d. rose	..	75/	50/	22 6	15/
6d. grey-lilac	..	80/	50/	20/	14/
Perf. 12.					
1d. lake	..	85/	60/	20/	15/
4d. rose	..	200/	120/	27 6	20/
6d. lilac	..	240/	140/	30/	20/
Perf. 13.					
1d. lake	..	75/	50/	15/	11/
4d. rose	..	200/	100	20	15/
6d. lilac	..	240/	120/	22/	16/
1862. Same type. Watermark CC.:					
Perf. 12 1/2.					
1d. lake	..	7/	5/	3/	2/
1d. rose-red	..	7	5/	3/	2/
1d. vermilion	..	12 6	8/	4/	3/
4d. rose	..	10/	7/	2 6	1/9
4d. rose-lake	..	30/	20/	2/6	1/9
6d. mauve	..	15/	10 6	3/	2/
6d. violet	..	4/	3	1 6	1/
1 - green	..	140/	90/	20/	15/
Perf. 14.					
1d. vermilion	..	1/6	1/	1 6	1/
4d. rose	..	15/	10/	2 6	1/6
1d. green	..	2/	1/6	1/	1/8
1882. Watermark CA. : perf. 12.					
1d. vermilion	..	2/6	1/6	2/6	1 9
4d. rose	..	10/	7/	2/6	1 9
Perf. 14.					
1d. vermilion	..	20/	10/	7 6	5/
4d. rose	..	120/	70/	3/	2/
1/- green	..	1/9	1/6	1/9	6
1883. Surcharged issue.					
FOURPENCE on 6d. violet	..	22 6	17 6	25/	17/6

(In our next number a most interesting country will be dealt with—BARBADOS).

## Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated changes in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.

**Austria.**—The new stamps now making their appearance are a direct result of the new financial conditions inaugurated in Austria-Hungary as from the 1st of January, 1900. Florins and kreuzer will henceforth disappear from the coinage of the Dual Kingdom and will be succeeded by crowns and heller. Two heller, we understand, are equal to one kreuzer, so that the change will mean the reduction of the unit of Austrian currency to the equivalent, roughly speaking, of the German pfennig. Mr. G. B. Duerst, in an interesting note on this subject in the *Monthly Journal* compares the new postal rates of Austria-Hungary with those hitherto obtaining, as follows:—

	Now.	Afterwards.
Single letters to foreign countries (excepting Bosnia, Germany, Servia, Montenegro and Roumania) .. .. .	20	25 heller.
Post Cards to Austria, Bosnia, Germany, Servia and Montenegro .. .. .	4	5 "
Registration fee (local service excepted) .. .. .	20	25 "
Acknowledgment of receipt .. .. .	20	25 "

Thus while other countries vie with one another in reducing postal charges, Austria calmly puts up its rates about 25 per cent! The explanation (as Mr. Duerst suggests) may be possibly found in one of these anomalies of exchange which do undoubtedly hinder the efficient working of the international postal system; but at first glance an all-round rise in the postage rates of a first class European power is, in Swivellerian phrase, "an unmitigated staggerer."

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. have kindly sent us specimens of several of the stamps of the "heller" issue. It may be said that these show very little variation from the preceding number.

**Cook Islands.**—A new halfpenny stamp (for a specimen of which we are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.) has appeared for the Cook Islands. The design shows a bird flying over the open sea. We fail to recognise the species of bird, but perhaps it is a fancy picture of the kind that is spoken of in pantomimes and comic songs as the "oof-bird." Enough! it has been recently shown that the Cook Islands philatelic branch is, financially, a failure.

The stamp we have received is of a dingy blue colour and issue; but we must reserve a full description and illustrations for our next oblong in shape.

½d. blue, perforated.

**German Morocco.**—More German expansion! The

whole of the current stamps of Germany (we speak of the normal issue, and not of the New Year stamps described in our last issue), have been overprinted "Morocco" and value in centimos. In the following list it will be seen that there has been good deal of guess work in apportioning the values, pfennigs and centimos being some what difficult of assimilation:—

3 centimos on 3 pfennig, German.

5	"	5	"	"
10	"	10	"	"
25	"	20	"	"
30	"	25	"	"
60	"	50	"	"

Other European powers, if we have read recent news aright, are to have the same postal privileges in Morocco, which is to become a second Constantinople in postal cosmopolitanism. We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., by the way, for specimens of the above labels.

## Where are the New Stamps?

UP to the tune of going to press we had hoped to be able to describe, if not to illustrate, the new and the altered British stamps promised for issue with the beginning of the year 1900. Where are the stamps? The various postal officials can give us no tidings of them or of the intentions of the postal authorities regarding them. St. Martin's-le-Grand must hurry up or Great Britain, the first country in the world to adopt penny postage, will be the last country in the world to carry out the Postal Union's important recommendation with regard to the colours of the low value stamps.

## New Philatelic Publications.

PART IV. STANLEY GIBBONS' PRICED CATALOGUE (ENVELOPES, POST CARDS AND WRAPPERS); published by Stanley Gibbons, Limited 391, Strand, W.C.

THE neat little book before us completes the four-volume Catalogue commenced by Messrs. Gibbons last year. Already—so quickly does time fly!—another "Gibbons," consisting of the Government adhesive sections only, is in preparation. Parts III. and IV. of the work, dealing with locals and entires, will be re-issued only once in three or four years.

Considering that envelopes, postcards and wrappers are not every man's fancy, a higher price than one shilling might reasonably be asked for this most useful catalogue. It is an admirable shillingworth, for, quite apart from its value as a catalogue pure and simple, the book contains much information on entires never previously published.

The arrangement of the book will probably prove to be the most convenient that could be adopted. There is a division of the work into two parts, the first listing envelopes and wrappers, the second post cards and letter cards. Each of these parts is again sub-divided into two sections—one for Great Britain and British Colonies; the other for the rest of the world. Rather a clumsy arrangement at first glance, but one that will soon commend itself to the user of the book.

As regards the prices in "Gibbons Part IV." we have solicited the opinion of a philatelist remarkably well-posted in entires, and his reply, terse but satisfying, runs only to four words: "The prices are right!"

THE PHILATELIC ALMANAC, 1900; published by Smyth & Co., Bournemouth; price fourpence.

MESSRS. SMYTH & Co.'s latest issue of "The Philatelic Almanac," is an improvement on former editions. There is now a great deal more of what is really needed in a publication of this class—viz., solid philatelic information. There is a good list of British philatelic societies and exchange clubs; but why, in the list of philatelic journals (America) there is no mention of the *American Journal of Philately* and the *Weekly Philatelic Era*—two of the leading organs of philatelic opinion in the United States—passeth our understanding. A review of the year's events in Philately might make a good feature for Messrs. Smyth & Co.'s 1901 Almanac.

## To Subscribers at Home and Abroad.

(ESPECIALLY ABROAD.)

MANY subscriptions to the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY expire with No. 130, that being the last number of our fifth volume.

Readers resident abroad, and especially in the distant colonies, are earnestly desired to renew their subscriptions forthwith, in order that there may be no break in the service of the paper.

The rates of subscription for all parts of the world are as follows: One year (26 numbers), 3s. 3d.; six months (12 numbers), 1s. 6d.

Address all letters: The Manager, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 106, High Holborn, London, W.C.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Boom in the Philatelic Press.

PROBABLY we shall be well within the bounds of truth if we say that there are now a great number of philatelic journals in existence in this country than at any previous time. Some, we fear, are foredoomed to failure, because they have failed utterly to touch the keynote of the public fancy. One or two will fail because they are miserably in their literary contents. On the other hand, the FORTNIGHTLY has to welcome at least one among the new comers which has, we think, come to stay. We allude to *Even's Weekly Stamp News* which has, in our eyes, but one fault, and that is the introduction into this country of the bad American system of publishing advertisements and reading matter up together as if everything had been shaken from a hat into the printing press.

The *Stamp Collectors' Guardian*, another new journal, is mainly devoted to a series of articles on the Great Unused Question. In the opinion of many prominent philatelists' the Editor of the *Guardian* has discovered one of the most colossal mare's-nests of modern times. Mr. McMillan, however, promises further "astounding revelations" in his January number.

## "Developing" the "Monthly Journal."

Meanwhile the old-established journals do not appear to be in any degree injured by the competition of the youngsters. The *London Philatelist* is as erudite and as elegant as ever, and the *Monthly Journal* is actually going to enlarge itself. One would say that Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' paper is fairly well "developed" already, but Mr. Phillips, indefatigable man, has decided to make it a still better paper, and has engaged Mr. G. B. Duerst, erstwhile editor of the *P.F.G.B.*, to assist him in the developing process.

The *P.F.G.B.*, by the way (as all the world now knows), has been acquired by Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Pemberton, and doubtless the first number issued under the new régime will soon be out.

## Stamps in Finland: Some Curious Facts.

A writer on Finland in the *Daily Chronicle*, obviously one who well understands his subject, has much that is of interest to say on the subject of Finnish Postage Stamps. First that which we know already:—

The Finnish postage stamps are to be superseded by Russian. The Russian Minister of the Interior has informed the Finnish Senate that by virtue of the Postal Regulations Decree of 1890, Finnish postage stamps will not be available for foreign correspondence after Jan. 1, 1900, nor for inland postage after June 1 of that year, Russian stamps taking their place.

Then, many things that most of us do not know.

The instructions do not state whether their money value will go to the Russian Exchequer or to that of the Grand Duchy. It may be that Russia intends in this way to appropriate a not inconsiderable portion of the Finnish revenue. I ought to mention here that Russian stamps have for the last eight or nine years been on sale in Finland, and that their use has been optional. Curiously enough, the Russian stamps, by reason of exchange, are slightly cheaper than the Finnish, and occasionally people availed themselves of this small economy. Lately this has aroused considerable indignation, and the recipients of letters bearing Russian stamps conceived the plan of sending the names of their correspondents to the papers, which published a daily list of the delinquents, and thus the practice has been put a stop to. But the change of stamps is, except to collectors, not in itself of great importance. Endless confusion will occur at the post-offices, and elaborate calculations will have to be made in reducing copeks into pennis, but the serious side of the question is that the change will probably be used as a pretext for altering the currency of Finland, which has been one of the chief sources for her commercial prosperity. At present the currency is on a gold basis, and the mark is always equal to a franc.

## Philately according to St. John.

The *Birmingham Weekly Post* is in the habit of publishing occasional articles headed "Pet Hobbies," and dealing with

such things as chickens, white mice, and so on. Occasionally stamps are tackled, and the writer of the philatelic articles is a gentleman rejoicing in the name of Claude St. John. From a man with a cognomen like that one would be justified in expecting great things. The feeling is almost instinctive that what would be excusable in Timothy Jones would be in the last degree unpardonable in Claude St. John.

What shall we say, then, of the man who speaks of "the two earliest Mauritius Post Office one shilling (1) and two shilling (2) stamps issued in 1847"? And what shall we pick up to throw at him when he goes on to say:

The history of the shilling Mauritius, issued in 1847, is quite romantic. Here are a few figures. In 1847 the stamp cost one penny in Mauritius—

But why, good St. John, why?

We could forgive you the shilling and the two shillings, but why on earth should a shilling stamp be sold at the Post Office for a penny? "Quite romantic" is certainly no exaggerated term to apply to such an unheard-of phenomenon.

The *Birmingham Weekly Post* must turn out better philately than this, else Birmingham, which is strongly philatelic, may turn and rend it.

## The very Earliest Stamps.

It is an agreeable change to turn to another excellent Birmingham journal, the *Weekly Mercury*, in which matter of far greater value has been appearing recently in the shape of a "History of the G.P.O., with special reference to the growth and development of the Birmingham General Post Office." The writer is Mr. John Wilson, for forty years an official of the Birmingham Post Office; and most excellently is his task accomplished. In his earlier chapters we find much that interests us. For example the following:—

### THE BATTLE OF THE STAMPS.

That the Government were preparing to take penny postage in hand in its complete shape became obvious on August, 23rd, 1839, by the issue of a notice to artists, men of science, and the public in general to offer proposals "as to the manner in which the stamp may best be brought into use." Two colours were to be used for two prices, a penny black and twopenny coloured, and prizes were offered to the successful competitors of £200 and £100 each. Several booksellers had before this date been disputing among themselves the honour of its private introduction into business use. Mr. Charles Whiting, who took the risk of the "Post Circular," had as early as 1830 used "Go-Frees," as he called them, for parcels, and Mr. James Chalmers, of Dundee, had been diligently suggesting "stamped slips" to the Select Committee of the House of Commons in 1837, to the Merchantile Committee in 1838, and to Mr. Wallace, M.P. Mr. Charles Knight had proposed a stamped cover for newspapers in 1836, and Dr. Gray, of the British Museum, claims to have suggested their application to the prepayment of letters, while a paper maker, named Jenkinson, was just as positive that his special silken paper was the only method not open to the possibilities of forgery. The Government did the very wisest thing they could do to settle these differences by having a public competition. Mr. Henry Cole competed and won one of the prizes, and gave very many valuable suggestions to the Treasury in favour of stamps over stamped envelopes. Mr. M. W. Mulready, R.A., however, was awarded the palm for an allegorical design of cover.

Over 3000 drawings were sent in on this occasion, and came to be used afterwards in propagating further postage improvements. The Ocean Penny Postage Association, 1840, used one of these, and Elihu Burritt, when Consul for Birmingham, was very fond of illustrating his lectures with it.

And again this reference to the Mulready envelope and the first penny stamp:—

No sooner had the Mulready envelope been launched as celebrating and contributing to the completion of the new reform, than the satirists found means to laugh it into disrepute. A comic edition (figure 2) was issued privately, and the wags discovered that one of the flying angels was short of a limb (the one to the right of the design). In fact so severe was the sarcasm that the Government

offered another reward of £500, this time for a stamp only, but not one of the 1,000 specimens sent in was selected, and a black stamp, the result of experiments within the office, was adopted, because of its supposed forgery-resisting qualities.

Mr. Wilson's articles embody many such passages, and are well calculated to interest philatelists, and especially such philatelists as devote particular attention to British issues.

**The Business Side of Philately.**

THE "Christmas lull" is at an end, and from all sides come reports of active business in stamps.

Many interesting auction sales are impending. Messrs. Plumridge & Co., on the day this paper appears—Saturday, January 6th—are holding the second half of a two days' sale, at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C. The hour for selling is 2.20, so that a pleasant Saturday afternoon may be spent by the city man in no violent hurry to get home.

Next week, there is Mr. Hadlow, at Anderton's Hotel, on Monday; and on Tuesday and Wednesday, Messrs. Venton Bull & Cooper sell the second portion of the renowned Tamsen collection. Doubtless very many people will be found in Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's rooms, on the 16th and 17th, for the "Hilckes" sale; and in this connection it is important to remember that the hour for selling is 3.30 p.m. sharp. We give the dates of other forthcoming auctions under the heading of "Coming Events in Philately."

Every copy of this number of the FORTNIGHTLY should contain a slip issued by Mr. W. Hadlow, of 331, Strand, W.C., intimating his readiness to execute bids for either the Tamsen sale (Jan. 9th and 10th), or the Hilckes sale (Jan. 16th and 17th) on the basis of his now well-known commission system, whereby he (Mr. Hadlow) looks for his only remuneration to the money saved to the buyer on his own bid. All who wish to buy anything at the first of the two sales named should write Mr. Hadlow forthwith, as the time is now short.

Some most interesting announcements appear in the advertising pages of this number of the FORTNIGHTLY. We are deeply sensible of the cordiality with which the trade has supported us on our reappearance, and trust that, in return, the "S.C.F." will be the means of promoting increased philatelic business throughout the country in 1900.

**The Circulation of the "Fortnightly."**

TO advertisers, and all whom it may concern, we commend the following statement of the circulation of No. 125 of the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY:—

**PRINTER'S CERTIFICATE OF PRINTING AND POSTING:—**

This is to certify that we have this day printed 3200 copies of the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," No. 125—2000 copies of which were posted off and the remainder (1200 copies), forwarded direct to London.

PARDY & SON.

Bournemouth, Dec. 19th, 1899.

Of this issue of 3200 copies, 2000 copies were posted to subscribers as certified by Messrs. Parly & Son	2000
Despatched to Provincial Agents	256
Exchange Copies and Vouchers from London Office	110
Handed to Messrs. Nissen for London retail sale and distribution to London Agents	700
	<hr/> 3066

The small balance of the edition will be made up to 200 copies out of "returns" from agents and these will be reserved for stock and binding. Any further copies that are then on hand will be distributed through the post as specimen copies, and when that is done a Chartered Accountant's Certificate of the whole circulation of 3000 copies will be provided.

Signed, { PERCY C. BISHOP.  
SIDNEY BISHOP.

**TWIXT EDITOR AND READER**



THE FORTNIGHTLY has received, on its re-appearance, many gratifying proofs of the high esteem in which it is held.

"Thrice welcome," writes Mr. Leonard, of Londonderry, "to the 'S.C.F.!' Its absence left a blank that has never been filled, and now that you are restored to usefulness

may your future be bright and prosperous."

From all present indications we are inclined to think it will. We thank all the old and tried friends of the FORTNIGHTLY who have written us so cordially, our only regret being that it is impossible, especially at this most busy time, to acknowledge their favours individually.

\* \* \*

OUR "Collector's Guide to Values" has brought us many letters. We thought it would. With less than half a dozen exceptions our readers hail the new feature as a most acceptable innovation. Mr. Johnston, of New Deer, Aberdeenshire, makes a suggestion:

Re "The Collector's Guide to Prices" (he writes) I have no doubt it will be of great use to collectors; still, I think, there is a felt want in not having a column of prices of the same stamps fiscally used or penstroked. Many collectors would be pleased to put in their albums a fiscally or penstroked stamp, when the same stamp postally used might be beyond the reach of their purses. But as many are quite at sea as to their value in this condition, a guide of some sort would be extremely valuable. Wishing you a guid New Year.

Now if we do not immediately act upon Mr. Johnston's suggestion, it is not because we think little of it. It is, on the contrary, a very pertinent proposal, and on all occasions we are most glad to have suggestions from our readers.

Will others who may think like Mr. Johnston, or think against him, let us hear from them on the subject?

\* \* \*

ONE enthusiastic reader—a reader from the first we think; Mr. T. Edwards, of Cardiff—breaks into verse, a la Kipling, on the occasion of the FORTNIGHTLY's resuscitation:

When you've listed all your Germans, when you've mounted all your Boers,

When you've catalogued your French and Russions too, Perhaps you'll kindly give attention from your treasured little store, To congratulate an old friend tried and true.

Tho' we're absent minded beggars, the sad news caused us pain,

That our dear old "S.C.F." was dead and gone;

But by luck 'twas only wounded, and it's at the front again,

So let's help to push our FORTNIGHTLY along.

There is also a "pay, pay, pay," chorus, but as this would be thought by many to be too much like an advertising exhortation on our part, we forbear to print it; at the same time thanking our Cardiff friend very heartily for his good wishes.

**The Advertising Rates are as follows:—**

For One Insertion—		Pages of Two Columns.		For Six Insertions—	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Whole Page	5 0 0	Whole Page	per ins. 4 0 0	Whole Page	per ins. 4 0 0
Half Page	2 15 0	Half Page	do. 2 5 0	Half Page	do. 2 5 0
Quarter Page	1 10 0	Quarter Page	do. 1 5 0	Quarter Page	do. 1 5 0
One-Eighth Page	0 15 0	One-Eighth Page	do. 0 12 6	One-Eighth Page	do. 0 12 6

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One Inch	0 5 0	One Inch	do. 0 3 6	One Inch	do. 0 3 6

Short Exchange Advertisements are inserted in a special column at the rate of three words a penny.

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 106, High Holborn, London, W.C."



MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



NEXT SALE :—Saturday, Jan. 6th (day of publication of this paper), at 2.30 p.m., in the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane.

Following Sales :  
Jan. 23rd & 24th, Feb. 6th & 7th.

63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

STAMP SALES are held regularly during the Season, and CATALOGUES will be sent out as issued to everyone applying by POST CARD for same.

**Inclusive Commission on Lots Sold, 10 %**

*(The minimum average charge per lot being 2/-)*

**IMPORTANT NOTICE :**

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct. . . . .

. . . . . Send to-day for a Catalogue (Post Free) of our next Sale.

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**RARE OLD GERMAN ENTIRES.**

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**COLLECTIONS OF SPECIALISTS PREFERRED.**

Good Prices for Good Quality.

Approval lots solicited.

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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 their Dates of Sales for the present Season, as under:—

1900.—JANUARY 9th and 10th, 18th and 19th; FEBRUARY 1st and 2nd, 15th and 16th; MARCH 1st and 2nd, 15th and 16th; APRIL 5th and 6th, 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

### THE "TAMSEN" COLLECTION.

January 9th and 10th.—The second portion of the well-known Collection, formed by Emil Tamsen, Esq.

January 18th and 19th.—A very fine private Collection, containing many great Rarities, *i.e.*, Tuscany, 2 soldi, 60 crazie, and 3 lire, unused; Moldavia, 1st issue, 108 paras, unused and used; Spain complete; rare early British Guianas; Naples Arms, unused and used; Canada, 12d. black, unused; Cape Woodblocks. &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 numbers 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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

London Exhibition, 1897 - SILVER MEDAL.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

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DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent.—Approval Books and Sheets of every Country for Beginners to Advanced Collectors. Every Stamp fully guaranteed.

THE LEADING OLD CENTURY FAVOURITES ARE THE EARLIEST SENSATION OF THE NEW CENTURY.

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Greater Value than ever. Contains perfect copies only.

"Wonderful Value for money."—*vide Press*

No. I.	Collection of 300 varieties.	Catalogue value upwards of 25/-	..	..	..	..	Only 1 10, post free.
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NOTE.—All marked with \* are unused.

Cash with Orders.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

### UNITED STATES.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA, continued—

1875.	2 cents red	..	..	1 9	1883-84.	2/6, 5/-, 10/- the set	..	..	2 0	1895-97	5/- green and chestnut	..	..	3 0		
1887.	10 .. violet	..	..	2 6	..	1/- brown purple	..	..	8 6	..	10/- slate and vermilion	..	..	8 0		
1890.	10 .. orange	..	..	1 3	1887.	£1 green	..	..	3 6	1897.	£1 black and red-brown	..	..	25 0		
1895.	1 dollar black	..	..	3 3	..	£1 .. U.K. Official	..	..	55 0	1898.	1/- ochre	..	..	0 8		
..	2 .. blue	..	..	4 6	1882.	£5 orange, very fine	..	..	37 6	<b>CANADA.</b>						
..	5 .. green	..	..	5 0					1897.	Jubilee, 50c. blue	..	..	1 3			
1898.	50 cents green, Omaha	..	..	1 3					..	1 dollar carmine	..	..	6 0			
..	1 dollar black	..	..	3 6					..	2 dollars violet	..	..	7 6			
..	2 .. brown	..	..	7 0					..	3 .. brown	..	..	17 6			
												..	4 .. violet	..	..	16 6
												..	5 .. sage-green	..	..	20 0
												<b>BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.</b>				
												<i>(N.B.—All guaranteed used postally.)</i>				
1882.	Provisionally, used postally.			1890.	2/- vermilion	..	..	3 0	..	2/- green and indigo	..	..	2 0	N.B. All the above are fully guaranteed used postally. They are great bargains, rapidly appreciating and really worth 50 per cent. more than the prices quoted 1897-98. (maple leaf.) Set of 7 from 2½c. to 8c. including the rare 6 cents, 1/3 each only.		
..	1 cent crimson, brig in centre	..	..	..	2/6 purple	..	..	7 6	..	2/6 brown and purple	..	..	2 3			
..	1 .. ship	..	..	..	..	5/- orange-yellow	..	10 0	..	3/- green and mauve	..	..	3 0			
..	2 cents yellow, brig	..	..	..	1895-97.	1/- green and blue	..	0 8								
..	2 .. ship	..	..	..	..	3/- green and mauve	..	3 0								

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“Tamsen”—Ventom, Bull & Cooper, Jan. 9 & 10

“Hilckes”—Puttick & Simpson, Jan. 16 & 17

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**MR. W. HADLOW** 

Will personally attend the above Sales and execute Commissions on his now well-known system, *viz.* : **10 per cent. Commission on the difference between bid and purchase.**

**FOR INSTANCE :**

Bid.	Purchase.	Commission.
£10	£5	10/-
£10	£7 10s.	5 -
£10	£10	nil.

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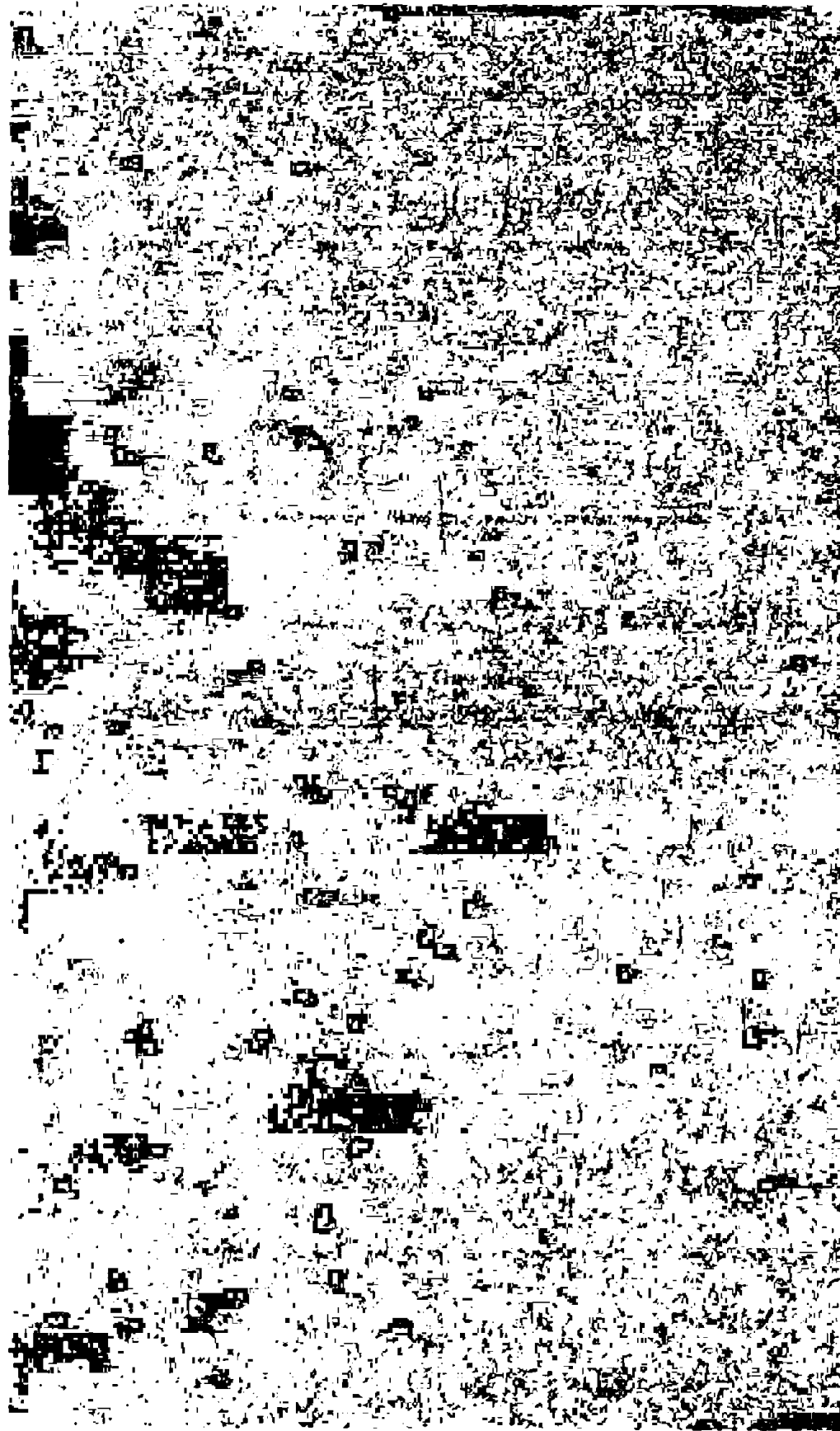
**INSPECTION and REPORT on LOTS if desired.**

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**ADDRESS :**

**331, Strand, London, W.C.**

Catalogues of the Auctioneers or sent post free on application.



Messrs. **PUTTICK & SIMPSON**,  
Literary, Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers**,  
and

**47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.,**

MAKE THE SALE OF

**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS** A SPECIALITY.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON** beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on **January 16th & 17th.**—The Entire Stock of **Harry Hilckes & Co., Ltd.** By Order of the Official Receiver. Catalogues now ready. **FOLLOWING SALE:**—January 30th and 31st.—The fine collection of unused Stamps formed by **MONSIEUR A. Le CONTE**, of Paris, and the Philatelic Library of the late **W. A. S. WESTOBY**, Esq.

Other Sales on:—1900.—February 13th and 14th; March 6th, 7th, 20th and 21st; April 3rd, 4th, 24th and 25th; May 8th, 9th, 22nd and 23rd; June 12th and 13th.

**OWING** to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible. **Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S** Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of **COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES**, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season. The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

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**W. H. PECKITT**, Dealer in Rare Stamps,

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Sarawak, 4c. rose .. .. .	0	2	Queensland, ½d. .. .. .	0	1
.. 10c. blue .. .. .	0	4	Hayti, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	4
.. 2c. on 3c. .. .. .	0	2	Hawaii, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	7
Grenada, 2d. .. .. .	0	3	Holland, ½c. to 50c., set of 14 .. .. .	3	9
Antioquia, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 10, 10, 20, 50, set of 12..	4	6			

**QUATEMALA PROVISIONALS**, 1c. on 5c., 2c. on 1c., 1c. on 1c. revenue, 6c. on 20c., set of 4 .. .. . **0 8**

**BRAZIL PROVISIONALS.**

20 on 10, 50 on 20, 100 on 50, 200 on 100, 200 on 100, 300 on 200, 700 on 500, 1000 on 7000, 2000 on 1000, 2000 on 1000, 50 on 20, 300 on 200, 500 on 300, 700 on 1000, 1000 on 7000, 2000 on 1000 reis. Set of 16 varieties, 17/6.

**FERNANDO PO PROVISIONALS.**

5 on 10, 5 on 12½, 5 on ½, 5 on 25, 5 on 2, 5 on 6, 5 on 12½, 5 on 20c., 10c. rose revenue, 15 on 10c. revenue. Set of 10 varieties, used and unused, £1 2s. 6d.

**All Unused unless otherwise stated.**

**A very large variety of Stamps, ranging from New Issues to the greatest rarities always on view at moderate prices.**

**COLLECTIONS AND RARE STAMPS PURCHASED.**

- THE -  
**'Philatelic Journal of Great Britain'**

NOW PUBLISHED BY

**KIRKPATRICK & PEMBERTON.**

The January Number will appear on the 10th inst.

**PRINCIPAL CONTENTS:**

Well-known Philatelists. No. 1.—Geo. B. Duerst (with Photograph).  
A Page from a Philatelic Journal of 1910. A forecast. The Stamps of Baden.  
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Review of Reviews, being a Review of the Philatelic Press at Home, on the Continent and in the States. Besides many other interesting features.

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**KIRKPATRICK & PEMBERTON,**

202, High Holborn, London.

**BRITISH STAMPS. Special Offer.**

A COLLECTION OF BRITISH STAMPS, over 500 varieties, all in fine condition and mounted in a good new Album,

Price **£10, a Bargain.**

This Collection would form an excellent present.

**COMPLETE SETS OF PLATE NUMBERS.**

	GOOD CONDITION.	MOUNTED.	Set of	s.	d.
½d. red	...	...	15	6	0
1d. "	...	...	151	10	6
1½d. "	...	...	2	0	3
2d. blue	...	...	7	0	9
2½d. lilac-rose	...	...	18	7	0
2½d. blue	...	...	7	1	0
3d. rose	...	...	20	7	6
4d. orange	...	...	10	2	0
6d. violet	...	...	8	3	0
6d. grey	...	...	8	5	6
1s. green	...	...	13	9	6

11 Sets for £2 8s. 6d.

**CHARLES NISSEN & CO.,**

106, High Holborn, London, W.C.

**OCCASIONAL OFFER.**

**I SELL**

	Unused. M. Pf.	Used. M. Pf.		Unused. M. Pf.	Used. M. Pf.
German China, 3 pfennig brown .. ..	..	..	German East Africa, 1893, 2 pesa brown on 3pf.	—30	—
" 5 " green .. ..	..	—10	" " " 3 " green on 5pf.	—50	—
" 10 " carmine .. ..	..	—20	" " " 5 " carmine on 10pf.	—60	—50
" 20 " blue .. ..	..	—30	" " " 10 " blue on 20pf.	1.—	—50
" 25 " orange .. ..	..	—40	" " " 25 " red-brown on	50pf.	1.—
" 50 " red-brown .. ..	..	—50	" " " 1896, 2 pesa brown on 3pf.	—05	—
German South-West Africa, 1897, 3pf. brown ..	—10	—15	" " " 3 " green on 5pf.	—10	—
" " " 5 " green .. ..	—15	—20	" " " 5 " carmine on 10pf.	—15	—
" " " 10 " carmine .. ..	—50	—	" " " 10 " blue on 20pf.	—25	—
" " " 20 " blue .. ..	—30	—	" " " 25 " red-brown on	50pf.	—65
Togo, 1897, 3 pfennig brown .. ..	—10	—10	Kamerun, 1897, 3 pfennig brown .. ..	—10	—10
" 5 " green .. ..	—10	—10	" " 5 " green .. ..	—15	—15
" 10 " carmine .. ..	—50	—15	" " 10 " carmine .. ..	—20	—25
" 20 " blue .. ..	—35	—20	" " 20 " blue .. ..	—30	—
" 25 " orange .. ..	—45	—	" " 25 " orange .. ..	—45	—
" 50 " red-brown .. ..	—70	—	" " 50 " red-brown .. ..	—70	—
German New Guinea, 5 pfennig green .. ..	—15	—			
" " 10 " carmine .. ..	—20	—			
" " 20 " blue .. ..	—30	—			

I want to buy New Issues, Rare Stamps on Envelopes, Reprints of Stamps and Entires, Errors, Curiosities, Special Collection of Stamps and Entires, Collections of all sizes. I give preference to those which contain perfect and clean stamps, but buy also those which are second rate if the price is according.

Rare Envelopes of German States (Used and Unused).

Rare Envelopes of Austria, Russia and Finland.

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Correspondence.—German, English, French, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish.

The New Senf at M2.50.

## **"Pay! Pay! Pay!"**

The "FORTNIGHTLY" calls particular attention to the following interesting circular letter, now being despatched to philatelists in all parts of the Empire. Intending contributors to the Fund should communicate with the Hon. Secretary without further delay.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

## **Philatelists' War Relief Fund.**

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

A Committee has been formed under the auspices of the London Philatelic Society, acting in conjunction with other Philatelic Societies and many of the leading collectors and dealers, for the purpose of inaugurating a special subscription from philatelists for the War Relief Fund.

Collectors generally throughout the United Kingdom are invited to contribute gifts of stamps (in collections or otherwise) or other articles connected with Philately, which will be sold by public auction and the proceeds divided between one of the Mansion House Funds and the "Daily Telegraph" Fund.

Arrangements have been made with a well-known firm of philatelic auctioneers to conduct an auction sale which will be held early in February, and will be free of all charge whatever, so that the entire gross proceeds can be handed over to the Funds.

All gifts of stamps should be sent, if possible, before the 25th January, 1900, to the undersigned, c/o Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand.

It is proposed to append to the Catalogue a list of names of all the contributors.

The Committee hope that this scheme will receive the support of collectors and dealers all over the Kingdom, and will result in the addition of a substantial sum to the War Funds.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER BULL,

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD,

} *Joint Hon. Secs.*

— THE —

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½d. red	...	...	15	6 0
1d. "	...	...	151	10 6
1½d. "	...	...	2	0 3
2d. blue	...	...	7	0 9
2½d. lilac-rose	...	...	18	7 0
2½d. blue	...	...	7	1 0
3d. rose	...	...	20	7 6
4d. orange	...	...	10	2 0
6d. violet	...	...	8	3 0
6d. grey	...	...	8	5 6
1s. green	...	...	13	9 6

11 Sets for £2 8s. 6d.

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" " 10 " carmine	..50	..	" " 10 " blue on 20pf.	..25	..
" " 20 " blue	..30	..	" " 25 " red-brown on 50pf.	..65	..50
Togo, 1897, 3 pfennig brown	..	..10	Kamerun, 1897, 3 pfennig brown	..	..10
" " 5 " green	..	..10	" " 5 " green	..	..15
" " 10 " carmine	..	..50	" " 10 " carmine	..	..20
" " 20 " blue	..	..35	" " 20 " blue	..	..30
" " 25 " orange	..	..45	" " 25 " orange	..	..45
" " 50 " red brown	..	..70	" " 50 " red-brown	..	..70
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## "Pay! Pay! Pay!"

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UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

## Philatelists' War Relief Fund.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

A Committee has been formed under the auspices of the London Philatelic Society, acting in conjunction with other Philatelic Societies and many of the leading collectors and dealers, for the purpose of inaugurating a special subscription from philatelists for the War Relief Fund.

Collectors generally throughout the United Kingdom are invited to contribute gifts of stamps (in collections or otherwise) or other articles connected with Philately, which will be sold by public auction and the proceeds divided between one of the Mansion House Funds and the "Daily Telegraph" Fund.

Arrangements have been made with a well-known firm of philatelic auctioneers to conduct an auction sale which will be held early in February, and will be free of all charge whatever, so that the entire gross proceeds can be handed over to the Funds.

All gifts of stamps should be sent, if possible, before the 25th January, 1900, to the undersigned, c/o Philatelic Society; Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand.

It is proposed to append to the Catalogue a list of names of all the contributors.

The Committee hope that this scheme will receive the support of collectors and dealers all over the Kingdom, and will result in the addition of a substantial sum to the War Funds.

Yours faithfully,

WALTER BULL,

HERBERT R. OLDFIELD, }

*Joint Hon. Secs.*

# G. HAMILTON SMITH & Co.,

## Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

### 10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

**Transvaal. Orange Free State.**  
**Cape Colony. Natal. Brit. Bechuanaland.**

We have just re-arranged our books of the above Countries, and same will be found to contain an immense number of varieties, both used and unused, in singles, pairs and blocks, all moderately priced.

**APPROVAL BOOKS.**—We hold a very fine stock of used and unused stamps (20,000 varieties), arranged in over 100 large Approval Books. The condition of the stamps is exceptionally fine, and the prices, which are reasonable, vary from 1d. to £50 each. Selections of any country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

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**ALBUMS.**—We shall be glad to send on application full particulars of the very fine books we offer.

**WANTED.**—To purchase really good collections of scarce stamps.

## SPECIAL OFFERS!

<i>All unused, in mint state.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>All used, and in very fine condition.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
British Columbia, 10c., perf. 14	... 5 15 0	Newfoundland. 1/- carmine	... 12 10 0
United states, 1869, set complete	... 12 10 0	Brazil, 180r., slanting figures	... 2 14 0
"    "    15c., without frame...	... 2 2 0	"    300r.    "    "	... 3 12 0
"    "    re-issue, set complete	... 16 10 0	St. Lucia, 1/- orange, 1883	... 3 10 0
"    State, 1c. to 90c.	... 10 0 0	"    1/- brown, 1884	... 2 10 0
"    Justice, 1c. to 90c.	... 16 10 0	Montserrat, 4d. blue, CA.	... 2 5 0
Nevis, 4d., lithographed	... 7 5 0	Ceylon, R. 2.50	... 2 10 0
St. Christopher, 4d. blue, CA.	... 5 10 0	Tobago, 6d., CC., bistre	... 2 17 6
Nevis, 1d., perf. 15, sheet	... 5 0 0	Western Australia, 1/- red-brown	... 2 10 0
Grenada, 2½d. claret, "broad star"	... 2 5 0	St. Christopher, 6d., CA., olive	... 2 5 0
British E. Africa, 4½d. on Company's stamp	... 1 7 0	New Brunswick, 6d. yellow	... 2 10 0

**NEW ISSUES.**—We shall be glad to hear from anyone willing to act as Agents for us.

**CORRESPONDENCE** in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

*Mention this paper.*

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 127—Vol. V.      SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.      ONE PENNY.

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	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Austria, 1850, 3, 6 and 9kr., ..	Set of 3	0	0	3	*British Central Africa, 4/- on 5/-	0	11	0
" 1867, 2kr. to 50kr. ..	" 7	0	1	0	*British Columbia, p. 12½, 10 cents	3	0	0
*Barbados, 1892, ¼d. to 2 6 ..	" 10	0	6	6	*British East Africa on Company's ¼d.	0	12	6
" Jubilee, ¼d. to 2 6 ..	" 9	0	7	0	" " " " 1d.	1	10	0
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1/-	" 6	0	3	9	" " " " 4½d.	1	7	0
" " 1891, 2/- to 10/-	" 6	1	13	0	" " " " 7½d.	0	19	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ¼d. to 8d.	" 4	4	5	0	" " " " 2½d. on 4½d.	1	7	0
" " 1896, ¼d. to 1/-	" 8	0	5	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d.	0	10	0
" " on Cape, ¼d. to 1/-	" 7	1	1	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose	0	19	0
" " thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d.	" 2	0	2	0	" " " " 1c. brown-red	1	1	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¼c. to 50c. ..	" 11	0	11	0	" " " " 1c. brown	2	0	0
" " \$1 to \$5 ..	" 5	3	14	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow	2	14	0
" 1898, Maple leaf, ¼c. to 10c.	" 8	0	2	9	" " " " 1/- grey	2	5	0
*Gambia, 1887, ¼d. to 1/-	" 8	0	5	0	" " 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½	1	16	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p.	" 5	0	2	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue	2	0	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 1d. on 3/-	2	3	0
" 1898, ¼d. to 1/-	" 7	0	3	0	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular	0	10	0
" Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p.	" 7	0	4	0	Ceylon, 2.50 lilac	2	10	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d.	" 5	0	1	9	*Dominica, 1/- lilac, C.A.	2	5	0
and 6d.	" 5	0	1	9	*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36	3	3	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c.	" 6	0	1	0	Signifies Unused.			

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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## Philatelic Societies' Reports

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WANTED, roll top desk, second-hand; cheap for prompt cash, or part exchange British Colonials, give dimensions, wood, etc.—109.

1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1s. Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. Brown, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

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A GREAT quantity of Philatelic Journals to be sold cheap. No advertising sheets, all good papers, such as London Philatelist, Gibbons, Philatelic Record, American Journal of Philately, Senf's Journal, &c. About 300. No list. Will send, carriage paid, for 15s.—103.

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GOOD copies of stamps catalogued from 1 to 45 for disposal. Exceptionally fine in Colonials and European. Approval selections at approximately third catalogue sent to responsible applicants.—Bridger, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London.

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FOR SALE. Senf's Album, Imperial quarto edition, quite new, 1200 pages, weight 10lbs., handsome volume, cheap. Write Frederickicks, Lichfield, Staffs.

LARGE Quantities of duplicates for sale at half-catalogue prices and under. Write for Approval Sheets.—S. Kirby, 8, Thepler Road, Clapham, London.

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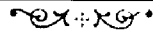
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# F. C. PENNEY,

8, Mason's Avenue,

Coleman Street,

London, E.C.



## CHEAP SETS.

French Colonies, 1884, Unpaid, 1-5 frs., complete set, unused	...	10	6
Philippine Islands, 1880, unused, Gibbons' No. 92, 6, 7, 99a, 101, 3, 4, 5, 6. Cat. 11/7	...	2	6
Labuan, engraved, unused, 2, 6, 8, 10, 12, 16, 40. Cat. 22/9	...	7	6
Labuan, 1897, used, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c., complete	...	1	6
Borneo, 1897, " 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24c. "	...	1	6
Borneo, 1889, " 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, " Cat. 3/11	...	1	0
Sarawak, 1871, " 3, 4, 6, 8, 12. Cat. 4/8	...	1	9
Tonga, 1887, " 1, 2, 6, 1/-	...	1	0
Nyassa, 1898, " complete, 2 1/2-300 (13 in set)	...	2	6
Nyassa, 1897, unused, 2 1/2-300 (12 in set)	...	5	0

## WHOLESALE OFFERS.

Mexico, 1 peso blue and 2 peso blue, unused	...	7 6	per doz. pairs.
Costa Rica, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 1 and 2 pesos, unused	...	7 6	" sets.
Porto Rico, 1898, 3 cents brown, 4/6 per 100. 6c. blue	...	10/-	per 100.
Cuba, splendid assortment, unused, all values, about 13 varieties	...	12 6	per 1000.
Cuba, sets of 40 varieties, splendid values, all unused, including \$2 1/2 and \$12 1/2	...	30/-	per doz. sets.
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Tonga, 1887, ,, 1, 2, 6, 1/-	...	1	0
Nyassa, 1898, ,, complete, 2 1/2-300 (13 in set)	...	2	6
Nyassa, 1897, unused, 2 1/2-300 (12 in set)	...	8	0

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STAMP SALES are held regularly during the Season, and CATALOGUES will be sent out as issued to everyone applying by POST CARD for same.

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE :

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct. . . . .  
. . . . . Send to-day for a Catalogue (Post Free) of our next Sale.

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Stamp Merchants,

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Will buy large lots of Stamps for ready cash to large amounts, no waiting, promptness always.

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BLUETT & CO., Stamp Merchants, Billiter Square, London, E.C. We send our Catalogue of the Prices we pay for Postage Stamps post free on application. Write or call on us if you have an old collection or loose stamps for sale. Liberal treatment. No delay. Cash at once to any amount. Established 15 years.

### BLUETT & CO.,

Billiter Square, LONDON, E.C.

The Cheapest Stamp Shop in the City.

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42½, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.

(CORNER OF UNION COURT)

200 Genuine Stamps all different, post free. 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

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Foreign Stamp Dealers,

CHICHESTER RENTS, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

LISTS OF VERY CHEAP SETS FREE.

Special Line Canada, 2c. on 3c. maple & figures, 5d. the pair. Postage Extra.

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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.

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	s.	d.
1895. 1 dollar black .. .. .	1	3
" 2 " blue .. .. .	4	6
" 5 " green .. .. .	5	0
1898. 50 cents green, Omaha .. .. .	1	3
" 1 dollar black .. .. .	3	6
" 2 " brown .. .. .	7	0

### BRITISH GUIANA.

1882. Provisionals, used postally.		
1 cent crimson, brig in centre .. .. .	2	6
1 " " ship .. .. .	4	6
2 cents yellow, brig .. .. .	3	0
2 " " ship .. .. .	3	0

### GREAT BRITAIN.

1883-84. 2/6, 5/8, 10/- the set .. .. .	2	0
" £1 brown purple .. .. .	8	6
1887. £1 green .. .. .	3	6
" £1 " I.R. Official .. .. .	55	0
1882. £5 orange, very fine .. .. .	37	6

### CANADA.

	s.	d.
1897. Jubilee, set of 11, ½ cent to 50 cents.		
very fine .. .. .	9	0
" ½ cent black .. .. .	1	3
" 6 " brown .. .. .	2	6
" 50 " blue .. .. .	1	3
" 1 dollar carmine .. .. .	6	0
" 2 dollars violet .. .. .	7	6
" 3 " brown .. .. .	17	6
" 4 " violet .. .. .	16	6
" 5 " sage-green .. .. .	20	0
N.B.—All the above are fully guaranteed used postally.		
1897-98 (Maple leaf), set of 7, ½ cent to 8 cents .. .. .	1	3

### TRANSVAAL.

1878-9. Queen's head, full set, ½d. to 2/-, unused, beautiful condition .. .. .	45	0
1885. *Provisional, ½ on 3d. red .. .. .	1	0
" " " 2d. on 6d. black .. .. .	1	0
1887-90. * " " ½d. in black on 2d. bistre .. .. .	1	3

### TRANSVAAL, continued—

	s.	d.
1887-90. *Provisional, ½ in black on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge .. .. .	2	6
" " " ½ in red on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge .. .. .	2	6
" " " 1d. on 6d. blue, with reversed surcharge .. .. .	1	6

### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

(N.B.—All guaranteed used postally.)

1890. 2/- vermilion .. .. .	3	0
" 2/6 purple .. .. .	7	6
" 5/- orange-yellow .. .. .	10	0
1890-97. 1/- green and blue .. .. .	0	8
" 2/- green and indigo .. .. .	2	0
" 2/6 brown and purple .. .. .	2	3
" 3/- green and mauve .. .. .	3	0
1890-97 5/- green and chestnut .. .. .	3	0
" 10/- slate and vermilion .. .. .	8	0
1897. £1 black and red-brown .. .. .	25	0
1888. 1/- ochre .. .. .	0	8

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

Published every alternate Saturday,  
at 106, High Holborn, London, W.C

CONDUCTED BY  
**PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Edinburgh Philatelic Society, the Rochdale Philatelic Society, and the Cambridge University Philatelic Society.

No. 127.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

THE NEW STAMP TRADE PROTECTION SOCIETY.

THE arrangements for the formation of the new Trade Protection Society, which has grown out of the London Stamp Dealers' Exchange, have proceeded apace, and the new body will soon be (perhaps is at the time of writing) an accomplished fact. Great credit is due to Mr. Hadlow for the energy and public spirit he has shown in connection with this movement. And "from information received," from the direction of the City, we think that the new Society has been formed not a moment too soon!

SOME FUNNY WATERMARKS OF FIJI.

A READER of the FORTNIGHTLY, Mr. Courtenay Welch, reports having seen the 1d. and 2d. Fiji vertically water-marked "1892" in double-lined numerals, the watermark covering four stamps. His impression, and ours, is that the marginal watermark has invaded the paper belonging to the stamps proper. To the same gentleman we are indebted for a specimen of the 3d. stamp of Fiji, perf. 11x12, on thicker paper and printed in a darker shade of green.

SPECIAL ENVELOPES FOR COLONIAL LEGISLATORS.

A PUBLIC notice, dated the General Post Office, Sidney, August 14th, 1899, and signed "Vanney Parkes," orders in the name of His Excellency the Governor, an issue of special stamped envelopes "for use by Members of the Legislative Assembly when corresponding on public business."

It is the old "frank" in a new form; but in New South Wales great care is going to be taken that the privilege of

free postage thus accorded to members of Parliament is not abused as it was in the bad old days of the British "franks."

"The envelope" (the public notice adds) "will bear the printed endorsements: 'On Public Service Only,' and 'This envelope can only be lawfully used by members of Parliament, and only on the public business.' The public are cautioned against using it under any circumstances."

These special envelopes will bear only penny or twopenny stamps; so that the worthy M.P.'s of New South Wales will not be provided with the means of transmitting over-sea letters. Whether the stamps will be of a special design, or simply the normal stamps of New South Wales, does not transpire.

ARE POSTAGE STAMPS CONTRABAND OF WAR?

THAT will have been the question in many a mind on reading the newspaper report that the Customs Officers at Cape Town have seized a great quantity of postage stamps destined for the Transvaal. It seems an odd thing to do. The Boers can't fight with stamps, and can't eat them. Probably the report of the seizure is inaccurate, for long ago there was a well authenticated announcement that the Boer stamps would thenceforth be manufactured within the Republic.

THE FAKE-MONCERS OF ITALY.

"Is there no means of dealing effectively with the horde of forgers and fake-merchants who make their home in sunny Italy?" writes a correspondent of the Fortnightly. "No sooner is one of the fraternity exposed in the Press than another bobs up in quite another part of the country, unless, indeed, it is No. 1 again, trading under a fresh name and from a fresh address."

A shrewd suggestion, in which there may be a good deal of truth!

By an odd coincidence the November, 1899, issue of the *Australian Philatelist*, just to hand, contains a warning against yet another Italian dealer in frauds—a person signing himself "Le President, Club Philatélique, Catania, Sicily."

This fellow specialises in the old Italian States, and his stock of postmarks is of infinite variety.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

- January 23rd and 24th: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane.
- January 25th: Mr. W. Hadlow's auction at Ardenon's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.
- January 30th and 31st: Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale of the Le Conte Collection, at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- February 1st and 2nd: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross.



# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, JANUARY 20, 1900.

Editor . . . . . PERCY C. BISHOP.  
Business Manager . . . . . SYDNEY BISHOP.

**THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY** is published on **alternate Saturdays**. For the convenience of a central address, the Paper is issued from the premises of Messrs. C. NISSEN & Co., 106, High Holborn, London, W.C. After February 1st the address will be 77/78 High Holborn.

Manuscripts and all Editorial communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 105, High Holborn, W.C.; but exchange copies of philatelic journals, books for review, &c., should be sent to Mr. PERCY C. BISHOP, at The Hollies, Blackheath Park, London, S.E.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.		s.	d.
One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

Subscriptions and other business communications should be addressed to the Manager, 106, High Holborn, W.C.



THE grave revelations made in this number of the FORTNIGHTLY justify the question: "What is the A Word to P.P.A. doing?" Officers of the Philatelic the P.P.A. Protection Association have recently displayed great energy in furnishing the philatelic Press with exact definitions as to the objects and aims of the P.P.A. That body, it appears, is not a trade protection association in the ordinary sense of the term, but an association for the detection and punishment of forgers and fakers. Well, here is the P.P.A.'s golden opportunity! After a period of enforced idleness, occasioned by the strenuous determination of the evildoers to live a good and honest life (or pretend to do so) the P.P.A. are now confronted with a recrudescence of philatelic crime; and we call upon them, if they are not already engaged upon the case, to devote their attention to the little City of London clique which provides us with cleaned copies of high-value Fiscal Postals, penny reds with forged perforations, and other curiosities. The P.P.A. has done glorious work in the past, and now that Mr. Charles J. Phillips is again at the helm we look to the Association for a speedy return to its ancient "form."

THERE is a destiny that shapes the ends even of a philatelic journal, rough hew them though we may. **Our Hard Luck.** The County Council, with great suddenness, has made up its imperious mind that Number 106, High Holborn, must "come down" in common with many other buildings thereabout, in connection with the great street improvement scheme. As a consequence, this number will be the last to be published from No. 106, High Holborn. From February 1st onwards the FORTNIGHTLY will be located at 77/78, High Holborn (immediately opposite the Inns of Court Hotel). Will every reader be so kind as to note down the change in his address-book.

WE, being indifferent (not to say absent-minded) beggars, omitted an essential point from our article on **The War Fund.** this subject in the last FORTNIGHTLY. Our proposal for augmenting the Philatelic War Fund ran as follows:—

Up to the time of closing the lists of the Philatelic Society's fund we propose to allocate to the War Fund the sum of 3d. for each annual subscription we receive, on condition that the subscriber also contributes 3d. That is to say, we invite new subscribers to the FORTNIGHTLY as well as old subscribers renewing their subscriptions,

to send us, not 3s. 3d., but 3s. 6d., and to write on the order: "3d. enclosed for the War Fund." To this extra 3d. we shall ourselves add 3d., making 6d. to remit to the London Philatelic Society's War Fund Committee.

To this we should have added that subscribers who have yet several numbers to run are heartily welcome to renew the same forthwith as an excuse for contributing to the Fund. "Any excuse is better than none"—especially in a good cause. All who elect to do as we suggest may depend upon it that these "advance renewals" will be most carefully "numbered forward" in our books, and receipts duly posted to the senders.

Meanwhile, our War Fund proposal has met with a most gratifying response. Quite a respectable proportion of the new subscriptions and "renewals" received during the past fortnight have contained the extra 3d. for the FORTNIGHTLY'S "little tambourine." One reader, whose name we really must mention, Mr. W. Lane Joynt, of Dublin, sends us an extra 2s. 6d., "being ten additional threepences which I desire you to place to the credit of the first ten subscribers who forget to send the extra 3d." Another warm-hearted Irish reader, Mr. Leonard, of Londonderry, in sending a postal order for a subscription and a FORTNIGHTLY binding case, bids us "keep the change" for Tommy; and we shall right gladly do so.

\* \* \*

LET us not, in the meantime, forget what we may call the parent Philatelic War Fund, projected and **The War Auction.** promoted by an influential committee of the Philatelic Society, London, and other representative societies throughout the kingdom. The circular describing the scheme in detail has been given in the past two numbers of the "S.C.F." Contributions of stamps for the War Auction, letters of enquiry, etc., should be directed to the Joint Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Walter Bull and Herbert R. Oldfield, c/o The Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.—and much power to the elbows of both of them!

\* \* \*

THE little world of Philately becomes a busier little world year by year. How to squeeze into our **Enlargement of the "S.C.F."** space all the philatelic news we receive is becoming quite a difficult problem.

From this number we have been compelled to "hold over" quite a mass of interesting matter, including, we regret to say, a few advertisements. As a temporary, or perhaps a permanent, remedy we propose to issue with our next number a four page supplement, consisting partly of reading matter and partly of advertisements. This method of enlargement will be a most convenient one from a managerial point of view (enabling us to insert late news at short notice), and we think that it will be welcomed by all our readers.

One prominent feature of the "Supplement" will be "The Stamp Exchange," our column for private exchange advertisements. At the low rates now charged—one penny for every three words—this column promises to become the medium of a great deal of satisfactory philatelic business.

We shall look to our readers for their opinions as to the FORTNIGHTLY'S Supplement, and on those opinions its continuance or abolition will depend.

\* \* \*

WE greatly regret that, owing to an abnormal pressure on our space, we are compelled to hold over **The Values of Barbados.** the continuation of "The Collectors' Guide to Values." The country next on our list is Barbados, and we have been

confronted by this difficulty: either we must hold over the whole of the list or insert only a part of it. Rather than adopt the latter course we have decided to defer our Barbados list till our next number. We have been assisted in preparing the Barbados list by Mr. Hubert Lowe, by Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge, and by three other well known philatelists who do not wish their names to be publicly mentioned. In the result we shall be able to present our readers with a list of values of Barbados which will exactly reflect the market position of the stamps of this most difficult but interesting country.

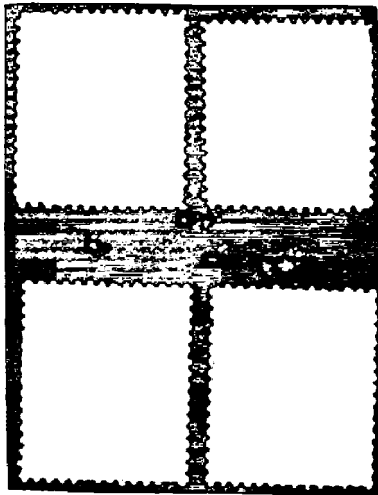
## Another British Forgery Discovered!

A BOGUS PERFORATION WHICH HAS BEEN SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION!—IS THERE STILL A FAKING DEN IN THE CITY?

(Exclusive News to the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.")

WE regret to have to place on record a philatelic fraud of some magnitude.

The 1d. red English, Die L., small crown, imperf., has been converted into the comparatively rare perf. 14 variety, by the application of a spurious perforation. Not in single instances only has this been done. Vast quantities of the common imperf. stamp (purchasable at about 3. per 1000) have been so treated.



For the information in our possession we are indebted to Mr. Charles Nissen, to whom (as old readers of the FORTNIGHTLY will remember) belongs the credit of discovering the forged one shilling green.

This matter of the 1d. red, with forged perforation, becomes the graver when we state that the faked stamp has been sold at public auction in London. To make this serious statement without mentioning names would be invidious. Hence we have to announce, with great regret, that the auction at which this faked stamp was sold was one held

under the auspices of Messrs. Buhl & Compy., Limited—a concern now in liquidation. We state this "with regret" for the reason that we cannot seriously entertain any suspicion that anyone connected with the Buhl Company acted otherwise than in perfect good faith.

But where shall we place the blame? That is a matter for further investigation.

The name of the actual seller of the "lot" must be

registered somewhere in the books of Messrs. Buhl & Compy., Limited. If so we may be able, step by step, to trace the forged perforation home to its factory. We have little doubt that the liquidator of Messrs. Buhl & Compy., Limited, will afford us every facility for investigating this most important matter.

The faker's motive is not far to seek. The common imperf. 1d., small crown, is worth not more than 3/4 a thousand in the open market; the same stamp, perforated 14 is worth at least as much *per single specimen*. With Maltese Cross postmark, the perforated stamp is worth from 7/6 upwards! and many of the faked stamps under notice show this postmark. Most of the forgeries are found on the thick paper of the imperf. stamp. Copies offered for sale have been described as "on the rare thick paper." Some very fine ivory heads have turned up.

We illustrate the perforations of four stamps. The two specimens at top have forged perforations; the two at bottom are genuine. Careful examination will reveal the fact that the faked stamps show a strange squareness about the teeth of the perforation, the impression created being that the scissors were used upon each specimen *after* perforation.

The forgery is sufficiently good to be dangerous. *Many dealers have been victimised*, and it follows that numerous amateur philatelists have been swindled.

The paper is an important point, as collectors of English know, the genuine perforated stamp is on thinner paper than the imperf.

We shall leave no stone unturned to trace this forgery to its home. We believe that somewhere in the City of London there is a faking den; we *know* that in the City there are men who, lulled into a sense of security by the inactivity of the various philatelic protective bodies, are actively engaged in stamp-cleaning and other illicit operations. These creatures lack either the energy or the ability, or both, to make money honestly, and their proper sphere of usefulness (?) is Wormwood Scrubbs.

### "Where are the New Stamps?"

THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL SAYS "NO DATE HAS BEEN FIXED" FOR THEIR ISSUE!

PRIOR to the publication of No. 126 of the FORTNIGHTLY, we made various enquiries at London post offices as to the promised new stamps—the ½d. and 1d. in new colours and the new 1s. stamp. Everywhere the answer was the same—the clerks knew nothing beyond what they had read in the papers!

One young gentleman at the G.P.O. in St. Martin's-le-Grand, replying to our query, said: "We know absolutely nothing *officially*. Not a word has been said to us *officially* on the subject!"

At the time we accepted that somewhat startling reply as a piece of polite official—let us say *diplomacy*; but a letter we have since received from the Secretary of the G.P.O. makes it appear that the official was speaking only the literal truth.

The letter is dated General Post Office, January 6th, 1900, and runs:—

In reply to your letter of the 30th ultimo, I am directed by the Postmaster-General to state that *no change is contemplated in regard to the Penny stamp*, but it is proposed to alter the half-penny and shilling stamps, though no date has been fixed for carrying out these instructions.

No change in the penny stamp!—no date fixed for alteration to the ½d. and 1s. stamps! A striking tribute this to the

value of premature statements in the newspaper press! It has been so frequently stated and re-stated that the penny stamp would revert to its original red shade that the thing has been generally accepted as gospel fact, and has been published as such in nearly every philatelic journal in the world. Again, the "new stamps" were to appear on "New Year's Day" or at the beginning of the year; yet on January 6th, the G.P.O. gravely confesses that "no date has been fixed" for their emission!

Who could have "inspired" the first public statement as to this matter?

### At the "Hilches" Sale.

ON Tuesday and Wednesday last, at their rooms in Leicester Square, Messrs. Puttick & Simpson sold the entire stock of stamps, &c., of the firm of Harry Hilches & Co., Limited, now in liquidation. Over 800 lots had to be disposed of in the two days. A change of auctioneers at "half time" was imperative, since even auctioneers are human. A representative of the *Fortnightly*, present in the room, counted seventy-five noses on the first day; and that is a good attendance for a philatelic auction.

The prices were good, too. And the bidding, at times, was more than brisk. Many philatelists, both amateur and professional, were present who are seldom seen in the auction room. Among the largest buyers were Mr. Hadlow, Mr. L'Estrange Ewen, and Mr. Hugo Griehbert.

We should imagine that the total sum realised by the sale greatly exceeds the Liquidator's expectations.

## Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated changes in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.

**Austria.**—We now illustrate the new stamps, priced in "heller" in lieu of "kreuzer." Only the low values have reached us so far. Probably we shall be able to give a full table of values and colours in our next issue.

**British Honduras.**—Mr. W. H. Peckitt has kindly shown us the 5c. ultramarine and the 25c. red-brown and green, with black surcharge "Revenue" in small capitals. A letter from the Postmaster of Belize states that these stamps are still available for postage, the overprint notwithstanding. The 50c. was also overprinted "Revenue," but the entire stock is exhausted. "The 3c. stamp (adds the Postmaster) has long gone out of issue."



**Cartagena (Colombia).**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us of two more provisionals, as under. These were issued on December the 8th, 1899, and only 5000 of each were printed. They are roughly pin perforated 7, with control marks consisting of seven wavy lines in blue running across the stamp. The type is precisely that of the last provisionals, issued November 8th, 1899.

Provisionals: 5c., chocolate on pale blue.  
10c., red on flesh.

**France.**—Statements have appeared in the Press to the effect that special stamps for the Paris Exhibition have been definitely ordered. M. Eugene Mouchon is stated to be responsible for the design that will be used for the values up to 30 centimes. This drawing shows the Republic seated, and holding a tablet inscribed, "Droits de l'homme." The stamps of 30 centimes and 1 and 2 francs will be drawn by M. Luc Olivier-Merson.



The 1900 Design.

It will be remembered that long ago—we think as long ago as 1897—a design was published in the news papers as being accepted for immediate use on the new French postage stamps. From that day to this nothing further has been heard of it. It is as well not to attach too much credence to these premature announcements in the newspaper Press.



The Design of 1897

**French Morocco.**—Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send the 5 centimos, red surcharge, on the 5c. French stamp of the new yellow-green shade.

**Germany.**—At the time of writing (January 13th) only four of the new stamps have appeared. We are indebted to Mr. W. H. Peckitt for specimens of same:—

10pf., red, white paper  
30pf., black and orange, salmon pink  
40pf., black and carmine, white  
80pf., black and crimson, rose



**Sarawak.**—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for two new colours from Sarawak: 4 cents, rose, and 10 cents, blue—current type,

## Our Review of Reviews.

Publishers of journals sending copies for review are requested to address same to the Editor of the *Fortnightly* at his home as follows:—

MR. PERCY C. BISHOP,  
The Hollies, Blackheath Park, London, S.E.

The *Fortnightly's* "Exchange List" is now being made up, and to those of our contemporaries with whom we enter into exchange relations we shall despatch two copies of each issue, immediately on publication.

### The Blushing "P.J.G.B."

THE new "P.J.G.B." comes to us blushing rosiely, as if overcome with confusion on finding itself plumped down in such a very big village. After the calm serenity of "Old Sarum," the bustle and noise of High Holborn must be quite distracting; but the "P.J.G.B." has come through the ordeal well and makes a brave show in the first issue under Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Pemberton's management.

In a cover of geranium-red the paper is calculated to catch the eye of he who runs. There is a little more of margin now, making the paper seem larger; but in many respects the old characteristics of the journal are preserved.

Mr. George B. Duerst, till lately editor of the paper, is the hero of the first of a series of articles on "well-known Philatelists"; and had the process block been a better one, Mr. Duerst would wear a less tired expression. It is stated that if Mr. Duerst has one particular mania it is *Rou*-mania.

Mr. H. W. Plumridge writes interestingly on "The Position of Philately To-Day." His tone is optimistic, and, we think justifiably so. An unsigned article on Baden, some interesting notes, a chat about "Past Editors of the "P.J.G.B." and a forecast of the future of Philately are among other features of the paper.

Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Pemberton, in producing such a good first number, have set themselves rather a high standard to keep up to.

### Enter Messrs. Morley & Pearce.

Mr. Walter Morley, as proprietor and publisher, and Mr. A. Preston Pearce, as Editor, have put their heads together in the preparation of a new paper to be known as "Morley's Philatelic Journal." We have read the first issue with great pleasure, but we are not going to pretend for one moment that we regard it as an achievement worthy of the clever and capable philatelists responsible for its production. The journal, statements to the contrary notwithstanding, is to be devoted not only to Fiscals and Telegraphs, but to Postals also. The only item relating to postals in the first number is a short article by Mr. Oliver Firth on the 4d. vermilion circular envelope stamp.

That first numbers don't count is a journalistic axiom, and we shall confidently look to No. 2 of "Morley's Philatelic Journal" to show a marked improvement on No. 1. For one thing illustrations would seem to be a prime necessity in such a publication; but this, we doubt not, is fully recognised by the conductors of "M.P.J."

### "Fiscal Telegraphs & Telegraphic Fiscals."

That well known German philatelist, Dr. F. Kalkhoff, contributes a short paper to "Morley's Philatelic Journal" on the subject of the stamps issued in Spain, Mexico and elsewhere, representing a war tax on telegrams. Dr. Kalkhoff is puzzled as to the precise status of these stamps.

"Certainly they are Fiscals," he writes, "but on the other hand they form an indispensable part of the franking of the telegrams, and therefore can also be recognised as telegraph stamps."

### The Organ of Philately in India.

The *Philatelic Journal of India* is as good as ever, and that's high praise. In the November issue, "Quis," a contributor, is allowed to calmly announce that a certain new English stamp journal "has taken the place of the FORTNIGHTLY." The charming humour of the idea of a

monthly paper ever taking the place of any fortnightly journal seems to be quite lost upon "Quis" as upon all the other people who have helped to give currency to this notion.

The original articles in the issue of the *P.F.I.* under notice are: "Mysore Fiscals," by E. W. Wetherell; "Philately at Home," by the aforementioned "Quis"; "Philatelic Amenities," by J. Godinho; Notes, Extracts, and a most interesting letter from the State Agent of Kashmir (the Rev. C. B. Simons), refuting certain statements in the *P.F.I.*, under the mistaken notion that such statements were directed against him personally.

**"A Paper Maker named Jenkinson."**

Too late to make an alteration, we saw in the passage quoted from Mr. Wilson's *Birmingham Weekly Mercury* article, an absurd reference to "a paper-maker named Jenkinson." Of course the reference was really to Dickenson of silk-thread fame, head of the great firm of Dickenson, Evans & Co. We regret also that other slight errors of fact in Mr. Wilson's historical references were allowed to pass unchallenged. The fact of Mr. Wilson's forty years' service in the Post Office gave his work a sort of hall-mark in our estimation, and we are sorry to find our confidence misplaced.

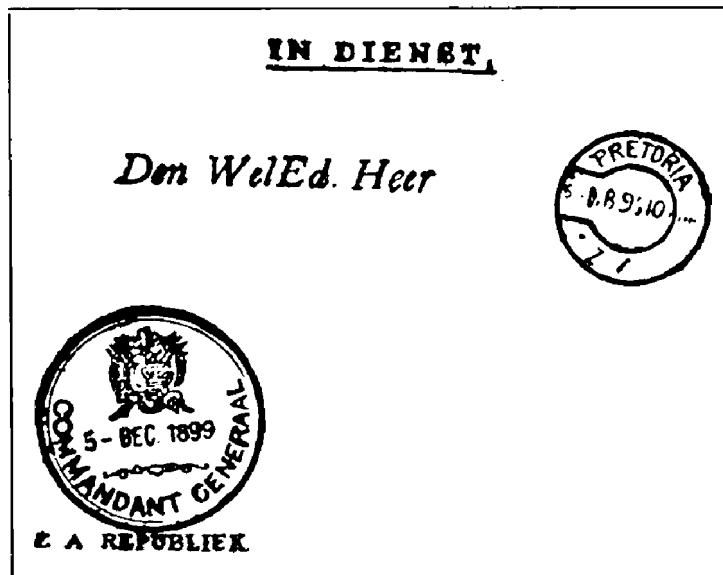
**New Series of the "Philatelic Record."**

The *Philatelic Record*, being traditionally a very wise journal, has donned for 1900 a coat of sage green. The January issue contains a vast amount of interesting matter, including original articles on Luxembourg (Frank H. Oliver) Hawaiian Reprints (T. H. R. Crowle). The "Editorial Interview" is with Messrs. Kirkpatrick and Pemberton. Therefrom we gather that stamps of the Transvaal and Orange Free State are booming in the High Holborn and South Croydon districts. The article is a little difficult to follow, owing to the total absence of inverted commas.

**The War; its Philatelic Side.**

It appears that Cape, Natal and British Stamps are being used indiscriminately in the prepayment of letters from what the halfpenny newspapers love to call "the Theatre of War." For cancellation there is a double-lined circle containing the words: "Field Post Office—British Army, S. Africa."

The *Evening News* (London), prints this facsimile of the envelope covering a letter from one of the British prisoners in Pretoria:



Many letters from "gentlemen in Kharki ordered south" come to the old country bearing no stamp at all (for Tommy is often many, many miles from a post office) and these, by a special order of the postal authorities, are surcharged only one penny instead of the double-fee usually recoverable.

**The Forgeries, Fakes and Reprints of the Transvaal.**

Written for the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*  
By R. F. CLARKE.

I HAVE thought that just at this present time, a short description of the principal forgeries, "fakes," and reprints of the South African Republic will be acceptable, especially among those who lack the advantage of a first-class philatelic reference library (in which matter the stamp collector too often stints himself, with disastrous results). While not professing to be a leading specialist of Transvaals, I have made a close study of these most interesting stamps, as also those of the Orange Free State; and think I am now sufficiently well posted to elude the many pitfalls for the unwary, and likewise to act as guide for those less experienced.

The forgeries of the stamps of the first emission (1869) were long thought to be reprints, and were listed as such. I find them so listed in Mr. Hillekes' translation of Dr. Kalekhoff's work on "Reprints" (published 1892), but there is no word of them in Mr. E. D. Bacon's book. Investigation proved them to be out-and-out forgeries, or rather their exact title would be "fakes," for in reality the stamps are *partly genuine and partly forged*. This sounds like an impossibility, but I will show that it is literally true.

**FORGED BY THE PRINTER.**

A German, Herr Adolph Otto, of Gustrow, in the Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, was the printer of the Transvaal stamps of 1869 (type of first illustration) and it is Mr. Otto we must thank for these "faked forgeries." The frame of



Anchor of Genuine Stamp.



Anchor of Forged Stamp.

the "fake" is true in all respects to the original stamp. In fact, that part of the design is absolutely genuine, the printer Otto having retained that portion of the die or plate. The whole of the design inside the frame was forged by the printer, who should have been able to make an exact imitation, but completely failed to do so. In almost every point of this central design the collector can find differences, each one sufficient in itself to betray the imitation. Take, for instance, the horizontal lines in the top right-hand division of the oval in the centre of the stamp. In the true stamp (or in all the copies I have seen) these lines *touch* the upright line dividing this section of the oval from its neighbour. Not so in the forgeries, where perhaps a few of the lines touch, but more often you will find that all stop just short of the vertical dividing-line. The flagstaff nearest to the eagle on the right-hand side is another "danger-signal." This is simply one thick line in the genuine stamps, while in the forgeries it consists of two distinct lines, and this very same flag staff in the original stamp does not quite touch the oval, while in the forgeries, the opposite is the case. There is one more good (I think it the best) test. This lies in the shape of the anchor in the centre of the stamp. The form of this is altogether different in Herr Otto's counterfeit stamps, as the illustrations given will show. The enlargement of the anchor in these drawings of course brings out the defect very glaringly; but in examining the actual stamps anyone with fair eyesight ought to detect the false stamps without difficulty by simply this anchor test alone. The original stamps were all rouletted, or were all ordered to be rouletted. However, there are, or were, imperf. specimens in the

possession of Mr. Emil Tamsen and Mr. Moens. Otto, the printer, was resolved to please all tastes, so his counterfeits appeared both imperforate and rouletted.

#### AN ISSUE NEVER "ISSUED" (?).

At different times the statement has been made that the first Transvaal stamps, received in the Boer capital early in August, 1869, were never really issued to the public at all, being all used up in supplying the post-orders from stamp dealers long before the time fixed for the issue, January 1870.

(To be continued).

### New Philatelic Publications.

STANDARD POSTAGE STAMP CATALOGUE, 1900; Published by the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, New York: Sole Agent for Great Britain, W. T. Wilson, Birmingham.

WE find that the virtues of the "1900 Scott" far outnumber its faults; and the faults, speaking generally, are faults that do not affect the philatelic value of the publication. For instance the prefatory matter includes, in addition to the usual "Hints to Collectors," a "List of the Colonies Controlled by European States." This headline, to begin with, is not a happy piece of phrasing, for there is no real "control" exercised by Great Britain over such places as New South Wales and Canada. The real point is that no mention appears in this list of the Danish Colonies in the West Indies. True, there is a scheme afoot for the purchase of these islands by "expansive" Uncle Sam for a little matter of twenty million dollars; but that is very far from being an accomplished fact.

The practice of cataloguing colonial stamps under the heading of the parent state in certain convenient cases such as the Colonies of Italy or Germany, though an excellent idea in its way, is yet apt to lead to strange inconsistencies and incongruities. For instance, were the rule made absolute the whole British Empire would follow the mother country under the "G's," and wouldn't that make a funny sort of book of Scott's Catalogue! Again, it would have seemed natural, not to say patriotic, to deal with the colonies of the United States of America at the end of "U.S.A." proper, but it was a pitfall that the Scott Company saw and avoided. Consequently Cuba and the Philippines and Porto Rico are given their proper alphabetical positions as heretofore. And we must here remark that the lists for Cuba and the Philippines have been revised and amplified with noticeable care. In our opinion the lists of these two countries alone, make a copy of the new "Scott" a desirable acquisition for every philatelist.

\* \* \*

POSTAGE STAMPS OF THE TRANSVAAL, by Charles Nissen; C. Nissen & Co., price twopence.

A most useful pamphlet on the stamps of the Transvaal, issued at the modest price of twopence. A reference list of the various issues is accompanied by useful notes, and a page of illustrations shows all the principal types of surcharges, &c. The brochure is necessarily not intended for the advanced specialist, but simply for medium collectors.

The Fiscal-Postals of the Transvaal of which there is no mention in many catalogues, are listed by Mr. Nissen as follows:

6d., red  
1s., blue  
1s. 6d., grey-green  
2s., brown  
2s. 6d., vermilion  
5s., light green

The Stamps referred to are the large revenue stamps of the British Occupation period, with head of Queen; and must not be confused with the 6d. "Zegelregt" stamp, surcharged "Postzegel," which, on account of its surcharge, is not a fiscal-postal, but a postage stamp pure and simple.

We can recommend Mr. Nissen's little book to all who are looking for a simple and straightforward guide to the issues of the Transvaal.

## Second Brooklyn Exhibition.

### HOW TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN STAMP COLLECTING.

THE interest manifested by the public in the First Exhibition of Postage and Revenue Stamps, given by the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute, Greater New York, has encouraged the members to give a Second Exhibition on somewhat broader lines (with the co-operation of the leading Philatelists and Philatelic Societies of New York, Chicago, Boston and Richmond), at the Art Rooms of the Brooklyn Institute, 174, Montague Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., from March 3rd to 11th, 1900. The Exhibition will be open on week days from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Invitations will be issued for the formal opening on the evening of March 3rd, 1900, and the public are invited to attend on all other days and evenings without tickets.

Gold, silver and bronze medals of handsome design, as well as special awards, will be offered for competition for the best exhibits by collectors and dealers.

#### THE CHILDREN'S DAY.

The large attendance last year (being 2,500 to 3,000) on each of the special days set apart especially for the school children of Brooklyn to inspect the exhibits and to receive packets of stamps, which were distributed gratuitously, with a view of creating in the children an interest in collecting stamps, has inclined the Committee to repeat the invitation to them on March 11th, 1900.

Any information concerning the Exhibition may be had on application to the Secretary, Mr. John D. Carberry, 1125, Putman Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

#### SUPPORTED BY THE FLOWER OF PHILATELY.

The prospectus of the Exhibition, as sent to the *Fortnightly* by Mr. John D. Carberry, the Secretary, is, we regret, too lengthy for verbatim publication. The leading points only can be given. First it must be mentioned, as evidence of American appreciation of the Brooklyn Institute's valuable work in Philately's cause, that this second Exhibition is receiving the active support of every important philatelic society in the United States, while such individual philatelists as Messrs. H. E. Deats, J. N. Luff, F. W. Hunter, C. P. Krauth, H. L. Calman, W. C. Stone, W. N. Howe, Drs. Mitchell and Stebbings, the Hon. F. F. Olney, and the Presidents of the A.P.A., the Dominion, Chicago, Boston, Staten Island, Manhattan, Empire State, Southern, and New England Philatelic Societies, and the New York Collectors' Club are actively co-operating.

Dr. Thaddens P. Hyatt is chairman, and Mr. John D. Carberry, secretary, of the Exhibition Committee.

#### CLASSES AND AWARDS.

Eight classes will comprise all the exhibits, and there are various awards some of them donated by the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute, and others by the various philatelic societies assisting the promotion of the Exhibition.

Class 1., sub-divided into four groups, comprises: the United States, its Colonies and Protectorates. One gold, one bronze, and four silver medals.

Class 2 (six groups): British Empire, including Protectorates. Medals: 1 gold, 6 silver, 1 bronze.

Class 3: North and South America. One silver medal.

Class 4 (six groups): Europe. Medals: 3 silver, 3 bronze.

Class 5: Asia. One silver medal for best exhibit in any three of certain named countries.

Class 6: Africa. One silver medal, under same conditions as in the foregoing class.

Class 7: Entires, Essays, Proofs, Oddities, &c. One bronze medal.

Class 8: For Dealers. One silver medal.

In addition there are numerous "special awards" offered by societies, dealers, and others, including a bronze medal tendered by Mr. Alex. Holland for the "best general collection in album exhibited by a lady."

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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Literary, Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
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Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place on January 30th and 31st—including the fine collection of unused Stamps formed by MONSIEUR A. Le CONTE, of Paris.

Please note that the date of Sale for the Philatelic Library of the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq. has been altered from Jan. 30th and 31st, as previously advertised to February 13th & 14th.

Other Sales on :—1900.—March 6th, 7th, 20th and 21st ; April 3rd, 4th, 24th and 25th ; May 8th, 9th, 22nd and 23rd ; June 12th and 13th.

OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America, the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.

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" 10c. blue .. .. .	0	4	Hayti, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	4
" 2c. on 3c. .. .. .	0	2	Hawaii, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	7
Grenada, 2d. .. .. .	0	3	Holland, ½c. to 50c., set of 14 .. .. .	3	9
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FERNANDO PO PROVISIONALS.

5 on 10, 5 on 12½, 5 on ½, 5 on 25, 5 on 2, 5 on 6, 5 on 12½, 5 on 20c., 10c. rose revenue, 15 on 10c. revenue. Set of 10 varieties, used and unused, £1 2s. 6d.

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	s.	d.		s.	d.
Ceylon, 2c. red-brown .. .. .	0	1	Cook Islands, ½ blue .. .. .	0	1
" 4c. yellow .. .. .	0	1	Philippines, 10c. brown, used .. .. .	0	4
Sarawak, 4c. rose .. .. .	0	2	Queensland, ½d. .. .. .	0	1
" 10c. blue .. .. .	0	4	Hayti, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	4
" 2c. on 3c. .. .. .	0	2	Hawaii, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	7
Grenada, 2d. .. .. .	0	3	Holland, ½c. to 50c., set of 14 .. .. .	3	9
Antioquia, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 10, 10, 20, 50, set of 12 .. .. .	4	6			

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5 on 10, 5 on 12½, 5 on ½, 5 on 25, 5 on 2, 5 on 6, 5 on 12½, 5 on 20c., 10c. rose revenue, 15 on 10c. revenue. Set of 10 varieties, used and unused, £1 2s. 6d.

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- KASHMIR. CANADA, 2c. on 3c. Prov.
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### PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Zanzibar, 1/2 anna, error—		
" Zanzidar " ..	3 0 0	1 15 0
British Honduras, 6d. yellow	4 10 0	3 0 0
Canada, 7 1/2d. ..	3 0 0	1 5 0
Cape of Good of Hope, 1s. Triangular ..	1 0 0	0 9 0
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**FORTNIGHTLY**

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

No. 128—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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THE

**"MONTHLY JOURNAL,"**

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REMAINDERS OF

**Unused English Colonial Stamps.**

BEING A COMPREHENSIVE HISTORY.

Including the approximate number of each variety of this class of stamp that has come upon the market between the years 1887-1900.

By CHAS. J. PHILLIPS.

This number of the Journal will not be sold separately but will only be supplied to Annual Subscribers. The Annual subscription is 2/- which can be paid now, when the back numbers will be sent and the others—including the above special one—as they are published.

**STANLEY GIBBONS, LTD.,**  
**391, STRAND, (Opposite Hotel Cecil), LONDON, W.C.**

# 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 their Dates of Sales for the present Season, as under:—

1900.—FEBRUARY 15th and 16th; MARCH 1st and 2nd, 15th and 16th; APRIL 5th and 6th, 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

February 15th and 16th.—A very fine private Collection including Canada, 7½d., 10d. and 12d. black, unused; Cape Woodblocks, 1d. red, a pair, 4d. deep blue on piece; very fine early post paid 1d. and 2d. Mauritius; France, 1 franc orange; Spain, 1851, 2 reales; Tuscany, 2 soldi, a splendid strip of 5, and 2 superb specimens, used on piece with 3 other values, 60 crazie unused and a used specimen; United States, 1869, 24c. and 30c., with inverted centres, both very fine; Buenos Ayres, 1 peso, unused and used; New Brunswick, The Connell mint 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 dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large numbers 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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

London Exhibition, 1897 - SILVER MEDAL.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

## FREDK. R. GINN, Stamp Dealer, Expert and Valuer,

OPPOSITE GAIEY THEATRE.

143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

### SPECIALITY SELECTIONS ON APPROVAL.

DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent. Selections of Fine and Desirable Stamps from the celebrated Henderson, Hill, Shorthouse, and many other Collections recently purchased. The first-named alone costing £3,000, and containing 40,000 Stamps.

DISCOUNT 25 to 50 per cent. Approval Books and Sheets of every Country for Beginners to Advanced Collectors. Every Stamp fully guaranteed.

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THE LEADING OLD CENTURY FAVOURITES ARE THE EARLIEST SANSTION OF THE NEW CENTURY.

Greater Value than ever. Contain perfect Copies only. Wonderful Value for money. "Sale Press." Of a high-class and fully up to description. "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly"

- No. I. Collection of 300 varieties, Catalogue value upwards of 25
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- No. III. Collection of 1000 varieties, If priced separately the Stamps would come to over £5. Only 18
- No. IV. Collection of 1500 varieties, Selected with great care; it has no equal at the price, forming a really fine collection in itself

Only 1 to post-free.  
Only 6 7  
Only 18  
Only 45 + registered and post-free.

#### TRANSVAAL.

	S. d.
1878-80, Queen's head, full set, 1d. to 2s., unused, in beautiful condition	45 0
1885, Provisional, 1/2 on 3d. red	1 0
" " 2d. on 6d. black	1 0
1887-89, " 1d. in black on 2d. bistre	1 3
1887-89, Provisional, 1/2 in black on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2 0
" " 1/2 in red on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2 0
" " 1d. on 6d. blue, with reversed surcharge	1 0

#### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

(N.B. All guaranteed used postally.)

	S. d.
1842, 2s. vermilion	3 0
" 2s. purple	7 0
" 5s. orange-yellow	10 0
1849-57, 1s. green and blue	0 8
" 2s. green and indigo	2 0
" 2s. brown and purple	4 3
" 3s. green and mauve	3 0
1849-57 5s. green and chestnut	3 0
" 10s. slate and vermilion	8 0
1847, 1/2 black and red-brown	25 0
1848, 1s. ochre	0 8

N.B. All the above are Great Bargains.

Fine and perfect Copies Guaranteed.

Every other Stamp in Stock at equally Low Prices.

### WANTED TO PURCHASE.

Large Collections. High prices given. £500 to £3,000, cash down, for fine general collections. Single rarities and large parcels of obsolete stamps purchased. Early supplies of new issues, especially Provisionals, always bought. A fair commission paid to foreign agents and others forwarding early consignments. cash in full guaranteed by return mail.

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	s.	d.
1878-9, *Queen's head, full set, ½d. to 2/-, unused, beautiful condition	45	0
1885, *Provisional, ½ on 3d. red	1	0
" " " 2d. on 6d. black	1	0
1887-90, * " " ½d. in black on ad. bistre	1	3
1887-90, *Provisional, ½ in black on ad. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2	6
" " " ½ in red on ad. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2	6
" " " 1d. on 6d. blue, with reversed surcharge	1	6

### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

(N.B.—All guaranteed used postally.)

	s.	d.
1890, 2/- vermilion	3	0
" 2/6 purple	7	6
" 5/- orange-yellow	10	0
1896-97, 1/- green and blue	0	8
" 2/- green and indigo	2	0
" 2/6 brown and purple	2	3
" 3/- green and mauve	3	0
1896-97 5/- green and chestnut	3	0
" 10/- slate and vermilion	8	0
1897, £1 black and red-brown	25	0
1898, 1/- ochre	0	8

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With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly" and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."  
 Published every alternate Saturday,  
 at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.  
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**PERCY C. BISHOP.**

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No. 128.—Vol. V.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

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# Philately at Home and Abroad.

## A "FIND" ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Fortnightly* with General Gatacre's force in Cape Colony, states that a pocket book, recently taken from the body of a Transvaaler, killed by British outposts, was found to contain an almost complete set of the current S.A.R. stamps in mint unused condition. The finder of the stamps happened to be an enthusiastic philatelist, and it is thought that perhaps the dead Boer was also philatelically inclined. Poor fellow! he may have been looking forward to quite a pleasant time "swapping duplicates" with some British prisoner in the Boer camp.

## A WORD TO THOSE WHO WRITE.

THE *Fortnightly* is anxious to widen its circle of contributors and also to renew its acquaintance with all those who in the past have contributed to our columns. Philatelists who can offer good instructive articles (preferably dealing with the stamps of "popular" countries), are requested to write at once to the Editor of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C., giving full particulars, terms asked, &c. We shall not stick at expense in procuring the best of everything for *Fortnightly* readers.

## THE DEATH OF MR. DOUGLAS GARTH.

WE have to record with deep regret the death of Mr. Douglas Garth, at Old Headington, Oxford, on Jan. 6th. Mr. Garth served the London Philatelic Society as assistant Hon. Secretary from 1886 to 1888, and as Hon. Secretary

from 1888 to 1894. In the "London Philatelist" we read that the inception of the stamp auction system in this country in 1888 was very largely due to Mr. Garth's initiative. The deceased, who was not yet fifty years of age, was the second son of Sir Richard Garth, an eminent Indian judge.

## THE WAR PROVISIONALS WILL SOON BE WITH US.

WHAT are the Boers doing for stamps? is a question that every philatelist would like to be able to answer. It has been stated again and again that the stocks of stamps at Pretoria are depleted almost to the vanishing point; and it may well be the case that something of the same sort has happened at Bloemfontein.

In these circumstances great interest attaches to the news given in the last *Fortnightly* to the effect that a large consignment of stamps destined for the Transvaal had been detained at Cape Town. Whether the same fate would have befallen them at Delagoa Bay is a nice question.

A couple of items sent to "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" are of interest. Firstly, Mr. A. Burton writes:—

They [The Boers] have also collared a lot of the Natal stamps from Newcastle and are surcharging them with all manner of values, the most extensive being the 4d. which is surcharged with a type-writer "Halve Penny." This latter, as you may imagine, is written for cussedness over the face of the Queen.

Again, Mr. E. Booth is responsible for the statement that, at Johannesburg, the "Standard & Diggers' News" exhibits at its office "sets of surcharged Cape stamps issued at Vryburg a few weeks ago." "Issued" is good! Probably, as with the Natal stamps similarly treated at Newcastle, these Cape stamps have been "commandeered" by the invading Dutchmen and appropriated to their own use.

Everything points to a stamp famine among the Boers, and we should say that an issue of provisionals, printed just anyhow at Pretoria, is one of the probabilities of the near future.

## BIDDERS AND BUYERS AT THE HILCKES' SALE.

IT would be no exaggeration to say that every London stamp dealer of importance attended, either in person or by proxy, the sale of the entire stock of stamps of Messrs. Harry Hilckes & Company, Limited, at 47 Leicester Square, on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 16th and 17th. Messrs. Puttick and Simpson's arrangements for the conduct of the sale were in every way excellent, but at various moments during the sale the room was uncomfortably crowded. Quite an extraordinary number of persons put in an appearance. In our last number, in which we were able to give a brief

report of the auction, we stated that no less than 75 people were present at one time. It was an under-estimate, for in the evening of the second day over 90 persons were counted in the room; and as there was a constant coming and going it is not unfair to assume that over 200 persons in all visited the sale-room.

The total amount realised was £1445, a sum considerably in excess of expectations. Prices were good, but as is always the case at a sale largely composed of "mixed lots," many bargains were picked up.

In addition to the large buyers mentioned in our last number, considerable business was done by Mr. C.T. Reed, Messrs. Bridger & Kay, Mr. Edward Cooper, Mr. F. C. Penney and others. Among the "provincials" present we noticed Mr. Skipwith, of Leeds, Mr. Isaac Cansino, of Manchester, and Mr. Margoschis, of Birmingham.

We are afraid that creditors of the Hilekes Company (although their prospects are better now than before the sale was held) must not hope for more than a slender dividend, since it is well known that the expenses of the liquidation will be heavy; and a solid £1000 must go to the debenture-holders before trade debts can be dealt with.

#### PHILATELY IN TIGHTS AND SPANGLES.

The "World's Stamp Review," the postage stamp ballet in the pantomime of the Grand Theatre, Islington, is a great draw. The "Referee" in its review of the pantomimes, describes this moving collection of postage stamps.

Holland, though she has not, all circumstances considered, been objectionable, was received with hoots and groans; but, then, of course, the Boer is generally regarded as a Dutchman. France was soundly hissed, but Germany was vigorously applauded. Japan was cheered to the echo, and China was cordially greeted. Italy had a fine reception, and so had Egypt. But the great storm of applause was reserved for the United States. Russia had no friends; Turkey had a great many. To sum up the situation from the point of view of a Bank Holiday audience—Holland and France and Russia are our enemies; America, Italy and Germany are our friends."

That is the general public's view. The philatelist does not look behind the stamp (unless he's after the watermark!) and all are friends to *him*.

#### THE SAMOAN "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT" SWINDLE.

THAT most egregious person, "Local Postmaster" Davis, of Apia, is the subject of a deal of plain talk from the Editor of the "Australian Philatelist," especially in connection with the recent issue of stamps of the "Palm Tree" type, surcharged "Provisional Government." Mr. Davis, it is true, holds a "concession" from the late King Malietoa, appointing him to the control of the local postal system; but the "Australian Philatelist" contends that Malietoa's death, followed by the practical abolition of the monarchy itself, puts an end to the virtue of that interesting document.

This issue of stamps surcharged "Provisional Government" constitutes (we hope) the finishing touch of an audacious career. It is quite certain that Mr. Davis had no authority to issue such stamps; and, as the "Australian Philatelist" says in conclusion:—"Before long the Samoan local post will be a thing of the past, and Mr. Davis must sadly pack up his postage and cancelling stamps, and seek some quiet spot whence he can distribute his wares, posthumously postmarked to order!"

#### TO SUBSCRIBERS AT HOME AND ABROAD (Especially Abroad).

MANY subscriptions to the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* expire with No. 130, that being the last number of our fifth volume.

Readers resident abroad, and especially in the distant colonies, are earnestly desired to renew their subscriptions forthwith, in order that there may be no break in the service of the paper.

The rates of subscription for all parts of the world are as follows: One year (26 numbers), 3s. 3d.; six months (12 numbers), 1s. 6d.

Address all letters: The Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

## THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.

[COPYRIGHT].

Compiled by a  
COMMITTEE of INDEPENDENT PHILATELISTS.

\*. This "Guide" is purposely not described as a Catalogue. It has become customary to regard any price called a "catalogue price" as subject to a discount of 25% or 33% or 50%. Not so with the prices we shall publish in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." These will be in all cases absolutely net prices. If we describe a stamp as worth five shillings we mean that it is really worth that sum in the philatelic market. The value we give is the collector's value, and represents the price at which a stamp dealer can sell on the basis of a reasonable trader's profit. At first we shall deal only with British Colonial Stamps.

#### BAHAMAS (concluded).

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1884. <i>Current series, with head in circle to left; watermark CA.; perf. 14.</i>				
1d. rose .. .. .	..	..	..	..
1d. carmine .. .. .	..	..	..	..
2½d. blue .. .. .	..	..	..	..
2½d. ultramarine .. .. .	..	..	..	..
4d. yellow .. .. .	..	..	..	..
6d. mauve .. .. .	..	..	..	..
1/- green .. .. .	..	..	..	..
5/- sage-green .. .. .	..	..	..	..
20/- brown-red .. .. .	..	..	..	..

#### BARBADOS.



1892. *Engraved; blue paper; no watermark; imperf.*

(NOTE.—Where no indication of value appears on the stamp, the face-value in this list appears in parentheses).

(½d.) green .. .. .	..	..	20/	15/
(1d.) blue .. .. .	..	..	4/6	3/6
(1d.) dark blue .. .. .	..	..	5/	4/
(1d.) slate blue .. .. .	..	..	6/	—
(4d.) red .. .. .	..	..	12/6	7/6

*Emergency stamp—halved vertically for service as ½d.*

(½d.) blue—half of 1d. stamp ..

(NOTE. There would seem to be some divergence of opinion as to the object of the above provisional. According to Messrs. Gibbons, the halves of the 1d. blue were each used as penny stamps, whereas in "Scott" and other authorities one finds that the stamp was bisected to provide a ½d. label—a much more feasible theory).

1856 (?) *Same type, but paper white.*

(½d.) light green .. .. .	..	..	6/	4/	—	—
(½d.) dark green .. .. .	..	..	30/	22/6	6/	4/
(1d.) light blue .. .. .	..	..	7/	6/	3/6	2/6
(1d.) dark blue .. .. .	..	..	6/	5/	4/	3/

1859. *White paper; no wmk.; imperf., "Barbados" at top, and value at bottom.*

6d. red .. .. .	..	..	300/	150/	9/	6/
1/- black .. .. .	..	..	—	25/	5/	3/

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
<b>1861. Same as preceding issues, but pin-perforated 12½ to 14.</b>				
(½d.) green, 12½ .. ..	..	140	10/	7
(½d.) green, 14 .. ..	..	140	10	7
(1d.) blue, 14 .. ..	..	200/	9/	6
<b>Clean cut perfs.</b>				
(½d.) green .. ..	..	10/	7/6	4/ 3/
(1d.) blue .. ..	..	—	100/	5/ 4/
<b>Perforated 14 to 16.</b>				
(½d.) yellow-green .. ..	..	2/6	2	1/9 1/6
(½d.) green .. ..	..	4/	3 6	2/ 1/6
(½d.) blue—vertical half of 1d. stamp .. ..	..	—	—	—
(1d.) blue .. ..	..	2/6	2/	1/4 1/3
(4d.) rose-red .. ..	..	17/6	15/	5 4/
(4d.) dull brown-red .. ..	..	21/	15	6/ 4/
(4d.) vermilion .. ..	..	35	25	10/ 7/6
6d. red .. ..	..	40	30/	2 6 2/
6d. vermilion .. ..	..	25/	18	2/6 2
1/- black, perf. 11-12½ .. ..	..	4/	3 6	0/9 0/6
<b>Perforated 11 to 12½.</b>				
(1d.) blue .. ..	..	30	20/	—

**1871. Same as preceding  
issue: rough perf.  
14 to 16: water-  
mark large star.**



(½d.) dark yellowish-green .. ..	..	5/	4	1 6	1
(1d.) blue .. ..	..	240	120/	20/	12, 6
(4d.) vermilion .. ..	..	300	160	25	20
(4d.) dull vermilion .. ..	..	200/	120/	20/	15
6d. vermilion .. ..	..	60/	45	5/	4
1/- black .. ..	..	100/	70/	20	15/

*The same, clean cut perforations.*

(½d.) green .. ..	..	40	30	4	3
(4d.) red .. ..	..	200/	120	20/	15
6d. vermilion .. ..	..	70/	50/	7/6	5/
1/- black .. ..	..	30/	25/	3	2

*Wmk. Small Star: rough  
perf. 14 to 16.*



(1d.) blue .. ..	..	20/	15/	1/4	1/3
(4d.) rose .. ..	..	240	160/	15/	10/
6d. vermilion .. ..	..	50/	35/	3/6	2 6
1/- black .. ..	..	80/	50/	12 6	9

*The same; clear cut perforations.*

(1d.) blue .. ..	..	35/	25	1/4	1/3
6d. vermilion .. ..	..	60	50	3 6	2 6
1 - black .. ..	..	12, 6	10/	3 6	2/6

*Compound perforations, 11 to 12½ by  
14 to 16.*

(½d.) green .. ..	..	60/	30	7/6	5
(4d.) vermilion .. ..	..	60/	40	15	10/



*Perf. 14.*  
3d. claret .. .. 20. 15 12 6 8/

*Perf. 15, 15½.*  
5/- rose .. .. 100/ 80/ 37 6 30/

**1874. All with value indicated; wmk.  
large Star: perf. 14.**

½d. green .. ..	..	5	4/	2	1/6
1d. blue .. ..	..	5/	4/	1 3	1/

**1875. Same type; wmk. Crown and CC.:  
perf. 12½.**

½d. green .. ..	..	6	4	2	1 6
4d. red .. ..	..	20/	15/	4	2 6
6d. yellow .. ..	..	100/	60/	20/	15
1/- purple .. ..	..	25/	20/	3/6	2 6

*The same, perf. 14.*

½d. green .. ..	..	4	13	13	12
-----------------	----	---	----	----	----

*The same, perf. 14.*

	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
1d. blue .. ..	..	2/	1 6	2 1/
1d. blue-grey .. ..	..	5/	4/	6 4
3d. mauve .. ..	..	10/	7/6	5/ 3 6
4d. scarlet .. ..	..	12 6	10/	1 6 1/
4d. lake .. ..	..	80/	60/	7/6 5/
6d. yellow .. ..	..	10/	8/	1 1/9
6d. orange .. ..	..	5/	3/6	1/ 1/9
1/- mauve .. ..	..	6/	5	1/6 1/3

**1878. Provisional Issue: the 5/- stamp  
perforated vertically in the mid-  
dle, and the value at bottom cut  
off, thus forming two separate  
stamps, each surcharged "1d." in  
black.**

1d. on half of 5 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Gibbons' Type I. (large numeral and large letter "D") .. ..	..	..	..	..	180/ 100/
Gibbons' Type II. (numeral "1" with a straight serif) .. ..	..	..	..	..	200/ 120/
Gibbons' Type III. (smaller num- eral "1" and smaller "D") .. ..	..	..	..	..	200/ 120/



**1882. New type, with  
Queen's head,  
typographed,  
wmk. C.A., perf.  
14.**

½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/1	1/1
1d. rose .. ..	..	..	1/2	1/1
2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	4	1/1
3d. mauve .. ..	..	..	8	1/6 1/
3d. pale mauve .. ..	..	1/6	1/	2/6 2/
4d. grey .. ..	..	20	15	1 1/9
4d. brown .. ..	..	..	9	1/4 1/3
6d. brown .. ..	..	..	3/6	4/ 3/
1 - orange .. ..	..	..	2/	1 6 1/3
5 - ochre .. ..	..	..	20/	25/ 20/

*Provisional.*

½d. on 1d. brown, black surcharge .. ..	..	14	..	1/1
½d. on 1d. brown, red surcharge .. ..	..	..	..	..

**1892. Allegorical type; some of the  
values bi-coloured; wmk. C.A.:  
perf. 14.**

½d. grey and red .. ..	..	..	1	1/1
½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/1	1/1
1d. rose .. ..	..	..	1/2	1/1
2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	1/4	1/1
5d. brown .. ..	..	..	7	1/6
6d. violet and red .. ..	..	..	18	6
8d. orange and blue .. ..	..	..	1/11	1/11
10d. green and red .. ..	..	..	1/11	1 1
2/6 blue-black and orange .. ..	..	..	3 3	3 3

**1897. Jubilee Issue. Similar design,  
but stamps larger.**

½d. grey and rose .. ..	..	..	1/1	1/1
½d. green .. ..	..	..	1/1	1/1
1d. rose .. ..	..	..	2	1/1
2½d. blue .. ..	..	..	4	1
5d. brown .. ..	..	..	17	7
6d. violet and red .. ..	..	..	18	18
8d. orange and blue .. ..	..	..	1/11	1/11
10d. green and red .. ..	..	..	1/11	1 1
2/6 blue-black and orange .. ..	..	..	3/3	3 3

*(In our next Number: BERMDA.)*

MR. EMIL TAMSEN is one of the many philatelists called to "the front."

There is said to be a project afoot for the issue of a special series of Natal stamps for one year, the entire proceeds of the same being devoted to the fund for relieving the victims of the war in Natal. The originators are sanguine of raising £100,000 by this means. If they do, it will be none too much, for the sufferings and losses of loyal Natalians have been very great.

# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

Editor . . . . . PERCY C. BISHOP.  
Business Manager . . . . . SYDNEY BISHOP.

**THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY** is published on alternate Saturdays. For the convenience of a central address, the Paper is issued from the premises of Messrs. C. NISSEN & Co., 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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In this number of the *Fortnightly* we commence a prize competition; and it is one that should commend itself to the attention of every reader. Nothing would please us better than to know that all our readers, both at home and abroad—and we have made special arrangements whereby foreign and colonial readers may come in—are supporting us in our efforts on behalf of the Philatelic War Fund, by heartily entering into the spirit of this competition.

The prizes offered are not exactly calculated to dazzle one; but then the exchequer of a small class journal has its limits. Many, we feel sure, will enter into our little contest, not so much for the sake of the money awards that are offered as for the sake of the good cause to which the proceeds of the competition will be devoted.

Our primary object is to provide a *via media* for those philatelists who are not in a position to make donations of rare stamps to the Philatelic War Fund. Our idea, first broached in a letter to Mr. Walter Bull, was brought to the attention of the Philatelic War Fund Committee, and an early post brought the following cordial note from Mr. H. R. Oldfield, Mr. Bull's colleague in the Hon. Secretaryship of that Committee:—

DEAR MR. BISHOP,

*Philatelists' War Relief Fund.*

Mr. Bull handed me your letter to him of the 18th inst., which I read to the Committee at their meeting last evening.

I am instructed to say that the Committee much appreciated your kind offer of assistance, and that as the Sale is to be deferred until the end of March they will be glad if you are able to carry out the scheme suggested therein.

Yours very truly,

H. R. OLDFIELD,

*Joint Hon. Sec.*

January 20th, 1900.

Now, we appeal to all readers of the *Fortnightly* to give this thing their hearty support. There is a fair field for all; there are prizes for both quality and quantity, and those who do not win will have, as a consolation award, the consciousness of a patriotic duty well fulfilled.

For our own part, if we can show a substantial sum in the final accounts of the War Fund under the heading "Contributed by Readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*," we shall be more than repaid for our work in connection with the competition.

\* \* \*

We are requested, by the way, to publish the following

complete list of gentlemen who have agreed to act on the Philatelic Society's War Relief Fund Committee:—

- Avery, W. B., Esq., Oakley Court, Windsor.
- Brown, W., Esq., Salisbury.
- Castle, M. P., Esq., J.P., Kingston Lodge, Richmond Place, Brighton.
- Ehrenbach, Robt., Esq., Brook House, Addlestone, Surrey.
- Evans E. B., Major, R.A., Glenarm, Longton Avenue, Sydenham.
- Ginn, F. R., Esq., 143, Strand, W.C.
- Giwelb, M., Esq., 4, Northumberland Avenue, Charing Cross.
- Gwyer, S. E., Esq., 10, Bishopsgate Street, Within, E.C.
- Hadlow, W., Esq., 331, Strand, W.C.
- Hall, Thos. W., Esq., 61, West Smithfield, F.C.
- Hausburg, L. L. R., Esq., Rothsay, St. George's Hill, Weybridge.
- Hinton, T. H., Esq., 5, Paultons Square, Chelsea.
- Nankivell, E. J., Esq., Carisbrook, 28, Birdhurst Rise, South Croydon.
- Oliver, F. H., Esq., 164, Strand, W.C.
- Peckitt, W. H., Esq., 410, Strand, W.C.
- Phillips, C. J., Esq., 391, Strand, W.C.
- Reid, Robt., Esq., 19, Chiswell Street, E.C.
- Selby, E. H., Esq., 8, Buckingham Street, Strand.
- Slade, H. A., Esq., Ingleside, St. Albans.
- Smith, Alfred, Esq., 37 and 39, Essex Street, Strand.
- Smith, Gordon, Esq., 61, Royal Hill, Greenwich.
- Tilleard, J. A., Esq., 10, Gracechurch Street, City.
- White, Harold J., Esq., 16, Neven Road, South Kensington.

London Philatelic Society.  
Effingham House,  
Arundel Street, London, 18th January, 1900.  
WALTER BULL, Hon. Secy.  
H. R. OLDFIELD, Hon. Secy.

We do not lose sight of the regrettable fact, that, owing to the liquidation of the business of the late Proprietors of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, a former Prize Competition in the journal was never satisfactorily concluded. The *Fortnightly* was of course sold to Mr. Bishop, the present editor and proprietor (himself a loser by the collapse of the Hilckes firm), as entirely free from all liability of any sort or kind. However, just as we have decided to honour all subscriptions to the *S.C.F.*, so we desire to see satisfaction given to the ladies and gentlemen who competed for the prizes formerly offered in this journal. By the time our next number appears, we hope to have ready our proposals on this subject.

**A Former "S.C.F." Competition.**  
Exit the "S.C. Guardian." The subscription list of the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly* is substantially increased from this date forward by our purchase of the copyright (and with it the subscription list) of the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian," a journal which first saw the light in October last. The "Guardian" was in some respects a good paper, but its literary matter was of rather too lurid a character to suit the average palate. We have bought the paper but not its policy. All who subscribed to the "Guardian" will receive, in lieu of that journal, the *Fortnightly*, which has always been and will always be the true guardian of the stamp collector.

We should add that those readers of the deceased journal who are already subscribers to the *Fortnightly* will have an extra eight numbers of our journal placed to their credit in the subscription ledger.

In reminding all readers of the *Fortnightly* that our new and, we are glad to say, permanent address for all communications, whether business or editorial, is **Our New Address.** 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C., we wish to observe that we are not getting nearly so many letters from readers as the editorial letter-box will accommodate. Write to us, good readers! It helps us, and if there is anything you want to know it shall help you!

Readers abroad, in particular, can greatly help the *Fortnightly* by transmitting to 77-78, High Holborn, any scraps of philatelic news that come their way.

**COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.**

- February 8th and 9th: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.
- February 13th and 14th: Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- February 15th and 16th: Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C.

Notes on New Issues.

**Austria.**—We now give the official list of values and colours of the new stamps:—

*Adhesives:—*

- 1 heller, violet.
- 2 .. grey.
- 3 .. brown.
- 5 .. green.
- 6 .. orange-yellow.
- 10 .. rose-red.
- 20 .. red-brown.
- 25 .. blue.
- 30 .. red-violet.
- 40 .. green.
- 50 .. blue.
- 60 .. brown.
- 1 krone, rose-red.
- 2 kronen, grey-violet.
- 4 .. green.



*Unpaid Letter Stamps:—*

- 1, 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 15, 20, 40, 100 heller, brown colour.

*Journal Stamps:—*

- 2 heller, blue.
- 6 .. orange-yellow.
- 10 .. brown.
- 20 .. red.

*Stamps for the Levant:—*

- 5, 10, 25, 50 heller, and 1, 2, and 4 kronen, with surcharge in Turkish currency.

**Brazil.**—Just as we go to press our indefatigable friends at Ipswich, Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., send us a small parcel of Brazilian rubbish—commemorative stamps, dated "1500—1900." Readers can look up the object of this particular commemoration for themselves. The stamps look more like luggage labels than postage stamps. Colours and values:—

- 100 reis red.
- 200 .. blue, green and yellow.
- 500 .. blue.
- 700 .. green.

It has never been our ill-fortune to gaze on a more bilious-looking stamp than the 200 reis. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. state that the supply of this and the 100 reis is already exhausted; and we cannot pretend to be sorry. Imagine this trash coming from Brazil, the first country in the wide world to follow Great Britain's lead in the issue of penny postage stamps! "To what base uses—!"

**Cape of Good Hope.**—The new 1d. stamp (designed sometime ago in view of the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postage Scheme) is thus described in the newspapers:

The stamp, which is crimson in colour, bears on the upper part the Colonial Arms, flanked by sprays of bay and surmounted by the legend "Cape of Good Hope." The lower half is occupied by a view of Table Mountain from the Bay, a mail steamer being in the foreground. Underneath the picture is the denomination of the stamp, and in each corner is engraved the numeral 1.

**Ceylon.**—Rather late in the day (but perhaps better late than not at all) we illustrate the new 1 rupee, 50 cents stamp of Ceylon.

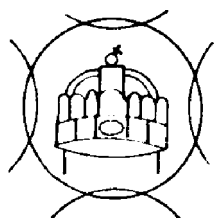


Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., under date January 22nd, send us the new 12c. olive green, with value in red.

**Hungary.**—At last the stamps price in "filler" are before us. It will scarcely be credited that these stamps were first projected in 1897. As long ago as No. 89 of the *Fortnightly* we chronicled them as an impending issue. We now have to



Type for "Filler" Values.



The Watermark (Reduced.)



Type for "Krone" Values.

thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, for a complete set of the new stamps. The values and colours are as follows:—

*Adhesives:—* 1 filler, grey-black; value in black

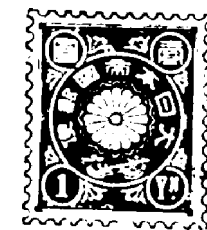
- 2 .. yellow .. ..
- 3 .. orange .. ..
- 4 .. mauve .. ..
- 5 .. emerald-green .. ..
- 6 .. plum .. ..
- 10 .. carmine-rose .. ..
- 25 .. blue .. ..
- 30 .. red-brown .. ..
- 50 .. magenta .. ..
- 66 .. dull-green .. ..
- 1 krone, red .. ..
- 3 .. sage-green .. ..



Newspaper Stamp.

*Newspaper Stamps:—* 2 filler, red.

The watermark of the stamps is the device already in use, depicting the historic Iron Crown of the Kings of Hungary. We show the watermark above in a reduced form, but actually it covers four of the stamps. In a former issue of the *Fortnightly*—we think either No. 92 or 93—we gave a brief history of the celebrated "Iron Crown," which is a great fact in the legendary history of the Hungarian race. In the high values of the new set it will be seen that the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria is depicted in his capacity of King of Hungary, wearing this same historic crown.



**Japan.**—Annexed is a somewhat belated illustration of the new 1 yen stamp of Japan.

**South Australia.**—The 1d. stamp is now changed to rose, and the 2½d. to blue. We are indebted to Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., for specimens.

**Turkey.**—Mr. Vahan Essayan, of Constantinople, informs the "P.J.C.B." that the Sublime Porte has in contemplation a sublime new issue, consisting of some twenty-nine varieties. There will be two distinct sets, one for internal use and the other for international purposes. The values will be 10 and 20 paras. 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 and 50 piastres, the colours of the values up to 5 piastres being in the same colours as the present issue, only in a darker shade. For the three high values, 10, 25 and 50 piastres, the colours have not been decided upon. The colours of both internal and international series will be the same, but there will be a difference in the design, which is somewhat similar to the first issue of Turkey, the Imperial Tughra being the principal ornament. The design (Mr. Essayan adds) is artistic and far superior to that of the current issue. Although threatened for March, we are told that the new issue will probably not materialise until April or May. For which relief, much thanks!

**United States.**—Despite the protests of philatelists the authorities are resolved to issue special stamps to advertise the Buffalo Exhibition. It is good to know, however, that the views of philatelists have had some weight. We learn that the set will be confined to the 1c., 2c., 4c., 5c., 8c., and 10c. values, and the stamps will be of the same size as the current ordinary issue. The designs have not yet been selected.

From the "Metropolitan Philatelist" we learn that the unsold 'Omahas' and Periodical stamps have been called in from the different post offices and are to be destroyed. The only exception is the Washington P.O., which will be "permitted, or, rather, required to sell out its supply of 'Omahas.'"

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated changes in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.



## The Forgeries, Fakes and Reprints of the Transvaal.

Written for the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*  
By R. F. CLARKE.

(Concluded from page 191).

### AN ISSUE NEVER "ISSUED" (?).

AT different times the statement has been made that the first Transvaal stamps, received in the Boer capital early in August, 1869, were never really issued to the public at all, being all used up in supplying the post-orders from stamp dealers long before the time fixed for the issue, January 1870. I had always my doubts about this, which seemed too extraordinary to be true, and I have still a feeling that some few of the stamps of the Mecklenburg printing must have been used, if only by the Boer officials at Potchefstroom or Pretoria. Some years ago, when first commencing to go in for Transvaal stamps, I corresponded constantly with friends at Johannesburg and Pretoria, and at Harrismith in the Free State; but I must own I never got on the track of a single genuine used specimen or any direct evidence of their being used. If any of them were used for postage the interesting point would be the way they were obliterated, for in the translation of Dr. Kalkhoff's book, and elsewhere, it is stated that the postmarks made for the Boers by Adolph Otto were retained by him and afterwards used for the so-called "reprints."

### ADOLPH OTTO'S REPRINTS.

The 3d. stamps of 1871 and 1883, and also the 6d. value of 1875, were reprinted, presumably for the sole benefit of philatelists and himself by the same Mr. Adolph Otto, whom we have to thank for the counterfeits of the stamps of 1869. Mr. E. D. Bacon's "Handbook to the Reprints of Postal Adhesive Stamps" furnishes a comprehensive list of these reprints, viz.:—

#### ISSUE OF 1871:

3d., mauve, bright mauve, imperforate.  
3d., " " " tête-bêche.  
3d., " " " rouletted, 15, 15½

#### ISSUE OF 1875:

6d. ultramarine, rouletted, 15, 15½.

#### ISSUE OF 1883:

3d., brownish black on bright rose, perf. 12.  
3d., dull deep orange red, perf. 12.

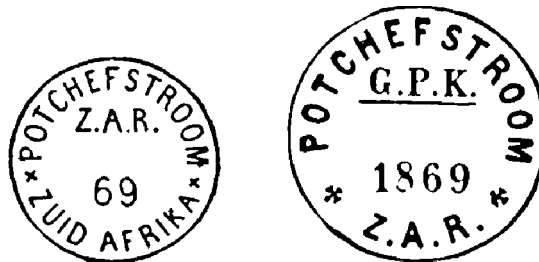
In his interesting commentary Mr. Bacon, speaking of the 1871 stamps says: "It is impossible to distinguish the early printings of these stamps from those Mr. Otto printed and forwarded to the South African Republic." Doubtlessly Mr. Bacon has had for better sources of information than have been open to me. At the same time, unless I have been living in a fool's paradise, it is not utterly impossible to distinguish the Mecklenburg Reprints from the Mecklenburg Originals. In "A Catalogue for Advanced Collectors," published in the "American Journal of Philately," the following statement is made as to the difference between them:—

"It is very difficult to distinguish these reprints from the originals. The colour of the originals is a cold bluish lilac without any reddish tint, while the reprints have either a reddish or a greyish tint. The reprints are either on thinner or on thicker paper than the originals, that is to say, the impression shows very plainly on the back or reverse of the stamp, or not at all, while in the originals the impression shows on the back, but not so clearly as on the reprints."

I have found these remarks strikingly borne out by actual specimens of the stamps in my possession. Great weight, however, must attach to the dictum of a handbook compiled by Mr. Bacon and published by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons. The reprints of 1871 are to be met with in various tints of colour never dreamt of in the original scheme, and this is additional evidence of Herr Otto's anxiety to suit all tastes.

### TWO ENVELOPE "FAKES."

Leaving the Reprints, which are a most difficult subject, I should like to warn the younger generation of stamp collectors against a pair of bogus envelopes, the stamps of which are illustrated below:



Some of these may still exist in collections and prove a source of danger. They were made by one of the Postmasters of the Transvaal, and this fact led many dealers in days gone by to believe in them as genuine issues, and in perfect good faith sell them to their customers. R.F.C.

### The Business Side of Philately.

PRICES ruled good at the second "Tamsen" sale (Messrs. Venton, Bull and Cooper) on January 9th and 10th. Again, on January 18th and 19th, the same firm were sellers for satisfactory prices.

Mr. E. Marks, of Toronto, a considerable buyer of Canadian stamps during recent years, is now in London on philatelic business. Mr. Marks speaks highly of the prospects of Philately in "the Dominion."

It was a matter of general regret that Mr. Hadlow was suffering from such a severe sore throat on January 26th, that he was unable to conduct his auction at Anderton's Hotel. Mr. Plumridge officiated in his stead.

Stories are frequently told of great rarities bought for a mere song, but the other side of the picture receives less attention. One dealer not long since, instead of purchasing a £100 stamp for 2d., which would be the proper thing for a well regulated philatelist to do, bought a 2d. stamp for £10! He does not speak of it, except beneath his breath.

Messrs. Plumridge & Co. are booking very respectable prices at their auction sales, despite the occasional wail of the auctioneer: "Gentlemen, gentlemen, these stamps are being given away"! Strange how the pathos in the voice of an auctioneer fails to carry conviction, isn't it?

### Curious Exhibit for the Paris Exhibition

Mr. Philipp Strasser, of Salzburg, a well known member of the Dresden Society, hit upon a strange and most strikingly original way of celebrating the first day of the Twentieth Century—January 1st, 1900, (German Version). Mr. Strasser's idea was to have letters posted to him from all parts of the world on December 31st, 1899 and January 1st, 1900; and as a consequence he will have an enormous accumulation of envelopes to display at the Paris Philatelic Exhibition this year.

"The collection probably will not be complete," writes Mr. Strasser in a letter to the *Fortnightly*, "as many post offices did not accept any registered letters on Sunday December 31st, or on New Year's day." However, the collection should be most interesting and even of some philatelic importance, for Mr. Strasser finds that most of the obliteration stamps are very handsome and distinctly printed," and that "many differences are to be found among them."

Mr. Strasser (whom we have to thank, by the way, for a beautifully executed photograph of a selection of the envelopes) is to be congratulated on his most original notion. Whether he received the congratulations of the letter-carrier attached to the Rudolfsquai district in Salzburg is open to doubt.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## "Stamps Wanted for the Poor Blacks."

AN important Irish Journal, the "Irish Catholic," prints the following amusing examination paper regarding the uses to which old stamps may be applied:—

1. Are old Postage Stamps of any use? Yes; they can be sold on the Continent, to amateurs who make collections, or decorate trays, screens, rooms, etc. The rarer and older the better; foreign ones and those long since out of date, are the best.

2. What is done with the money got for them? It is given to the Missionaries for their extensive and important Missions in Congo, and all along the Western Coasts of Africa.

3. How are the old stamps to be sent? (a). In parcels or boxes, strong enough to go safe through the post. The parcels to be prepaid. The stamps should not be made up in packages, but be sent loosely put together, the foreign ones separately, and if possible the English stamps above one penny, sorted, and kept separate. This will spare an immense trouble. (b). All stamps found on envelopes dated between 1840 and 1870 should be sent just as they are, i.e., envelope with stamp complete. All stamps dated later than 1870 should be cut out with a good bold margin of paper left all round, i.e., about a quarter of an inch. N.B.—Stamps must not be placed in water to take the paper off. (c). Smaller consignments of stamps from foreign countries may be best sent in newspapers, at the usual Book Post rate under 4, 6, or 8 ounces weight, as the case may be.

4. To whom are parcels to be sent? Please address: Rev. J. M. Ebenrecht, C. S. Sp., Blackrock College, Co. Dublin, who continues to collect and forward, as before, all the stamps he gets.

5. Reward.—Contributors and collectors are benefactors of the Mission, and share in all the prayers and good works of the Missionaries. The poor blacks also pray for them.

Readers of the foregoing, before making up their minds to send their spare Bavarians and cast-off continentals generally to the Rev. Father Ebenrecht, should pause to consider whether the stamps so sent are likely to realise as much for the Mission as the cost of postage to the aforesaid Father. If they are likely to realise less, or only as much, then it is a bad business. And there is too much "bad business" transacted for charity's sake already.

## Philatelic Changes in the Pacific.

Recent international shufflings of the cards in regard to the Samoan, Tongan, and other Pacific Archipelagoes have perhaps greater interest for philatelists than for any other class. Our Sydney contemporary, the "Australasian Philatelist" reviews the whole business as seen through philatelic spectacles. First as to Samoa. It is now certain that the greater part of this group of islands will become a German colony pure and simple.

### EXIT POSTMASTER DAVIS OF SAMOA.

Among the first results of this change will be the application of the closure to Mr. Davis, the "local postmaster" of Samoa; and the "Australasian Philatelist" puts it mildly when it says that "the conclusion comes not a day too soon for the peace of mind of philatelists." The issue of a diagonally-surcharged series of German stamps for use in Samoa is one of the probabilities of the near future.

### TONGA A BRITISH PROTECTORATE?

Great Britain, as every reader knows, has practically swapped its interest in Samoa for a freer hand in Tonga (the Friendly Islands) and in the Solomon Islands. As regards Tonga, it is a question of "what will she do with it?" Will a British Protectorate be proclaimed over Tongatabu, making King George's islands an integral portion of the British Empire? Should this be done a change in the stamps, and also probably in the postal rates of Tonga would result.

### SOLOMON ISLANDS MUST HAVE STAMPS.

The one "certain advantage" gained by Great Britain in these Pacific deals is, in the opinion of the "Australasian Philatelist," the agreement regarding the Solomon Islands. Here Great Britain obtains the considerable islands of Ysabel and Choiseul, as well as many smaller islands, such as Shortlands, the Santa Cruz and the Banks groups. An

issue of stamps for this protectorate seems to be an urgent necessity. "Certainly," remarks our Sydney contemporary, "there are few white inhabitants at present, but a judicious issue of stamps will advertise the place sufficiently to draw the attention of capitalists (and others) to this desirable land of coconuts, copra, and cannibals!"

## Types of Austria and Italy, 1850 issue.

We are indebted to the "Philatelic Journal of India" for a translation from the "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung" of an article on the types of the Austrian and Austro-Italian stamps of 1850, by Mr. O. Wassermann.

The article begins by pointing out that, although the fact of there being two types of the 9 kr. and the 15 and 45 centes has long been known, the differences have never been properly described except as regards the figures of value. As a matter of fact, there is another very material difference which is made clear by the accompanying illustration. [It was made clear in the original illustration, but our reproduction from a somewhat faint print is, unfortunately, not a complete success. Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.] It is to be found in the dotted background of the coat-of-arms. In Type I. the background is divided into dots by diagonal white lines only, while in Type II. there are in addition horizontal white lines.



Type I.



Type II.

Now this difference in the background is not confined to the three values above mentioned. Mr. Wassermann found it in the 2, 3 and 6 kr. and the 30 centes. values as well, and further examination showed him that there were differences in the figures of value corresponding to the differences in the coat-of-arms, though it is true that the numerals do not differ in so pronounced a manner as in the other three values.

3 *kreuzer*.—In Type I. the left side of the top of the figure touches the line framing the inscription. In Type II. the two keep quite apart.

2 and 6 *kreuzer*. In Type I. the top of the figures touches the frame while in Type II. it does not quite reach the frame.

30 *centesimi*. In Type I. the end of the lower branch of the 3 is not round, but is an oval pointing upwards to the left, while in Type II. it is of a normal shape.

Mr. Wassermann has not found the 1 *kreuzer* or its corresponding value of 5 centes. in Type II. and observes that the reprints have the characteristics of Type I., but these stamps are usually badly printed, and further enquiry may discover both types. He expects that both types are to be found in the 10 centes. stamp if only specialists will keep up their stocks.

He next goes into the question of the first appearance of Type II. He has a copy of the 3kr., Type II. dated 10th August 1852, and Mr. Brummer has a pair of the 15 centes., showing both types, used about the middle of 1851.

His theory is that two dies were made from a mother die (which had no words of value), one of these dies having the words "kreuzer" and the other "centes" added to it. From these secondary dies, a third set of dies would be made one for each value, by adding the figures required, and the plate would be made up of the necessary number of *clichés* from these dies, which were then probably destroyed. When parts of the plate began to wear out, new *clichés* were wanted,

and these had to be prepared from a *new* set of dies made from the secondary dies. The opportunity was then taken to retouch the shading in the coat-of-arms so as to make it print better. To begin with only the damaged *clichés* of Type I would be replaced in the plate by those of Type II., but in time the whole plate would be composed of Type II. only. Mr. Brummer's pair shows clearly that the plate must at one time have contained *clichés* of both types.

### Something about Schleswig-Holstein

In the December "Philatelic Chronicle," (Birmingham), appear two original articles: "The Transvaal Revenue Stamps," by Walter Morley, and a short paper on Schleswig-Holstein by the Rev. H. Wendt.

Mr. Wendt goes into the story of the beginnings of the Schleswig-Holstein postal service, and also describes its inglorious end. The Schleswig-Holstein stamps appeared Nov. 15th, 1850, and were sold to the public from that date to February 1st, 1851,—a period of less than eighty days! The labels, however, were in use as late as August 31st, 1851. During the entire period it has been stated that only 8,701 stamps were used. But there were printed no less than 2,000,000! and until 1864 the unused balance remained in the Danish archives at Copenhagen. And after that?—the dealers. Mr. Wendt, in his short but pithy article, brings out the why and the wherefore of the scarcity of Schleswig-Holstein stamps; and his final words are: "Moral! as a rule one should collect used stamps only!"

### Other Papers we have received.

Since the preparation of our last "Review" we have received: "Stamps" (Rushden); "American Journal of Philately" (New York); "Philatelic Monthly" (New York and Philadelphia); "Le Philatliste Francaise" (Paris); "Australian Philatelist" (Sydney); "La Revue Postale" (Geneva); "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" (Norwood); "Stamp Collector" (Birmingham); "Weekly Stamp Tribune" (Cleveland, Ohio); "Stamp Collectors' Journal" (Bury St. Edmunds); "Revue Philatelique Belge" (Brussels); "Das Postwertzeichen" (Munich); "Die Post" (Leipzig); "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung" (Leipzig).

### News Notes from all Quarters.

Persistent rumours according to the "Philatelic Monthly," are in circulation to the effect that Turkey will shortly issue a separate set of stamps for the island of Samoa.

It is said that "the bulk of the "Transvaal Collectors Quarterly's" readers are Boers pure and simple." Remarkably pure and simple, some of those Boers.

The Belgian "Sunday" Stamp is to be abolished. Ridicule has killed it.

The projected Unpaid Letter Stamps of Tunis will resemble the "Chiffre Taxe" of France.

It is stated that the Porto Rico commemorative stamp of 1893 has recently been reprinted in a variety of colours. But by whom?

Apparently there is no reason to question the genuineness of the Spanish 2 reales, *blue*, found as the partner of a 6 reales blue in an unsevered pair by a stamp dealer of Madrid. Had it been a stamp dealer of Barcelona we might have had our doubts. The discovery proclaims, once and for all, the true character of the 2 reales *blue* as an error of colour, and not a mere essay.

Publishers of journals sending copies for review are requested to address same to the Editor of the *Fortnightly*, at his home as follows:—

MR. PERCY C. BISHOP,

The Hollies, Blackheath, London, S.E.

The *Fortnightly's* "Exchange List" is now being made up, and to those of our contemporaries with whom we enter into exchange relations we shall despatch two copies of each issue, immediately on publication.

## TWIXT EDITOR AND READER



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WE have to acknowledge cordial letters of sympathy and encouragement from, among others, His Honor, Judge Phillbrick, Q.C., Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. Charles de Grave Sells, &c., &c. The last named gentleman writes:—

There can be but one unanimous verdict as to the "S.C.F." and that is: "Better than ever"! Long may it flourish!

That's better. A postcard just to hand from a German gentleman, who is wrestling manfully with the English language, begins as follows:—

I was joyfully touched when receiving the "S.C.F." again!

Hock! hock! hock! Likewise, prosit! That is all the German we are able to offer in exchange.

Mr. H. A. McMillan, Editor and Proprietor of the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian," now incorporated with the *Fortnightly*, wishes to be heard as follows:—

### TO THE READERS OF THE "S.C.G."

I beg to return sincere thanks for the support accorded me, and in transferring the "Guardian" to the proprietor of the *Fortnightly*, I would like to explain the reasons for the adoption of this course. In the first place, when the "Guardian" was started there appeared but little probability that the *Fortnightly* would be re-issued, and for that reason the general style of that well-known periodical was adopted and the "Guardian" was planned to fill the vacant place. The favourable press notices would seem to indicate that it did so satisfactorily. The *Fortnightly* being re-issued under the able guidance of my old friend, Mr. Percy C. Bishop, removes this *raison d'être*.

Secondly, there was the "Great Unused Question," about which no English journal then existing was sufficiently independent to utter one solitary warning. On this matter we have spoken without fear or favour. The unpublished information in my hands will be at the disposal of your new editor, should he deem it of sufficient importance for publication.

Thirdly, I must plead a more personal reason:—The pressing calls upon my time by other avocations, which would not allow me to pay the attention to the "Guardian" necessary to maintain it at the standard it had reached. I leave my readers in the hands of Mr. Percy C. Bishop and the *Fortnightly*, with every confidence that their interests will be carefully guarded and that they will lose nothing by the exchange.

H. A. McMILLAN

Mr. W. T. Mark, of Cardiff, kindly notifies us of the receipt of a letter from Port Said, bearing the current 25 centimes French stamp, surcharged "Port Said" in red. We had already seen the 5 centimes green so treated, both for Port Said and Alexandria. Presumably the surcharge will be applied to all stamps issued from the French post offices in Egypt henceforth.

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Pages of Two Columns.		Pages of Three Columns.	
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Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C."

"For Mrs. Thomas Atkins and the Kiddies left at Home!"

## Philatelic War Fund Prize Competition.

(In Aid of the Philatelists' War Relief Fund, promoted under the auspices of the Philatelic Society, London).

<p><b>FIRST PRIZE :</b></p> <p><b>£3 CASH.</b></p> <p>For the Best Selection of Stamps sent in.</p>	<p><b>SECOND PRIZE :</b></p> <p><b>£2 CASH.</b></p> <p>For the Greatest Number of Stamps sent in.</p>	<p><b>LADIES' PRIZE :</b></p> <p><b>£1 CASH.</b></p> <p>No gentlemen allowed in this section.</p>
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There will also be Several Consolation Prizes; but details of these cannot be given until the next issue of the "Fortnightly."

PLEASE READ THESE CONDITIONS CAREFULLY.

**J**N order to afford all philatelists an opportunity of contributing in some way to the Philatelic War Fund (of which full particulars have already been given in the *Fortnightly*) we have decided to offer prizes to those who send in stamps attached to the special forms we shall provide.

Any stamps may be sent save used copies of the very common current British and Continental. There are prizes for both quantity and quality.

The Competition, so far as the British Isles are concerned, will close on the Saturday following our issue of March 3rd—that is to say, on Saturday, March 10th.

The First Prize of £3 cash will go to the sender of the best selection of stamps in point of rarity, condition, and variety. The Second Prize of £2 cash will go to the sender of the greatest number of stamps, without regard to value; but competitors must remember that current used British and Continental stamps are barred. The Ladies' Prize of £1 cash will be in the nature of a special award in the discretion of the judges; but the offer of this prize in no way debars the ladies from winning the £3 or the £2 or both.

No competitor will be entitled to more than one prize.

Every competitor must stick or hinge his stamps on the special forms provided by the *Fortnightly*, for one of our chief objects is to spread this and the succeeding issues of the "S.C.F." as widely as possible, in order that every recipient of a copy of the paper may enter the arena of Competition.

Three forms, with spaces for eighteen stamps, are given here, and three more will appear in each of our issues of February 17th and March 3rd.

Competitors may obtain additional forms either by ordering additional copies of the "S.C.F." through a Newsagent, or by purchasing the special forms we have prepared for this purpose. These special forms will be supplied at the rate of 60 for One Shilling post free (not less than 60 can be supplied). Orders for the forms should be sent as soon as possible to the Competition Department, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 77 and 78, High Holborn, W.C., accompanied by postal order or halfpenny stamps.

Half of the net amount received for these forms will be paid over to the Philatelic War Fund.

Readers who do not go in for the Competition (and may their number be few!) are earnestly desired to bring the matter to the attention of their philatelic friends.

### Special to Readers Abroad.

Readers of the *Fortnightly* in distant countries will have no time to send to us for special forms. They must kindly use sheets of white paper for the purpose and remit the money otherwise payable when sending in their stamps.

A special prize or prizes, according to the number of the entries, will be reserved for competitors too far away from England to be able to send in by March 10th. For such competitors the closing date will be May 26th next, and although the stamps contributed will then be too late for the "War Fund Auction," yet we shall find some means of turning them to good account on the War Fund's behalf.

We are anxious that every reader of the *Fortnightly*, in whatever part of the world he may reside, should enter for the Competition; and everyone may rest assured that the chances will be equal for all.

SIX STAMPS MAY BE ATTACHED TO THESE FORMS :


Additional Forms can be supplied at the rate of 60 for 1/-, post free. See the general conditions printed above.

The Competition closes on Saturday, March 10th, by which date all stamps (except from readers in distant countries as explained above) should be sent in to the Competition Department, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

The Judges: One or more members of the Philatelic Society will act in conjunction with the Editor of the *Fortnightly*, as Judges of the Competition. The names of the gentlemen agreeing to act will be given in our next number.

**GEO. C. GINN,**  
**Philatelic Expert and Dealer,**

16, BARONET ROAD, TOTTENHAM.

**B**EGS to announce that he is breaking a Superb Collection of Pence Ceylon, which contains a magnificent range of shades, and is offering same at remarkably low prices.

He will be pleased to submit Selections on Approval to responsible persons. It is very difficult to quote prices for the early imperforate issue, as so much depends upon condition. Prices given below may be taken as a criterion, which are for fine copies.

Compare these prices with current catalogues. Most all other varieties in stock, including Rarities, also fine lot unused, prices on application.

G.C.G. has also a splendid series of books of British Colonials, European and American ready for approval at greatly reduced rates, which in most cases are 50 per cent. to 75 per cent. below catalogue.

Having one of the largest stocks of Obsolete Issues, he is able to supply Collectors on most favorable terms.

Special line of books for beginners and medium collectors. These are full of Bargains, stamps priced in many cases considerably under catalogue and 50 per cent. discount allowed.

Approval with pleasure. Trial solicited.

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	8d. brown	.. ..	..	3	0 0
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	1/- lilac	.. ..	..	1	2 0
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	2d. yellow	.. ..	..	0	2 0
	2d. maize	.. ..	..	0	2 0
	4d. rose	.. ..	..	0	2 3
	5d. purple-brown	.. ..	..	1	5 0
	5d. yellow-green	.. ..	..	0	3 0
	6d. chocolate-brown	.. ..	..	0	1 6
	8d. reddish-brown	.. ..	..	0	5 6
	9d. brown	.. ..	..	0	3 6
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**DISCOUNTS from 33⅓ to 75%**

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**Philatelic Societies' Reports**

**COUNTY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.**

MR. JAMES SPIBEY, of 7, Russell Street, Stafford has inaugurated the County of Stafford Philatelic Exchange Society. There is an entrance fee of 2s., and (in lieu of annual subscription) a charge of 5% on the amount of the member's net sales. Members must be over 21 years of age and must furnish undeniable references.

Mr. Spibey points out that the geographical position of Stafford is greatly in his favour, the town being most excellently placed for prompt postal communication with all parts of the British Isles. The first "County of Stafford" packet will be sent out some time in March, so would-be members should write Mr. Spibey at once. That gentleman declares his intention of leaving no stone unturned to make the County of Stafford a thoroughly good and sound society.

The *Stamp Collectors Fortnightly* has been invited and has agreed to act as official organ; and members of the County of Stafford Society will be able to get the paper at a special reduced subscription. Full particulars will be furnished by Mr. Spibey.

**SHEFFIELD PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**

THE members of this Society held their Annual Dinner at the Wharfedale Hotel, Sheffield, on January 17th. The president (Mr. G. H. Hunt) occupied the chair. After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured, the health of the President was proposed, and was accorded full musical honours. The rest of the evening was passed in an enjoyable manner, songs, recitations, etc., being rendered by the members and their friends.

**BRITISH PLATE NUMBERS.**

Value.	Complete.	Our Price
3d. red	15	6 0
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6d. violet	8	3 3
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(KINDLY NOTE THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS.)

**British Colonial Packets.**

20 varieties Colonial, 1 1/3 per 12, 8/- per 100 packets.
30 " " " 2 6 " 16 " "
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The above packets contain only postage adhesives (no cut envelopes, wrappers or cards) of British Colonies soaked free of paper and in good condition.

80 varieties Foreign, 1 1/3 per 12, 8/- per 100 packets

Continental: - No. 1 quality, good mixture, 2/- per 10,000, 17/6 per 100,000, £8 per 1,000,000. (Sample 1000 3d.)

No. 2 Quality, very fine mixture, each packet contains two entire Foreign postcards, 3/- per 10,000, 25/- per 100,000, 7/1/- per 1,000,000.

Wholesale selections sent on approval. Lists free.

**H. ROSS-SHIELLS & Co.,**

75, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

Two minutes from G.P.O.

**The First of the Stamp Cleaners.**

WE clip the following from the "Philatelic Monthly," of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.:—"From the first of January next, the British penny postage stamp will resume its former red colour, in order to comply with the provisions of the Universal Postal Union. With regard to this it will be probably not without interest to remember the circumstances under which the postal authorities thought it necessary to change the former shade of this postage stamp.

Once, the Secretary General (*sic*) received a letter from a celebrated chemist, called Alexander Nesbit, since deceased.

This message contained half a dozen postage stamps which seemed to have never been used before; the writer of the letter, however, declared that they had been used in the mails, but that he had discovered a method by means of which he was able to make all traces of postmarks disappear without anybody being able to discover this afterwards.

The authorities, justly alarmed, made haste to communicate with a man who was the owner of so dangerous a secret. In consequence of the correspondence exchanged between the Government and Nesbit, the latter offered to produce a postage stamp which would defy washing or similar practices. It appears, however, that he asked too high a price for his discovery, for the Government declined to avail itself of his offer.

A long time, nevertheless, elapsed, before the official experts discovered a postage stamp which replaced in a satisfactory manner that which was then in use. Irritated at the treatment which he had received from the authorities, Nesbit directed his attention to the postage stamps of different values and obtained every time results as satisfactory to him as those which had crowned his efforts on previous occasions. He thus obliged the Government pretty frequently to change the color and the design of its different postage stamps.

Now that he is dead the one penny stamp of Great Britain will resume its primitive color which was so popular at the time. The half-penny stamp will become green. It remains now to be seen if the scientific chemist has not bequeathed his secret to a successor."

Now, the above article is an extraordinary string of exaggerations and inaccuracies. In the first place the 1d. British stamp is, as we have already officially announced, not to be changed to its old red colour, but that mis-statement, being made on the authority of Press announcements in this country, is excusable. The British postal authorities, however, were never seriously alarmed about Nesbit's discoveries, because that worthy never discovered anything of any importance. The only result of his communications was the changing the penny black to the red colour; and "a long time" did not elapse before the change was made, for Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., as soon as

they understood what was wanted, prepared an ink which answered all requirements.

We submitted the article in the first place to His Honor Judge Philbrick, Q.C., and that eminent lawyer and philatelist, with characteristic courtesy, sent it back to us with almost every assertion it makes ably controverted. Some of Judge Philbrick's chief points we have enumerated above, but his opinion of the article as a whole is best expressed in his own words: "It is so ludicrously grotesque, it cannot be corrected. Best insert it as it is, and say: 'This is how history is written.'"

**SCOTT CATALOGUE.** 1900 Edition.

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Orders over 10/- post free.

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**STAMPS BOUGHT & SOLD**

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We are disposing of several fine collections containing many scarce and medium stamps of all countries. Selections sent on approval (marked at catalogue prices) from 1d. to £5 each, and

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200 Genuine Stamps all different, post free. 1/- Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference

**BLUETT & CO.,** Stamp Merchants, Billiter Square, London, E.C. We send our Catalogue of the Prices we pay for Postage Stamps post free on application. Write or call on us if you have an old collection or loose stamps for sale. Liberal treatment. No delay. Cash at once to any amount. Established 15 years.

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## Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE :

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct. . . . .

. . . . . Send to-day for a Catalogue (Post Free) of our next Sale.

### THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate : 3 Words a Penny.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 106, High Holborn, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

Those advertisers who desire to do so may, in lieu of address, use a box-number at the FORTNIGHTLY Office, and have their letters forwarded to them. This, however, applies only to persons resident in the United Kingdom.

A booking fee of 2d. for postage, &c., is charged to advertisers who adopt this method.

Readers replying to a numbered advertisement should simply address their letters—"Box —, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY Office, 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C."

WANTED, 1011 top desk, second-hand; cheap for prompt cash, or part exchange British Colonials, give dimensions, wood, etc. 109.

1000 STAMPS, all different, for 1/- . Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

REQUIRED, "American Journal of Philately" 1892, 1893, 1894, also Jan., Feb., June, July and August, 1895. State lowest for cash.—110.

WANTED, Proofs, "Specimen" Stamps, Local and Revenues of U.S.A.—Dresser, Bexleyheath, Kent

GOOD copies of stamps catalogued from 1/- to £5 for disposal. Exceptionally fine in Colonials and European. Approval selections at approximately third catalogue sent to responsible applicants.—Bridger, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London.

ENGLISH Stamps, 1d. red, with numbers in Maltese Cross, complete set of 12 4/6, 3d. on orange paper used 4/- . Government Parcels complete set of seven, 2/6, Official Wrappers 3d. brown on green, yellow, pink, white, dark red, and blue, set of 6, all fine, price 1/1, Envelopes with silk shreds 6d. each. All kinds of English stamps sent on approval.—Charles Nissen, 106, High Holborn, London, W.C.

SOME duplicate copies "London Philatelists" for sale, or exchange others. First vol. wanted.—111.

THE Postage Stamps of the Transvaal. From their original issue in 1870 to the present time, price 2d. Published by C. Nissen & Co., 106, High Holborn, W.C.

BARGAINS—Heitman's 15/- Album, post free 8/3; Senf's Catalogue, '96, post free 8d.; Auction Summary, 1895, post-free 3d.—S.B., 13, Southbrook Road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED. Copies Philatelic Exchange List, Philatelic Star, Stamp Dealers' Journal; other obsolete English stamp papers. List and price. 106.

THE Philatelic Exchange Society is now circulating its fourth monthly club packet, and all enthusiastic stamp collectors, especially those specializing British Colonies, are requested to send for rules and particulars to the Secretary, Mr. F. PHILLIPS, 3, Westbury Road, Westgate-on-Sea.

LARGE QUANTITIES of Duplicates for sale at half catalogue prices and under. Write for approval sheets. S. KIRBY, 8, Kepler Road, Clapham, London.

FOR £35 worth catalogue value (Scott, 1906), you can have the best bicycle built to your specification, and for £250 worth the best Motor tricycle. Only rare stamps in perfect condition of Europe, Colonies, and U.S.A. accepted. All enquiries must be prepaid. F. KNASTER, Cambridge.

QUANTITY of Brazil fiscals (mostly green Dom Pedro), many scarce. About 500, price £1. Approval. 112.

ORANGE FREE STATE, rare obsolete provisional: six Japan, Aalborg, Bulgaria, surcharged; Bogota, China, Chefoo, Cochim, Java, Ecuador, Honduras, Iceland, Russian Levant; forty genuine varieties. 1/- SMITH, Upper Park Road, Kingston, Surrey.

WANTED immediately, a quantity of Bosnian stamps; also Brazilians, small head of Emperor issue. State numbers and cash price.—113.

EXCHANGE desired in Native State stamps and entires for stamps and entires of other countries. Address: M. A. RUSSELL, Jainti T. E., Hathipotha P. O., Alipur-Duara, India.

BUYING Agents wanted in all British Colonies, chiefly for New Issue business. References desired.—114.

WANTED.—Jhind, first issue, 3s. and 1/- Nabha, first issue, 5s. and 1/- Auttialla, 1/- red surcharge. Auttialla, 2s. and 8s. black surcharge.—C. ROSS ALSTON, Allahabad.

ADVERTISER has small collection English in "Hilckes'" 2-6 album. Over 100 good stamps, many unused; price 18/-. Would send on approval.—115.

FOR SALE.—A number of duplicates, all unused, among them complete sheet 1 rupee, 1893. Blocks "OHMS," 8 ans., 1874; "Service," 8 ans., 1867; "OHMS," 4 ans., 1874; 12 ans., 1876, and others.—Apply to GEO. S. CLIFORD, Rangoon.

CANTON Stamp Exchange Society, established 1890. A few vacancies for Collectors.—Secretary, W. A. JUTSUM, 371, Cowbridge Road, Cardiff. Hon. Sec. of the Cardiff Philatelic Society

### IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private prepaid advertisements (three words a penny) is extremely low we have decided, on the suggestion of our advertisers, to make the following reductions for a series of insertions, viz. :—

- 6 insertions for the price of 5.
- 12 insertions for the price of 9.
- 26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

Advertisers will greatly oblige us by letting us have copy EARLY whenever possible. We cannot guarantee insertion unless copy is in our hands by the Tuesday morning preceding publication.

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.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
**Literary, Fine Art, Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
 and  
**47, Leicester Square, LONDON, W.C.,**  
 MAKE THE SALE OF  
**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS** A SPECIALITY.

**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON** beg to announce that their next Sale will take place  
**On February 13th and 14th,**

And will consist of a Fine Private Collection including amongst other rarities:—Russia, with wmk., 10, 20 and 30 kopecs, unused; Moldavia, 54 paras, on piece, very fine; France, 1 franc, orange, fine; Naples, ½ tornese, arms and cross, very fine; Spain, Madrid, 1853, 3 cuartos, unused, mint, 1852, 2 reales red, pair, 1853, 2 reales, scarlet, used and unused, 1854, 1 real, light blue, &c., &c. Switzerland; Geneva, the double stamp; Zurich, 4 rappen, unused and very fine and others; Tuscany, 2 soldi and 60 crazie; Cape of Good Hope, fine woodblocks, including both the errors, Mauritius, Post Paid, 1d. and 2d., very fine, &c., &c. British Columbia, imperf. 5c., used and 10c., unused and perf. 1 dollar, a pair mint, all very fine. Canada, 7½d. unused, mint, superb; New Brunswick, 1/-, and Nova Scotia, 1/-, very fine; United States, 1855, 90c., mint, 1869, the error 24c. with inverted centre, very fine, State, 5 dollars, unused, mint; a fine lot of West Indians; British Guiana, 1850, 12c. blue, 1862, 2c. superb, &c.; Brazil, 3rd issue, 600 reis; Buenos Ayres, 4 pesos, scarlet and 5 pesos orange, very fine; Peru, ½ peso orange and ½ peso rose, very fine; Victoria, 5/- blue on yellow, unused, very fine, and other scarce Australians.

Also the fine collection of Philatelic Works formed by the late W. A. S. WESTOBY, Esq.

**Other Sales on:—1900.**—March 6th, 7th, 20th and 21st; April 3rd, 4th, 24th & 25th; May 8th, 9th, 22nd & 23rd; June 12th & 13th.

OWING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.

The greatest care is taken in preparing the Catalogues, in order that Country and Foreign Buyers who send bids may rely upon the condition, &c., of the various lots being accurately described.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE PENDING REALIZATION IF DESIRED.

FOR TERMS AND FULL PARTICULARS ADDRESS: **Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**

ESTABLISHED 1794.

**47, Leicester Square, London, W.C.**

**W. H. PECKITT, Dealer in Rare Stamps,**

**440, STRAND, LONDON.**

**NEW ISSUES.**

BRIT. HONDURAS, sur. "Revenue" and available for postage 5c. blue, 25c. brown & green, 1/7 the pair

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Ceylon, 2c. red-brown .. .. .	0	1	Cook Islands, ½ blue .. .. .	0	1
" 4c. yellow .. .. .	0	1	Philippines, 10c. brown, used .. .. .	0	4
Sarawak, 4c. rose .. .. .	0	2	Queensland, ½d. .. .. .	0	1
" 10c. blue .. .. .	0	4	Hayti, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	4
" 2c. on 3c. .. .. .	0	2	Hawaii, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0	7
Grenada, 2d. .. .. .	0	3	Holland, ½c. to 50c., set of 14 .. .. .	3	9
Antioquia, ½, 1, 2, 2½, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 10, 10, 20, 50, set of 12..	4	8			

GUATEMALA PROVISIONALS, 1c. on 5c., 2c. on 1c., 1c. on 1c. revenue, 6c. on 200c., set of 4 .. .. . 0 8

**BRAZIL PROVISIONALS.**

20 on 10, 50 on 20, 100 on 50, 200 on 100, 200 on 100, 300 on 200, 700 on 500, 1000 on 700, 2000 on 1000, 2000 on 1000, 50 on 20, 300 on 200, 500 on 300, 700 on 1000, 1000 on 700, 2000 on 1000 reis. Set of 16 varieties, 17/6.

**FERNANDO PO PROVISIONALS.**

5 on 10, 5 on 12½, 5 on ½, 5 on 25, 5 on 2, 5 on 6, 5 on 12½, 5 on 20c., 10c. rose revenue, 15 on 10c. revenue. Set of 10 varieties, used and unused, £1 2s. 6d.

**All Unused unless otherwise stated.**

**A very large variety of Stamps, ranging from New Issues to the greatest rarities always on view at moderate prices.**

**COLLECTIONS AND RARE STAMPS PURCHASED.**



Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

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**BRIT. HONDURAS, sur.** Revenue and available for postage 5c. blue, 25c. brown & green, 17 the pair

Ceylon, 2c. red-brown .. .. .	0 1	Cook Islands, 1 blue .. .. .	0 1
.. 4c. yellow .. .. .	0 1	Philippines, 10c. brown, used .. .. .	0 4
Sarawak, 4c. rose .. .. .	0 2	Queensland, 1d. .. .. .	0 1
.. 10c. blue .. .. .	0 4	Hayti, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0 4
.. 2c. on 3c. .. .. .	0 2	Hawaii, new colours, 1, 2, 5c., set of 3 .. .. .	0 7
Grenada, 2d. .. .. .	0 3	Holland, 1c. to 50c., set of 14 .. .. .	3 9
Antioquia, 1, 2, 2½, 2½, 3, 4, 5, 10, 10, 20, 50, set of 12 .. .. .	4 6		

**GUATEMALA PROVISIONALS,** 1c. on 5c., 2c. on 1c., 1c. on 1c., revenue, 6c. on 200c., set of 4 .. .. . 0 8

**BRAZIL PROVISIONALS.**

20 on 10, 50 on 20, 100 on 50, 200 on 100, 300 on 200, 700 on 500, 1000 on 7000, 2000 on 1000, 2000 on 1000, 50 on 20, 300 on 200, 500 on 300, 700 on 1000, 1000 on 7000, 2000 on 10000 rens. Set of 16 varieties, 17 6.

**FERNANDO PO PROVISIONALS.**

5 on 10, 5 on 12½, 5 on 1, 5 on 2½, 5 on 2, 5 on 6, 5 on 12½, 5 on 20c., 10c. rose revenue, 15 on 10c. revenue. Set of 10 varieties, used and unused. £1 2s. 6d.

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PLEASE MENTION THIS PAPER.

# G. HAMILTON SMITH & Co.,

## Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "DESPERATE, LONDON."  
TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

. . . LONDON, E.C.

**UNITED STATES.**—We have just re-arranged our books of this Country ; they contain a very Fine Collection.

**Value of Books, £450.**

**APPROVAL BOOKS.**—We hold a very fine stock of used and unused stamps (20,000 varieties), arranged in over 100 large Approval Books. The condition of the stamps is exceptionally fine, and the prices, which are reasonable, vary from 1d. to £50 each. Selections of any country will be gladly sent on approval to responsible applicants.

**FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.**—We shall be pleased to receive from foreign collectors lists of special wants, and to send for approval such of the stamps as we have in stock.

**ALBUMS.**—We shall be glad to send on application full particulars of the very fine books we offer.

**WANTED.**—To purchase really good collections of scarce stamps.

### SPECIAL OFFERS

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.	
Austria, 1850, 3, 6 and 9kr., ..	Set of 3	0	0	3	*British Central Africa, 1/- on 5	..	0	11	0	
" 1867, 2kr. to 50kr. ..	..	7	0	1	0	*British Columbia, p. 124, 10 cents	..	3	0	0
*Barbados, 1892, 1d. to 2 6 ..	..	10	0	6	6	British East Africa on Company's 1/2d.	..	0	12	6
" Jubilee, 1d. to 2 6 ..	..	9	0	7	0	" .. .. .. 1d.	..	1	10	0
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1 ..	..	6	0	3	9	" .. .. .. 4 1/2d.	..	1	7	0
" 1891, 2/- to 10/- ..	..	6	1	13	0	" .. .. .. 7 1/2d.	..	0	19	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, 1/2d. to 8d. ..	..	4	1	5	0	" .. .. .. 2 1/2d. on 4 1/2d.	..	1	7	0
" 1896, 1/2d. to 1/- ..	..	8	0	5	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d.	..	0	10	0
" on Cape, 1/2d. to 1/- ..	..	7	1	1	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose	..	0	19	0
" thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. ..	..	2	0	2	0	" .. .. .. 1c. brown-red	..	1	1	0
*Canada, Jubilee, 3c. to 50c. ..	..	11	0	11	0	" .. .. .. 1c. brown	..	2	0	0
" .. .. \$1 to \$5 ..	..	5	3	11	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow	..	2	14	0
" 1898, Maple leaf, 3c. to 10c. ..	..	8	0	2	0	" .. .. .. 1 - grey	..	2	5	0
*Gambia, 1887, 1d. to 1/- ..	..	8	0	5	0	" .. .. .. 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 124	..	1	16	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. ..	..	5	0	2	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue	..	2	0	0
*Gibraltar, 1880, 5c. to 2 pesetas ..	..	8	0	5	0	" .. .. .. 1d. on 3/-	..	2	3	0
" 1898, 1/2d. to 1/- ..	..	7	0	3	0	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular	..	0	10	0
" Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. ..	..	7	0	4	0	*Ceylon, 2 1/2 blue ..	..	2	10	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2 1/2d., 3d. and 6d. ..	..	5	0	1	0	*Dominica, 1 - lilac, C.A. ..	..	2	5	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. ..	..	6	0	1	0	*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36	..	3	3	0
Brazil, 1801, slanting figures ..	..	2	11	0	*Württemberg, 1858, 18k. blue	..	1	16	0	
" 3000 ..	..	3	11	0	" .. .. .. 1893-4, 9kr. black brown ..	..	2	5	0	
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres ..	..	0	10	0	" .. .. .. 1873, 70kr. mouve ..	..	3	8	0	
" 1866, 10 piastres ..	..	0	19	0	*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish	..	1	0	0	
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs ..	..	1	0	0	*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine	..	1	7	0	
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	..	2	10	0	*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown	..	0	19	0	

\* Signifies Unused.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

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Are you going in for Our War Fund Competition ?

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

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

No. 129—Vol. V.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.
ONE PENNY.

G. HAMILTON SMITH & CO.,

## Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers,

10, Bishopsgate Street Within, LONDON, E.C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS "DESPERATE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE No. 5596 AVENUE.

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**WANTED.**—To purchase really good collections of scarce stamps.

**SPECIAL OFFERS:**

	Set of	£	s.	d.
Austria, 1850, 3, 6 and 9kr. . . . .	3	0	0	3
1867, 2kr. to 50kr. . . . .	7	0	1	0
*Barbados, 1892, ½d. to 2 6 . . . . .	10	0	6	6
Jubilee, ½d. to 2 6 . . . . .	9	0	7	0
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1 . . . . .	6	0	3	9
1891, 2½ to 10 . . . . .	6	1	13	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ½d. to 8d. . . . .	4	1	5	0
1896, ½d. to 1½ . . . . .	8	0	5	0
on Cape, ½d. to 1 . . . . .	7	1	1	0
thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. . . . .	2	0	2	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¼c. to 50c. . . . .	11	0	11	0
\$1 to \$5 . . . . .	5	3	14	0
1898, Maple leaf, ¼c. to 10c. . . . .	8	0	2	9
*Gambia, 1887, ½d. to 1 . . . . .	8	0	5	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. . . . .	5	0	2	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas . . . . .	8	0	5	0
1898, ½d. to 1½ . . . . .	7	0	3	0
Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. . . . .	7	0	4	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 6d. . . . .	5	0	1	9
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. . . . .	6	0	1	0
Brazil, 1801, slanting figures . . . . .	2	14	0	
300r. . . . .	3	14	0	
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres . . . . .	0	16	0	
1866, 10 piastres . . . . .	0	19	0	
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs . . . . .	1	0	0	
*Hanover, 10g. green . . . . .	2	10	0	

	£	s.	d.
*British Central Africa, p. on 5 . . . . .	0	11	0
*British Columbia, p. 12½, 10 cents . . . . .	3	0	0
British East Africa on Company's ½d. . . . .	0	12	6
1d. . . . .	1	10	0
4d. . . . .	1	7	0
7d. . . . .	0	19	0
2½d. on 4½d. . . . .	1	7	0
Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. . . . .	0	10	0
British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose . . . . .	0	19	0
1c. brown-red . . . . .	1	1	0
1c. brown . . . . .	2	0	0
*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow . . . . .	2	14	0
1 grey . . . . .	2	5	0
1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ . . . . .	1	16	0
*British South Africa, 1890, ½ blue . . . . .	2	0	0
1d. on 3½ . . . . .	2	3	0
Cape of Good Hope, 1½ triangular . . . . .	0	10	0
*Ceylon, 2.50 lilac . . . . .	2	10	0
*Dominica, 1½ lilac, C.A. . . . .	2	5	0
*Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 . . . . .	3	3	0
*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue . . . . .	1	16	0
1863, 4, 9kr. black brown . . . . .	2	5	0
1873, 70kr. mouve . . . . .	3	8	0
*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish . . . . .	1	0	0
*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine . . . . .	1	7	0
*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown . . . . .	0	19	0

\* Signifies Unused.

CORRESPONDENCE in English, French, German, Italian, or Spanish.

Mention this paper.

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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 their Dates of Sales for the present Season, as under:—

1900.—MARCH 1st and 2nd, 15th and 16th; APRIL 5th and 6th, 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

MARCH 1st and 2nd.—A very Fine Selection of British, Foreign and Colonial Postage Stamps, including many Scarce Varieties.

MARCH 15th and 16th.—BY ORDER of the EXECUTRIX of the LATE ERNEST PETRI, Esq., a very fine Collection of ITALIAN STATES, etc., including a splendid lot Modena, practically complete; Tuscany, 3 very fine pairs of 2 soldi 60 crazie, 3 lire yellow, etc., 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 dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large numbers 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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

London Exhibition, 1897 - SILVER MEDAL.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

## FREDK. R. GINN, Stamp Dealer, Expert and Valuer,

OPPOSITE GAIETY THEATRE.

143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

### SPECIALITY SELECTIONS ON APPROVAL.

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- No. I.—Collection of 300 varieties, Catalogue value upwards of 25/-
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- No. III.—Collection of 1000 varieties, If priced separately the stamps would come to over £5. Only 18/-
- No. IV.—Collection of 1500 varieties, Selected with great care; it has no equal at the price, forming a really fine collection in itself

Only 1 to post-free.  
Only 6 7  
Only 18 - ..  
Only 45 - registered and post-free.

#### TRANSVAAL.

	S. d.
1878-9. Queen's head, full set, 1/4 to 2/-, unused, beautiful condition	45 0
1885. Provisional, 1/2 on 1d. red	1 0
" " 2d. on 6d. black	1 0
1887-90. " 1/2d. in black on 2d. bistre	1 3
1887-90. Provisional, 1/2 in black on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2 6
" " 1/2 in red on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2 6
" " 1d. on 6d. blue, with reversed surcharge	1 6

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" 2/6 brown and purple	2 3
" 3/- green and mauve	3 0
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 Only 6/7  
 Only 18/-..  
 Only 45/- registered and post-free.

#### TRANSVAAL.

	s.	d.
1878-9. *Queen's head, full set, 1/2d. to 2/-, unused, beautiful condition	45	0
1885. *Provisional, 1/2 on 1d. red	1	0
" " " 2d. on 6d. black	1	0
1887-90. " " 1/2d. in black on 2d. bistre	1	3
1887-90. *Provisional, 1/2 in black on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2	6
" " " 1/2 in red on 2d. bistre, with reversed surcharge	2	6
" " " 1d. on 6d. blue, with reversed surcharge	1	6

#### BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

(N.B.—All guaranteed used postally.)

	s.	d.
1890. 2/- vermilion	3	0
" " 2/6 purple	7	6
" " 5/- orange-yellow	10	0
1896-97. 1/- green and blue	0	8
" " 2/- green and indigo	2	0
" " 2/6 brown and purple	2	3
" " 3/- green and mauve	3	0
1896-97 5/- green and chestnut	3	0
" " 10/- slate and vermilion	8	0
1897. £1 black and red-brown	25	0
1898. 1/- ochre	0	8

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# THE STAMP COLLECTORS'

## FORTNIGHTLY

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collectors' Monthly" and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."  
 Published every alternate Saturday.  
 at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.  
 CONDUCTED BY  
**PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Liverpool Philatelic Society, the Edinburgh Philatelic Society, the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 129.—Vol. V. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900. ONE PENNY.

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### THE SULTAN "DECORATES" STAMP DEALERS.

AN event, described by the "Monthly Journal" as "unique in the stamp trade," is reported from Constantinople. His Majesty the Sultan of Turkey has bestowed the order of Medjidie of the third class upon Mr. J. Tchakidji and Mr. Apik Yaremaji, the two partners of the firm of J. Tchakidji and Co., the well-known stamp dealers of Constantinople.

### LONDON'S PHILATELIC PAWNBROKERS.

ONE very noteworthy evidence of the now fully recognised stability of Philately is the fact that pawnbrokers—gentlemen who, if they err at all, generally contrive to err on the side of safety—are willing to lend money on stamps. During recent years big sums have been loaned in this way by the leading lights of Lombardy. Messrs. Attenborough, pawnbroking princes, have helped more than one philatelic lame duck over a stile; and among others who have taken philatelic pledges are Mr. Barnett of Holborn, Mr. Avant of Fleet Street, and Mr. Davison of Cheapside.

### SENTENCE ON THOMAS WEBB, STAMP CLEANER.

THOMAS WEBB, of Melbourne, has been a second time convicted of fraudulent stamp cleaning. This man is a printer by trade, but a rogue by choice. Full details of his career and of his former trial and sentence to six months' imprisonment, in 1897, will be found in back numbers of the *Fortnightly*.

Webb's real name, it appears, is John Charles Turner. Formerly he published a little monthly paper, called, we think, the "Australian Stamp Collector." It was a "blind,"

to cover his operations in cleaned copies of high value fiscal-postal stamps.

Webb's second trial came on before Judge Hamilton and a jury, at the General Sessions in Melbourne, on November 3rd last, the formal charge against him was one of "being in possession of stamps from which certain ink marks had been fraudulently removed."

The Judge in summing up on the evidence brought before him said that it was not an offence for a person to have in his possession stamps from which writing had been removed, but it was if the writing had been removed fraudulently. After half an hour's retirement the jury brought in a verdict of guilty on two counts. In answer to questions the accused said he was forty-eight years of age and a printer by occupation. He admitted having been convicted of a similar charge on the first of February, 1897, under the name of Thomas Webb, and undergoing a sentence of six months for it.

Before the Judge passed sentence the prisoner denied that he was guilty of any felonious intent. The stamps in question were a portion of a lot he purchased for £45, and he had closely inspected them with a microscope. Many of the stamps produced in evidence were never intended to be anything else but used and cleaned ones. He admitted that he had cleaned stamps, but only for the purpose of getting them postmarked. This was a usual course pursued by collectors, because a postmarked stamp was more valuable than a cancelled one. None of the cleaned stamps were ever intended for sale. On the occasion of his previous trouble he fell into a trap set by Detective Macnammy, and he made a full confession, but this time he had nothing to plead guilty to.

Judge Hamilton: "I have no doubt whatever as to the correctness of the jury's verdict. I do not think that anybody can entertain any doubt about the evidence. The offence is a most serious one, and the legislature deems the crime of such magnitude that it has rendered a guilty person liable to fifteen years' imprisonment. This is the second time that the accused has been convicted, and I shall impose a sentence of three years' imprisonment with hard labour."

### THE GREEN BRITISH HALFPENNY STAMP.

The following paragraph appears in a recent issue of the London "Evening News":—

No date has yet been fixed at St. Martin's-le-Grand for the issue of the new green halfpenny postage stamp which the Postmaster-General has consented to introduce for the purpose of conforming to the wishes of the International Postal Union. The stamp, however, is already in print, and the pigment used will be perfectly harmless and non-fugitive, either to sunlight or water.

The italics are ours. Is the stamp really "already in print," to adopt the somewhat vague phraseology of the "Evening News?" If it is, why the delay in fixing a date for its issue? Again, what is the meaning of "perfectly harmless?" What "harm" could lurk in the colour of a postage stamp? Are we to take this statement of harmlessness as an intimation that the green stamp, when we get it, may safely be given to baby to play with?

Perhaps it is quite as well that the ink of the new stamp is non-fugitive under sunlight, for, were it not so, all the nice green colour might fade away ere our very dilatory Post Office authorities allowed the public to look at it.

**HOW A STAMP SETTLED A DISPUTE.**

If more people cultivated the stamp-collecting hobby, there would be less ignorance on matters geographical, historical, and political. Nothing so readily fixes in one's mind the more important data of the past half-century as a good general knowledge of the postage stamps of the world.

The other day, two people—the one a lady, the other a gentleman—waged an amiable war of words on the question of the hostilities in South Africa. The lady, an Irishwoman and a bit of a pro-Boer, was speaking somewhat in the Tim Healy strain. "They are fighting for their own country, and good luck to them!" declared the fair champion of the Boers. But here the gentleman put in a word: "Yes, the country that was once ours, and which we gave up to them!" "The Transvaal once yours?—it was never yours!" the lady indignantly declared.

She was not a philatelist; the gentleman was. And, finding that all the facts and dates he put forward failed to convince the Irish lady, he took effectual steps to clinch the matter. From a book-case in the room he drew the second volume of his bulky stamp album, turned rapidly to "South African Republic," and produced one of the beautiful issues of 1878-80, bearing head of Queen Victoria in an oval, surmounted by the inscription, "Transvaal Postage."

The lady was answered. The evidence of that little square of gummed paper was irrefutable.

**A CURIOUS MIS-STATEMENT ABOUT THE "S.C.F."**

With, we are quite sure, the best intentions in the world, Mr. L. Upcott Gill, editor of the "Bazaar, Exchange and Mart," inserted a paragraph in his impression of Jan. 19th announcing the re-issue of the *Fortnightly*—"under the direction, we believe, of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited." That statement was absolutely contrary to fact. Neither Messrs. Stanley Gibbons nor any other stamp dealer in London or out of London is "directing," or in any way influencing, the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. We take this opportunity of re-asserting most emphatically that this journal is edited and owned by a collector, and is run entirely by collectors in the best interests of Philately. The support of the leading dealers has been extended to us unstintingly, but otherwise there is "no connection whatever," save, we trust, a mutual feeling of sympathy and good will. It is a pleasure to add that Mr. Upcott Gill, at once recognising the seriousness of the mis-statement from the *Fortnightly's* own point of view, hastened to insert a most ample correction.

We must claim our readers' indulgence for our perhaps too frequent references to ourselves; but we wish it to be distinctly understood that we are not a "House Organ," and that, to dip still deeper into Americanese, the only axe we intend to grind in the *Fortnightly* Office is the Axe of Good Philately.

**THE BUSINESS SIDE OF PHILATELY.**

MR. THEODORE VAN DEN HENVEL, better known to the New Yorkers and to philatelists all the world over by his philatelic pseudonym of "Henry Collin," has taken up his quarters at 16 Place Gudule, Brussels, and will act as Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' agent in that city.

It is Messrs. Bright & Son's intention to produce a new edition of "the 'A.B.C.' Priced Catalogue" in October next.

Dr. Paul Bush, a well-known Bristol philatelist, is just off to South Africa as senior Surgeon in charge of the Princess Christian Hospital.

**THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.**

[COPYRIGHT].

Compiled by a  
**COMMITTEE of INDEPENDENT PHILATELISTS.**

∴ This "Guide" is purposely not described as a Catalogue. It has become customary to regard any price called a "catalogue price" as subject to a discount of 25% or 33% or 50%. Not so with the prices we shall publish in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." These will be in all cases absolutely net prices. If we describe a stamp as worth five shillings we mean that it is really worth that sum in the philatelic market. The value we give is the collector's value, and represents the price at which a stamp dealer can sell on the basis of a reasonable trader's profit. At first we shall deal only with British Colonial Stamps.

**BERMUDA.**

Unused  
average  
mint copy

Used  
very  
fine

Used  
average  
copy



1865-73. *Watermark Crown and CC.*  
*Perf. 14.*

1d. red	..	..	..	2	1/6	6	4
1d. pale red	..	..	..	1	7/8	1/4	3
2d. blue	..	..	..	2	1/6	1/6	1/4
3d. buff	..	..	..	5	3/6	2/6	1/9
6d. violet	..	..	..	12/6	9/	4/6	3
6d. mauve	..	..	..	7/8		1/6	
1/- green	..	..	..	4/	3	1/6	1

*The same, compound perf. 14 x 12 1/2.*

3d. buff	..	..	..	15/	10/	9	6
1/- green	..	..	..	1/6		1/	9d.

1874. *Surcharged in fancy type.*

**THREE PENCE**

3d. on 1d. red	..	..	..	50			
3d. on 1/- green	..	..	..	30		20/	

*Surcharged in Roman capitals.*

**THREE PENCE**

3d. on 1/- green	..	..	..	25/			15'
------------------	----	----	----	-----	--	--	-----

1875. *Surcharged "One Penny" in black.*

**One Penny.**

1d. on 2d. blue	..	..	..	25/		20/	
1d. on 3d. buff	..	..	..	8/		8/	
1d. on 1/- green	..	..	..	6/		5	

1880. *New values. Wmk. CC., perf. 14.*

1/4d. light brown	..	..	..	1/3	1/2	1/4	1/2
1/4d. orange-red	..	..	..	1/6		1/3	

1884 93. Wmk. C.A., perf. 14.	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
½d. green .. .. .	.. /1		1	
1d. rose .. .. .	.. /9	6	6	/4
1d. carmine .. .. .	.. 2		/1	
2d. blue .. .. .	.. 1	8	1	8
2d. violet-brown .. .. .	.. /3		/3	
2½d. ultramarine .. .. .	.. /4		/1	
3d. grey .. .. .	.. /4		/3	
1/- light brown .. .. .	.. 1/4		1	

In our next number we shall deal with British Bechuanaland. We cordially invite correspondence and discussion on the subject of Market Values.—Editor.

*Latest from India.*

THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF KISHENGARH.

(From Notes supplied to the "Philatelic Journal of India"  
By G. BARTON GROVES.)

KISHENGARH is a State in Rajputana to the east of the British district of Ajmere. Its capital city of the same name is situated on the railway line between Ajmere and Jeypore. So far, the date of introduction of postage stamps is unknown. The earliest date seen so far is 19-9-91. We hope to give more definite information soon.

The first stamp used appears to have been an impression of the current lithographed 1 anna fiscal stamp in green on an envelope. Unfortunately we have been unable to get a copy of this stamp plain enough for reproduction. It is 22 millimetres square and contains the arms of the State in the centre, surmounted by the words *Tikat Raj Kishengarh* in Hindi letters, while the top label contains the word *Kishengarh* in English and the lower label *ek anna* in Hindi, preceded by *One* and succeeded by *Anna*, both in English. The envelope is of laid paper, size 78 by 136 millimetres, with an embossed tress on the flap representing a rose.

This stamp appears to have been succeeded by two stamps of new design as shown below:—



These stamps are found both imperforate and roughly pin-perforated. They are also used for stamping envelopes of the same kind as those already described. The adhesives are all on white wove, but are apparently produced in any colour that comes handy. So far we have seen—

<i>Adhesives</i> —				
½ anna	...	Imperf.	...	Yellow-green.
"	...	"	...	Ultramarine.
"	...	"	...	Carmine.
"	...	Perf.	...	Yellow-green.
"	...	"	...	Ultramarine.
"	...	Imperf.	...	Dull Purple.

<i>Envelopes</i> —				
½ anna	...	...	...	Ultramarine.
1 "	...	...	...	Purple.

We have also seen a Re 1/- stamp with a design almost precisely the same as the ½ anna. It was blue-green and perforated. We do not, however, suppose that this is actually used for postal purposes. The State has only two offices, one at Arain and the other at Kishengarh. The only post-mark used is a double circle with the words *Arain* (or *Kishengarh*) *Raj P. O.* The date is inserted in the centre in red ink.—From the "Philatelic Journal of India."

*News Notes from all Quarters.*

We should get very tired if we were Dutch. That fine philatelic journal, the "Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde," speaks of the Paris Philatelic Exhibition as "De Parijsche Internationale Postzegeltonoonstelling."

The difficulty nowadays is not to sell fine things, but to get them, and I am sure the demand very far exceeds the supply. So writes Mr. Charles J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Limited.

A journal devoted to the printing trade gives the almost incredible news that in France black-bordered mourning envelopes will no longer be allowed to pass through the post. The explanation is that mourning envelopes are easily tampered with.

We were asked the other day, Why should shopmen collect forgeries? We gave it up; but, thinking the matter over, we fancy it must be because they are interested in counterfeits.—"Collector-Dealer."

Most schoolboys (remarks a journal known as "Society") are attacked, at some period of their earliest teens, by the stamp-collecting mania, just as most puppies are predestined to a period of distemper.

Another new (?) plan for utilising obliterated foreign stamps! In the window of a shop near Corporation Street, Birmingham, there is displayed a large card full of stamps, in which, as a substitute for the heads of the reigning sovereigns, appear the photos of famous cricketers and footballers. Some enterprising individual has cut out the central portion of the stamp, and pasted the remains over a miniature photo of a cricketer or footballer.

It was really too bad of the "Monthly Journal's" printers to allow Mr. Theodor Haas, of Leipzig, to pass into the January number of our contemporary as "Mr. Theodor Haas." Mr. Haas, however, will be the first to laugh over such a comical "error." He is a large, good-humoured man, with a big voice and a leonine head; but this is the first time we have ever seen it suggested, albeit unwittingly, that a "hass" lurks within the lion's skin.

Old readers of the *Fortnightly* will well remember the name of J. G. Griffin, of Sydney, as that of a promoter of "Snowball" letters begging for stamps. The *S.C.F.*, from the first, set its face against Griffin and all his works, although informed that J. G. G. was something in the Sunday School and "very respectable." It seems that the very respectable Griffin is now agitating for a special War Fund Issue in New South Wales, after the manner of the N.S.W. Hospital Stamps. Somebody out there ought to give him "the straight Griffin" to keep off the philatelic grass.

In a parcel of old Indian correspondence, recently purchased, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons were fortunate enough to find an envelope bearing *two* copies of that great rarity, the 4 annas with inverted frame. It is argued that the presence of the two stamps on the one envelope goes far to prove that an entire sheet had the frame inverted, and not one stamp only as in the reprinted sheet. It is hardly likely that a person using the stamps in 1854 would have two sheets of them and cut just this particular specimen out of each!

Herbert Charles Leigh, 28, a man of somewhat shabby appearance, described as a clerk, of no fixed abode, was placed in the dock at Lambeth Police-court, on February 9th, to answer two charges of obtaining valuable collections of postage stamps with intent to defraud. He pleaded guilty; asked the magistrate to settle the case, and was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

In America they are experimenting with a perforating machine which makes square instead of round holes! It is reported that the 2c. Revenue stamp has been satisfactorily operated upon.

Mons. d'Evenans, Secretary of the "Société Française de Timbrologie" is at work on an important "Study" of Forgeries, in connection with the Paris Exhibition. He solicits information from all in a position to afford it. His address is 138, Rue du Rivoli, Paris.



# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.

Editor . . . . . PERCY C. BISHOP.  
Business Manager . . . . . SYDNEY BISHOP.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY is published on alternate Saturdays. For the convenience of a central address, the Paper is issued from the premises of Messrs. C. NISSEN & Co., 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

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One Year (26 numbers) post free	...	3	3
Six Months (12 numbers)	...	1	6

Subscriptions and other business communications should be addressed to the Manager, 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.



PHILATELISTS will do well to take a calm, unfurried view of the various "Questions" that have recently been exploited with much flourish of type. The Great "Unissued" "Italics," and Notes of Exclamation—known to the gentlemen of the printing persuasion as "Screamers"—are all very well in their way, but the sane reader has a deadly knack of looking behind these poor devices and seeking for something in the shape of tangible evidence. This habit of cool enquiry (so hateful to the Italiciser and the Exclamator), coupled with an almost morbid craving for facts, saves the British philatelists from his "friends," just as the same excellent attributes have saved the British public from panic in this time of national uneasiness.

The "Great" Unissued Question was the creation of the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian," the journal now amalgamated with the *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*. For all practical purposes no such Question exists. The real question of the hour, and one that demands careful attention is what we shall call the Great Unissued Question.

Mr. Charles J. Phillips, by reason of his great experience as a stamp dealer and his unique position as head of the firm of Stanley Gibbons, Limited, must always command a respectful hearing when he, figuratively speaking, rises to address us on such subjects as Relative Rarity and Relative Values. And Mr. Phillips, in our opinion, has done philately good service in writing the article the gist of which we reproduce in the supplement to the *Fortnightly*. It is an article calculated to show not only the true dimensions of what may now be called the Little Unissued Question, but also the importance of arriving at some sensible understanding as regards the Great "Unissued" Question. On the subject of the various "finds" or "leakages" of British Colonial Reminders, Mr. Phillips quotes quantities that would seem to amply corroborate his statement that all the stamps coming on the market from two out of three sources—that is to say, from Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s offices and from the Crown Agent's Department in 1896—are now "practically absorbed." With regard to his third class, the De La Rue Reminders, Mr. Phillips takes a gloomier view, without, in our opinion, sufficient justification for so doing. In his own words, it is the uncertainty that does the harm! and Mr. Phillips has, in the case of these De La Rue stamps, taken a line likely to increase, rather than diminish, the public uncertainty. He first shows (and on this point we have reported him verbatim) that "leakages" of De La Rue stamps could only occur from Government sources, and then only to the extent of the printer's waste or superfluous

sheets. Then he goes on to draw a sharp dividing line between the first two "lots" of remainders and the De La Rue "lot"; but finally he admits that he has "some reason for thinking that there are not more than some two or three sheets of any variety." Here there is obvious inconsistency, and one could wish that Mr. Phillips had taken greater pains to dispel the public feeling of uncertainty supposed to have been excited by the articles in the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."

We say *supposed* advisedly.

The fact is—and every well-informed philatelist knows it—that the so-called "Great Unissued Question," in so far as it referred to actual "finds" or remainders of *genuinely issued* postage stamps, was neither more nor less than a huge mare's-nest. But there is an interesting, if not actually a serious side to the question. We allude to the finds or leakages of stamps that were never really issued to the public for postal purposes. Mr. Phillips speaks strongly on this subject. He has been "forced to consider," he tells us, "what position such varieties should hold in future editions of the Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue." And "after much consideration" his decision is as follows:—

We have come to the conclusion that in the best interests both of Philately and of the trade in general we should cease to include in our Catalogue any variety which, as far as we have been able to ascertain, has never been issued or on sale to the public as a stamp for postal purposes.

Consequently these Unissued Varieties (mostly imperforate specimens of stamps never known to have been issued otherwise than perforated), will not be found in the forthcoming 1900 Edition Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue. As we read Mr. Phillips' article, not only will these stamps not be priced in the Catalogue, but they will not be listed at all! That is to say, many stamps hitherto quoted at high prices in Messrs. Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, and thereby receiving the implied guarantee and endorsement of the leading stamp dealers in the world are to be suddenly deprived of the status they have heretofore enjoyed.

We are not worrying much as to "the interests of the trade in general," because we do not think the prosperity of the stamp trade is in any way jeopardised. We are thinking simply of the collector, and it is indisputable that many collectors will have bought specimens of these unissued stamps at high prices on the strength of a quotation in Gibbons' Catalogue. Omit that quotation and you reduce the stamp to the position of an Unquoted Share on the Stock Exchange.

This is one view of the Great Unissued Question. Of course there are others. Perhaps we may look to our readers both amateur and professional for some of the others?

Meanwhile, if not too late, we would suggest to Messrs. Gibbons that, for consistency's sake, the Great Britain 1d. "V.R.," as being most emphatically a stamp "never placed on sale to the public as a stamp for postal purposes," should be omitted from the 1900 Catalogue.

We have no means of knowing how many readers of the *Fortnightly* are entering for our War Fund

**Our Competition.** Prize Competition, but for the sake of the cause we trust that all who have a few spare stamps and moments will devote both to this good purpose. To sink to a more mercenary level, the prizes are well worth the winning, and that there will be a fair field and no favour may be confidently relied upon.

Mr. M. P. Castle, J.P., Vice-President of the Philatelic Society, has kindly consented to act as judge of the competition. In his prompt and courteous reply to our invitation to him to act in that capacity Mr. Castle writes:

If my name is of any service to the war Fund Prize Competition pray use it. I cannot guarantee to come up to town, but would cheerfully examine *here*, if that suits.

M. P. CASTLE.

Brighton, February 12, 1900.

Now competitors, and readers who are going to be competitors, please see that Philately's only J.P. has plenty of work to do when the time comes round for him to "take his place upon the Bench" and deal with the "cases" placed before him by the *Fortnightly*.

Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated changes in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.

**Austria.**—The new newspaper stamps are of the annexed design. The "idea" is the same as heretofore, but there is a difference in shape, and in style of production the stamps are, if anything, inferior even to the smudges they supersede. There are four values, as follows:—

- 2 heller, light blue.
- 6 .. orange yellow.
- 10 .. brown.
- 20 .. red.



**Bavaria.**—There are four entirely new values to chronicle, as follows:—



- 2 pfennig, grey.
- 30 .. olive grey.
- 40 .. yellow olive.
- 80 .. violet.

The new stamps are of the current type and have the watermark of horizontal wavy lines in use in Bavaria from 1888 to the present day. By the way, it will be noticed that the three higher values enumerated above coincide with the new values just introduced for the German Empire. Will these values also be added to Wurtemberg's list? Wurtemberg had its 2 pfennig as long ago as 1893.

**Bosnia.**—We are indebted to a correspondent at Finne for the information that the Bosnian stamps also are to be priced in "heller" henceforth.

**French Congo.**—We illustrate a somewhat uncouth design which, the Continental journals assert, will shortly be used for the stamps of French Congo. The one design will serve for the whole series.



**Grenada.**—We have to thank Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. for a sight of the new value of Grenada—a 2d. stamp in mauve and brown, current type.

**Nicaragua.**—The first fruits of the new contract with Dr. Assenjo—Seebeck the second—are to hand. We are able to illustrate both the ordinary adhesive and the unpaid stamps. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. inform us that the



full list of colours and values is as follows:—

Adhesive Stamps:—

- 1c. puce.
- 2c. orange.
- 3c. green.
- 4c. olive.
- 5c. dark blue.
- 6c. carmine.
- 10c. violet.
- 15c. ultramarine.
- 20c. brown.
- 50c. marone.
- 1 peso yellow.
- 2 .. red.
- 5 .. black.

Official Stamps:—

- 1c. puce.
- 2c. orange.
- 4c. olive.
- 5c. dark blue.
- 10c. violet.
- 20c. bistre brown.
- 50c. marone.
- 1 peso ultramarine.
- 2 .. orange-brown.
- 5 .. black.

Unpaid Letter Stamps: 1c. puce, 2c. orange, 5c. blue, 10c. violet, 20c. brown, 30c. green, 50c. marone.

**Queensland.**—The design of the new ½d. green atrocity has now, we are informed, been used for the ½d. stamped wrapper.

Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. send us the new shilling stamp of the same colony, with figures of value in all four corners. This is in a pale lilac and has quite a "washed out" appearance.

Wrapper, ½d. green.  
Adhesive, 1s. lilac, new type.



**South Australia.**—From Mr. W. H. Peckitt we have received a copy of the new green ½d. stamp—design as annexed.

Adhesive:—  
½d. green, new type.

**Trinidad.**—A shortage of threepenny stamps presumably is responsible for the appearance of the surcharged stamp we illustrate here. The surcharge is in black.

Adhesive:—  
3d. on 5d., violet.



The Business Side of Philately.

WE have received the following lists since our last issue: Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.'s List of Philatelic Novelties for February, 1900, and a List of Stamps and Entries of Italy and the Italian Duchies from Signor R Mezzadri, of Rome.

The Calcutta Philatelic Company have removed to better quarters at 7 Mangoe Lane, Calcutta.

EVERY postal subscriber should receive with this number of the *Fortnightly* a copy of a new 12 page price list just issued by Messrs. Myerscough & Co., of Gracechurch Street, E.C. Readers purchasing their copies through a newsagent can doubtless obtain a copy of the list by dropping Messrs. Myerscough a card.

COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

- February 20th and 21st.—Messrs. John Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet St., London, E.C.
- March 1st and 2nd.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C.
- March 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.
- March 8th and 9th: Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.

# Our Review of Reviews.

## The Neglected Tapling Collection.

Mr. E. D. Bacon, in the long and arduous task he has so admirably carried out at the British Museum, has had to fight Red Tape at every turn. Any little concession that may have been made or is now contemplated in the way of improving the public facilities for viewing the Tapling stamps we owe to Mr. Bacon's initiative.

It is now ten years since the Tapling collection, one of the finest all-round collections in the world, was bequeathed to the nation by the late M.P. for Market Harborough. In those ten years Mr. E. D. Bacon has done much; but what have the authorities of the British Museum done? Nothing! Absolutely nothing.

Not a moment too soon the Editor of the "Monthly Journal" protests against this official inertness.

A more discreditable state of things can hardly be imagined (writes Major Evans). The Trustees of the British Museum have been entrusted with one of the very finest collections of stamps in the world, but that collection has already been allowed by its guardians to become *ten years* behind the time as regards new issues, specimens of which might have been obtained as they came out for the mere trouble of asking for them, and many of which by this time are not to be obtained except at considerable cost. This has happened simply because the Museum authorities know nothing and care nothing about stamps, and will not accept advice from those who do know something.

Contrast this attitude with that of a leading public institution in America, the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences to wit. There, with no such incentive as the donation of a superb collection, the authorities have created a special "Philatelic Section," and are encouraging the growth of our hobby by holding occasional stamp exhibitions in their spacious Art Rooms.

## Mr. Charles J. Phillips and the P.P.A.

Mr. C. J. Phillips referring, in the "Monthly Journal," to the P.P.A., writes: "The facts are that when Mr. Lowe resigned the secretaryship there was no one else to take the post, and the few members present at the last meeting elected me simply as a temporary stop-gap, and . . . I consider I have done my work for the P.P.A., first by founding it, and then by devoting much time for some two years to the very successful crusade against the forgers of stamps and post-marks, which culminated in three or four convictions." Mr. Phillips adds that pressure of business now compels him to leave such work to younger hands.

## In Defence of Indian Native States.

The Editor of our excellent contemporary, the "Philatelic Journal of India," sticks up for the too-much abused stamps of the Native States of India. The following paragraph is calculated to straighten out a good deal of the popular misapprehension regarding these labels:—

If we may venture to make a prophecy, we should say that these stamps are bound to take a place of their own. They are locals, but far more interesting than any other locals, for even the smallest stamp-issuing Indian State is a bigish tract of country. They are to some extent "made for philatelists," but the number of countries which are absolutely free from this reproach is very small indeed. As a matter of fact, too, this reproach is not nearly so well justified as appears on the surface. Most of the States which have recently started stamps of their own have done so not with a view to sale to philatelists, as in order to show their own importance and to assert their right to at least *one* privilege of sovereignty, while the constant slight changes in design which annoy us so much in the case of States like Bundi are really the result of the extremely primitive methods of production.

Unquestionably, there is a great deal of truth in all this. The pity is that one brutal fact remains irrefutable: the stamps in question are so horribly ugly!

## Swiss "Silk Threads" Changed Each Year.

"Le Philatelite Francaise," in one of its readable "Echos de Partout," informs those who are not already aware of the fact that the silk threads in the paper used for the Swiss stamps of 1854-62 were changed in colour each year.

Those of 1854 had a yellow-green thread, those of 1855 a light green, and during 1856 the threads were yellow, red, blue, or black, according to the value of the stamp; and these shades were varied from year to year.

Mons. Th. Lemaire's admirable paper is also publishing, as usual, a work on Belgian postmarks by Mons. Jules Bouvez, and a "History of all the known Specimens of the 'Post Office' Stamps of Mauritius."

## Dangerous Forgery, France, 1fr., Vermilion.

In order to create a good forgery of the French 1 franc, vermilion stamp, the water-colour box has been requisitioned, and the comparatively common 1 franc carmine has been skilfully "painted over" to represent the vermilion stamp. The "Revue Philatlique Francaise," the organ of the French Society, has recently issued a warning as to this unusual sort of fraud. The colour, it appears, is beautifully "matched" by the resourceful faker, and the only way in which the forgery may be detected is by holding the stamp up to the light. Then the lack of that semi-transparency which an unpainted specimen would possess will betray the fraud.

## Philatelic Press Jottings.

A new American journal, devoted entirely to the interests of philatelic literature-collectors, if you please, is called "The Clipper."—Another promised new journal from the same quarter is to be called "The Adhesive," and "The Clipper" aforesaid remarks that this should prove to be a sticker!—Mr. Walter T. Wilson has sent us the first issue of a natty little quarterly publication entitled "Postal Cards and Covers."—Mr. Quinton, of Southsea, has produced another number of that leisurely journal, the "Collector-Dealer." This is dated January, and we are told that we may expect yet another issue some time in March.—"Svensk Filatelistisk Tidskrift" is a new journal hailing from Stockholm. It seems to be a sort of companion journal to the well-known "Nordisk."

## Other Papers we have Received.

Since the preparation of our last "Review" we have received the following: "The Philatelic Record" (London); "Revue Philatlique Belge" (Brussels); "Nederlandsch Tijdschrift voor Postzegelkunde" (Holland); "American Journal of Philately" (New York); "Stamp Collector" (Birmingham); "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser" (Birmingham); "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" (Norwood); "Illustrirte Briefmarken Zeitung" (Leipzig); and "Le Timbre Poste" (Brussels).

## The Naked Transvaal Envelopes.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY."

SIR,—I note the illustrations of the two *soi-disant* Potchefstroom envelopes in Mr. Clarke's article in your last issue. I can remember their being sent over in 1869, when Mr. Adler showed me specimens which had been received by him in a letter from Mr. F. Jeppe, the then postmaster.

Unless I am mistaken, there was a third variety, made by writing "6d." in the centre of the smaller stamp. I do not remember what stamps were on the letter, but my impression is that they were cancelled by the same hand-stamp which is shown in the larger of your two illustrations, and which was employed for the "first issue" of these envelopes. We were under the impression, at the time, that they were genuine provisionals, on the faith of Mr. Jeppe's communication. I had specimens from either Mr. Adler or Mr. Pemberton, which passed, I think, into the possession of Major Evans. I thought possibly that these few details might be of interest.

ROBERT B. EARÉE.

Miserden Rectory, Cirencester.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

# Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Literary, Fine Art, **Philatelic Auctioneers,** and

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Following Sale on March 20th and 21st, and will include a portion of the Very Fine Collection of UNITED STATES formed by SIDNEY CASTLE, Esq. Also a fine Private Collection by order of the Trustee in Bankruptcy of C. J. DURANTY. Catalogues ready shortly.

Other Sales on:—1900.—April 3rd, 4th, 24th & 25th; May 8th, 9th, 22nd & 23rd; June 12th & 13th.

(O)WING to the very large number of commissions received from the Continent and America the Catalogues are issued, when possible, one month or more before the date of sale. Owners wishing to include Stamps should therefore forward them as early as possible.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S Sales are attended by the majority of the leading Collectors and Dealers, and are the best medium for disposing of COLLECTIONS AND SINGLE RARITIES, many record prices for fine Stamps having been obtained during the past season.

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200 Genuine Stamps all different, post free, 1/-  
Sheets of good Medium Stamps at Low Prices sent on Approval on receipt of satisfactory Reference.

## OLD POSTAGE STAMPS WANTED.

**BLUETT'S STAMP SHOP,** BILLITER SQUARE, LONDON, E.C., is the best place to sell collections or loose lots. A high price paid for collections containing old triangular Capes, penny issue Ceylon, Old West India, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000, cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

## Philatelic Societies' Reports

### LEEDS PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

A RECENT meeting of this well-known Society was set apart for a display of postmarks. The largest collection—of which part only was exhibited—was that of Mr. W. Denison Roebuck, F.L.S., who possesses over 1,900 different British obliterations, or about 50 per cent. of the whole series. Mr. T. K. Skipwith's collection of over a thousand different places was a good one, and Mr. Eugene Egly's collection of numbered post-marks is nearly as extensive, and includes carefully selected types Mr. F. J. Kidson, although not a collector, brought a number of entires, showing old post-marks of great interest, including old Leeds obliterations of 1845, &c., one being "Woodhouse Lane, November 10th, 1845," and another "Glasnevin Penny Post, 1846," used in conjunction with the Dublin number "186" in the usual diamond form adopted for Irish post-marks. There were also some novelties of stamps shown by Mr. Egly and the President, Mr. H. M. Hepworth.

### BRISTOL AND CLIFTON SOCIETY.

THE annual general meeting of this Society was held on Thursday evening, January 4th, 1900. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, the President, Mr. P. J. Lloyd, vacated the chair, but was, at the request of all the members present, forthwith asked to resume the position which he had so well filled from the birth of the Society. The election of officers was then proceeded with. Mr. F. E. Ellison was re-elected as Vice-President. Mr. Way having expressed his desire to be released from the work of Exchange Packet Secretary, Mr. D. H. McPherson kindly consented to act for the present, Mr. Dalton having offered to assist him. Mr. Bird also declined re-election in consequence of his frequent absence from Bristol. The following members were then unanimously elected as the Society's officers for this year, viz.:—Committee: Messrs. N. Glyde Heaven, J. H. Reynolds, J. W. Stooke, and J. P. Way. Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Mr. R. Dalton, 30, Carnarvon Road, Redland. Hon. Librarian: Mr. T. C. Cartwright, 17, York Crescent Road, Clifton. Exchange Packet Secretary (*pro tem.*): Mr. D. H. McPherson, 36, Woodstock Road, Redland.

The programme for the season was arranged, viz.: For January 18th, "Canada"; February 1st, "Cape and Natal"; February 15th, open night; March 1st, "Victoria," with paper by Mr. Dalton; March 15th, "Forgeries"; April 5th, "United States," paper by the President; April 19th, "Leeward Isles"; May 3rd, "Great Britain"; May 17th, "Chili."

## British Colonial Packets.

20 varieties Colonial, 1/3 per 12, 8/- per 100 packets.
30 " " " 2/6 " " 16/- " "
40 " " " 3/6 " " 25/- " "
50 " " " 5/- " " 37/6 " "

The above packets contain only postage adhesives (no cut envelopes, wrappers or cards) of British Colonies soaked free of paper and in good condition.

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**Continentials:** No. 1 quality, good mixture, 2/- per 10,000, 17/6 per 100,000, £8 per 1,000,000. (Sample 1000 3d.)

No. 2 Quality, very fine mixture, each packet contains two entire Foreign postcards, 3/- per 10,000, 25/- per 100,000, 7/- per 1,000,000.

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## NOTICE!

### Chas. Nissen & Co.

On February 1st,

Owing to the Holborn Street Improvements we vacated our Shop, 106 HIGH HOLBORN, where we had been so long established as

STAMP DEALERS.

We have now taken a capacious Suite of Offices on the FIRST FLOOR at

## 77 & 78 HIGH HOLBORN

immediately opposite the "Inns of Court Hotel," where we shall be pleased to receive all our old and new Customers.

Having just purchased a very large PRIVATE COLLECTION, we are in a position to show a very fine selection of all Countries, also Sets, Packets, and accessories.

We are always open to buy any quantity of Stamps, Collections, or otherwise, and guarantee to pay the highest prices in the trade.

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## Special Notices to Readers.

All readers of the *S.C. Fortnightly* (or of the paper just purchased and amalgamated with it, the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian," are invited to read the following announcements.

The *Fortnightly* was re-issued under the editorship and proprietorship of Percy C. Bishop, on December 23rd, 1899. The first number of the re-issue was No. 125, the last number issued by Messrs. Hilckes being No. 124.

The Fifth Volume of the *Fortnightly* concludes with our next issue, No. 130, and comprises Numbers 105 to 130 inclusive.

### CASES FOR BINDING.

A Binding Case and an index for Volume V. will be prepared in the same style as heretofore, and we shall be prepared to bind subscribers' copies on the same terms as in the past—namely, 2s. 6d., including the binding case and return carriage.

### BACK NUMBERS OF THE "FORTNIGHTLY."

The sorting of the stock of back numbers of the *Fortnightly* is now being taken in hand, and will be completed as rapidly as possible; but until this work is done we shall not be in a position to quote prices for single numbers.

Volumes 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the *S.C.F.*, bound in cloth gilt, can still be supplied; price 4s. 9d. each volume, carriage paid, or the set of four volumes for 15s. 9d.,

Reading Cases (designed for the safe keeping of the single numbers of the *S.C.F.*, pending the completion of the volume) can still be supplied. Post free, 1s. 6d. each.

Orders, accompanied by remittance in postal orders or halfpenny stamps, should be addressed to: The Manager, "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly," 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

### To OLD "S.C.F." SUBSCRIBERS.

We are "filling" the subscriptions of all those whose names appeared on the *Fortnightly's* Subscription Ledger, as handed to us by the Official Receiver, on our purchasing the copyright of the paper. On the expiring of any subscription a renewal form is sent to the subscriber.

### To "GUARDIAN" SUBSCRIBERS.

Every subscriber to the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian" (now incorporated with the *Fortnightly*), will receive the *S.C.F.* to the amount of his unexpired subscription, and will be regarded during that period as a subscriber to the *S.C.F.* "Guardian" subscribers who were already on our books will have additional issues credited to them in accordance with the amount paid.

### FURTHER INFORMATION.

If there is any other question to be answered, the manager will be glad to reply to individual querists. Write him; a postcard will do. It is inevitable that a few mistakes should have been made, and we wish to rectify them all.

### The Advertising Rates are as follows:—

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One-Eighth Page ... do.	0 12 6	One Inch ... do.	0 3 6

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C."

## The Great "Unissued" Question.

MR. CHARLES J. PHILLIPS TELLS A PLAIN, UNVARNISHED TALE OF COLONIAL REMAINDERS AND OTHER THINGS.

I HAVE no wish to cause anyone an injury, but simply to place before the philatelic public a plain, straightforward case, from which they can form a fair opinion of the value of the stamps in question.

The above excellent sentiment prefaces Mr. Charles J. Phillips' lengthy article on "The Reminders of Unused English Colonial stamps," published in the issue of "Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal" dated January 31st. We scarcely deem the article worthy of the sub-title Mr. Phillips has applied to it—*A Comprehensive History, including the approximate number of each variety of this class of stamp that has come upon the market between the years 1887 and 1900*—but we do think that Mr. Phillips has adopted a wise and sensible course in placing before the public his own personal knowledge, so far as it goes, of this question of the "finds" and "leakages" of unused British Colonial stamps. The highly-coloured articles published in the journal we recently purchased, the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian," are denounced as "glaringly false," and in the words of Mr. Phillips, "the time has come to put on record for the benefit and guidance of collectors facts that are within my knowledge, and also those which are common talk of the town."

Hence his article, occupying nearly seven columns of the "Monthly Journal's" space. In giving a brief resumé of the points in the article we shall first of all quote Mr. Phillips' lists of the stamps found in what he calls the

"Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s Reminders" and the "Colonial Agent's Find":

### PERKINS, BACON & CO.'S REMAINDERS.

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Bahamas, 1859, 1d. lake, imperf.  
 Barbados, 1852, blue on blued paper, imperf.  
 Trinidad, 1851, blued paper, imperf., purple brown, blue and grey.  
 Trinidad, 1851, white paper, imperf., purple-black.

#### Between 200 and 1,000 Specimens:

Barbados, 1852, imperf., green on blued paper, and red on blued paper.  
 Barbados, 1861, perf., no wmk., green, blue, and red.  
 Ceylon, 1861, wmk. star, perf., 9d. deep brown.  
 Queensland, 1861, wmk. small star, rough perf., 1d. carmine, 3d. brown.  
 Queensland, 1861, *Registered*, orange-yellow.  
 St. Vincent, 1861, no wmk., perf., 6d. blue-green, 1d. rose-red, 1s. slate-grey, 1s. indigo-blue.  
 Trinidad, 1859, imperf., 1s. indigo.

#### Between 50 and 200 Specimens:—

Antigua, 1862, 6d. blue-green, no wmk.  
 Barbados, 1852, imperf., yellow-green on white, and blue on white.  
 Ceylon, 1861, wmk. star, perf., 1s. 9d. green, and 2s. blue.

## Philatelic War Fund Prize Competition.

(In Aid of the Philatelists' War Relief Fund, promoted under the auspices of the Philatelic Society, London.)

**1st PRIZE: £3 CASH.      2nd PRIZE: £2 CASH.      LADIES' PRIZE: £1 CASH.**

12 or more Consolation Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Results of the Competition.

SIX STAMPS MAY BE ATTACHED TO EACH OF THESE FORMS:


Additional Forms can be supplied at the rate of 60 for 1/-, post free. Address the Manager *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C., remitting by Postal Order or halfpenny stamps.

The Competition closes on Saturday, March 10th, by which date all stamps (except from readers in distant countries as explained in our last number), should be sent in to the Competition Department, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

Pacific S.N. Co., on blued paper, 1rl. blue, 2rls. red-brown.  
 St. Vincent, 1861, imperf., 1d. rose-red, 6d. blue-green.  
 South Australia, 1855, imperf., 2d. dull carmine.  
 Trinidad, 1851, blued paper, imperf., brown red.  
 " 1859, imperf., 4d. grey-lilac.  
 Victoria, 1856, imperf., 1d. green.

**Under 50 Specimens:—**

Antigua, 1862, 6d. yellow-green, imperf.  
 Bahamas, 1861, 1d. lake, no wmk., perf.  
 Barbados, 1859, imperf., 6d. rose-red, 1s. black.  
 " 1861, perf. 1s. black.  
 Mauritius, 1858, imperf., green, magenta.  
 St. Vincent, 1869, perf, no wmk., 1s. brown.  
 Turks Islands, 1867, no wmk., 6d. black, 1s. dull-blue.  
 Antigua, 6d. no wmk., comp. perf. and large perf.  
 Barbados, no wmk., blue, perf. 11½

**THE CROWN AGENT'S "FIND."**

**From 50 to 200 Specimens of the following.—**

Cape of Good Hope, 1855, 1d. rose-red, 4d. blue.  
 Malta, no wmk., bluish paper, ¼d. buff.  
 Mauritius, 1859, 1s. yellow-green.  
 St. Lucia 1860, wmk. Star (1d.) rose-red (4d.) blue (6d.) green.  
 Trinidad, 1859-61, clean-cut and rough perfs (1d.) rose-red,  
 4d. brown-lilac, 6d. yellow-green.  
 Western Australia. A number of imperf. proofs, both wmk.  
 Swan and no wmk., of the 1861-2 issue, such as 2d. blue,  
 4d. lake, 6d. purple-brown and 1s. deep green.

**Under 50 Specimens :**

Bahamas, 1861, no wmk., rough perf. 14-16, 4d. rose, 6d. grey lilac.  
 Natal, 1862. no wmk., 6d. grey, 1d., perf. 14, rose-red.

It will be seen that the quantities quoted are, for the most part trifling. Mr. Phillips declares that these "finds" are now "practically absorbed," and he has positive information that neither from Messrs. Perkins. Bacon's store-rooms, nor from the Crown Agent's Department can come any further supplies of these stamps. The De La Rue remainders he regards as

a much more serious matter. He continues as follows:—

First of all, let us consider where these De la Rue remainders *can* come from, and how many there may possibly be in existence at the present time in official or quasi-official sources.

Thomas De la Rue and Co., Ltd., began to obtain the contracts for printing most of the English Colonial stamps in or about the year 1863.

In the usual course of events a colony would indent for a certain number of stamps of specified denominations, the order going to the Crown Agents in Downing Street; they in turn would order the stamps from De la Rue and Co., who would receive and despatch the stamps to the colony as occasion arose.

In all cases of this kind when the origin is shrouded in mystery, a heavy crop of surmises and speculations naturally springs up as to the channels through which such stamps come on the market. In these circumstances it is inevitable that most of the rumours should ultimately prove to be baseless, with the result that persons absolutely innocent of all knowledge of the transactions have had their names implicated. As an instance of this I am in a position to positively state, and I do so with pleasure, that the rumours associating the names of prominent members of the Philatelic Society, London, with this find, are absolutely and entirely devoid of truth.

As regards any leakage from Messrs. De La Rue & Co., this, we need hardly tell the philatelic world, is practically impossible. Every sheet of watermarked paper is handed to them by the Government officer (an officer who is appointed for the exclusive purpose of giving out and receiving back the paper and stamps respectively) and has to be accounted for at the price of the face value of the sheet of stamps which it is intended to print upon it. Every sheet must be returned, whether with stamps printed thereon or not, and this is *always done*. So thoroughly is this system carried out, that Messrs. De La Rue & Co do not even keep specimens or samples of their printing. It will thus be seen that the firm or any of their servants must be entirely free from any charge that stamps have leaked out from them. The leakage of which we know has occurred *after* Messrs. De La Rue & Co., have relinquished *their* responsibility.

Now it seems to me there are only two places from whence any of these stamps can leak out at the present day. The one is from the printers' waste or superfluous sheets which may have been handed

MESSRS. PLUMRIDGE & CO.



63/4, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

Stamp Auctioneers and Commission Agents.

STAMP SALES are held regularly during the Season, and CATALOGUES will be sent out as issued to everyone applying by POST CARD for same.

**Inclusive Commission on Lots Sold, 10 %**  
 (The minimum average charge per lot being 2 -)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE !**

Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

Buyers unable to attend the Sales personally can send bids direct. . . . .  
 . . . . . Send to-day for a Catalogue (Post Free) of our next Sale.

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

back by De La Rue & Co. to the Government official appointed for that purpose, and the other is from the Stores Department of the Crown Agent's Office; and from both these sources the stamps could only be obtained, so far as I can see, by illegal means.

I think we should all unite together and try to impress upon the proper authorities the need for much greater care in the custody of their remainders of postage stamps, many of which, by the way, are still available for postal purposes, and if, as I have no doubt has been the case, sheets of such stamps as are still available have been obtained, it is quite possible that they may be used to prepay postage, and thus defraud the revenue.

This part of the case is one that it has always struck me should be taken up by the Philatelic Society of London. The Society is doing a good deal for Philately by means of its publications, but it might go much further, and try to protect collectors against floods of remainders emanating from Government offices.

A third source from which a great many have leaked out during the past few years is Somerset House itself, and I have good reason for knowing that this has been recognised by the present higher officials, who have taken steps to stop this leakage in the future; but from this source have been unearthed many rare English varieties, amongst which I can name the following:—

REMAINDERS OF ENGLISH STAMPS.

- 1½d. lilac-rose.
- 3d. rose, with white dots, both imperf., and perforated by the 12 machines.
- 1s. green, with hair lines.
- 8d. brown-lilac.
- 5d. green (1884), Type 2.
- "I.R. Official" and "Government Parcel" stamps, unused, etc., etc., etc.
- Imperf. stamps cut from the *imprimatur* sheets, all plates, and all values.

I will now try to give a list of stamps that have been about during the past two or three years, nearly all of them of the printings of Messrs. De La Rue & Co. I am not able to divide them into classes by the numbers that have appeared, as I have done in my two former lists, but I have some reason for thinking that there are not more than some two or three sheets of any variety.

THE DE LA RUE REMAINDERS (?).

British Columbia, 1861, no wmk., imperf., 2½d. light brown.

- British Columbia, 1867, Crown and CC., perf. 14, 10c. lake and blue, 31 green, perf. 12½, 31 green.
- Cape of Good Hope, 1863, 1d. red, 4d. blue, 6d. mauve, 1s. green (shades).
- Ceylon, 1861, wmk. Star, perf. 1s. lilac.
- .. 1862, no wmk., 6d. brown.
- .. 1863-6, C. and CC., perf. 12½, 2d. emerald-green, 4d. rose, 5d. purple-brown, 5d. green, 8d. red-brown, 9d. dark brown, 1s. deep mauve, 2s. blue.
- .. 1872, C. and CC., perf. 12½, 2r. 50c. lilac-rose.
- .. 1883 .. perf. 14, 16c. lilac and 24c. purple-brown.
- .. *Service*, 1869, 1d. and 3d., and possibly the other values.
- Grenada, 1881, wmk. large, broad-pointed Star, 2½d. claret, 4d. blue.
- Hong Kong, 1863, Crown and CC., perf. 14, 96c. grey.
- .. 1876 .. 16c. yellow.
- Jamaica, 1863, wmk. Pine, 6d. purple, 1s. dull-blue.
- Montserrat, 1879, C. and CC., perf. 14.
- Natal, 1860, wmk. small Star, imperf.
- .. 1s. lilac-brown, perf. 14, without surcharge.
- St. Christopher, 1882, C. and CA., perf. 14, 4d. blue.
- St. Helena, 1862, wmk. Star, perf., 6d. blue.
- St. Lucia, 1864, C. and CC., perf. 12½, (1d.) black, (4d.) yellow, and (6d.) mauve, perf. 14, (4d.) yellow, (6d.) lilac, (1s.) orange.
- Sierra Leone, 1883, C. and CA., perf. 14, 4d. blue.
- Straits Settlements, 1867, 14c., 3c., 6c., 24c., and 32c.
- .. .. double surcharge, 12c.
- .. .. 1868, C. and CC., several values.
- Trinidad, 1864, C. and CC., perf. 12½, 4d. bright violet, 6d. emerald-green, 1s. purple, and 1872, 1s. yellow.
- Trinidad, 1882, C. and CA., perf. 14, 4d. grey.

In conclusion Mr. Phillips broaches the serious question of the remainders of De La Rue stamps "in an unfinished condition" (being unperforated varieties of stamps that were only issued in a perforated condition). He announces that "all such varieties—as far as we know of them—will be omitted from our 1900 catalogue."

We have dealt fully with this matter, and Mr. Phillips' action thereon in our editorial headed "The Great Unissued Question."

The War Fund Competition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE  
TO INTENDING . . .  
COMPETITORS. . .

We have found it impossible to afford space in this issue for full particulars of the War Fund Prize Competition. Those who may now see the *Fortnightly* for the first time are invited to send for a FREE COPY of the last number of the *S.C.F.*, containing details.

ENCLOSE A HALFPENNY STAMP

for postage, and address: "The Manager, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C."

LUDWIG ZISSLER,

The Old Established Dealer, has REMOVED from St. Martin's Lane to

98, CHARING CROSS ROAD,

(Nearly opposite Main Entrance of Palace Theatre)

And begs to offer a Large Selection of Medium and Rare Stamps, as well as Sets.

Speciality: Colonials on Entire Letters.

HE OFFERS

Niger Coast, rare, 1893 issue, on letter (cat. nearly double)	s. d.
per set .. .. .	12 6
Ditto, unused .. .. .	14 0
Ditto, 1897, on entire letter .. .. .	5 0
Zululand, ½d. to 4 (complete set, except £1 and £5), used	15 6
Fiji, 2d. on 3d., unused (catalogued 6/-)	2 0
Niger, ½d. and 1d., used, the two .. .. .	0 3

Inspection Invited.

SPECIAL OFFER.

	£	s.	d.
Great Britain 1d. V.R. unused .. .. .	12	10	0
.. 4d. on bluish safety paper, unused .. .. .	20	0	0
Barbados, 1882, 4d. grey unused 20/-, do. 5/- (1886) .. .. .	0	17	6
British S. Africa, 1890, £1 unused 40/-, do. £5 do. .. .. .	6	0	0
.. £10 unused (all mint) .. .. .	11	10	0
Ceylon, 1872-80, 2r., 50c. unused 120/-, do. used .. .. .	4	0	0
.. a grand selection of rare surcharges in stock.			
Gibraltar, 1886, set complete unused .. .. .	5	0	0
Gold Coast, 1884 9d., 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/-, 20/- used set .. .. .	0	12	0
Heligoland 1 mark, unused 12 6, do. 5m. do. .. .. .	0	15	0
India, a very fine selection, including all the rare Service Stamps at present in stock.			
Lagos, 1885-87, 2/6 unused 120/-, do. 5/- do. .. .. .	7	0	0
Monaco, 1885, 5fr. unused 50/-, do. used .. .. .	3	0	0
Natal, 1857, 1/-, size 25 x 32mm., used .. .. .	10	10	0
New Brunswick, the Connell Stamp unused .. .. .	25	0	0
Newfoundland, 1860, 2d., unused .. .. .	1	10	0
.. 1868, 5c. black unused .. .. .	0	15	0
New South Wales, 1855, 8d. used, superb .. .. .	3	5	0
.. 1888, 5/- unused 45/-, do. 20/- do. .. .. .	3	0	0
New Zealand, 1873, 5/- unused .. .. .	1	0	0
Niger Coast, 1893, set complete unused .. .. .	0	17	6
Queensland, 1881, 2/- unused 15/-, do. 10/- do. .. .. .	5	10	0
Sierra Leone, 1861, 6d. imperf. unused .. .. .	12	10	0
South Australia, 1870, 3d in red used .. .. .	1	5	0
Selangar, Gibbons' No. 3, unused .. .. .	1	15	0
Tasmania, 1871-78, 5/- unused .. .. .	0	18	0
Victoria, 1862, 6d. orange, used, superb .. .. .	12	10	0

Also many other rare and choice stamps too numerous to mention. Selections of Stamps scientifically arranged in books, will be sent on approval on receipt of a satisfactory London reference.

Address all communications to . . .

M. GIWELB

4, Northumberland Avenue, Charing Cross, LONDON, W.C.



# viii. Supplement to the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

## The Soldiers' Post Office.

HOW THE ARMY POST OFFICE IS ORGANISED IN SOUTH AFRICA.

OUR good friends the Press Cutters yield us a plentiful crop of clippings anent the Post Office, good, bad, and indifferent. The best we have recently received is an authoritative article on the Army Post Office Corps, cut from "The Times" of December 27th, 1899. Therein we get, first of all, a historical sketch of the origin of the Corps, which is of little interest to philatelists, and then a description of the conduct of our War Post, which to philatelists is certainly of very considerable interest. We have extracted the vital passages:

### THE "POSTMEN" NOW AT THE FRONT.

The whole strength of the Army Post Office Corps has been called into requisition in the present war, and three officers and 100 men are now in South Africa for military postal duties. The corps is composed of men who are members of the Post Office Volunteer Corps (24th—formerly 49th—Middlesex) and who are experienced in some of the various duties required of Post Office officials. On volunteering to join the Army Reserve, they are medically examined, and if found physically qualified, are duly enlisted in the orthodox manner. For the purposes of drill and discipline the Army Post Office Corps is attached to the 24th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers.

### THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ARMY POST OFFICE.

Without going into the details of the organisation and arrangements of the Army Post Office, it may very briefly be said that the duty of the Corps is to establish and maintain postal communication between the base and the several detached portions of the army in the field. Thus, at the base of each column there will be what is practically a head post office, while field or subordinate offices will be established with all the different divisions of the column. All incoming correspondence will be received at the respective head offices, and there sorted and conveyed to the various sub or field offices, where the letters will be handed over to the orderlies of the regiments and corps, no postmen being employed. In like manner, the outgoing correspondence will be collected at the field offices and thence transmitted to the head offices, whence it will be despatched to the places of destination.

### STAMPS AND P.O.'S FOR TOMMY ATKINS.

At all the post offices, stamps, registered letter covers, postcards, &c., are sold, and postal orders are issued and paid. The issuing of postal orders is found to be a great convenience to the soldiers, who like to transmit their money home as soon as it is received. Parcel-post business is also conducted, and it falls to the duty of the post-master to keep all the records and accounts in connexion with the various branches of the post office business in the orthodox manner. In the transaction of this business all the necessary appliances are, of course, employed, and amongst other articles in use, ingenious collapsible sorting tables have been designed for the purpose.

### THE ARMY POSTMARK.

Since the above was in type we have received various items of information, of a rather more direct philatelic interest, bearing on the present Army Postal Service in South Africa. These we shall include, with illustrations, in the next number of the *Fortnightly*.

## SOME SPECIAL OFFERS:

### UNITED STATES.

	s.	d.
1895, 50 cents orange ... ..	0	3
1 dollar black ... ..	1	0
2 .. blue ... ..	4	3
1898, 50 cents green, Omaha ... ..	0	9
1 dollar black ... ..	3	0

### HOLLAND.

1898, 1 guilder green ... ..	1	0
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### BRITISH.

Complete Sets of Plate Numbers.—Good Condition. Mounted.

½d. red ... ..	15	6	0
1d. .. ... ..	151	10	6
1½d. .. ... ..	2	0	3
2d. blue ... ..	7	0	9
2½d. lilac-rose ... ..	18	7	0
2½d. blue ... ..	7	1	0
3d. rose ... ..	20	7	6
4d. orange ... ..	10	2	0
6d. violet ... ..	8	3	0
6d. grey ... ..	8	5	6
1/- green ... ..	13	9	6

Eleven Sets for £2 8s. 6d.

Approval Books of all varieties, at reasonable prices, sent to responsible applicants.

CHARLES NISSEN & CO., 77/78, High Holborn, London W.C.

## Bound Volumes of the "S.C.F."

Can still be supplied; but as our stock of many numbers is almost exhausted, the price must be raised at an early date. For the present the terms are as follows:

	s.	d.
Vol. I. (Nos. 1 to 26), bound in cloth, gilt, price, post free	4	9
Vol. II. (Nos. 27 to 52), similarly bound, price, post free	4	9
Vol. III. (Nos. 53 to 78), similarly bound, price, post free	4	9
Vol. IV. (Nos. 79 to 104), similarly bound, price, post free	4	9
Or the four Volumes, carriage paid, for	15	9

Address all letters, which must in every case contain remittance, to

THE MANAGER, 

"Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,"

77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

## £2 10s. Prize Second Monthly Competition. . .

We are offering the above Prize to Purchasers of our 1/- Packet of Stamps for February. In the Packet there are 25 different stamps, the following among them:

- CHINA, 10c. green.
- VICTORIA, new ½d. green.
- SOUTH AUSTRALIA, new 2d. violet.
- HAYTI, 2c. green, just obsolete.
- MALTA, 2½d. blue.
- INDIA, 2½ on 4 annas 6 pies.
- GERMANY, new issue.
- ORANGE FREE STATE, 2d. violet.
- Eritrea. Tasmania.
- Azores. Ecuador.
- Gold Coast. Angra, etc., etc., etc.

*This Packet will be sent for 1/- post free.*

Every stamp in fine condition, and the packet is entirely different from the January one.

The Prize of £2 10s. will be given to the one who sends in the names of a certain BATTLE fought in S. Africa between the British and the Boers; and a BRITISH GENERAL.

These names can be made up from the Initials of the stamps contained in the packet.

For further particulars and names of winners in last month's Competition see . . .

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF GT. BRITAIN FOR FEBRUARY.

Single number, 3d. by post. Annual Subscription, 2 6 Specimen copy free to anyone who has not previously applied.

KIRKPATRICK AND PEMBERTON, 202, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON.

## Trinidad and Tobago Obsolete Postage Stamps, Revenue Stamps, Post Cards and Registered Envelopes.

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of Trinidad to dispose of the undermentioned obsolete Postage Stamps, Revenue Stamps, Post Cards and Registered Envelopes, which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Government and of which no further supplies will be printed, the plates from which they were produced having been destroyed.

The stamps, &c., are of the following descriptions and quantities :

### TOBAGO POSTAGE STAMPS AND REVENUE STAMPS.

WATERMARK CA. AND CROWN.

Duty.	Number.	Description.	Colour.	Face Value.
½d.	10,927	Postage	Green ... ..	£ 22 15 3½
1d.	2,833	"	Rose ... ..	11 16 1
2½d.	6,989	"	Blue ... ..	72 16 0½
4d.	4,775	"	Grey ... ..	79 11 8
6d.	3,941	"	Orange ... ..	98 10 6
1/-	7,553	"	Ochre ... ..	377 13 0
1d.	1,924	Revenue	Purple ... ..	8 0 4
3d.	7,184	"	Do. and black duty tablet	89 16 0
4d.	7,800	"	Do. and red do. do.	130 0 0
6d.	847	"	Do. and blue do. do.	21 3 6
1/-	4,073	"	Green ... ..	203 13 0
5/-	6,400	"	Grey ... ..	1,600 0 0
£1	5,434	"	Violet ... ..	5,434 0 0

### TOBAGO POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

½d.	1,082	Single Post Cards	...	2 5 1
½d.	2,902	Reply do.	...	12 1 10
1d.	1,128	Single do.	...	4 14 0
1d.	3,247	Reply do.	...	27 1 2
1½d.	3,880	Single do.	...	24 5 0
2d.	9,489	Registered Envelopes	...	79 1 6

### TRINIDAD POST CARDS.

1½d.	9,144	Single Post Cards	...	57 3 0
2d.	5,088	Do. do.	...	42 8 0
1½d.	6,144	Reply do.	...	76 16 0
2d.	2,430	Do. do.	...	40 10 0

Specimens of the stamps, &c., can be seen at the Crown Agents' Office, between the hours of 10 and 4 ; on Saturdays, 10 and 2.

Each line of stamps, post cards and envelopes may be tendered for separately, but the parcels cannot be otherwise broken up.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the quantities, description and condition of the stamps, post cards and envelopes sold.

Offers must be sent in not later than the 20th of March.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the highest of any tender, and no tender for a less amount than the face value will be considered.

OFFICE OF THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.

January 31st, 1900.

## THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

**1000** STAMPS, all different, for 1/6. Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. Brown, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

GOOD copies of stamps catalogued from 1/- to £5 for disposal. Exceptionally fine in Colonials and European. Approval selections at approximately third catalogue sent to responsible applicants.—Bridger, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London.

ENGLISH Stamps, 1d. red, with numbers in Maltese Cross, complete set of 12 4/6, 3d. on orange paper used 4/-; Government Parcels complete set of seven, 2/6, Official Wrappers 4d. brown on green, yellow, pink, white, dark red, and blue, set of 6, all fine, price 1/1; Envelopes with silk threads 6d. each. All kinds of English stamps sent on approval.—Charles Nissen, 77/78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

FOR £35 worth catalogue value (Scott, 1900), you can have the best bicycle built to your specification; and for £250 worth the best Motor tricycle. Only rare stamps in perfect condition of Europe, Colonies, and U.S.A. accepted. All enquiries must be prepaid.—J. KNASTER, Cambridge.

WANTED, Junior Clerk; intelligent youth, good writer; willing to be generally useful.—Apply to C. Nissen & Co., 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANTED. U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs. "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—DRESSER, Bexley Heath, Kent.

WANTED immediately, a quantity of Bosnian stamps. State numbers and cash price.—113.

THE Postage Stamps of the Transvaal. From their original issue in 1870 to the present time, price 2d. Published by C. Nissen & Co., 77/78, High Holborn, W.C.

BARGAINS—Heitman's 15/- Album, post free 8/3; Senf's Catalogue, '96, post free 8d.; Auction Summary, 1893, post-free 3d.—S.B., 13, Southbrook Road, Lee, S.E.

WANTED—"London Philatelist," Nos. 1, 5, 6.—MAUNDER, Sidholme, Merton Park Wimbledon.

"THE YOUNG STAMP COLLECTOR," illustrated, monthly; 1s. yearly.—32, Ballater Road, Brixton.

SOUTH AFRICAN Postage Stamps. A packet of sixteen varieties, all fine copies; post free for 9d. Trade supplied. The envelope is hand painted with the two flags; very attractive.—WINTON RILEY, 22, Lennard Road, Croydon.

COLLECTION 4142 varieties, many unused and rare, just as collected, none removed; price £15. A genuine bargain.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Curator Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

ONE THIRD CATALOGUE! Having bought some collections at bargain prices, I am selling hundreds of rare stamps at this extraordinary reduction. Selections sent on approval. References required from collectors or dealers unknown to me. The stamps are good substantial old issues, not rubbish, and I guarantee great satisfaction to everyone buying them. Sydney View, 1d. from 8/-; 2d. from 6/6; 3d. from 8/-; Cape, Woodblock, 1d. scarlet, 30/-; 4d. blue, 13/-; Canada, 6d. purple, 6/6; 7½d. green, 20/-; 10d. blue, 10/-; Cheaper than the auctions and you pick what you like! —H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Curator Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private prepaid advertisements (three words a penny) is extremely low we have decided, on the suggestion of our advertisers, to make the following reductions for a series of insertions, viz. :—

6 insertions for the price of 5.  
12 insertions for the price of 9.  
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

Advertisers will greatly oblige us by letting us have copy EARLY whenever possible. We cannot guarantee insertion unless copy is in our hands by the Tuesday morning preceding publication.

## Trinidad and Tobago Obsolete Postage Stamps, Revenue Stamps, Post Cards and Registered Envelopes.

THE Crown Agents for the Colonies have been requested by the Government of Trinidad to dispose of the undermentioned obsolete Postage Stamps, Revenue Stamps, Post Cards and Registered Envelopes, which comprise the whole stock remaining in the hands of the Government and of which no further supplies will be printed, the plates from which they were produced having been destroyed.

The stamps, &c., are of the following descriptions and quantities:

### TOBAGO POSTAGE STAMPS AND REVENUE STAMPS. WATERMARK CA. AND CROWN.

Duty.	Number.	Description.	Colour.	Face Value.
½d.	10,927	Postage	Green	22 15 3½
1d.	2,833	..	Rose	11 16 1
2½d.	6,989	..	Blue	72 16 0½
4d.	4,775	..	Grey	79 11 8
6d.	3,941	..	Orange	98 10 6
1/-	7,553	..	Ochre	377 13 0
1d.	1,924	Revenue	Purple	8 0 4
3d.	7,184	..	Do. and black duty tablet	89 16 0
4d.	7,800	..	Do. and red do. do.	130 0 0
6d.	847	..	Do. and blue do. do.	21 3 6
1/-	4,073	..	Green	203 13 0
5/-	6,400	..	Grey	1,600 0 0
£1	5,434	..	Violet	5,434 0 0

### TOBAGO POST CARDS AND ENVELOPES.

½d.	1,082	Single Post Cards	...	2 5 1
½d.	2,902	Reply do.	...	12 1 10
1d.	1,128	Single do.	...	4 14 0
1d.	3,247	Reply do.	...	27 1 2
1½d.	3,880	Single do.	...	24 5 0
2d.	9,489	Registered Envelopes	...	79 1 6

### TRINIDAD POST CARDS.

1½d.	9,144	Single Post Cards	...	57 3 0
2d.	5,088	Do. do.	...	42 8 0
1½d.	6,144	Reply do.	...	76 16 0
2d.	2,430	Do. do.	...	49 10 0

Specimens of the stamps, &c., can be seen at the Crown Agents' Office, between the hours of 10 and 4; on Saturdays, 10 and 2.

Each line of stamps, post cards and envelopes may be tendered for separately, but the parcels cannot be otherwise broken up.

Tenderers must take all responsibility in connection with the quantities, description and condition of the stamps, post cards and envelopes sold.

Offers must be sent in not later than the 20th of March.

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the highest of any tender, and no tender for a less amount than the face value will be considered.

OFFICE OF THE CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES,  
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.  
January 31st, 1900.

## THE STAMP EXCHANGE.

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

**1000** STAMPS, all different, for 1/- Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. Brown, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

**GOOD** copies of stamps catalogued from 1/- to £5 for disposal. Exceptionally fine in Colonials and European. Approval selections at approximately third catalogue sent to responsible applicants.—Bridger, 68, Bishopsgate Street Without, London.

**ENGLISH** Stamps, 1d. red, with numbers in Maltese Cross, complete set of 12 4 6, 3d. on orange paper used 1/- Government Parcels complete set of seven, 2/- Official Wrappers 3d. brown on green, yellow, pink, white, dark red, and blue, set of 6, all fine, price 1 1/- Envelopes with silk threads 6d. each. All kinds of English stamps sent on approval.—Charles Nissen, 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

**FOR** £35 worth catalogue value (Scott, 1900), you can have the best bicycle built to your specification; and for £250 worth the best Motor tricycle. Only rare stamps in perfect condition of Europe, Colonies, and U.S.A. accepted. All enquiries must be prepaid.—I. KNASTER, Cambridge.

**WANTED**, Junior Clerk, intelligent youth, good writer; willing to be generally useful. Apply to C. NISSEN & Co., 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

**WANTED**, U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs, "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—DRESSEK, Bexley Heath, Kent.

**WANTED** immediately, a quantity of Bosnian stamps. State numbers and cash price.—113

**THE** Postage Stamps of the Transvaal. From their original issue in 1877 to the present time, price 2d. Published by C. Nissen & Co., 77-78, High Holborn, W.C.

**BARGAINS** Heitman's 15 - Album, post free 5/3; Sent's Catalogue, '96 post free 8d. Auction Summary, 1895, post-free 5d.—S.B., 13, Southbrook Road, Lee, S.E.

**WANTED**—"London Philatelist," Nos. 1, 5, 6.—MAUNDER, Sidholme, Mersey Park, Wimbledon.

**"THE YOUNG STAMP COLLECTOR,"** illustrated, monthly; 1s. yearly.—2, Ballater Road, Brixton.

**SOUTH AFRICAN** Postage Stamps. A packet of sixteen varieties, all fine copies, post free for 1d. Trade supplied. The envelope is hand painted with the two flags, very attractive.—WILSON RILEY, 22, Leonard Road, Croydon.

**COLLECTION** 412 varieties, many unused and rare, just as collected, none removed; price £15. A genuine bargain.—H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Curator Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

**ONE THIRD CATALOGUE** Having bought the collections at bargain prices, I am selling hundreds of rare stamps at this extraordinary reduction. Selections sent on approval. References required from collectors or dealers unknown to me. The stamps are good substantial old issues, not rubbish, and I guarantee great satisfaction to everyone buying them. Sydney View, 1d. from 5/-; 2d. from 6/6; 3d. from 7/-; Cape, Woodblock, 1d. scarlet, 30/-; 4d. blue, 15/-; Canada, 6d. purple, 1/6; 7d. green, 20/-; 10d. blue, 10/-; Cheaper than the auctions and you pick what you like! H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Curator Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE re SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Although our rates for private prepaid advertisements (three words a penny) is extremely low we have decided, on the suggestion of our advertisers, to make the following reductions for a series of insertions, viz. :-

6 insertions for the price of 5.  
12 insertions for the price of 9.  
26 ins. (whole year) for the price of 18.

Advertisers will greatly oblige us by letting us have copy EARLY whenever possible. We cannot guarantee insertion unless copy is in our hands by the Tuesday morning preceding publication.

# HUGO GRIEBERT & CO.

10, Eldon Road, Kensington, London, W.

WE are prepared to send Fine Selections of Rare European, British Colonial, and other Rare Stamps on Approval on receipt of good references. Want Lists receive our prompt attention.

Our List of "Monthly Special Offers and Bargains" contains a large number of Rarities, which we have in stock at present. Our prices are strictly moderate, mostly from 25 to 50 per cent below catalogue value.

We send our Monthly List gratis to everybody interested.

### SPECIAL OFFER

### UNUSED GREEK STAMPS

All in Finest Condition with Original Gum.

- 1862-75, 40 lepta brownish-lake on blue, Gibbons, No. 30, 2 - each.
- 80 lepta, carmine on cream, Gibbons, No. 34, 3 - each.
- 1876, 40 lepta, rosy-buff, Gibbons, No. 56, 2 - each.
- 60 lepta, Paris Print (Gibbons, No. 63), 2 - each.
- 1879, 10 lepta, orange-buff on cream, Gibbons, No. 77, 1/- each.

Pairs and Blocks of any of the above can be supplied at the same rates.

We especially desire to purchase SEVERAL LARGE

Collections from £200 to £3000

Also a few Smaller Ones

From £20 to £150 for Immediate Cash

We will pay Higher Prices than any other Dealers for the following:

Rare European Stamps

Rare British Colonial Stamps

Proofs and Essays of all Countries

Specialists' Collections of any Country

CEYLON 1899 . PROVISIONALS

NOW . . . OBSOLETE!

These have only been a very short time in issue and are certain to become very rare!

- rupee 50 cents on 2 rupees 50 cents grey, 3 - each.
- 12 rupees 25 cents on 2 rupees 50c. yellow, 4 3 each.

All Unused in Mint Condition!

## Periodical Sales by Auction of Postage Stamps.

### Messrs. JOHN EDWARDS & Co.

Reg to announce that their NEXT SALE will take place on

TUESDAY, 20th FEBRUARY, 1900, and Following Day, AT ANDERTON'S HOTEL, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.,

Commencing at 5.30 p.m. each evening, when they will Sell in Lots, without reserve.

### A VALUABLE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF STAMPS,

Including many Rarities and other Lots.

OTHER SALES ON March 3rd, March 22nd and 23rd.

Lots may be viewed 7 days previous to the Sale at the Offices of the Auctioneers as below, where Catalogues, and terms for including collections or other lots in these Sales may be had free on application.

LIBERAL CASH ADVANCES pending realization are made if desired without any extra charge.

Prompt Settlements guaranteed.

Highest References.

City Advertisement Agent for "Brown's Advertiser."

(Rates and all desired information free on application).

### PACKETS OF STAMPS.

The best and cheapest ever offered. List of over 50 different pkts. from 3d. to £11, free on application. Wholesale rates (to bona fide dealers only) post free.

AGENTS FOR SENF'S CELEBRATED STAMP ALBUMS.

Illustrated Prospectus post free.

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## JOHN EDWARDS & Co., FIRST FLOOR, ROOM 220, Mansion House Chambers, London, E.C.

(Close to Mansion House and Bank of England).

Your **LAST CHANCE** for Our War Fund Competition.

THE

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY

PUBLISHED EVERY ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

(WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE "STAMP COLLECTORS' MONTHLY.")

No. 130—VOL. V.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900.

ONE PENNY.

ESTABLISHED 1856.

CAPITAL, £75,000.

## STANLEY GIBBONS, LIMITED.

### Rare \* Stamps

### BOUGHT, SOLD, or EXCHANGED...

**VISITORS OR COLLECTORS IN LONDON**, on calling at 391, Strand, W.C., can at all times during office hours (10 to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 to 2 p.m.) inspect some hundreds of collections and stock books of Stamps, having each variety priced, and thus get a far better selection of shades and varieties than those who order by post.

#### SETS AND PACKETS OF STAMPS

A special Prospectus containing full details of about 2000 Sets and Packets of Stamps will be sent post-free on application.

We strongly recommend our sets of Stamps. They are composed of perfect specimens, and are priced at from 20 to 40 per cent. less than the Stamps could be bought for singly.

#### WHOLESALE LIST FOR STAMP DEALERS.

We have just issued a new and enlarged Trade List with prices of Stamps, Cards, and Envelopes by the dozen, hundred, and thousand, and with the trade terms for all our Albums, Catalogues, and General Publications.

This List will be sent post-free and gratis to any dealer known to us, or on receipt of business card. The Wholesale List cannot be sent to collectors.

"**THE MONTHLY JOURNAL**," edited by Major E. B. Evans. Published on the last day of each month, and chiefly noted for—1st, Verbatim Reports of all Law Cases of interest to Philatelists; 2nd, Earliest information of New Issues; 3rd, Largest Stamp Journal published; recent numbers containing from 40 to 48 pages; 4th, Quality of its Articles; with Major Evans as Editor this can be taken for granted; 5th, Entirely Original Article by the leading Philatelic Writers of the day. Subscription—2s. per annum, or 5s. for three years.

**SAMPLE COPY sent gratis and Post-free on application.**

All Subscriptions must be prepaid, and commence with the July number. The price of back numbers will be found in the current number of the Journal.

"**THE MONTHLY JOURNAL**" now includes the Addenda to our current Price Catalogue. The old method of publishing Addenda quarterly has been discontinued, and in the months of March, June, September and December a Special Number of the Journal is sent to all Subscribers, containing a list of all Stamps, etc., that have appeared since the publication of the Catalogue. In the other months there will be quoted Special Bargains, Rarities, and prominent Alterations in Prices.

We therefore strongly recommend all purchasers of the Catalogue to subscribe to "**THE MONTHLY JOURNAL**," forming as it does, a complete continuation of the Catalogue up to date.

## APPROVAL SHEETS & COLLECTIONS OF STAMPS.

NEW SHEETS OF STAMPS FOR BEGINNERS AND MEDIUM COLLECTORS.

WE have just been arranging our Approval Sheets of Stamps on an entirely new and much simpler plan than formerly. The Stamps are mounted on sheets, containing an average of 100 Stamps per Sheet. They are all arranged in the order of our New Catalogue. First, Great Britain and the Colonies, then all Foreign Countries. These sheets contain about 5000 different Stamps and a sheet of any particular country will be sent on demand. The sheets arranged to date are over fifty in number, and contain all Great Britain and the Colonies, and all Foreign Countries.

**TO ADVANCED COLLECTORS.**—For Collectors more advanced we have an assortment of many hundreds of small books of Choice Picked Stamps of every country or District in the World. Most of these special books contain twenty pages (5x3 1/2 in.), and can be sent by post in an ordinary registered envelope to all parts of the world. These Books, as a rule, include Used and Unused Stamps, but Special Approval Books will be made up to suit individual requirements. Collectors writing for such should state if they wish for Used or Unused Stamps, if singles, pairs, or blocks of 4 are required; also in Used Stamps, if special Postmarks are sought for. In all cases, in these books, we shall lay ourselves out to meet the special requirements of each individual client, whether the amount required be large or small.

**Great Rarities are our speciality.** We have a large number of Stamps on hand from £10 to £400 each, and shall be pleased to give prices and particulars to advanced Philatelists.

We purchase really Rare Stamps at a much higher Cash Price than that paid by any other Stamp Merchant.

STANLEY GIBBONS, Ltd., Stamp Importers, 391, STRAND, LONDON, W.C. (Opposite the Hotel Cecil.)

Always mention the STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY in answering Advertisements.

# 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 their Dates of Sales for the present Season, as under:—

1900.—MARCH 15th and 16th; APRIL 5th and 6th, 26th and 27th; MAY 10th and 11th, 24th and 25th; JUNE 7th and 8th.

MARCH 15th and 16th.—BY ORDER of the EXECUTRIX of the LATE ERNEST PETRI, Esq., a very fine Collection of ITALIAN STATES, etc., including a splendid lot Modena, practically complete; Tuscany, 3 very fine pairs of 2 soldi 60 crazie, 3 lire yellow, etc., 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 dates are being rapidly filled up.

Owing to the large numbers 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.

Advances made on Collections pending Realization if desired.

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, 5076 Bank. ESTABLISHED 1761.

London Exhibition, 1897 - SILVER MEDAL.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

# FREDK. R. GINN, Stamp Dealer, Expert and Valuer,

OPPOSITE GAIEITY THEATRE.

## 143, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

### SPECIAL OFFERS! The Popular "F.R.G." Packets.

THE LEADING OLD CENTURY FAVOURITES ARE THE EARLIEST SANSTION OF THE NEW CENTURY.

Greater Value than ever. Contain perfect Copies only. Wonderful Value for money "Aide Press." Of a high-class and fully up to description. "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly"

- No. I. Collection of 300 varieties, Catalogue value upwards of 25/-
- No. II. Collection of 500 varieties, Finest 500 variety packet ever offered
- No. III. Collection of 1000 varieties, If priced separately the stamps would come to over £5. Only 18/-
- No. IV. Collection of 1500 varieties, Selected with great care; it has no equal at the price, forming a really fine collection in itself

Only 1/10 post-free.  
Only 6/7  
Only 18/-  
Only 15/- registered and post-free.

### The Great Catalogue Question

"The greatly increased intrinsic value of Stamps."—  
*vide*: "The London Philatelist."

Buy Old and Genuine Issues whilst Prices are comparatively Low,

AS AT PRESENT TIME.

**ON APPROVAL:** Selections of ALL GRADES OF STAMPS, from the Commonest to Rarest at 15 to 50 per cent. less than latest Catalogue Quotations.

The Cheapest and Best way to form a Collection is to deal direct with FREDK. R. GINN, who supplies the actual Stamps at LOWEST CURRENT MARKET PRICES, and Guarantees every Specimen Genuine.

WRITE AT ONCE AND YOU WILL PROBABLY SAVE MANY POUNDS.

NOTE.—All letters promptly answered and no effort spared to meet the wishes of Customers.

THE ONLY ADDRESS:

# FREDK. R. GINN, 143, Strand, London.

ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS.

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THE LEADING OLD CENTURY FAVOURITES ARE THE EARLIEST SANBATION OF THE NEW CENTURY.

Greater Value than ever. Contain perfect Copies only. Wonderful Value for money—"vide Press." "Of a high-class and fully up to description." "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly"	No. I.—Collection of 300 varieties, Catalogue value upwards of 25/-	Only 1/10 post-free.
	No. II.—Collection of 500 varieties, Finest 500 variety packet ever offered	Only 6/7
	No. III.—Collection of 1000 varieties. If priced separately the stamps would come to over £5. Only 18/-	Only 18/-
	No. IV.—Collection of 1500 varieties, Selected with great care; it has no equal at the price, forming a really fine collection in itself	Only 45/- registered and post-free.

### The Great Catalogue Question

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Buy Old and Genuine Issues whilst Prices are comparatively Low,

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FREDK. R. GINN, 143, Strand, London.  
ESTABLISHED 20 YEARS.

# STAMP COLLECTORS' FORNIGHTLY

With which are incorporated the "Stamp Collector's Monthly" and the "Stamp Collectors' Guardian."  
 Published every alternate Saturday,  
 at 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C.  
 CONDUCTED BY  
**PERCY C. BISHOP.**

Official Organ of the Edinburgh Philatelic Society, the Rochdale Philatelic Society, the Cambridge University Philatelic Society, the County of Stafford Exchange Society, and the Central Philatelic Club.

No. 130.—Vol. V. SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900. ONE PENNY

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## Philately at Home and Abroad.

### STAMPS THAT ARE "GEFFALLICKEITSABSTEMPELUNG."

A CORRESPONDENT of Ewen's "Weekly Stamp News" states that some sheets of the new Austrian unpaid letter stamps were issued imperforate; but these, like the normal perforated specimens, were not sold to the public. "I have a small lot to dispose of," adds the correspondent. "I can let you have them unused or 'gefälligkeitabstempe- lung.'" It appears that this characteristic German word means "postmarked-to-order."

### THE PHILATELIC WAR FUND AUCTION.

THE Hon. Secretaries of the Philatelic War Fund notify us that this interesting event is fixed for March 28th. Presumably the venue will be St. Martin's Town Hall, but wherever the sale may be held we trust that there will be a full attendance, and that prices will be altogether unprecedented.

### "WE DON'T LIKE YOU, BUT WE'D LIKE YOUR MONEY!"

WE have received from a reader of the *Fornightly* a copy of the "Philatelic Bulletin and Eastern Philatelist," a journal hailing from Massachusetts. There are some people in New England, it seems, who have no great affection for the Old England that gave their forefathers birth; for the leading article in the number under notice, headed "The Transvaal Embroglio, philatelically viewed by J. L. R." is a violent diatribe against the British side of the quarrel.

"News has come (writes the amiable 'J. L. R.') of General

White's defeat at Ladysmith, Gatacre's at Stormberg, and Methuen's at Magersfontein. All honour to the men who so bravely defend their liberties! May Buller be the next to fall."

Now the copy of the paper containing this spiteful article (in which there is only invective and not a trace of argument) is stamped on the cover, "Sample Copy—Your Subscription Solicited," and is evidently one of a batch of specimens mailed to this country. We should imagine that the business manager's head won't ache from the strain of reckoning up the subscriptions received from this country. A manager with any managerial tact would have selected some other number to send out as a lure for British dollars.

### THE WAR; ITS PHILATELIC SIDE.

WE have been privileged to see many interesting envelopes from the seat of war. All those forwarded home by means of the Army Postal Corps bears the same postmark, though the stamps are of all available kinds—Cape, British, Natal and British Bechuanaland stamps. The reduced illustration of the postmark given here is from a drawing and is not an exact replica of the original, as we found it impossible to get a direct photo from the somewhat faint postmark kindly lent us by a reader of the *Fornightly*. Recently we had the pleasure of looking over an interesting collection Mr. Walter Morley is forming of these "War Envelopes." He then possessed postmarks bearing "office number" running from 1 to 16. But if we may believe a recent writer in the "Evening News," however, there are, or soon will be no less than forty Army Postal Stations in South Africa. It will be seen that the office number of the postmark we illustrate is 10.



THE WAR POSTMARK

### TIMBROLOGISTS, 'WARE TUBERCULOSIS.

TERRIBLE, terrible! Philatelists, please read what follows with bated breath.

A surgeon in the French army (says the "Medical Press and Circular") has just discovered that stamp collectors may be the means of disseminating tuberculosis by means of stamps. A man in his employ was a great stamp collector, and occupied his spare time in fixing stamps in albums or on sheets of gummed paper for sale, moistening the stamps for the purpose with his tongue. Three hundred of the stamps were placed in sterilised water, and with some of the water eight guinea-pigs were inoculated. Each died with characteristic tuberculosis lesions. Children should be warned against placing any stamps near their mouths in order to moisten them, and foreign stamps should be disinfected in a 5 per cent solution of carbolic acid before adding them to collections.



But why only foreign stamps? However, that's neither here nor there, because philatelists are not at all likely to add carbolic acid to their accessories. One of these days the "Medical Press and Circular" or some other journal equally wise will gravely advise philatelists not to list the stamps at all, but to affix them to the pages of the album by means of small gummed slips or "hinges." And then we shall be able to have another jolly good laugh. Meanwhile, let us shed a tear for the poor guinea pigs, slain with impure gum to make a surgeon's homily!

**WHICH IS THE MOST-SPECIALISED-IN COUNTRY?**

THE Editor of "Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" has been eliciting the philatelic predilections of some of his readers, with a view to ascertaining the relative position of the various countries in the esteem of stamp collectors. The result up-to-date is as follows:—

- 1 Great Britain.
- 2 United States.
- 3 Canada.
- 4 New Zealand.
- 5 St. Vincent.
- 6 Ceylon.
- 7 Newfoundland.
- 8 South African Republics.
- 9 Tasmania.
- 10 New South Wales.
- 11 Spain and Colonies.
- 12 Sarawak.

Well, well! We should hardly have backed Sarawak for a place in the first dozen ourselves. The prominent position of the British Colonies generally was of course only to be expected from a plebiscite of the readers of a British paper.

**COMPARATIVE RARITY OF THE PENNY PLATE NUMBERS.**

SOME most interesting letters have been published in recent "Philatelists' Supplements to the "Bazaar" on the subject of the comparative rarity of the British penny plate numbers. Mr. G. W. Martin, of Devizes, assuming 140 to be the commonest of all the plates, takes this as his unit and by this means compiles the interesting table given below. This table deals only with those plates of which the actual number issued is known.

Plate No.	Rarity.	Plate No.	Rarity.	Plate No.	Rarity.	Plate No.	Rarity.
140	1'00	80		103	2'45	151	3'47
172	1'08	119	1'98	127	2'48	194	3'57
134	1'23	156		106	2'51	82	3'73
120	1'39	167	1'99	155	2'54	197	3'80
122	1'41	159	2'00	91		100	3'82
138	1'42	96	2'01	166	2'55	178	4'00
150	1'43	165	2'03	163	2'60	109	4'15
79	1'54	94		175	2'61	114	4'21
78	1'59	117	2'05	183		169	4'22
124		181		168	2'62	161	4'22
137	1'64	149	2'06	101	2'63	188	4'24
170	1'71	90	2'08	84	2'66	185	4'43
92	1'73	87	2'12	113	2'68	189	4'50
71	1'75	86		162	2'69	180	4'55
76	1'77	146	2'13	99	2'77	182	4'56
145	1'80	192		98	2'79	115	4'59
97	1'82	172	2'14	116	2'80	108	4'60
95	1'84	93	2'16	201	2'82	142	4'63
		111	2'17	152	3'03	144	4'77
73		157	2'18	107		105	4'85
74	1'85	123	2'19	131	3'06	83	4'92
158		118	2'21	164	3'08	88	4'93
72		129	2'25	110	3'10	139	5'05
160	1'87	125	2'28	199	3'12	135	5'15
81	1'88	187	2'29	176	3'13	210	5'19
85	1'92	154	2'36	112	3'18	141	5'42
148	1'93	147	2'37	186	3'22	104	5'57
89		130	2'38	173	3'23	133	6'94
102	1'95	121		136	3'28	153	7'65
167	1'97	179	2'41	143	3'42	132	10'31

The table necessarily takes no note of plates 174, 177, 184, 190, 191, 193, 195, 198, 200, 203-209, and 211-225—the numbers issued of these plates being at present unknown. Mr. Martin observes that this is especially regrettable with regard to plate 225, "as it would be interesting to know if plate 225 is worth the high price now asked for it, viz., 7s. 6d."

**THE COLLECTORS' GUIDE TO VALUES.**

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Compiled by a  
**COMMITTEE of INDEPENDENT PHILATELISTS.**

This "Guide" is purposely not described as a Catalogue. It has become customary to regard any price called a "catalogue price" as subject to a discount of 25% or 33% or 50%. Not so with the prices we shall publish in our "Collectors' Guide to Values." These will be in all cases absolutely net prices. If we describe a stamp as worth five shillings we mean that it is really worth that sum in the philatelic market. The value we give is the collector's value, and represents the price at which a stamp dealer can sell on the basis of a reasonable trader's profit. At first we shall deal only with British Colonial Stamps.

**BRITISH BECHUANALAND.**

Unused average mint  
Used average fine copy  
Used average very fine copy

1886. *Stamps of the Cape, perf. 14, CC., surcharged:—*  
British Bechuanaland.  
4d blue, black surcharge .. 2/ 1/6 2/ 1/6

*The same, but watermark Crown and CA.*  
½d. black, red surcharge .. 1/9 1/6 1/ 9  
3d. claret, black surcharge .. 1/3 1/ 1/9 1/4

*The same, but wmk. cabled anchor.*  
½d. black .. 1/6 1/2 1/9 1/6  
1d. red .. 2/6 1/6 1/3 1/1  
2d. bistre .. 1/3 1/ 6 1/4  
6d. violet .. 5/ 3/ 3/ 2/3  
1/- green .. 15/ 10/ 12/6 12/6

1887. *British ½d. stamp surcharged:—*  
British Bechuanaland.  
½d. vermilion and black .. 1/2 1/2

*"Unappropriated Dies," surcharged in bottom label:—*  
British Bechuanaland Postage and Revenue.

1d. lilac .. 1/4 1/3  
2d. .. 1/ 1/3  
3d. .. 1/6 1/6  
4d. .. 2/6 1/9  
6d. .. 4/ 1/8  
1/- green .. 2/ 1/ 6  
2/- .. 2/9 3/ 1/6  
2/6 .. 3/6 3/ 1/6  
5/- .. 7/ 7/ 5/  
10/- .. 14/ 14/ 15/  
£1 lilac .. 27/6 30/  
£5 lilac .. 125/

*The same, but with additional surcharges of numerals of value.*  
1d. lilac, black surcharge .. 1/4 1/3 1/4 1/3  
6d. .. 2/6 1/9 1/ 1/9  
1/- green .. 10/ 7/6 3/ 2/  
2d. lilac, red surcharge .. 1/ 1/9 1/9 1/6  
4d. .. 25/ 15/ 20/ 15/  
2d. .. green surcharge .. £5 £5

*The same, surcharged:—*  
One Half-Penny.  
½d. on 3d. lilac .. 25/ 20/0 30/0 25/0  
*Cape Stamp, wmk. cabled anchor, surcharged in green:—*  
British Bechuanaland.  
½d. black .. 1/3 1/4  
.. doubly surcharged .. 35/0

1888. British stamps surcharged in three lines, reading "British—Protectorate—Bechuanaland."	Unused mint	Unused average copy	Used very fine	Used average copy
½d. vermilion .. ..	12		12	
The "Unappropriated Dies," now further surcharged with numerals of value in black (Gibbons' Types 9 and 10).				
1d. lilac .. ..	16		21	
2d. " .. ..	51		41	
3d. " .. ..	251		251	
4d. " .. ..	301		301	
6d. " .. ..	316		316	
The same, but value surcharged in red.				
4d. lilac .. ..	15		151	
The same, without surcharge of value.				
1/- green .. ..	816		416	3
2/- " .. ..	701		701	501
2/6 " .. ..	801		801	501
5/- " .. ..	1101			
10/- " .. ..	1501			
Cape stamps, wmk. Cabled Anchor, surcharged in green in two lines, "Bechuanaland—Protectorate" (Gibbons' Type 11).				
½d. black .. ..	13		16	
The same, doubly surcharged.				
½d. black .. ..	10			
British stamp surcharged in three lines "British-Protectorate-Bechuanaland," as before, but with word "Protectorate" in large letters.				
½d. vermilion .. ..	1716		301	201
The same, but with addition of the word "Fourpence" as third line of surcharge.				
4d. on ½d., vermilion .. ..	116		116	
1891. Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, wmk. Cabled Anchor, with black surcharge "British Bechuanaland" (Gibbons' Type 13) reading upwards.				
1d. red .. ..	19		16	
2d. bistre .. ..	19		6	
British Stamps on the current issue, surcharged "British Bechuanaland" (Gibbons' Type 14) in black.				
1d. lilac .. ..	12		12	
2d. green and red .. ..	6		13	
4d. brown and green .. ..	18		6	
6d. purple on red .. ..	11		19	
1/- green .. ..	2		21	
1893. Cape stamp (Cabled Anchor watermark) with black surcharge, "British Bechuanaland" (Gibbons' Type 13) reading downwards.				
1d. red .. ..	14		14	
2d. bistre .. ..	16		16	
1897. Cape of Good Hope stamp, surcharged in black "British Bechuanaland" (Gibbons' Type 15). Of this stamp there are two types—in Type I. the words "British" and "Bechuanaland" are 13 mm. apart, and in Type II, only 10½ mm. apart.				
½d. green (Type I.) .. ..	2		12	
½d. " ( " II.) .. ..	14		14	
British stamps surcharged "Bechuanaland Protectorate" in black (Gibbons' Type 16).				
½d. vermilion .. ..	1		1	
1d. lilac .. ..	12		12	
2d. green and red .. ..	13		13	
3d. brown on yellow .. ..	16		16	
4d. green and brown .. ..	15		15	
6d. purple on red .. ..	18		18	

## News Notes from all Quarters.

The recognition that different governments of the world are giving Philately is *flattering* to philatelists, but *flattening* to their purses, remarks the Editor of "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News."

Five specimens of those quaint relics of the past, the "Hat Tax" stamps of 1784, fetched £4 7s. 6d. under the hammer at Puttick's.

It won't be long before a penny will frank a letter all the way to Pretoria or Bloemfontein. And then the *Fortnightly* will again be in direct communication with many good friends in those parts who, owing to circumstances over which they have no control, have been unable to write us with congratulations on our "resuscitation."

'Tis said that a letter was handed in at a post office in India, addressed to Ladysmith and marked "For Delivery by Pigeon Post." The Postmaster returned it with the request: "Please attach Pigeon!" Next, please!

A stamp collector (?) remarks that during the Chinese and Spanish-American Wars "war stamps" were issued, and he suggests that if this example were followed now it would help to lessen the increase of taxation which will follow the war. Thus a paper known as "Inventions"—a dangerous sort of title for any journal to adopt.

It is most persistently stated in the Press, that on the day of the opening of the Paris Exhibition, the new French stamps of 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 centimes (already described and illustrated in the *Fortnightly*), will be placed on sale; but—*nous verrons!* We have had French essays before.

The "Morning Leader" says of the old 1d. Cape stamp (now, or soon to be, obsolete), that "its chief feature was a figure of Hope leaning somewhat drunkenly against an anchor." The new stamp is declared to be a more ambitious production.

"Ewen's Weekly Stamp News" contains a large-type "Warning" to philatelists that many £1 British stamps with forged overprint of "I.R. Official" are on the market. Forgeries of these stamps—the 5s. and 10s. as well as the £1 value—have been known for years; but it may be that there has been an increase in the forger's "output" recently.

Mr. R. Tyeth Stevens notifies "Morley's Philatelic Journal" of some interesting discoveries. He has found the 8 skill brown of Iceland, 1873, perforated 13½ on the right side by 12½ on the three other sides. In Tuscany he has the 9 crazie brown-purple on blue paper without watermark. This is not one of the reprints on unwatermarked paper, for Mr. Stevens himself removed the stamp from the original cover.

"The latest fad of the ultra fashionable is the banishment of the envelope," says a writer of "Women's Gossip." "We have gone back to the olden days when the red wafers, sealing-wax, and folded paper were all that custom demanded or knew." Have we really! We still need one horrid modern thing, though—a postage stamp.

After Omaha, Guam, and Buffalo, the Americans must expect Uncle Sam to be deemed, and spoken of, as the World's leading stamp dealer. "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" itself remarks that the largest concern in the stamp business is the United States Government.

Mr. J. K. Tudor-Risk writes to the "Pall Mall Gazette," under date February 23rd: "Travelling last year in Spain, I observed all letters posted in Spain for that country had an extra black stamp, corresponding in value to our halfpenny stamp, called the war stamp. Surely this was a very wise way of adding largely to the revenue required for the debt caused by the American-Spanish war. Could not this tax be adopted in Great Britain?"

The Natal Government, through its Agent-General, Sir Walter Peace, informs Mr. J. W. Palmer, of Catherine Street, that his suggestion of an issue of special stamps in aid of the sufferers from the war cannot be entertained.

# The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

LONDON, MARCH 3, 1900.

Editor . . . . . PERCY C. BISHOP.  
Business Manager . . . . . SYDNEY BISHOP.

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Six Months (12 numbers) ... 1 6

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At the moment of going to press we are gladdened by the glorious news of Ladysmith's relief. The Best News following closely upon the grand *coup* at this Year. Paardeberg, Not only will Mr. Alfred Jingle be much gratified, but the *Fortnightly* will have its "line of communication" restored with the beleaguered city, wherein are many old and faithful subscribers to our journal.

\* \* \*

The Special Auction Sale whereat will be sold the gifts of stamps, &c., received by the Hon. Secretaries of the Philatelists' War Relief Fund, is now finally fixed for March 28th.

We beg that any intending contributors among the *Fortnightly's* readers who have so far delayed sending in their "mites,"—whether in cash or in kind—will lose no further time, but at once forward their contributions to the Hon. Secretaries, War Relief Fund, c/o the Philatelic Society, Effingham House, Arundel Street, London, W.C.

Results, so far, are good, the estimated total value of the donations up-to-date being over £800.

It is somewhat extraordinary, and certainly most regrettable, that, although many individual philatelists in the provinces have given generously to the Fund, the provincial Philatelic Societies, in their corporate capacity, have not taken at all kindly to the scheme. One does not like to suggest motives, much less to accuse any of the societies outside London of indulging in petty jealousies; but there remains the fact that the Philatelic Society's initiative in this matter has been very largely cold-shouldered. Yet one would have thought that in a good cause all little frictions or differences would be sunk, and that philatelists throughout the country would work loyally together without a thought as to who gave the ball of benevolence its first kick!

Enough! we have felt called upon to enter our protest, and that shall suffice. The Philatelic War Fund bids fair to realise something like £1000 in aid of the Mansion House and "Daily Telegraph" Funds, and that is a result of which philatelists may well be proud. To the Committee of the War Fund, and to the Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Walter Bull and Herbert R. Oldfield is due great credit for a vigorous and successful campaign of charity.

\* \* \*

At the present moment we have no opportunity of judging how many readers of the *Fortnightly* are participating in Our War Fund Competition. The "S.C.F." Competition. but we earnestly appeal to every reader to fill at least one form and send in the same before Saturday next, March 10th. It is perhaps needless to say that the sender of any form may mark his contribution "Not for Competition" if he so desires.

Mr. M. P. Castle, Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society, has kindly consented to judge of the merits of the various contributions to our little section of the War Fund; and those who compete for the cash and other prizes offered may rest assured of a scrupulously fair arbitration.

It is most necessary that all sendings of stamps except from distant countries (as explained in our No. 128) should be in our hands not later than Saturday next, March 10th, as the date for the War Auction is now near at hand.

\* \* \*

With the next number, the *Fortnightly* enters upon a new volume—the Sixth. We contemplate at an

Our early date a partial re-modelling of the New Volume. paper; but while introducing many new features we shall retain all those which have helped to popularise our journal in the past. In this number an old and genial friend, Mr. Alfred Jingle, re-appears upon the scene of his earlier triumphs, and another valued feature of the *Fortnightly* in past years, "Forgers and their Work," is revived. We have also entered into satisfactory arrangements with many eminent philatelists to contribute scientific and other papers to future numbers of the *Fortnightly*. For our next issue, for instance, we have an excellent paper on Egypt, by Mr. G. Johnson, B.A., of the Birmingham Society, and another on Brazil, by a well-known specialist of that country, Mr. Evan Roberts, of the Manchester Society. The typographical and other improvements we shall introduce into our next number will, we think, make No. 131 of the *Fortnightly* the best issue in the history of this journal.

## The Sacred Head of King Bomba.

HERE is an interesting bit of history from one of the closing instalment of the late Mr. Westoby's work on "The Adhesive Stamps of Europe," now drawing to a conclusion in the "Bazaar." The chapter under notice deals with the stamps of Sicily:—

Although postage stamps were issued in Naples on 1st January, 1858, no issue was made in Sicily till 1st January of the following year. The great cause of delay seems to have been in the selection of a design. It was considered that as the arms had been made the subject of the design in Naples, the head of his Majesty should figure on those for Sicily; this gave rise to much deliberation, and among the points discussed was the impropriety of cancelling the stamp by Annulato across the head of his most sacred majesty, especially as a spirit of rebellion was very rife in Sicily. That difficulty was at last overcome by suggesting a cancelling stamp which should only obliterate the frame, leaving the head of his majesty untouched; and on the 28th February, 1858, the various proposals were submitted to the king. These proposals are found in a little work published by M. Moens, who translated them from the original document, and were:



- 1st. A photographic proof of the sacred head of the King, our august Lord, to be engraved by the celebrated Aloisio.
- 2nd. A drawing of the cancelling stamp.
- 3rd. A design of the stamp and the proposed colours.
- 4th. A design of the stamp cancelled in the manner proposed.

The whole were approved by the king, whose next act was to sign a decree, dated 5th July, 1858, regulating the post, and announcing that postage stamps would be issued 1st January, 1859.

The Sicilian stamp as engraved by "the celebrated Aloisio" is well known to us all, and a remarkably handsome stamp it is. We have reproduced above the design of the hand-stamp prepared for the purpose of obliterating the stamp, while (as Mr. Westoby wrote) "preserving immaculate the sacred head of King Bomba!"

## COMING EVENTS IN PHILATELY.

- March 5th.—Messrs. John Edwards & Co.'s Sale at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet St., London, E.C.  
March 6th and 7th.—Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's Sale at 47, Leicester Square, W.C.  
March 8th and 9th.—Messrs. Plumridge & Co.'s Auction at the Arbitration Room, 63 and 64, Chancery Lane, W.C.  
March 15th and 16th.—Messrs. Ventom, Bull & Cooper's Sale at St. Martin's Town Hall, Charing Cross, W.C.

Notes on New Issues.

In this column we desire to publish prompt news as to all changes and contemplated changes in the postal issues of the world. We shall welcome any information that readers at home or abroad can send us, and (unless a request to the contrary be expressed) the fullest acknowledgment will be given.

**Cape of Good Hope.**—We now illustrate the new penny Cape stamp, already described. The design would be more effective, perhaps, if there were a little less of it.



Adhesive, 1d. carmine, wmk. Anchor, perf. 14.  
Post Card, 1d. red on buff.

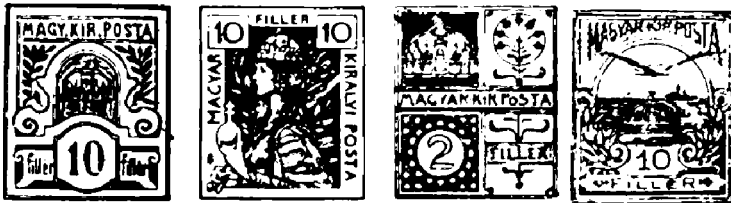
In ultra "Jingo" circles there is much criticism of the stamp on the ground that "there is no trace of Her Majesty or the British Crown about it."

Messrs. Myerscough & Co. send us a specimen of the new Cape post card, with oval stamp, inscribed "Cape of Good Hope—One Penny."

**Gold Coast.**—Messrs. Myerscough & Co. have favoured us with a specimen of the new 1s. stamp just to hand. The stamp is of the current De la Rue type; colours green and black. The specimen we have received is postmarked: "Axim, January 13th, 1900."

Adhesive, 1s. green and black.

**Hungary.**—From the *D.B.Z.* we reproduce a few of the designs submitted for the new Hungarian stamps. We fancy that when these are regarded side by side with the



A few of the Essays. The Chosen Stamp

design actually chosen it will be conceded that, to put it in sporting parlance, it is not always the best horse that wins!

**Iceland.**—A new value of the current type has appeared—4 aur. The "aur" of Iceland is approximately equal to the "ore" of the Suzerain State of Denmark, 100 aur going to one krona, equal to about 1s. 1½d., British money. Iceland having hitherto worried along without a 4 aur stamp, the new value is probably occasioned by some change in the inland postal rate.

Adhesive, 4 aur, pink and grey.

**Japanese China.**—Here is an issue of stamps calculated to send that imperious old lady the Dowager Empress of China into quite a long series of fits. "Japanese China!"—only a decade ago how we should have rubbed our eyes at the mere name! Thanks to the promptitude of Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., we are in a position to give early news of the issue of special stamps to

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be used at Japanese Post Offices in China. These consist of the ordinary Japanese stamps surcharged at foot with the characters shown in our enlarged illustration. The actual surcharge on the stamps is less than a quarter of the size of the cut given here. We have the whole set up to 50 sen. surcharged in this manner.

**Nicaragua.**—In the last *Fortnightly* we gave full lists of the new stamps, both postal, official and unpaid, with illustrations of the ordinary adhesives and the unpaid letter stamps. We now illustrate the official stamp, unquestionably the most "presentable" of the lot. The printing of this stamp is certainly most creditable even to those masters of the art, the American Bank Note Company.



**Sarawak.**—In addition to the colour changes noted in our No. 127 (page 190) we have now to record the alteration of the 2 cents to green, in accordance with Postal Union requirements. Messrs. Myerscough & Co. send us a specimen.

Adhesive, 2c. green, current type.

**Siam.**—The new set of stamps, specimens of which Messrs. Whitfield King have sent us, show the head of King Chulalongkorn in profile. Values and colours:—1 att. green; 2 atts. green; 3, red and blue; 4, dark red; 8, dark green and yellow; 10, indigo; 12, brown and carmine; 24, slate-brown and blue; 64, slate-brown and pale brown.



**Sweden.**—From a correspondent in Stockholm we have received the 1 krona, of the design annexed. Colours grey-black and carmine.

Adhesive, 1 krona

**Tasmania.**—The 1d. and 2d. stamps of the new picture series have reached this country. They are thus critically described and commented upon by Mr. P. Malone in a letter to the "Australian Philatelist."

The stamps are of large size, 32x24 m.m., printed apparently from engraved copper plates, similarly to the current Tongan. The 1d. contains a large view of the old dam used in connection with the Cascade Brewery water supply, and grandiloquently termed the "Mountain Lake," with snow-clad Mount Wellington in the background. A somewhat simple frame encloses the view, and the name "Tasmania" in small white Roman capitals is placed in a straight line at the top, "Mount Wellington" in coloured letters in an arch below, flanked by "1d." in white or coloured shield at each side; shape, rectangular. The 2d. contains a view of Hobart with Mount Wellington in the background, taken from Rosny Point, copied from Captain Forrest's well known and wonderfully accurate painting. Name in white capitals above, value in figures (2d.) in colour on white shields in upper angles, "Hobart" in small coloured capitals below; shape, oblong rectangular. The watermark consists of the abbreviation "TAS." in sloping letters running diagonally in rows, repeated throughout the sheet. This watermark appears three times complete, and four times partially, on each stamp. It is so marked as to give a stained or greasy appearance to the face of the 1d. stamp wherever the letters fall. The perforation is 14.



The new stamps are being issued as the result of the representations of a body known as the Southern Tourists' Association. They are intended to boom Tasmania, and provided no fancy varieties are introduced we sincerely trust they will!

Adhesives, 1d. carmine (Mount Wellington).  
2d. purple (Hobart).



**Venezuela.**—From Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. we have the 5c., 10c., 25c., 50c. and 1 bolivar ordinary adhesives and the 25c. registered stamps of Venezuela surcharged "Resellada—R.F.M." Why, goodness knows! But by the time the next *Fortnightly* appears we hope to have successfully wrestled with the problem.

# Our Review

## of Reviews.

### Fiscals that "Postalists" Collect.

There are many stamps coming under this heading. One notable group is the series of Imperial Journal stamps of Austria, which one finds in Gibbons' catalogue, although (as "Morley's Philatelic Journal" remarks), "they have served no postal purpose, and the most that can be said for them is that they have postal associations." Mr. E. W. Wetherall, well-known by his writings on Austria and Austrian Italy, has recently contributed to the "Philatelic Journal of India," an interesting description of the aforesaid newspaper-tax stamps of Austria. An excellent summary of his remarks thereupon will be found in No. 2 of "Morley's Philatelic Journal," which by the way, is a far better issue in every way than No. 1.

The contributors to this second number of "M.P.J." are Messrs. R. Tyeth Stevens, Walter Morley, A. White, "K.," Jean Verzijl, and L. W. Fulcher, and the Editor, Mr. A. Preston Pearce; and between them these gentlemen compile a most interesting journal for collectors of postal, fiscal and telegraph stamps, with the accent on the fiscal.

### A Timely Article on Natal.

The virtue of "topicality" attaches to Mr. Gordon Smith's article on "The Provisional Halfpenny Stamps of Natal" in the "Monthly Journal," but it is an article that would have been almost equally welcome at any time. Mr. Smith describes the varieties of five distinct  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisionals issued at various dates "owing to the want of halfpenny stamps from which the colony has suffered from time to time." We shall briefly summarise his discoveries and conclusions:—

**No. 1:** The  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisionals of 1877 (Gibbons' Nos. 88 and 89, surcharged with Types 19 and 20—we quote the 1900 Edition of the Catalogue) show a dual surcharge—"½" and "half," the two overprints having been separately applied. Mr. Gordon Smith opines that the figures were first printed, and being found ineffective, the word was added. It is improbable that any stamps bearing the numeral surcharge only were put into circulation. The following varieties are noted:—

- (a) Large figures, uniform in appearance.
- (b) Medium size figure; "2" with straight foot, as in (a).
- (c) With figure "1" as in (b), but figure "2" smaller.
- (d) The same figure "1," but "2" with curly head and curled foot.
- (e) Both figures smaller, the "2" with straight foot.

These, Mr. Gordon Smith tells us, can all be separated "without optical assistance," but under a glass further subdivisions could probably be made.

**No. 2:** The 1d. yellow fiscal stamp, wmk. C.C., perf. 12½, surcharged "Postage Halfpenny" in two lines, and with original value at foot barred out, show, first of all, great variableness in the cancelling bars. Then as regards varieties of the lettering of the surcharge:—

In the lettering the word "Half-penny" is very uniform, but "POSTAGE" shows many small varieties, a circular letter "o," instead of an oval, being fairly plentiful. The other letters, especially the "s" and "A," are found smaller than they should be, but in many cases this is only due to defective inking.

The prominent variety is "po rAGE" with the "s" missing. This is not a temporary mishap, but is found with the 1d. surcharge as well. From the inspection of a complete sheet I am enabled to fix its position as the third stamp in the eighth row.

There are also (a) surcharge inverted, and (b) surcharge omitted, the latter being found in a vertical pair, the lower stamp of which is entirely innocent of overprint. The variety without "S" must have existed in the inverted state, and (remarks the writer of the article) "should be a very rare stamp."

**No. 3** is the 1d. rose, C.A., surcharged "ONE HALF-PENNY" in two lines. Mr. R. Ehrenbach, we are told, possesses these varieties: (a) Surcharge inverted; (b): surcharged twice; (c): surcharged twice, once inverted. These variations are now catalogued, unpriced, in the new "Gibbons."

**No. 4:** On the subject of the fourth halfpenny provisional (the 6d. violet, C.C., perf. 12½, with carmine surcharge 'Postage' and 'Halfpenny' in two lines), Mr. Gordon Smith writes at some length, having evidently made a most exhaustive study of large quantities of this stamp. The setting of the fancy capitals of the word "Postage" seems to have been done "just anyhow," there being eight distinct varieties in the setting of sixty surcharges. We reproduce the types here, and also Mr. Gordon Smith's plan of the "setting" of five rows of twelve stamps, these combining clearly to show the exact distribution and relative rarity of the various types."

### POSITION IN "SETTING" OF 60 STAMPS.

Type		Stamps
1	POSTAGE Nos. 6, 18, 19, 21, 22, 30, 31, 33, 34, 42, 43, 1	18
2	POSTAGE Nos. 1, 2, 5, 8, 14, 16, 38 .. .. .	7
3	POSTAGE Nos. 9, 24, 47, 50, 59, 60 .. .. .	6
4	POSTAGE Nos. 7, 10, 49 .. .. .	3
5	POSTAGE Nos. 23, 26, 32, 35, 36, 48 .. .. .	6
6	POSTAGE Nos. 3, 4, 12, 15, 20, 28, 37 .. .. .	7
7	POSTAGE Nos. 13, 17, 27, 29, 40, 52 .. .. .	6
8	POSTAGE Nos. 11, 25, 39, 41, 44, 53, 56 .. .. .	7
		Total 60

Thus Type 1 is the commonest and Type 4 the scarcest. Following is the setting of the sixty stamps (which setting had to be four times repeated for the sheet of 240 stamps):—

2	2	6	6	2	1	4	2	3	4	8	6
7	2	6	2	7	1	1	6	1	1	5	3
8	5	7	6	7	1	1	5	1	1	5	5
6	2	8	7	8	1	1	8	1	1	3	5
4	3	1	7	8	1	1	8	1	1	3	3

**No 5:** The last stamp dealt with in Mr. Gordon Smith's article is, of course, the 1d. CA. with black surcharge "HALF," in large fancy capitals. Though a few of the letters show slight defects, Mr. Smith is of opinion that "these do not constitute varieties which should appeal to a sane collector."

### Wanted, a Philatelic Library.

Mr. Nankivell, in the February issue of the "Philatelic Record," asks, "Where is the Philatelic Society in this country that can boast of a comprehensive Philatelic Library?" The answer is silence. Here, as in so many other things, what is everybody's business is nobody's business. Mr. Castle has most generously promised to leave his library to the London Society—at his death. But as we all earnestly desire that Mr. Castle shall live another century or two to edit the "London Philatelist" and vice-preside over the London Society, this does not bring us much "forrader." 'Tis strange that while there are so many

excellent private philatelic libraries in this country—such as those of Mr. E. D. Bacon, Mr. Castle, and Mr. Charles J. Phillips, to mention only three instances—there is absolutely no good collection of philatelic reference books open to the public. The suggestion is made that the matter should be taken up by the Philatelic Society. Of course it is easy to make suggestions. For our part we should prefer to see somebody taking up this matter on a commercial footing with a view to the creation of a Philatelic "Mudies"—on, of course, a very modest scale. If well and sensibly managed, we believe that a profit could be made.

**"Weekly Stamp News"—Two of it!**

There is Ewen's "Weekly Stamp News" of Norwood, and there is Mekeel's "Weekly Stamp News" of St. Louis: and the latter began its New Year by extending its operations to London. The "London Edition" of "Mekeel" is disseminated through the agency of Messrs. G. Hamilton-Smith and Co., of Bishopgate Street, E.C. The first "London Special" showed a fine procession of what are called in the States "write-ups"—descriptions of the leading stamp businesses in London. A little of this sort of thing is acceptable, but we also look for Philately in a philatelic journal. Beware, good Mekeel! lest the other "Weekly Stamp News" retaliate by inaugurating an "American Edition."

**A New Issue Chronicle in Colours.**

That most enterprising German publication, the "Illustrirte Briefmarken Journal" ("Senf Brothers, Leipzig), has broken its previous records by the inauguration of a coloured new issue chronicle. The new stamps are shown in their actual colours, and marvellously well "matched" some of the shades are! Here we might do the same thing were it not for the gentlemen of the Inland Revenue!

**The Youngest Philatelic Prize Medallist.**

Mr. F. J. Melville has favored us with advance proofs of a projected new journal, "The Young Stamp Collector." The first number is to contain an illustrated sketch of Mr. E. D. Bacon ("Our National Philatelist"); the first of a series of articles headed, "The Beginner's Guide"; some Editorial Notes, and an "interview" with Master S. J. Higgins, the fourteen-year-old philatelist who won three medals at the Manchester Philatelic Exhibition. Master Higgins—a Manchester boy—is a specialist, if you please! Great Britain being the country of his patriotic choice. Here's more power to his elbow for he has all the pluck and perseverance of a true philatelist.

**Other Papers we have received.**

Since the preparation of our last "Review" we have received: "Stamps" (Rushden); "American Journal of Philately" (New York); "Le Philatliste Francaise" (Paris); "Austrian Philatelist" (Sydney); "Stamp Collectors' Journal" (Bury St. Edmunds); "Die Post" (Leipzig); "Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung" (Leipzig); "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" (St. Louis); and "The Bazaar," with "Philatelists' Supplement" (London).

**The Advertising Rates are as follows:—**

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

Advertisements should be sent in not later than the Monday preceding date of publication, addressed "Advertisement Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C."

**TWIXT EDITOR AND READER**



Please Address all Letters:—

The Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnighly*, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WHEN, in our last issue, we described Mr. M. P. Castle as "Philately's only J.P." we spoke, or wrote, in a Pickwickian sense—perhaps a little too Pickwickian. Mr. A. Preston Pearce thinks that there must be "many philatelic justices," and cites, as an instance, the Vice-President of the Cardiff Society. Again, Mr. J. P. Haslam, of Bolton, writes in a genial strain, regretting to rob Mr. Castle of the greatness we have thrust upon him, but at the same time insisting that he, too, is a J.P. for the county of Lancaster, and a philatelist since 1862. Now, here's a curious thing: Mr. Haslam is "J. P. Haslam, J.P." but Mr. Castle is not yet "M. P. Castle, M.P." We have long thought that the popular "V.P." of the London Society ought to become "M.P." if only for the sake of symmetry, and we trust that one of these fine days a vacancy in the representation of Brighton will bring Mr. Castle to the hustings. Since Mr. Tapling's death philately has, we believe, no representative at St. Stephen's.

"The 'Great Unissued Question' (writes Mr. J. P. Haslam in the letter already mentioned) is to my mind inseparable from the Unused Question as if collectors accepted used in preference to unused the unissued stamps would find no market." The same view is held by Mr. Heginbotham, of Rochdale, a well-known supporter of the "Used" side of the old, old argument.

From Mr. W. R. Lane Joynt, of Dublin, we have received the following interesting letter:—

I am glad to see that the "Guardian" is now amalgamated with the S.C.F. The combined forces should be able to produce a paper second to none in philatelic interest.

I. Although implied, it is not stated in the announcement of your P.W.F. Competition that all stamps sent in on your forms will be sold at the Auction to be held by Mr. Bull, in aid of the Fund. If such is the case, I think it would be well to mention it in your next issue. (Yes; it is the case. Ed.)

II. I hope that the Auction Reports (in a modified form), will again be made a feature of your paper. I would suggest that only the prices realized by

- (a) Mint copies.
- (b) Rarities.

(c) Stamps illustrated in the auctioneers' catalogues should be given. I trust you will give the latter in the case of the Hunter sale, as many collectors on this side of the Atlantic have received atal ogues.

III. Do you still make arrangements for binding subscribers numbers of the S.C.F.? and with what number do yo propose that the present volume will end?

Mr. Joynt's last query will have been fully answered in the "Special Announcements to Readers" published in our last number. With regard to the question of Auction Reports we are hampered by the great difference of opinion as to the real value of these lists as a guide to prices or even as a reliable guide to market tendencies. But we are seriously considering the question of agam publishing full Auction Reports.

Many answers to correspondents are unavoidably held over.

**LEGAL QUERIES AND REPLIES.**

Under this heading we shall be pleased to insert legal queries connected with Philatelic dealings and commercial disputes, and to reply to the same. The advice will be given by a Solicitor well acquainted with Philately and the trade, and competent to deal with the matter referred to. Please address all queries: The Law Editor, *Stamp Collectors' Fortnighly*, 77 and 78 High Holborn, London.

# PHILATELICALS AND By ALFRED JINGLE. PHILATELICALS

Author of "Gossip of the Hour" in former issues of the Fortnightly.

I DO hate to be interrupted when I'm on a big scheme. The other evening I was just mapping out a plan to cut a tunnel all the way from 77/78, High Holborn to Somerset House, in order to secure the British Stamps not enumerated in Mr. Charles J. Phillips' list, and I'd made up my mind to follow the course of the projected new County Council thoroughfare (so as to be quite undisturbed for a year or two) and I'd got as far as making up my mind to roof in the tunnel with a stout layer of scones and buns from the British Tea Table downstairs, when a dirty, ragged seller of British Victories and All-the-Winners, thrust his head in the door of the Fortnightly office, shouting:—

"Y'are! Ladysmith relieved at last, pore girl!"

I bought a paper, and absent mindedly handed the youth a Fortnightly to read. Of course the "relief" was only another rumour. I have paid some pounds for the relief of Ladysmith during the past few months, for I have a most tremendous personal interest in the beleaguered city. Sometime ago I sent a valuable parcel of stamps to an acquaintance there, and if Buller doesn't hurry up, and Ladysmith falls, how do I go on? There have been moments when, in my mind's eye, I have pictured my stamps decorating the walls of Joubert's own particular den in the Boer head laager. Cheerful, eh? Oh, it's a trying time for White and me; but if what I hear from a friend who lodges with a man who bites a pen all day in the War Office is "good goods," then Ladysmith will be relieved before the number of the Fortnightly for which I am now writing is on tap.

I am prepared to value any stamps sent to me by the readers of the Fortnightly—in fact I shall value most highly anything that my admirers may see fit to send to me, addressed A. Jingle, Esq., c/o The Editor. !

"They've given the London dealers a good show, haven't they?" remarked an individual the other day, referring to the Philatelic Section of the Paris Exhibition. Never mind about the name of the individual. Let us suppose he was the now famous Man in the Street.

The remark referred to the composition of the "Jury" of the aforesaid Philatelic Section, and it was "spoke sarcastic," for it appears that there is no English dealer "On the Board" at all. This seems a poor return for the courtesies

† Mr. Jingle is a little ambiguous here. Perhaps in the interests of our readers it will be as well to open in the office any letters addressed to our garrulous contributor. ED.

that we have extended to Frenchmen in the past.

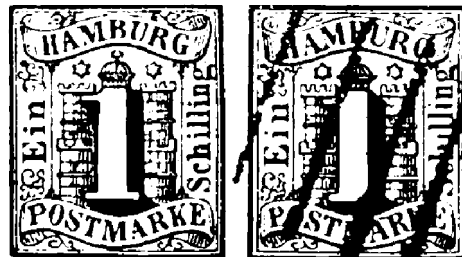
*Perfid* Albion is left out in the *perfid* cold!—that just puts it in a nutshell, for there is no doubt that political ill-feeling has in this instance been imported into Philately, although I should have deemed even French philatelists to be above such childish tactics. A. JINGLE.

## Forgers and their Work.

Our aim is to give the latest news from all available sources as to new or recent philatelic forgeries. We invite assistance from all able to give it, with a view to the *early denunciation* of dangerous frauds in the interests of philatelists generally.—Ed., S.C.F.

Cuba.—The "Mitteldentsche Philatelisten Zeitung" (Gössnitz) describes a recent Cuban fraud. This is the green  $\frac{1}{2}$  milésima de peso stamp with fraudulent overprint, "Habilitado 3 cents" in black. The fraud was brought to light by means of the exchange section of the "Union of Philately" in Kiel.

Hamburg, 1st Issue.—We reproduce, again from the "Mitteldentsche Philatelisten Zeitung," an illustrated description of what is *prima facie*—and in a literal sense of that expression—a dangerous forgery of the imperforate 1 sch. brown Hamburg. We give hereunder enlarged illustrations of both the genuine and the forged stamps:—



GENUINE.

FORGED.

At first glance, even though it be placed alongside the genuine stamp, the forgery looks "all right;" but a closer examination will reveal its defects. These lie principally in the inscriptions. Following are the salient differences:—

- (1) The letters both of "Hamburg" and "Postmarke" are rather larger in the forged than in the genuine stamp.
- (2) The "P" of "Postmarke," in the forgery, has a noticeably narrower head.
- (3) In the ribbon-ends the shade strokes of the forgery are longer. The top ribbon does not rest upon the ornaments at the head of the vertical lines as in the genuine stamp.
- (4) The paper of the forgery is a little whiter and thinner, the design showing faintly through at the back.

Moreover—and this, perhaps, is most important of all—the watermark is missing. Still, one is not always in a position to look for watermarks, and consequently the points enumerated above are of great interest and importance.

## Philatelic Societies' Reports

### BIRMINGHAM PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

JAN. 4th, 1900. Messrs. Preston Lamb and E. Rizzo were unanimously elected members.

Mr. W. Pimm displayed his collection of British North America and gave a running commentary on the varieties which needed any such explanation.

Feb. 1st. Messrs. J. Thackrah, A. Saad-djan and A. de Meester were unanimously elected members.

Mr. G. Johnson then gave his paper on the stamps of Egypt, illustrating it by his collection.

The two types of each value of the first issue were explained and illustrated; imperfs. of this issue and imperfs. between vertically and horizontally of the 1867 issue were shewn. The 1872-75 issue was arranged so as to show the varieties of perf., simple and compound, certain values being unknown in some of the perfs. The arrangement of the sheet in the case of the so-called "5 paras with inverted centre" was shewn by means of a small chart. The paper will be published in the S.C.F.

Mr. W. T. Wilson also shewed an exceptionally fine lot including such desirable stamps as the high values of the first issue used; the various inverted surcharges; a block of nine of the 2½ piastres of the 1872 issue with the centre stamp inverted.

A subsequent discussion on the 5 piastres 1886 (no wmk.), which is being offered from certain foreign sources at high prices, brought out the general idea that it was a proof with faded perforations.

Hon. Sec. & Treas.: Mr. G. JOHNSON, B.A.,  
Official Address: 208, Birchfield Road,  
Birmingham.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

A GENERAL MEETING was held on the 30th January, 1900, at Mr. Larmour's residence, No. 60, Bentinck Street, Calcutta. Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. A. Harris being in the chair.

The following officers were elected for the year 1900:—President, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson; Vice-Presidents, Lady Collen, and Messrs. C. E. Larmour, D. P. Mason, W. Dornier Beckett; Editor of Journal, Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson; Sub-Editor, Mr. W. James; Honorary Treasurer, Mr. P. A. Selve; Honorary Secretary; Mr. W. Corfield (25, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta); Members of Council, the above ex-officio, and Major L. E. du Moulin, Major E. B. Evans, Major F. H. Hancock, Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. A. Harris, Major C. H. I. Hopkins, Professor O. V. Muller, and Messrs. G. A. Anderson, J. Cornwall, W. S. Coutts, T. Hoffman, C. F. Larmour, G. I. Melbourn, Goodwin Norman, E. Sasson Gubbay, F. N. Schiller, J. A. Tilleard, and J. N. O. Thorston.

Mr. Corfield laid before the meeting a proposal for the amalgamation (under certain conditions) of the Philatelic Society of India with the Philatelic Society of London (the Society retaining its individuality as the Indian section of the London Society), on and from the 31st December, 1900, and stated that he had suggested a scheme, with this in view, to the President in Lahore, who had expressed his full approval of it. After a discussion the meeting cordially accepted the proposal in principle, and it was resolved that a special committee be appointed, consisting of Lieutenant-Colonel Harris, and Messrs. Corfield, Larmour, Masson, and Stewart-Wilson, to approach the London Society by letter with the object of ascertaining if they would be prepared to entertain the proposal.

# Stanley Gibbons' "British Empire" Catalogue.

SPECIALY REVIEWED FOR THE "Fortnightly" BY HUBERT F. LOWE.

A STAMP Catalogue, such as that issued by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, serves two distinct purposes. The collector uses it in the first place as a Standard List of stamps issued, which assists him in identifying and arranging his specimens.

In the second place, the collector makes use of it as a Guide to the Market Values of stamps. We propose to consider to what extent it is fitted to perform these two functions.

## I.—THE CATALOGUE AS A STANDARD LIST.

The volume recently published purports to catalogue the adhesive postage stamps of the British Empire. For some reason which we are unable to fathom, the telegraph stamps of Great Britain, including those issued by private companies, are listed in it. Of course we must admit that these telegraph stamps are interesting, and are collected by some persons who collect postage stamps also, but this hardly supplies an adequate reason for their inclusion in a catalogue of postage stamps. The catalogue again professes to deal with adhesive stamps, yet some stamps are included which are not adhesives.

The first two stamps of the Falkland Islands were impressions struck by hand stamps on letters, to indicate that the postage had been paid. From a philatelist's point of view they appear to be no more important than the stamps used in London to-day on circulars and the like posted in large quantities. Nearly all the copies of these so-called stamps that we have seen have not been cut from envelopes actually used, but are impressions struck to order on sheets

of paper after the use of the old hand stamps had been rendered unnecessary by the issue of a set of adhesives.

Such impressions should clearly be regarded as reprints, and reprinted postmarks are not in our opinion of much philatelic interest. Though we find that the Catalogue is not strictly confined to adhesive postage stamps, we must admit that it is now confined to the British Empire. When Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, decided in 1897 to catalogue the stamps of the British Empire and those of other countries in separate volumes, they appear to have had some difficulty in determining the limits of the Empire. At that time they apparently were of opinion that Sarawak was not a British possession and that Tonga was one. The error as regards Sarawak they corrected in the 1899 edition, while their other mistake was, a few months ago, rectified for them by Her Majesty's Government. Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, may certainly claim credit for having foreseen three years ago that Tonga would become a British Protectorate in December, 1899. If, however, the editors of the Catalogue do really possess the power of "intelligently anticipating" events why have they not increased the list of British possessions by adding the two States in South Africa, which seem likely to become British Colonies or Protectorates in the immediate future?

An error to which attention has been called before now in philatelic papers is still perpetuated. The stamps issued by the Maharaja of Indore are catalogued under Holkar, which

*(Continued on Page XI. of Supplement.)*

## Philatelic War Fund Prize Competition.

*(In Aid of the Philatelists' War Relief Fund, promoted under the auspices of the Philatelic Society, London.)*

**1st PRIZE: £3 CASH.      2nd PRIZE: £2 CASH.      LADIES' PRIZE: £1 CASH.**

12 or more Consolation Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the Results of the Competition.

SIX STAMPS MAY BE ATTACHED TO EACH OF THESE FORMS:


The Competition closes on Saturday, March 10th, by which date all stamps (except from readers in distant countries as explained in No. 128), should be sent in to the Competition Department, STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY, 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.



# x. Supplement to the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

STANLEY GIBBONS' BRITISH EMPIRE CATALOGUE.

(Continued from Page IX.)

is the Maharaja's name, just as Sindlu is the name of the Maharaja of Gwalior.

Now as to the actual lists of stamps under the various countries. One important change has been made in the new edition of the Catalogue, namely, the omission from the lists of proofs and stamps prepared for use but not issued. In former editions, certain proofs, such as the Cape 1d. triangular watermarked Crown and CC., were catalogued as if they were issued stamps.

Proofs are undoubtedly of interest to the stamp collector, but either all should be catalogued or none; there is no reason for picking out a few here and there. Notes have been inserted in the Catalogue explaining why stamps formerly listed are now omitted, and the paragraphs of useful information about certain issues have been largely added to. These additions have materially increased the value of the volume.

Although on the whole good judgment has been exercised in relegating minor varieties to their proper position, it is possible to detect some inconsistencies in the treatment of them. The surcharged stamps of Morocco for instance with inverted V for A are listed at full length, whereas the stamps of Fiji, in which the converse error occurs, are merely mentioned in a footnote. The lists of New South Wales stamps differing only in perforation are we think unnecessarily elaborate for the general collector. It is perhaps difficult to classify the perforations, but not more so than in the case of South Australia, in the case of which the difficulty has been satisfactorily grappled with. We are glad to see that the high value Victorian stamps, which though nominally available for postage are in practice only used for fiscal purposes are now omitted. It might be desirable to adopt the five pound limit laid down for Victorian stamps in the case of South Australia and New Zealand. We are glad to see that the New South Wales "Consumptives" and similar stamps issued in Victoria, although offered for sale to "collectors of wall paper," are excluded from the regular issues of those Colonies. The "Jubilee" Leeward Islands might, we think, have been treated in the same fashion, and perhaps the 15 cent Mauritius, which is contemptuously termed—"Labourdonnais label," deserves the same fate.

It is not necessary for us to say much about the general "get up" of the volume. The illustrations are, as the publishers admit in their preface, still far from perfect, but they are perhaps sufficiently good to serve their purpose. The printing is good and appears to be free from typographical errors, which are difficult to avoid in a work of this class. The only error we have detected is in connection with the Labourdonnais label referred to above, the name of the gentleman commemorated being printed Labourdonnais. The quality of the binding we do not admire, but an improvement in the binding would doubtless have involved an increase in the price charged for the book.

## II.—THE CATALOGUE AS A PRICE LIST.

Of course the publishers do not put forward the Catalogue as a standard price list, they publish it as a price list of stamps which they have for sale. Collectors, however, and many dealers also, use it in practice as a standard list. The smaller dealers when pricing books, or approval sheets, take the Catalogue and mark their stamps at prices somewhat lower. That they must sell their stamps at prices below those advertised in the Catalogue seems obvious, for if all dealers charged the same prices, collectors would only buy at 391, Strand, where they can inspect the largest stock.

Now as to the prices themselves. There are of course many changes to be observed, though as only a year has elapsed between the publication of this edition of the Catalogue and the previous one, the changes are on the whole neither so numerous nor so great as they have been on previous occasions. We have not of course space to comment on all the changes which we have noticed in the prices. It will perhaps be more useful to our readers if we take the stamps of one country, and do our best to explain the reasons for these changes that have taken place in the quotations for

them. We select the stamps of the Cape of Good Hope for our purpose, because there is a steady demand for them which naturally causes them to rise steadily in value, while at the same time there are reasons why one or two of them are not quoted at lower prices than formerly. The first stamp, 1d. red on blued paper was priced in the 10th edition of the Catalogue at 2/6, in the 11th at 3/6, in the 12th at 4/0, and in the new edition at 4/6. Here we see the regular and natural rise in value. In the case of the next stamp the prices have been nearly stationary. The reason is obvious. The 4d. is at least twice as common as the 1d., and in the 10th edition was priced relatively too high. In the next issues we find most of the stamps stationary or rising in value as we pass from one edition to the next. But there are certain exceptions. The price of some of these stamps has been affected by the fact that about two years ago there came on the market complete unused sheets of five of them, Nos. 11, 23, 26, 27 and 28, one sheet, or 240 stamps of each. The finding of these sheets and their distribution among collectors does not however explain exactly the changes that have taken place in the Catalogue. The emerald green shilling, No. 28, was catalogued in the 10th edition, at 60/-; in the 11th, at 120/-; in the 12th, after the finding of the unused sheet, at 95/-; now, after the sheet has been split up and all or very nearly all the copies have been sold to collectors, at five guineas apiece, the stamp is only priced at 70/-. Any one writing to the publishers of the Catalogue for unused copies of No. 27 and 28, at catalogue price, would be offered a fine copy of the 6d. with margins and full original gum, and an indifferent copy of the 1/- without margins and with no gum. The publishers make it clear that their prices are intended to apply to average copies only, but on inspection of the stamps they have to offer one finds in practice that the catalogue price sometimes applies to superb copies and at other times to very indifferent ones. This is we think a grave defect in the Catalogue regarded as a price list. Of course one can generally assume that the price quoted for an unused copy will be that of a mint copy if the stamp is current or has only recently become obsolete and will be that of a tolerably good copy without gum if the stamp is an old one. As regards a great number of the stamps quoted for however it is impossible even to guess what kind of a specimen the price is attended to apply to.

In the Cape stamps of the second design we find on comparing the Catalogues a general tendency to rise. In some cases the rise is regular, in others spasmodic. As a general rule the small and steady increases in price are justifiable and are likely to be followed by further increases in the future. Spasmodic jumps on the other hand, we know from experience, must be regarded with distrust. Sometimes they are followed by further rises but not unfrequently it turns out that a price which has been multiplied by five should really have been only doubled or perhaps even only increased by 50 per cent.

One more Cape stamp claims our attention as illustrating a fall in price from natural causes. We allude to the 1/- without outer line, No. 79. This stamp was not in issue for a long period, and when the 1897 Catalogue came out Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co., apparently had no unused copies, or very few, and no great stock of used copies. Consequently they priced it at 2/- used and did not quote a price for it unused. In 1899 they quoted it at 5/- unused and 8d. used, and now their prices are 3/- and 4d. respectively. Variations of this kind are unavoidable; some years must elapse before a stamp of this class finds its proper level. Unless the number printed be known it is impossible to guess how common or how rare the stamp will ultimately be. The date of issue and that of next issued stamp of the same value may give some clue, but do not yield definite information, for while some Post-offices in Cape Colony were selling No. 79 others would still have supplies of No. 70 on hand, and after No. 86 was issued there might be many offices with stocks of No. 79 still on sale.

F.L.H.

[We regret to have to hold over a portion of Mr. Lowe's very interesting article, owing to the pressure on our space. In our next issue various comments on the new Catalogue from trade and other sources will be inserted.—Ed.]

**British Colonial Packets.**

20 varieties Colonial, 1/3 per 12, 8/- per 100 packets  
 30 " " " 2/6 " 16- "  
 40 " " " 3/6 " 25- "  
 50 " " " 5/- " 37/6 "

The above packets contain only postage adhesives (no cut envelopes, wrappers or cards) of British Colonies soaked free of paper and in good condition.

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**1000** Well Assorted Stamps containing several **BRITISH COLONIALS,** for **3s. 1d.,** (postage abroad extra.) Wholesale Price List free on application. Wholesale Offers of New Issues, etc., requested from all parts of the World.

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BLUETT'S STAMP SHOP, BILLITER SQUARE, LONDON, E.C., is the best place to sell collections or loose lots. A high price paid for collections containing old triangular Capes, penny issue Ceylon, Old West India, and old Australian stamps. Up to £1000, cash down, paid for a really fine old collection. Established 15 years. Bankers, London and County.

*The Business Side of Philately.*

Messrs. Puttick & Simpson's two day's sale on Feb. 13th and 14th realised nearly £1000. Below are some of the more noteworthy prices:—

United States: 1868, 24 cents, the rare error with inverted centre, £16 10s.; another, unused, in mint state, £32.

U.S.A. ("State") 5-dollar, £12 15s.

Buenos Ayres: 1858, cuarto pesos scarlet, £6 15s.

Peru: 1858, media peso rose, £6 5s.

Victoria: 1868-81, 5s. blue on yellow, unused, no gum, £5 5s.

Western Australia, 6d. purple-brown on blue £5.

Cape of Good Hope: Wood block 1d. blue, error, £50; ditto, wood block, 4d. red, error, £41.

Mauritius: Three Post paid 1d. orange, lightly cancelled, £15.

British Columbia: 5 cents, rose, large margins, £17.

Canada, 7½d. green, unused, £5.

New Brunswick: 1s. mauve, £6 10s.

Nova Scotia: 1s. violet, £5 17s. 6d.

Naples: 4d. tornese blue, arms, £8.

Roumania: Moldavia, 1854, 54 paras blue on green, £10.

Spain: Madrid, 1853, 3 cuartos bronze, unused, £12; ditto, 1852, 2 reales red, a vertical pair, £10 15s.

Messrs. Kirkpatrick & Pemberton send us their "1000 Popular" Price List of British Colonial Stamps. With its 64 columns of prices the list is quite a small catalogue and many very good stamps are listed. A copy of the price-list will be sent out with the next *Fortnightly* to every postal subscriber.

The latest new stamp-dealing establishment is on the first floor of 61, Cheapside, E.C.—only three doors from what was once the headquarters of the *Fortnightly*—and the occupant thereof is Mr. J. W. Jones, late of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited. Mr. Jones has a fine show of unused stamps, in which he is a firm believer; and is going to make a speciality of high-class philatelic accessories. People who once lick his mounts will, we understand, stick to them; and Mr. Jones has a magnifying glass which he is ready to back against all comers. Our newest dealer aims at being nothing short of a philatelic "Whiteley," as witness his modest self-description: "Universal Philatelic Provider."

In moving into his new offices at 77 and 78, High Holborn, Mr. C. Nissen has mislaid certain books, including Philbrick & Westoby's book on English Stamps, the "Stamps of Europe" by Westoby, "Moen's Fiscal Catalogue," &c., &c. Most of the books contain Mr. Nissen's name, and anyone returning the property to 77 and 78, High Holborn (first floor), will be rewarded.

A CORRECTION: The date of Messrs. John Edwards & Co.'s forthcoming auction at Anderton's Hotel, wrongly advertised as March 3, is really fixed for March 5—Monday next.

**THE STAMP EXCHANGE.**

Rate: 3 Words a Penny.

Advertisements, which must be prepaid, should be sent to the Manager at 77 78, High Holborn, London, W.C., not later than the Tuesday preceding publication.

**1000** STAMPS, all different, for 1/- Write for particulars, enclosing stamped addressed envelope.—W. BROWN, St. Thomas' Square, Salisbury.

GOOD copies of stamps catalogued from 1/- to £5 for disposal. Exceptionally fine in Colonials and European. Approval selections at approximately third catalogue sent to responsible applicants.—Bridger, 65, Bishopsgate Street Without, London.

FOR £35 worth catalogue value (Scott, 1900), you can have the best bicycle built to your specification; and for £250 worth the best Motor tricycle. Only rare stamps in perfect condition of Europe, Colonies, and U.S.A. accepted. All enquiries must be prepaid. I. KNASTER, Cambridge.

WANTED, Junior Clerk; intelligent youth, good writer; willing to be generally useful. Apply to C. NISSEN & Co., 77 and 78, High Holborn, London, W.C.

WANTED U.S. American, Revenues, Medicine, Match Locals, &c.; also proofs. "Specimen" and reprints of any country. Cash or exchange.—DRESSER, Bevisley Heath, Kent.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1d. and 2d. perf. 10, 13, and 15, mixed, old colours, price 2/- per 1000, post free. PARKINSON, 7, Osborne Terrace, Gosforth, Northumberland.

ONE THIRD CATALOGUE! Having bought some collections at bargain prices, I am selling hundreds of rare stamps at this extraordinary reduction. Selections sent on approval. References required from collectors or dealers unknown to me. The stamps are good substantial old issues, not rubbish, and I guarantee great satisfaction to everyone buying them. Sydney View, 1d. from 8/-; 2d. from 6/6; 3d. from 7/-; Cape, Woodblock, 1d. scarlet, 30/-; Wurtemberg, first issue, 18kr. 8/6; (1857) 18kr. 12/6; (1858) 18kr. 10/-; (1863) 18kr. 4/6; (1866) 18kr. 10/- Cheaper than the auctions and you pick what you like!—H. A. McMILLAN, 3, Cursitor Street, Chancery Lane, London, E.C.

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	s.	d.
1895, 50 cents orange	...	0 3
1 dollar black	...	1 0
2 " blue	...	4 3
1898, 50 cents green, Omaha	...	0 9
1 dollar black	...	3 0

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1898, 1 gulden green	...	1 0
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3d. rose	...	20	7 6
4d. orange	...	10	2 0
6d. violet	...	8	3 0
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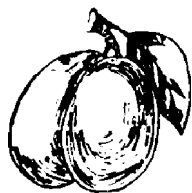
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Messrs. PLUMRIDGE & Co. do not deal in Stamps themselves, therefore their interests do not clash in the slightest degree with those of their Clients. They are absolutely the only firm in the trade confining their whole attention to the sale of stamps on commission, and consequently the very great advantages obtained by buying and selling through them are obvious.

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**Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON,**  
**Literary, Fine Art, Philatelic Auctioneers,**  
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**RARE POSTAGE STAMPS** A SPECIALITY.

Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON beg to announce that their next Sale will take place  
**On MARCH 6th and 7th,**  
 And will include a number of Scarce Stamps and several fine Private Collections in Lots.  
 CATALOGUES ON APPLICATION.

Following Sale on March 20th and 21st, and will include a portion of the Very Fine Collection of  
 UNITED STATES formed by SIDNEY CASTLE, Esq. Also a fine Private Collection by order  
 of the Trustee in Bankruptcy of C. J. DURANTY. Catalogues ready shortly.

Please note that this Sale will take place in the smaller of the two Handsome NEW SALE ROOMS, the building of which has just  
 been completed, where all of Messrs. PUTTICK & SIMPSON'S STAMP SALES WILL IN FUTURE BE HELD.

Other Sales on:—1900.—April 3rd, 4th, 24th & 25th; May 8th, 9th, 22nd & 23rd; June 12th & 13th.

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" " 1sh. yel.-gr'n .. 9/-	St. Christopher, 1l. deep lilac rose, perf. 14 .. .. 12/-	" 8d. .. .. 18/-
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<b>Jamaica,</b> 1p. pineapple .. 50/-	.. .. 4p. .. 4/-	.. .. 2c. .. 36/-
<b>Nova Scotia,</b> 1p. .. 35/-	.. .. 1861, 1s. blue .. 4/-	.. .. 10c. .. 32/-
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" Jubilee, ½d. to 2 6 ..	" 9	0	7	0	" " " " 1d. ..	1	10	0
*Brit. Central Africa, 1891, 1d. to 1/- ..	" 6	0	3	9	" " " " 4½d. ..	1	7	0
" " " " 1891, 2/- to 10/- ..	" 6	1	13	0	" " " " 7½d. ..	0	19	0
*Brit. South Africa, 1891, ½d. to 8d. ..	" 4	4	5	0	" " " " 2½d. on 4½d. ..	1	7	0
" " " " 1896, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 8	0	5	0	Bermuda, 1d. on 3d. ..	0	10	0
" " " " on Cape, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 7	1	1	0	British Guiana, 1860, 1c. rose ..	0	19	0
" " " " thick paper, p. 12, 2d. & 4d. ..	" 2	0	2	0	" " " " 1c. brown-red ..	1	1	0
*Canada, Jubilee, ¼c. to 50c. ..	" 11	0	11	0	" " " " 1c. brown ..	2	0	0
" " " " \$1 to \$5 ..	" 5	3	14	0	*British Honduras, 1882, 6d. yellow ..	2	14	0
" " 1898, Maple leaf, ¼c. to 10c. ..	" 8	0	2	9	" " " " 1 grey ..	2	5	0
*Gambia, 1887, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 1888, 2d. on 6d., p. 12½ ..	1	16	0
*German East Africa, 1896, 2p. to 25p. ..	" 5	0	2	0	*British South Africa, 1890, £1 blue ..	2	0	0
*Gibraltar, 1889, 5c. to 2 pesetas ..	" 8	0	5	0	" " " " 1d. on 3/- ..	2	3	0
" " 1898, ½d. to 1/- ..	" 7	0	3	0	Cape of Good Hope, 1/- triangular ..	0	10	0
" " Morocco Agencies, 1899, 5c. to 2p. ..	" 7	0	4	0	*Ceylon, 2-50 lilac ..	2	10	0
*New South Wales, O.S., 1d., 2d., 2½d., 3d. and 6d. ..	" 5	0	1	9	*Dominica, 1 lilac, C.A. ..	2	5	0
*Labuan, Jubilee, 1896, 1c. to 8c. ..	" 6	0	1	0	Fiji Islands, 2d. on 3d., S.G. & Co.'s No. 36 ..	3	3	0
Brazil, 180r. slanting figures ..	" 2	14	0		*Wurtemberg, 1858, 18k. blue ..	1	16	0
" " 300r. " " ..	" 3	14	0		" " 1863-4, 9kr. black brown ..	2	5	0
*Egypt, 1866, 5 piastres ..	" 0	16	0		" " 1873, 70kr. mouve ..	3	8	0
" " 1866, 10 piastres ..	" 0	19	0		*Tuscany, 1 quat. black one greyish ..	1	0	0
*Tunis, 1888, 5 francs ..	" 1	0	0		*Sweden, 1858, 12 o. ultramarine ..	1	7	0
*Hanover, 10g. green ..	" 2	10	0		*Portugal, 1853, 5r. brown ..	0	19	0
*Cuba, 1874/1896 ..	" 13	0	1	0	*St. Lucia, 4d. blue, Star wmk. ..	2	0	0
*United States, 1869, 24c. green ..	" 1	13	0		Naples, ¼ Tornese Cross, superb copy ..	3	10	0
*Buenos Ayres, in Pesos, blue ..	" 1	10	0		Mauritius, 1848, 1d. earliest state of Plate, superb copy ..	9	10	0
Peru, Medio Peso, yellow ..	1 fine	2	10	0	" " 2d. " " ..	16	0	0
" " rose ..	"	9	10	0	*Surinam, 1899, Provisionals, 50c., 1 gul. and 2 gul. 50c. ..	10	0	0

\* Signifies Unused.



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